

NAPFSC



August 1999

R E P O R T

A report to the members of the National Association of Professional Forestry Schools and Colleges

President's Message

Albert R. Vogt

Greetings to all of you interested in forest resource education, research, extension, and outreach. NAPFSC has taken significant steps toward advancing the science, practice, and art of forest resource management through the support of forest resource education, research, extension/outreach, and international programs. This newsletter will report on our progress.

I was most pleased with the summit on "Sustaining America's Forests" that was held in Washington, DC, in February, and the sequence of events that followed. The summit, which truly engaged stakeholders in collective deliberations, focused on the role of research, education, and extension. All NAPFSC members should have received a copy of the Executive Summary of the summit. A full report is available at <http://cafnr.missouri.edu/forcon/>.

The summit has led to fostering continuous dialogue and collaboration among its members and cooperators. We have met with stakeholders to develop a comprehensive plan and courses of action to provide information responsive to public needs. Additionally, we have expanded our constituency interactions beyond the traditional agencies and the forest products industry to include representatives from forest landowner groups, nongovernmental organizations, and others. I believe we are now positioned to succeed in developing bold, new initiatives that will benefit our member institutions. Dr. Patrick Reid is providing leadership to a "coalition" of individuals engaged in identifying priority actions for implementation in the year 2000 and beyond (see page 4 for details).

Another initiative underway that will help fuel the efforts of the coalition, and coincides with our concern for strengthening support for NAPFSC, is the preparation

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Feature Article



The Forest History Society: New Visions for Applied History

Steven Anderson, President

The Forest History Society (FHS) is in the midst of a mini-overhaul. Established in 1946 as the Forest Products History Foundation, its initial aim was to "preserve and publish without prejudice the history of the forest products industry." Over the last 50 years, the breadth of its programs expanded to the full field of forest and conservation history. During this time, the FHS has linked the past to the future by identifying, collecting, preserving, interpreting, and disseminating forest history information. As we approach the year 2000, the FHS is taking advantage of new opportunities in the fields of environmental history and international programs, and continues to strengthen its contributions to applied history. Our current mission is to apply forest and conservation history to timely issues in order to affect the future and improve human welfare. The FHS accomplishes that mission by preserving forest history, encouraging scholarship in forest history, and pursuing a comprehensive applied history program that assists a variety of audiences to make valuable use of this information in natural resource decisions.

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NAPFSC

REPORT

Bi-Annual Newsletter of the
National Association of Professional
Forestry Schools and Colleges

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President's Message

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of a brochure entitled "The Role of Research, Education and Extension in Sustaining America's Forest Resources - Why You Should Care." Dr. William Bentley guides the development of this brochure. The document's fundamental purpose will be to inform members of the US Congress, the Executive Branch, and professionals in federal and state agencies about the critical problems facing forest owners and managers. The consequences of providing support for forestry research, education, and outreach will be part of the message. We hope to have the brochure to members before the NAPFSC annual meeting in Portland, Oregon.

These two major undertakings - the summit and the brochure - have been supported with funding and personnel from the USDA Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES).

NAPFSC's collaboration with the National Association of University Fisheries and Wildlife Programs (NAUFWP) is equally vital. Larry Jahn, NAUFWP's Executive Director, has been an active participant in the summit planning and implementation, and President, Bruce Menzel of Iowa State University serves on the coalition.

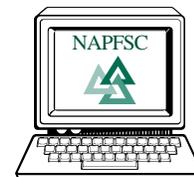
The Executive Committee has continued to represent its members at NASULGC activities and was present at discussions on criteria and indicators of forest sustainability. Most NAPFSC members attended the Pinchot Institute's forestry education conference in March, in addition to numerous nationally-oriented forest resource issue forums. Reports from many of the forums are included in this newsletter, and are also available on NAPFSC's website.

Terri Bates, NAPFSC's Executive Liaison, Randy Nuckolls, and Patrick Turner have provided NAPFSC with excellent support during the past year. NAPFSC's presence, which I believe is critical, has increased in the DC area.

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Remember

NAPFSC's on line!
Visit the website at
<http://www.napfsc.org>





Activities of NASULGC's Board on Natural Resources

Kerry D. Bolognese

Ecology Section

The forestry section is NAFSC's corollary in the Board on Natural Resources of the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges (NASULGC). Forestry is one of five sections, with water resources, fish and wildlife resources, mineral and energy resources, and ecology comprising the remaining four. The recently established ecology section will fill a void in the Association's federal relations portfolio on critical issues relating to the ecological sciences, such as ecosystems management, biodiversity, impact of climate change on natural systems, conservation biology, and university museums and collections.

The forestry section serves to anchor the other important disciplines and is integral to the Board's mission to advance an integrated research and education agenda that includes water resources, wildlife and habitats, energy resources and ecosystems management. Additionally, the forestry section serves as a bridge to the Board on Agriculture (BA). It plays a key role in BA budget dis-

cussions and carries a natural resource perspective into these meetings.

High Level Agency Meetings

The Board on Natural Resources was very active this year. It engaged the new EPA Assistant Administrator for Research and Development (ORD), Norine Noonan, on expanding ORD's extramural research grants and graduate fellowship programs. The Board also met with Mark Schaefer, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Water and Science at the Department of Interior (DOI), on establishing a grants and fellowship program at DOI similar to the one at EPA. Likewise, the Board had excellent discussions with Martha Krebs, Director, Office of Research at the Department of Energy, on establishing a partnership with, and providing budget support for, her office.

USGS Partnership Update

In May, the Board met with the US Geological Survey's (USGS) Director, Chip Groat to discuss how universities

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NAPFSC ANNUAL MEETING

Executive Committee and General Assembly September 9-11, 1999 Portland, Oregon

NAPFSC Executive Committee

Thursday Afternoon, September 9

Hilton Hotel, Broadway 1 and 2

Executive Committee

1:00 - 5:00

Reports and discussion of issues

Friday Morning, September 10

Hilton Hotel, Broadway 1 and 2

Executive Committee Session with Partners

8:30 - 12:00

NAPFSC General Assembly

Friday Afternoon, September 10

Hilton Hotel, Broadway 1 and 2

General Assembly

1:00 - 5:30

1:00-2:30 Business Meeting

2:30-3:00 Break (most partners to arrive)

3:00-5:30 Partner Reports

Friday Evening, September 10

Hilton Hotel, Plaza East

Reception

6:30 - 8:00

Presentations and discussion of issues related to NAPFSC's mission

Saturday Morning, September 11

Doubletree Hotel, Holladay Room

8:00-12:30

Post-Summit Workshop



Committee Reports

National Policy Committee: Summit Leads to National Coalition on Nonfederal Forests

C. P. Patrick Reid, Chair

The first meeting of the “National Coalition on Sustaining America’s Nonfederal Forests: The Role of Education, Research and Extension/Outreach” was held in Washington, DC, on February 22-23. The coalition, representing over 25 organizations and agencies, was a product of the February 1999 summit chaired by NAPFSC and CSREES, but organized and designed by a steering committee composed of representatives from the American Forest Foundation, American Forest and Paper Association, Association of Consulting Foresters, Forest Landowners Association, National Association of State Foresters, National Association of University Fisheries and Wildlife Programs, National Woodland Owners Association, Pinchot Institute for Conservation, USDA Forest Service, and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. The full report of the summit is available at <http://cafnr.missouri.edu/forconf/>. At the summit’s conclusion, a working group was selected to provide a transition between the summit and the final establishment of a national coalition representing the many stakeholders in our nonfederal forestlands.

