

Linda Walker,
World Wildlife Fund
Director, Responsible Forestry and Trade
linda.walker@wwfus.org
Environmental Chamber

Biography

At World Wildlife Fund, Linda leads a team that promotes responsible sourcing of forest products among US companies, trade associations and other procurement entities. She also leads WWF's Global Forest & Trade Network-North America program (GFTN), a step-wise program for continuous improvement in forest sourcing, focused on FSC certification. Prior to WWF, Linda worked as an FSC chain-of-custody associate with Rainforest Alliance. She also worked for more than ten years at The Nature Conservancy in Maryland and

Washington State, as Assistant Director of Stewardship and as a Land Protection Specialist. She worked as an apprentice forester at the Yale-Myers Forest in Connecticut. In 2001, she completed a conservation fellowship in Indonesia which focused on mapping community lands and orangutan habitat in areas allocated for forest concessions. Linda holds a B.A. in Geography from Bucknell University, and an M.F. from the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies. Linda serves on the board of the Rolling Ridge Foundation, a non-profit organization which manages a 1,400-acre forested property in West Virginia, whose mission is to help an interrelated community of people use the land in reflective and socially concerned ways.

Position Statement

I have spent the last decade promoting FSC certification through leadership and technical roles. My perspective reflects WWF's conservation mission, plus insights I have gained through engaging with forest owners and companies of all sizes, in the US and internationally. I will bring my experience in non-profit management, fundraising and consensus-building to bear, in balance with representing the Environmental Chamber, the FSC US membership, and the best interests of the organization. Three things must be true for FSC to succeed:

- FSC standards must be **impactful**, driving positive outcomes for forests, ecosystem services and people.
- FSC certification must be **accessible** for entities of all sizes.
- FSC must be sought-after by a wider range of forest owners, companies and consumers.

The next couple years will be particularly important for FSC US standards revisions and implementation of the Global Strategy. I will work to ensure that these efforts align with the success factors described above. I am also committed to making FSC certification more accessible for family forest owners, and raising US consumer awareness of the FSC logo, which I have advanced with US companies through WWF. I am excited about the prospect of joining the FSC US board at such an important time.