

The Allegheny News



Allegheny Society of American Foresters
Spring 1994

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The Allegheny News

Volume 3, No. 2

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Cover Photograph

Peace Corps Forestry volunteer working with children in a re-forestation program in Honduras (see page 10 for article on Peace Corps Forestry volunteers).



The Next Regime

For those of you that braved the ice and snow last February to attend the Allegheny Winter Meeting in Ellicott City, MD, you know that it was well-organized and informative. You also know that the "reins" were officially passed: **Harry Wiant** stepped down from the Chair position that he has held the past two years to the position of Immediate Past Chair, and I stepped up to attempt filling those shoes and meeting the challenge set forth by SAF's President **John H. Moser** towards the close of the Awards Banquet.

Actually, the Allegheny provides for exceptional continuity in these transitions, so the Society should be able to continue building on past years. **Mike Brown** and **Lillian Woods** are the newest members of the Executive Committee, with everyone else having had experience serving in previous years. Thus, the Allegheny Society is moving into "the next regime," rather than "as new regime."

And to build on past years, the members of the Executive Committee plan to be both active and pro-active. By the time this issue of the Allegheny News reaches you, the Committee will have already met once (April 7) in Harrisburg to discuss current issues facing the Society and to plan for the coming two years. Among the many items on the meeting agenda, the most important is to develop a plan of work mapping out the direction and goals for the Allegheny Society in these next two years.

One thing that will not change, however, is the Allegheny's emphasis on action, involvement and accomplishment at the chapter and division levels. For the Allegheny Society to be a successful professional organization, all its chapters and divisions must be active and strong. The Society and its Executive Committee can and will provide direction and support; however, all accomplishment and success should ultimately come from the bottom up organizationally, not from the top down. There are some chapters that are having difficulties, to say the least, and others that are not as active as they could be. Hopefully, we can work together to rectify these situations.

Finally, there are many issues facing us today, whether at the chapter/division level or the Society or

Members and Views

(continued from page 1)

professional level. They range from forest health and ecosystem management, to clean water and endangered species legislation, to public perception and such radical groups as "Save Our Forests," to questions of professional certification/registration. Regardless, we as professionals and as a professional society must participate and be involved. To that end, the Allegheny Executive Committee needs your input to successfully direct the Society, and encourages each of you to contact us using the addresses and telephone numbers listed at the end of each Allegheny News. It's our professional society, you elected us, let's work together.

*Mark Vodak, Chair
Allegheny Society of American Foresters*

Lillian Woods Receives CFE Certificate

Lillian V. Woods, of the MD/DE Division, Allegheny SAF, and newly-elected member of the Executive Committee of the Allegheny Society, has been awarded a Certificate of Accomplishment under the National SAF Continuing Forestry Education (CFE) Recognition Program. She joins a distinctive group who have attained a plateau of excellence and esteem for themselves and their profession.

Lillian is District Conservationist at the USDA Soil Conservation Service office in Cumberland, MD. She held positions as Range and Soil Conservationist in South Dakota, Kansas, and Minnesota before her present position in Maryland. An active member of the Allegheny Society since 1987, she is also a member of the Association of Women Soil Scientists, and past secretary of the North Central Society for Range Management.

The CFE Certificate signifies the completion of 150 hours or more of forestry or forestry-related continuing education and professional development during a three-year period. This SAF voluntary program is open to members and non-members, to encourage foresters and allied professionals to continue education and professional development. Rapid technological changes, the social significance of the forest resources, increased public awareness, and higher environmental standards requires that today's professional continue to develop in order to serve the resource and society. Δ

Want more information on how you can be recognized for your continuing professional development? Contact CFE Chair Bill Kidd, Jr. (304) 296-8198 or Jack Winieski (717) 432-3646 for an application.

Bill Maxey Appointed State Forester of WV



As of July 1, 1993, William R. (Bill) Maxey became the Administrative Forester for the state of West Virginia. Prior to becoming State Forester of West Virginia, he was Manager of Westvaco Corporation's Cooperative Forest Management Program, based in Summerville, SC.

Bill is a graduate of WV University's Division of Forestry, where he received an undergraduate degree in Wood Industries in 1959 and an MSF in Industrial Forest Management in 1970. From 1952-55, he served in the Army Security Agency.

In 1959, he was employed as a forester for the W.M. Ritter Lumber Co. in southern and western WV and later served as Logging Superintendent for a hardwood bandmill of Georgia-Pacific Corporation until 1967. Subsequently he was instructor and Associate Professor of Forest Management at WV University's Division of Forestry from 1967-78.

Aside from being a member of SAF and several other professional and honorary societies, Bill has been very active in Scouting and past president of the Baileyville Lions Club. Δ

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Dr. James Grace is New State Forester of PA



PA Department of Environmental Resources (DER) Secretary **Arthur A. Davis** has announced the appointment of **Dr. James Grace** as Director of the State Bureau of Forestry, replacing **James C. Nelson**, who retired in December 1993. Grace had been DER Deputy Director of Parks and Forestry prior to the appointment.

Grace has a B.S. in Forest Management from the University of Vermont; a M.S. in Forestry from Yale University School of Forestry; and a PhD in Forest Ecology from Penn State University.

Prior to his position as DER Deputy Secretary, he was Assistant Professor of Forest Resources at Penn State University from 1983-86, and Extension Specialist in Forest Resources and Assistant Professor of Forest Ecology in the Cook College of Rutgers University between 1976-82. ♠

Bob Tjaden Returns to MD Cooperative Extension

For the past few years, **Bob Tjaden** has served as the Delaware State Forester. He has returned to Maryland's Eastern Shore as Natural Resources Specialist with the University of Maryland Cooperative Extension Service at Wye Mills Environmental Center. ♠

Cal Beatty 1901-1993

Eugene Winslow "Cal" Beatty of Ligonier died December 2, 1993 in Latrobe Area Hospital. Born August 10, 1901, he was a graduate of Mont Alto School of Forestry at Penn State. Prior to his retirement, he was employed as a Service Forester with the PA Department of Forest and Waters. After retiring, he was self-employed as a private consulting forester and was a member of the Society of American Foresters. ♠

Dr. Larry Nielsen Appointed Dean of Penn State School of Forest Resources

Dr. Larry Nielsen, Professor of Natural Resources, and Head of the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, has been named Director of the School of Forest Resources in the College of Agricultural Sciences, Penn State University, effective March 14, 1994.

Dr. Nielsen earned his B.S. with honors in Biology from the University of Illinois, a M.S. in Fisheries Biology from the University of Missouri and a PhD in Fisheries Biology from Cornell University. He has been a faculty member at Virginia Tech since 1977, and a department head since 1989.

While teaching undergraduate and graduate courses at VPI, Nielsen received three university awards for teaching excellence. He established several privately funded and endowed scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students and the Rachel Carson Graduate Fellowship for outstanding women doctoral candidates.



Dr. Nielsen is a member of The American Fisheries Society, The Wildlife Society, the Society of American Foresters, the Organization of Wildlife Planners, and the Human Dimension in Wildlife Study Group. He is also a Fellow of the American Institute of Fishery Research Biologists and was elected an honorary member of the American Fisheries Society. ♠

Correction!

