

CGSP Resolution 2002-03C
Resolution for Establishment of a Master of Natural Resources (MNR) Degree Program
in the Virginia Tech College of Natural Resources

Approved by Commission on Graduate Studies:	February 5, 2003
First Reading at University Council:	March 17, 2003
Approved by University Council:	
Approved by the President:	
Approved by the Board of Visitors:	
Effective:	Spring 2003

WHEREAS, the renewable natural resources of the United States are being placed under increasing pressure by expanding populations, urbanization, and competing demands, resulting in a need for professionals with skills in the management of natural resources for sustainability in an increasingly complex environment; and

WHEREAS, there is strong demand for a Master of Natural Resources degree program among potential students and natural resource agencies in the Northern Virginia region; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Tech College of Natural Resources has served students in the Northern Virginia region with educational programs for five years and currently offers a certificate program; and

WHEREAS, the College of Natural Resources is uniquely qualified to offer the Master of Natural Resources by virtue of its programs in *Forestry*, *Wood Science and Forest Products*, and *Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences*, each of which are ranked among the top three such programs in the country; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Master of Natural Resources degree program would be unduplicated in the Commonwealth of Virginia and establishment of the program supports the strategic goals of both the College of Natural Resources and Virginia Tech; and

WHEREAS, establishment of the Master of Natural Resources degree program will support the expansion of the College's research activities;

THEREFORE be it resolved, that the proposal for a Master of Natural Resources degree program be approved.