

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

R. Max Peterson, Chief

Forest Service, USDA

R. Max Peterson became the 11th Chief of the Forest Service on July 1, 1979. Prior to his appointment as Chief he served for five years as Deputy Chief for Programs and Legislation. He was Regional Forester for the Forest Service's Southern Region headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia, from September 1972 to February 1974 and Deputy Regional Forester for that Region from April 1971 to September 1972. Before coming to the Atlanta area, Mr. Peterson served on the Staff of the Regional Forester in the California Region (now the Pacific Southwest Region) of the Forest Service in San Francisco.

Mr. Peterson is a native of Missouri and a graduate of the University of Missouri. He began his Forest Service career in 1949 in California and during the next nine years worked on three National Forests in that State.

In 1958, Mr. Peterson was awarded a Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship to the Water Resource and Land Use Planning Program at Harvard University where he attained his Master's Degree in Public Administration in 1959.

In 1959, Mr. Peterson was assigned to the Northern Regional Office in Missoula, Montana, and then in 1961 went to the Washington Office where he worked in a variety of assignments on the Administrative Management and Engineering Staffs. In 1966, he returned to California as Regional Engineer and in 1971 was selected as Deputy Regional Forester for the Southern Region.

Mr. Peterson is a member of the American Forestry Association, the Society of American Foresters, the Soil Conservation Society of America, and the American Society of Civil Engineers.

Mr. Peterson and his wife, Jan, have three daughters and one son. The family lives in Fairfax, Virginia.