



THE Registered Forester

A News Bulletin

Alabama State Board of Registration for Foresters
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Montgomery, Alabama 36130



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ALABAMA FORESTS IN THE LIGHT OF HISTORY

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Senior Fellow Emeritus
Resources for the Future
Washington, D. C.

Mankind, as a species, has been closely involved with forests for many thousands of years. We have lived in and derived our sustenance from forests, in many parts of the globe.

Many Americans are unaware of the role forests played in the history of Europe. Many thousands of years ago people began migrating into Europe, from regions to the south and east. They found a heavily forested land. The forests had some values for human existence but they made the development of agriculture nearly impossible.

It was only as the forests were cleared, over thousands of years, that agriculture was able to develop. Cropland agriculture produced several times more food per unit of area than had been available from the forests. The additional food supply enabled the growth of a population in towns. Some of the urban dwellers had leisure time in which to think and develop the culture which we know today.

In a very real sense, forest clearing was basic to the development of today's society and culture. One cannot argue that all of the forest clearing was wise. In modern times, many European countries have undertaken reforestation. The wood from the forests and the cleared land were basic parts of their history.

U. S. Forest Exploitation up to the Interwar Period

When the first colonists from Europe settled in what is now the United States, they too found a heavily forested land. In the words of Richard Lillard, it was a "sea of trees". Nearly half of the continuous 48 states was in what would be characterized as "commercial forest". The many species of trees, the large size of the individual trees, and the enormous volumes of standing timber per acre were a source of amazement to the colonists. This situation was particularly marked in the eastern half of the United States, where most of the earliest settlements occurred.

The dense forests were a great liability. It was only as the forests were cleared that agriculture was possible. Only with agriculture could larger populations, many in towns and cities, be supported with all the technological, economic, and political consequences of urbanization. Today, we have difficulty in realizing how cheap, how nearly valueless, wood was in those early times. The cleared land was worth more than the same land covered with trees. Large volumes of high-grade timber were cut and burned where they lay, because local demands for timber were so low and because means of transport were unavailable to the few small markets.

Alabama Forests

The history of Alabama forests parallels that of forests for the whole country. While there are some differences, the similarities in trend are more impressive than the differences. The first settlers increased the area in forests by controlling widespread use of fire by Indians. A great deal of the State was cleared but the process in total was basic to the economic development of the State.

A low point in Alabama forests was about 1930. Since then, a new trend, that of forest rebuilding, has been evident. Some land reseeded naturally, while some was planted. Fires were more nearly controlled and managed, and regenerating forests were less often grazed to the detriment of the trees.

The Future

Science and technology have provided this country with a large variety and volume of raw materials, some of which have taken over functions once performed by wood. It might seem that forests and wood were no longer important.

Forestry in Alabama has been a success story for the last generation. The challenge now is to achieve all of the opportunities provided by the forest at a reasonable cost and with a minimum of conflict with other economic and social activities. There will be continued pressure to withdraw forest areas from harvest. All of us interested in forests, have a major educational problem. We need to teach the news media, and conservationists in particular, that trees have life cycles also. The time scale for most species is greater than for humans. The forest is a dynamic, changing ecological complex. In the management of the forest, cutting is often the most effective tool.



Jack Fillingham, Chairman

THINGS AS THEY ARE/Not As They Seem

Your Board has experienced a steady increase in all activities with which it has been involved, especially during the past two years. Considerable time has been spent implementing the Continuing Education requirement and revising the examinations systems. With Continuing Education in place, we will be required to incur a heavier work load as well as increased costs. Consequently, we have a need to cut costs and increase fees to provide a balanced budget. The REGISTERED FORESTER will not be type-set on a trial basis. The Roster of Registered Foresters is being produced in 1992 at a cost approximately \$2,000 less than in 1990. Even with these self-imposed savings, an increase in fees will be required. Details are included in the paragraph titled "Board Begins New Year" on page five.

Some confusion continues in relation to the State Appraisal laws for appraisals performed in relation to federally-related transactions. An advisory opinion from the Appraisal Subcommittee of the Federal Financial Institution Examination Council, states that the law requiring states to implement a certification program had been amended to allow them until December 31, 1992 to initiate requirements. Since Alabama's law had already been in place, it was made effective as of January 14, 1992. In effect, any appraisals performed in Alabama on properties related to a federally-related transaction, have to be made by an Alabama-certified General Real Estate Appraiser. - Jack Fillingham.



ADMINISTRATIVE MANUAL REVISED/Resource Book 1958-1991 Wilbur De Vall, Editor-contractor

The Board compiled an Administrative Manual early in the 1950s at the suggestion of R. Vance Miles, Jr. The 1991 revision is dedicated to him. The 120-page manual is divided into four sections, namely: 1) INTRODUCTION, 2) ADMINISTRATION, 3) EXAMINATIONS, and 4) APPENDIX.

