



SOUTHERN GROUP OF STATE FORESTERS ANNUAL MEETING
Biloxi, MS
June 2 – 5, 2025

Forest Management Chiefs ***DRAFT*** AGENDA

Monday (June 2)

1:00 – 6:00 p.m. Registration Opens

6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Opening Reception

Tuesday (June 3)

6:45 – 7:45 a.m. Breakfast for all attendees

7:00 – 10:00 a.m. Registration/Info desk open

8:00 – 8:30 a.m. Opening Ceremony/Welcome to MS

8:30 - 12:00 p.m. **General Session** - Moderator – TBD
(General Assembly of all Registered)

8:30 – 9:15 Panel Presentation/Discussion about State disaster response after Hurricane Helene
Six States give a short summary (5-7 minutes) of agency response, IMTs deployed, chain saw crews, miles of roads cleared etc.
GA – John Sabo
FL – Rick Dolan
NC – Greg Hicks
SC – Daryl Jones
TN – Heather Slayton
VA – John Miller

9:15 – 9:45 a.m. SGSF Disaster Response Protocol presentation- Why we have a protocol, what it does, what it doesn't do – Bonnie Stine, FL

9:45 – 10:15 Break

10:15 – 10:45 SRS mapping timber damage following Hurricane Helene – Robert Chastain

10:45 – 11:30 State Action after receiving SRS mapping data, 5-7 minute presentations.
GA – Troy Clymer
FL – Bonnie Stine
NC – Heather Moonier
SC – Russell Hubright
TN – Lina Denaroso
VA – Jim Whipp

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| 11:30 – 12:00 p.m. | Q&A and Discussion |
| 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. | Opening Lunch / Partners Lunch |
| 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. | Committees Convene for afternoon sessions. |
| 1:00 – 1:30 p.m. | Introduction of Forest Management Chiefs and Guests – Jimmy Roberts, Florida Forest Service, Round Robin |
| 1:30 – 2:00 p.m. | State, Private & Tribal Forestry Region 8 Update – Kay Reed, Director of Cooperative Forestry |
| 2:00 – 2:30 p.m. | SGSF Policy Update & Block Grant Discussion – Tim Foley, SGSF Policy Director |
| 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. | Southern Research Station Update & Southern Forest Outlook Update – Stephanie Laseter, John Coulston, Southern Research Station |
| 3:30 – 4:00 p.m. | Break |
| 4:00 – 4:30 p.m. | Disaster Damage Assessment Protocol Moving Forward – Bonnie Stine, Florida Forest Service |
| 4:30 – 5:00 p.m. | White Oak Initiative Update – Pam Snyder, Kentucky Division of Forestry |
| 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. | Dinner—Host State Dinner at Ground Zero Blues Club; transportation provided: Hotel main entrance; buses leave at 5:30, 5:45, and 6:00. Return trips begin at 8:50 pm. |

Wednesday (June 4)

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| 6:45 – 7:45 a.m. | Breakfast for all attendees |
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(Committees meet separately)

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| 8:00 – 8:30 a.m. | Work Plan Update – Jimmy Roberts, Florida Forest Service |
| 8:30 – 9:30 a.m. | FM Group Discussion |
| 9:30 – 10:00 a.m. | EFRP Update, Emily Horsley, EFRP Program Specialist USDA Farm Service Agency |
| 10:00 – 10:30 a.m. | Break |
| 10:30 – 12:00 a.m. | Discussion time with State Forester Liaison |
| 12:00 – 1:20 p.m. | Awards Luncheon |
| 1:30 - 2:20 p.m. | Discussion of Topics/Issues brought up with State Forester Liaison, Jimmy Roberts, Florida Forest Service |
| 2:30 – 3:00 p.m. | Post Disaster Geospatial Services – Brent Mitchell (meet jointly With State Foresters in their meeting room) |
| 3:00 – 3:30 p.m. | Break |
| 3:30 – 4:00 p.m. | TreeTracker – George Banzhaf, President and CEO, TreeTracker |

- 4:00 – 4:30 p.m. Forest Markets/Nursery Outlook – Paul Jeffreys, Manager of Special Projects and Sustainability, ArborGen
- 4:30 – 5:00 p.m. NRCS Programs Update – James Wright, Forestry Partnership Coordinator, NASF
- 6:00 – until **Dinner on your own – Potential FM Group Dinner**
Wildland Warehouse and Mercedes Textiles are hosting a dinner meet and greet at the MS Maritime Museum from 6-9 pm. Dinner and a tour of the museum are provided. Transportation is not provided.

Thursday (June 5)

- 6:45 – 7:45 a.m. Breakfast for all attendees

(Committees meet separately)

- 8:00 – 10:00 a.m. States Round Robin – Successes, Challenges FM Sessions – All
- 10:00 - 10:45 a.m. Break and Check Out of Hotel
- 10:45 - 11:15 a.m. Selection of New Chair and Vice-Chair - All
- 11:15 - 11:45 a.m. Plans for Winter Meeting - location, meet with another committee? - All
- 11:45 - 12:00 p.m. Close Out, Passing of the Gavel – Jimmy Roberts
- 12:00 p.m. ADJOURNMENT of meeting