

MISSOURI FORESTRY NEWSLETTER



Missouri Society of American Foresters

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The Top Ten Environmental Benefits of Forestry

1. Forestry is bringing back forests.

Until the 1920s, forests were often logged and abandoned. Now, across the country an average of 1.7 billion seedlings are planted annually. That translates into six seedlings planted for every tree harvested. In addition, billions of additional seedlings are regenerated naturally.

2. Forestry helps water quality.

Foresters carefully manage areas called watersheds (areas where we collect our drinking water) and riparian zones (land bordering rivers, streams, and lakes). These are places where maintaining water quality is the primary concern for foresters. Forests actually help to clean water and get it ready for us to drink. The trees, the soil, and bacteria are all part of this process. Forest cover protects and nurtures the soils that are the key to water retention, filtering, and quality.

3. Forestry offsets air pollution.

Foresters nurture forests, which are sometimes called "the lungs of the planet." One mature tree absorbs approximately 13 pounds of carbon dioxide a year. For every ton of wood a forest grows, it removes 1.47 tons of carbon dioxide and replaces it with 1.07 tons of oxygen.

4. Forestry helps reduce catastrophic wildfires.

At the turn of the century, wildfires annually burned across 20 to 50 million acres of the country each year. Through education, prevention and control, the amount of wildfires has been reduced to about two to five million acres a year - a reduction of 90%. By marking and removing excess fuels, such as underbrush and some trees, foresters can modify forests in order to make them more resilient to fire.

5. Forestry helps wildlife.

Foresters employ a variety of management techniques to benefit wildlife, including numerous endangered species. For example, thinning and harvesting create conditions that stimulate the growth of food sources for wildlife. Openings created by harvesting provide habitat for deer and a variety of songbirds. Thinning can be used to accelerate growth and development of older trees that are favored by owls and other species. In order to enhance salmon habitat, foresters also carry out strategic tree plantings and monitor forest health along streams in order to keep the water cool and reduce sediments.

6. Forestry provides great places to recreate.

Foresters manage forests that provide recreational benefits to communities. Forests are important areas for such recreationists as birdwatchers, hikers, nature photographers, horseback riders, skiers, snowmobilers and campers. And because foresters put water values high on their list of priorities, the rivers and lakes in forested areas provide such recreational opportunities as fishing, canoeing and rafting.

7. Forestry benefits urban environments.

Urban foresters manage forests and trees to benefit communities in many ways. Forests in urban areas reduce stormwater runoffs, improve air quality and reduce energy consumption. For example, three well-placed mature trees around a house can cut air-conditioning costs by 10-50 percent.

8. Forestry provides renewable and energy efficient building products.

Foresters manage some forests for timber and produce - a renewable resource because trees can be replanted. Other building materials, such as steel,

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**Missouri Forestry
Newsletter**

**Missouri Society of
American Foresters**

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iron and copper, can be reused and recycled but not replaced. Wood is a renewable resource which, in addition to being recyclable, can be produced anew for generations to come on sustainable managed forestlands. Recycling and processing wood products also requires much less energy than does the processing of many other nonrenewable materials.

9. Forestry helps family forests stay intact.

Foresters help family forestland owners, who own 54 percent of all the forests in the US, understand the benefits of managing their forests in an environmentally friendly manner. Better management of private forests means that those forests will remain healthy and productive. Many endangered species spent at least part of their time on private land, more than 80 percent of our nation's total precipitation falls first on private lands and 70 percent of eastern watersheds run through private lands.

10. Forestry is good for soils.

Foresters and natural resource managers are dependent on forest soils for growing and managing forests and, to a large extent, forest soils are dependent on resource professionals and managers. Foresters' success in growing forests and producing forest products is dependent on their ability to understand soil properties and to then match species with soils and to prescribe activities that not only promote forest growth but also enhance and protect soil productivity and prevent soil erosion.

SAF Council Notes

Bob Cunningham, District IX Council Representative

Greetings to all SAF members in District IX:

My term as your Council representative officially began in January 2004. Activities during the past few months have been quite interesting. I have a lot of confidence in the leadership of President John Bueter, and Vice-president John Helms after attending my first Council meeting as a voting member last February.

