



# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE FORESTERS

444 North Capitol Street NW | Suite 387 | Washington, DC 20001 | [www.stateforesters.org](http://www.stateforesters.org)

December 7, 2020

President-Elect Joe Biden  
Presidential Transition Headquarters  
1401 Constitution Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear President-Elect Biden:

The National Association of State Foresters (NASF) and its members would like to offer our hearty congratulations to you and Vice President-Elect Kamala Harris on your successful campaign for our country's highest office. We look forward to working with you and your transition team in the coming months on some of the most pressing concerns facing our nation today, including – but certainly not limited to – climate change, wildfires, and American job security.

Established in 1920, NASF is a non-profit organization composed of the directors of forestry agencies in all 50 states, eight U.S. territories, and the District of Columbia. Our members directly manage and protect state and private forests – which encompass nearly two-thirds of the nation's forests – and regularly assist in the conservation of federally managed forests and grasslands.

Perhaps no partnership has been more important in the history of U.S. forestry than the partnership between state foresters and the USDA Forest Service. State forestry agencies and the USDA Forest Service share the same fundamental goal – healthy, resilient, and productive forests – and the same core responsibility – to protect, conserve, and enhance forests.

Since the early 1900s, Congress has recognized and reinforced this natural government-to-government partnership for America's forests with landmark legislation, including the Weeks Act of 1911, the Clarke-McNary Act of 1924, the Cooperative Forest Management Act of 1950, the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978, and the Forestry Title of the 1990, 2008 and 2014 Farm Bills. Today, state forestry agencies are the leaders in supporting forest management on all land ownerships and the primary deliverers of federally supported forestry assistance nationwide.

NASF, by virtue of its expert and trusted membership, is a leading authority on forest policy. We advocate for federal legislation and national policies that promote the health, resilience, and productivity of forests across the country, as well as for the professionals that conserve, enhance, and protect our forest resources. Both NASF and its members are eager to work with your administration in the coming years to not only make America's forests healthier and more productive, but to contribute to a safer and more prosperous America.

**Executive Director**  
Jay Farrell

**2020-2021 Executive Committee**

President Joe Fox, Arkansas  
Vice President Christopher Martin, Connecticut  
Treasurer Kacey KC, Nevada  
Past President Greg Josten, North Dakota

Northeastern Representative  
Western Representative  
Southern Representative

Rob Davies, New York  
Sonya Germann, Montana  
Scott Phillips, South Carolina

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Joe A. Fox". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "J" and "F".

Joe Fox  
NASF President  
Arkansas State Forester

Cc: The Honorable Ted Kaufman, The Honorable Michelle Lujan-Grisham, The Honorable Cedric Richmond, The Honorable Jeff Zients, The Honorable Anita Dunn, Biden-Harris Transition Team Co-Chairs

Mr. Robert Bonnie, Team Lead, U.S. Department of Agriculture Agency Review Team  
Mr. Kevin Washburn, Team Lead, U.S. Department of the Interior Agency Review Team  
Mr. Patrice Simms, Team Lead, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Review Team