The working group met during March and April and began reviewing the outcomes from the summit and developing the criteria for coalition membership. A list of potential coalition members was drafted and invitations for membership were extended. The working group also analyzed and summarized

a three-page white paper highlighting significant outcomes of the summit. A draft was then presented at the first meeting of the full coalition for discussion and comment.

At the first meeting of the coalition, the “vision themes” and “action plans” from the summit were reviewed and prioritized. The highest priority action needs were incorporated into the three-page white paper developed earlier. This paper was circulated to all members of the coalition for final approval. The white paper will be used as an umbrella document that articulates the purpose and objectives of the coalition and clearly states the actions that need to be taken.

A major outcome of the first coalition meeting was the establishment of three task groups that will address the topics of Research, Education, and Outreach/Extension in the context of the “Actions to be Taken.” Each task group will seek to have a working group that reflects the breadth and interests, as represented in the membership of the coalition, ensuring regional and diverse representation. The coalition’s steering committee is drafting a charge for each task group to develop a prospectus that addresses, at minimum, needed funding, planned accomplishments, program structure and implementation, and impacts and consequences. I am pleased to report that the members present at the coalition meeting were very supportive of having the univer-

Extension Committee

F. E. Busby, Chair

Based on reports submitted by regional and state Extension personnel, many educational programs are being offered to assist private, non-industrial forest landowners in better managing their forest land resources. While this has been an important issue for many years, working with private landowners to improve forest management has become a higher priority during the past decade as allowable timber harvests on National Forests have decreased, and timber buyers have turned to private landowners for the needed timber supply. I saw an example of how significant the timber supply issue was a few days ago when I was in the woods with a ‘62 Utah State forestry graduate. We saw timber being cut in southern Utah that was being hauled several hundred miles to mills who needed the timber as part of a necessary volume of saw logs to keep the mill open.

The most significant nonindustrial forest management issue we are facing in Utah is that private landowners, many of whom have never sold timber, have no idea of its true market value and are often paid far less. These landowners also lack knowledge about timber land management practices and are not insisting that good cutting practices be used. The land is often left in a mess by the timber harvesting company. Lack of good information on regeneration opportunities and methods is another problem faced by many of our landowners. I am proud to say that in partnership with the Utah State



Feature Article

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The heart of the FHS is its library and archives. Perhaps the foremost facility of its kind in the world, the library has over 6,000 volumes on forest and conservation history and numerous rare printings. The FHS is also the national archives for the Society of American Foresters, American Forest and Paper Association, American Forests, and Association of Consulting Foresters. Other collections include approximately 25,000 historic photographic images from the last century of forests, forestry, logging and equipment and a news clipping collection from 1880 to 1920 that traces the early conservation movement in America. The most recent accessions by the archives and library include the Forest Service "Headquarters" History Collection; the papers of Marion Clawson and a collection of over 400 novels that trace public perceptions of forests and forestry over the last century. These are rich resources for researchers and students. Bell Travel Grants of up to \$850 are available to researchers to offset costs of travel and expenses to the FHS headquarters to use the archives.

In addition to its own archives, which focus on collections of national and international importance, the FHS has assisted hundreds of other forestry collections to be preserved in repositories in the US and Canada. Although occurring mostly behind the scenes, this effort is one of the Society's most important and valuable services to the forestry community.

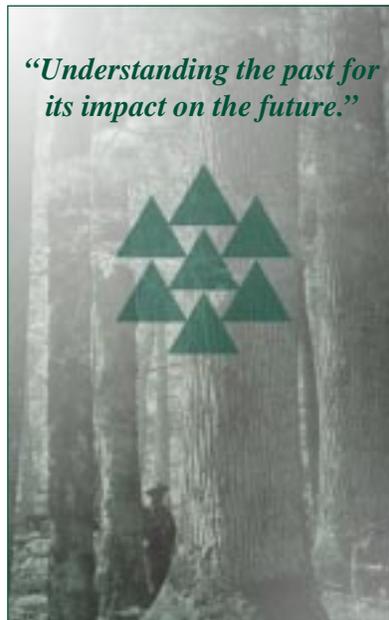
For decades, the staff at FHS has worked tirelessly to compile two very unique and powerful databases. The first is an annotated bibliography of forest and conservation history that includes over 25,000 citations of books, articles, dissertations, etc., written as forest history. The second is an archival guide that describes over 8,000 collections in forest history in almost 500 repositories in the US and Canada and throughout the world. These are used by faculty, students, journalists, teachers, environmental writers, and the occasional policymaker.

The FHS was one of the leaders in the development of oral history protocol in the 1940s and 1950s when oral histories were just becoming accepted as a relevant

addition to the written historical documentation. To date, FHS has conducted over 250 oral histories of leaders and workers in forestry and the forest industry. When appropriate, FHS publishes related oral histories into book-length publications. The most recent being *A View From The Top* containing oral histories with three deputy chiefs for forestry research with the Forest Service (Arnold, Dickerman, Buckman) and *Plantation Forestry in the Amazon*, a set of four oral histories with consultants (Posey, Gilvary, Welker, Thompson) on the Jari project in Brazil. Currently, oral histories are being conducted with Dale Robertson and his associate chief George Leonard. New funding was recently received to initiate the first oral histories of women and minorities in the Forest Service. Initial focus will be on women who joined the Forest Service in the 1960s and 1970s, and who have now retired from leadership positions. This project is conceptually aligned with NAPFSC's cultural diversity efforts.

The FHS research and publication program has been prolific over the years. Early on, the Society concentrated on the development of its journal to provide a place for forest history to be published, and on book-length publications on people and issues in forestry. More recently, FHS has focused on making this information more accessible. Perhaps the best known of the Society's publications is *American Forests: A History of Resiliency and Recovery* by Doug MacCleery. It was the first book in our Issues Series and has reached over 25,000 classrooms, households, and legislative offices. Other titles include *Forest Pharmacy and America's Fires*. Three new titles are being produced on sustainable forestry, wetlands and Canadian forests. Current publications provided to members include the quarterly journal *Environmental History*, the biannual magazine *Forest History Today*, the *Forest Timeline* newsletter, and new releases of the Issues Series booklets.

Our most recent book has direct relevance to NAPFSC. Edited by Harold K. Steen, *Forest and Wildlife Science in America: A History*, contains 16 original chapters that trace the history of science in forestry and



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CSREES News

Program Reviews

Boyd Post

During Fiscal Year 1999, from October 1, 1998 to September 30, 1999, the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) sponsored and conducted several comprehensive reviews of forestry and natural resources programs in NAPFSC institutions. These reviews were comprehensive and included the three aspects of research, education, and extension. Team members and leaders who participated in these reviews are listed below.

Institution

Auburn University
School of Forestry

Michigan Tech.
School of Forestry
and Wood Products

Purdue University
Department of Forestry
and Natural Resources

University of Vermont
School of Natural
Resources

Team

Scott Beasley, Dean, Stephen F. Austin S. U.
Sam Foster, Assistant Director, Southern Research Station
Sharon Haines, Manager, Sust. For. & For. Policy, I. P. Co.
Boyd Post, Team Leader, CSREES, USDA
Scott Reed, Assoc. Dean, College of Forestry, Oregon S. U.