Council duties typically involve a variety of responsibilities beyond the interactions with the state societies. Starting with 2004, I will be serving on the Council Strategic Planning Committee. Each year, Council reviews the SAF Strategic Plan for its effectiveness and amends it as necessary. For those of you that are unfamiliar with the plan, I urge you to take a look at it. It has appeared a

number of times in the Forestry Source and can so be seen on SAF's website, www.safnet.org. I welcome your comments and suggestions on how we can make the plan more effective.

So why is the plan so important? It is a mechanism to help unite all entities within SAF under a common goal of achieving SAF's mission. Currently, the plan contains six strategic outcomes: 1) A strong, forward-thinking organization, 2) Enhanced services to landowners and employers, 3) Enhanced service to society at large, 4) Effective engagement in forest policy, 5) Enhanced professional education, performance, and leadership capability, and 6) Development of sound stewardship of SAF's resources. All of Council's agenda items are developed around the strategic outcomes. The House of Society Delegates organizes their efforts in the same fashion. I encourage each state society within District IX to use the plan to focus their annual activities.

There are a number of challenges facing SAF. Most of us have either felt or seen the adverse impacts caused by a slowed economy. Forest industries are downsizing their forester numbers as they sell off timber holdings. State and federal agencies are struggling with reduced budgets. Student enrollment in natural resources fields continues to drop. SAF membership fell by over 500 in 2003.

What can be done? Changing the economy is beyond our control. In difficult times, those who search for opportunities rather than problems will attain the most success. If SAF's membership is declining, then do not ask yourself why. Ask the member that dropped out instead. A personal contact is still the best tool for building membership and great programs.

The Presidential Field Forester Award is another great opportunity that no one should miss. Since 2000, one field forester has been recognized annually from each of the eleven voting districts. Please take time to nominate someone that has dedicated his/her career to the application of forestry on the ground. All recipients will be recognized at the SAF National Convention in Edmonton. The deadline for submitting applications is May 31st. Additional information is available at <http://www.safnet.org/who/ffaward.cfm>.

After a one-year absence, the SAF Leadership Academy is returning this May to the Lied Conference Center in Nebraska City, Nebraska. Having attended several past academies, I can attest to the excellence of this program. Some of

you may be reading this after the registration deadline has passed. Note however that Council is encouraging future academies and they are open to all SAF members. Ask a Leadership Academy graduate if it was worthwhile. Most will tell you that it was one of the best experiences of their SAF career.

Do you have any thoughts or comments about SAF? Send a note to Bob Cunningham, P.O. Box 138, West Plains, MO 65775, or bob.cunningham@mdc.mo.gov. If you do not have time for letters, then give me a call at 417-255-9561, ext 225. Take care.

Winter Meeting Minutes

Terry Truttman, Secretary/Treasurer

The winter meeting of the Missouri Society of American Foresters was held January 29, 2004 at Tan-Tar-A Resort, Osage Beach. The meeting was called to order by Chair Greg Hoss at 3:30 p.m.

Greg Hoss recognized all the Forestry students and welcomed them to the meeting. Meeting minutes of the fall meeting were approved.

Dan Downing spoke about the Show Me Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society's upcoming workshop in Jefferson City on March 24 and 25, 2004.

Committee Reports

Audit - Doug Young

The Treasurer's records were checked and approved.

Communications - Mike Hoffmann

No report

Council, Fellows and Awards - Tom Draper

They are working on nominating a Fellow. The committee would also like to form a committee of past Fellows to be the Fellows Nominating Committee. They will be working on a national nomination for the Young Foresters Award.

Education - Josh Shroyer

The committee is trying to get contacts for each agency to reduce work load and speed up CFE responses. They are also trying to get the training credits listed ahead of time. This year's conference will count for 8 Category 2 credits or if you go to the Pine and Oak workshop, then 2 hours of Category 1 and 6 hours Category 2 credits. The committee members are: MDC,

Wade Conn and Matt Jones; NRCS, Joe Alley and Josh Shroyer; Consultants, Shelby Jones; Extension, Hank Stelzer, and would like volunteers from the Forest Service or any others. Josh explained how the SAF and Certified Foresters CFE hours and credits worked.

