

# Brynn Guthrie, PLA Landscape Architect, Visual Resources Specialist

#### **EXPERIENCE SUMMARY**

Brynn Guthrie is a landscape architect with more than 16 years experience performing visual impact assessments for energy, recreation, and transportation projects. Her project experience has been distributed across the Pacific Northwest, Colorado, Arizona, New York, New Jersey, Virginia, Texas, and North Carolina. She has assessed visual changes in urban centers and agricultural settings, National Recreation Areas, National Scenic Areas, National Scenic Trails and Wild and Scenic Rivers. Ms. Guthrie has evaluated visual impacts from a variety of project types including transmission lines, on and offshore wind, solar generation, reservoirs and hydropower, scenic trails, highway improvements, light rail and BRT, and port facilities. Ms. Guthrie brings familiarity with federal, state, and local regulatory requirements in support of FERC site certificates, NEPA EIS, state environmental regulations, and BOEM processes. She successfully teams with multidisciplinary technical staff to comprehend design proposals, facilitate identification of critical scenic resources and viewpoints, conduct viewshed analyses, and prepare photoreal visualizations to assess impacts and develop effective strategies for visual mitigation.

## **CORPORATE PROJECT EXPERIENCE**

## Visual Resources Specialist, March 2023 – Present Sycamore Cross Solar Project, Virginia. Client: Confidential

Ms. Guthrie is leading and preparing the visual impact assessment in support of two Conditional Use Permits for this developing solar generation facility.

## Visual Resource Specialist, March 2023 – Present Bluepoint Wind, New Jersey and New York. Client: Confidential

Ms. Guthrie is leading Tetra Tech's team to prepare initial viewshed analyses to determine coastal resources and areas of concern where potential offshore wind project components may be seen. Her team will support the Project's Construction and Operations Plan for BOEM approval.

## Visual Resource Specialist, December 2022 – Present Summit Ridge Wind Project, Wasco County Oregon

Ms. Guthrie is serving as this project's lead author for the visual resource assessment in support of its application for site certificate to state of Oregon's Energy Facility Siting Council. Her responsibilities include investigating and identifying sensitive visual resources, coordinating and conducting field photography, coordinating visualisations, and developing the application exhibit report.

## Visual Resource Specialist, January 2023– Present Badger Gap Solar, Kittitas County WA. Client: Confidential

Ms. Guthrie is serving as lead author for the visual resource assessment in support of this Project's application for site certificate to state of Oregon's Energy Facility Siting Council. Her responsibilities include investigating and

#### **EDUCATION**

Bachelor of Landscape Architecture, University of Oregon, 2006

#### **AREA OF EXPERTISE**

- Visual Resources Assessment
- Visual Resources Impact Mitigation Design
- Project Permitting
- Landscape Revegetation and Screening Design

### REGISTRATIONS/ CERTIFICATIONS

Registered Landscape Architect, Oregon Lic. No. OR 0785, Est. 2012

## **LOCATION**

Portland, OR

### YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

17

#### YEARS WITHIN FIRM

<2



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Brynn Guthrie, PLA

identifying sensitive visual resources; coordinating and conducting field photography on site; and developing the application exhibit report.

## Visual Resources Specialist, January - April 2023

### Obed Meadows Solar and Transmission Line, Navajo County Arizona. Client: Avangrid

Ms. Guthrie served as the visual resources lead to support this project's local permitting approval and public outreach. Her team conducted field photography and developed five visualizations to illustrate the project components.

## Visual Resources Specialist, August 2022 – April 2023

Oregon Offshore Wind Call Area Conceptual Visualizations, Oregon. Client: BOEM.

Ms. Guthrie led Tetra Tech's team to prepare preliminary viewshed analyses to determine coastal areas of concern where potential offshore wind projects may be seen in the sensitive areas of southern Oregon and northern California. Her team is managing large lidar-based data sets to create and analyze a digital surface model (DSM) to determine areas of potential visibility.