Ronald Dinus, Institute of Paper Sci. & Tech. (Retired)
Linda Hardesty, Washington State University
Nancy Lorimer, Asst. Dir., North Central For. Expt. Station
Larry Morris, Warnell School of Forestry, Univ. of Georgia
Wayne Murphey, Team Leader, CSREES, USDA
Darrell Nicholas, Dept. For. Products, Mississippi S. U.

Donald Field, University of Wisconsin
Sharon Friedman, Team Leader, CSREES, USDA
Daniel Keathley, Michigan State University
George Lewis, University of Georgia
Katy Smith, Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Ernie Wiggers, University of Missouri
Janice Weidenbeck, University of Kentucky

Carolyn Adams, Dir. Watershed Sci. Inst., NRCS, USDA
Perry Brown, Dean, School of Forestry, Univ. of Montana
Hanna Cortner, Sch. of Renewable N. R., Univ. of Arizona
Chris Eagar, Northeastern Research Sta., Forest Ser., USDA
Boyd Post, Team Leader, CSREES, USDA
Bruce Wiersma, Dean, College of Natural Sci., For. & Agr.,
University of Maine

In addition to the above reviews, Cornell University's Department of Natural Resources is planning a review for September 1999. The team leader for this review, which is not sponsored by CSREES, is Gregory Brown of Virginia Tech. Larry Biles will represent CSREES as a member of the review team.

Program reviews are voluntary on the part of the eligible institutions. However, they are important in assessing current strengths, identifying future opportunities, and recommending appropriate strategies for achieving desired goals. CSREES is committed to continuing, where appropriate to university needs, its emphasis on comprehensive reviews. In view of the mutual benefit from the review process, CSREES will pay the travel costs for fifty percent of the review team, up to a maximum of three team members (the team leader plus two other members). Should the institution desire more members on the team, then the institution will pay for their travel. ■

New Administrator Appointed

Boyd Post



Dr. Charles Laughlin

On May 27, 1999, the Secretary of Agriculture announced the official selection of Dr. Charles Laughlin as the new Administrator of CSREES. Dr. Laughlin assumed his new responsibilities June 21, 1999.

Laughlin, who comes to CSREES from the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources at the University of Hawaii-Manoa, where he served as Dean and Director since 1996, has extensive career experience within the Land-Grant University System. He was Director of the Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station, Colorado State University; Associate Director of the Georgia Agricultural Experiment Station, University of Georgia, and coordinated teaching and research programs at Mississippi State University's Department of Plant Pathology and Weed Science.

Dr. Laughlin received his Ph.D. in plant pathology and physiology from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, his MS degree in agronomy from the University of Maryland, and his BS degree in horticulture from Iowa State University.

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Washington, DC Update

Randy Nuckolls and Patrick Turner

Tough Budget Decisions in FY2000 Appropriations Bills

This year's battle over the federal budget has been very different than in recent years. For the first time in nearly 30 years, the federal government is showing a budget surplus. In previous years, such a fiscal outcome would probably have resulted in the use of that surplus to increase federal discretionary spending. Not so this year! The White House has announced its commitment to using the budget surplus to protect the Social Security and Medicare programs, with any leftover surplus to be used for specific targeted priorities. Republican congressional leaders, while also committed to protecting Social Security and Medicare, want to use the remaining surplus for a ten-year tax cut plan costing nearly \$800 billion. As House Ways and Means Chairman Bill Archer (R-TX) is fond of saying, "Let's get the money out of Washington where it can't be spent."

Agriculture Appropriations

The Balanced Budget Act (BBA) of 1997, enacted during a time when budget deficits were still projected for many years, is largely credited with having brought fiscal sanity to the budget process. The BBA imposed severe budget caps on federal discretionary spending, so much so that, even in an era with budget surpluses, many discretionary spending programs are facing significant potential budget cutbacks. With the current projections that budget surpluses will continue for several years, there has been a great deal of debate in Congress and within the Republican party about waiving the budget caps and allowing additional spending. However, for the time-being, the GOP leadership does not believe it to be good politics to abandon the caps and possibly anger its conservative wing.

The FY2000 Agriculture Appropriations bill was approved by the House of Representatives in early June. Funding for programs such as McIntire-Stennis, Cooperative Forestry Research, and the Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA) remained at last year's funding levels of \$21,932,000 and \$3,192,000, respectively. We are particularly pleased that the Subcommittee provided level funding, as that is more than \$2 million above the Clinton Administration request. Over the years we have talked about baseline figures, and it finally appears that the House subcommittee now

recognizes \$21,932,000 as the appropriate baseline figure for McIntire-Stennis.

The National Research Initiative (NRI) was the object of great debate during the House Subcommittee markup and ended up being cut by nearly \$14 million. A number of Republicans view the NRI as an Administration "research slush fund" for Clinton-Gore initiatives, such as global climate change, and chose to use some of the NRI funding request for their own priorities.

The Senate Agriculture Appropriations bill was also approved in early June and provides the same funding level for McIntire-Stennis, RREA, and the NRI as in FY1999.

One difference between the House and Senate was allowance in the Senate bill of the use of \$50 million for the Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems, the new competitive grants program authorized in the 1998 Agricultural Research, Extension and Education Reform Act of 1998. That legislation directed that new funds be applied to critical emerging agriculture issues, such as agricultural genome; food safety, food technology and human nutrition; new and alternative uses and production of agricultural commodities and products; agricultural biotechnology; natural resources management, including precision agriculture, and farm efficiency and profitability. The FY2000 House bill again inserts language prohibiting the expenditures of funds for this new initiative. The FY99 conference agreement also included the prohibition, not so much due to an objection to increased agricultural research, as to a jurisdictional dispute about who should control how the money is expended. We will work with the conferees in an attempt to meet House concerns and allow funding to be provided for this new competitive grants program.

Interior Appropriations

The FY2000 Interior Appropriations bill approved by the House in mid-July would provide a funding level of \$400 million less than the FY99 bill, and nearly \$1.4 billion less than the Clinton Administration request. The



Regional Reports



Western Region

Charles R. Hatch, Chair

The Western Region held its spring meeting in Moscow, Idaho. The Director, Rocky Mountain Experiment Station, USDA Forest Service, represented all experiment station directors in the western region. The following is a summary of the meeting.

Special Events. Dr. George Brown was honored with a plaque and gift, on behalf of his Western NAPFSC colleagues, for his years of dedication and service to the organization. Earlier, delegates attended a special lecture for students by Dr. Jack Ward Thomas, University of Montana Boone and Crocket Professor, entitled, "Beginning a Natural Resource Career: I Wish I Knew Then What I Know Now."

Collaborative Activities. A revision of the 1998 brochure summarizing RREA activities in the western region was discussed and proposed for late FY2000.

Comparative Data Survey. Eleven member institutions participated in the second annual "Western Forestry Schools Comparative Data Survey." Because of the increasing use of peer institution data by university-level programs at many of our institutions, it was recommended that this survey be conducted every fall semester.

Agriculture-Forestry Regional Coordination and Implementation Committee. Western NAPFSC's regional research representative participated in the Western Association

of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors and formally is a member of the association's Regional Coordination and Implementation committee. This activity "has us at the table" during discussion of regional and national research program thrusts. The committee facilitates gathering scientists to write competitive grant proposals focused at regional problems, and assists with faculty interaction between regional peer groups. Current natural resource projects include watershed, insect and disease, and forest/range land interface issues.

