



## *Sandhills Chapter - Appalachian Div- SAF*

128 CHICORA CLUB DRIVE  
DUNN, NORTH CAROLINA 28334

July 17, 2007

Dear Sir:

Re: Proposed Jordan Lake Rules

I am the local Chapter Chair for the Society of American Foresters, founded in 1900 with a membership of over 800 professional foresters here in North Carolina. We are charged daily with the task of managing the forestlands of North Carolina.

Each time you add additional regulation to the private forestland owner you force them to think more and more about how to manage my forest and not be in violation of unknown local restrictions. At some point they say - BRING ON THE DEVELOPMENT - I can't keep track of the regulations

I want to point out to you this evening the following:

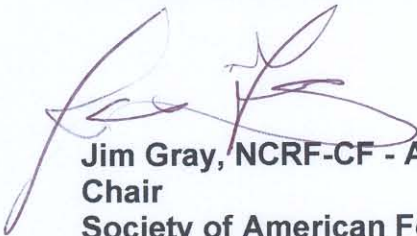
- 1- Most of the forestland in the proposed rules area is owned by small non-industrial private forestland owners
- 2- Most of these folks have other jobs in the community (farmers, doctors, widows, lawyers, local business leaders)
- 3- They have a deep love for their tract of forestland and want to comply with all Best Management Practices
- 4- These lands act as filters and buffer strips along our waterways
- 5- Their forestry operations and site disturbances tend to be accomplished at very long time intervals with minimal amounts of run off reaching our streams.

The forestry community of North Carolina under the leadership of the NC Forest Service has spent several years developing a new set of guidelines for Forestry Best Management Practices. These guidelines are full of show me pictures which address many of the concerns pointed out in your draft proposed regulations. The NC Forest Service actively inspects active and inactive logging jobs for compliance with current pollution and sedimentation laws of North Carolina.

**As you continue through this process please remember most of these landowners have a choice in front of them daily.**

- 1- Do I sell my tract of land to the local developer for the next subdivision? Which will in turn greatly increase the run off and stream nutrient loading at each rain event. Further complicating long term water quality**
- 2- Do I continue to manage my forestlands? Which will continue to provide the much-needed buffers and filters for our waterways.**

**Each time you add additional regulation to the private forestland owner you force him to think more and more about how to manage their forest and not be in violation of unknown local restrictions. At some point they says "BRING ON THE DEVELOPMENT I WILL SIT IN MY ROCKING CHAIR COUNT MY MONEY" because I can't keep track of the regulations. At that point we all lose Forest, Environment, and Water Quality.**



**Jim Gray, NCRF-CF - ACF  
Chair  
Society of American Foresters  
Sandhills Chapter**

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