Your editor apologies to the Pinchot and Valley Forge Chapters of SAF. In the Spring issue of The Allegheny News, page 3, the \$1,500 donation to the Allegheny SAF was made by the Pinchot Chapter (sorry).

A Stormy Meeting

by Harry Wiant, Jr., Past-Chair, Allegheny SAF

The 1994 Allegheny SAF Winter Meeting (February 9-12, 1994) lived up to its billing -- a great meeting in an old-fashioned, tell-your-grandchildren-about-it stormy environment. The roads going and coming aged some of us at least 10 years (without credits towards retirement, or Social Security), and just standing up on the parking lot at the Turf Valley Conference Center should have qualified you for a bronze medal at the Olympics.

The President of the SAF, **John Moser**, was there. He presented SAF Fellow certificates to **Tunis J. Lyon** and **Robert H. Rumpf**, and conducted the installation of the incoming officers of the Allegheny Society at the banquet. John related that he became interested in being a forester partly because Tunis had given him the opportunity for a woods-related experience early in his formative years. The location of the meeting took on a special significance when John also told us that he proposed to his good wife in that very same building!

"We are what we honor." The banquet ceremony also recognized outstanding efforts by two of our Allegheny Society members. **Jack Purdue** received the 1993 Forester of the Year Award, and **Jack Sturgill** the Outstanding Service to Forestry Award.

The Pennsylvania SAF Division breakfast meeting included a discussion of probably the least burdensome (and least expensive) forester registration program in the U.S., that of West Virginia, and an only slightly more rigorous one in Maryland. The California extreme, which exemplifies how not to do it (a California specialty), was tossed in for good measure.

The Thursday morning program dealt with the "myths of forestry," emphasizing the threat of more and more regulation of private lands (the U.S. is going down the road which brought such prosperity to the former Soviet Union), timber harvesting and fisheries management (lay roads out properly and 99.9% of the problems are solved), and the impact of timber harvesting on interior "neotropical migratory birds" (does that sound impressive or what?). It turns out clearcuts are generally better than the little openings favored by those politically correct today. A bit of political philosophy ended that session.

Friday was a great day (inside the building only; outside there was more snow, sleet, and ice). Unfortunately, many left early hoping to reach home alive, and who could blame them?

The Chairman's Breakfast had the unusual topic, "Christians vs. New Age Philosophy of Conservation," ably presented by **Mary Wirth**. The influence of the 60s culture, and getting in harmony with Mother Earth, is impacting our nation to the highest levels of government. Mary's comment about abandoning the science-based foundation of forestry for a vague, who-knows-where-we're-going, feel-good forestry should make every forester

pause and reflect. The speakers dealing with "the magic" of forestry today gave very practical information on the range of computer software and hardware available, and the use of data recorders and global positioning systems.

The weather could not have been worse, but the program could hardly have been better. The 170+ members in attendance at the Thursday session were well rewarded for the travel risks they took getting there. Thanks to all those in the host MD/DE SAF Division! ♠

Leadership Training at the Winter Meeting


Although the field trip at the winter meeting was cancelled because of the snow and ice on Wednesday, February 9, the scheduled Leadership Training was presented to those hardy souls who made it in by 1:00 p.m. Chair **John Jastrzembski** arranged for this biennial orientation and training for the membership in general, but especially for the incoming officers of the Allegheny SAF.

Charles Hardin, Deputy Executive Vice-President of SAF, gave an "Overview of the Society and the National Office Organization," and reviewed the "Policy and Position Procedures." He brought the group up to date on SAF's involvement in the reauthorization of the Clean Water Act (S#1114).


Jack Winieski, presented the organizational structure of the multi-state Allegheny Society and how the position of Executive Director, which he presently holds, attempts to coordinate efforts of the four divisions and seven chapters and acts as liaison for them with the national office when necessary. He then introduced and differentiated between organizational "Strategic and Operational Planning."

Fresh from the meeting planning process, **John Jastrzembski** reviewed "Planning and Conducting Meetings" -- the ins and outs of organizing, planning, and presenting for effective communication.

Newly elected Allegheny SAF Chair **Mark Vodak** ended the training as he stressed the importance of getting new members involved and part of the action immediately in order to have them want to retain their membership. ♠



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Penn State winners of the Student Bowl competition (l-r) Curtis Hollabough, Mary Sisock, and Shawn Lehman discuss the contest history with Alex Day.

“Three in a Row” at the Seventh Annual Student Quiz Bowl

by Kim Steiner

Penn State forestry students extended their winning streak to three years, taking first place at the Student Quiz Bowl during the February 10, 1994 meeting of the Allegheny SAF in Ellicott City, Maryland. It wasn't the Olympics, but there was plenty of excitement in the air and last minute preparation by the team members.

The Allegheny College team (Mike Jones, Shannon Wolfe and Quent Simpson) conquered in turn, Penn College of Technology (Jennifer Dudek, Randy Green, and Ray Migliori) and Mont Alto (Ed Cox, Mike Powell, and Joe Kandrov), then lost to Penn State (Curtis Hollabough, Mary Sisock, and Shawn Lehman) who had earlier triumphed over West Virginia (Brian Rodgers, Nat Sistrunk, and Kevin Andersen).

Congratulations to all the students who took time from their busy schedules, and did some hard driving in the ice and snow conditions to get there and return home on the same day. The coaches too deserve credit for spending the time helping their students prepare for the contest during the school year. And lest we forget the judges, **Tim Kaden, Ron Sheay, and Jack Winieski.** ♠

Gypsy Moth News

Is the gypsy moth an agent of forest damage or simply an agent of change?

What are the latest silvicultural options available to minimize risk to gypsy moth defoliation?

Is the Aisan gypsy moth worth worrying about?

Biodiversity and gypsy moth, what can a forester do?

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leading authorities within the pages of the GYPSY MOTH NEWS.

The GYPSY MOTH NEWS is available free to you, simply by writing to: Daniel B. Twardus, The Gypsy Moth News, USDA Forest Service, 180 Canfield Street, Morgantown, WV 26505.

The newsletter is published quarterly and covers all aspects of gypsy moth management. It also responds directly to reader requests for information, making it one of the few interactive newsletters in America. ♠

Reginald D. Forbes Art Contest Winners

by Charles Newlon, Art Contest Chair

Lack of entries in the "Reggie" Forbes Art Contest at the 72nd Annual Allegheny SAF Winter Meeting was disappointing, to say the least. The Three-Dimensional category in the Amateur Class, and the Sculpture category in the Professional Class had no entries, and there was little competition in some of the other Classes. I hope it was the weather that was responsible for keeping the more artistic members of the Allegheny SAF family from competing this year.

As foresters, we practice an art based on the sciences, and appreciate and include aesthetic considerations in all our management decisions. Some of us apply similar talents to artistic pursuits outside our daily work -- painting, photography, sculpture, furniture reproductions, and specialty items made from rare cuts of wood, fruits, nuts, etc. In honor of the memory of an unusual forester, whose image and sensitivity to aesthetics was so appreciated by those who knew him, let's try to bring more of our handy-work, and that of our family members, to this traditional Winter Meeting event.