Report on NAPFSC Executive Committee Actions. Review and discussion included McIntire-Stennis and RREA funding, western success stories for use in the "Silver Bullet 2" forestry research review document, outcomes associated with the Pinchot Institute's Forestry Education Conference, and the need to identify regional research capacity to further the Nonfederal Lands Summit initiative. The WNAPFSC research chair will implement a survey to determine the current and near-future research capacity of our membership.

WNAPFSC – WNAUFWP Collaboration. The discussion focused on how the WNAPFSC and WNAUFWP might more effectively collaborate on mutual issues and proposed jointly sponsored meetings that feature discussion/development

Southern Region

Fred W. Cabbage, Chair

The Southern NAPFSC group met at the Forest Landowners Association's (FLA) annual meeting in Nashville, Tennessee, on May 5, 1999. At that meeting and since, several items of business or actions have been conducted.

First, after several years of development, we have assisted in the preparation and publication of a four-page brochure on "Forests and the Southern Economy" in conjunction with the FLA. We also are cooperating with the FLA on developing a unified Southern Forest Research and Extension Initiative. FLA held a member "fly-in" to Washington, DC, on June 8-9, 1999, and forestry research and extension were supported as one of their four priority issues (along with estate taxes, capital gains, and property rights/environmental regulation) in FLA member discussions with congress members and staff.

We also distributed the results from our annual Southern Forestry Schools Comparative Data Survey for FY1998-1999 at the May 5 SNAPFSC meeting. Plans for a proposed conference on "Forest Science in the Southern US: A New Millennium" were discussed. George Hopper will serve as SNAPFSC representative for the planning group. The results from the successful NAPFSC workshop



Executive Liaison's Message

Terri Bates

With the one-year anniversary as NAPFSC's Executive Liaison approaching, the primary focus of my work continues to be "post" activities related to last February's summit on "Sustaining America's Forests: The Role of Research, Education and Extension." In addition, I have and will continue to provide coordination and staff support for the coalition that has formed to carry forward needed actions identified at the summit. Patrick Reid chairs this group (see page 4 for his report). Both CSREES and the Forest Service have continued to provide support for post summit activities, including the work of the coalition.

Working with William Bentley at Syracuse and Boyd Post at CSREES, we should have a new publication to you before the annual meeting detailing the value and success of university research, extension, education programs, and partnerships. It should prove a useful tool for both NAPFSC and the coalition as we work to identify and communicate future needs (program, resource, partnerships, etc.) and strategies for achieving them.

I have represented NAPFSC at the Roundtable on Sustainable Forests, a large and diverse coalition of federal, state, NGOs, and other organizations concerned with implementation of the Santiago Declaration Criteria and Indicators. More information on the Roundtable, as well as background of the Criteria and Indicators, is available on the website at <http://159.189.27.1/fgim/rsf.html>. The Roundtable plans to sponsor several technical workshops early next year that will bring together national experts in the public, private, and environmental sectors who have a thorough knowledge of the data available to address a specific Criteria. NAPFSC was involved in identifying both potential leaders and participants in these workshops.

Finally, I have continued to work with NAPFSC's newsletter editor, Arlice Banks, on gathering material of interest to NAPFSC members and other interested readers. I welcome ideas, suggestions for future issues, and updates on personnel changes at your institution.

Please contact me if I can assist you with NAPFSC related activities and interests. You can reach me via e-mail at Bates-Stasny@erols.com or at (703) 538-1134. I look forward to seeing you at the annual meeting. ■

Past President's Message

Gregory N. Brown

President Al Vogt has asked me to continue serving as NAPFSC's representative to the Board on Agriculture Budget Committee. You are familiar with the current status of the FY2000 budget process as described in Randy Nuckolls' and Patrick Turner's report in this newsletter. The FY2001 Budget Committee has begun its work and likely will continue to pursue identifying formula, competitive, and special grant funding as line items under five critical issues currently used by both the US Department of Agriculture and NASULGC's Board on Agriculture. These are:

- ☞ an agricultural production system that is highly competitive in the global economy;
- ☞ a safe and secure food and fiber system;
- ☞ a healthier, more well-nourished population;
- ☞ greater harmony between agriculture and the environment, and
- ☞ enhanced economic opportunities and quality of life for Americans.

Forestry and natural resource interests fit nicely into at least three of these issues.

I also continue to serve as chair of the NASULGC-USGS Partnership. The Director of the US Geological Survey, Charles Groat, has indicated that improved collaboration with universities is a top priority. He suggested that in the future when an urgent national or regional need is identified requiring multidisciplinary input, he will call upon NASULGC to identify scholars at its member institutions who could provide useful information and analysis. He identified several possible areas of collaboration with universities including problems of pollution caused from water runoff from large feedlots, decline of salmon and other commercial varieties of fish off the West Coast, and the ecological problems in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

Finally, I was asked by President Vogt to represent NAPFSC at a meeting of the National Planning Committee of Research Administrators held in conjunction with the national Forest Products Society meeting in Boise, Idaho. On June 30, I presented to that group a brief sketch of NAPFSC's activities. Research administrators working in the area of forest products would like to collaborate more closely with the NAPFSC organization. ■



President's Message

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Although I feel we had a productive period, there remains much to be accomplished. We have initiated discussions on enhancing diversity in NAPFSC and will participate with MANNRS in the future. There are many goals to achieve, however, before we will realize significant increases in diversity among students at universities and in the forestry profession.

This is my last newsletter article as NAPFSC president. I commend the Executive Committee for their solid efforts during my term. The transition to our next President, Dr. Perry Brown, should be quite smooth. Perry has been an active participant in all NAPFSC activities. I look forward to supporting him in pursuit of NAPFSC's mission.

Thanks to the membership for giving me the opportunity to serve. It has been interesting! ■

Committee Reports

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sities provide the leadership for the task groups. The three task group chairs are: Dr. Arnett Mace, University of Georgia - Research; Dr. Bruce Menzel, Iowa State University (President, NAUFWP) - Education, and Dr. Scott Reed, Oregon State University - Outreach/Extension. The timeline for task group actions is as follows:

- July 21, 1999 - complete membership of each task group;

- Nov. 1, 1999 - task group first draft, and
- Jan. 15, 2000 - task group final draft.

I served as the transition working group chair and will continue to chair the coalition.

At NAPFSC's General Assembly on Saturday, September 11, 1999, an all-morning workshop will review the summit and coalition actions and seek to focus on how our universities can respond to the needs of non-federal forestlands. ■

Regional Reports

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on "Nonfederal Lands," as well as the July 15-16 NRC workshop on "National Capacity in Forestry Research" were discussed. At least three southern deans/heads will attend the NRC meeting.

Discussions were also held with research and extension partners Pete Roussopoulos, Director of the Southern Research Station, and Larry Biles of CSREES. Prospects of increased

federal budgets for Forest Service and USDA programs were discussed, as well as new personnel changes in USDA. Suggestions were made of means to enhance the focus on research and extension for non-industrial private forests (NIPFs), and enhanced forest productivity as important southern priorities. Randy Nuckolls briefed the attendees on developments in Washington, and prospects for federal research and extension programs. ■

Feature Article

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wildlife management, including a chapter on university research written by Richard Skok (see publication notice on page 16).