## Visual Resources Specialist, September 2021-Present

## Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind Commercial Project, Virginia and North Carolina. Client: Confidential

Evaluated and characterized sensitive visual resources; synthesized results of 25 visual simulations into conclusions about project impacts by degree and description; wrote numerous Visual Impact Assessment sections, including Landscape Similarity Zone character descriptions, critical viewpoint context characterizations, and visual impact summary conclusions.

## Visual Resources Specialist, January 2021-December 2022 Mayflower Wind Onshore Project Facility, Massachusetts. Client: Confidential

Ms. Guthrie led this visual impact assessment for the onshore facilities associated with this proposed offshore wind project construction and operations plan. Responsibilities included identification of landscape and scenic resources, field photography and visualization coordination, and visual impact summary conclusions.

## Visual Resources Specialist, May 2022 - Present Somerset Solar Project, New York. Client: AES.

Ms. Guthrie is leading the visual assessment for this solar project, in support of an application for New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's 94-c. Responsibilities include identifying sensitive viewpoints and viewers, including resources of statewide concern, coordinating multiple fieldwork sessions; leading photo simulation preparation; and evaluating visual effects.

## Visual Resources Specialist, September 2021 – February 2022 Greens Corners Solar, Jefferson County, New York. Client: Boralex.

Supported facilitation of simulation development, assessed potential project affects on nearby parks, environmental justice areas, and high-trafficked highways, including two State Scenic Byways.

## Visual Resources Specialist, September 2021-Decemebr 2021

## Gross Reservoir Expansion Project, Boulder County, Colorado. Client: Denver Water.

Led and prepared visual impact assessment specifically addressing measures to mitigate visual impacts to USFS lands and popular recreation areas resulting from proposed 130-ft. dam raise.

## Visual Resources Specialist, January - March 2022

## Finneywood Solar Project, Mecklenburg County, Virginia. Client: Dominion Energy.

Ms. Guthrie led and prepared the visual impact assessment in support of Special Environmental Permit for this 500ac solar generation facility.

#### Visual Resources Specialist, January – February 2022

Laurel Branch Solar Project, Lunenburg County, Virginia. Client: Dominion Energy.

Led and prepared the visual impact assessment in support of Conditional Use Permit for this 2,000ac solar generation facility.



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#### **PRESENTATIONS**

Co-Presenter, *Designing for Visual Resource Management in the Columbia River Gorge*. Visual Resource Stewardship Conference, presented by the College of Environmental Science and Forestry at SUNY. October 2021.

## PREVIOUS RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

## David Evans and Associates, Inc., 2006-2021 Portland, Oregon

Visual Resources Specialist, January 2020-March 2021

Washington State Route 522 BRT Improvements, for Sound Transit. King County, Washington.

Led and prepared Visual Impact Assessment for this regionally significant expansion of BRT services and facilities through five cities. Applied FHWA methodology (2015 version) to assess visual impacts in support of Washington's State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Requirements.

Visual Resources Specialist, 2018-2021

Historic Columbia River Highway State Trail (Segments E-G-H), for Western Federal Lands Highways Division. Hood River County, Oregon.

Led and prepared Visual Impact Assessment for a five-mile multi-use trail adjacent to Interstate 84 within the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Regularly met with stakeholders from FHWA-WFLD, ODOT, Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department, Hood River County, and USFS, this project involved planning, permitting, and preliminary construction documents for five miles of restored and reconstructed Historic Columbia River Highway trail in Hood River County. Managed and conducted fieldwork and visualization production, including innovative use of drone-captured photography and 3D CADD modeling to accurately depict trail installation. Co-led landscape architectural design and development of trailhead layout and amenity design.

Visual Resources Specialist, 2010-2012

Susquehanna to Roseland Transmission Line, for the National Park Service. Pennsylvania/New Jersey

Ms. Guthrie was the assistant task lead for the visual resource impact assessment of this one hundred-plus mile proposed regional transmission line upgrade as it would affect National Park system units including Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area and the Appalachian Trail and their surrounding environs. Ms. Guthrie assisted with planning and then conducted extensive fieldwork, landscape character evaluation and impact analysis for over 40 key observation points and assisted with preparation of the NEPA EIS effort.