



NAPFSC



June 1997

R E P O R T

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

President's Message

Gregory N. Brown



→ The National Association of Professional Forestry Schools and Colleges (NAPFSC) Executive Committee meeting was held February 11-12, 1997, in Washington, DC.

In addition to the agenda of business items, several partner groups were represented and presented reports including: Paul Johnson of Natural Resources Conservation Service; Bill Imbergamo, the National Association of State Foresters; several representatives of the US Forest Service; several representatives from CSREES; Greg Smith from the Society of American Foresters; Larry Jahn from the National Association of University Fisheries and Wildlife Programs; and Scott Berg from the American Forest and Paper Association. On February 13 members of the NAPFSC Executive Committee joined members of the American Forest and Paper Association Science and Technology Committee on visits to the Hill and OMB. A summer meeting of the Executive Committee is planned during August in Montana where the NAPFSC strategic plan will be completed, a white paper on accreditation will be completed, a white paper on non-industrial private forests will be completed, and the Articles of Organization will be updated.

→ The NAPFSC President and National Research Chair serve on the American Forest and Paper Association Science and Technology Committee. Also members of NAPFSC have been active on review panels for the Sustainable Forestry Initiative and collaborative Department of Energy competitive grant proposal reviews. Members from NAPFSC have been invited to work with AF&PA on the new Forest Inventory and Assessment (FIA) Initiative. AF&PA will host the biennial Dean's Tour during either fall, 1997 or spring, 1998.

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Feature Article

A New Column Of Your NAPFSC REPORT

CAT Scanning Logs

Submitted by Stanley B. Carpenter

Trees have taken the place of patients after hours on the computerized axial tomography (CAT) scan machine at Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. In a collaborative effort, researchers at Louisiana State University (LSU) and radiologists at Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center are scanning sections of logs to develop a sawing optimization system for the forest industry.

“Scanning images of logs can pinpoint internal defects. . .thereby increasing efficiency and value.”

The CAT scan allows the study of virtually any portion of a body (or log) to pinpoint problems/defects not easily seen with radiographic x-ray tests. Each scan produces a cross-sectional image of the part under study—much like slicing an orange to have a look inside without actually cutting the orange. Many “slices” are taken to show the shape, size, and location of wood defects.

The Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center does not charge LSU for the use of its scanner. The scanner is made available to the researchers after hours. The only cost is the technicians' fee.

Training and Optimization System for Sawyers (TOPSAW) is the name of the program under research and development by Sun Joseph Chang and Suresh Guddanti of the School of Forestry, Wildlife, and Fisheries, LSU.

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NAPFSC

REPORT

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

Executive Committee:

- Gregory N. Brown. . . .President
- Albert R. Vogt. . . .President-Elect
- Richard F. Fisher. . . .Past President
- G. H. Weaver. . . .Secretary-Treasurer
- George W. Brown. . . .Chair, Extension
- Perry J. Brown. . . .Chair, Western Region
- Vacant. . . .Chair, International
- Donald H. DeHayes. . . .Chair, Northeast Region
- Daniel E. Keathley. . . .Chair, Education
- James P. Lassoie. . . .Chair, Research
- Robert N. Muller. . . .Chair, Southern Region
- C. P. Pat Reid. . . .Chair, Policy
- Alan W. Haney. . . .Chair, North Central Region
- G. Bruce Wiersma. . . .Chair, Legislative

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Designer and Editor

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President's Message

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→ The NAPFSC President continues to serve on the Board on Agriculture and worked with their coordinating committee in framing responses to Senator Lugar's Agriculture Committee questions relative to Title VIII of the Farm Bill. He also testified before Senator Lugar's Committee on the Farm Bill.

→ Written testimony was presented by NAPFSC to the House Agriculture Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee. The NAPFSC Research Chair and Extension Chair continue to serve on the FY 98 and 99 ESCOP and ECOP Budget Committees, respectively.

→ The NAPFSC President met with the CARET Executive Committee in June to discuss expanded involvement of forestry and natural resources in the national CARET structure and process.

→ Larry Tombaugh serves as the forestry representative on the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education and Economics Advisory Board (NAREEEAB). NAPFSC and AF&PA were participants and speakers in a recent Stakeholders Conference sponsored by NAREEEAB in Washington, DC. Larry Tombaugh also has drafted a white paper emphasizing the importance of expanded USDA support for research and extension directed toward non-industrial private forest (NIPF) which has been reviewed by several members of the NAPFSC Executive Committee. This white paper is targeted for USDA Administrators and Congressional Offices. Randy Nuckolls and Patrick Turner, as lobbyists for NAPFSC, are pursuing in collaboration with the NAPFSC President the possibility of including authorizing language directed towards support of research and extension toward NIPF's in Title VIII of the Farm Bill.

→ The NAPFSC President currently is serving as the chair of the Board on Natural Resources under NASULGC since it is the Forestry Section's turn in the rotation for this chairship. Kerry Bolognese has replaced Eddie Gouge as the NASULGC staff member working with the Board on Natural Resources.

→ Also through working as chair of the Board on Natural Resources, the NAPFSC President serves on the Executive Committee of the Commission on Food, Environment, and Renewable Resources under NASUGLC. The NAPFSC President currently also serves on NASULGC's-EPA Task Force. The Board on Natural Resources now has two additional representatives on this Task Force.

