

Thursday
August 14, 2014
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

Hyatt Regency
Atlanta, Georgia

5.5 Cat 1-CF Credits

2014 Forest Landowner POLICY SUMMIT

ENDANGERED SPECIES



*Current issues involving the
Endangered Species Act*

Rick Goeken, Smith Currie & Hancock
Jay McWhirter, USDA-OGC

FEDERAL FORESTS



*Federal Land Management
Legislation*

Brent Blevins, House Ag. Committee
Andrew Vlasaty*, Senate Ag.
Committee

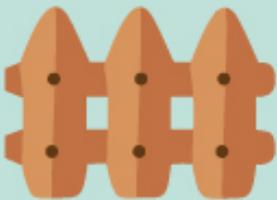
MARKETS



*Opportunities for timberland
owners*

Deborah Baker, Georgia-Pacific
Scott Jones, FLA
Jay McWhirter, USDA - OGC

PRIVATE PROPERTY



*New developments regarding
private property rights*

Alan Saltman, Smith Currie & Hancock

CLEAN AIR



*Clean Air Regulation Impacts on
the Forest Industry*

Chip Murray, NAFO

FIRE MANAGEMENT



*New developments regarding fire
and financing fire suppression*

Rick Goeken, Smith Currie & Hancock

BIOMASS



*Financing and constructing pellet
plants*

Eric Nelson, Smith Currie & Hancock

CLEAN WATER ACT



*How proposed waters of the
U.S. will impact landowners*

Chip Murray, NAFO

HOSTED BY

Forest
LANDOWNERS

Presenting Private Forests

SMITH
CURRIE
& HANCOCK LLP



* Invited but not confirmed

P 2014 Forest Landowner POLICY SUMMIT

ADDRESSING CURRENT POLICY CHALLENGES FACING THE PRIVATE LANDOWNER SECTOR

Agenda:

- 8:00** **Breakfast**
- 9:00** **Current issues involving the Endangered Species Act**
Rick Goeken, Smith Currie and Hancock; Jay McWhirter, USDA-OGC
- 10:00** **Financing and Constructing Pellet Plants**
Eric Nelson, Smith Currie and Hancock
- 11:00** **Federal Land Management Legislation**
Brent Blevins, House Agriculture Committee; Andrew Vlasaty, Senate Agriculture Committee*
- 12:00** **Lunch**
- 1:00** **Clean Air Regulation Impacts on the Forest Industry**
Chip Murray, Vice President for Policy and General Counsel, NAFO
- 2:00** **New Developments Regarding:**
Private Property Rights, Alan Saltman, Smith Currie and Hancock
Fire and Financing Fire Suppression, Rick Goeken, Smith Currie and Hancock
- 2:30** **Clean Water Act, How proposed Waters of the US will impact Landowners**
Chip Murray, Vice President for Policy and General Counsel, NAFO
- 3:30** **Opportunities for Timberland Owners**
Deborah Baker, Georgia-Pacific; Scott Jones, FLA; Jay McWhirter, USDA-OGC

Hosted by:



**invited but not confirmed*



Promoting Private Forests

2014 Forest Landowner Policy Summit Speakers



Deborah Baker

Georgia-Pacific

Vice President - Sustainable Forestry, and Community Outreach

Deborah Baker is vice president - sustainable forestry, and community outreach for Georgia-Pacific.

She joined the company in 2001 as director of environmental policy and was named vice president in 2003. Her responsibilities include maintaining the company's Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI) certification for North America, as well as directing the company's sustainable forestry vision and practices. Deborah also works with various internal and external groups regarding sustainable forestry practices and issues.

Prior to joining Georgia-Pacific, Deborah spent more than 25 years in both the private and public sector of the forest products industry. She began her career as a field forester with International Paper Co., then moved into politics when she worked on the Capitol Hill staff with former U.S. Senator James McClure (Idaho). During President Ronald Reagan's terms in office, she was deputy director - Congressional Affairs, in the Department of the Interior in Washington, D.C. Deborah also served as executive director of the Southern Timber Council in Atlanta, which addressed U.S. Forest Service issues in the South.

A native of Vermont, Deborah has a Bachelor of Science degree in forest management from the University of Vermont. She and her husband, Dwight, live in Atlanta, Ga. They have one daughter.



Brent Blevins

U.S. House Committee on Agriculture

Subcommittee Staff Director

Brent graduated from Virginia Tech in 2003 with degrees in History and Political Science and received a Master's of Public Administration in 2005. He serves as the subcommittee Staff Director for the U.S. House Agriculture Subcommittee on Conservation, Energy, and Forestry and is responsible for subcommittee hearings, executive branch oversight, and crafting legislation within subcommittee jurisdiction. He also serves as President of the Executive Board at the National Capital Region chapter of the Virginia Tech Alumni Association.



Richard W. Goeken
Smith, Currie & Hancock LLP.
Partner

Richard W. Goeken (“Rick”) is entering his third decade in the private practice of law with a focus on advising timber industry clients when their interests are impacted by federal environmental law, regulation and policy. Over the years, Rick has gained experience with many of the key federal environmental statutes including the: National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Endangered Species Act (ESA), Clean Water Act (CWA), the Wilderness Act and the Antiquities Act. He has also developed familiarity with the forest products industry, including the use of renewable biomass to generate electricity. When possible, Rick has negotiated favorable resolutions, and when necessary, litigated through trial and appeal, dozens of cases involving private party’s claims against the government as well as defending clients against government claims. Such cases include breach of contract, takings without just compensation, and damages to private timberlands from wildfire. He has also intervened on behalf of clients in lawsuits brought by activist groups under federal environmental law to ensure that the client’s interests and concerns are also before the court when the case is decided. Rick obtained his law degree from the College of William & Mary in southern Virginia, and is a partner in the Washington, D.C. office of Smith, Currie & Hancock LLP, a national law firm based in Atlanta. The firm’s Washington office provides Rick with ready access to decision-makers at the federal agencies that manage natural resources including the: Dept. of Agriculture, Forest Service; Dept. of Interior, Bureau of Land Management, and Fish & Wildlife Service.



