

NAUFRP Executive Committee

March 7-8, 2011

Washington, D.C.

(Joint Meeting with the National Association of University Fisheries and Wildlife Programs)

NAUFRP: Tim White (President, Univ. of Florida), Randy Nuckolls (NAUFRP Washington Counsel), Janaki Alavalapati (Policy Chair, Virginia Tech), Rob Swihart (At-Large, Purdue Univ.) Joyce Berry (At-Large, Colorado State Univ., George Hopper (At-Large, Mississippi State Univ.), Peg Gale (Secretary-Treasurer, Michigan Tech Univ.), Barry Goldfarb (Southern Regional Rep., North Carolina State), Dan Robison (North Carolina State), Robert Brown (North Carolina State), Jim Johnson (International Chair, Oregon State Univ.), Bob Wagner (Northeastern Regional Rep, Univ. of Maine), Jim Allen (Education Chair, Northern Arizona Univ.), Pat Layton (Clemson University), Jim Zazcek (North Central Regional Rep, Southern Illinois Univ.), Kurt Pregitzer (Western Regional Rep., Univ. of Idaho), Kamran Abdollahi (Diversity Chair, Southern University), Joe McNeel (Extension Chair, West Virginia University), David Newman (SUNY), Keith Belli (Research Chair, Univ. of Tennessee), Steve Bullard (President Elect, Stephen F. Austin Univ.)

NAUFWP: Dan Edge (Oregon State), Eric Hallerman (Virginia Tech), John Hayes (Univ. of Florida)

Guests/Partners: Daina Apple (US Forest Service), Frank Boteler (NIFA), Eric Norland (NIFA), Wendy Fink (APLU), Ali Mohamed, Director of Environ. Systems in the Institute of Bioenergy, Climate and Environment, NIFA; Alex Friend, USDA FS R&D), Sherri Carroll, Director, (Extramural Agreements, USDA ARS); Jim Reaves, Deputy Chief, USDA FS R&D), Ken Williams, Chief CRU, USGS Cooperative Research Units; Robin O'Malley, USGS National Climate Change and Wildlife Center; Nadine Block, Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI); Jay Farrell, National Association of State Foresters; Tom Martin and Rita Neznec, American Forest Foundation; Dave Tenny, National Alliance of Forest Owners:

Comments from the President: Alan Ek and Perry Brown will not be joining us.

Changes to the Executive Committee structure: Past President now serves as the representative to APLU Board of Natural Resources (Hal Salwasser); With the Farm Bill coming up, President serves on the Budget Advocacy Committee of APLU; President-elect (Steve Bullard) serves as the McIntire-Stennis rep. (ATR Liaison)

Steve Bullard notes: Catalino Blanche should be added to the 50 yr celebration committee for McStennis. No opposition.

George Hopper moved to approve the Executive Committee minutes from October 26, 2010 in Albuquerque, NM with the noted changes; seconded by Keith Belli. George Hopper will note for Terri what changes needed on page 2. Meeting minutes were approved by voice vote.

Treasurer's Report, Peg Gale: A two-page hand-out dated March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011. These include a brief text summary and details on previous year budgets and actual income and expenses. We are doing well. Should the 1890's and new 1890's get letters of invitation? There were no responses from any of the 1890's programs on the invitations last year. Keith Belli indicates that it will take personal visits to get anywhere with them. Kamran suggests that we make a presentation to the 1890's program research council. The 1890's schools have a meeting in April. Approach the 1890's Association of Research Directors Carolyn Brooks is the contact there. Hand-out provides more detail on the ARD meeting in April. The Association is carrying forward about \$76K into 2011 as of December 31st. No further discussion on this.

Funding requests for 2011, Steve Bullard and Keith Belli: Working on the McStennis 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration: Bullard, Belli, Alvalapati, Norland, Blanche with Newman and Swihart. This will be funded through

non-competitive dollars. Catalino Blanche has requested funds for this year and next for the following: Video = \$15K and Conference = ~\$20k or more. NIFA is providing much of this money. Catalino is also working on funding for the road map for natural resources. Wendy Fink is the “glue” that’s holding all this together (per Frank Boteler). Looking at NIFA Conference grants. Also, looking at involving APLU in the effort. George Hopper asked when will we have a McStennis ATR meeting? Norland and Blanche will discuss, but wondering if there’s not a way to “dovetail” the meeting with the proposed Conference for McStennis in 2012. Half of the ATRs are Ag College Deans/Directors and more likely to attend an ATR meeting than a NAUFRP one. Not good to have it with the fall general assembly, due in part to the location of the fall 2011 SAF meeting.

