



American Forest Foundation

# American Forest Foundation

## *NRCS State Conservationist Award for Forest Stewardship*

### **Background**

The American Forest Foundation is seeking nominations for the 2009 Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) State Conservationist Award for Forest Stewardship. This award recognizes NRCS State Conservationists and their staffs for outstanding technical and financial assistance to private forestland owners on forest conservation activities. Any individual, organization, agency, and others may nominate a State Conservationist for this award. Up to three State Conservationists may be recognized annually (one per NRCS Region: East, Central, and West).

- ❖ 2008 Awardees: Gus Hughbanks (Washington), Gary Kobylski (Alabama), Roger Hansen (Missouri)
  - Leadership Recognition given to Richard Coombe (East Region, Assistant Chief)
- ❖ 2007 Awardees: Terry Cosby (Ohio), Bill Gradle (Illinois), and Richard Sims (Idaho)
- ❖ 2006 Awardees: Dave White (Montana), Kalven Trice (Arkansas), and Tessa Chadwick (New Hampshire)

### **Nomination Criteria**

1. Forest Priorities
  - ❖ In what ways has NRCS administered financial and/or technical assistance in the state committed or allocated to specific forestry activities or projects?
  - ❖ In what ways has priority setting and other directives issued at state level been accomplished that recognize the value and impact of forest conservation?
  - ❖ To what extent are forest interests represented on the State Technical Committee and/or whether the State Technical Committee has formed a subcommittee to consider forestry issues and/or in counties or districts where forestry is prominent, and/or forest owners are well-represented on local work groups?
2. Partnerships
  - ❖ In what ways has the State Conservationist partnered with state forestry agencies and his/ her involvement with forestry programs and organizations?

Examples of partnering programs and organizations: AFF's Center for Family Forests (American Tree Farm System), Center for Environmental Learning (Project Learning Tree), Center for Conservation Solutions, Society of American Foresters, Association of Consulting Foresters, etc.
3. Leadership in Forest Management
  - ❖ Please describe any additional information where the nominee provided great leadership in forest owner assistance, technical or other contributions that have led to outstanding service to the forest landowner community in his/ her state.

### **Preparing & Submitting Nominations**

1. Prepare a written statement of nominee's accomplishments addressing the three evaluation criteria above, not to exceed 500 words.
2. Do not submit any attachments or other supporting materials, as all entries must stand equally.
3. Submit all nominations by **September 15, 2009**, to the American Forest Foundation, by e-mail [operations@forestfoundation.org](mailto:operations@forestfoundation.org) or fax to (202) 463-2461.

*The American Forest Foundation (AFF) is a nonprofit 501(C)(3) conservation and education organization that strives to ensure the sustainability of America's family forests for present and future generations. Our vision is to create a future where North American forests are sustained by the public which understands and values the social, economic, and environmental benefits they provide to our communities, our nation, and our world.*