Winners of the 1994 "Reginald D. Forbes Art Contest" were:

AMATEUR: Flat Art, Terry Clark, "Dwarf" from "Lord of the Rings" (water color/pastel); Sculpture, Julie Winiwski, "Armadillo" (four-figure art print carving on black cherry).

PROFESSIONAL: Flat Art, Bob LaBar, "Quarrying" (photo collage); Three-Dimensional, Ronald Harrigan, Collector's box with wood-burned trout decoration (donated as a Forester's Fund raffle item). ♠

1994 Allegheny SAF Summer Meeting Harpers Ferry, WV • August 3-4, 1994

The WV SAF Division will host the 1994 summer meeting of the Allegheny SAF at the Hilltop Inn overlooking historic Harpers Ferry, WV. The "Are We All Speaking the Same Language?" theme will treat such current subjects as Landscape Management, the Urban Interface, and Fragmentation. A field trip will examine the "colonization" of the forest by urban-oriented dwellers, and all of the ramifications of this migration trend.

Besides historic attractions, the Harper's Ferry area offers many opportunities for a mini family vacation before school starts and we all get busy again. Plenty of attractions -- even horse racing at Shenandoah Downs.

Registration information for the Summer Meeting will be mailed to members in early summer, but mark your calendars now -- make it a family affair! ♠

Allegheny SAF 1993 Treasurer's Report

Submitted by Timothy A. Kaden

Presented February 11, 1994

Balance on January 1, 1993	
Checking Account	\$ 6,892.06
Savings Account	11,389.11
	\$18,281.17

INCOME

Dues	\$ 10,861.70
Interest on Checking	342.66
Interest on Savings	364.69
National SAF Director Grant	1,500.00
Pinchot Chapter Reimbursement	500.00
Pinchot Director Contribution	1,500.00
PA Division Director Contribution	500.00
Forester's Fund	441.00
Summer Meeting 50/50	64.00
Returned check	27.00
	\$16,101.05

Total Income **\$ 34,382.22**

EXPENSES

Chapter Reimbursements	\$ 1,976.70
Executive Director Stipend	4,400.00
Executive Director Expenses	3,000.00
Newsletter	3,226.02
HSD Assessment	209.80
Harry Wiant Travel Expenses	239.00
Certificate Framing	240.87
Reggie Forbes Art Awards	165.00
Student Reimbursement	500.00
Postage	25.71
Forester's Fund	441.00
W. Gateway Meeting Advance	500.00
MD/DE Winter Meeting Advance	1,000.00
Checks	14.14
	\$ 15,938.24

Income Less Expenses **\$ 18,443.98**

Balance on December 31, 1993	
Checking Account	\$ 6,690.18
Savings Account	\$ 11,753.80
	\$ 18,443.98

ALLEGHENY ENDOWMENT FUND

Certificate of Deposit	\$ 10,000.00
Endowment Fund Savings Account	
Balance on January 1, 1993	2,392.54
Interest earned on CD	304.53
Interest earned on Savings Account	80.66
Balance on December 12, 1993	\$ 2,777.73

Ecosystem Management and Landscape Ecology: A Different View

by Christopher Nowak, Research Forester/Silviculturist

Recently, a colleague used Dr. Wiant's editorial in the *Allegheny News* (Vol.3, No.1) to support his view that Ecosystem Management was a "flash-in-the-pan" and that I am "all wet" in my enthusiasm for this management initiative. As a Forest Service researcher for just over a year, I have seen Ecosystem Management applied from the start. In fact, it is Forest Service policy, so it behooves me to learn as much as I can about this management initiative.

Dr. Wiant's editorial, entitled "Revelation in Indianapolis," certainly was provocative, especially for my colleague. But I do not believe that what Dr. Wiant wrote will prove true, specifically that landscape ecology is so complex that it is useless to the point of being detrimental. He writes: "Landscape ecology is a false god which none can comprehend. It is used by those destroying our means of (timber) production." But is it? Perhaps we have failed to see that many relationships we already use in forestry are intuitively landscape ecology.

Landscape ecology is a developing science that deals with understanding spatial and temporal relationships among plants, animals, and the physical environment. I do not pretend to understand this science totally, but I do appreciate its possibilities. Let me cite one example.

Pennsylvania has experienced high deer populations for more than 50 years. We accept, then, that most of our forestry practices will be dictated by deer. Experience had taught us that a regeneration cut on one stand reduces the impact of deer on surrounding stands. This is landscape ecology at work. Actions in one forest stand affect the dynamics in the surrounding stands. How can we respond further? Can we use this knowledge more systematically rather than intuitively?

Here at the Northeastern Forest Experiment Station's Forestry Sciences Laboratory, we are advancing a unique approach in addressing problems related to high deer densities. In addition to continued efforts to control deer populations through hunting, we propose that forage availability can be manipulated in such a way as to reduce deer impact on a given area. Manipulating the forage aspect of deer population dynamics means working at a scale larger than the stand, perhaps on the order of hundreds to thousands of acres. Besides understanding total biomass production of forage on such large blocks of land, it will be necessary to account for the spatial aspects of arranging forage production units (forest stands harvested for timber) on the landscape. Deer population dynamics, tree populations dynamics, herbaceous plant dynamics -- ECOSYSTEM DYNAMICS -- will have to be accounted for. Tools such as geographic information systems and spatial analysis will be used first in research. Then, after management guidelines have been developed, these tools will be used in operational level applications to mitigate the impact of deer. Landscape ecology will

provide the information platform upon which our management guidelines can be developed.

Does timber production fit into the "big" picture? It can and it will! I look at landscape ecology as an opportunity to improve the way we do business, whether or not we are producing commodities. If we are interested in producing timber on the landscape (and mitigating the impact of deer and producing other values as well), landscape ecology and associated tools can help us decide how best to arrange harvests and other cuts. Because of landscape ecology, we may have a better understanding of the impact of culturally treating one stand for timber on all of the other potential outputs and values, not just from that one stand but from all the surrounding stands on up through to the landscape level.

Landscape ecology is not "feel-good forestry," or "a false god," or "false forestry." It is not a land use ethic, or a philosophy, or a mandate. It does not shut down mills or prohibit logging, nor does it deny that the stand is the basic silvicultural unit. Landscape ecology simply is a developing science that can help us understand forest ecosystems better than we have understood them in the past. And it is with this new knowledge that we may be able to manage our forests better than we have in the past -- for both commodity and amenity values. Δ

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What is Bad Press Doing to Our Profession?

by Harry V. Wiant, Jr.

The forestry profession has received so much bad press that many of us are almost immune, having moved from anger, to disgust, to resignation.

Twenty years ago most of the general population did not know we existed, but I suspect most of those who did would have pictured us as part of the white-hat crowd. Today we are blamed directly or indirectly for dead fish from clearcutting in Idaho streams (the press put out a correction, but corrections get little press), the loss of animal and plant species (can anyone point to the demise of even one species in the U.S. that has resulted from logging whether done wisely or recklessly?), global warming (perhaps the tough winter of '93 and the record cold temperature readings of the winter of '94 will quiet that crowd for a while), and dozens of other suspected crimes.

We old timers have dug in and figure this too will pass. But there are serious consequences of this bad press, some of which we may be unaware.

