

Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
 Witness Disclosure Requirement - "Truth in Testimony"
 Required by House Rule XI, Clause 2(g)(5)

1. Your Name: Sonya Germann

2. Your Title: Montana State Forester, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Forestry Division

3. The Entity(ies) You are Representing: National Association of State Foresters

4. Are you testifying on behalf of the Federal, or a State or local government entity?	Yes	No X
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5. Please list any Federal grants or contracts, or contracts or payments originating with a foreign government, that you or the entity(ies) you represent have received on or after January 1, 2015. Only grants, contracts, or payments related to the subject matter of the hearing must be listed.

National Association of State Foresters
 Listing of Federal grants and/or contracts received since January 1, 2015

Source	Grant Number	2015	2016	2017	2018
USDA Forest Service	17-DG-11132543-045	-	-	198,000	198,000
USDA Forest Service	17-DG-11132543-046	-	-	153,600	75,510
USDA Forest Service	17-CA-11132543-026	-	-	148,800	148,800
USDA Forest Service	17-DG-11132543-031			262,000	150,000
USDA Forest Service	16-DG-11132543-059	-	80,500	80,500	19,456
USDA Forest Service	16-DG-11132543-060		185,504	185,504	181,216
USDA Forest Service	15-DG-11132543-052	139,750	139,750	139,750	139,750
USDA Forest Service	14-DG-11132543-085	87,290	116,477	116,477	116,477
USDA Forest Service	14-DG-11132543-084	79,283	65,000	79,283	57,610
USDA Forest Service	14-DG-11132543-083	168,665	173,980	173,980	98,296
		<u>474,988</u>	<u>761,211</u>	<u>1,537,894</u>	<u>1,185,115</u>

6. Please attach your curriculum vitae to your completed disclosure form.

Signature: _____

Date: 9/11/2018

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE TRUTH-IN-TESTIMONY DISCLOSURE FORM

In General. The attached form is intended to assist witnesses appearing before the Committee on Energy and Commerce in complying with Rule XI, clause 2(g)(5) of the Rules of the House of Representatives, which provides:

(B) In the case of a witness appearing in a nongovernmental capacity, a written statement of proposed testimony shall include a curriculum vitae and a disclosure of any Federal grants or contracts, or contracts or payments originating with a foreign government, received during the current calendar year or either of the two previous calendar years by the witness or by an entity represented by the witness and related to the subject matter of the hearing. (C) The disclosure referred to in subdivision (B) shall include (i) the amount and source of each Federal grant (or subgrant thereof) or contract (or subcontract thereof) related to the subject matter of the hearing; and (ii) the amount and country of origin of any payment or contract related to the subject matter of the hearing originating with a foreign government. (D) Such statements, with appropriate redactions to protect the privacy or security of the witness, shall be made publicly available in electronic form not later than one day after the witness appears.

Please complete the form in accordance with these directions.

1. ***Name, Title, Entity(ies) (Items 1-3 on the form).*** Please provide the name and title of the witness and the entity(ies) on whose behalf the witness is testifying.
2. ***Governmental Entity (Item 4).*** Please check the box indicating whether or not the witness is testifying on behalf of a government entity, such as a Federal department or agency, or a State or local department, agency, or jurisdiction. Trade or professional associations of public officials are not considered to be governmental organizations.

Grants and Contracts (Item 5). Please list any Federal grants or contracts, or contracts or payments originating with a foreign government, that you or the entity(ies) you represent have received on or after January 1, 2015. For each Federal grant (or subgrant thereof) or contract (or subcontract thereof) related to the subject matter of the hearing, please include the amount and source of each. For each payment or contract originating with a foreign government related to the subject matter of the hearing, please include the amount and country of origin of each. Only grants, contracts, or payments related to the subject matter

of the hearing must be listed.

3. ***Curriculum Vitae (Item 6).*** Please attach your CV to your completed disclosure form.
4. ***Submission.*** Please sign and date the form in the appropriate place. Please submit this form with your written testimony. Please note that under the Committee's rules, copies of a written statement of your proposed testimony must be submitted before the commencement of the hearing. To the greatest extent practicable, please also provide a copy in electronic format according to the Electronic Format Guidelines that accompany these instructions.

Sonya Germann

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

State Forester / Division Administrator

2018 to

Present

Montana Department of Natural Resources & Conservation (DNRC), Forestry Division

- Oversees all forestry assistance, fire protection, and business management functions for the Forestry Division. Programmatically responsible for the work of 288 full time employees.
- Serves as the Division's policy expert to determine legislative intent, assess current policies and their impact, and identify areas affected by new policies, delegate research assignments, and review policy recommendations from subordinate managers.
- Directs and oversees statewide fire prevention, pre-suppression, direct and county cooperative fire suppression, equipment, aviation, fire business, and fire safety programs in order to protect lives, property, and natural resources from wildfire by providing safe and effective services to Montana's citizens as well as leadership, coordination and resources to the State's wildfire services.
- Directs and oversees forestry assistance programs and services, including managing initiatives and programs to advocate for sustainable forest management practices on private, state, tribal and federal forestlands.
- Serves as the State of Montana's expert and highest-level point of contact for peers in state and federal agencies and for members of the Montana Legislature regarding Montana's forestry issues.
- Represents the State of Montana to advocate and advance executive policy initiatives on a national level to promote interest and involvement regarding forestry issues such as Federal Forest Management, Montana Forests in Focus, Good Neighbor Authority, National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy, general forest policy, collaboration and partnership, etc.
- Represents the State of Montana with national associations and perform a variety of communications activities such as giving presentations and attending meetings to build public awareness of Forestry Division objectives and to increase support of and cooperation with Division programs.