The manual was revised to accommodate both officers and committee chairmen at their home bases who have assignments between board meetings. The 60-page appendix contains examples of most forms, certifications, and historical data which should make their jobs in the future easier and give continuity to work done by successive members of the Board.

Provisions of the Alabama law, Bylaws, Rules, Policies, Motions, and related legislation are either included in complete form or as a 'synopsis'. Specific provisions in two or more of these legal documents have been cross-referenced in tabular form for ready reference. The chronology of appointments to the Board, members of the oral examination panel, editorial writers for The REGISTERED FORESTER, and sequential motions numbered 1 - 1015, are readily referenced by dates.

RETIRING BOARD MEMBER AT SAF MEETING - Shown at a reserved table is Charles Walsh, Mobile, whose term expired January 6, 1992. Charles (third from the left) was in charge of registration for the Southeastern Society of American Foresters meeting in Orange Beach. While serving on the Board from 1987-1992, he served one term as secretary and one as Vice Chairman. He also revised oral examination procedures as Chairman of the Examination Committee.





BOARD VACANCY FILLED BY GOVERNOR - Board members posed for this picture, during the January 1992 quarterly meeting. Seated (L-R) are T. Waymon Paul, Birmingham, Vice Chairman, Jack Fillingham, Tallassee, Chairman, and Robert Nonnemacher, Mobile, new member of the Board. Standing (from the left) are Jim Spears, Atmore, Secretary, and Bobby Lowe, Jackson, Member. Nonnemacher previously served on the Board from 1979 to 1982, filling the unexpired term of John Ramage who moved out of state.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES/Forester's Support Sought

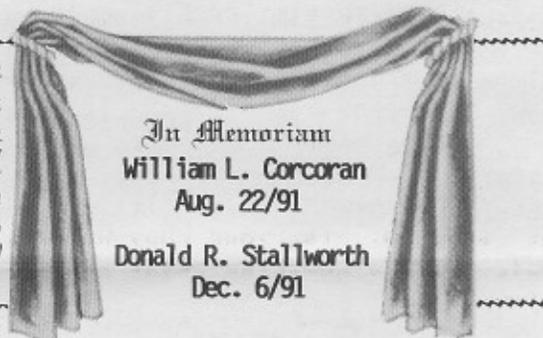
Alabama's Best Management Practices (BMPs) are voluntary guidelines to help maintain and protect the physical, chemical, and biological integrity of waters of the State as required by the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, the Alabama Water Pollution Control Act, the Clean Water Act, the Water Quality Act, and the Coastal Zone Management Act.

Responsibility for the environmental effects of a forest operation includes all parties involved in the authorization, planning, or implementation of the operation. The responsible parties may include the landowner(s) and/or any involved professional forestry practitioner(s), such as forest resource managers, timber purchasers, loggers, vendors, forest engineers, or others.

A "draft" copy of ALABAMA'S BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR FORESTRY 1992" is now being reviewed by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management and the Environmental Protection Agency.

The final document will be implemented by the Alabama Forestry Commission. It has the responsibility to provide education for all responsible parties. The State Board of Registration urges all forestry professionals and specifically Registered Foresters to support the implementation of Alabama's BMPs. - Editor.

Life is a journey without a roadmap. Death is the extension of travels into eternity. While we live for the present, our reward will be 'life eternal'. We journey knowing that relationships with friends will end. We take a fresh breath knowing that after death we will meet our friends. These words are dedicated to our missing friend named within the curtains of our IN MEMORIAM.



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Office Manager
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Contractor/Editor
Wilbur B. De Vall

BOARD ACTION ON VIOLATIONS/Immediate and Effective

James R. Lowe, Chairman
Violations Committee

Section 34-12-9, Article 1, 1975 Code of Alabama, grants power to the Board to revoke the license of any registrant who is found guilty by the Board of gross negligence, incompetency, or misconduct in the practice of forestry. The Code appears in the Roster of Registered Foresters, issued biennially in even-numbered years. During each quarterly meeting, the Board considers and acts on reported violations.

The Board reviewed two (2) new cases during its quarterly meeting, January 29, 1992. In addition, two (2) pending cases were closed after it was determined that all stipulations imposed by the Board on the violators had been met. Three (3) cases were carried over pending receipt of additional information and will be reviewed during the regular quarterly meeting scheduled for April 29, 1992.