**Action Items:** Two-page proposal – Develop a concept paper (Steve Bullard) for Catalino to use for the funding request. Add Eric Norland to replace Daniel Cassidy

Policy Committee, Janaki Alavapati: Janaki is working with APLU and the Forestry in the Farm Bill Coalition on the 2012 Farm Bill. At a Feb. 2011 APLU Committee meeting, it was made clear that they do not want to see ‘new’ in the next Farm Bill positions. McStennis does not need to be reauthorized. Discussion of wording of ‘appropriations authorization’. Current authority targets McStennis annual funding to be one-half that of the USFS R&D appropriation. APLU is proposing to make the America Samoa, Federated States of Micronesia and the Northern Marianas Islands eligible for McStennis funding. Do these areas have forestry programs? American Samoa has had McStennis funding but the others do not. The FS has some research activities going on in these areas (Jim Allen previously worked on some of those islands). Legally/legislatively they are 1862’s. When the 1890’s became eligible in the last Farm Bill, NAUFRP assumed USDA would have some criteria before they received funding but that did not seem to happen. Eric Norland said two of the 1890’s who have received funding did not submit subsequent proposals and they will receive no further funding. American Samoa is to loose funding. Keith suggested it is an opportunity for the 1890’s without forestry programs for collaboration. Comments were also that collaboration and synergy with the 1890s are of value. The Congressional Black Caucus is very powerful. Per Farm Bill McStennis appropriations language, Randy suggested it might be useful to include report language recognizing the value of the McStennis program in light of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. APLU will support RREA reauthorization at \$30 million. They also want to change the name of the Higher Education Grant Program. Janaki had wanted to broaden the Specialty Crops Program to include forestry, wood, agroforestry but he has learned that it would be difficult given the special interests who supported the original program. Will not try and add a ‘forestry target/percentage’ for AFRI – it would not be beneficial and there would be opposition from the Administration and APLU. George Hopper acknowledged the progress that has been made for forestry within the AFRI programs but doesn’t want to stop efforts. Frank Boteler discussed NIFA’s internal functioning and says forestry is being heard – keep doing what we are doing. **Motion** by Pat Layton to seek Farm Bill legislative language requiring a minimum of ten percent of funding for forestry in AFRI; seconded by David Newman. Discussion: APLU will not support, the Administration will oppose; remember the Ag Deans appropriations letter two years ago. **Action:** Randy recommends seeking appropriations report language recognizing the value of forestry and natural resources in AFRI. Pat withdrew her motion. Janaki reported APLU supports our definition of woody biomass and reauthorization of the Sec. 9008 biomass research program. The latter has the most potential for forestry.

Education Report, Pay Layton and Jim Allen: **Motion** by Jim Allen to adopt the Education Committee’s Strategic Plan for Undergraduate Education. George Hopper seconded the motion. Discussion: Pat reviewed the results of the recent survey on the strategic plan in a PowerPoint presentation. Pat noted there is some money left in the grant she has from NIFA and it has been extended to next February. Next steps? Publish the document? Put the pdf version on the webpage? Develop a briefing paper? First need to incorporate the goals and rankings. The report does have action steps. Steve Bullard referenced an Action Step under Goal 4 that proposes to use McStennis funds for teaching and learning; this is allowed under the law. Steve has asked Catalino about this, but Catalino is concerned about the precedent it would set. Steve asked Frank and Eric if they agree. Frank thinks the concerns could be fleshed out and this could be collaborated on. Mentioned that the Higher Education Challenge Grant has \$6 million but in the 2012 budget proposal it will be moved into AFRI – NIFA’s full education area will be folded into AFRI. Eric had more concerns. Would need restrictive language so it would be a tight fit and would also need to speak to how the research relates to forestry. **Action:** Tim asked Jim and Keith

to draft wording for this and get a read from NIFA folks and then send to Ex Com. Tim wants to know how to move forward. Jim wants to get the group together again. Pat says some of the 'To Do' pieces are very clear. Jim would like to recognize teaching award process. He passed around an announcement for the NIFA National Awards Program for Excellence in College and University Food and Agriculture Sciences. It has a tight deadline. Jim asked if anyone was nominating someone for it: he is. Several indicated they were. There is conference of Forestry leaders coming up in April in Vancouver. It is about building partnerships in education and research. Jim will be representing NAUFRP at the conference. Is anyone else going? The Biennial Education Conference will be at Colorado State in 2012 – should try and build a work session about the Strategic Plan into this. We are at a point to involve more than just administrators. We are not the only ones doing this. APLU has efforts underway. Wendy discussed some of this. It a series and they will be having a session in August in St. Louis focused on 'soft skills'. They also plan a large survey of APLU Agric and Science schools targeting 3-5 year alumnae. July 2012 they will hold a Summit on Pedagogprahy and NAUFRP is invited to be a part of this.

