

Louise Murgia Director Society of American Foresters 5400 Grosvenor Lane Bethesda, MD 20814-2198

Dear Ms Murgia:

We are pleased to inform you that our cooperative partnership regarding training and certification of Technical Service Providers (TSPs) in the forestry/agroforestry discipline over the past five years has proven very productive. Rather than continuing the memorandum of understanding process to sustain our partnership, we are solidifying our desire to continue our work via this letter.

Our national TSP Certification Process recognizes the Society of American Foresters (SAF) as a Recommending Organization for NRCS's current suite of forestry and agroforestry practices:

Access Control (472) Alley Cropping (311) Firebreak (394) Forest Slash Treatment (384) Forest Stand Improvement (666) Fuel Break (383) Multi-Story Cropping (379) Prescribed Forestry (409) Silvopasture Establishment (381) Tree/Shrub Site Preparation (490) Tree/Shrub Pruning (660) Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380) Windbreak/Shelterbelt Renovation (650) Forest Trails and Landings (655) Recreation Area Improvement (562) Tree/Shrub Establishment (612) Riparian Forest Buffer (391)

For more information about these conservation practices go to: <u>http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/Standards/nhcp.html</u>

If something changes in your ability to continue to offer this training and certification, please advise us. Otherwise, this letter serves to document our cooperative partnership that offers mutual benefit to both our organizations.

Helping People Help the Land An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer We will continue to interact with you as the SAF Technical contact for all matters related to training and certification. Likewise, contact my staff or me regarding TSP certification matters. I look forward to our continued mutual cooperation in this matter. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call me at (202) 720-6731.

Sincerely,

ANGEL FIGUEROA National TSP Team Leader

cc: William Puckett, Deputy Chief for Science and Technology, NRCS, Washington, D.C. Virginia Murphy, Associate Deputy Chief for Science and Technology, NRCS, Washington, D.C.

Andrew Mason, National Forester, Ecological Sciences Division, NRCS, Washington, D.C.