

Correspondence – American Forestry Association

Folder Citation: Collection: Records of the 1976 Campaign Committee to Elect Jimmy Carter;
Series: Noel Sterrett Subject File; Folder: Correspondence – American Forestry Association;
Container 77

To See Complete Finding Aid:

http://www.jimmycarterlibrary.gov/library/findingaids/Carter-Mondale%20Campaign_1976.pdf

Centennial
1875-1975



1319 Eighteenth Street NW Washington DC 20036 telephone (202) 467-5810

August 12, 1974

The Honorable Jimmy Carter
1974 Campaign Chairman
Democratic National Committee
Post Office Box 1524
Atlanta, Georgia 30301

Dear Governor Carter:

The Democratic National Committee is to be commended for seeking outside recommendations for its party. As a professional conservationist, I welcome this opportunity to suggest a few environmental goals and reforms. If given the opportunity we would make the same recommendations to the other party.

For nearly 100 years The American Forestry Association has been in the forefront of American conservation policy. Through five Forest Congresses, we have developed "Conservation Programs For American Forestry." The last Congress was in 1963 and the next will be during our Centennial year, 1975. Copies of the last program and a popular digest are enclosed. Both will be updated next year.

If we were to enunciate the one major objective of The American Forestry Association it would be "balanced use" of all natural resources. We feel strongly and would urge the Democratic party also to recognize that conservation is "wise use." Preservation has a significant role in our resource use policy, but only within a balance that recognizes sustained use of renewable resources, such as our forests.

The greatest need in natural resource administration today is adequate funding. Our forests can never realize their full potential without intensified management, whether they be public or private lands. It is lack of management and professional direction which keeps our public forests and our private, nonindustrial forests at 50 percent or less of the productive capacity. The public lands, at least, should be brought up to their optimum level of management and productivity through greatly increased appropriations. However, this more intensive level of management must be for all uses and benefits of these lands under a multiple use doctrine that recognizes no priorities.

To be a little more specific, we would recommend the following:

1. Implementation, at the high level, of the U. S. Forest Service Environmental Program For The Future.

2. Adequate planning and funding for all forestry programs as called for in the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974.

3. Increased authorization of Forestry Incentives from \$25 million to \$50 million.

4. Full funding and implementation of the Urban Environmental Forestry Program, the Rural Fire Defense Program, and the Clarke-McNary and CFM Programs.

5. Accelerated efforts for Forestry-Wildlife Extension.

6. Increased forest research, including McIntire-Stennis and urgently needed disease and insect control investigations.

7. Accelerated forest planting efforts on both public and private land to eliminate a 75 million acre backlog in the next decade.

8. Greater incentives to small, nonindustrial forest owners in the form of tax relief, insurance, lower interest rates, technical and marketing assistance, and better protection from diseases, insects and fire.

These are all desirable steps in terms of forestry, yet there are many other equally important needs in other environmental fields. To name a few:

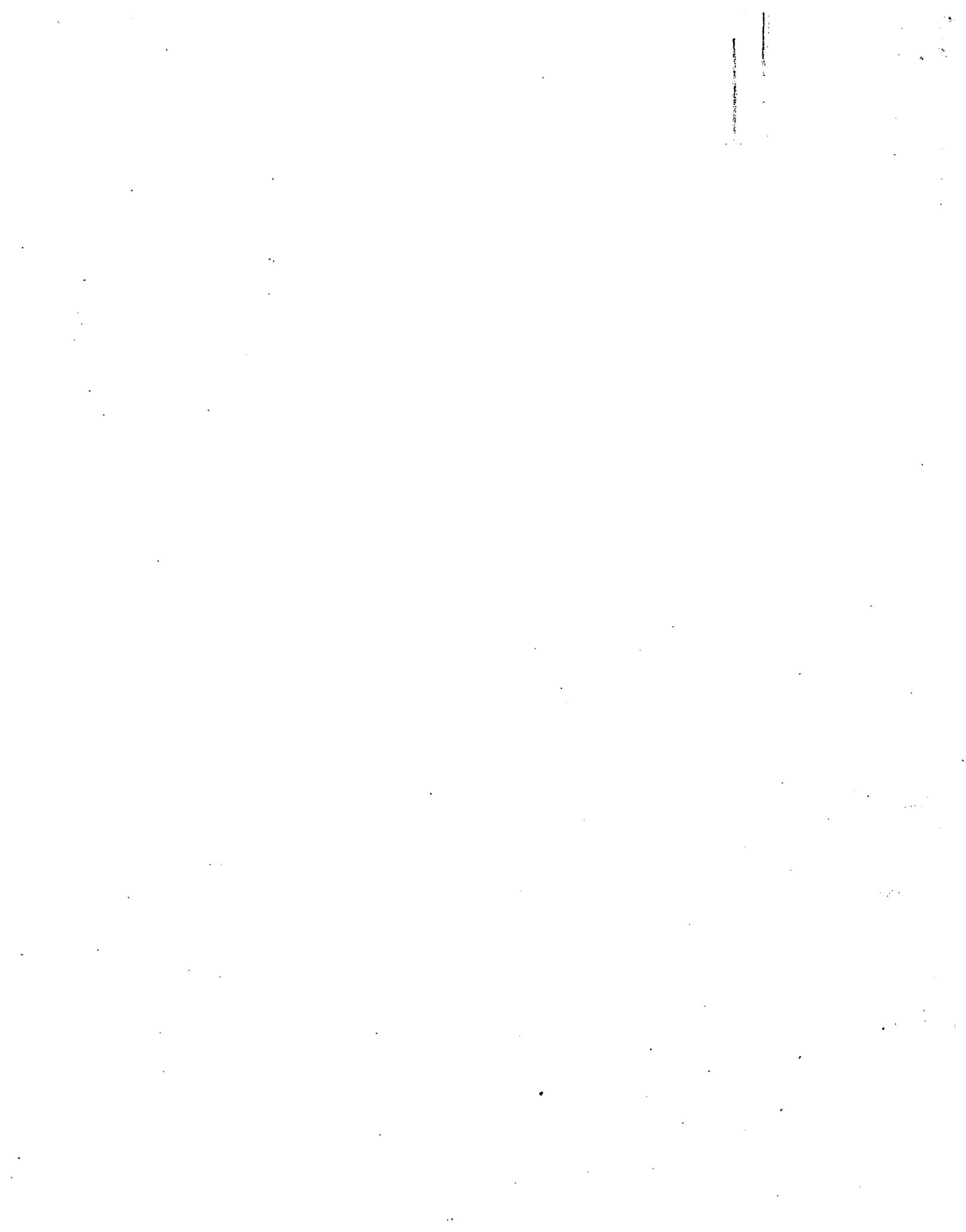
1. A comprehensive nationwide land use planning law.
2. An organic act for the Bureau of Land Management.
3. Mining law reform that would place all public lands and minerals under a leasing system.
4. Intensive wildlife management on all federal lands.
5. An Eastern Wilderness System.
6. Increased authorization for the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

I hope that these few suggestions will be of value to you and the Committee. If we can be of further assistance, I hope you will call on The American Forestry Association.

Sincerely,


William E. Towell
Executive Vice President

enclosures





A
Conservation
Program
for
American
Forestry



POLICY STATEMENT

As Endorsed By the Members

of

THE AMERICAN FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

1319 18th St., N. W. Washington, D. C. 20036