In the mid-1990s the Issues Series formed the basis for new outreach efforts. The American Forests booklet is now being adapted as a teacher's guide with activities targeted at the middle school level. This will be part of a new Internet-based educational site for forest and conservation history where students, instructors, and others can review primary materials in forest and conservation history, and even hear the voices of past foresters through their oral history interviews. In addition, we are moving forward in collaboration with Project Learning Tree to facilitate more forest and conservation history in the classroom.

Because the foundation of the FHS is its contribution to scholarship through library, archives, research, and education, there is a clear connection between FHS and forestry programs throughout the nation. In the future, the FHS hopes it can become an even greater resource to students in forestry and related fields; and that it can contribute to strengthening forest and conservation history course offerings and other instruction in NAPFSC member schools. Clearly our paths have many possible crossings in the years ahead, and the FHS remains open to pursuing them together in the most aggressive and viable ways. ■

For more information, contact:

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<http://www.lib.duke.edu/forest/>



Committee Reports

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Department of Forestry, State Lands, and Fire, Utah State University Extension is leading an aggressive educational program to help private land owners get more value from their forest resources and improve the management of the land. Much remains to be done, however.

Following are reports on how the Extension foresters and our partners are addressing this and other important forest land management problems.

Master Tree Farmer 2000 Satellite Video-Conference. The South Carolina Master Tree Farmer Program recently completed a successful first run of a satellite video-conference with over 200 participants at 13 remote sites throughout the state. The American Forest Foundation recently approved funding to assist with the "regionalization" of this effort for the year 2000 (tentatively scheduled for February/March 2000). Instruction will be broadcast via satellite to all interested southeastern states for pickup and distribution to selected locations within each state. Examples of sessions include: introduction to forestry and forestry terms and concepts, forest land as an investment, pine and hardwood management, marketing and harvesting timber, wildlife management, and forestry services available at the local, state, regional, and national levels.

At each location there will be a site coordinator and a forester to assist with conducting the program at the local level. Landowners and people considering becoming landowners will have an opportunity to attend these sessions for a fee. At the conclusion of the sessions, a field tour will provide additional contact hours where attendees will see forestry in action. Landowners will become knowledgeable about forestry and will feel more comfortable discussing forestry with extension and consulting foresters, and with timber purchasers and harvesters. The experience in South Carolina is that informed landowners practice a higher level of forest management than uninformed landowners. Landowners without management plans will have plans developed for their property. Landowners will be exposed to the many local, state, regional, and national resources available to them, including the American Tree Farm System, the Forest Landowners Association, the Forest Stewardship Program, cost-share and tax incentive programs, and numerous state tree planting incentive programs. Program and practice evaluations will be

conducted after the program and one year later to document the results.

Southern Forestry Sustainability Study. The USDA Forest Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Tennessee Valley Authority, Environmental Protection Agency, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Army Corps of Engineers, and the National Park Service have agreed to work together to conduct a southwide study on forest ecosystem sustainability. The Land-Grant University System and Extension Service will be involved in various aspects of the study. A recent report developed by an interagency working group notes that this has been an issue for years. The report suggests that chip mills are but one of several factors potentially affecting overall forest resource sustainability, and that their individual impacts are difficult, if not impossible, to isolate from others. Specifically, the report identified a number of issues to research, including forest age distribution, forest species composition, forest fragmentation, timber supply, biodiversity, clearcutting, wetlands impacts, water quality degradation, water yield, threatened & endangered species, conversion to non-forest land types and uses, harvesting intensity, reforestation, tree species conversion, and harvesting/processing technologies.

The interagency working group report provides a short explanation of each issue, its current status, availability of applicable data, time estimates for researching data, and data sources. The report also discusses the roles of federal agencies and the options for federal involvement, as well as desired outcomes. Contact John Greis (404-347-7223) for more information or a copy of the working group report.

Forest Service Research Summit. The Southern Research Station and its cooperators are planning a conference next year to review and present the state-of-the-art in forest science research in the South, promote and encourage interdisciplinary, cooperative research in the Southern US, and point to gaps in knowledge that will best be filled with future interdisciplinary, cooperative forest science research.

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Regional Reports

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of methods to teach forestry and fish and wildlife subject matter in a way that serves as a prerequisite to program-wide integrated capstone courses. Members discussed venues that will facilitate these joint meetings.

Distance Education Activities.

Distance delivery of courses is becoming a more common component of our educational programs and was discussed in some depth. The WNAPFSC Education Chair will implement a survey of our membership to determine

- ☞ the distance delivery coursework offerings at our institutions, their target audience, and the mode that is used for their delivery;
- ☞ the distance delivery coursework offerings that are in preparation, their target audience, and the intended mode of delivery, and
- ☞ the distance delivery coursework offerings that are actively under consideration and their target audience.

Western Conclave. The future direction and objectives of conclaves in our changing educational environment raise questions relative to their sport and academic activities, team behavior, safety, and costs. This topic was briefly discussed and will be placed on the agenda of a future meeting. ■



North Central Region

Carl Settergren

NCA-10/23 Joint Effort Initiated. In April 1998, a joint meeting of NCA-10 and NCA-23 administrators was held at the Max McGraw Institute. Bruce Menzel (NCA-23) and Mike Kelly (NCA-10) proposed to explore the development of a North Central Region Experiment Station Project that would blend the expertise represented by both groups, and focus on riparian zone management in the midwest. With financial and logistical assistance from Linda Donoghue, and the USFS North Central Experiment Station, an organizational meeting was held in St. Paul during July 1998. Potential participants from several experiment stations in the North Central Region were identified, along with USFS, USGS, and EPA personnel. Following the July discussions, a draft proposal was developed, and the group used the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference held in December as an ad hoc opportunity to reconvene the group and put the final touches on the proposal. A formal proposal was submitted to the North Central Experiment Station Directors shortly after the first of the year.

In May 1999, we received official notification from the directors that the formation of NCT-179 (Riparian Management in Midwestern Agricultural and Forest Ecosystems) had been approved. The "T" designation allows Experiment Station funds to be used to support travel for participants while we develop an expanded proposal for a "NC" project. Jim Perry, University of Minnesota, serves as Chair of the Technical Committee. NCT-179 will have its first formal meeting in Ames

from August 10-12, 1999. This initial meeting will be joint with NCR-196, which shares similar interests, but from a sociological perspective. The August meeting will be used to develop more concrete plans for program directions and objectives and will culminate in an expanded proposal to the Directors in early 2000.

We are very pleased with the group that is beginning to coalesce and are very excited about the significant possibilities that full development of this project will present. With the growing interest in hypoxia in the Gulf of Mexico, and the possible role that nutrient runoff from the Midwest may play, this is a project whose time has come. Please remember that participation in these projects is open to all interested parties and is not limited to State Experiment Station System personnel.

For additional information, contact Bruce Menzel at (515) 294-7419, e-mail (bmenzel@iastate.edu) or Mike Kelly at (515) 294-1166, e-mail (jmkelly@iastate.edu) at Iowa State University.