OBJECTIVES OF FOREST POLICIES/A Mini-editorial

(Adapted from A. C. Worrell, A Reading)

The purpose of a society in establishing policies about what its members do is to try to assure that their actions will contribute as much as possible toward some ends which the society deems desirable. Before the society can intelligently establish such policies, it must have a clear idea of the ends it wishes to attain. It also must understand the possible effects on these ends of the actions which it seeks to control through the policies.

A policy is a means to some end, and its effectiveness can only be judged in terms of those ends. Many of the ends toward which policies are aimed are desirable only because they in turn become means toward the achievement of other ends.

The objectives of forest policies are often not clearly stated and in many cases are not even clearly known. It is not uncommon to bypass a logical process of reasoning from ends to means. This cannot be entirely overcome for reasons which show up in the policy-formation process. Confusion about objectives leads to many difficulties. It is desirable that the objectives of forest policies and of other policies which affect or conflict with them be made as explicit as possible.

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BOARD BEGINS NEW YEAR/Challenges Ahead

Robert Nonnemacher was appointed to a five-year term on the Board by Governor Hunt to fill the vacancy left when Charles Walsh's term expired. Bob attended his first meeting January 29th.

Six applicants were approved for examination and six were approved for license. (See page 4). Three Forestry Interns were certified bringing to 514 the number approved in this category. The Board reviewed applications for reciprocity. One was denied for lack of experience and two were granted based on their having a valid license in the state of Mississippi.

Nonnemacher was appointed chairman, Rules and Regulations Committee, and was given other assignments. The chairmen of all Standing and Special committees are named on page 4.

Following the reading of the report, submitted by Waymon Paul, Chairman of the Finance and Administration Committee, the Board discussed its financial status. It was the consensus of the Board that fees would have to be increased, effective in 1993. The following fee rates, unanimously approved by motion, will be: 1) Application-registration fee \$50, 2) Renewal fee \$25, and 3) License Replacement fee \$10. The \$5 fee currently charged for re-examination will stay at the same rate.

Alternative ways of reducing administrative costs, were discussed. The Board officially instructed the Editor, The REGISTERED FORESTER, to submit camera-ready, word-processed copy to the printer rather than have it type set as in the past. This issue, therefore, is the final product. Your comments to the Board would be welcome. This has eliminated charges for type setting and graphics. Only halftones remain as an expense prior to printing. Mailing labels are sent to the printer on a computer disk and the final copies are packaged by zip codes ready for mailing.

A major expenditure, in alternate even-numbered years, is that required by law in connection with printing of the Roster. Those who are reading this paragraph may already have their copy of the Roster. It is essentially in its previous format. Changes in the future may be made after the Continuing Education requirement has been in effect.

Six copies of the 1991 revision, Administrative Manual, were presented by De Vall to the five board members and office manager. It brings up to date the sequential items, such as meetings, motions, and board members, and provides revisions made in policy and procedures since the Manual was first prepared in the early 1960's.

BOARD AWARDS PLAQUE FOR SERVICE

Wilbur De Vall was recognized for twenty years of service to the Board as editor, The REGISTERED FORESTER, official newsletter of the Board. The first issue appeared in August 1971. The award was presented by former Board member Frank E. Jones, and a student of Professor De Vall's, during an awards luncheon of the Southeastern Society of American Foresters, meeting in Orange Beach, Alabama. De Vall was appointed a member of the Board in 1958 by then governor, Jim Folsom. The Auburn professor served on the Board for 29 years. Of these years, 13 were as Board chairman.



ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE/Not Trivia

Your Alabama Board of Registration expressed its concern about issues of both National and State importance. Although it may be too late to file statements relative to the "wetland" issue, foresters are being urged to keep up with developments concerning timberlands as described by the Corps of Engineers in its 1989 Manual.

Of equal concern to the Alabama Board, was a press release in an Alabama newspaper which read "Foreigners Invest in Alabama Timber Holding". Dated Washington, D.C. and written by Michael Brumas, Washington correspondent, the article cited statistics of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Agricultural landholdings by country (in acres) were given as Germany, 756; Neherlands Antilles, 20,814; United Kingdom, 23,524; Canada, 192,854; and all others 156,957. What all of this means is subject to interpretation of the reader. It seems to indicate that foreigners own a "chunk" of Alabama! The extent of foreign holdings in Alabama increased nearly 100,000 acres during the last year. Put in another perspective, foreign interests owned 1.4% of the state's privately held agricultural land as of December 31, 1990. While U.S. firms own about 62% of the reported foreign holdings, the Board felt that foresters should know the facts and be prepared to interpret them to their public, should the occasion arise. - Editor.



ROSTER UPDATE

Please keep the Roster information shown below until you receive your 1992 edition. All applicants were licensed on January 29, 1992.