**Action:** Wendy and Jim to work with Terri to ensure NAUFRP schools are involved with APLU efforts.

**Action:** If Strategic Plan is approved will put pdf on webpage; also survey results. Motion was adopted unanimously. Jim and several from NAU have requested SAF Convention time and could present some of this from NAUFRP.

Extension Report, Joe McNeel: Joe noted that \$275,000 in RREA National Focus Funds has been awarded to Bill Hubbard (Southern Extension) to develop a new 5-year Strategic Plan for RREA. Jim Johnson is involved. Partners will be engaged. An issue brought forward from last October's Executive Committee was whether to amend the Family Forests Award to make ngo's eligible. This award is sponsored jointly with the National Woodland Owners Assn and Joe was to work with Keith Argow (NWOA) on this issue. Keith did not want to alter the award and suggested that if NAUFRP wanted to include ngos, a second award could be developed for this purpose. Joe was contacted by Dave Jackson (Penn State) on behalf of the National 4-H Forestry Invitational seeking an \$8,000 grant to fund their annual meeting. IP used to provide this in full. Eric said there are several similar Invitationals and they are on their own to raise the dollars. It appears about 26 states send a team of four so there are at least 100 participants. They are contacting other groups. Concerns: this is a state level activity; not a good use of funds. A **Motion** was offered by Keith and seconded by Joe, for NAUFRP to provide up to \$2,000 to sponsor a recruiting lunch. This would be a one-time cost. Motion was defeated.

Research Report, Keith Belli: Keith reviewed NAUFRP activities around forestry/natural resource funding thru AFRI. These include the same NAUFRP group meeting twice a year with National Program leaders; encouraging the recognition in performance reviews of faculty who serve on Review Panels; listing potential panelists on the NAUFRP webpage and keeping it current. NAUFRP has been successful but the efforts need to be sustained and reiterated to new NAUFRP members. **Action:** Keith to draft a letter to Roger Beachy incorporating NAUFRP thrust areas reflecting stakeholder input as to what AFRI should be addressing. NAUFRP partners should be asked to participate and/or sign. Keith and others met with Jim Reaves in early December and discussed what items they can work on together, specifically identify 2-3 things to accomplish within the next several years. An on-going issue is the confusion of grant instruments and what is allowable in terms of indirect costs and tuition. Jim Reaves will address this later in this meeting. There is a need to meet with the FS Research Station Directors to ensure consistent information and interpretation and let them know the impacts of the different tools. Daina says they will be proposing to invite NAUFRP reps to their Executive Team at their next meeting (summer). Randy suggests that the FS have NAUFRP Regional reps included at this meeting. Pat would like to know the FS policy for on campus space for FS research: costs and consistency.

Diversity Report, Kamran Abdollahi: Wants to work with the Education Committee to embed the NAUFRP Diversity Plan into the Undergraduate Education Strategy. USDA Multi Cultural Scholars Program. Asked for volunteers to determine status and needs. Keith said that Southern NAUFRP's Comparative Data includes some of these data and FAEIS could also probably help. Keith said that The Wildlife Society is beginning a Diversity Effort. Peg said Terry Sharik should have a report from the meeting she and he had with the FS Human Resources office in ALB last October.

USDA Forestry Research Advisory Council (FRAC): Diana Apple was asked to give a status update on FRAC. She reviewed that it is a statutory advisory committee to the USDA Secretary. Staffing/Support is alternated between the Forest Service and NIFA. There has been an 18-month pause as USDA reviewed the various panels of this kind. A nomination cycle closed in mid-December. They have had to re-establish the charter which is to be published in the Federal Register in the near future. The USDA Secretary has given very high priority for diversity. They now have funding for two meetings a year. Daina expects the nomination process to take 1-3 months. Barry, Peg, Joyce and Keith nominations have been endorsed by NAUFRP. **Action:** Terri to send Federal Register Notice of the FRAC Charter to the Executive Committee when it is published.

Budget Advisory Committee(BAC), Tim White: Tim is NAUFRP's current rep on BAC which is an arm of APLU that determines federal funding requests. BAC will continue to support McStennis as one of their seven priorities, but only at a continuing funding level. If special earmarks are done away with, their position is to keep that funding within NIFA.

International Report, Jim Johnson: Jim has been on the IUFRO Board of Directors for several years. IUFRO will meet in Salt Lake City in 2014. The Forest Service is the host and Rich Guldin is the Chair. Jim will make contact with Rich. Referencing Barry's trip to Romania last fall to meet with the European Forestry Deans, Jim said he would like NAUFRP to reach out to them as they try and organize. Barry suggests that we could invite a rep to our fall meeting but we would need to pick up a few costs (they would probably pay their way and NAUFRP would cover meals and board). Peg said they are very interested in diversity and recruiting. **Action:** Tim/Jim extend an invite to the European Deans to attend our fall or winter meeting and allow this as a budget item as needed.