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NAPFSC

Regional Officers, 1997-98

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President's Message

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→ NAPFSC is expanding its interaction with the National Association of University Fisheries and Wildlife Programs (NAUFWP) and looking into joint ventures on authorization and appropriation initiatives related to non-industrial private forests and the Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA). NAPFSC participates on the NAUFWP Executive Committee.

→ The NAPFSC President-elect has developed a draft strategic plan for NAPFSC with input from the Executive Committee. This strategic plan will be finalized at the NAPFSC Summer Executive Committee meeting.

→ NAPFSC also has been represented through its president in the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) process, and he recently was a co-presenter for Goal 4 with Ralph Otto of CSREES at the Northeastern Regional GPRA Workshop.

→ NAPFSC is in the process of developing a website homepage working with an independent subcontractor.

→ NAPFSC, in collaboration with the National Woodland Owners Association, has developed an NIPF Education Award which currently is in the selection process. The first national award will be presented at the Society of American Foresters (SAF) meeting in Memphis in October, 1997.

→ No MINFORS meeting (relating to minorities in forest resources) is scheduled for 1997. However, an assessment is underway involving all of the five previous hosts for the MINFORS Conferences to determine the future direction of MINFORS structure, organization, and meetings.

→ The NAPFSC Executive Committee is pursuing increased collaboration with the Canadian Association of University Forestry Schools.

→ NAPFSC continues to be represented in the USFS Green Team and is working with the US Forest Service during its transition period in higher administration relative to enhanced partnering.

→ NAPFSC and the National Planning Committee (NPC) for forest products are increasing their collaborative efforts relative to planning and joint support for authorization and appropriation initiatives.

→ NAPFSC was represented by Tom Hammett of Virginia Tech at an FAO Advisory Committee on Forestry Education meeting held in Chile. NAPFSC will expand its collaborative efforts with this group toward development of international curricula in forestry education.

→ NAPFSC will be represented through its National Education Chair and each of the four Regional Education Chairs on a new task force working jointly with the SAF in reviewing the accreditation process.

→ NAPFSC continues to work with the Research Committee of the Seventh American Forest Congress, and is developing a joint coordinating committee across several organizations to coordinate and support forest resources research. 

1997 Summer Executive Committee Meeting

August 10-12, 1997

Castles Center at Lubrech Forest, Missoula, Montana



August 10: Sunday Evening Gathering, 6:00 p.m.

August 11: Work Session, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

August 12: Work Session, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Agenda Items Include:

“Final Draft” of Strategic Plan

Accreditation

Begin Developing White Paper on Strategic Issues in Forestry and Natural Resources



Committee Reports

National Extension Committee

George W. Brown, Chair

The most important news in Extension is that the President's FY 1998 budget eliminated funding for the Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA). It was a move that surprised many of us, including staff with CSREES who were led to believe that the budget for FY 98 would actually be increased.

Reinstatement of the RREA appropriation is now a top priority for NAPFSC. NASULGC recommends a 5.5 percent increase over FY 1997, but many of our supporters have recommended much larger amounts. During visits to the "Hill" in February, appropriations committee staffers made it clear that large increases in any budget were unlikely; level budgets in this time of moving toward a balanced federal budget should be considered a "victory."

Our game plan is very clear. We need strong congressional support to reinstate RREA. I have contacted each regional extension chair who, in turn, has contacted NAPFSC members with congressional representation on the Senate and House Appropriations committees, especially the Agriculture Subcommittee. We have sent each NAPFSC member a sample letter that they can use in contacting their congressional delegation. The letter describes the history and importance of RREA (since many members, especially new ones, will be unfamiliar with this small program) and provides space for each of you to laud the RREA

success in your state. I urge each of you to contact your delegation immediately to push for reinstatement. Long term, we need to do a much better job of working at the executive levels in USDA to ensure that our colleagues in CSREES are supported by forestry constituents that make our case for RREA and forestry extension. In visiting with those executives, it was clear that they frequently (continuously?) see constituents from agricultural producer groups but never see forestry folks. We have to make that change and I urge you to encourage articulate forestry executives and non-industrial private landowners to make calls to USDA executives just like they make calls to the "Hill" on our behalf.

We cannot let RREA fail this session. If that happens, getting it reinstated will be very, very difficult. I urge each of you to give this high priority and be in touch with your delegation immediately. 🌱

National Policy Committee

C. P. Patrick Reid, Chair

The Policy Committee continues to monitor major policy issues of interest to the NAPFSC member institutions. In the fall of 1996, following the attendance of the Policy Chair at the national business meeting of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the new vision and directions of the NRCS were brought to the attention of the Executive Committee. This resulted in President Brown inviting NRCS Chief Paul Johnson to the February NAPFSC Executive

Committee meeting in Washington, DC. Chief Johnson met with the Committee and reported that he was very interested in building better working relationships with universities and was receptive to new ideas and structures that would improve getting natural resources research and technology transfer to the private landowner. He sees the possibility of developing joint cooperative extension/NRCS positions in the future. The Policy Chair has provided input to the policy aspects of the draft Strategic Plan for NAPFSC which will receive detailed attention this summer. Input was also provided to NASULGC via Randy Nuckolls' office in regard to the Senate Agriculture Committee questions relative to the reauthorization of the Research, Extension, and Education Title of the 1998 Farm Bill. At the request of President Brown, both the Legislative Chair and Policy Chair, and in cooperation with Kerry Bolognese of NASULGC, will monitor upcoming legislative issues that have broad and indirect interests to NAPFSC institutions. Concerns to be addressed by a NAPFSC/Forest Service Task Force over the working relationship between NAPFSC and FS Research and possible policy implications was delayed because of the recent change in administrative leadership in the FS. Other issues brought to the attention of the Executive Committee have included the new FS national program in conservation education and the plan by the US Department of Interior to establish new Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units. 🌱