It seems obvious to me that support for timber-management-oriented research is seriously impacted, yet our need for wood will continue to increase. Funds for more exotic environmental projects may actually increase, but that will do little to increase timber production (if anything, it will bring forth more bogeymen warning of dire consequences resulting from commercial forestry).

As an educator, I am also concerned about the quality and quantity of young people who will be attracted to forest management and wood science. A few years ago my forest mensuration class had about 30 percent female enrollment; that has dropped to three percent today. Total enrollment in forest management had dropped also. Has bad press caused this? I suspect it has.

How can we stop bad press (in contrast to the crude saying, "Bad breath is better than no breath," no press is better than bad press)? I'm not certain we can. Any positive steps taken to improve our image is helpful, but good deeds do not sell newspapers or capture TV sound-bites and their audiences.

In addition, our funds are very limited. Maybe I'm just becoming pessimistic with age, but again I believe we'll just have to ride out the storm. Maybe a press will find more controversial whipping boys.

In the final analysis, the versatility of wood compared to its substitutes will become obvious, and once more society will let us put on our white Stetsons and ride off to the forest (with reloaded silver bullet solutions) to bring back "those thrilling days of yesteryear . . . HI, HO! FOREST MANAGEMENT!" ♠

NJ SAF Active in Pinelands Forestry Issues

"The Pinelands Action Team," a subcommittee of the NJ SAF, has been formed to focus on forestry issues of the NJ Pinelands. Members of the committee will attend Pinelands related meetings to offer professional forestry expertise, testimony, written positions, and other information as needed.

The group's first task has been to respond to the proposed changes to the Pinelands Comprehensive Management Plan (CMP) that will affect forestry practice. Group members were present at the recent meeting held by the State's Judiciary Subcommittee, to hear local opinions on whether enforcement powers should be granted to the Pinelands Commission. The Action Team submitted written comments opposing enforcement powers for the Pinelands Commission since municipal master plans and land use ordinances currently provide for enforcement of Pineland regulations. Additional comments supported the encouragement of forest management activities through administration of the CMP as originally intended. ♠

Arbor Day Coming Up!

by Jack Winieski

National Arbor Day is April 29, the last Friday in April; the same in the Allegheny SAF states of PA, NJ, & DE - my source puts it at the first Wednesday in April for MD and the second Friday in April for WV. But you know when its celebrated in your state if I'm wrong.

What can you do about it? If you haven't already, get involved in an Arbor Day activity as another way to work proactively in your community. Get in contact with school teachers, borough councils, garden clubs, historical societies, park managers, etc., and cooperate in implementing an activity that puts you, forestry, and the SAF in a position as a broker of factual environmental information - to co-workers, the community, the press.

The Communications Department at the National SAF office will soon be distributing an information packet about Arbor Day to SAF chapters, divisions, and state societies for use with the local media. It will include ready-made press releases along with ideas for reaching various media (for instance, delivering the information along with tree-shaped cookies, to "morning drive" disc jockeys; a cross-word puzzle of Arbor Day history for the weekly paper interspersed with forestry terms taken from a glossary, etc.).

If you think your SAF unit leader might not get it to you in time, contact Paula Tarnapol (extension #117) or Sarah Zollman (extension #118) at (301) 897-8720 for more information. ♠

SAF Appoints "Green Certification" Study Group

You may have heard a lot recently about the proposed certification of wood products originating from managed and "sustainable" forests. Even Prince Charles of England is commenting in support of such a program as a way of keeping forest land around the world from being destroyed by exploiters.

The Society of American Foresters has appointed a study group of forestry professionals that will assess the status, trends, and issues related to certification of "environmentally responsible forest management."

Certification of forest and other products -- so-called "green certification" -- has gained popularity over the past few years, and there has been a proliferation of programs by a variety of groups. SAF will review these programs, their criteria and standards, as well as review efforts by non-governmental organizations, forest industries, and others in the U.S. and abroad.

In announcing the formation of the study group, SAF Executive Vice-President **William Banzhaf** remarked that, "As professionals involved with the day-to-day management of forestlands in the United States, SAF has an important and distinct role to play in assessing the credibility and value of forest management certification programs."

The SAF study group is being Chaired by **John Heissenbittel** of the American Forest and Paper Association. "It is the intention of the study group to have our report completed by the end of the year," said Chair Heissenbittel. "The process will ensure thorough input and review by the SAF membership and Council prior to the release of a final report."

Other members include: **Bruce Caberle**, World Resources Institute; **John Cashwell**, retired state forester of Maine; **Mary Coulombe**, International Forestry, U.S. Forest Service; **Jean Mater**, Forest Products Marketing Services Division, Mater Engineering; **William Stuart**, School of Forestry and Wildlife Resources, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University; and **Dawn Winterhalter**, Purdue University. ♠



Richard Kane (l), NJ Audubon Society discussing his presentation of "Habitat Criteria of Forest Birds" at the NJ Division SAF Workshop with Robert Zaphalardi, Consultant of Herpetological Associates, Inc.

NJ's Annual Workshops

by Heather Gracie

Every year, the New Jersey Division of SAF hosts a workshop on Forestry issues. In the 1993 early summer workshop, the program went beyond the membership as invitations went to environmental consulting firms, the Audubon Society, Natural Lands Trust, and the New Jersey Forestry Association, among others.

Continual open dialog among the SAF members and invited guests and speakers characterized the one day of presentations and the one day canoe trip along the Oswego River through the Atlantic Cedar Bogs. Ted Gordon, an environmental consultant specializing in threatened and endangered species, guided the tour. Stops along the way provided for informal discussions of the plant and animal communities through the region of New Jersey Pinelands.

Be sure to mark your calendar now for this year's NJ workshop on May 6, discussing "Estate Planning for the Woodland Owner," and May 7 for a canoe trip down the Delaware River. For more information, contact **John Benton** at (609) 984-0620. ♠



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Peace Corps Foresters are Making a Difference

by Sarah Jenkins Stewart, Peace Corps Public Affairs Specialist

The environmental sector is one of the fastest growing programming areas in the Peace Corps. Currently there are over 800 volunteers working in environmental assignments and of those almost two-thirds are in forestry-related areas such as agroforestry, forest management and watershed management. There are forestry programs in 29 different countries in Africa, Asia/Pacific, Central and South America.

What do Forestry Volunteers do? No two Volunteers do exactly the same thing; no two days are alike; no two jobs are alike; and the range of experiences are almost unlimited! A sampling of Peace Corps projects may give you some idea of the types of challenges that await a Forestry Volunteer ...

Peace Corps Volunteers, (PCVs) Brian Deffet and Joe Janzcy live and work in La Union de Aguas Buenas, Panama, a small town of 1,500 people located along the buffer zone of the Soberania National Park. Together with community members, they have developed a low cost proposal for participatory management and reforestation of degraded sections of park lands.

Soberania National Park was created in 1990 with the intent of conserving the large tract of virgin rain forest as well as the endangered plant and animal species within the Panama Canal Watershed. During the construction of the Panama Canal, an aggressive species of grass was brought into the country in order to aid in the control of soil erosion. This grass is identified scientifically as *Saccharum spontaneum* and is commonly referred to in English as "Elephant Grass." As the species name implies, this weed spreads spontaneously and is so aggressive that it dominates the native species in the area. The land between La Union and the park, called a *pajonal*, has been completely occupied by elephant grass.