Forest Science - John Kabrick

No report

Historian - Greg Hoss

No report

Membership - Tim French

Members include Larry Lackamp, Josh Stevens, Steve Paes and Lisa Allen. They need committee members, mentors and sponsors. This year will be a new and exciting year for MOSAF and should be for member recruitment. Tim had two membership requests at this Conference.

MNRC Committee - Mike Huffman

1,001 registrations at this time

Natural Areas - Steve Paes

Members of the committee have been in contact with Mingo Wildlife Refuge (USFWS) to explore the possibility of nominating several bottomland forest types as SAF Natural Areas. We plan to complete the process during this year.

Two agenda items were discussed:

1) An action plan was developed to nominate bottomland forest types at Mingo Wildlife Refuge. These forest types are not presently represented as SAF Natural Areas. Paes will arrange a date with the USFWS for a tour of the sites for committee



In 2003 Missouri SAF elected Bruce Palmer as a Fellow in the Society. Chair Greg Hoss presented Palmer with his Fellow certificate at the winter meeting.

members. As much paper work as possible will be filled out ahead of time to maximize our time in the woods on the day of the tour. The date is to be between spring fire season and summer mosquito season. The committee's deadline is to have the process completed by the fall meeting.

2) Signing Natural Areas was discussed. The committee agreed that the NA's should be signed. Paes will contact the national office to see if a sign already exists. If not, the committee will develop a sign and contact NA landowners for permission to place signs at access points.

Newsletter - Bruce Palmer

More than \$1,000 in printing and postage was saved in past year by converting to an electronic newsletter. Our email distribution list works as long as we have current email addresses for everyone. If you change email addresses please let the Newsletter Editor know so you won't miss any news from MOSAF. The distribution list is also used to quickly notify members of other items of interest. Articles for the spring issue of the newsletter are due April 1.

Program - Dave Larsen

The committee met informally during setup for the MNRC meeting. Committee members include Dave Larsen, Gary Smith, Bruce Palmer, John Kabrick and Tod Kinerk. Bruce Palmer suggested a program he and Hank Stelzer were planning on forest taxation. Bill Hoover would be the speaker. The forest taxation session would be this year's technical meeting. Also the committee suggested that now that MOFEP is 14 years old and 7 years past the first treatments, it is time to revisit some of the stands and see what can be learned from the treatments. A fall meeting will be planned in Van Buren with possibly a workday at the Forest Heritage Center on Thursday. Joe Walker sent out a survey of topics for meetings and the responses listed: traditional forest product information, non-timber forest products and sustainability and certification as popular topics. These suggestions will be used to guide future meetings. Several inquiries on possible places for the 2005 meetings are being considered based on these suggestions.

Policy and Legislation - Brian Brookshire

Highlighted a Resolution in the Missouri Senate, Logger Licensing, the Mark Twain planning process, and a push to make all log measurements in cubic feet.

Resolutions - Ralph Allison

No report

Special Funds - Tom Ronk

For the second straight year we have set a record for Special Funds. Last year we made \$1,618 at this event and this year we exceeded our goal by making \$2,045. Much of the credit goes to the SAF membership that took the time and energy to donate items, work the booth, solicit donations, etc. Thanks to Kristen Goodrich who won the Blackjack Award for soliciting over \$230 in contributions. Also, congratulations to Lisa Allen who won the sassafras paddle and Larry Lackamp for winning the Stihl chainsaw.

Tellers - Joe Walker

No report

National Office - Rita Neznok, Associate Director of Policy

Spoke of changes in personnel at the National level, the Leadership Academy, Acquisitions Editor for the Journal of Forestry, National Policy, training and weights and measures.

SAF Council - Bob Cunningham

Discussed the National and State opportunities for all in the SAF organization, fiscal responsibilities (budget), and the Strategic Plan.

Agency Reports

Department of Conservation - Bob Krepps

Mentioned an intern program and gave a retirement plaque to Wally Brumfield who worked with MDC from 1985 to 2004.

Extension - Hank Stelzer

Spoke about the upcoming Tree Farm Conference and Tree Farm certifications.

