



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Windham Businessman Named Northern Regional Director for the Association of Consulting Foresters *Rene D. Noel, Jr., ACF, Becomes ACF Northern Regional Director, July 1, 2020***

Williamsburg, VA – Windham businessman, Rene D. Noel, ACF, Owner, [Southern Maine Forestry Services](#), has been named as the Northern Regional Director for the national [Association of Consulting Foresters of America, Inc.](#) (ACF). ACF members are independent professionals who manage forests and market forest products for private woodland owners.

“With more than 30 years of experience, Rene’s expertise in forestry management and his leadership skills are valuable to ACF and the Northern Region,” said Justin M. Miller, ACF, president of [Green Timber Consulting Foresters, Inc.](#), and president of ACF.

Noel founded Southern Maine Forestry Services (SMFS) in 1981 to meet the need for comprehensive land and woodlot management in Maine and surrounding states. Since that time, the firm has grown to five foresters who have managed more than 100,000 acres for 800 clients. Noel is a licensed forester and appraiser.

Before starting his firm, Noel worked for the Bureau of Public Lands and the Maine Forest Service. He also managed a landscape nursery in Long Island, NY. Noel started his career with the U.S. Forest Service working as a forest technician based in the Black Hills.

He received his B.S. in forestry science at University of Maine, Orono. During college, he started a small business with another student providing forestry management services to landowners. Services including weeding and thinning, tree pruning and planting, herbicide application, and boundary line maintenance.

“I look forward to contributing to ACF and working in collaboration with Justin and my colleagues who are serving as national ACF directors and officers,” said Noel.

Noel joins ACF’s 2020-21 new Executive Committee members:

- President, Justin M. Miller, ACF, Green Timber Consulting Foresters, Inc., Pelkie, MI
- President-Elect, Wayne S. Pfluger, ACF, Lone Star Forestry, LLC, Huntsville, TX
- Past President: Michael R. Wetzel, ACF, Ecce Silva, LLC, Aiken, SC
- Gulf Regional Director: Russell Autrey, ACF, Vice President, Forest Management Services, Larson & McGowin, Mobile, AL
- Secretary: Lee A. Steigerwaldt, ACF, Steigerwaldt Land Services, Inc., Tomahawk, WI

- Treasurer: Roger G. Lord, ACF, President, Mason, Bruce & Girard, Inc., Portland, OR.

Returning to ACF's 2020-21 Executive Committee are Thomas D. Amesbury, ACF, Forester's Co-Op, Grass Valley, CA, Western Regional Director; and Matthew B. Gillette, ACF, Rock Springs Forestry, Inc., Courtland, VA, Southern Regional Director.

"I'm delighted to work with Rene on ACF's Executive Committee," said Shannon McCabe, CAE, Executive Director, ACF. "I look forward to partnering with Rene the rest of the EC to further the association's mission."

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 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 Forestry 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](http://www.acf-foresters.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](http://www.acf-foresters.org).