Regional Reports

Northeast Region

D. H. DeHayes, Chair

During the past year, the Northeast region of NAPFSC has undergone considerable change in the personnel representing both the participating academic institutions and our agency collaborators. As such, a new leadership team was selected this past summer, and the regional participants have renewed their commitment to working collaboratively with federal and state agencies and pursuing cooperative, integrated activities that extend across the natural resource disciplines. In particular, we hope to continue to meet jointly with the northeast region of NAUFWP as well as representation from the US Forest Service, Northeastern Forest Experiment Station, Northeast Region of the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and USDA CSREES. The recently appointed Chairs of Research, Education, Extension, and International Efforts of Northeast NAPFSC are Bruce Wiersma (University of Maine), Larry Nielsen (Penn State University), Bill McComb (University of Massachusetts), and Dave Schroeder (University of Connecticut), respectively.



education among northeastern institutions. The regional research agenda capitalizes on a set of research priorities established two years ago by the Northeast NAPFSC membership in conjunction with Northeast NAUFWP and several agency cooperators. At this phase of development, the evolving set of research priorities cluster around four themes — Forest Ecosystem Health and Sustainability; Management to Maintain, Enhance, and Restore Biodiversity; Resource Policy and Administration; and, Forest Resource Values. We are in the process of discussing the research priorities with potential collaborators throughout the region and identifying common areas of interest for enhancing both visibility and investment.

With respect to distance learning technologies, most of the Northeast NAPFSC institutions have agreed to participate in a semester-long seminar series in fall 1997 that will be shared via interactive compressed video TV. Eight Northeast NAPFSC institutions have agreed to participate. The theme of the seminar series will be “Forest Ecosystem Health and Sustainability,” which corresponds with our highest priority research emphasis. Our current plans include involving primarily faculty from the participating institutions as speakers so that faculty gain enhanced familiarity applying such technology and offering the series as a one credit graduate course to be shared among the eight institutions. Technical

Northeast NAPFSC has met twice during the past year. Our spring 1996 meeting focused on opportunities and constraints in providing continuing education for practicing foresters. Our fall 1996 meeting focused on developing a natural resources research agenda for the northeastern United States and utilizing distance learning technologies to enhance and enrich natural resources

Southern Region

Robert N. Muller, Chair



The Southern NAPFSC spring meeting was held in conjunction with the Forest Landowners Association annual meeting in Williamsburg, VA, on April 29-30. Cooperators included the US Forest Service, forest industry, USDA CSREES, NAUFWP, and State Foresters. A common theme of several discussions was the progress, implementation, and coordination of the Southern Annual Forest Inventory System (SAFIS). Beginning in 1997 states will have a 20 percent annual re-inventory of FIA plots which, combined with projection techniques, will enable an annual update of forest inventories and trends in the South. States with current inventories older than five years will begin SAFIS with a 100 percent survey of FIA plots. SAFIS will require considerably greater involvement by individual states than in the past.

Southern NAPFSC members are developing a brochure to highlight the importance of forestry in the South. The brochure will emphasize economic importance of the resource and its industries, as well as recent trends of increased utilization of the resource reflecting industry shifts to the South. 



Feature Article

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Chang and Guddanti have used the CAT scanner at the Cancer Center to develop a system to optimize sawing for the sawmill industry. Scanning images of logs can pinpoint internal defects and identify the highest grade of cut faces before the first cut is ever made, thereby increasing efficiency and value. Recent studies show the system could increase the value of the lumber by an average of 14 percent.

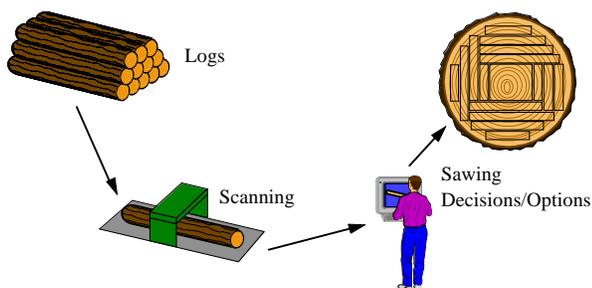
The CAT scanner can identify all sorts of density-related internal defects, such as voids, decay, and knots. Two-foot red oak logs were used for preliminary work at Mary Bird Perkins; however, large commercial CAT scanners have the ability to scan much larger logs—up to 500 logs per day.

TOPSAW has three primary benefits: (1) increasing lumber value and profitability to individual sawmills; (2) increasing American lumber companies' global competitiveness by enabling them to export cut lumber instead of logs; and (3) conserving resources for the nation (better efficiency will mean less waste).

There will be a high cost up front. The system is projected to cost \$2 million to setup; however, a medium size sawmill should recover the cost in just two years.

Funded by grants from the sawmill industry, the researchers are also developing training software for sawyers. 

Log Scanning System to Produce Sawn Products



*Illustration courtesy of Matt Winn
Forestry Technician, Department of Forestry
College of Forestry and Wildlife Resources, Virginia Tech*

Regional Reports

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arrangements, program development, and speaker identification are currently underway.