Forest Management Bureau Chief

2012 to

2018

Montana DNRC, Trust Land Management Division (TLMD), Forest Management Bureau (FMB)

- Oversaw all programmatic functions of the TLMD Forest Management Program. Ensures annual revenue generation of approximately \$7 to 10 million to state trust land beneficiaries and \$1.3 million in forest improvement fees through the sale of 56.9 million board feet

(MMbf) of timber. Programmatically responsible for the work of 56 full time employees and for the statewide administration of a \$5.7 million annual budget.

- Accountable to the Board of Land Commissioners (Land Board), Land Board Staffers, DNRC Director, and TLMD Administrator for the sound development and clear presentation of timber sales and other decision items on a monthly basis. Since 2012, has worked with two Land Boards to unanimously pass 133 sales equaling 315 MMbf and \$58.35 million to the trust beneficiaries.
- Developed and maintained productive working relationships with: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; U.S. Forest Service; Environmental Protection Agency; Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks; Montana Forest Collaborative Network; Montana Wood Products Association; Montana Logging Association; Montana Congressional Staff; and various external stakeholders to advance the mission of the DNRC and to further the sustainable management and restoration of forested lands in the State of Montana.
- Served as the primary forest policy leader for the Forest Management Program. Directly managed a team of 10 Forest Management Bureau staff including foresters, biologists, hydrologists, and a planner who collectively lead the implementation of and problem-solving associated with complex forest policies, laws, and rules. These included the Sustainable Yield Calculation, the Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), the State Forest Management Plan, the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA), Administrative Rules for Forest Management, and other state and federal policies that affect the Program.
- Coordinated with DNRC leadership to create and respond to legislation affecting TLMD and the Forest Management Program. Responsible for effective development and delivery of testimony to legislature and the Environmental Quality Council, for timely communication to elected officials, and for accurate fiscal note evaluation.
- Created training opportunities for Department employees that focus on team-building, leadership, prejudice reduction, and organizational development. Provided training for over 150 Department staff through 7 DNRC-hosted trainings. Assisted the Governor's Office of Indian Affairs in training over 250 state employees during the 2015 Tribal Relations Training.
- Led TLMD efforts to improve relationships with tribal governments in order to better understand potential impact to tribal cultural resources found on state trust lands. Coordinated historic events between DNRC, Land Board, Tribal Historic Preservation Officers, and tribal council members to connect approximately 60 DNRC managers, foresters, and specialists with tribal members from 6 of Montana's 8 tribal governments.

Forest Management Planner

2007

to 2012 Montana DNRC, TLMD, FMB

- Oversaw the TLMD Forest Management Program's application of and compliance with MEPA and other applicable state laws and administrative rules affecting management activities on forested state trust lands.

- Developed strategic project management and public participation plans for high profile and/or contentious TLMD projects and led the execution of those plans.
- Coordinated the development and technical review of forested state trust land documents including environmental impact documents, policy guidance memos, legislative briefings, monitoring reports, and public information documents.

Wildlife / Planning Technician

2006 to 2007

Montana DNRC, TLMD, FMB

- Assisted FMB Wildlife Biologist in coordinating program-wide forest road closure, snag, and coarse woody debris monitoring and reporting.
- Assisted HCP Project Managers in completing technical resource analyses associated with the Draft Environmental Impact Statement/HCP.
- Provided spatial data analysis support using GIS for transportation, wildlife, aquatic, and sensitive plant species analyses in the HCP.

Biological Sciences Technician

2006

USDA Forest Service, Tongass National Forest, Wrangell Ranger District

- Conducted field work influencing the development of wildlife habitat mitigations associated with timber sale planning.
- Planned and implemented field surveys for northern goshawks and Sitka black-tailed deer habitat.

EDUCATION

M.S. Resource Conservation

In Progress

College of Forestry and Conservation

The University of Montana, Missoula, MT

Federal Forest Policy on the Tongass National Forest: Conducted research on assessing the most significant opportunities and challenges related to implementing restoration projects and engaging in collaboration on the Tongass National Forest.

Graduate Certificate; Natural Resource Conflict Resolution

2012

Center for Natural Resources and Environmental Policy

The University of Montana, Missoula, MT

Program designed to train individuals to prevent and resolve disputes associated with natural resource management.

B.S. Wildlife Biology

2006

The University of Montana, Missoula, MT

Terrestrial Concentration; graduated high honors.

B.A. Liberal Studies

2001

The University of Montana, Missoula, MT

Community Organizing Concentration; graduated high honors.

AWARDS

First Nations Award

2016

Montana DNRC

Award recognizing outstanding efforts to strengthen and build long-term relationships with Montana's Tribal Governments and Nations.

Wyss Scholar

2011

Wyss Foundation and The University of Montana

Scholarship award supporting the graduate-level education of a new generation of leaders in land management and conservation in the West.

Pat Williams Scholarship

2011

Mansfield Center, The University of Montana

Scholarship award supporting research in the areas of public policy and leadership.

Governor's Award for Excellence in Performance

2011

State of Montana

Team award recognizing excellence in the development of the Montana DNRC HCP.

Division Administrator Award

2009

Montana DNRC, TLMD

Award recognizing excellence in managing high profile and contentious TLMD projects.

National Science Foundation Research Award

2005

National Science Foundation and Montana EPSCoR

Research award supporting pilot study to measure mammal activity on decommissioned forest roads.