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American Society of Landscape Architects
636 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001-3730

Dear Awards Committee:

This letter is in support of James S. Bedwell's nomination for the American Society of Landscape Architects LaGassee medal. Jim has achieved an exceptional record of accomplishments and contributions to the management and conservancy of natural resources on our public lands during his career.

Colleagues and peers within and outside of our agency recognize Jim as a leader in natural resource based landscape architecture. The legacy and quality of his work has been demonstrated on the Santa Fe National Forest in New Mexico, the Caribbean National Forest in Puerto Rico, and our Forest Service Headquarters Office here in Washington, DC.

Jim's contributions include the design and construction of many recreation facilities in New Mexico, sensitive to the environment and ecological processes of high desert landscapes. He was team leader for the planning, design, and construction of the 18 million dollar El Portal Tropical Forest Visitor's Center on the Caribbean National Forest in Puerto Rico, a facility dedicated to the wise management and conservation of sensitive tropical rain forests in Latin America. That facility was recognized for its outstanding design by Jim.


As Chief Landscape Architect for the Forest Service, he advanced programs for outdoor recreation accessibility, scenic byways, and scenery management. Jim's focus on delivering tools and resources to hundreds of field Forest Service landscape architects is demonstrated by his outstanding leadership in the development of the Forest Service Build Environment Image Guide (BEIG). This recently published handbook provides guidance for the planning and design of facilities that exemplify the agency's concern and responsibility in conservation, stewardship, sustainability. The guide instructs planners and designers on how to assure that facilities on national forests fit the land, portray an excellent image, and identity for the agency using state of the art sustainability practices. The value of the BEIG was just featured in the February 2004 issue of Landscape Architecture Magazine.

Presently, as Forest Supervisor for the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest and Pawnee National Grasslands, Jim is providing leadership in critical fire planning and fuels management for the protection of forest resources, life, and property. He is also "practicing what he preaches" as he



plans for the new Forest Service Headquarters Office in Fort Collins, Colorado. He is seeking maximum use of "green" architecture, while assuring that the facility will portray and excellent image for the agency. Jim continues to be a leader in natural resource landscape design.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read "David G. Holland", with a stylized, flowing script.

DAVID G. HOLLAND
Director, Recreation, Heritage,
and Wilderness Resources