The formal agreement that Brian and Joe helped develop between park authorities and community members, allows farmers who plant and care for trees planted in part of the elephant grass zone to harvest their crops during the three years it takes for a shade canopy to close over the former *pajonal*. As blocks of land become reforested, farmers move on to farm and convert new areas to native plant species; gradually the battle to recover these lands from the exotic elephant grass is being won.

Agroforestry Volunteer Barbara Ross was the subject of several Kenyan newspaper articles featuring her work promoting solar cookers. Many Kenyans use wood or charcoal burning stoves for cooking. Barbara worked with women's groups, demonstrating how they could cook a wide variety of foods using solar cookers, while conserving scarce wood supplies - and at the same time allowing more time for them to tend to other daily chores.

In Benin, PCVs have helped plant trees that not only provided firewood and lumber for villages, but also

produced fruit for their own use and sale, and fodder for livestock.

Forestry PCVs in Lesotho are planting trees to provide fuel for schools and giving advice on species selection, tree spacing and planting techniques which maximize water catchment to villages. The trees are bought at newly established forest tree nurseries -- not there before the Peace Corps Volunteers!

Not only do PCVs make a REAL difference in peoples lives in the developing countries where they serve, but they come back wiser, with a responsible, challenging job to add to their resume. Perhaps Forestry Volunteer Amy Berns, serving in the West African country of Ghana, said it best: "Peace Corps is about creativity and desire. It is about initiative. It isn't easy, but it is satisfying and fun."

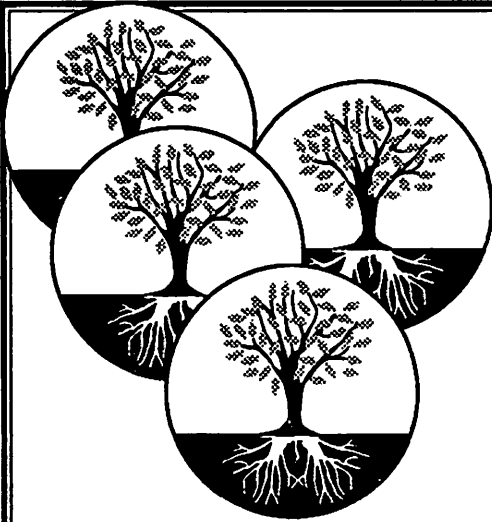
Other benefits? PCVs receive free training and round trip transportation to and from the country of service; in-country living allowances, a \$5,400 re-adjustment allowance at the end of service, deferment of some student loans, graduate school opportunities and noncompetitive eligibility for federal jobs when their Peace Corps assignment is complete. Peace Corps isn't for everybody, but it could be for you - student or retiree. For more information call 1-800-424-8580, press option "1" and ask for extension 455. Foresters in the Peace Corps are making a difference! ♠

New Travel Service Offered To SAF Members

Adelman Travel, one of the country's leading full-service travel agencies, has established a small office and computerized reservation service at the SAF headquarters. Adelman employee Gail Teachworth is assigned to help SAF members and staff with all travel requests - business and personal.

Teachworth has access to all published and discount fares, and seeks out the best arrangement to fit the individual traveler's needs. Through an arrangement with Adelman, SAF receives 25% of the agency's standard commission. For the 1993 convention, these proceeds were earmarked to help defray the cost of student travel. "This is a win-win situation," said Bill Banzhaf. "SAF receives non-dues revenue from providing this service, but more importantly, SAF members and staff benefit from having a travel professional dedicated full-time to looking out for their best interests."

SAF members can reach Gail Teachworth at (301) 897-8720 ext. 136, or 1-800-871-4444, weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Time). ♠



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Pennsylvania SAF Division Section

Forester Registration - What Is It All About?

by Bob LaBar, Former Chair of the Allegheny SAF

In recent months there have been numerous incidents in Pennsylvania where municipal organizations, environmental groups, attorneys and even loggers have questioned the role of foresters as environmental decision makers. Who is to blame, and is there anything that we can do about it? Many feel that a step in the right direction might be to seek to have foresters registered or licensed in the state of Pennsylvania. Others oppose the idea as being too drastic. Yet, the adjoining state of West Virginia registers foresters and Maryland, which has registered foresters since 1982, now license foresters to practice in that state.

While somewhat biased in favor of registration, this article attempts to look at both sides of the issue and encourages all foresters to become involved in the process that is taking place.

Background Behind Current Efforts

In the summer of 1993, at the suggestion of the Pocono Northeast Resource and Development District's Forestry Committee, which I chair, the Pennsylvania Division of the Society of American Foresters (PA SAF) appointed a committee to pursue a legislative approach that would give some form of State recognition to foresters practicing within its borders. Chair Roy Siefert appointed Don Oaks to chair the Committee. While this might have been accomplished in a number of different ways, early in its discussions the Committee was attracted to the procedure used recently by geologists in the State to secure professional recognition.

"Engineer, Land Surveyor and Geologist Registration Law" (Title amended 12/16/92, P.L. 1151, No. 151)

The Geologists in PA were successful in being included under existing long time (1945) procedures used to license both engineers and surveyors. This arrangement, if it can be applied to foresters, does not require the creation of a new board -- an objection often raised by past legislative and administrative leaders. By adding foresters to the licensing system for other professionals, independent of DER, such a vehicle is more representative of the public and removes the perceived stigma of a profession being self-serving.

In order for the geologists to be covered by the existing procedures, only four steps were necessary; it is presumed that foresters would have to follow the same strategy. They include: defining the science of forestry, defining the practice of forestry, establishing minimum educational and experience requirements needed to

practice in the State, and establishing a continuing education procedure necessary for practitioners to remain competent with changing technology and science over time.

The PA SAF Committee, has drafted definitions of the Science of Forestry and the Practice of Forestry, compiled a list of minimum educational requirements and experience for B.S. and Associated Degree registrants, and outlined a continuing educational schedule based on successful completion of accepted course work and training. The Committee has basically completed its charge from the Chair and is now ready to receive input from the general membership and other organizations which may be impacted by the initiation of such a credentialing procedure. A special open meeting of the PA Division will be held June 23, 1994 to allow for a thorough discussion of the Committee's report and the preparation of a referendum for consideration by the total PA SAF Division membership.

Available Options

As foresters in PA, we can accept the "status quo" and do nothing -- with the possible risk that in the future, someone else may dictate a less desirable option for us than we might choose for ourselves. We can also choose finally to act on this issue based on the Committee report and the input derived from the up-coming June special meeting.

The National SAF office is currently embarking on a certification program, why not "piggyback" on their efforts? Such an effort, whether done at the state or national levels of the Society -- for members and non-members -- is voluntary. Voluntary efforts normally embrace only a fraction of the membership, and very few professional organizations, SAF included, represent a large number of those who have received formal training in the profession and are practicing in the field. It has been estimated that nationally, SAF membership is far less than 50% of professionals eligible for membership.

Among those who choose to become involved with a voluntary organizational certification program, the only penalty for failure to live up to the accepted levels of practice is to drop the individual from the roster. The individual can continue to practice, perhaps at the expense of the public and the environment. This is also true of a program administered by the executive branch of a state's "conservation or natural resource" arm -- one may lose the title of forester, but continue to implement management practices on tracts of forest land.