Southern Region Report, Barry Goldfarb: Southern NAUFRP will meet June 7-8 in conjunction with the Forest Landowners Assn. annual conference in Williamsburg, VA. Last year they met with the Southern Group of State Foresters and in the future they will plan to alternate between these two partners. They are proceeding with Comparative Data Survey. They have added a few things to conform with the western survey.

Northeast Region Report, Bob Wagner: Handout 'Northeastern Regional Report'. The region met last year with Michael Rains, Director of the Northern Research Station. A primary topic of discussion was capacity. This led to further discussion of a joint FS-NRS consortium. Objectives include: joint research capacity map for the region; assessment of state and regional priorities; review constraints for joint FS/university position; developed state/regional research capacity/achievements and threats/opportunities. Bob reported further on prelim results on a NE-NC Forest Research Capacity Assessment. Per the handout, Steve suggests looking at PhDs in the pipeline and the implications. Can FAEIS help with this? Comments: the states have finished their assessments; need to bridge with those. Agreement that a national approach is needed for what the northeast is doing. Bob has the basic template. Suggested that there is a need to look into aspects of professional/discipline 'leakage' (i.e., entomology). **Action:** Tim asked the Regional and Research chairs to bring a plan back to make this northeast activity on capacity a national NAUFRP effort. Talk to Jim Richardson at FAEIS. Al Ek is trying to coordinate a meeting for this year with the Northeastern State Foresters.

North Central Region, Jim Zazcek: They are planning a joint (Northeastern NAUFRP) spring meeting in Minneapolis with Northeast Area of State Foresters.

Western Region, Kurt Pregitzer: Western NAUFRP is planning a spring meeting in Spokane and to have a west-wide dialogue on a research agenda. He also noted that the 2012 SAF Convention will be in Spokane.

Steve Bullard distributed the 'one-pager' that addresses NAUFRP priorities; this will be used on the Hill and agency visits. If anyone has better photos, please send. Other comments? It is very 'eastern' looking. It is evolving; review and comments back to Steve. Should be able to sub in other photos. The back side could address region or state level issues. This has been developed using "In Design" software and Steve will share upon request.

Discussion of 'criteria' for NAUFRP signing onto joint letters and policy statements. An action item from ALB was for Hal to put his criteria in writing; not sure this happened. **Action:** Terri directed to send letters NAUFRP signs on to the full listserve in addition to posting on the webpage. There was consensus to leave the decision-making to the triumvirate (President, Immediate Past President and President-elect) and Randy as well as consult with the appropriate committee chairs per the subject and intent.

Discussion of 2011 Annual Meeting. SAF meets November 2-5 in Honolulu, HI. The Wildlife Society will meet Nov. 6-10 on a different island. The SAF Accreditation Committee meets specifically on Tuesday and Wednesday before the SAF Convention starts to take advantage of NAUFRP members that are traditionally there for the General Assembly. Consider 'doodling' a couple of dates for the general assembly as well as location. Twenty to 25 NAUFRP members are anticipated to attend TWS meeting. No resolution at this point as to what to do.

Jim Reaves, Deputy Chief, USDA Forest Service, Research & Development: Accompanied by Alex Friend and Sherri Carroll of ARS (Daina Apple also present), Jim presented a PowerPoint and handout on his vision for FS R&D. Alex continued with the Powerpoint and handout, reviewing the FY12 Administration appropriations request for FS R&D. It is \$296 million; they were funded at \$312 million in FY10. Alex explained that FIA would be impacted – after just bringing in all 50 states, NV and WY would be dropped (they are the most recent states to enter the program). The President's proposed budget would have a serious impact on capacity and reduce extramural partnerships by fifteen percent. Jim introduced Sherri to discuss the various cooperative and grant instruments. She provided a matrix of the various tools and statutory authority. These apply to all USDA agencies. Different cooperative agreements are indicative of the level of US government involvement. Discussion and questions. Comment that it seems over the last several years there has been a shift to a policy that dictates more joint venture agreements – they really tie the university hands. Sherri says the advantage to joint ventures is that they are not competitive. ARS does these predominantly. Grants and Cooperative Agreements are subject to competition but there are seven exceptions (example under \$75,000). Comment that the universities are under pressure for indirect costs. Tim wants the discussion to continue around who and/or what decides whether a cooperative agreement or joint venture will be used. Where is the statutory language? NAUFRP reps would like to meet with the FS R&D Executive Team at their next meeting (expect that to be summer). **Action:** Sherri was asked to provide Terri a list of the 'seven exceptions' to circulate to the Executive Committee. Jim was asked how NAUFRP can help on appropriations. His reply was to focus on foundation research. Capacity does not go over well on the Hill. Foundation discussion is more flexible. If capacity comes up, it is good to emphasize it is more than people.

