



2014 Annual Meeting Stakeholder Bios

Terri Galinski

Silviculture Operations Manager, Plum Creek Timber Company

Galinski works with Plum Creek Timber Company as Manager of Silviculture Operations, which is focused mainly on maximizing financial returns on investments in forest productivity across our timberlands in the southern, northeastern, and northwestern U.S.

Galinski is based in Athens, Georgia, and has been with Plum Creek for nearly 14 years. After graduating from North Carolina State University, Galinski worked as a forester in Montana and Wisconsin before moving to Georgia in 2009 to be a part of the Operations Support Group.

Victor L. Harris

Publisher and Editor, Minority Landowner Magazine

Harris, a native of Athens, Georgia, completed the Forestry Program at Tuskegee Institute and earned a bachelor's degree in forestry at North Carolina State University, with a concentration in economics.

Harris has over 20 years' experience in forest management and urban natural resource management, and he was the first African-American to work as a forester with the Virginia State Department of Forestry. He also served as the assistant state forester for administration with the North Carolina Forest Service.

Harris resigned from the North Carolina Forest Service in 2005 to re-establish Cierra Publishing Company, a company he first started in 1993. He began publishing the Minority Landowner magazine and serves as its publisher and editor. The Minority Landowner chronicles the challenges and successes of minority farmers, ranchers and forest landowners across the country with a mission of providing information to help them improve productivity of their land management operation, which can lead to increased profitability, thus, increasing the chances they will be able to maintain ownership of their land.

Harris is a North Carolina registered forester, a fellow of the Natural Resources Leadership Institute and a certified public manager. He serves on the Board of Directors of the Conservation Trust for North Carolina, an organization that supports over 20 local land trusts across the state.

Marshall Jacobson

Manager, Forest Productivity, Plum Creek Timber Company

Jacobson's main professional interest and focus has always been the implementation of advanced silviculture techniques and genetics, treated as an investment to improve the company's business. Since 1997, Jacobson has worked for Plum Creek Timber Company managing the silviculture program, overseeing silviculture research, tree improvement, seed orchards and nurseries for all Plum Creek operations with emphasis on the south to enhance the value of Plum Creek timberland. Prior to Plum Creek, Jacobson managed silviculture research and soil mapping for International Paper Company's southern operations and was a research forester and manager of research, tree improvement, and nursery operations for Rayonier.

Jacobson earned his Bachelor's and Master's in Forest Resources from the Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources at the University of Georgia.

James Johnson

Chief of Forest Management, Georgia Forestry Commission

Johnson attended Clemson University and graduated with a B.S. in Forest Management (1985). Work experience includes summer positions with Georgia Pacific and Bowater prior to employment with the Georgia Forestry Commission beginning in 1986. Work experience also includes 5 years of firefighting, and 18 years as a field forester.

In 2004, Johnson became the Forest Health coordinator for the GFC in 2004 where he oversaw all forest pest issues (surveys and suppression efforts for native and non-native insects, diseases and invasive plants); received over 1,000 hours of formal and informal forest pest education; and began organizing Georgia's cogongrass efforts in 2004

In 2010, Johnson became forest management chief for the GFC where he oversees many program areas: forest inventory & analysis (FIA), forest health, water quality, sustainable community forestry, state forests and timberland management, cost share programs, stewardship and legacy, and geographic information systems (GIS)

Credentials include: registered forester in Georgia, member of Board of Registration for Foresters in Georgia, advisory committee for Forestry and Wildlife Department (Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College), certified prescribed burner, member of Society of American Foresters and commercial pesticide applicator.

Wib Owen

Executive Director, Southern Group of State Foresters

Prior to his appointment as Executive Director of SGSF, Owen completed a 34-year career with state government including positions as Assistant Commissioner and State Forester with the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the N.C. Forest Service. He also served as a Wildlife Section Manager with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission.

As North Carolina State Forester, Owen was responsible for the direction of programs and services for protecting, managing and conserving forest resources. He collaborated with numerous organizations and institutions as well as coordinated the U.S. Forest Service Cooperative Forestry Assistance programs. Owen also provided oversight for the development of the first North Carolina Forest Action Plan as authorized in the 2008 Farm Bill.

