



National Association of University Forest Resources Programs

July 20, 2009

Professor Don Koo Lee, President
International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO)
c/o Dr. Peter Mayer
IUFRO Executive Secretary
Hauptstrasse 7
A-1140 Wien-Hadersdorf,
Austria

Dear Dr. Lee:

On behalf of the National Association of University Forest Resources Programs (NAUFRP), I am writing to support the bid of the United States Forest Service to host the IUFRO XXIV World Congress in Salt Lake City, Utah in 2014.

NAUFRP represents 65 universities in the United States of America who provide forest resource education at the undergraduate and graduate levels and conduct research to protect, manage, and use our nation's forests and related natural resources. Many of our members are also members of IUFRO; and together, we comprise two-thirds of the IUFRO members in the United States.

The proposed host city—Salt Lake City, Utah—is the crossroads of America's West. The area is rich in history and cultures and natural beauty. Surrounding the city is a very diverse landscape ranging from arid plains and the Great Salt Lake to the high mountains of the Wasatch Front. The area is one of the premier recreation destinations in the West, noted for its winter sports and as host of the XIX Olympiad Winter Games.

Our member universities expect to play important roles in helping to organize and host the Congress. Our faculty members and graduate students are vital components of the nation's forest research capacity. Many are active in IUFRO research groups and working parties. We see this as a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for them to share their knowledge and experiences with their colleagues from overseas and to return the many favors our overseas IUFRO colleagues have extended to us and our institutions in recent years when we have traveled to meetings outside of the USA. Finally, we are excited about the unique learning opportunity that this Congress will be for our students in 2014—both from a scientific standpoint and a cultural one as they engage with fellow students from other institutions around the world.

The NAUFRP member universities look forward with great anticipation to helping the United States Forest Service organize and host the IUFRO XXIV World Congress in Salt Lake City in 2014.

Sincerely,

Hal Salwasser, President
NAUFRP

Creating Knowledge—Developing Leaders

www.naufrp.org

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