Michael Hutchins, Executive Director, The Wildlife Society: TWS is on a growth spurt and has 11,000-plus members. Activities include strategic planning, career fair, internships, leadership training, increasing diversity, grants and scholarships. Have developed a career center (jobs on website) and a career fair at their annual meeting. Have increased student activities at conference. Offer a continuing education workshop at conference and want to expand on it. Expanded Policy Internship at TWF; it is six-months long. Offer travel grants to students to attend conference. They have an Excellence in Teaching Award and an on-line mentoring program. Looking at the future of the profession: what are trends and needs? Putting together an invitation only meeting with SRM: "Blue Ribbon Panel of Future Wildlife Progression". Have met and developed a report. It is being sent out as a draft to stakeholders and comments will be incorporated. There will be a listening session at the HI meeting. Involved in a USDA Youth Initiative. Developed a Took kit for student chapters. A group is working on diversity. Have a diversity award. Last year started developing a program with Native Americans; it has worked well and want to expand to other under represented groups. Had federal dollars from several agencies. Not as many problems with gender diversity. Developed a \$1.2 million intern program for FWS for diversity. Ten students will be selected from each region and will get \$10,000; will likely lead to jobs. TWS developed the criteria and set up the selection committees and advertising. Have a special interest in Asian Americans. Would like a conversation with NAUFRP. TWS would like to collaborate on an MOU for university support for student conclaves. Would like improved support for student chapter advisors. Question: is there a place for wildlife management programs? Yes, they are very important. Discussion about expected retirements. Need to get students to conferences. About 25-30 percent of annual TWS conference attendees are students. Trend in the

1990's for natural resources down except for wildlife. Wildlife may have overpopulation. Question about certification: Hutchinson says their certification program is anachronistic and needs to be looked at. Question: is there a requirement for continuing education? Yes, it is required. Question about the on-line mentoring program. It was tailored for them by Micro (?); cost several thousand dollars. Note together TWS, SAF and SRM have 35,000-plus professional members. They do work together on certain policy issues.

Ken Williams, Chief CRU, USGS Cooperative Research Units: Handout and PowerPoint on Cooperative Research Units. Reviewed history and background. The units are not federal bodies. Jim Allen, with new curricular, experiment training, distance learning, reference to a report.... what can we do? Promote integration of natural resource science across interdisciplinary lines 2) promote marriage of conservation and management for sustainability and 3) promote ecosystem approaches 4) energize Units thru Coalitions and individual coordinating committees.

Robin O'Malley, Policy and Partnership Coordinator, USGS National Climate Change and Wildlife Center: Handout. Climate Science Centers authorized in 2008. There will be eight. Will use universities to reach out broadly and management driven.