Forestry Registration

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Licensing is usually the most restrictive form of professional credentialling, and may be more than what many would like to see happen. Once legislated, it becomes illegal for anyone to practice the profession as defined by the law unless stated minimum requirements are met: in education, experience and performance. The first duty of the Board of Licensing governing that law is to protect the "public good," and it can apply any of a significant range of penalties set forth in the law.

Definitions

Someone once said, "Define your terms and you increase the understanding and resolution of issues."

"Credentialling" can take three basic forms: certification, registration, and licensing. The first two are voluntary, and the latter is mandatory.

Certification is usually controlled by a trade or professional association, which sets the minimum standards of education, training and practice of the certified. Registration usually takes the form of regulation which requires individuals under "title" to file their names, addresses, and qualifications with a government agency before practicing under the "title" (*others may also engage in the same practice, but may not use the "title" -- therefore, title protection*). Licensure is regulation by a governmental agency, making it illegal to practice a profession or trade without meeting the standards imposed by the agency - providing penalties for persons practicing without a license and for licensed individuals practicing improperly.

Is Some Form of Public Protection Needed?

Robert Tepel, a California Geologist has written a series of essays on issues relating to professional registration that will soon be coming out in book form. He has suggested three interesting ideas that one might wish to examine as they relate to a discussion of forester credentialling in Pennsylvania.

Tepel first suggests that "If the practice of a profession impacts the public health, safety and welfare, the public has an interest in such a practice and has the right to regulate the profession so that the public's interest is served" (*one might insert, "the long-term forest health and productivity" for "public health, etc."*).

Secondly, he carries this a step further by suggesting that if the members of a professional association have a strong code of ethics embracing a responsibility to the public health, safety and welfare, then they are faced with a moral dilemma if they argue they should not be subject to professional registration because they do not impact on these areas.

Finally, Tepel takes a shot at one frequently advanced argument against professional regulation by those that

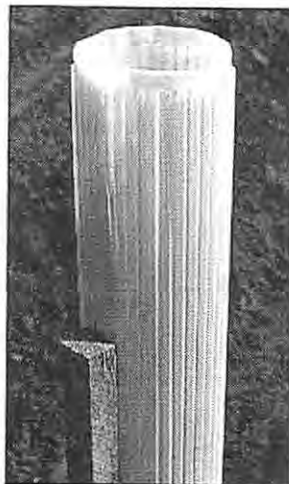
advocate that "free market forces" rather than regulation should be used to "weed out the bad apples." He counters with the argument that, "For the market to be efficient (*fair*), we must assume both a) widespread technical knowledge (*stand reproduction, \$ values*) on the part of the public and b) a high level of concern among the public for the influence of their decision on the third parties (*and land & water qualities off-site*)" -- both assumptions not necessarily true relative to the owners of the non-industrial private forest land in PA or elsewhere.

Is Registration or Licensing Perfect?

No serious proponent of registration or licensing says that it can be perfect or will make perfect practitioners of anyone. Just as in any human-devised system, there will be imbalances, imperfections, and compromises. As pointed out by Tepel, "Merely to observe that certain aspects of a registration (*or licensing*) system are difficult management problems or that they involve costs or inconveniences to both society and the profession regulated, is not, in and of itself, sufficient cause to say that the system should be dismantled (*or not implemented*). The basic question is: on balance, is the good done worth the costs?"

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Forestry Registration

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Conclusion

This is not the first time that registration or licensing of foresters has been attempted in Pennsylvania; a large SAF file exists dating back to the mid-seventies. It has failed to become a reality for many reasons. The simplicity of being included in the current structure that has worked so well over time for engineers and surveyors, and now includes geologists, leads one to believe that this same process can serve the forestry community and the "public good."

If such a legislative approach is to "fly" this time, input and support must be obtained from among our own ranks as well as from allied professionals, the forest industry and environmental communities, and the executive and legislative branches of government. It is time to become informed, discuss the pros and cons within the local chapters, and to attend the special June session prepared to listen carefully and speak out. It will be important to cast your vote, according to your conscience, on any referendum resulting from this discussion and placed before the membership. Finally, if a majority decides that the matter should be pursued further, get involved by contacting your legislators.

See you at the special June meeting to receive and discuss the report of the Registration and Licensing Committee of the PA SAF Division. ♣

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West Virginia State Board of Registration for Foresters

by Harry Wiant, Jr.

The West Virginia State Board of Registration for Foresters was established in 1963. There are five Board members, paid \$50 expenses each for the two meetings per year. Registration cost is \$25, with a \$5 annual fee.

Registration of foresters is not required. Qualification is determined by graduation from a curriculum in forestry approved by the Board and satisfactory letters of recommendation. Approximately 300 foresters are registered in the state of West Virginia. It is probably the least burdensome (and least expensive) forester registration program in the United States. ♣

The above is a synopsis of an invited presentation given by Dr. Wiant at the PA Division Breakfast Meeting at Ellicott, City, MD, February 10, 1994.

Forester Licensing... What Do They Expect to Accomplish?

by Mark Golitz, Director of Forestry,
Walter H. Weaber Sons, Inc.

There is a group of SAF members drafting legislation that would have the government regulate your profession and require every practicing forester in Pennsylvania to become licensed. Why was there a committee appointed by the chairman of the PA SAF to write legislation without the direction or approval of the membership? Perhaps most important: What do they expect to accomplish?

Considerable effort and energy is being put forth by members of a committee to develop specific legislative language that will be presented to the PA SAF in June. The line between registration and licensing is fine and in my opinion, the committee is proposing licensing because there are provisions to limit who can engage in the practice of forestry.

I stated at the Division Breakfast in March that I was disappointed in the way this issue is being handled by the PA SAF. The problem is that the PA SAF has no organized method of developing policy. Forester registration and licensing are very important issues that could significantly impact our profession. The issues should have been considered by a policy committee that represented a diverse group of membership from different employment backgrounds and regions. If sufficient support for the concepts existed, then a balanced presentation should have been given to the membership for debate and consideration prior to drafting any specific legislative language.

Knowing of my concern and position on the issue, Bob LaBar was kind enough to send me a copy of his article a few days before the deadline with an invitation to write an opposing viewpoint. I thank Bob for this and respect his professionalism.

I will be blunt. I am fundamentally opposed to forester registration and/or licensing. It is ironic that I sit at my computer to draft this article on the night that I just finished completing my 1993 taxes. I figure that between federal income tax, state income tax, local income tax, utility taxes, liquor tax (I enjoy an occasional refreshment), etc., the government takes well over half of every dollar I earn. When I consider the fact that we have over a four trillion dollar deficit that is growing every day, the government is spending most of the money that I haven't even earned yet. It is ironic.

I consider government regulation the method of last resort in any issue. Government regulation should only be considered when all else has been thoroughly tried and conclusively failed.

I do not oppose the concepts of forester registration or licensing for financial reasons or the simple fact that I have no compelling desire for the government to control

an even greater portion of my life. I am opposed to the concepts because no one has presented me with sufficient reason to support the concepts. I will not support the government regulation of my profession and my livelihood until I am presented with a list of conclusive and specific benefits that outweigh the current and potential costs.

