

Yetta Jager organized an all-day symposium, “**Reshaping Landscapes: Bioenergy and Biodiversity**” to be held Thursday, April 8, 10 AM-3 PM at the annual meeting of the International Association of Landscape Ecology in Athens, Georgia:

<http://www.usiale.org/athens2010/index.php?id=scheduleSymposia>

**Session Objective:** Bioenergy is a solution receiving considerable attention and government interest, both as a means of increasing energy security and reducing carbon emissions. Concerns have been raised about how this trend will change the landscape and how it can be guided to improve, rather than harm, natural ecosystems. Although this area has been dormant until recently, new research efforts are underway. This symposium will bring together landscape ecologists only recently beginning research in this area with those who can remind us what was learned in the past. This symposium will bring together researchers studying bioenergy and its influences on both terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems. Research presented in this symposium will address how these changes will alter habitat for birds and wildlife, and how changes in land cover will influence water quality and habitat for aquatic species. In addition, quantitative tools needed to manage ecological resources under future bioenergy scenarios, such as spatial optimization, uncertainty analysis, and ecological valuation of biodiversity and ecosystem services, will be described. Presentations include:

- [Estimating the effects of land-use change associated with biofuel production on ecosystem services related to biodiversity: EPA’s future Midwestern landscapes study.](#) Elizabeth Smith, US EPA, National Exposure Research Laboratory; Megan Mehaffey, US EPA; Rex Johnson, US Fish and Wildlife Service, et al.
- [Agronomic, environmental, and economic performance of alternative biomass cropping systems.](#) Lisa A Schulte Moore, Theo Gunther, Richard B Hall, Iowa State University, et al.
- [Bird use of switchgrass fields harvested for bioenergy in the Midwestern United States.](#) Les D Murray, Pennsylvania State University Abington; Louis B Best, Iowa State University.
- [Assessing watershed benefits of bioenergy crops: Recreational and subsistence value of fishes.](#) Laurence Eaton, Peter Schweizer, Rebecca Efroymsen. Oak Ridge National Laboratory, et al.
- [Forecasting changes in water quality and aquatic biodiversity in response to future bioenergy landscapes in the Arkansas-White-Red River basin.](#) Peter E Schweizer, Henriette I Jager, Latha M Baskaran, Oak Ridge National Laboratory
- [Tradeoffs between biofuel and biodiversity in California — where are the sweet spots?](#) David M Stoms, Theresa Nogeire, Frank Davis, University of California Santa Barbara, et al.
- [Sustainable forest energy and ecosystem services by accounting for decomposition.](#) Kristiina A Vogt, Daniel J Vogt, University of Washington
- [Mitigating impacts of fuel wood collection on wildlife habitat through payments for ecosystem services.](#) Xiaodong Chen, Andres Vina, Frank Lupi, Michigan State University, et al.
- [Impacts of land-use conversion for bioenergy on wildlife habitat.](#) Anita T Morzillo, Oregon State University; Ralph J Alig, USDA Forest Service.
- [Biofuel harvests, coarse woody debris, and biodiversity — what we know and what we need to know.](#) Sam Riffell, Mississippi State University; Darren Miller, Weyerhaeuser, NR Company; Jake Verschuyt, National Council for Air and Stream Improvement, Incorporated, et al.