Missouri Consulting Foresters Association - Shelby Jones

They are 46 members strong and will have their annual meeting on February 19-20th.

Old Business

Last year we donated \$300 to the state Envirothon for T-shirts. The Executive Committee approved the donation again this year.

New Business

Long Range Planning Committee will develop a strategic plan. There will be opportunities for all members to be involved. Other considerations are a possible project of planting trees with Habitat for Humanity houses, length of terms for elected posi-



tions, SAF name recognition through shirts and caps at events and recruitment to colleges for Forestry careers.

Ann Koenig was commended on a good job with the student job fair at the conference. Gene Brunk recommended support for the National Office. Bruce Palmer was elected Fellow this year.

Motion was made by Gene Brunk to adjourn, seconded by Bruce Palmer.

Natural Areas Committee

Steve Paes, Chair

The Natural Areas Committee of MOSAF has had the responsibility of evaluating nominations of forest cover types as SAF natural areas. To date, the Committee has approved 14 natural areas representing 15 forest types. The publication *Forest Cover Types of the United States and Canada* is used to define the different cover types. Some types require almost pure stands and others only require a plurality. For example, the white oak forest type must be at least 80% white oak while the post oak-blackjack oak type only needs these two species to make up 50% of the stocking.

The MOSAF natural areas range in size from a 3-acre sassafras-persimmon forest type to an 1800-acre island in the Missouri River with a cottonwood forest type. Ownership is also varied. Several of the areas are privately owned as well as MDC, USFS, COE and University of Missouri ownership.

MOSAF natural areas are often confused with the Designated State Natural Areas. SAF areas are the best example of a forest type. The State Natural Areas are “the best examples of a natural community from a bio-diversity stand point.” Perhaps adding to the confusion is that several SAF natural areas are within the boundaries of a State Natural Area.

The Natural Areas Committee plans to consider the nominations of several bottomland forest types this spring at Mingo NWR. We hope to do the work after fire season but before mosquito season, if such a time period exists in the swamps of SE Missouri. If you want to join us in the swamps, or want to know more about a natural area near you, contact me at 573-996-2557.

Special Funds Committee

Tom Ronk, Chair

I have finalized my records on our fund raiser at the MNRC meeting at TanTarA. I am happy to announce that for the second straight year we have set a record for SAF Special Funds. Last year we made \$1,618 at this event and this year we exceeded our goal by making \$2,045. Much of the credit goes to you, the SAF membership, that took the time and energy to donate items, work the booth, solicit donations, etc. I would like to thank Kristen Goodrich who won the Blackjack Award for soliciting over \$230 in contributions.

At the risk of forgetting someone, I would like to thank the following SAF members for donating items for the raffle and silent auction: Bob Krepps, Dennis Rhoades, Duane Parker, Gary Smith, Steve Spezia, Mike Hoffmann, Jennifer Battson, Bob Cunningham, Lorren Leatherman, Shelby Jones, Doug Wallace, Bruce Palmer, Bill Altman, David Massengale, Lynn Barnickol and J.L. Buck. If I have forgotten someone, please let me know for my records. Also, congratulations to Lisa Allen who won the Sassafras Paddle and Larry Lackamp for winning the Stihl Chainsaw.

Education Committee

Josh Shroyer, Chair

The MOSAF Education Committee is here to help with your continuing forestry education needs. The biggest function this committee performs for the members is the awarding and tracking of all Category 1 and 2 CFE units that are given in Missouri. To better serve our members, we have expanded the size of the committee. If you have



Ralph Allison digs deep in his wallet to buy raffle tickets at the SAF booth during the MNRC. Tom Ronk, David Massengale and other members convinced conference attendees to part with more than \$2,000 for SAF special funds.

any questions or are just looking for a point of contact to send training agendas for approval, you may contact any one of the committee members listed below:

Hank Stelzer – MU Extension
Wade Conn – MDC
Shelby Jones – MCFA
Joe Alley – NRCS
Matt Jones – MDC
John DePuy – FS

For those of you putting on trainings that may qualify for Category 1 or 2, please get your agendas to us as soon as possible. If you get them to us before the training, we can have the award letter outlining the hours earned back to you to hand out at the training. This way it is more efficient for everyone involved. Any questions please give me a call or contact one of the Committee Members who will be happy to answer your questions. We will try to update the web site list of CFE's on a quarterly basis.