Owen has served in numerous capacities with the Southern Group of State Foresters and National Association of State Foresters, including Executive committee leadership and technical committee participation on forest science and health, market development, geographic information systems and the National Wildland Fire Leadership Council. He was a long-standing member of the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies' Forest Technical Committee, also serving as chairman. He has received numerous awards and recognitions including North Carolina Forest Conservationist of the Year, Tree Farm National Award of Excellence and Natural Resource Agency of the Year. Owen holds a bachelor's degree in forestry and a master's degree in wildlife biology from North Carolina State University.

Robert C. Purnell, Ph.D.

Senior Geneticist, Global Genetics Program Leader, Weyerhaeuser NR

Purnell joined Weyerhaeuser in 2006 as a geneticist for the Southern Tree Improvement Program. He is currently leader of Weyerhaeuser NR's Genetics Programs and International Forestry Research. Prior to joining Weyerhaeuser, he worked for International Paper in a number of positions culminating as manager of the Southern Tree Improvement Program. Purnell started his career as senior scientist at the Institute for Commercial Forestry Research, University of Natal, South Africa developing a tree improvement program for cold-tolerant eucalypts. Purnell is an adjunct professor of forestry at North Carolina State University and has served on many M.S. and Ph.D. committees.

Purnell earned his Ph.D. in forest genetics at North Carolina State University and a B.S. in forest science from Pennsylvania State University. He is a Certified Forester in the Society of American Foresters.

Ruth C. Seawell

Vice President, Analytical Services, Larson & McGowin Forestry Consultants, Inc.

Seawell is Vice President for Analytical Services at Larson & McGowin, Inc. Seawell is a native of Montgomery, AL, and received her undergraduate degree in natural resources from the University of the South and a Master of Forest Resources from the University of Georgia.

Prior to coming to Larson & McGowin, Seawell gained valuable experience in wood procurement logistics at Alabama River Woodlands. As the leader of Larson & McGowin's analytical group, she provides financial analysis and harvest scheduling as well as wood supply, market, and silvicultural optimization studies. She has also been a key member of the team that designed Larson & McGowin's forest information systems.

Seawell is a Registered Forester in Alabama (License #1168) and currently serves on the Alabama State Board of Registration for Foresters as well as on the Executive Committee for SOFAC- Southern Forest Resource Assessment Consortium. She was named the Outstanding Young Forester for Alabama in 1992 by the Society of American Foresters.

Tom Trembath

Southern Operations Manager, Forest Investment Associates

Trembath started with FIA in 1993 and is responsible for timberland management on client properties in the eastern half of the Southern U.S. and coordination and oversight of FIA's forest certification and cooperative forestry research activities. Prior to assuming his current position in 2004, Tom worked as a Management Forester and Region Manager.

He was previously employed for six years by Stone Container Corporation where he held positions in woodlands management and the Landowner Assistance Program. Tom also was employed at Clemson University where he worked on the University's 17,500-acre experimental forest, and he was a Supervisory Technician with the U.S.D.A. Forest Service in Idaho.

Trembath holds a B.S. in Forestry from Michigan State University and an M.S. in Forestry from Clemson University. He serves on the Boards of Directors and Executive Committees of the Forest Resources Association and the Wood Supply Research Institute and on the Board of Directors of the Georgia Forestry Association. Tom is a Registered Forester, a Certified Forester® and a member of the Society of American Foresters.

Tamara Walkingstick, Ph.D.**Associate Professor-Forestry, University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture, Arkansas Forest Resources Center**

Walkingstick has worked for the University of Arkansas, Division of Agriculture, Cooperative Extension Service as an Associate Professor of Extension Forestry since 1996. Her state-wide responsibilities include general forest management education for adults and youth. She completed her Ph.D. in Forest Economics and Sociology of Natural Resources at the Auburn University, her MS at Oklahoma State University, and her BS at the University of Arkansas-Fayetteville. After receiving her BS, she served in Nepal as a Community Forestry Volunteer for US Peace Corps. She serves on several boards including the Arkansas American Indian Center, the Arkansas Urban Forestry Council, and the National Network of Forest Practitioners. Dr. Walkingstick is a member of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma.