



# RANDOM PLOTS



**NEWSLETTER**  
of the  
**N. C. STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR FORESTERS**  
Post Office Box 27393  
Raleigh, NC 27611  
919-847-5441

No. 46

February 2005

### New Fee Schedule Adopted

For the last three years the Board has faced a budget shortfall. To remain fiscally solvent, the Board recently adopted a new fee schedule for applications and renewals. A public hearing was held on September 30, 2004 to review the proposed new fees. The Board received several comments, most not welcoming the higher fees but supporting Board's recommendation. Effective January 1, 2005, renewal fees were increased from \$30/year to \$40/year. The application fee was raised to \$50.

The Registration for Foresters Act established a maximum renewal fee of \$50, and the new fee is therefore still below the maximum allowable. The increase in the application fee from \$35 to \$50 is the maximum allowed by law.

The new fee schedules will increase Board revenues by approximately \$9,500/year. The increased revenue will erase the current annual deficit (\$5,286 in fiscal year 2003-2004) and allow the Board to increase its reserves as recommended by its auditors.

### Examination Irregularities

During last registration examination in Morganton on August 27, 2004, the Examination Administrator confiscated

unauthorized materials from four individuals taking the Qualifying Examination. The materials contained answers to some of the questions on previous examinations. Some individuals were unaware that their "study guides" contained answers to previous exams. The Board voided the examination results of all four individuals and they will be required to re-take and pass the exam to become registered.

As a result of the incident, the Board has revised its examination policies. No materials other than printed, bound references will be permitted. Applicants are required to sign a pledge prior to taking the exam stating they have read and accept the examination procedures. Any violations of exam regulations will be reviewed by the Board and could result in permanent denial of registration.

The Board reminds all Registered Foresters that it is and has always been a violation of Board examination regulations to **copy OR discuss** the contents of an examination, before, during, or after an examination. Violating these rules could result in revocation of registration.

### Consulting Forester List

As a service to the citizens of North Carolina, the NC Division of Forest Resources maintains a list of consulting foresters practicing in North Carolina.

While reviewing the consulting foresters list, the Board found the list contained the names of two individuals who did not possess a current registration, as well as four individuals who had not filed a Consulting Forester Affidavit with the Board as required by law. As a result, the Board and the NC Division of Forest Resources have agreed on a new procedure to ensure the list only contains the names of individuals whose registration is current and who have filed an affidavit with the Board. Each year, the Board will provide the Division with a list of registered foresters who meet the qualifications of a consulting forester. Before ANY individual's name is placed on the list, the Division will obtain verification DIRECTLY from the Board that the individual's registration is current and the affidavit has been filed with the Board.

If you want to be listed as a Consulting Forester in North Carolina, be sure to renew your registration promptly and be sure your affidavit is properly filed.

### **From The Mountains To The Coast ?**

Do you practice forestry from Murphy to Manteo? Many consulting foresters check the "statewide" category when describing their services for the Division's list of consulting foresters. These consultants are telling landowners across North Carolina that they provide services in their county.

When a landowner contacts a consultant on the Division's list, the landowner rightfully assumes that the consultant can adequately and professionally represent the landowner's interests. As a consultant, you need to ask yourself the following questions: Are you familiar with local market conditions? Do you have a working relationship with area buyers and loggers? Do you know the appropriate techniques to regenerate the site? Can you conduct logging inspections as frequently as necessary?

If you can't answer "Yes" to all of these questions, it may be difficult to properly and effectively represent your client's interests. Canons #3, #6, and, #7 of the Code of Ethics

address this issue. Before you take that next job 200 miles from home, be sure you can provide the services your client has requested. If not, consider limiting the geographical area you serve.

### **New Registrants**

Since June 2004, 25 new Registered Foresters have been added to the roster. They are:

Edward A. LeRoy	#1526
James E. Lytton	#1527
Jason M. Lefler	#1528
William Hightower	#1529
John C. Miller	#1530
Freddie Davis, III	#1531
Aaron Lee Gay	#1532
Seth D. Gehman	#1533
Michael J. Harden	#1534
Roger D. Lynch	#1535
Gary Lee Pautz	#1536
Joshua P. Skidmore	#1537
Karl H. Steinbeck	#1538
Trent Duncan	#1539
Alexander Johnson	#1540
Brian R. Long	#1541
Thomas Sarno	#1542
Nancy Stairs	#1543
Gregory L. Bailey	#1544
Ashby B. Brown	#1545
Douglas Campbell	#1546
Ronald Dickson, Jr.	#1547
Robert Langdon Keels	#1548
James B. Rogers	#1549
Theodore Everett Titus	#1550

### **Forester Examinations**

The most recent examination for registration was given on August 27, 2004 in Morganton. Four individuals were disqualified (see page 1), and the scores of the remaining individuals are provided below:

	<u>Pass</u>	<u>Fail</u>
Pre-Qualifying (Level I)	0	1
Qualifying (Level II)	14	7

To become registered, all graduates with a forestry degree from a SAF-accredited school must pass the comprehensive Qualifying examination.

