



Scott Phillips

State Forester, South Carolina Forestry Commission

Scott Phillips became State Forester Jan. 2, 2018. As the agency head, he works with a nine-member board appointed by the governor to set agency policy and direction. He represents the Forestry Commission and forestry interests at the state government level as well as regionally and nationally.

A native of Millen, Ga., Phillips started with the agency in 1999 as a forester on Manchester State Forest, then served as a BMP Forester in the Pee Dee region from July 2000 to Nov. 2002. He was the Forest Analyst for the state forest system from Nov. 2002 - Oct. 2007 before moving to the Assistant Forest Director at Manchester for four months.

Phillips moved to the agency's headquarters in Feb. 2008 to serve as the Rural Forestry Programs Manager, where he coordinated the Forest Renewal Program (FRP) and Stewardship program for the Commission until his selection as State Forester. Scott also serves as the Plans Section Chief on the Commission's Incident Management Team, the only Type 2 team in the state.

An avid deer and turkey hunter, Scott is also the youngest State Forester in South Carolina history, taking office at age 43. He lives in Camden with his wife Lori.