Nominating Committee

Bob Cunningham, Chair

Have you ever contemplated running for a Missouri SAF officer position? Or, did you ever wonder what was the job involved? If these were some of your questions, then your MOSAF Nominating Committee would like to hear from you.

Candidates for the fall elections are typically chosen before September 1st. Often, members of nominating committee spend a great deal of time calling potential candidates to find out who is willing to serve. MOSAF is a large organization and it is impossible to ferret out everyone that may be interested. After all, good prospects could be overlooked.

If you are interested in serving MOSAF as an officer, then contact any member of your nominating committee:

Bob Cunningham
Bob.Cunningham@mdc.mo.gov
417-255-9561 x 225

Steve Spezia
Steve.Spezia@mdc.mo.gov
636-300-1953 x 308

Doug Young
Doug.Young@mdc.mo.gov
417-522-4115 x 3112

Forest Science

Sudden Oak Death Update

Bruce Moltzan

It has been announced that a major nursery in Southern California was found to have plants infected with Sudden Oak Death (S.O.D.) caused by *Phytophthora ramorum*. In addition, a mail order nursery with a large distribution also has confirmed diseased plant material, while surrounding nurseries await pending confirmation at this time.

In Missouri, several nurseries as well as many homeowners have received shipments from these infected nurseries increasing the likelihood of introduction of this pest to our state. The two California nurseries were found to have the disease



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during routine surveillance activities and are the first reports outside of the quarantined counties, namely beyond the Bay Area, where it was first discovered in 1993. For additional information visit:

<http://www.suddenoakdeath.org/>

http://www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/pubs/pest_al/sodeast/sodeast.htm

The purpose of this article is to alert you to the potential for questions surrounding this disease as the USA Today carried a story on S.O.D. March 17, 2004, in addition to several other reports that were circulated on the AP service.

Currently, we now know of 11 nursery locations in Missouri who received S.O.D. suspect infected stock via traditional shipments and 76 homeowner locations who received direct shipments via mail order. All stock was from two infected nursery locations in California: Monrovia Nursery, Azusa, Los Angeles County and Specialty Plants, Inc, San Marcos, San Diego County and was subsequently shipped to many locations across Missouri.

Plants of concern include Camellias, Rhododendron, and Viburnum. However, at this time only Camellias have been reported to have been shipped to Missouri. The USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) reports plants shipped via mail order in November and December 2003 from Specialty Plants were found to be bonsai Camellias, and suspect that the plants are likely to still be growing indoors. Introduction of *P. ramorum*-infected nursery stock outside of the West Coast has NOT been confirmed - only suspected.

Even if infected plants were shipped to high risk areas in the East, establishment is not assured. Missouri's risk has been placed at the moderate level because of the large oak resource in the state. However, putatively susceptible hosts and environmental conditions are present, and prudent action is warranted. Presently, the state departments of agriculture are involved in tracing the origin and destination of potentially infected stock in order to target detection surveys and eradication measures in nurseries. More information will be forthcoming as this story develops.

Ecosystem-Scale Carbon and Water Flux at the Baskett Area

The University of Missouri, Environmental Sciences Division of Oak Ridge National Laboratory and Atmospheric Turbulence Diffusion Division of NOAA are collaborating on a research project at the Baskett Research and Education Area near Ashland that will measure the carbon and water balance of Missouri's oak-hickory forest on a large scale.

This Department of Energy-funded study, an addition to an existing network of "Ameriflux" sites, will deploy a 100 foot tower above the canopy of oak-hickory forest at the area. On the tower will be sophisticated meteorological instruments to measure temperatures, humidity, wind direction and speed, CO₂ and water vapor content above the canopy ten times per second in a technique known as eddy covariance analysis. These data can be used to estimate the CO₂ and water vapor exchange of up to 250 acres of forest, giving an ecosystem-level answer to when forests are sources and sinks of CO₂.

