

Upstate Forever

Promoting Sensible Growth and
Protecting Special Places in the Upstate

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 18, 2008

Upstate Forever Adds Five New Board and Staff Members

Patrick McMillan Joins Board; Garuti, Huguley, Wickliffe, and Winkler Added to Staff

Upstate Forever is pleased to announce the addition of five new board and staff members:

Patrick McMillan, host of ETV's *Expeditions*, has joined the Board of Directors of **Upstate Forever**. While best-known as the host of the popular television nature program, McMillan also teaches at Clemson University and is curator of the herbarium at the Campbell Museum of Natural History. He has worked as a professional naturalist and biologist throughout the southeastern United States and the neotropics.

McMillan's research has been featured in both *National Wildlife* and *South Carolina Wildlife* magazines as well as in numerous articles in local and regional newspapers, and he is a frequent guest on South Carolina public radio. McMillan is in high demand as an expert presenter and speaker and has earned many professional awards and recognitions. He has a B.S. in Biology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a Ph.D. in Biological Sciences from Clemson University.

Maria Garuti is **Upstate Forever's** new Administrative Assistant. Born in Argentina, Garuti has lived in Colombia, the Dominican Republic, and Mexico. She holds a B.A. in English and a Master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction, both from George Mason University. Her experience includes four years in public education in Washington, DC and two years in the nonprofit sector in Asheville, NC.

Mary Hays Huguley has joined **Upstate Forever's** staff as Conservation Stewardship Associate after more than two years as an intern and

volunteer. Huguley will continue to work with our Land Trust Program with expanded responsibilities, primarily in stewardship. A Columbia native, Huguley holds a B.S. in Anthropology from Appalachian State University and a Master's degree in City and Regional Planning from Clemson University. She has also studied at Istanbul Technical University in Turkey.

Lisa Wickliffe is **Upstate Forever's** new Land Conservation Manager. Wickliffe received a B.S. in Marine Science from the University of South Carolina and a Master's degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Biology from Clemson University. As part of our Land Trust staff, she will work with landowners and local outreach groups to protect rural lands, pursue grant opportunities, assist with property monitoring and baseline documentation, and work with GIS and Greenprint technologies.

Ed Winkler brings with him 40 years of experience in the textile industry to his new role as **Upstate Forever's** Assistant Financial Manager. Winkler's experience includes industrial engineering, IS systems analysis, and sales and marketing. He holds a B.S. in Industrial Engineering from Clemson University.

Upstate Forever is a nonprofit, membership-based organization promoting sensible growth and the protection of special places in the Upstate region of South Carolina. Our three program areas are: Land Trust, Sustainable Communities, and Clean Air and Water. Founded in 1998, Upstate Forever now has over 3,300 members, two offices, and a staff of 19. For more information, see www.upstateforever.org.

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Photos are attached.