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Arkansas Forestry Commission Hosts Forestry Leaders from Across the South

LITTLE ROCK, ARK. – More than 200 forestry leaders from across the southern region were hosted in Rogers last week by the Arkansas Forestry Commission (AFC) for the Southern Group of State Foresters (SGSF) summer meeting.

The nonprofit Southern Group of State Foresters includes forestry leadership from 13 southern states, as well as Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. During the annual summer meeting, state and federal decision makers and partners gather to discuss existing and upcoming challenges and opportunities facing southern forests. The theme of the 2017 meeting focused on the role forests play in water quality and quantity.

The annual SGSF silent auction raised more than \$3,000 to go to the Arkansas Children’s Hospital’s ‘Log a Load for Kids’ program. An additional \$3,000 was donated to the National Association of State Foresters Foundation, which supports educational initiatives that foster leadership for current and future members of the state forestry community.

“We were honored to host this distinguished event in Arkansas, to highlight our great people, our beautiful forests, our partnerships, and the role that we play in forest management and protection. AFC staff members were highly praised for their efforts. We represented our state well,” said State Forester Joe fox.

“Arkansas Log A Load for Kids was honored to be the charity of choice for the Southern Group of State Foresters meeting. Their kind gift will be put toward the cardiothoracic surgery unit endowment, Arkansas’ Log A Load for Kids current fundraising initiative,” said Rebecca Neely, Arkansas Log A Load for Kids Administrator.

The AFC is a part of the Arkansas Agriculture Department. The mission of the AFC is to protect Arkansas’s forests, and those who enjoy them, from wildland fire and natural hazards while promoting rural and urban forest health, stewardship, development, and conservation for all generations of Arkansans. Learn more at: www.aad.arkansas.gov.

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