Northeast Region

Donald H. DeHayes

Distance Learning Course Enriches Natural Resources Curricula in New England Land Grant Universities. With support from the Council of Presidents of the New England Land Grant Universities, the natural resources programs at the Universities of Connecticut (UCONN), Maine (UMO), Massachusetts (UMASS), New Hampshire (UNH), Rhode Island (URI), and Vermont (UVM) jointly offered a graduate seminar course

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Committee Reports

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Northeast Forest Resource Extension Council (NEFREC). NEFREC recently held its summer business meeting with Extension foresters from seven states participating. Major items of business included: (1) Efforts continue to fill the Regional Extension Forester position. Proposed changes to the strategy paper were solicited and a revised document will be shared with NEFREC and then the Northeast Extension Directors. (2) Cornell University and Penn State University will lead a regional effort to produce a satellite teleconference in Spring 2000 on the economics of forest stewardship for private landowners. Rutgers University and the University of Connecticut will participate on the program committee. (3) The Forest*A*Syst program that was developed by Rick Hamilton (NC State) was presented for discussion by Larry Biles. NEFREC members were encouraged to solicit comments from their stakeholders and to look for opportunities to provide regionally specific information. (4) NEFREC will seek to expand its involvement in the Forest Resource Program Leaders by proposing changes to the by-laws. The proposed changes were presented at the full business meeting, and a revised draft of the by-laws will be submitted to FRPL for consideration. Additional information on these items can be obtained from Mark Vodak (Rutgers University) and Peter Smallidge (Cornell University).

Forestry Internet Library. The USDA Forest Service and Regional Extension Forester are collaborating to develop a web-based library of forestry and natural resource publications. The website, currently under development, will be categorized by topics and subject areas. On-line publications at various state forestry, Forest Service, University and Extension sites will be catalogued through links. Natural resource professionals and web administrators will be able to “build” the site by adding links to htmls, pdfs and other sites. A specialized search engine will be developed to search by more specific keyword. Look for it to be fully functional by the fall of 1999.

“NIPF Land Owners Education” Award. By the time you read this, nominations will be closed for the Non-Industrial Private Forest Land Owners Education award. This award will be presented to the educational institution selected for having delivered the most effective education program benefitting nonindustrial private forest (NIPF) landowners. All educational institutions are eligible. The

award, given to an appropriate administrative unit covering the faculty involved in the education program, will be presented at the Extension meeting during the 1999 Society of American Foresters (SAF) meeting in Portland. The award is presented by National Woodland Owners Association and the National Association of Professional Forestry Schools and Colleges. This award is presented annually, so if you are not in contention for the award this year, begin thinking now about applying for next year’s award.

Ozark-Ouachita Highland Assessment-National Forest Communities Project. Focusing on the social dimensions of natural resource management, Extension forestry and community development specialists joined with University of Arkansas-Fayetteville faculty in designing, initiating, and facilitating a challenge cost-share grant project with the USDA Forest Service. Selected forest-dependent communities adjacent to National Forest lands were assisted in creating or strengthening planning and management partnerships with the Forest Service. Benefits from this new collaborative decision-making include more community input into the forest planning process and an established process for critical conflict resolution and management. Along with Extension staff, community residents representing different interest groups, local organizations, and viewpoints became teachers in workshops and follow-up training. Training to build critically needed skills for dealing with and reducing controversy continues for Forest Service, University of Arkansas Extension personnel, and graduates of leadership training programs from four area states. For more information, contact Tamara Walkingstick, Extension forestry specialist, at twalkingstick@uaex.edu.

There are many excellent programs being offered by Extension personnel throughout the country to improve the health and management of the nation’s forest land resources. I thank those of you who contributed information for this report. As with any newsletter, space is a limitation and I apologize for those success stories that I could not include. ■





Washington, DC Update

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Forest Service budget was cut by more than \$20 million in the House bill and nearly \$100 million in the Senate bill, compared to last year's funding level.

The House bill increases Forest and Rangeland research by nearly \$7 million, to \$204 million, over last year's bill, while the Senate bill cuts \$10 million from the research program. Most of the House increase comes from a \$5 million allocation for Forest Inventory and Analysis, while the Senate Subcommittee expressed its strong frustration with the Forest Service research agenda by including report language that states:

"The Committee remains concerned that time-consuming and expensive research efforts have not reduced controversies associated with resource management or lead to wise multiple use decisions by the Forest Service. Recent examples show that research results, which have taken years to develop and cost millions of dollars, have simply been disregarded when the agency makes land management decisions. In light of these facts, the Committee cannot support increases in the Forest Service research budget, particularly in a time of severe budgetary constraints."

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CSREES News

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National Program Leader Selected

Boyd Post

Dr. Catalino A. Blanche was selected a National Program Leader for Forest Biology with the USDA CSREES. Dr. Blanche began his new assignment on July 6, 1999.

Blanche earned his Forestry BS at the University of the Phillipines at Los Banos, majoring in Forest Utilization Engineering. He also earned an MS in Agriculture with a major in Plant Physiology at Los Banos. At the University of Georgia he earned an MS in Forest Resources, majoring in Ecology. His Ph.D. in Forestry was earned at Mississippi State University, with a major in Tree Physiology. He has also completed several courses on special topics, including Urban Forestry.

Dr. Blanche has a breadth of experience in various aspects of forestry. He comes to CSREES from Booneville, Arkansas, where he has been a Research Forester and Program Leader in Agroforestry at the Dale Bumpers Small Farms Research Center since 1995. Prior to that he served as the Associate Director of the College of Agriculture and Home Economics at Southern University, in charge of Urban Forestry. ■



Agriculture Appropriations Bill Budget

FY1999 Enacted

McIntire-Stennis	\$21,932,000
RREA	\$3,192,000
NRI	\$119,300,000
IFAF*	\$0

FY2000 Clinton Budget

McIntire-Stennis	\$19,882,000
RREA	\$3,192,000
NRI	\$200,000,000
IFAF*	

FY2000 NAPFSC Request



McIntire-Stennis	\$23,332,000
RREA	\$4,000,000
NRI	\$200,000,000
IFAF*	



FY2000 House

McIntire-Stennis	\$21,932,000
RREA	\$3,192,000
NRI	\$105,400,000
IFAF*	\$0.0

FY2000 Senate

McIntire-Stennis	\$21,932,000
RREA	\$3,192,000
NRI	\$119,300,000
IFAF*	\$50,000,000

*Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food



Washington, DC Update

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Forest Service cooperative forestry programs received \$92 million in FY99. The FY2000 House bill decreases that level to \$90.3 million, while the Senate bill increases funding for those programs to \$106.6 million. Forest stewardship was funded at \$29.4 million in the House, while the Senate provided level funding at \$28.8 million. The Stewardship Incentives Program (SIP) was zeroed out in both the House and Senate bill.

The Senate bill also includes language calling for the Forest Service to decrease administrative costs associated with the State and Private Forestry appropriations by at least one-half this year. The Committee is considering whether many programs within State and Private Forestry might not achieve better results if block-granted. We will carefully follow the debate on this issue.

The conferences on the FY2000 Agriculture and Interior Appropriations bills will not take place until September.