Scott Jones
Forest Landowners Association
CEO

Scott Jones joined FLA in 2003 and has a Bachelor Science degree in forest resources from the Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources at the University of Georgia and is an SAF Certified Forester as well as a Georgia Registered Forester. He spent five years in land management and procurement with a paper company in North Florida and has worked on Government Affairs issues dealing with forestry for the Georgia Forestry Association and the Southeastern Lumber Manufacturers Association.



Jay McWhirter
*USDA Office of the General Counsel
Attorney*

Jay McWhirter is a natural resources attorney for the USDA Office of the General Counsel specializing in environmental compliance, government contracts, and administrative law. He works as an attorney/adviser towards major clients such as the USDA Forest Service and Natural Resources Conservation Service. McWhirter's practice focuses on natural resource issues - primarily environmental law compliance (NEPA, NFMA, and ESA), timber contract litigation, oil and gas litigation, real estate (acquisition, disposal, title claims), FERC hydropower relicensing, as well as general administrative practice (fiscal and appropriations law, APA, FOIA, FACA, FTCA, Touhy). McWhirter received his undergraduate degree from the University of Florida and his Doctor of Law from the University of Florida - Fredric G Levin College of Law.



Chip Murray
*National Alliance of Forest Owners (NAFO)
Vice President for Policy and General Counsel*

Chip Murray is Vice President for Policy & General Counsel for the National Alliance of Forest Owners. He joined NAFO in 2010 and is recognized as a leading attorney representing the forest land owners and forest products industries. Prior to NAFO he served as Deputy General Counsel and Executive Director-Forestry for the American Forest & Paper Association and also with the Association's predecessors since 1989. During this time, Murray managed key forestry programs related to the Endangered Species Act and the Clean Water Act. He established the forestry litigation program related to management of both private and federal forestland.

Murray formerly held the position of Assistant Solicitor for Onshore Minerals in the U.S. Department of the Interior, preceded by service as a Staff Attorney in the Interior Office of the Solicitor and Interior Board of Land Appeals.

He is a past chair of the Forest Resources Committee, American Bar Association. He earned both his J.D. and A.B. degrees from Georgetown University.



Eric Nelson
*Smith, Currie & Hancock LLP.
Partner*

Eric L. Nelson is a partner with Smith, Currie & Hancock LLP and practices in the area of construction law and government contracts, representing owners, engineers, general contractors, EPC and design-build contractors, construction managers, specialty contractors, and major equipment providers. Most

recently, Eric's work has focused on energy markets (including traditional and renewable energy), federal construction procurements, infrastructure, and healthcare markets.

Eric's practice primarily involves dispute resolution of construction-related claims. He has tried cases in federal and state courts throughout the country and before the various federal government boards of contract appeals. He has also arbitrated and mediated multiple claims, nationally and internationally. Eric has served as counsel in several matters involving a diverse cross section of design and construction projects. These projects have involved claims from \$1 million to over \$100 million.

In addition to dispute resolution, Eric works with clients in negotiating and preparing construction contracts and assists clients with project administration and performance problems. He frequently advises clients on U.S. federal construction issues, such as the False Claims Act, small business programs, cost and pricing, compliance, Miller Act, Green and sustainable construction, and requests for equitable adjustments and claims.

Eric is named in Chambers USA Guide to America's Leading Business Lawyer, for construction law (2007-2014); The Legal 500, for construction litigation (2010-2013); Best Lawyers in America, for construction litigation (2010-2014); Expert Guide to World's Leading Lawyers, for construction law (2013); Georgia Super Lawyers, for construction law (2014).

He received his law degree from Washington & Lee University Law School and his undergraduate degree from California Polytechnic University at San Luis Obispo.



Alan Saltman
Smith, Currie & Hancock LLP.
Partner

Alan Saltman is a Partner in the Washington, DC office of Smith, Currie & Hancock LLP. His practice covers the areas of litigation, government contracts and appropriations law, providing advice to clients working in the public sector and in a wide variety of industries. Prior to entering private practice, Alan was an Attorney-Advisor at the Government Accountability Office. Accordingly, he has extensive experience in matters involving contract solicitation and award and bid protests. In addition, he has substantial expertise in contract claims strategy and quantification, and issues relating to the availability of appropriations.

In addition to having experience involving many federal agencies (both civilian and military), Alan has extensive experience as lead counsel in complex litigation cases. These cases include bid protests and claims before the Boards of Contract Appeals, the United States Government Accountability Office, the United States Court of Federal Claims and the United States District Courts. He has successfully argued numerous cases before the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit as well as other federal courts of appeal and administrative forums.

Alan serves as an Adjunct Professor at Boston College Law School. He has written and lectured extensively on a wide variety of topics and has made numerous presentations before the National Contract Management Association, Federal Bar Association, and other organizations including the American Apparel Manufacturers Association, the National Park Hospitality Association and the American Forest Resource Council.