Frank Boteler, Assistant Director, Institute of Bioenergy, Climate, and Environment, NIFA: Frank highlighted parts of a PowerPoint and 19-page handout. Discussion of current appropriations status. AFRI FY11 focus areas are: Global Food Security, Climate Change, Sustainable Energy, Childhood Obesity and Food Safety. Expect RFAs late March-April, except for bioenergy other 4 areas released are scaled back. Thirty percent of AFRI funds to foundation programs; for forestry, probably more dollars in the latter than in the challenge programs. The most stable funding is in the mandatory funding programs (i.e. 310 – BIRDI will have \$40 million in 2012). Question about Fellowship Program timing, because most PhDs are looking at their options now? Frank does not know. Question: may or may not have caps -- RFAs beginning to reconfigure to \$5-\$10 /each. RFAs at least 3 weeks away mid April. Frank says 'climate change' terminology is politicized and they are using 'climate variability' – suggests we also consider changing our terminology. Mark Poth is the program leader for bioenergy. Ali Mohamed for the Division of Environmental Systems and Luis Tupas for Climate Science. The Principle Scientist has not been determined yet; it may be an IPA for two years of FTE (they have good candidates). Question about International institute? This is extension working overseas (i.e., Dan Kugler in Afghanistan). Those dollars have not come in. Question about eligibility of non-land grant institutions for AFRI? There will be a Federal Register notice out shortly – the lawyers now say that any institution is eligible vs. just a land grant. This is a big reversal. A stakeholder group (i.e., sustainable agriculture) pressed hard on this last year. Question: will there be a rule that can be commented upon? Franks thinks it is internal. In FY10, every land grant had an AFRI grant. In FY12, the higher education challenge funds will move to AFRI. Forest Service funding will continue. FY12, proposes a five percent decrease to formula funds (second handout). Discussed (pg 7) Pros and Cons of indirect costs – goes from 22% to 30%. Staffing: Katherine Wotecki is the Chief Scientist, Ann Bartuska the Deputy. New Publications: encourage faculty to read 'Pasteur's Quadrant'; it has gotten a lot of play at NSF. It helps to get their lingo; obviously NSF is a success story. CAP grants. Comments that CAP grants are so large and spread out they need project managers. Eric Norland: 1890's, the newest 1890 to come into McStennis in FY11 is Univ. of Maryland, Eastern Shore. RREA has been flat funded since FY04. National focus funds from RREA are going to fund a new RREA Strategic Plan. A handout summarizes the RREA mission – it is highly leveraged 3:1. Natural Resources Roadmap - BNR. (Hal Salwasser calls in via conference call) Tim reviewed why we were involved with – led to discussing doing on our own thru BNR with APLU. Wendy Fink reviews that the BNR Board has five sections of which three are organized. ESCOP took the lead to develop an Agricultural Roadmap. Natural resources is embedded, but not highlighted. Hal has discussed a planning grant with Frank. Agric science is only about science. Hal thinks it should be more integrated: learning, discovery, engagement. Wendy is coordinating and Daniel Cassidy will be involved. Frank thinks a grant can be funded with more dollars in the next fiscal year. Wendy has researched what Agric has done. Hal is to follow-up with Reagan (head of BNR). A grant can be a sole source to a land-grant. Tim believes it makes sense to go to OSU. Randy affirmed that the grant proposal can come from NAUFRP. Peg says more information is needed on what categories McStennis dollars are going to. Tim requests NIFA to report on CRIST – quantity, accomplishments and matching, 419 reports. Randy says Peg is right about the need to explain the value of

McStennis in Congress and in states. **Action:** Tim/Terri to draft letter to Frank about how the 419 report help us get a handle on McStennis accomplishments, what thrust areas are and matching dollars contributions.

Nadine Block, Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI): Nadine is the Senior Director for Government Outreach at SFI which operates a Forestry Certification Program. In 2010, they started a Conservation and Community Grants Program and awarded 11 grants for a total of \$500,000. Several projects involved universities (i.e. Clemson) and ngo partnerships. The 2011 RFP announcement went out in January and they are currently reviewing applicants. SFI is looking closely at the bioenergy standards. Standard and fiber sourcing regulations/requirements outreach to non-certified lands is of interest to bioenergy firms. In terms of Academic Outreach, SFI is looking for ways to engage with universities. Academic reps on their board include Dick Brinker and Tat Smith. Fred Cabbage, John Helms and John Hayes are involved. The SFI State Committees have been tasked at encouraging them to engage more with universities. They are interested in academic outreach in procurement policies and green building. The SFI Annual Meeting will be in Sept. in Burlington, VT and they would like to sponsor student scholarships. Let Nadine know of interest. She has talked to Southern NAUFRP about a field tour in 2012; potentially it might fill the niche for what was formally the AF&PA Deans Tour. Question: where is SFI on the biomass issues? SFI is trying to determine its role. They can talk/outreach to companies procuring fiber about doing so in a sustainable way. In terms of policy, they can offer experience in tracking fiber (process/sourcing) and standards. Question: Maybe higher guidelines and/or biomass certification? Nadine thinks procurement tracking is sufficient and doesn't think additional requirements on landowners are warranted – standards offer insurance of sustainable practices. Question: is the discussion of Green Building Council dead? Benchmarks were voted on last Fall; SFI voted against and things are back to the status quo. SFI will continue to try and engage on this. NASF developed simple criteria; going to keep working on promoting those. Tim said NAUFRP would discuss the idea of a Tour. Question about timing in 2012. Nadine thinks their meeting is planned for the mid-West, maybe MI, in 2012 but doesn't know about a date.

