The aim of this conference by the International Union of Forest Research Organizations is to build a systematic body of knowledge about “forests for people” and its various facets, including possible future trends and challenges. This conference and the follow-up process aim to integrate knowledge from various disciplines inside and outside of forestry such as tourism, recreation, education, urban planning and many others.

The main themes of the conference are:

- **Livelihoods** — issues of agro-forestry, food security, fuels, poverty alleviation, and human dislocation;
- **Health, Recreation and Tourism** — issues of human health, recreation and nature-based tourism;
- **Urban and Rural Landscapes** — issues of ecosystem services, economic benefit and development, spaces and places for living, urban forestry
- **Culture and Education** — issues of perceptions of forests, spiritual character, education, historical tradition and practice, communication and governance

The conference will also offer several educational field trips.

The unique character of this conference is a joint forum with the 2013 National Outdoor Recreation Conference. The participant has the opportunity to visit any session of this exciting conference as well without additional fees or registration. These two programs will be seamlessly blended, while still retaining the individual identity of the two host organizations. One registration and one fee will cover both meetings. It is a new model for professional education and development tailored for these difficult global economic times. With the co-location and the joint administration of the sessions, participants will have more opportunities and a greater experience. For example, participants will be able to attend any session, including field sessions and informal gatherings. They will also have the opportunity to make a presentation at each meeting.

The theme of the 2013 National Outdoor Recreation Conference is “A Bridge to Prosperity” and we expect many overlapping themes such as tourism, jobs, health and wellness, personal enjoyment and recreation, education, environmental values, environmental stewardship, rural economic development, and sustainable communities. Shaped by this exciting vision, the conference sessions will highlight and showcase best practices and case examples on how the outdoor recreation profession (planning, management, research and policy) is a bridge, connector and catalyst for prosperity through:

Organizational Hosts:

Task Force “Forests for People” (International Union of Forest Research Organizations) in cooperation with Society of Outdoor Recreation Professionals (SORP; formerly NARRP).

The joint website providing more detailed information and updates will go live soon as well as the Call for Presentations.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS; WE HOPE YOU CAN JOIN US!!!

Contact: Robert C. Burns robert.burns@mail.wvu.edu