

# Research Chair Report

NAUFRP Executive  
Committee

Online Meeting

October 27-28, 2020

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**ROBERT WAGNER**

*NAUFRP RESEARCH  
CHAIR*





## **Focused on Two Projects:**

- 1. Organization of U.S. Forest and Forest Products R&D Capacity Summit.**
- 2. Trends in forest research expertise over past four decades.**

# U.S. Forest and Forest Products R&D Capacity Summit

- Submitted for \$37K to AFRI for conference grant in November 2019
- PIs: Robert G. Wagner (Purdue University), Michael Goergen (U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities), and Red Baker (University of Florida).
- Summit Goal: Seek better way for federal, state, university, and private forestry organizations to cooperatively identify, communicate, coordinate, and advocate for U.S. forest and forest products R&D priorities, capacities, and funding.

# U.S. Forest and Forest Products R&D Capacity Summit

- Grant funded in June 2020.
- Have one year to complete objectives.
- Keith Gilless (UC Berkeley) joined effort in March 2020.
- COVID-19 forced re-thinking of how to deliver Summit.
- Took pre-survey idea suggested by NAUFRP Exec Comm last March 2020 and shifted approach.

# U.S. Forest and Forest Products R&D Capacity Summit

- Summit is now series of focus groups with stakeholders of U.S. forest and forest products R&D:
  - State Foresters
  - NIPF landowners
  - Industrial forest landowners
  - Wood product manufacturers
  - USFS National Forest Supervisors
  - ENGO leaders
  - USFS Research Station Directors
  - NAUFRP university leaders
  - Steering Committee of thought leaders across stakeholder groups

# **U.S. Forest and Forest Products R&D Capacity Summit**

- **Advertised for facilitator / social scientist to lead focus groups.**
- **Hired Dr. Emily Huff, Michigan State University.**
- **Team meeting weekly.**
- **Completed script of questions on benefits, outcomes, advocacy, priority setting, and collaborations related to forest and forest products R&D in the U.S.**

# **U.S. Forest and Forest Products R&D Capacity Summit**

- **First focus group will be with State Foresters.**
- **Other sessions during late fall and winter.**
- **Preliminary results should be available at March 2021 NAUFRP meeting.**
- **Final written report with results will be produced.**