



Alvin A. Taylor

Director of South Carolina Department of Natural Resources

Alvin A. Taylor is Director of the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR). He serves as the chief administrator for natural resources in the State and is responsible for management and supervision of the agency's five line divisions: Outreach & Support Services; Land, Water & Conservation; Law Enforcement; Marine Resources; and Wildlife &

Freshwater Fisheries, with a staff of over 900 people in numerous locations across South Carolina.

Alvin graduated from Clemson University in 1976 with a BS in Zoology. He completed training at the U.S. Coast Guard Law Enforcement Training Center in Yorktown, Virginia, in 1976, and graduated from the S.C. Criminal Justice Academy in 1977. He began his career with the agency in 1977 and progressed through the ranks serving as an officer, private first class, sergeant, lieutenant, captain, major, and colonel, the agency's law-enforcement chief. He is a certified SCUBA diver and for several years supervised the DNR Aquatic Investigations and Recovery Unit dive team. He is an active member of the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA), serving as its president in 2003, and he is the State Boating Law Administrator for South Carolina. On December 8, 2011, the seven-member SCDNR Board named him Acting Director of the agency, and on March 17, 2012, he became the agency's permanent Director.

Among his many honors and awards, Alvin has received the 2013 Strom Thurmond Award for Excellence in Law Enforcement, Governor Carroll A. Campbell, Jr., Leadership Award in 2005, Meritorious Public Service Commendation from the Department of Homeland Security in 2004, Patriotic Employer Award from the National Committee for Employer Support of the National Guard and Reserve in 2003, the DNR Meritorious Service Award in 1997, the Bonner Award and the NASBLA Award from the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators.

His mission has been and remains to ensure that agency decisions and actions regarding the state's natural resources are based on a balance of scientific knowledge, strong conservation ethics, objectivity, fairness, and the needs and interests of the public.