



News Release

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gatrees.org

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FORESTRY COMMISSION BOARD NAMES NEW CHAIRMAN

A fifth generation Georgia forestry leader has been named Chairman of the Georgia Forestry Commission Board of Directors. John Wesley Langdale, III, was elected to replace Jim L. Gillis, Jr. who has held the position for 27 years.

“The Georgia Forestry Commission has benefited greatly from the leadership of Mr. Gillis, who will retain a position on our Board,” said Robert Farris, Interim Director of the Georgia Forestry Commission. “Wesley Langdale’s experience, knowledge and progressive commitment to excellence will keep that momentum going and help us achieve new milestones in the years to come.”

Wesley Langdale, 37, is President of The Langdale Company, a southeast Georgia forest products company founded in 1894. Langdale studied forestry at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College and holds a degree from the University of Georgia. Mr. Langdale is on the Board of Directors for the Georgia Forestry Association, Georgia Agribusiness Council, and the Georgia Conservancy and he serves a number of other organizations concerned with forestry and environmental issues. Langdale and his wife, Kimberly, have two children.

The Georgia Forestry Commission Board of Directors is a seven member panel created by the state legislature in 1921 to oversee forestry programs conducted by the GFC.

“I am honored to have been elected to this important post,” said Langdale. “This is an exciting time for everyone associated with Forestry in Georgia. Our state has more privately owned forestland than any state in the nation, and that provides tremendous opportunities for traditional and emerging markets. I’m looking forward to working with my Board colleagues to support the Georgia Forestry Commission as it meets the challenges of the future.”

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Wesley Langdale (left), new Chairman of the Georgia Forestry Commission Board of Directors, is congratulated by Robert Farris, GFC Interim Director