

Steps for Consultant Foresters or Wildlife Biologists When Seeking Payment for Writing Forest Stewardship Plans

1. Check to see if parcel(s) is a Forest Stewardship Priority Parcel and has at least 50 forested acres.
 - a. Eligible landowners will have at least 50 forested acres and their parcels are also considered a [Forest Stewardship Priority Parcel](#) (The sum of parcels with >30% FSP priority pixels).
2. Rates for Stewardship Plans:
 - a. Primary Author
 - i. 50 to 100 acres of forested land = \$1,000.00
 - ii. Over 100 acres of forested land = base amount of \$1,000.00 plus \$5.00/forested acre over 100 acres up to a maximum of \$3,000.00
 - b. Secondary Author
 - i. 50 to 100 acres of forested land = \$650.00
 - ii. Over 100 acres of forested land = base amount of \$650.00 plus \$3.25/forested acre over 100 acres up to a maximum of \$1,950.00
3. The Consulting Forester must be on the [SC Forestry Commission's Consulting Forester List](#).
4. If the lead author is a Wildlife Biologist, it must be co-authored with an above Consulting Forester or SCFC Forester.
5. **Note: If the parcel(s) doesn't qualify for FSP payment, but is at least 10 acres, landowners can still have a Forest Stewardship plan written by a SC Forestry Commission forester at no charge, or the consultant can write the plan without FSP payment.**
6. Have Landowner or consultant fill-out, sign, and submit [Forest Stewardship Application](#) to the appropriate SCFC Regional Forest Stewardship Forester.
 - a. If the forester or biologist is seeking FSP Payment, also include the following with the stewardship application:
 - i. Each author's [IRS' W-9](#)
 - ii. [Parcel Stewardship Report\(s\) from FSP Parcel Viewer](#)
7. Wait until forester or biologist receives funding approval before plan development.
8. Foresters and biologists have 6 months to complete the plan after funding approval.
9. Plan must meet current [Forest Stewardship Plan Criteria](#).
10. Review [Forest Stewardship Plan Criteria and Templates](#), one-year free membership to SC Tree Farm, Program Monitoring and Forest Stewardship Recognition.
11. Once plan is finished, send to the appropriate [Regional Stewardship Forester](#) for approval.
12. For payment once the plan is complete and approved, invoice the SC Forestry Commission for the Forest Stewardship Plan at the funded rates, including the landowner's name. Send invoice to the same regional Stewardship Forester that approved the plan.