Northeast NAPFSC responded formally as a regional entity to the request for input to the National Research Council (NRC) Committee on Prospects and Opportunities for Sustainable Management of America's Nonfederal Forests. Although some issues surrounding sustainable management of nonfederal forests may vary among states within the northeastern US, the significant portion of private forest land ownership and increasingly diverse commodity and noncommodity values derived from forest land throughout the region offers some challenges, opportunities, and perspectives unique to nonfederal forests in the northeast, especially "northern forest lands." Interestingly, issues raised naturally clustered with research priorities established for the region. 

1997 Annual NAPFSC Meeting October 2-4, 1997 Cook Convention Center Memphis, Tennessee

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Meeting:

Thursday, October 2, 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Executive Conference Center
Friday, October 3, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Executive Conference Center

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP Meeting:

Friday, October 3, 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.
General Assembly, Rm. L-3
Saturday, October 4, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
General Assembly, Rm. L-3

NAPFSC RECEPTION:

Friday, October 3, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Mississippi Room





Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting

Minutes of the
Executive Committee Meeting
February 11 and 12, 1997
Washington, DC

PRESENT: Executive Committee Members: Gregory N. Brown (President), Albert R. Vogt (President-Elect), Richard Fisher (Past President) G. H. Weaver (Secretary-Treasurer), Daniel E. Keathley (Chair, Education), George W. Brown (Chair, Extension), Bruce Wiersma (Chair, Legislative), Perry Brown (Chair, Western NAPFSC Region), Don DeHayes (Chair, Northeast NAPFSC), Pat Reid (Chair-Policy), James P. Lassoie (Chair-Legislative), Al Haney (Chair, North Central NAPFSC).

GUESTS: Peggy Quarterman (VPI&SU), Paul Johnson (NRCS), Larry Tombaugh (NAREEEAB), Mike Wolcott (NPC), Greg Smith (SAF), Larry Biles, Don Nelson, Ralph Otto, Collene Hefrin, and Sharon Friedman (CSREES-USDA), Randall Nuckolls and Patrick Turner (Kilpatrick Stockton LLP), Tom Hammett (VPI&SU), Larry Jahn (NAUWFP), Mike Wolcott (NPC), Bill Imbergamio (NASF).

President Greg Brown opened the meeting with a review of the agenda. Changes in the agenda were made to reflect the availability of guests and cooperators to visit with the Executive Committee.

Paul Johnson, Director of NRCS, was introduced. Mr. Johnson discussed his personal background before moving into a discussion of NRCS program goals. Mr. Johnson earned a bachelor's degree in forestry at the University of Michigan, operated a dairy farm in Iowa, and served in the Iowa Legislature before accepting his current appointment with NRCS.

Mr. Johnson's vision for NRCS is that of an advocate on private land issues relating to conservation and environmental concerns. Private land management will strongly influence the future of clean water, wildlife, and air quality. Programs managed by NRCS will deal with stewardship of private lands. These programs include the following 1) Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), 2) Environmental Quality Improvement Program (EQUIP), 3) Wildlife Habitat Incentives, 4) Watershed Programs, 5) Wetland Reserve Program (WRP). These programs are to be viewed as problem solving tools of a locally led conservation effort. NAPFSC members are urged to get involved at the state level Technical centers and Institutes of NRCS will provide opportunities to put research applications on the ground. There will be opportunities for partners to become involved with NRCS. Stewardship of private lands does not imply preservation. Private lands must remain highly productive to meet the needs of society.

Minutes of the 1996 Executive Committee meeting in Albuquerque, NM, were distributed and approved with corrections on a motion by G. H. Weaver with a second by George Brown.

A proposed budget for 1997 was distributed for review and discussion. The proposed budget reflects a lowered income expectation based on the 1996 experience. The 1997 budget was adopted on a motion by G. H. Weaver seconded by Perry Brown.

PRESIDENT REPORT (Greg Brown)

1) The NAPFSC Newsletter is planned for June 1997.

2) Federal budget outlook is for level funding for formula funds, an increase in NRI, and a difficult time for continued RREA funding.

3) The MINFORS Conferences are completed. Before continuing this program, an assessment of the MINFORS Conferences would be helpful. The assessment should include sponsors and hosts for the conferences. The USFS was contacted about the assessment and a response is expected in the near future.

4) NAPFSC working with and through the Executive Committee of the Board of Agriculture is participating in the development of responses to Senator Lugar's list of questions concerning agricultural policy, programs, and research. Senator Lugar used this approach in an earlier study of agricultural subsidies.

5) USFS budget outlook is for a continuing budget with no major changes.

6) AF&PA Science and Technology Committee will include two NAPFSC representatives.

Greg Brown presented a proposal to develop a NAPFSC web page. The first year's cost is \$1,500 and subsequent annual operating cost (year 2) is \$600. A motion was made by G. H. Weaver to accept the proposal and was seconded by George Brown. The motion was passed. Development of the NAPFSC web page will begin in the near future.

PRESIDENT-ELECT (Al Vogt)

Al Vogt reported on the recent National Association of State Foresters meeting. NAPFSC was not mentioned.



February 11-12, 1997, Washington, DC

This is a problem as well as an opportunity. NAPFSC members need to maintain and improve, whenever possible, linkages with their respective State Forester.

