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University of Florida's Tammy Cushing Honored with Outstanding Partner Award by the Association of Consulting Foresters of America, Inc.

[Lynchburg, VA] — [The Association of Consulting Foresters of America, Inc.](#) (ACF) is honored to name Dr. Tamara “Tammy” Cushing, Extension Forest Business Specialist at the University of Florida School of Forest, Fisheries and Geomatics Sciences, as the 2026 recipient of the ACF Outstanding Partner Award. ACF is a national organization committed to serving independent consulting foresters who manage forests and market forest products for private woodland owners. This award recognizes individuals or organizations outside of ACF membership who have advanced ACF's mission through collaboration, shared leadership, and meaningful contributions to the consulting forestry profession.

“Tammy has been an invaluable partner to ACF members for many years,” said ACF President Gerald H. Grossman, ACF. “Whether she is helping foresters navigate complex tax issues, educating landowners, mentoring students, or supporting professional development programs, Tammy consistently demonstrates a commitment to advancing the practice of consulting forestry. Her impact extends far beyond the classroom.”

Cushing has built a distinguished career spanning consulting forestry, research, extension, and higher education. After earning degrees from the University of Florida, Mississippi State University and University of Georgia, she held positions at F & W Forestry Services, Inc., University of Kentucky, Clemson University, and Oregon State University and the University of Florida before returning to the University of Florida. Her extension and teaching efforts focus on helping private forest landowners and forestry professionals make informed business, financial, and management decisions.

For ACF members, Cushing is perhaps best known as a trusted educator and resource. She has presented at multiple ACF National Conferences on topics including forest taxation, succession planning, forest economics, and financial decision-making. Her ability to translate complex financial and tax concepts into practical guidance has made her a sought-after speaker and advisor throughout the forestry community.

More recently, Cushing partnered with the Florida Chapter of ACF to develop an Introduction to Forestry Consulting course at the University of Florida. The course incorporates ACF members as guest speakers and provides students with direct exposure to the consulting forestry profession,

helping build awareness of career opportunities and strengthen the pipeline of future forestry professionals.

"I'm deeply honored to receive this recognition from ACF," said Cushing. "Throughout my career, I've had the opportunity to work alongside outstanding consulting foresters who are dedicated to serving landowners and stewarding forest resources. Supporting those professionals through education, outreach, and workforce development has been incredibly rewarding, and I look forward to continuing those partnerships in the years ahead."

"Tammy has a remarkable ability to connect research, education, and practical application," said Shannon McCabe, CAE, Executive Director of ACF. "She has been a tireless advocate for private forest landowners, a valued resource for consulting foresters, and a champion for the next generation of forestry professionals. She exemplifies exactly what the Outstanding Partner Award was created to recognize."

The Outstanding Partner Award was created by ACF to recognize individuals, organizations, or companies outside of ACF membership that have made a lasting, positive impact through partnership, mission alignment, and tangible contributions to the field of forestry.

Cushing was honored at the 2026 ACF National Conference in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

ACF provides professional development, networking opportunities, exclusive communications, tools, and resources to consulting foresters. ACF members are the gold standard of forestry consultants because they meet rigorous educational, experience, and reference requirements as well as adhere to a Code of Ethics ensuring loyalty to landowners and their land.

For more information about ACF, visit www.acf-foresters.org.

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About the Association of Consulting Foresters of America, Inc. (ACF):

Founded in 1948, the Association of Consulting Foresters of America, Inc. (ACF) is a professional organization dedicated to advancing the practice of professional consulting forestry and promoting the highest standards of professionalism and ethics among its members. ACF members can benefit forest landowners by enhancing property value, optimizing timber growth through sustainable harvests, maximizing the value of timber, enhancing wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities, and protecting family forest legacy. Visit www.acf-foresters.org to learn more.

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