FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



June 30, 2023

Weston Business Owner Elected Northern Region Director for the Association of Consulting Foresters

[Williamsburg, VA]— <u>The Association of Consulting Foresters of America, Inc.</u> (ACF) is pleased to announce the election of Jeffrey Hutchinson as Northern Region Director. Hutchinson will assume his role on July 1, 2023, and his term will run through June 30, 2026. ACF is a national organization committed to serving independent consulting foresters who manage forests and market forest products for private woodland owners.

As Northern Region Director, Hutchinson will be responsible for providing support to strengthen and serving as a spokesperson for members in ACF's Northern region which includes 21 states extending from Maine south to Maryland and west to Minnesota. With his extensive experience and dedication to the forestry profession, Hutchinson brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to this position.

"We are thrilled to welcome Jeff as Northern Region Director," said Wayne Pfluger, President of ACF. "His proven leadership as well as passion for the association and consulting forester profession make him an excellent choice for this role. We are confident that under his guidance, the Northern region will continue to thrive."

Hutchinson has a distinguished career in forestry, with over 37 years of experience working with various stakeholders. He is the President of Summit Forestry Group in Weston, WV providing forest management services in West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and western Virginia. Previously, Hutchinson was a staff forester for Forest Land Services Inc. of Ligonier, PA. Hutchinson holds a B.S. in Forest Science from Pennsylvania State University.

Hutchinson joined ACF as a Full Member in 2004 and currently serves on the Education Committee and as Chair of the West Virginia Chapter. He is a Licensed Professional Forester in West Virginia and maintains membership in The American Chestnut Foundation and the Forest Landowners Association.

"I am honored to be elected as ACF's Northern Region Director," said Hutchinson. "I am passionate about continuing to develop opportunities for members to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to remain at the pinnacle of our profession. I look forward to working with fellow professionals and stakeholders to advance the interests of our profession while addressing challenges and opportunities in the Northern region."

"I'm delighted to work with Jeff in his role as ACF's Northern Region Director," said Shannon McCabe, CAE, ACF's Executive Director. "I look forward collaborating with him to further the association's mission."

Hutchinson joins current members of ACF's 2023-2024 Executive Committee:

President: Wayne S. Pfluger, ACF of Lone Star Forestry, LLC in Huntsville, TX President-Elect: Rick N. Barnes, ACF (Ret.) of Mason, Bruce, & Girard, Inc. in Roseburg, OR Past-President: Justin M. Miller, ACF of Green Timber Consulting Foresters, Inc. in Pelkie, MI Gulf Region Director: Christopher E. Adams, ACF of Vision Forestry, LLC in Lufkin, TX Southern Region Director: James P. Alfriend, ACF of James I. Alfriend Consulting Foresters in Thomson, GA Western Region Director: Michael F. Wolcott, ACF of Inland Forest Management, Inc. in Sandpoint, ID Treasurer: Thomas R. Clark, ACF of F&W Forestry Services, Inc. in LaFayette, AL Secretary: Lee A. Steigerwaldt, ACF of Steigerwaldt Land Services, Inc. in Tomahawk, WI

ACF provides professional development, networking opportunities, exclusive communications, tools, and resources to consulting foresters. ACF members are the gold standard of forestry consultants because they meet rigorous educational, experience, and reference requirements as well as adhere to a Code of Ethics ensuring loyalty to landowners and their land.

For additional information about ACF, visit <u>www.acf-foresters.org</u>.

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About the Association of Consulting Foresters of America, Inc. (ACF):

Founded in 1948, the Association of Consulting Foresters of America, Inc. (ACF) is a professional organization dedicated to advancing the practice of professional consulting forestry and promoting the highest standards of professionalism and ethics among its members. ACF members can benefit forest landowners by enhancing property value, optimizing timber growth through sustainable harvests, maximizing the value of timber, enhancing wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities, and protecting family forest legacy. Visit <u>www.acf-foresters.org</u> to learn more.

About Summit Forestry Group, Inc.:

Formed in 2006, Summit Forestry Group is a professional consulting forestry firm providing timber inventory and investment analysis, timber appraisal, reforestation, and wildlife management to clients in West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and western Virginia. Visit <u>www.summitforestrygroup.com</u> to learn more.

For media inquiries or more information, please contact:

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