As discussed development of a strategic plan for NAPFSC. Comments on the plan should be forwarded to him by April 30. A draft strategic plan will be available for discussion at the summer executive committee meeting.

Work will begin on the white paper addressing strategic issues for forest resources on private lands. This briefing paper will be used in conjunction with visits to OMB, CBO, USDA budget planners, and Congressional Offices.

PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Dick Fisher)

Dick Fisher reported on activities with the AF&PA Review Panel charged with review of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative Report. Year two organization is much improved. There is a continuing problem in SFI with respect to gate wood. Strict enforcement of SFI principles could be construed as a restraint of trade issue. For example, the New Hampshire legislature recently prohibited any one from giving special favor(s) to certified logger(s).

Dick also spoke on the need to develop a CARET-like group to speak on forestry issues. The CARET system is tied directly to the land grant system and interacts very effectively in the Congressional and USDA budget process.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE (Dan Keathley)

Education Chair Dan Keathley recommended the Accreditation Task

Force include NAPFSC Region Education Chairs and the NAPFSC Education Chair. The task force will participate with the Society of American Foresters Accreditation Review. Accreditation standards, interim status reports, and periodic review time frame will be included in this review. The accreditation review process should look at accreditation standards used by other professional groups.

EXTENSION COMMITTEE (George Brown)

Extension Chair George Brown reported on the impact of redlining the RREA budget request. There was no opportunity to respond to the USDA budget cuts. A congressional champion is needed to return RREA funding to the budget. This budget decision highlights the need to work closely with USDA budget planners. Forestry as a commodity group is not present at many high levels of USDA budget reviews. A short (three to four pages) white paper on forestry as a national strategic issue may help get the attention of USDA.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE (Bruce Wiersma)

Legislative Chair Bruce Wiersma reported that EPA continues to transfer internal research funds to external competitive grants. These funds will approach \$500 million. Forestry issues should be brought to the attention of regional ECOP meetings.

POLICY COMMITTEE (Pat Reid)

Policy Chair Pat Reid reported an expressed interest from the Canadian Association of University Forestry Schools to participate in joint meetings and other collaborative projects. The

USFS is sponsoring state level meetings to discuss natural resource conservation education. Little or no university input was solicited in planning these meetings.

RESEARCH COMMITTEE (Jim Lassoie)

Research Committee Chair Jim Lassoie reported on the FY 98 budget proposals. Changes, if any, will be made on the "Hill." Development of the FY 99 budget proposals is now underway. NAPFSC needs a proactive philosophy for working with USDA on budget building. The NASF could be helpful in presenting a unified forestry message to USDA budget planners. A NAPFSC white paper on current research funding could help outsiders better understand the impacts of the shifts in research funding on research scientists' time and effort. Don't overlook the continuing need to provide formula funds to maintain balance between short term and long term research funding.

SOUTHERN NAPFSC (Bob Muller)

NAPFSC Southern Region will host the Deans Tour in conjunction with the SAF National Meeting this fall in Memphis.

WESTERN NAPFSC (Perry Brown)

NAPFSC Western Region is working on issues and challenges presented by distance education technology. Western NAPFSC's spring meeting will be held in Berkeley.



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NORTHEAST NAPFSC (Don DeHayes)

Northeast NAPFSC is working to develop a regional research agenda; their next meeting will be scheduled to provide direct interchange between NAPFSC members and various research sponsors.

NORTHCENTRAL NAPFSC (Al Haney)

Northcentral NAPFSC is working to develop a better relationship with the regional agricultural research agenda. This coordination is important for agroforestry and wildlife research.

NAREEEAB (Larry Tombaugh)

Larry Tombaugh reported on activities of this advisory board. The Secretary of Agriculture will establish a committee to review USDA research facilities with authority to recommend expansion, consolidation, or closure for each laboratory. USFS Research Laboratories may be included in this review.

Fund for Rural America provides an opportunity to focus funding on forestry and natural resource areas.

Stakeholder input will be actively solicited in USDA research education, and extension programs.

USDA is faced with up to a 20 percent budget reduction over the next four years. The USDA Strategic Plan foresees a much smaller and different agency in the future.

Forestry interests need to be actively involved as USDA makes these changes. Producer organizations (Forestry) typically are not represented when USDA is seeking input from

stakeholders. Forestry interests need a brief, but very professional, white paper on strategic issues in forestry and natural resources.

NATIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE (Mike Wolcott)

Mike Wolcott reported on university and USFS cooperative research ventures in forest products. CORUM-Consortium on Research for Renewable Industrial Materials life cycle assessments of products is out of date. Revisions of the life cycle assessments is part of Agenda 2020. A research agenda to meet the CORUM agenda is under development by the state of Washington in cooperation with the USFS and the Department of Energy. There are opportunities for crossover activities between forestry and wood science.

SAF (Greg Smith)

Greg Smith discussed the accreditation standards revision process. SAF Council was informed in December, 1996, and now the task force is being formed. The task force will include NAPFSC, employers, and public members. The review process will be an open book but probably limited to the forestry profession only. There were questions about broadening the process to include other areas. The review process will take at least one year to a first draft for general review.

Continued discussion of the accreditation review indicated a need for NAPFSC to develop a position paper on accreditation. The NAPFSC Education Committee will prepare a discussion paper for review at a summer Executive Committee meeting date (July-August) and place (West) to be determined. This will let the leadership take a proposal for discussion to the General Assembly meeting in Memphis.