Individuals without a forestry degree must pass both the Pre-Qualifying (Level I) and Qualifying (Level II) examinations. The Pre-Qualifying examination is a closed book exam designed to test the knowledge approximating that obtained through graduation from a four-year curriculum in forestry.

The Board offers both examinations twice a year. The examination dates for 2005 are February 22, 2005 (Kinston, NC) and August 29, 2005 (Morganton, NC).

### **Registration By the Numbers**

The number of registered foresters now totals 954 (5 less than in 2003-2004). Of these foresters, 913 are active and 41 are retired. The number of consulting foresters changed very little: 261 RFs filed affidavits with the Board to qualify as Consulting Foresters (5 more than in 2003-2004). There are 715 RFs residing in North Carolina while 239 live in other states. There are 439 RFs who are also members of the SAF, of which 79 are SAF Certified Foresters.

### **Complaints**

The Board has taken the following action concerning complaints filed since June:

#### **Keith Nations** (Dillsboro, NC)

Mr. Nations, a procurement specialist with Gilkey Lumber Company, was representing himself as a forester without being registered. The Board notified both Mr. Nations and his employer that he was in violation of the Forester Registration Act and requested that he stop representing himself as a forester. Mr.

Nation and Gilkey Lumber Company acknowledged the error and have taken corrective action.

#### **Howard R. Gillis** (Kittrell, NC)

A complaint was filed regarding Mr. Howard Gillis, who was identified as a "forester" in a newspaper article published by the Courier Times of Roxboro. Mr. Gillis stated that he never identified himself as a "forester". He conducts business under the name "Carolina Timber Broker". The Board contacted the newspaper reporter who verified Mr. Gillis' statement. The Board took the opportunity to inform the reporter of the Forest Registration Act and requested that any subsequent references regarding "foresters" be consistent with the requirements of the registration law. No action was taken against Mr. Gillis.

The Board requests that all RFs be alert to violations of the registration law and report any infractions to the Board. The Board can only take action when a complaint is filed. The registration law must be fully and fairly enforced if it is to be effective.

The Board welcomes any comments or suggestions that you may have regarding the administration of the registration law.

### **White Paper**

In February 2004, the Board prepared an evaluation of the effectiveness of the current registration law. The Board's findings were summarized and distributed to all RFs. Since that time, the White Paper has generated considerable discussion concerning the current law and the possibility of amending it. The NC Division of the SAF provided a forum to discuss the issue at its 2004 summer meeting in Asheville. The NCSAF authorized a committee to review the matter and poll its membership to determine if there was support for pursuing further study. Based on presentations at a number of the SAF chapter meetings and the winter APSAF meeting last month, the NCSAF is in the process of preparing a position on the matter. Further

action, if any, will be decided by the NCSAF Executive Committee.

If you have any comments regarding the registration law you can address them to Derryl Walden (SAF Registration Committee Chairman) or this Board.

### **CFE Audit in Progress**

The Board is currently conducting its first audit of continuing education classes attended by registered foresters by cross referencing the attendance sheets submitted with registration renewals with the **attendance records** from course administrators. Continuing education courses are important in remaining current in forestry. A wide variety of courses, schedules, and price ranges are currently available to meet the CFE requirement. With a little prudent scheduling everyone should be able to take relevant courses, and not courses taken at the last minute just to meet the renewal deadline. Remember, these requirements benefit Foresters and the people we serve. Take it seriously and don't risk disciplinary action by the Board by trying to circumvent the system. The Board will audit CFEs next year as well.

### **Expired Registrations** **(Effective February 6, 2005)**

Listed below are the names of 37 individuals whose registrations expired June 30, 2004. Some of these individuals have retired, while others have changed careers, or moved. Some have allowed their registrations to lapse for failing to meet the CFE requirements. These individuals can no longer legally represent themselves as foresters or consulting foresters in North Carolina.

James E. Allen RF949	Roanoke Rapids, NC
Norman I. Boatwright, III RF1063	Florence, SC
George N. Boone, Jr. RF1378	Rock Hill, SC
Christopher T. Cobb RF 1020	Rocky Mount, NC
David C. Combs RF447	Carlton, GA
Charles E. Cook, III RF1022	Dublin, VA
Harry H. Crosby, III RF1504	Henrico, NC

Christopher B. Davidson RF1238	Savannah, GA
Britt A. Feldner RF1505	Conway, SC
Jeffrey M. Fleck RF664	Hopkins, SC
Kevin S. Fowler RF1496	Wake Forest, NC
Jonathan R. Glenn RF1167	Columbia, SC
King Tyson Harrell RF970	Burgaw, NC
Joseph O. Hemingway, Jr. RF1458	Clayton, NC
Thomas E. Huffman RF1282	Conover, NC
R. David Jarman, Jr. RF978	Garner, NC
William C. Jewell RF1404	Cornelius, NC
Christopher W. Jordan RF1192	Bear Creek, NC
Michael B. Kane RF818	Ridgeland, MS
James Edward Kerr, II RF599	Roanoke Rapids, NC
Todd A. Lotter RF803	Washington, NC
Wayne M. Majuri, Jr. RF1309	Georgetown, SC
R. Wayne McKenzie RF1068	Lauderdale, MS
James M. McLain RF1474	Conway, SC
William F. Milliken RF562	Columbia, SC
Stephen Richard Moore RF758	Cantonment, FL
Dennis E. Norton RF1199	Tallahassee, FL
Robert W. Norton RF1214	Supply, NC
Peter Ranalet RF934	Macon, GA
Lewis O. Rogers RF1052	Rocky Ford, GA
Virginia B. Russell RF1146	Raleigh, NC
Timothy Mark Seelman RF1054	Roanoke Rapids, NC
John C. Smith, Jr. RF399	Richmond, VA
George Tilley RF314	Hope Mills, NC
Frank M. Toney RF96	Louisburg, NC
Mark W. Waterman RF415	Watkinsville, GA
Todd A. Wilson RF654	Colonial Heights, VA

### **Continuing Education Reminder**

The Board reminds all registered foresters of the Continuing Forestry Education (CFE) requirements necessary to maintain their current registration.

Regulations require that every non-retired Registered Forester earn at least **10 hours of CFE per year** (6 SAF category 1, & 4 SAF categories 1, 2, 3, or 4), between July 1, 2004 and June 30, 2005. All retired foresters wishing to remain on registered status must earn at least 3 credit hours per year. RFs will be required to certify their CFEs when they renew their application. Any CFEs earned prior to July 1, 2004, cannot be used to satisfy the June 30, 2005 requirements.

**A copy of the CFE Contact Hours Notice (Category I Hours Only) MUST be submitted with your registration renewal.**

We have updated the information on the CFE page of the Board's web site. Please check it.

### **NCFA Develops ProLogger CE Programs**

The NC Forestry Association has developed a series of five programs to facilitate obtaining CE credits for the ProLogger program. The programs address water quality, SFI, equipment safety, and loss prevention control. The programs are available from the NCFA. The CE training sessions must have a sponsor and the material presented by a Registered Forester. For more information contact Roger Pyle at the NCFA office (919-834-3943).

The CE training sessions have been reviewed by the SAF CE Coordinator and approved for CFE credits. Be sure to check with the program sponsor concerning the CFE credit hours.

### **Electronic Mailings**

The Board recently began distributing information when possible to registered foresters via e-mail rather postal mailings. Last year the Board was required to contact all RFs regarding the public hearing concerning the proposed fee change. The Board sent notices electronically to more than 750 registered foresters who had provided the Board with their e-mail address. Anyone without an e-mail address was notified by regular mail. The Board realized savings of almost \$300 as a result.

This newsletter is also being distributed by e-mail where possible. The Board expects to save an additional \$400 as a result. If you receive a printed version of this newsletter, please consider providing the Board with your e-mail address. Your assistance will help the Board minimize its expenses and reduce the need to increase renewal fees. The dollar we save is yours!

### **2005 ASBORF Meeting**

The 2005 meeting of Association of Southeastern Boards of Registration for Foresters (ASBORF) will be held in Little Rock, Arkansas on May 9-10, 2005. Board members Mike Thompson (who currently serves as Secretary-Treasurer of ASBORF) and Richard Braham (who serves as Vice-Chairman) plan to attend and represent North Carolina.

### **Board Meeting Schedule**

The Board is scheduled to meet once a quarter in January, April, July, and October. Dates of Board meetings are posted on the website. The next Board meeting will be on April 7, 2005 in Laurel Springs.

### **The Koch's Corner**

I would like to take this time to thank you for your patience and understanding during my first few months in this position. I am enjoying working with the Board and being in contact with some familiar people.

I'd also like to remind you that the renewal period will be here before you know it. Don't forget to keep copies of your CFE contact hour notices for the Category 1 courses you have taken. You will need to send these forms with your renewal information at the end of June.

I am looking forward to working with you in the future. Please do not hesitate to call or email me if I may be of assistance.

*Sara Koch*

### **Board Web Page**

The web site of the State Board of Registration for Foresters provides RFs with instant access to various forms, current roster, registration information, past newsletters, Board member information, exam information, and continuing education opportunities.

***<http://members.aol.com/ncbrf/>***  
***E-mail address [ncbrf@aol.com](mailto:ncbrf@aol.com)***

We encourage all RFs to take advantage of this service.

We want to encourage all Registered Foresters to be advocates for a strong forestry profession.

If the Board or its members can be of assistance, please contact them directly or through the Board office.