FY2000 Testimony

In March and April, NAPFSC submitted testimony to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees on FY2000 budget issues, as it has done for a number of years. A complete copy of Dr. Vogt's statement to the House Agriculture Appropriations Committee is available on the NAPFSC website. ■

NAPFSC News Briefs

New USDA Forest Service Assignments

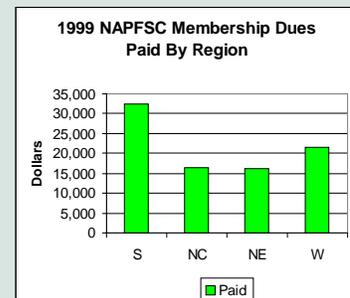
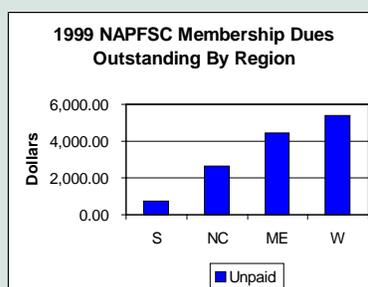
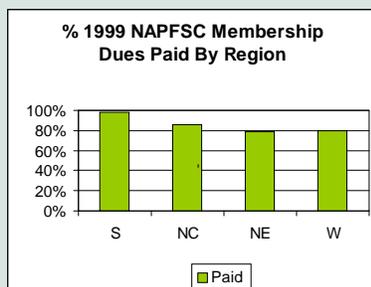
The US Forest Service has announced several new assignments in the Washington office over the last several months. First among these was the appointment of Phil Janik in March to chief operating officer. Janik took over from Francis Pandolfi who first served in this position after joining the Forest Service two years ago. Formerly the deputy chief for State and Private Forestry and regional forester for Alaska, Janik now oversees all business operation areas of the agency. Pandolfi planned to return to his home in New York state and resume work with environmental organizations where he was previously active.

Janice McDougle was formally appointed the Deputy Chief of State & Private Forestry (S&PF) in May. McDougle is a native of Alabama and has over 29 years of government service. She has served as Associate Deputy Chief for S&PF, Associate Deputy Chief for the National Forest System, and Assistant Director for the Wildlife and Fisheries staff. McDougle has also served with the US Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS). Her FWS experience includes service in the Division of Ecological Services, Endangered Species Program, and the Division of Refuge. McDougle holds a BS degree from Alabama A&M University and an MS from Penn State.

James R. Furnish has been named Deputy Chief, National Forest System for the USDA Forest Service. As Deputy Chief, Jim is responsible for all forest interests

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Financial Facts



Submitted by G. H. Weaver, Treasurer



Regional Reports

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using interactive distance learning technology. The one-credit course, entitled "Ecosystem Health and Sustainability," utilized PicTel technology to link students from each of the six universities to each other and leading researchers. The course consisted of seven seminars focusing on different aspects of ecosystem health, and utilized a web-based syllabus and set of reading assignments. A final, on-line session provided an opportunity for student synthesis and review of both the ecological and technological aspects of the course. Seminars were presented by faculty from each of the six participating universities, and included a question and answer session that rotated among the schools. The presenters and their topics were:

Dr. James Karr
University of Washington
Protecting Ecological Health:
An Urgent Societal Goal



Dr. Donald DeHayes
The University of Vermont
Acid Rain and Forest Health - Missing
Pieces in an Ecological Puzzle

Dr. Scott Nixon
University of Rhode Island
Prehistoric Nutrient Inputs and
Productivity in Narragansett Bay

Dr. Malcom Hunter
University of Washington
Biodiversity and Ecosystem Health

Dr. Kevin McGarigal
University of Massachusetts
Landscape Dynamics and Ecosystem
Management

Dr. Barrett Rock
University of Maine
The Remote Detection
of Forest Damage:
The Role of Remote Sensing as an
Environmental Monitoring Tool

Dr. John Clausen
University of Connecticut
Sustainability of Water Resources

Dr. Peter August (URI) served as overall course coordinator, and the Division of Continuing Education at UVM provided the technological bridge. In addition to Dr. August, course coordinators from each institution were Drs. Dan Civco (UCONN), Bill Livingston (UMO), Bill McComb (UMASS), Ted Howard (UNH), and Deane Wang (UVM).

The course was offered during spring semester 1999, and students enrolled through their own institution. Because of differing university calendars, course meetings were restricted to the middle portion of the semester, with a gap during March to accommodate different spring break schedules at the participating institutions.

Despite occasional technological glitches, the course went very smoothly and was well-received by the students. It provided students the unique opportunity for direct exposure to different scientists, their ideas and research, and varying styles of presentation, and served to enrich the academic programming offered through each of the participating programs. ■



FHS Publishes *History of Forest and Wildlife Science*

The Forest History Society recently published *Forest and Wildlife Science in America: A History*. Edited by Harold K. Steen, the 455-page book traces the history of science in forestry and wildlife management and shows the role science has played in the formation of natural resource policy during the last 100 years. An excellent resource and text for policy, history, science, and administration classes, the text contains 16 chapters covering both organizational programs and disciplinary fields.

Individual copies are \$18.95, which includes shipping. Mail order and payment to the:

Forest History Society
701 Vickers Avenue
Durham, NC 27701-3162

For multiple copy orders or credit card orders, call (919) 682-9319.

Did You Know...?

Since the inception of the McIntire-Stennis Program in 1964, it is conservatively estimated that 22,500 years of graduate student support have been provided by this program. This has resulted in the awarding of at least 7,424 masters degrees and 2,185 doctoral degrees in forestry fields over the last 35 years. When the effects of the matching requirements are added, the total results are much greater.



Agenda 2020: Defining Industry's Research Needs

Jay Farrell, Manager, Forest Research and Sustainable Forestry

In 1994, the American Forest and Paper Association (AF&PA) formed a collaborative research partnership with the US Department of Energy Office of Industrial Technologies (DOE OIT). Known as Agenda 2020, this partnership utilizes a competitive grants, peer-reviewed process to focus cost-shared research on industry priorities that enhance productivity and energy efficiency.

The forest products industry articulated these priorities in *Agenda 2020: A Technology Vision and Research Agenda for America's Forest, Wood, and Paper Industry*. This document defines industry's research needs in six critical areas: Capital Effectiveness, Energy Performance, Environmental Performance, Recycling, Sensors and Controls, and Sustainable Forestry. Within each of these areas, industry scientists developed research pathways to focus research in areas of critical importance. An updated version of this document, *Agenda 2020: The Path Forward: An Implementation Plan*, was recently published.

The Sustainable Forestry component of Agenda 2020 focuses on four research pathways: Biotechnology and Tree Improvement, Basic Physiology of Forest Productivity, Sustainable Forest Productivity, and Remote Sensing to Improve Forest Inventory and Stand Management. The goal is to substantially improve the productivity of our nation's forests, which provide the basic raw material source for the industry.

In 1998, the USDA Forest Service Research and Development organization (USFS) joined the partnership in supporting the Sustainable Forestry component of Agenda 2020. By the summer of 1999, the Agenda 2020 forestry portfolio comprised 21 projects with combined budgets totaling more than \$13 million over the period 1996-2001. Project selections for FY2000 funding are being finalized and a fifth Request for Proposals (RFP) will soon be issued for FY2001 funding.

The prioritization of research needs through Agenda 2020 has allowed AF&PA to focus resources on research that is too costly or risky for individual companies to pursue alone. This demands a collaborative effort. Universities, national laboratories, USFS Regional Experiment Stations, and industry research institutions have joined together to develop innovative, pre-competitive projects. DOE OIT and USFS provide cost-shared funding and technical support. AF&PA provides oversight and establishes priorities through various working groups. The National Council of the Paper Industry for Air and Stream Improvement (NCASI) provides technical expertise.

Demonstrating and delivering new technologies will be essential if the US forest products industry is to remain globally competitive. AF&PA is committed to continually improving Agenda 2020 as an important tool to address industry technology needs. ■

Timber Investments on the Rise

by Helen Fosgate, University of Georgia, Warnell School of Forest Resources

Timberland investments represent a tiny piece of the \$5 trillion total US investment pie – just 0.1 percent or \$6.5 billion. Even among real estate investors, it is considered a niche category. But strong returns over the past 15 years – and two new indexes that can help calculate timberland performance – have attracted more commercial investors in recent years, according to a study by University of Georgia (UGA) forest researchers.