My opposition to licensing is not a new found realization or based on any recent enlightenment. Prior to moving back to Pennsylvania over five years ago, I worked in Indiana for several years. At one time, the concepts of forester certification, registration, and licensing were all presented and debated by the Indiana SAF while I was a member. Fundamental to the debate was a well rounded and balanced presentation of each alternative. I learned how each of these terms carries with it varying levels of legal liability for the profession as well as individuals within the profession.

In the final analysis, the concepts of registration and licensing were rejected almost unanimously by the membership because it was determined that the potential costs and liabilities outweighed the potential benefits. No one had a focused goal in mind when the concepts were proposed. I feel the same holds true for the current proposal here in PA.

My intent in writing this article is not to address or criticize any specific provisions of this proposal; because it has not been presented in its final form at the time of this writing. Nor is my intent to discuss all of the negatives of registration and licensing of our profession. My intent is to ask one simple question that we should all be asking: What do they expect to accomplish?

In his article, Bob LaBar mentions, "numerous incidents in PA where municipal organizations, environmental groups, attorneys and even loggers have questioned the role of Foresters as environmental decision makers," as the compelling reason to pursue the current proposal. I want to know the specifics of these incidents and how forester licensing and registration would have improved the outcome. In more than a decade of practice in both government and private forestry I have been involved with or supervised the harvesting of more than 120 million board feet of private timber. I have yet to see an occasion where myself or any other forester being licensed or registered would have mattered to a single township, environmentalist, attorney, or logger.

Some proponents of the current proposal argue that the increase in local government control of private forestry is a reason to support licensing. They correctly point out that most township ordinances do not seek the input of our profession. I hate to admit it, but I probably have more direct experience with local government control of forestry than perhaps anyone else in PA. The licensing or registration of foresters will not require or compel township officials to seek the input of our profession when

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Forester Licensing

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developing ordinances nor will it prevent any ordinances from being adopted.

The argument that, "if we don't do it to ourselves, someone may do it to us," has been used by some proponents of the current proposal. I fail to see the logic of doing something undesirable to myself for fear that someone else may do it to me later. It is politically naive to think that a group outside of our profession could convince the legislature to pass a forester licensing or registration bill in PA without the input and support of foresters and the forest products industry. Who would want to anyway?

As I stated before, I oppose the concepts of forester registration and licensing because no one has given me sufficient reason to support the concepts. The few vague reasons given to date have not convinced me to support the current proposal.

If members of the committee drafting this legislation want my support, I am going to need a list of conclusive and specific reasons why we are at the point where it is desirable for the government to regulate my profession. I need a list of conclusive benefits that only licensing can provide and that no other proposal could accomplish.

This should be the starting point. Convince me that licensing is needed before you try to convince me to support a specific legislative proposal. Let's not get bogged down in the details of the current proposal until we have thoroughly explored, discussed, debated, and determined that the concept of licensing is desirable.

I realize that my support is not requisite for this proposal to be approved by PA SAF. I share my views and expose myself to criticism only to elicit thought from other SAF members for the benefit of our profession and organization. If we are going to debate licensing, then I want to see a balanced and meaningful discussion of the issue. ♣

What are the Benefits of Forester Registration/Licensing?

by Tunis Lyon, Chairman, MD Forester Licensing Board

There are two real beneficiaries of forester registration and licensing as I see it: the consuming public, and the profession itself.

As stated in most registration and licensing (R/L) legislation, the purpose of the legislation is for the benefit, protection, and welfare of the public. With forester R/L, the most direct benefit is the protection afforded forest land owners who want to manage their woodlands for profits from timber sales, or any other real or abstract value of the land-based resource that meets their objectives. We know that management practices can affect the resource and resource base for decades. The average non-industrial private forest land owner, however, is generally less familiar with the principles and practices involved in forest management activities than what may hear from environmental or industrial sources.

No R/L legislation is expected to be perfect. They do, however, assure the minimum qualifications, experience, and proficiency of individuals offering their services to the public and provide for recourse to an authoritative review board in cases of alleged malpractice. Considering the values involved (timber, wildlife, water, recreational, aesthetic, productive capacity, etc.), R/L might be well worth any inconveniences and costs (insurance premium) incurred by delineating practitioners of forest management activities from practitioners with no or less than minimum credentials.

It can be summed up by quoting Vessey, who in 1967 wrote, "To protect the public, foresters need to document their qualifications, experience, and proficiency through states licensing. As lawyers, physicians, and realtors are jealous of their reputations as professionals, and zealous in their desire to preserve the high standards of their professional practices, so too is the public jealous of its right to protect itself from unwarranted inconvenience, embarrassment, distress, and economic loss associated with the actions of amateurs or self-styled, pseudo-professionals."

R/L can benefit the profession, as well as the public, by presenting the forester as a professional, establishing credibility in the eye of the public and can serve, dependent on the extent of the law, to preclude others from falsely claiming to have such expertise. This benefit may appear to be self serving, but is common to any registration/licensing program. Accountants, realtors, attorneys, physicians, etc., are afforded the same benefit by the regulation of their practices.

I can truly say that since the passage of Maryland's registration and licensing of foresters, that the public is more aware of the forestry profession and what it has to offer the forest land owner and the resource. We in

Maryland have had a number of environmental bills passed that have required the services of licensed foresters, indicating to me that the legislature recognizes the value of licensing in protection of the public good.

Responsible foresters are aware of the consequences of their prescriptions in the renewal, care and harvest of timber crops and the related values of forest habitat. Being responsive to county, state and federal environmental regulations has always been the mark of ethical forest practitioners. The public has become more aware of the impact of some of our management practices on all land ownerships and values; they deserve the assurance of minimum standards and accountability from all who engage in the practice of forestry. ♠

Slightly edited from the presentation given at the PA SAF Division Meeting, Ellicott City, MD, February 10, 1994.

SAF Certified Forester (CF) Program

In early February, the SAF Council approved a new SAF Certified Forester (CF) Program. It will begin later this year.

Landowners and other members of the public, especially in states with no forester registration or licensing in place, would benefit from the designation, according to a survey of SAF members and nonmembers conducted in 1992 by the SAF Certification Study Group.

Applicants must have at least a bachelor's degree from an SAF-accredited or candidate curriculum (or show comparable coursework), at least five years of forestry-related experience, the intention to complete a module of continuing education credits over a three-year period, and ascribe to uniform "standards of professional practice."

Because of antitrust considerations, both SAF members and nonmembers will be eligible, although members will pay a preferential fee. Among other benefits, successful applicants could use a "CF" designation after their names. This is currently being trademarked. In designing the program, SAF staff obtained legal assistance to minimize SAF liability and ensure legal compliance. An advisory body will be formed to review all procedures.

"Certification will inform members of the public that they are working with professionals," said P. Gregory Smith, SAF Director of Science and Education and Administrator of the program. "We are anxious to begin implementing the program." ♠

The above is taken in total from SAF Action, Winter 1994 issue.

