

News Release

For Immediate Use

Contact: Mary Kay Greer
Senior Vice President, Corporate Communications
Resource Management Service, LLC
mgreer@resourcemgt.com
(205) 980-7304

Contact: Sarah Corica
Director of Marketing and Communications
NC State College of Natural Resources
secorica@ncsu.edu
(919) 513-4644

RMS Launches "Forester of the Future Fund" with NC State

\$20,000 Donation to Establish Scholarship

Birmingham, Alabama – October 16, 2019: Resource Management Service, LLC (RMS), one of the world's leading managers of forest investments for institutional investors, announced today that it has pledged to make a \$20,000 donation to the North Carolina State University's Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources in the College of Natural Resources to establish a scholarship program called the "Forester of the Future Fund," which, among other things, will focus on attracting undergraduate and graduate students to the university from populations that historically have been underrepresented in the forestry profession.

"We have a close, long-standing relationship with NC State so partnering with the faculty and administration of the College of Natural Resources to launch this initiative made perfect sense," said Craig Blair, President and CEO of RMS. "Together, we have a strong interest in actively supporting greater diversity, equity, inclusion and accountability in the forestry profession," he continued.

"The College of Natural Resources is deeply committed to promoting diversity and inclusion, and we are fortunate to have such a willing and forward-thinking partner like RMS," said Dr. Myron Floyd, Interim Dean of NC State's College of Natural Resources. "This generous gift will allow us to recruit more students from underrepresented groups and increase their awareness of career opportunities in forestry and natural resources."

-MORE-

RMS Launches "Forester of the Future Fund" with NC State – 2

The "Forester of the Future" program will be administered through the NC State Natural Resources Foundation beginning in January 2020. The focus of the program will be to recruit and support the needs of students from populations that have been historically underrepresented in the forestry profession and in the Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources. This will include, but will not be limited to, undergraduate and graduate students from historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs). It also will include efforts to build sustainable partnerships with students who participate in HBCU programs, as well as students who are interested in, or who are members of organizations supporting underrepresented students. Scholarship recipients will be able to designate how the funds they receive will be used to pay for any combination of tuition, books and related expenses. They also will be eligible for an accompanying full-time, paid internship with RMS.

RMS also provides other annual scholarships for students seeking their undergraduate degrees in forestry at several public universities in the U.S. South, including [NC State](#). The RMS Forestry Scholarship program was conceived as a way to promote forestry as a career path. Like the NC State "Forester of the Future Fund," it is targeted primarily at students from populations that historically have been under-represented in the profession, or who would benefit from receiving significant financial support in their efforts to complete their forestry degrees. Recipients receive \$10,000 annually during their junior and senior years and also participate in the company's internship program – typically during the summer between their junior and senior years.

"We believe the forestry profession will have an increasingly important influence on the world in the future because the sustainable management of our forests will be an increasingly important priority for us all," said Blair of RMS. "Forests provide us with a vast array of the raw materials we need to sustain ourselves – everything from building materials and paper and packaging products to chemicals, minerals, renewable fuels and alternative sources of energy. They also provide us with clean water and air, wildlife habitat, recreational opportunities, aesthetic and spiritual respite and the capacity to resist and fight climate change. In all of these ways, our forests anchor and link rural, suburban and urban communities alike – enhancing the quality of life we collectively enjoy. Foresters are the stewards of these essential natural resources, but for the profession to be fully recognized and appreciated for the contribution it makes to society, it

must better reflect its diversity and cultural attributes. This is the spirit and intent of the "Forester of the Future" program and we are very pleased to be partnering with NC State on the initiative to help its College of Natural Resources train the world's next generation of foresters."

"I am extremely appreciative of RMS' continued support of the Forest Management program and this new commitment to support diversity recruitment efforts," said Dr. Tom Gower, Professor and Head of the Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources at NC State. "Their support, in addition to ongoing faculty-led diversity and inclusion enhancement initiatives, will ensure the Forest Management program at NC State recruits, retains and trains a diverse and talented workforce for the future."

About Resource Management Service, LLC

In 1950, John M. Bradley, a young Yale University forestry graduate, partnered with Harry E. Murphy, a graduate of Pennsylvania State University's School of Forestry, to create Resource Management Service (RMS). From its beginnings as a consulting forestry firm to private landowners, RMS capitalized on changing forest industry dynamics to grow and become one of the nation's leading providers of forest management and acquisitions services. By consistently and deliberately advancing the art and science of forestry, RMS has become recognized today as an accomplished global forest investment firm – one that manages millions of acres of forest assets. As a private, employee-owned company, its clients are primarily large, sophisticated institutional investors that invest billions of dollars in forests and other sectors to, among other things, fund retiree pensions, capitalize university endowment programs, provide financial resources for the endeavors of families and charitable foundations and to help leading financial institutions meet their objectives. For more information, please visit us at: www.resourcemgt.com.

About NC State's College of Natural Resources

Since 1929, the College of Natural Resources at NC State University has aimed to improve the sustainability of the world's natural resources and improve the economic and social condition of its people through education, innovation and the discovery and dissemination of new knowledge. The college offers programs of study leading to baccalaureate and graduate degrees in the management and use of natural resources, and also offers courses in these areas to students in other colleges. Ten professional curricula are administered in the college through its Departments of Forestry and Environmental Resources; Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management; and Forest Biomaterials. These programs provide a broad education in the biological, physical, and social sciences as well as a sound hands-on and professional experience. cnr.ncsu.edu

-End