NAUFWP (Larry Jahn)

Larry Jahn reported Charles Scalet of South Dakota State University is the new president of NAUFWP. Integrated resource management is the preferred method to develop active involvement with the nation's 10 million private forestland owners. There are many opportunities for joint ventures between NAPFSC and NAUFWP.

This may be highlighted by the need to represent forestry, natural resource, and wildlife interests with the appropriate administrations in USDA and other federal agencies. A current issue is the new Farm Bill which provides \$2.7 billion for wildlife habitat improvement but no funds were authorized for habitat research and monitoring.

VPI&SU (Tom Hammett)

Tom Hammett discussed the FAO Committee on Forestry Education and opportunities for NAPFSC to become more active on the international scene. There are opportunities for information sharing with respect to forestry education and technology. The next FAO Committee on Forestry Education meeting is scheduled for November 1998 in Ghana.

NASF (Bill Imbergamo)

Bill Imbergamo reported on inventory concerns with respect to an annual forest inventory for the South and a disturbed based forest inventory for the Lake States. Now is a good time to contact the Chief of the USFS to let these needs be known.



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CSREES (Ralph Otto, Collene Hefrin, Larry Biles and Don Nelson)

Ralph Otto presented a budget outlook update. OMB and CBO appear intent on zeroing out small programs while increasing larger competitive funds. The Fund for Rural America is an example of this attitude.

Collene Hefrin reported on expanded education and outreach funding for projects in South Africa. These activities will need US host institutions.

GRPA will help meet national goals with some legislative change. CSREES will serve as broker for research and extension programs. NRI will focus on food, natural resources, and plant genetics.

Larry Biles reported on highly successful programs utilizing university staff, water quality at Oregon State University, reforestation at the University of Georgia, and wildlife habitat enhancement at the University of Tennessee. The Northeastern Regional Extension Forester position will be discontinued.

Don Nelson gave an update on GRPA. Regional training sessions will be held. There is a major goal to seek harmony between agriculture and the environment.

NASULGC (Eddie Gouge)

Eddie Gouge introduced Mort Neufville as the new Director for Food, Environment, and Foreign Affairs. Kerry Bolognese will work with the Board on Natural Resources. The primary goal for these programs will be to become proactive. How can the programs interact with other sections and become more competitive? There are

many opportunities to work within the constraints of the Fund for Rural America to build linkages between forestry and other high priority rural issues. The NASULGC Home Page will provide current report on activities.

USFS (Barbara Webber, John Tolliver and Rich Goulden)

Barbara Webber reported that Jerry SESCO's special assignment on civil rights issues in USDA was extended. The continued reduction of senior executive staff in the Washington Office was reported. The strategic planning process continues.

John Tolliver and Rich Goulden reported on the new budget process and problems associated with reporting under the new format. But declining budgets have seriously eroded USFS research capability in terms of scientist staffing. For example, 77 percent of the research capability in forest pathology is gone. A similar problem exists in forest entomology. An estimated 30 to 40 percent of USFS research is relevant and applicable to private forestlands. The ongoing strategic planning process will force funding to match research priorities.

AF&PA (Scott Berg)

Scott Berg provided an update on the next day's congressional visits. The group will meet at the AF&PA offices at 8:00 a.m. and get final assignments that day. A visit to OMB, as well as key Congressional Offices, is scheduled.

The Deans Tour will be scheduled in conjunction with the SAF meeting in Memphis in October. AF&PA will coordinate with NAPFSC Southern Region in planning the tour.

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Forest Service International Partnerships Monitor Forest Health

*Submitted by
Sheila M. Andrus and
Kenneth W. Stolte*

Forest Service scientists and natural resource specialists have worked internationally for many decades to solve such regional problems as control of exotic pests, evaluation of transboundary pollution impacts and conservation of migratory species habitat. Similar activities continue, but occur within a broader global context. Beginning with the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in 1992, issues related to forests entered the realm of international policy. Today, nation states wrestle with the growing understanding that sustainable development requires cross-sectoral planning, and the consideration of social and economic, as well as ecological factors in management decisions.

Intergovernmental negotiations subsequent to UNCED have produced conventions on biodiversity and global change, and non-binding forest principles have served to frame the work of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development, Intergovernmental Panel on Forests. Intrinsic to intergovernmental policy is the concept of "sustainability", a concept that is rigorously undergoing definition. Accordingly, regions of the

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world have met many times to outline the principles, criteria and indicators for sustainable forestry. The Montreal process, of which the US is a participant, is focused on international criteria and indicators for the temperate and boreal forests of the western hemisphere.

At the national level, the US announced in a 1993 Presidential Decision Directive a commitment to achieve conservation and sustainable management of all forest lands by the year 2000. This goal is captured in the June 1996 USDA policy statement:

“USDA commits to the economic, environmental, and social sustainability of diverse food, agriculture and forest systems. USDA will balance goals of production and profitability, stewardship of natural resource base, and enhancement of the vitality of rural communities. USDA will integrate these goals into its policies and programs, particularly through interagency collaboration and outreach.”

Whether at the level of governmental dialogue, departmental policy or agency action, the US Forest Service is closely engaged with the issue of forest sustainability. One agency program in particular, the Forest Health Monitoring (FHM) Program, has served as an early avenue to explore on-the-ground implications of policy with international partners. The program has successfully developed a network of international relationships in areas of temperate and tropical forests, and demonstrates the value of work across disciplines (e.g., science, technology development and exchange, and operations).

