HISTORICAL ROLE OF THE STATE IN FOREST PLANNING

by

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ABSTRACT

The development of forestry, forestry organizations and policies, and forest planning are all rooted to changing public attitudes, resource needs and social and economic values.

All these have developed slowly since settlers first came to America. The development of forestry in the United States and the South covered five eras and each had an influence on forestry and forest planning. These were the eras of forest abundance and growth of a nation; the golden era, which had two parts, lumbering and the age of forest conservation; the era of forestry growth; the era of great change and the era of challenge.

The present era of challenge has seen a change of direction in forestry from short-term management concepts to fully planned longer range management. All southern states are now involved in the State Forest Resources Planning and their plans will be the foundation and guide for managing forest resources for many years to come.