



For Immediate Release
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New Forestry Organization Launched on Capitol Hill

Washington, DC - The newly-formed National Alliance of Forest Owners (NAFO) was introduced to Capitol Hill yesterday. The members of NAFO welcomed Members of Congress and staff, as well as representatives of conservation and environmental organizations and other allied groups to a well-attended reception in the U.S. Senate.

NAFO is a growing alliance of private forest owners, managers and organizations dedicated to protecting and enhancing the economic and environmental values of privately owned forests across the country. NAFO members sustainably manage more than 28 million acres of forestland in 29 states.

Matt Donegan, chairman of NAFO's board of directors and Co-President of Forest Capital Partners in Portland, Ore., said, "The face of private forest ownership in America is diverse and includes large and small businesses, family forest owners, and everyday Americans investing in their future. It is important that this community have a strong voice in Washington. NAFO will help provide that voice."

"We are thrilled to introduce NAFO to Washington at a time when our private forests are playing such a significant role in national policy," said David Tenny, NAFO's president and CEO. "Whether for renewable energy, addressing climate change, contributing to a healthy environment or providing the thousands of products that improve our quality of life, our private forests are central to good public policy. NAFO will work with policy makers to help ensure our private forests make the contributions they are capable of providing."

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ABOUT THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF FOREST OWNERS

NAFO was formed in March 2008 and is working to promote legislative and market policies that will enhance the economic and environmental value of the forests.

NAFO members own more than 28 million acres of private forests in 29 states, including: Alabama, Arkansas, California, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia and Wisconsin.