



**Alex Friend** has been active in forest resources stewardship in various forms since 1982, including research, teaching, and service at Mississippi State University; research and leadership in the Forest Service; and now consulting, scholarship, and community service as a retiree.

He lives in Leesburg, VA with his wife, Kathleen. They are active equestrians, training and competing in low level eventing. Alex is also an avid disc golfer. He was born in New York but lived and schooled throughout the United States, including Indianapolis and New Orleans for the high school years.

#### Professional Details:

- Manager, Alexander Friend Consulting LLC (2026-Present)
- Member, Leesburg Tree Commission (2025-Present)
- Adjunct Professor, Department of Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation, Virginia Tech University, Blacksburg, VA (2023-Present)
- Deputy Chief, Research and Development, USDA Forest Service (2018- 2022)
- Station Director, Pacific Southwest Research Station, USDA Forest Service (2012-2018)
- Deputy Area Budget Coordinator, Research and Development, USDA Forest Service, Washington DC (2007- 2012)
- Project Leader, Northern Research Station, USDA Forest Service (2002-2012)
- Professor of Forestry, Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS (1989-2001)
- Undergraduate and Graduate degrees in forest resources from University of Washington (PhD), North Carolina State University (MS), and University of the South, Sewanee (BS).

#### Recent scholarship:

Wagner, R. G., A. L. Friend, E. J. Silver, J. Rojas, T. R. Fox, T. Baker, and R. Simpson. 2025. New Approach Needed To Address Declining Forestry Research Capacity And Relevancy in the US: A Call-To-Action. *Journal of Forestry*:1-11