“Timberland is less volatile than many traditional financial assets,” said Jon Caulfield, a forest economist in UGA's Warnell School of Forest Resources. “After all, trees keep growing, even when we get gloomy pronouncements about the economy.”

The research, published in the April 1998 issue of *The Forest Products Journal* looked at timberland returns from 1981 to 1996. It found during that time, timberland routinely outperformed fixed investments and periodically, even equities. It also showed investments in timberland increased from just \$69.2 million in 1985 to more than \$6.5 billion in 1998.

Caulfield said institutional investors have been reluctant to embrace timberland, mostly because there has not been an effective way to compare its performance to other assets. This, coupled with doubt about whether its performance would be persistent over time, kept many potential investors away.

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to ensure the sustainability of National Forest System lands. Furnish, a native of Iowa, has 31 years of experience with the Forest Service. He is a 1968 graduate of Iowa State University with a BS degree in forest management. His prior Forest Service career has included Forest Supervisor of the Siuslaw National Forest in Oregon. Prior to his current assignment, Furnish was Appeal Coordinator, Forest Service Headquarters in Washington, DC, from 1989 to 1991; Staff Officer in the San Juan National Forest 1984 to 1989, and District Ranger, Big-horn National Forest from 1977 to 1984. ■

Odds and Ends

from Randy Nuckolls

Timber Tax Provisions

House and Senate tax bills working their way through Congress in late July included several features important to timber landowners. The House bill (HR 2488) contains provisions to reduce the capital gains tax on timber and other assets from 20 to 15 percent, to phase-out the estate tax over ten years, and to increase the tax credit and seven-year amortization of qualifying reforestation expenses. The tax bill approved by the Senate does not include a reduction in capital gains taxes, and has a much smaller change in the estate tax provisions, but contains the same language as the House regarding the reforestation tax credits and amortization features of the House bill. Conference on the two bills was set to begin before an August recess. White House opposition to both the House and Senate bills has been very vocal, and a Presidential veto is anticipated of the first version sent by Congress to the President's desk.

Teaming With Wildlife

Hearings on legislation that would provide funding for state wildlife conservation and recreation programs were held around the country in the last months, but a late-July committee mark-up scheduled in the Senate was postponed at the last minute. The legislation (S. 25, S. 446, H.R. 701 and H.R. 798), containing elements of the "Teaming With Wildlife Initiative," seeks to share outer continental shelf oil and gas revenues among the states. In essence, the revenues from nonrenewable resources would be reinvested in renewable resources to strengthen conservation, recreation, and wildlife programs. The principles and purposes of these various bills are supported by an array of outdoor enthusiasts, as well as the National Governors Association, Western Governors Association, Southern Governors Association, and the National Association of Counties.

NRC National Research Capacity

A July 15-16 workshop kicked off a new study by the National Research Council (NRC) to examine future forestry research needs. Chaired by Fred Cabbage, North Carolina State University, the Committee on National Capacity in Forestry Research is focusing on the following five areas:

Timber Investments on the Rise

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"There were several 'synthetic' performance indexes out there, but they were based on hypothetical investments and regarded with skepticism," said Caulfield.

In 1994 though, two new performance measures were introduced, both based on actual properties. The first, the Timberland Performance Index (TPI) calculates quarterly returns on existing funds managed by a cross-section of timberland investment companies. Compiled from data submitted by managers, returns are weighted by the dollar value of the assets in each fund.

The second, the National Council of Real Estate Investment Fiduciaries Timberland Index (NCREIF), also calculates a quarterly return of timberland properties managed by participating members, each of whom report to a centralized database.

While these performance measures have largely confirmed what the old, synthetic indexes showed, they have given potential investors new tools and confidence in timberland as a sound institutional investment. ■

Visit the
Roundtable on
Sustainable Forests
website at
<http://159.189.27.1/fgim/rsf.html>



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- the knowledge base necessary for forestry experts and other professionals to address research and management issues successfully in a complex social, political, and technical environment;
- the capacity of research organizations employing these professionals to perform research, providing the basis for scientific management and protection of the nation's forest resources;
- the basic curriculum elements and level of instruction necessary to develop a core competence, requisite to the desired knowledge base that will produce suitably trained, socially aware, and technically proficient researchers and managers;
- the means by which truly focused education and interdisciplinary systems, and thinking and communication skills can be developed and applied by a broad range of professionals to forest landscape problems, and
- the adequacy and capacity of available university-level programs to meet near-future needs.

Committee findings will be issued in a report early next year. The study is supported by NAPFSC and the USDA Forest Service.

Criteria and Indicator Workshops

NAPFSC has participated in the Roundtable on Sustainable Forests, a forum representing a number of diverse organizations focusing on the implementation of the Criteria and Indicators (C&I) contained in the Santiago Declaration of the Montreal Process. The roundtable will sponsor several technical workshops early next year that will bring together national experts in the public, private, and environmental sectors who have a thorough knowledge of the data available to address a specific Criteria. NAPFSC has been involved in identifying both potential leaders and participants for these workshops.

Three workshops (bio-physical criteria, social-economic criteria, and integration/synthesis) are planned for early 2000. The workshops are intended to accomplish the several tasks, from characterizing and categorizing C&I data sources, to estimating the potential program costs and timelines. ■

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and the USGS might improve collaboration. A consensus developed around a prototype where the agency and NASULGC would identify an urgent, national or regional need requiring multidisciplinary and multi-agency cooperation. The outcome would be a broad strategy, addressing all dimensions of the problem area, especially those of a social and economic nature. The Board will continue to work through a variety of channels to keep the momentum moving on this issue.

Testimony and NRC Report

The Board testified before the House Appropriations Committee on the USGS budget, and on key parts of the budgets for the Minerals Management Service, Office of Fossil Energy (DOE), Office of Mine Safety and Health Research, and the Mine Safety and Health Administration. The Board also presented testimony to the House Resources Committee on USGS budgets and authorization legislation. Earlier this year, the Board crafted a fairly lengthy statement to the National Research Council Committee on Future Roles, Challenges, and Opportunities for the US Geological Survey.

RREA

The Board on Natural Resources, one of five boards in NASULGC's Commission on Food Environment and Renewable Resources (CFERR), monitors programs and develops policy positions in broad issue areas.

At the last CFERR Legislative Committee meeting, the Board launched a concerted effort to garner support for increased funding for RREA. The Board has been respectful of the fact that RREA falls under the CSREES budget and is part of the overall Board on Agriculture budget document -- a delicately balanced portfolio accommodating a variety of competing interests. The dilemma for the Board is that while it does not want to disturb this intricate process, neither does it want to ignore the interests of its community.

To resolve this quandary, the Board has pushed for the establishment of some sort of overall CFERR budget process so that other critical programs are not necessarily held hostage to base funding. While previous efforts have been futile, the May CFERR meeting produced a consensus that budget coordination is necessary. Accordingly, a special CFERR Legislative Committee meeting is scheduled for September 10 at which the Board on Ag budget representatives will work with other CFERR Boards in shaping a common budget theme. ■



NAPFSC

R E P O R T

A report to the members of the National Association of Professional Forestry Schools and Colleges



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