



# History & Overview of Sustainability Issues

Jerry Rose

Forest Sustainability Representative

National Association of State Foresters

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# Foundation of Sustainability

- Environment
- Economy
- Community

**ALL MUST BE HEALTHY OVER TIME IF  
THERE IS TO BE SUSTAINABILITY**



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# Sustainability Initiatives

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- Sustained Yield Forestry
- Criteria and Indicators
- Certification Systems

# Sustainability Is A Pathway

- Not a long term target nor a fixed point due to uncertainties and difficulties
- These uncertainties indicate there is a range of feasible, sustainable outcomes

# Uncertainties and Difficulties

- Dynamics and vagaries of nature
- Emerging science
- New technology
- Markets
- Social values and preferences



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# Range of Outcomes

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- Different courses or routes to sustainability
- Different blends or mixes of nature's bounty

**BUT THE PATHWAY HAS BOUNDS**



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# The Pathway Bounds or Range

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- Alternative mixes of amenity, environmental, and material needs and preferences of society
- Consideration of scale

# Alternative Mixes

- Sustained yield of timber
- Habitat diversity to maintain viable populations
- Quality water from forested watersheds
- Long-term soil productivity
- Maintenance of riparian functions
- Etc..



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# Scale Consideration

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- Site
- Landscape
- Global



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# The Various Blends A Choice

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- The biophysical bounds
- The social choice

# Need Consensus and Understanding on the Blend

- Choices must be based on good biophysical science and use good social science
- Process of choosing must be transparent
- All key stakeholders must be involved

# Long-term Opportunities and Consequences of Choices

- Must be understood
- Must be communicated

THEY WILL BE ENVIRONMENTAL,  
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL

# Summary

- Sustainability is a PATHWAY
- The PATHWAY has bounds
- We can choose where we will be on the PATHWAY over time
- Our choices have consequences
- Staying within the bounds on the PATHWAY of sustainability is our goal