The eddy covariance measurements will be used in conjunction with detailed analyses of photosynthetic characteristics, stem respiration and transpiration, soil respiration and tree growth to better understand carbon exchange and water use in this forest. The project will undertake comparative studies with other AmeriFlux sites to examine how mechanisms controlling biophysical fluxes change along important climate and vegetation gradients. Also supported by the project are on-going, long-term successional studies at the BREA to document historical forest development and forest dynamics at the site.



A 100-foot stairway tower similar to this structure at Walker Branch Watershed, Tennessee will provide access to and above the canopy of the forest at BREA. The tower will be instrumented with meteorological and ecophysiological sensors.



Aerial view of the Ameriflux tower site in winter aspect looking west. The tower will be sited on the ridge of eastern redcedar just above the center of the image.

One of the unique advantages of this site is that it is located in the Ozark border region of south-central Missouri, an ecologically important transitional zone between the central hardwood forest region and the central grassland region of the United States. It also provides for sampling oak-hickory forests that are more xeric than the nearest deciduous forest sister sites in eastern Indiana and at the Walker Branch Watershed site of Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee. The project will contribute to one of the important goals of the North American Carbon Program (NACP) which is to quantify spatial and temporal distributions of fluxes of CO₂, CH₄, and CO in North America and adjacent oceans, and to attribute fluxes of these gases to responsible mechanisms.

Construction at the site has already begun and is expected to be completed in time for full-scale operation early in the 2004 growing season.

Anti-Tree Topping Effort Still Underway

Eugene L. Brunk

Phase II of the “Experts Agree, Don’t Top Your Tree” campaign recently ended and efforts for the 2004-2006 phases are underway. The goal of Phase II was to reach and educate a target audience of women homeowners about the destructive practice of tree topping. This was accomplished through the distribution of a revised informational brochure and poster, along with a variety of other actions. From August, 2002 – October, 2003, over

10,000 brochures and 200 posters were distributed, with activity reported in every MCFC Region of the State. In addition, feature articles and ads about topping appeared in a number of publications, from the statewide “Missouri Conservationist” to “Today’s Women,” a magazine widely distributed in communities throughout southwest Missouri.



Additionally, 200 tree purchasers were alerted to the tree topping problem through the Northeast Region’s tree tag project, five media outlets received basic information packets and one ad slick was published.

Phase III of the campaign is scheduled to last through 2006, and will focus on the following tasks:

- Emphasizing the right species in the Right Tree, Right Place information.
- Increasing efforts to reach “non-Tree Line Certified” utility companies and crews with proper pruning information.
- Development of materials to reach the next primary target audience (4-6th graders who are 9-12 years old) for distribution in 2005.
- Develop a video with the basic campaign information.

During 2004, the campaign will continue to target women homeowners with the basic information, while development of new materials is underway. Plans are also underway to make better use of websites and other informational outlets that are available, but which have not been fully-utilized to disseminate the information.

The “Experts Agree, Don’t Top Your Tree” campaign is a program sponsored by the Missouri Community Forestry Council and Forest Relief of Missouri. Other cooperators are the Missouri Department of Conservation, U.S. Forest Service, and Society of American Foresters. SAF’s support came through a Forester’s Fund Grant that helped with developing and printing some of the informational materials.

For more information about the campaign, visit the Community Forestry Council’s website at www.mocommunitytrees.com, or Missouri residents may call 1-877-40 NO TOP (1-877-406-6867).

Cunningham Honored With Karkhagne Award

Bob Cunningham, Private Land Services Regional Supervisor with the Department of Conservation, was honored by MOSAF with this year's Karkhagne Award. The Karkhagne Award represents the highest level of achievement and recognition of a Missouri forester. It is given to a Missouri SAF member who shows initiative and leadership as a professional forester. More importantly, it recognizes the recipient's work with citizens, civic groups and news media for a better understanding of the practice of forestry.

Bob has exceeded the mark in all of those categories just mentioned. He has been a member of the Society of American Foresters for 28 years and has served in all elected offices at the local level. Over the course of nearly 30 years, he has been involved with numerous SAF committees, both as the chairman and member.