The Summer 1991 issue of The REGISTERED FORESTER identified the number of foresters enshrined in the Alabama Foresters' Hall of Fame with the schools awarding the first degree in forestry. Georgia was credited with 8 which should have been 7. Omitted was Colorado State University with 1. (Thank you R.F. #204 for calling this to our attention.)

The MISSISSIPPI FORESTER, Official Publication of the Board of Registration for Foresters in that State, indicates that the Board now has a part-time secretary. The Board has authorized an official Embossing Seal for registrants who wish to purchase one. Mississippi now has a limited number of 'license plates' which resemble the official Mississippi plate but which display "Registered Forester" in bold letters with the word Mississippi underneath. There is a charge for this professional plate.

Mississippi like Alabama had Continuing Education forced on it by the state legislature. Questions are still asked in both states as to 'why the requirement'. Alabama is now in the process of a 'learning experience' as the C.E. requirement must be earned to validate licenses of Registered Foresters for the 1993 year. The Mississippi Board provides complete information about its Continuing Education requirement in its Roster of Registered Foresters.

A financial statement was run for the first time in The REGISTERED FORESTER, Fall 1991 issue. Your Board reached a consensus that a similar statement would be run once per year in an issue when the financial condition of the Board would be meaningful. Elsewhere in this issue you will read about the changes in fees to overcome impending indebtedness. One of the major expenditures of funds by the Board is the Roster of Registered Foresters. Printing in even-numbered years, using computer-generated copy, still requires an expenditure of about \$10,000. Is your copy worth the 'per copy' price? In Georgia, only a computer print-out is available for a charge of 2¢ per name! - Editor.

Name and Address	License No.
Bush, Charles E., III..... President Canal Forest Resources Business: 9140 ArrowPoint Blvd #370 Charlotte, NC 28273 Phone: 704/527-6780 Home: 4521-108 Hampton Ridge Drive Charlotte, NC 28210 Phone: 704/553-9859	1466
Fialko, Leonard R..... Forester I Alabama Forestry Commission Business: Route 3 Box 147 Evergreen, AL 36401 Phone: 205/578-3226 Home: P. O. Box 206 Evergreen, AL 36401 Phone: 205/578-4356	1465
Ingalls, Christopher K..... President Magbel Investment Group Business: 3396 Gilmer Avenue Montgomery, AL 36081 Phone: 205/834-5587 Home: 3396 Gilmer Avenue Montgomery, AL 36081 Phone: 205/834-5587	1464
Ingraa, Jeffrey W..... Forester Larson & McGowin, Inc. Business: P. O. Box 2143 Mobile, AL 36652 Phone: 205/438-4581 Home: 407 N. Ingleside Avenue Fairhope, AL 36532 Phone: 205/928-1737	1468
Littrell, John E..... Senior Forester Bowater Woodlands Business: RR 2 Box 2535 Oneonta, AL 35221 Phone: 205/623-3773 Home: Jefferson Avenue Apts. #3 Oneonta, AL 35221 Phone: 205/274-2607	1469
Thomas, Mark W..... Vegetation Specialist American Cyanamid Business: 1302 Gardens Place Hoover, AL 35216 Phone: 205/733-0477 Home: 1302 Gardens Place Hoover, AL 35216 Phone: 205/733-0477	1467



LOUISIANA TRYS AGAIN/without Success

"To license or not is a hot question" was the caption given to a four-page article in FORESTS & PEOPLE, Second Quarter 1991 issue. House Bill 1786 was deferred for a 'year's study'. Steve Templin, Chairman, Louisiana's Society of American Foresters group and proponents said the Bill would improve both the image and competency of foresters, and possibly provide an economic benefit to the public. Opponents, including the Louisiana Producers Association, saw the Bill as a potential threat to their jobs or as completely unnecessary. The differences in opinion were sufficient to kill the Bill for one year.

Thanks to a Registered Forester, Alabama License No. 299, a copy of the subject article was reviewed during the January 1992 meeting of the Board. It was the consensus of the Board that foresters licensed in Alabama support the efforts of the SAF, Louisiana Forestry Association, Louisiana Chapter, Association of Consulting Foresters, and the Louisiana Forestry Commission, in their quest to have a foresters' registration and licensing bill passed during the next session of the legislature. The deferred Bill was in the hands of the House Agriculture Committee of which Francis Thompson was chairman. Those who read this paragraph and desire to make their support known should contact one or all of the following: C. A. Vandersteen, Executive Director, Louisiana Forestry Association, Paul Frey, State Forester, Louisiana Forestry Commission, or Jeff Hughes, Consulting Forester. - Editor.