The vision of the Certified Forester Program® is:

- professional excellence in the application and advancement of forestry.
The mission of the Certified Forester Program® is to:

- Serve as the competency and credentialing standard for foresters
- Recognize a forester’s education, professional experience, and commitment to the ongoing pursuit of knowledge
- Promote continuing education in forestry and associated disciplines
- Increase public awareness of the forestry professional
Overview of SAF Credentialing

- 1900 — SAF defines the forestry profession
- 1935 — First accredited professional forestry degrees
- 1984 — Continuing Forestry Education (CFE) Certificate
- 1994 — Certified Forester®
- 2002 — CF Exam developed
- 2003 — CF Exam becomes mandatory for new applicants.
- 2004 — 1State accepts CF exam in lieu of state exam.
  - 1State in discussion with SAF about CF exam being implemented in state.
Overview of Certified Forester®

- The Certified Forester® (CF) program sets a national standard for excellence in professional forestry
- Assesses professional forestry education and experience
- Promotes best practices and regulatory compliance through required continuing education and CF Standards of Professional Practice
Certified Forester® Criteria

- SAF accredited or SAF candidate curriculum at the bachelor’s or master’s level or a substantially equivalent professional degree from a non-SAF accredited curriculum with a minimum of 11 core courses.
- Five years or more of professional forestry experience
- Compliance with the CF Standards of Professional Practice
- 60 hrs of continuing forestry education every three years for recertification
Can SAF Assure Competence?

- Use of "state of the art" psychometric principles, comprehensive certification programs, and well designed examinations can bring an organization as close to assuring competence as is possible.

- The best certification program can only demonstrate that a candidate demonstrated competence at one point in time through an examination process.

~~ National Commission on Certification Assessment
Two exams
- CF core exam-- required beginning in 2003
- Specialized credential in sustainable forest management auditing (CF/CFA)--first in a series of optional certifications for CFs (22 CF’s are currently certified as CF/CFA)

Computer-based exams are available in hundreds of cities throughout the US and Canada.
To ensure validity of job analysis and subsequent test development, SAF hired a top-ranked testing contractor, CASTLE Worldwide.

CASTLE guided and support SAF-designated panels of field foresters and content-matter experts.

Another SAF panel created a job analysis for accuracy and completeness of the exam.
Certified Forester Examination

- All new CF applicants began taking the exam starting in 2003 (13 applicants took the test last year)
- Foresters certified by December 2002 were not required to take the exam
- SAF is exploring reciprocity with states where an exam is in place (South Carolina now accepts the CF exam in lieu of their state exam & Maine has inquired about using the exam in lieu of their own or instead of creating one)
How much does it cost?

- **Initial Application Fees:**
  - SAF Member - $250
  - Non-member - $325

- **Annual Renewal Fees:**
  - SAF Member - $35
  - Non-member - $60

- **Re-Certification Fees: (every 3 years)**
  - SAF Member - $50
  - Non-member - $75

- **60 Hours of CFE’s (every 3yrs)**
  - @ $40/hr? = $2,400
Number of New CF’s by Year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
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<td>2003</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>4*</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* 5 have taken the test, 4 passed. Currently 23 are approved to take the test.
Who Are Certified Foresters Today?
By Type

CF's By Member Type

- Non Member
- Professional Member
- Technician Member
- Associate Member
- Professional Member
- International Member
Who Are Certified Foresters Today? By Membership

CF's By Years in Membership

- 1-9
- 10-19
- 20-29
- 30-39
- 40-49
- 50-59
- 60-69
Who Are Certified Foresters Today?

By Age

CF's By Age

- 20-29
- 30-39
- 40-49
- 50-59
- 60-69
- 70-79
- 80-89
- NAG
Who Are Certified Foresters Today? By Gender

CF's By Gender

Female

Male
Who Are Certified Foresters Today? By Ethnic Group

CF's By Ethnic Group

- African American
- Asian
- Caucasian
- Hispanic
- Multi-Racial
- Native American
- No Information
- Other
Who Are Certified Foresters Today?

By Employer

CF's By Employer

- College/University
- Federal Govt
- State/Local Govt
- Private Industry
- Consultant
- Self Employed
- Association/Foundation
- Retired
- Student
- No Employer
- Other
Who Are Certified Foresters Today?

By Salary

CF's By Salary

- Under $20,000
- $20,000-$29,999
- $30,000-$39,999
- $40,000-$49,999
- $50,000-$59,999
- $60,000-$69,000
- $70,000-$79,000
- $80,000 & Over
- No Income Indicated
Who Are Certified Foresters Today? By Position

CF's By Position

- Owner
- Retired
- Upper Level Mgr/Admin
- Mid Level Mgr/Admin
- Staff Specialist
- Field Forester
- Field Technician
- Researcher/Educator
- Other
- No Position Indicated
Where are the CF’s today?

Are you the CF Type?
Questions? Comments?

Contact:
Louise Murgia, CF
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301-897-8720 x 118
murgial@safnet.org

For more information or to apply, visit: www.certifiedforester.org