On the national level, he has been involved with SAF's Leadership Academy for five years. This annual workshop trains new State Society officers to serve in leadership roles in their local SAF units. This past year he was on the Accreditation Review Team for Texas A&M University, and was just elected as the SAF Council representative from Region IX – representing foresters from 10 Midwestern states on SAF's national council.

Bob is a 27-year veteran of the Missouri Department of Conservation. He began his career as an assistant farm forester in Poplar Bluff. From there he moved to Piedmont as an assistant district forester; to Ellington as a resource forester; and then to West Plains as an assistant district forester and forestry district supervisor. He is presently a regional supervisor for the private land services division.

Bob is probably best known for his knowledge of Missouri's forest history. He spent untold hours researching and interviewing old timers to develop and produce "Grandin . . . The Big Mill and Tall Timber," a story of the town in Carter County that was the largest sawmill in the world in the early 20th century. Thousands of people have learned about Missouri's place in history and how our forests are being managed now through Bob's programs.

Bob's Grandin program began as a slide show and was eventually converted to a video production by the Conservation Department. It remains one of



Bob Cunningham was honored as this year's recipient of the Karkhagne Award. Mike Huffman made the presentation during the awards banquet at the MNRC.

the most popular videos the Department has ever released.

As a forester, you won't be surprised that Bob creates habitat for wildlife. But he also builds habitat for people – by serving on the Board of Directors of the West Plains Habitat for Humanity. He also volunteers on the Galloway Creek Advisory Board to the City of West Plains.

Bob's dedication and contributions to the forestry profession are held in the highest regard. Many people are involved with their professional societies at the local level. Some are involved at the national level. Others promote the understanding of their profession to the public. But few people are as dedicated as Bob in promoting forestry at the state and national levels, and with the public.

Upcoming Events

June 2-6. Midwest Wildfire Training Academy, Jefferson City. See www.muftrti.org/summer/.

June 17. Timber Tax Workshop (Spring Technical Meeting), Jefferson City. Contact: Bruce Palmer, 573/522-4115 x 3113, bruce.palmer@mdc.mo.gov.

October 2-6. Society of American Foresters/Canadian Institute of Forestry Joint National Convention, Edmonton, Alberta. Contact: Madelaine Morgan, SAF director of meetings and conventions; 301/897-8720 x 111. For more information, visit www.safnet.org/calendar/natcon.htm.

Recreation Fee Collects Over \$788,000

Mark Twain National Forest has now collected more than \$788,000 at recreation fee demonstration projects since they were first started in 1997. This total is as of February 2004.

The Recreation Fee Demonstration Pilot Program was temporarily approved by Congress in 1996 and has been renewed annually. The Fee Demonstration Pilot Program enables USDA Forest Service and other federal agencies to retain 95 percent of recreation user fees collected and invest them in the areas where the fees are collected. Recreation fees are normally returned to the Federal Treasury.

Mark Twain National Forest's Fee Demonstration projects include 125 miles of motorized trail at Chadwick Motorcycle and ATV use area near Springfield, started in 1997; 26 miles of motorized trail at Sutton Bluff Motorcycle and ATV use area near Centerville, started in 2000, and 8 recreation areas that were offered for private management through concessionaires but did not receive any concessionaire bids.

During 2003, fee demonstration sites generated more than \$190,000. In 1997, when fee areas were first implemented, a total of \$39,000 was collected.

The fees collected have been used to improve the two motorized trail systems, including trail harden-

ing and bridge construction. Since 1997, 21 bridges have been constructed; trail hardening using interlocking cement block, trail relocation out of stream beds and erosion has been stopped by the installation of rolling dips and water diversions on the trail. The purchase of 2 small mini bulldozers built specifically for trail construction and maintenance and one backhoe was facilitated by grants obtained using fee demonstration collections as matching money and volunteer time.

Cobb Ridge Campground, the trailhead for the Chadwick trail system, has also been significantly improved. Fees have helped pay campground expansion including a new water well, toilets, tables, grills and electrical hookups.

The motorized trail fees are \$5.00 per day or \$35 per year for a season pass. Mountain bikes using the area are also subject to a \$3.00 per day or \$20 per year fee for a season pass. Camping fees are \$8 a day for a non-electric single, \$10 for electric single, \$16 for non-electric double and \$20 for electric doubles.

