



Protecting Forested Land & Supporting Rural Communities Through Working Forests

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Dear Fisherman's Cove Community,

I am writing on behalf of the Foundation for Sustainable Forests (FSF) to introduce you to this organization and its new role as owners and stewards of the Kerr Property.

The Foundation for Sustainable Forests (FSF) is a 501(c)(3) charitable land trust based in Spartansburg, PA, that conserves and manages forested land. To date, we have conserved over 2,500 acres of woodland in northwest Pennsylvania and western New York State. The mission of FSF is to conserve forested land and also to manage the forests it protects, while promoting sustainable forest management practices. As an organization, we conserve and steward the region's forest ecosystem for long-term health and resilience, while supporting the local timber economy with sustainably-managed forests and sustainably-harvested forest products.

We are humbled and grateful for the donation of the Kerr Property by Fishermans Cove Preservation Foundation, and understand well that we have been entrusted with the great responsibility of caring for an ecologically and culturally rich site that carries a great deal of meaning to many.

In the months, even years to come, we intend to get to know the property and develop a resource management plan to better understand what needs it may have (ex. invasive plant management, overstory timber management, protection of sensitive archeological areas). Any and all activities will be conducted with the approval of the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy and Archeological Conservancy as the Conservation Easement holders. Both organizations require a stringent process of proposal and approval, which we are committed to following.

We also hope to get to know you, as our "new neighbors", if you will. To begin, we have decided to host our annual Lynn Firth Wildflower Walk on Sunday, May 5th, at the Kerr Property. This is generally a small, casual event co-led by a DCNR forester and wildflower expert. The goal is to walk and enjoy the site as we search for spring ephemerals; we will take only photographs and leave only footprints. You are cordially invited as well, and can find more details in the coming months on our website: foundationforsustainableforests.org/events.

In order to familiarize you with Foundation for Sustainable Forests and its mission, we will be mailing you a copy of our Fall/Winter newsletter, but will not send continued mailings unless you choose to receive them via membership or by joining our online mailing list.

If you have any questions about the organization, our role in owning the Kerr Property, etc. I encourage you to reach out. Thank you and we look forward to meeting you in the future.

Sincerely,

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Executive Director
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