

George L. Geissler, CF



George L. Geissler is Oklahoma's State Forester and Director of the Forestry Services Division. A position he has held since February of 2011.

Mr. Geissler is a native of New Orleans. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Forest Management from Louisiana State University, a Master of Business Administration degree from Harvard University and has attended the Senior Executive in State and Local Government Program of the Harvard Kennedy School of Government as a Fellow. He has almost 30 years of experience in natural resource and wildland fire management. He is an active member of the Society of American

Foresters since 1987 and a Certified Forester.

Mr. Geissler began his career with the United States Forest Service as both a wildland firefighter with the Idaho City Hotshots and a silviculturalist on the Boise National Forest.

He left the USFS in 1988 to become the Corporate Forester for Central and Southwest Services (an electric utility holding company based in Dallas, TX) where he directed forest management activities on over 400,000 acres of company owned timberlands and all vegetation management activities on company electrical system infrastructure in the US, Brazil and England.

In 1997 Mr. Geissler left Central and Southwest to establish Forestry West LLC, in Tijeras, NM. Under his leadership as owner and CEO, Forestry West quickly established itself as a leader in natural resource management including forest management, community wildfire preparedness, and wildland fire prevention and planning. Forestry West's staff of 80 supported clients in 18 western states. The firm was sold in 2005.

He joined Oklahoma Forestry Services in 2006. Before becoming State Forester, he served in a staff function to coordinate all forest management activities provided by OFS including the Forest Stewardship program, forest management planning, prescribed fire planning, financial analysis, and technical assistance.

Mr. Geissler is a member and current Vice-President of the National Association of State Foresters, a member of the Southern Group of State Foresters, and is the present Chair of the NASF National Wildland Fire Committee. He also represents Governor Mary Fallin and the National Governors Association on the Wildland Fire Leadership Council. He serves on the Board of the NASF Foundation.