Forest Health Monitoring: A Domestic Program Extended for Global Benefits: Information on forest health is needed to support integrated, interdisciplinary decision-making; and, this information should be linked with national and international policy goals for sustainability. Of fundamental importance to the sustainable management of forests is knowledge of the state of forests, including patterns of landuse, productivity, diversity and vitality. The element of forest health is addressed in the Forest Service Forest Health Monitoring (FHM) Program which gathers data in 21 US states each year, and has proven to be a valuable vehicle for technical exchanges with international partners. For example, the FHM program: a) utilizes a partnership approach for training, data gathering and reporting; b) allows evaluation of US protocols in foreign ecosystems; c) adds to the global body of knowledge on forests that can reveal patterns in ecosystem change; and d) supports sound management decisions.

Within the United States, the program is primarily funded by the Forest Service, and is managed by the Forest Service in cooperation with organizations that include State forestry agencies and the US Department of Interior. Initial program goals are to provide information to resource managers and policy makers about the state of US resources, especially assessments of potential effects of biotic and abiotic stressors such as insects and disease, exotics, global climate change and pollution. Program goals support:

-  estimates of the current status, changes and trends in selected indicators of regional forest ecosystem condition;
-  understanding of the association between changes of trends in indicators of forest ecosystem condition and indicators of natural and human-caused stressors;
-  knowledge of mechanisms of ecosystem structure and function through long-term monitoring of ecosystem processes at intensively monitored sites;
-  research to improve effectiveness and efficiency of monitoring; and
-  integration of FHM data with other data sources to complete multi-ecosystem assessments.¹

Implementation of FHM protocols in other, select countries support these same aims. However, a number of beneficial opportunities for US science have also emerged and include:

-  development of a statistically-linked global forest monitoring network that employs common indicators and analysis techniques;
-  option for international peer review of the US FHM goals, design and methods; and
-  refinement of the FHM protocols, especially through improved conceptual models, acquiring new indicators, improving indicator analyses, and addressing indicator criteria through research on indicators within well-defined pollution and other stress gradients.

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¹Tallent-Halsell, N.G. (ed.) 1994. *Forest Health Monitoring 1994 Field Methods Guide*. EPA/620/R-94-027. US Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, DC.



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International field work for the FHM Program began in 1993, with transfer of technology through training seminars in Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Poland, Ukraine, Belarus, Indonesia, Honduras and Mexico. These efforts were supported by external grants and at the request of collaborating ministries and research organizations. These efforts have yielded in-country information that is being used in resource management. For example, Belarusian scientists use FHM plots to help evaluate the effects of radiation from Chernobyl on surrounding forest ecosystems. Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia now have understory plant diversity inventories and use lichen community analysis to improve regional comparisons of air pollution impacts. The Indonesians will use the FHM plots and aerial videography to complement their forest inventory system, and to improve their assessment of the sustainability of their forests.

In each of these cases, the body of knowledge related to ecological functions under varying management and stress scenarios, as well as methods development, has been useful for US activities. Moreover, data collected both in the US and through international collaboration has been linked to the Montreal Process criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management, and have been found relevant. Accordingly, FHM activities are expected to support protection and conservation of forest resources by increasing knowledge of the status and trends in tree condition, plant diversity, air pollution impacts, soil condition and productivity. Countries can also increase their understanding of forest ecosystems through the transfer of FHM technology which provides, in some cases for the first time, information on productivity, diversity, and vitality of forest ecosystems. And finally, FHM technology will promote sustainable management internationally by providing annual reports on the effects of management decisions on forest resources. The transfer of FHM technology, in addition to methods and equipment, includes data management and quality assurance systems necessary for quick analysis and reporting of verified data.

Forest Service international engagement, exemplified by the forest health program, reflects agency partnerships for global benefits. And the knowledge gained is moving us forward in our understanding of sustainability -- both at home and abroad. 

Sheila Andrus, International Liaison, is located at USDA Forest Service Research, Washington, DC. Kenneth Stolte, FHM Deputy Program Manager, is located at USDA Forest Service Research, Southern Research Station, Research Triangle Park, NC.

Changes in the Forestry and Natural Resources Curriculum at California Polytechnic State University

*Submitted by
Norman H. Pillsbury*

New and exciting changes are on the way for the future forestry students of the 1998-2000 catalogue! According to Norman Pillsbury, Head, Natural Resources Management Department and faculty member Richard Thompson, the faculty believes that the philosophy of higher education in forestry and natural resources science should provide an undergraduate curriculum that is an integrated approach. The philosophy promotes critical thought, use of current technology, and hands-on training. Given this philosophy, the faculty has redesigned the curriculum. At the heart of the new design is a greater reliance upon integrating the major courses through more modular instruction and through weaving the courses into a GIS-based fabric using the Swanton Pacific school forest.

