



Greg Pate

State Forester Alabama Forestry Commission

Greg Pate was born in Anniston, Alabama and graduated from Walter Wellborn High School. In 1981, Mr. Pate graduated from Auburn University with a Bachelor of Science in Forest Management.

He now has 30 years of experience in Forestry: 5 in the private sector, and 25 with the state government. His time in Private sector work was as a forestry contractor with private forestry consultants. After 5 years, Mr. Pate joined the North Carolina Forest Service in 1988 and worked 25 years in various capacities including forest management, fire, nursery and genetics, and management. In 2012 he became the 9th State Forester of North Carolina. Then in 2014, Mr. Pate was appointed as the 7th State Forester for Alabama. Becoming one of only a hand full of people who have held the position of State Forester in two separate states.

Mr. Pate has made fire suppression an important part of his career. Having worked numerous incidents in North Carolina and some in the Western US. As NC Regional Forester for the Coastal Plain in 2011, Mr. Pate operated as an on-the-ground Agency Administrator for five major fire incidents across the four districts under his supervision. Ten Type 1 and Type 2 Incident Management Team rotations occurred during this period. Mr. Pate still maintains the title of National Planning Section Chief Type 2 and Public Information Officer Type 2 credentials.

Mr. Pate continues to bring out the leadership qualities in all the personnel who have worked with him through the years. He credits wife Mary as having been an integral part of his forestry career. They have three children and continue to be heavily involved in church, community, and school activities. Mr. Pate states, “I am excited to have the opportunity to work in a great agency like the Alabama Forestry Commission. I along with our over 250 employees statewide will continue to work with private sector organizations and companies as well as public sector agencies and organizations to strengthen Alabama’s forest resource as a top economic driver in the state.”