Cunningham Elected to Council

Bob Cunningham, CF, of West Plains, regional supervisor of the private land services division of the Missouri Department of Conservation, has been elected to the governing board of the nation's largest forestry organization.

Cunningham began a three-year term January 1 on the Council, the 11-member governing body of SAF. He will represent SAF Voting District 9 (Great Plains, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky-Tennessee, Missouri, Ouachita and Ohio SAF).

"When addressing the challenges facing our forests today, it's important to know where you've been before you decide where you're going," says Cunningham. "In the late 19th and early 20th century, cut-and-run logging exploited Missouri's forests. Wise forest management has created the many forest values we enjoy today and it is foresters-in partnership with others in the forestry community and active citizens - who must lead the way to maintain these values in the future."

"I believe in the forestry profession because foresters are dedicated to sound forest management and conservation," says Cunningham. "Forests must be sustained through simultaneously meeting environmental, economic, and community aspirations and needs. What foresters do is vital because forests are a fundamental source of global health and human welfare."



A tired, but still smiling, group of runners survived the Fun Run at the Natural Resources Conference. This was the first Fun Run held at the conference.

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Edmonton to Host International Gathering of Foresters

The year's largest gathering of forest practitioners in North America will occur when forestry professionals from Canada and the United States meet October 26 in Edmonton, Alberta.

Organized under the theme "One Forest Under Two Flags," the program for this international gathering offers attendees new discoveries and insights about the forests that extend into both countries and will enhance the collegiality and camaraderie between forest practitioners on both sides of the border. The meeting will be organized by the Society of American Foresters (SAF) and the Canadian Institute of Forestry/Institut forestier du Canada (CIF/IFC).

"No one will go home disappointed," promises Canadian general cochair Brydon Ward.

"Edmonton is a modern city with a beautiful conference center overlooking our stunning river valley. We're on the doorstep of a vast northern wilderness containing the boreal forest, rich in history and mystery. Some of the world's largest wood products companies operate here, and we're also home to incredibly innovative forest researchers and scientists."

The meeting will offer numerous scientific and technical sessions and opportunities for professional development that are available nowhere else.

Sessions devoted to international forest management, North America's forest products marketplace, sustainable forestry, forest health, fire management, and ecological restoration have been

scheduled, and there will be a host of papers and posters on topics ranging from ecological forest management to enhanced fiber production.

The meeting will provide the opportunity for forest practitioners to discuss forest management practices, learn about the latest forestry research, and network with practitioners from across North America. By traveling to Alberta, practitioners will also receive a firsthand look at how western Canada has responded to management concerns in the boreal forest.

The boreal forest region of Alberta, an area that comprises 48 percent of the province, offers a great diversity of vegetation and wildlife. From the wetlands that surround the meandering Hay River to the lush mixed forests of aspen, pine, and spruce in the Lakeland area, the boreal forests of Alberta contain a variety of ecosystems that provide habitat to an astounding array of species, including moose, river otters, whooping cranes, and woodland caribou.

Meeting attendees will be pleased to know that the province of Alberta is home to a burgeoning forest products industry. According to the provincial government, manufacturing shipments of Alberta's forest products grew from less than \$1 billion in 1984 to more than \$4 billion in 1999. Once regarded as a producer of little more than commodity lumber, the forest products industry in Alberta has become a diversified sector that produces and exports lumber, pulp, fiberboard, engineered building products, and furniture.

Several technical field workshops and tours to several of the province's newest and most productive lumber mills are planned, as are outings to the region's leading forest research and development facilities.

The joint meeting between CIF/IFC and SAF will be the latest in a long series of meetings between the two national forestry organizations that began in Ottawa in 1930. More recent meetings have taken place in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1978; Quebec City in 1984; and Anchorage, Alaska, in 1994.

For more information about the CIF/IFC and SAF Joint 2004 Annual General Meeting and Convention, visit the SAF website at <http://www.safnet.org/convention/index.cfm> or the CIF/IFC site at www.cififc.org.