What this means is that it is proposed that all students take selected major courses in residence in Swanton during the fall quarter of their senior year. Many classes will be offered via distance learning. The classes that would be offered up to Swanton include Forest Health and a brand new four unit Applied Resource Analysis class. It would take one unit each from Silviculture, Ecology, Mensuration, and Forest Harvesting. At the centerpiece of this class would be a key sampling system, which would allow students to simultaneously sample many resources. Much like the US Forest Service, students will learn to integrate many resource uses. In the following quarter, students will take Timber Management, Watershed Management, Environmental Impact Analysis and a new capstone course, Ecosystem Management. The new curriculum changes would build, project-wise, into this general capstone class. Faculty member James Vilkitis has been working on the structure of this new course. Other curriculum changes are in the works. The intent is to streamline classes, avoiding repetition of subjects taught, as well as making sure that all students receive a complete, well-rounded education.

Faculty and an Advisory Council of Alumni are in charge of developing these new classes. The changes will be in the next catalogue. The expected outcomes from this new curriculum are graduates that:

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Summary of Remarks from the National Association of University Fisheries and Wildlife Programs (NAUFWP) General Assembly Meeting, March 16, 1997

Submitted by Laurence R. Jahn

At its annual General Assembly meeting on March 16th, held in conjunction with the North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference in Washington, DC, the National Association of University Fisheries and Wildlife Programs (NAUFWP) installed its new officers for 1997-1999.

The NAUFWP was formed in 1991. It represents about 55 university programs and their 440 faculty members, scientists, and extension specialists, as well as more than 9,000 undergraduate and graduate students. The overall purpose is to enhance the science and management of fish and wildlife resources by increasing public understanding and by strengthening fisheries and wildlife education, research, extension and international efforts.

Among the broad array of challenges and efforts needing responses, a few are mentioned that have common interest to our organizations and deserve continuing attention to enhance our understanding.

Forest Management Receives Increased Attention

The Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) of the early 1990s, advanced by the American Forest and Paper Association, is an important thrust to reach forests on private lands. It is a comprehensive approach employing the best science available, featuring multiple values and practical management. Corporate leaders are

NAUFWP Officers for 1997-1999
President: Charles G. Scalet, South Dakota State University
President-Elect: Bruce W. Menzel, Iowa State University
Secretary/Treasurer: Erik Fritzell, Oregon State University

landowners and others in bringing about improved forest management. Outside review teams are established to help place forest management on an ecologically sound and economically rewarding basis. The first outside reviewers' report was filed early in 1996. Monitoring of the SFI must continue to ensure that actions are completed to meet its goals and objectives. This approach is essential to reach the nearly 10 million private forest owners that control 58 percent of total US forest area and 73 percent of the timberlands.

The changing status of Eastern Forests will be taken up at the NAW&NRC on March 18 (p.m.) at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, DC. This half-day session will probe how to identify and accommodate multiple values in forest management plans and actions.

NAUFWP' recommendations for highlighting extension at the NAW&NRC were accepted, with Acting Under Secretary of USDA, Catherine Woteki, to speak at the opening session (March 17 - a.m.) on "Surveying the Road Ahead for Extension." An afternoon special session will focus on Extension Outreach: A Link to Resource Sustainability on Private land. As reflected in this effort to highlight extension's needs and services, we believe extension efforts are essential to reach the landowners and managers that deal with the high percentage of private lands in the US.



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-  possess a well thought out land ethic;
-  are able to function effectively as leaders in the complex social, political and economic environment affecting the management of forest resources;
-  can listen to and respect other peoples viewpoints on natural resources management and work in an interdisciplinary environment; and
-  can understand that being a natural resources professional involves life-long learning.

The new curriculum also brings about upgrades in the facilities at Swanton. Phase I will be in place in fall 1999 for the freshmen who entered in 1998. These new facilities include dormitories for 24 students and faculty, dining facilities, and new classrooms. At Swanton, these will be built near Al Smith's house. Eventually, there will be space for 48 students.

Other programs that are interested in utilizing the Swanton facilities to their fullest are Construction Management and Landscape Architecture. 

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KILPATRICK STOCKTON LLP
 (Randy Nuckolls and Patrick Turner)

Randy Nuckolls and Patrick Turner discussed the need to sell all programs to Congressional Staff. There are many new faces in Congress as well as in key staff positions. All new personnel are to be informed in a positive manner about programs and program benefits. The sales pitch should include 1) impact of last five years; 2) critical points of forest resources; 3) unified presentations from industry, universities, and state foresters; and 4) value of formula funds to maintain base program and provide leverage opportunities. While this activity is proceeding, education efforts are needed at OMB and with senior USDA budget planners.

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**Expansion of User Fees on More Items
 used in Outdoor Recreation through a
 Separate Legislative Proposal**

A national coalition of more than 1,500 groups support Teaming with Wildlife. Business, recreation, conservation and industry groups support this effort to create a trust fund for state-level fish and wildlife conservation, recreation and education. This funding proposal is based on the highly successful Pittman-Robertson and Wallop-Breaux programs. The goal is to raise at least \$350 million annually.

Teaming with Wildlife provides an opportunity for additional people who use and enjoy the outdoors to contribute to sound conservation, recreation and education programs. It is nonregulatory, features state-based decision making, and is preventative. It would deal with species before they need to be listed officially as threatened or endangered.

Additional background information and an endorsement form is available from the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. I suggest you and your organization join the largest coalition in conservation history. 

Preliminary plans for the next day's joint visits with AF&PA's Science and Technology Committee Members to Congressional Offices were completed.

Randy and Patrick will take the lead in preparing responses to selected questions on Senator Lugar's list.

Respectfully Submitted:

G. H. Weaver
NAPFSC Secretary-Treasurer
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