



NEWS RELEASE

For Release: November 12, 2020

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Association of Consulting Foresters and Ruffed Grouse Society/American Woodcock Society Agree to Work Together to Improve Wildlife Habitat *ACF and RGS/AWS Sign Memo of Understanding to Preserve Forests and Protect Wildlife*

Williamsburg, VA –To help landowners improve the habitat for Ruffed Grouse, American Woodcock and other songbirds and other forest wildlife, the [Association of Consulting Foresters](#) (ACF) and the [Ruffed Grouse Society and American Woodcock Society](#) (RGS/AWS) have formed a new collaboration.

In the memo of understanding, ACF and RGS/AWS agree to develop business models to advance sustainable forest management; raise awareness about wildlife conservation; develop and implement training programs and promotional materials for natural resource professionals and forest landowners; and support joint activities and opportunities including those at the chapter level.

ACF members are independent professionals who manage forests and market forest products for private woodland owners.

“;This collaboration with RGS/AWS is a natural fit given ACF member capacity to assist landowners in forest management activities to improve wildlife habitat” said Shannon M. McCabe, CAE, Executive Director, Association of Consulting Foresters. “We recognize the benefits of this partnership in furthering our common goals and are excited to work with RGS/AWS to promote sustainable natural resources management.”

RGS/AWS is a conservation organization dedicated to science-based approaches to healthy forest habitats for ruffed grouse, American woodcock and all forest wildlife.

“This is a great opportunity that allows both organizations to work together to reach our mutual goals,” said Benjamin C. Jones, President and CEO, Ruffed Grouse Society. “Through our efforts, we will have a stronger voice advocating for forest management and wildlife conservation, as well as other mutual interests.”

ACF members help landowners enhance property values, increase the value of timber, produce a more sustainable timber harvest, enhance wildlife habitat, and establish and protect a family’s

forest legacy. Because of their vital role in the forest products supply chain, ACF members have been deemed essential workers during COVID-19. As a condition of membership, every consulting forester must have minimum education and experience levels, complete the Practice of Consulting Forester course, and most importantly, agree to adhere to the organization's stringent Code of Ethics. For more information about ACF, log onto www.acf-foresters.org.

RGS/AWS members are grouse and woodcock hunters who support national scientific conservation and management efforts to ensure the future of the species. Headquartered in Coraopolis, PA, RGS/AWS employ forest wildlife conservation professionals to work with private landowners and government, including local, state and federal land managers interested in improving their land for Ruffed Grouse, American Woodcock and the other songbirds and wildlife with similar habitat requirements. For more information on RGS/AWS, log onto www.ruffedgrousesociety.org.

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About ACF

Founded in 1948, the Association of Consulting Foresters represents independent professionals who manage forests and market forest products for private woodland owners. ACF members help landowners enhance property values, increase the value of timber, produce a more sustainable timber harvest, enhance wildlife habitat, and establish and protect your family's forest legacy. As the gold standard of consulting foresters, ACF has 24 chapters across the U.S. offers its members professional development, publications, insurance, networking opportunities, and advocacy information on state and federal issues. For more information, log onto www.acf-foresters.org.

About RGS/AWS

Established in 1961, the Ruffed Grouse Society is North America's foremost conservation organization dedicated to preserving our sporting traditions by creating healthy forest habitat for ruffed grouse, American woodcock and other wildlife. RGS works with landowners and government agencies to develop critical habitat utilizing scientific management practices. For more information, log onto www.ruffedgrousesociety.org.