Jay Farrell, Executive Director, National Association of State Foresters: Tim noted that he met with the NASF Executive Committee last month. They talked about what we can do together; maybe a MOU. Jay said NASF's current policy priority is appropriations. In S&PF, the Forest Stewardship Program needs more support on Hill as does State Fire Assistance and FIA. NASF looks to NAUFRP for its recommendations on McStennis. The Forests in the Farm Bill (FIFB) Coalition has been important for unifying forestry. NASF is putting more effort into communications. Because of the 2008 Farm Bill Requirement of State Forest Resource Assessments (SFRA) and Strategies, the States now have plans that identify priorities at the state level. Using a recent survey, the States will use results for direction and training; it is under development. This is the International Year of Forests. They are sponsoring a joint reception on March 30<sup>th</sup> DC with partners AFF and FS. Hope key policy folks attend. NASF has a link on their website "celebrationforests.org". State Foresters were engaged in the White House Great Outdoors effort. It refers to working forests but also a lot in it appears predetermined by the Administration. It is also missing strategic reference to research and professionals. Waiting to see if anything comes of it. (From USDA, the joint leadership involved was Robert Bonnie and Jay Jensen.) Question about poll? The polling is complete they are digesting and only have raw results. Will make summary information available to all partners. Comment suggests opening up state training sessions. Also, per state action plans, consider using students as volunteers/interns in communication training. MOU – need to put to NASF Science and Forest Health Committee (staffed by Mike Buck). NASF willing to advocate for a forest research agenda. Question on Forest Action Plans: will plans underlay synthesis of state priorities? Jay says yes, this is very important. The three regional efforts will synthesize at regional level -- in the end they want regional, state and national synthesis. Comment that this will allow NAUFRP to understand NASF priorities at different levels. Timing of this will be late spring or early summer. Jay was asked what State Foresters need in terms of research and extension. Jay comments that a lot is spent on extension and education certification programs but asks if there a better way to do continuing education? Tim said that when he met with NASF they talked about a couple of different needs: certification, graduate ??... (something a couple of different universities could partner on) also the need for more 'soft skills' like business, leadership, communications training.

Tom Martin, President and Rita Neznec, Policy Vice-President, American Forest Foundation: Tom said the Tree Farm and Project Learning Tree Programs are important opportunities to partner together. There are 96,000 Tree

Farmers owning 26 million acres. Still there are 4.5 million landowners without plans or technical assistance. The question is how to engage them. Today's landowners differ from those 20-30 years ago, recognizing that only a small percentage today manage their land. AFF plans to create sister brands for TFS – an entry level equating to assurance that they are doing right by their land. The State Foresters' ability for outreach is strained as is extension and universities. AFF will offer support system for these people in the form of outreach. They will also use peer-to-peer training and micro-targeting beginning with a launch in the south. Rita affirmed that AFF and TF are very interested in supporting McStennis and RREA. In FIFB, Janaki is leading up a task group on research, extension and inventory. The FIFB coalition has grown since 2008; American Rivers and Biomass?? Have joined. Question about the FIFB coalition process? There is a Steering Committee working to develop Policy Recommendations by April and a final platform by May-June. They are also building grassroots advocates at the state level thru TF and they are looking to the universities to help with that. Tom says FIFB is being looked to as voice of authority. The challenge is going to be running smack into budget reductions and elections. FIFB can offer fresh takes especially on administrative program reforms. Green Building Materials and the USGBC – the real issue is they are anti-wood. Question: what is the logic of the opposition? It's emotion -- Haiti. They are working with USDA to adopt Green Globes and have asked USDA to take a leadership role and make the case of life cycle assessment and inventory. The life-cycle science is clear; need to make it accessible to policy makers and media. Working on/with ???EPD ???(environmental product impact code); this may be an opportunity to show the environmental integrity of using wood. If wood does it, competitors will need to do also to have usefulness and a level playing field. The universities can help on this. Jim Reaves was the FS point person on green buildings. Question: how/who will review the operations of the new entry level Tree Farms? Tom says this needs to be tested at the national level first so as to not over burden the State Tree Farm Committees. Suggestion to partner with State Wildlife Committees. Question: active management of greenhouse gasses? Tom they had projects underway but not sure where all that is headed now.

Dave Tenny, President and CEO, National Alliance of Forest Owners: Randy reviewed Dave's background and history of being involved with forest policy. Dave has been with NAFO since its establishment in 2008. Their mission is advocacy for landowners and they have grown from the original 16 members to 61 representing over 80 million acres. Dave circulated copies of two letters from last year pertaining to EPA policy on carbon from forests (i.e., tailoring rule). The first was signed by 90 scientists, the second signed by 113 and circulated among our university community. The latter was very well received. NAFO spent much time in 2010 on carbon issues with EPA. In Jan. 2011, EPA took a step back allowing a three year time-out on requirements for biomass emissions. NAFO CEOs met with President Obama. This issue is now on his and his staff's radar. It goes to the heart of how we look at forest carbon. Other policy issues are: water quality and forestry relationship (expects this issue will drive a number of things); economics – the relation between markets and forces. We can tell the economic footstep of forests state-by-state. This information is available on the NAFO website and will be kept refreshed. The market place has the ability to create famine; this area needs additional analysis. They know the concern expressed that the lowest value product is going to over take higher products in the supply chain. There is a real need to help all understand these dynamics. There is also a need to capture the positive correlation of markets and forests. NAFO is involved in the Green Building issue through the Working Forest Coalition. Questions about relationship between NAFO and FLA? Dave said it is very good. Both he and Scot Jones sit on each others boards and take leads on various issues. Question: do we need more science on active management and forest carbon? Dave says yes and we need to define the difference between science and policy. There is a void that needs filling. Randy noted that a number of forestry deans/directors from NAUFRP signed the tailoring rule letter. Also some years ago, the deans and industry had a joint session to talk about research needs. With the changes in industry this is a good time to do the same with NAFO leaders. Where can NAUFRP be more involved with NAFO? What do NAFO members need from students? What are the pressing technical transfer needs? What are the science needs? Dave suggests dedicating some time at the next SAF meeting. After further discussion, it appears the timing will not work out for that this year.. An alternate suggestion is to have NAUFRP reps meet with NAFO Board. Dave says this year NAFO will focus on how to interact at the state level on issues of national importance. He sees 2012 for talking about research. Their Board meets 4 times a year; twice face to face. The May meeting will focus on advocacy. Their November Annual Meeting will focus on Strategic Planning. Question: Is there a science committee? No. At the annual meeting they will identify priorities for advocacy and goals and objectives (including discussion of what the information gaps are – this has been done for