PA Division SAF Registration and Licensing Meeting

by Doug D'Amore, PA Division Secretary/Treasurer

On Thursday, June 23, 1994, the PA Division of SAF will be holding a special meeting at the State College Holiday Inn to discuss licensing and registration of professional foresters in Pennsylvania. Meeting time will be from 10:00 a.m. to approximately 4:00 p.m., and will include a buffet lunch. The cost will be \$15 per person for members and \$20 for non-members. An agenda and registration materials will be mailed to you in early May. The motel is offering a special room rate for those who wish to stay overnight.

The program will begin with the report of the Division Committee that has been working on the issue for close to one year. Solicited comments will then be given by representatives of interested groups which may be impacted by such legislation. At least one hour at the end of the presentations will be left for open discussion with the panel and members in attendance. The issue will then go to the Division membership for a referendum vote by written ballot to determine whether or not to proceed with a strategy for legislation.

A packet, providing background informational materials on this complex issue, will soon be mailed to each Division member. All foresters and forest technicians in the state are invited to attend and

participate. Please review this material carefully to prepare yourself to discuss this issue at the June meeting, and vote on any future referendum. This is one issue that we hear many stories about from other states; individuals express strong opinions, both for and against the licensing and registration of foresters.

The final resolution of the licensing and registration of foresters in PA will have a profound impact upon you and your profession. Come to the meeting in June to listen carefully, offer your views and learn more about the issue, form an opinion and vote when your ballot arrives by mail. One way or another, to proceed with this issue or not will be decided by the end of July, 1994! ⚡

Members Say it with Pride

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Stephen Jones, PA SAF

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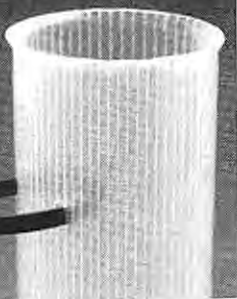


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Update... Clean Water and Endangered Species Acts

by Cam Carte, Forest Policy Analyst, SAF National Office

1994 is an election year for the U.S. House of Representatives, and for one-third of the U.S. Senate. Consequently, the legislative agenda tends to narrow down considerably, and this is true for issues important to forestry. Both the Clean Water Act and the Endangered Species Act are due for re-authorization, but the issue of clean water is the one that has moved most substantially in the 103rd Congress.

Every time the Clean Water Act has come up for re-authorization, foresters attend church more regularly, pray that the 404 (f) exemption for on-going silvicultural practices is maintained in the legislation's language. This exemption to the 404 wetlands permitting process is essential to all professional foresters, and the Society of American Foresters has worked diligently to insure that the exemption is maintained. In a February 3, 1994 letter from SAF Executive Vice-President Bill Banzhaf to Senator Max Baucus (D-MT), the sponsor of S.1114 to re-authorize the Clean Water Act, SAF's commitment to maintain this exemption was reinforced by stating that, "any re-authorization of the Federal Clean Water Act should maintain the silvicultural exemptions under Section 404 (f) to continue to allow professional foresters, the forest products industry and private landowners to continue to act as good stewards of our Nation's timberlands." As of March 21, no alteration or deletion of the 404 (f) exemption has occurred, and this is good news for professional forestry.

The other portion of the Clean Water Act that has caused some concern is the identification of "new sources" of non-point source pollution. This language is contained in Section 304 of the revised version of the bill. The revised bill calls for the EPA Administrator, within one

year of the bill's passage, to establish point source criteria for forestry. To one camp of forestry professionals this is no more than a re-affirmation of the original 1972 Act, as silviculture has always been treated as a potential contributor to non-point pollution, and EPA has always had considerable authority to deal with individual states concerning silvicultural impacts to water quality. At best, this camp feels this clause would have a minimal impact on forestry. Other forestry professionals see this clause as another opportunity for the EPA "500 lb. gorilla" to extend its regulatory arms to adversely effect the sound practice of forestry. They see a potential revisitation of the Coastal Zone Management Act debates on pre-harvest plans and mandatory BMPs. The proposed statute does not now call specifically for this type of activity.

At this point there is no true companion bill in the House to S.1114, though one will be forthcoming. There is a reasonable consensus among Senate staffers that this bill, in some form, will likely be voted on in this Congress. I will keep you updated as events unfold.

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) re-authorization has not moved along at the same pace as the Clean Water Act, and is likely to be put off until the next Congress. However, there exists two house bills that are the likely candidates for further action; H.R. 2043, sponsored by Rep. Studds (D-MA) with 106 co-sponsors, and H.R. 1490, sponsored by Rep. Tauzin (D-LA) with 93 co-sponsors. In my opinion, the Tauzin bill most closely resembles the SAF's position on the Endangered Species Act. To make up your mind, you can compare the two bills for yourself, thus ensuring that my column does not become a "bully pulpit." As the ESA issue heats up again and moves forward, I will again update you as to the status of legislation in the "hopper."

As an educational note, I am often asked about how to go about contacting a U.S. Senator or Congressman, so I will oblige those requests here. To telephone a member of Congress, contact the U.S. Congress switchboard at the following numbers: (202) 224-3121 for Senate inquires, and (202) 225-3121 for House inquires. To reach a member of Congress via the U.S. Postal Service, address the letter to Senator "A" or "B" FROM YOUR STATE, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510; or to Representative FROM YOUR CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515. This information should prove useful to you in your grass-roots activities. Remember, one letter from you the constituent is worth more than ten letters from the SAF Forest Policy Department, so stay involved.

To conclude, I wish to thank those of you who have forwarded forestry materials to me on local issues. Please keep them coming, because they ARE IMPORTANT to me, and I reference them often.

Until next time... ♠

Coming Events

May

6-7 "Estate Planning for the Woodland Owner" workshop & NJ Division canoe trip down the Delaware River. Family and friends welcome. (609) 984-0620.

11 "An Ecosystem Approach to Forest Management," Holiday Inn Annapolis, MD. Sponsored by the Governor's Executive Committee on Trees and Forests in Maryland & The MD Association of Forest Conservancy District Boards. Contact Jim Klunk, P.O. Box 4205, Annapolis, MD 21403.

12-15 1994 Hardwood Research Council Symposium, High Hampton Inn, Cashiers, NC. "Opportunities for the Hardwood Industry to Address Environmental Challenges." (901) 377-1818.

June

14-16 13th North American Forest Biology Workshop, Baton Rouge, LA. "Biodiversity in a Changing Environment." Contact Jim Chambers, (504) 388-4131.

23 PA SAF Division Special Meeting on PA Forester Registration/Licensing, Holiday Inn, State College, PA, 10 am-4 pm with lunch: \$15 members, \$20 non-members. Contact Doug D'Amore, (717) 787-4009.

August

3-4 1994 Allegheny SAF Summer Meeting, Hilltop Inn, Harpers Ferry, WV, "Are We Speaking the Same Language?" (Landscape Management, Fragmentation, Urban Interface). Dave Lilly, (304) 924-6266.

September

18-22 1994 National SAF Convention with the Canadian Institute of Forestry, Anchorage, Alaska. "Managing Forests to Meet People's Needs." Contact Sarah Zollman at for convention information (301) 897-8720, extension 118. For information on tours and activities on your own, call Anchorage's Travel Travel at 1-800-770-7766.

October

14-15 Eastern Shore Field Day, Tuckahoe State Park, Easton, MD, Sponsored by the MD Forests Association. Contact Susan Reinhart, (410) 823-7215.

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