

Fengshui Groves and the Restoration of China's Subtropical Broadleaf Evergreen Forest Biome

Professor Christopher Coggins
Professor of Geography and Asian Studies
Bard College at Simon's Rock

March 28 @ 7pm
Davis Auditorium
Reception to follow

Southern China's subtropical broadleaf evergreen forest biome is the largest and most biologically diverse of its kind in the world, but centuries of anthropogenic landscape transformation have reduced the forests to small fragments scattered across the region. Field research on village fengshui forests shows that they are the most biologically diverse and taxonomically representative ecosystems in the bioregion. Rooted in Han and non-Han peoples' socio-ecological traditions, they protect community hydrology and food production systems while enhancing an intergenerational sense of place and lineage continuity. Long-term conservation of these forests holds great potential under the government's policy of building "ecological civilization," but is simultaneously threatened by new authoritarian policies of ecological zonation.

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