carbon and water.) Tim says part of the discussion should be where are the federal research dollars going? Are they addressing NAFO interests? What is being done and not?

2011 General Assembly workshop/theme ideas? The NAUFRP President-elect traditionally takes the lead on this. Ideas: McStennis 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary working discussion. Undergraduate Education workshop; look at the action steps, compare/share Best Practices.

Discussed partnership with FS-NFS on Weeks Act. Opportunity to highlight roots for forest management – conservation, restoration. Appear that a series of activities are going on. NAUFRP pleased to sponsor nominally. Unsure how to translate that into specific activities. Univ. of Florida has an annual seminar planned on uniqueness of public lands vs. private. This seems in step with an anniversary. Other vehicles? Would be good to capture a series of these types of events as a video. NAUFRP could do

**Action:** Increase engagement with AFF, NAFO, NASF, FLA thru joint visits focused on key committee members. Also consider TNC, CF, Audubon, TWS.

*Approved*  
*November 1, 2011*  
*Honolulu, HI*

## **ACTION ITEMS:**

**Action:** Two 2-page proposals – Develop two 2-page concept papers (Steve Bullard) for Catalino to use for the funding requests towards the McStennis 50<sup>th</sup> Celebration (one for video and one for conference). Add Eric Norland and Catalino Blanche to the work group in place of Daniel Cassidy.

**Action:** seek appropriations report language recognizing the value of forestry and natural resources in AFRI in reference to the 50<sup>th</sup> Celebration.

**Action:** Jim and Keith to draft wording that would provide criteria for using McStennis funds for learning and teaching relative to the Undergraduate Education Proposal Goal 4 Action Step. Run by NIFA folks and send to the Ex Com. *(Terri has question that this was correctly captured from the discussion?)*

**Action:** Wendy and Jim to work with Terri to ensure NAUFRP schools are involved with APLU Education efforts. *(Ongoing)*

**Action:** Post the Undergraduate Education Strategic Plan on NAUFRP webpage as a pdf document; also the survey results. *(Done.)*

**Action:** Keith to draft a letter to Roger Beachy incorporating NAUFRP thrust areas reflecting stakeholder input as to what AFRI should be addressing. NAUFRP partners should be asked to participate and/or sign.

**Action:** Terri to send Federal Register Notice of the FRAC Charter to the Executive Committee when it is published. *(Done)*

**Action:** Tim/Jim extend an invite to a rep of the European Deans to attend NAUFRP fall or winter meeting and allow this as a budget item as needed.

**Action:** Tim asked the Regional and Research chairs to bring a plan back to make this northeast activity on research capacity a national effort. *(Is the lead on this Keith? Responses are it is Bob Wagner)*

**Action:** Terri directed to send letters NAUFRP signs on to the full listserv in addition to posting on the webpage. *(Continuing)*

**Action:** Sherri Carroll (ARS) was asked to provide Terri a list of the ‘seven exceptions’ to circulate to the Executive Committee. *(DONE – sent to the listserv as well.)*

**Action:** Tim/Terri to draft letter to Frank Boteler about how the 419 report help us get a handle on McStennis accomplishments, what thrust areas are and matching dollars contributions. *(Agenda Item for Fall 2011 Meeting)*

**Action:** Engage with AFF, NAFO, NASF and FLA on joint Hill and other policy visits. Consider also TNC, CF, Audubon, TWS. *(Agenda Item for Fall 2011 Meeting)*

**Action:** Fall General Assembly workshop/theme ideas determined.