

Application Form

Disclaimer

Under Florida law, all information, including e-mail, written letters, documents and phone messages, sent to the Alachua County Board of County Commissioners are subject to Public Records law. This includes the sender's e-mail address, home address or phone number if shown in the message, the content of the message and any associated attachments to the mail. If you are exempt from aspects of the public records law pursuant to F.S. 119.071, contact the advisory board coordinator at 352-264-6906 prior to submission of this form.

Please Agree with the Following Statement

I have read the disclaimer above and understand my application is subject to Florida's Public Records Law.

I Agree

Profile

Ross _____ A _____ Wygmans _____
 First Name Middle Initial Last Name

9131 NW 222ND AVE _____
 Home Address Suite or Apt

Alachua _____ FL _____ 32615 _____
 City State Postal Code

rwygmans@gmail.com _____
 Email Address

Mobile: (352) 301-2060 _____
 Primary Phone Alternate Phone

University of Florida _____ GIS Technician _____
 Employer Occupation

Education:

Graduate Certificate in Geographic Information Science (GIS) - April 2022 M.S. in Forest Resources and Conservation, Concentration in Ecological Restoration - May 2018 B.S. in Forest Resources and Conservation, Forest Resource Management - May 2016

Professional Organizations:

Society of American Forester, 2022 Suwannee Chapter Chair

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Land Conservation Board: Submitted

What position(s) are you applying for?

Natural Resource Professional

Interests & Experiences**Are you currently serving or have you ever served on an Alachua County advisory board?**

Yes No

If yes, please list board(s):

Please list any civic and professional accomplishments/honors, training or experience related to this appointment:

• Five years of professional experience in a wide range of natural resource subsectors, including conservation land management, forestry consulting, and biomass procurement. • Former Environmental Specialist for the Alachua County Office of Land Conservation (Alachua County Forever Program). • Certified Forester through the Society of American Foresters. • 2022 Suwannee Chapter Chair for the Society of American Foresters. • Florida Pesticide Applicator License for Natural Areas Weed Management • Xi Sigma Pi Honors Society (honor society for Forestry and related sciences) • Previously evaluated and presented several properties to this board for consideration in my capacity as an Environment Specialist with ACF.

What Contributions do you feel you could make if you were selected to this board?

There are several reasons why I would like to serve on the Land Conservation Board -- some altruistic and some selfish. On the altruistic side, I want to engage my extensive background and experiences in forestry and natural resources in the service of my local community. This is a unique opportunity for me to give something back to the community and ensure that the natural gems that make Alachua County so special are protected for many generations to come. On the selfish side, as an Alachua County resident who enjoys the outdoors, I have a vested interest in doing my part to protect these areas for the enjoyment and quality of life of myself and my loved ones. My previous role as an Environmental Specialist for the Alachua County Forever program uniquely positions me to serve on the Land Conservation Board. I am intimately familiar with many of the Alachua County preserves that were purchased and are maintained through the Alachua County Forever program, and I have a clear understanding of what the mission of the ACF program is and is not. This familiarity and understanding will allow me to ask the right questions when considering properties for the program and help me to guide the discussion back to the mission of the ACF program when the conversation goes astray. I have evaluated and presented several properties to this board for consideration, so not only am I familiar with the format and protocols of the LCB meetings, but I have experienced firsthand the entire acquisition lifecycle from the time a property gets nominated all the way through closing. While my day-to-day work is no longer directly connected to land conservation, I will always consider myself a conservationist at heart. This opportunity is one small way for me to stay connected and to continue nourishing this part of myself that I hold very dear.

[LCB_WygmansRoss.docx.pdf](#)

Upload a Resume

Demographics

Ross A Wygmans

Some boards and commissions require membership to be racially, politically or geographically proportionate to the general public. The following information helps track our recruitment and diversity efforts.

Ethnicity

Caucasian/Non-Hispanic

Gender

Male

09/15/1987

Date of Birth

Are you over the age of 60? (Required for some boards)

Yes No

Are you a resident of Alachua County?

Yes No

If you are an Alachua County resident, how long have you lived in the county?

10 years

Supplemental Questions

Some of the boards and committees appointed by the County Commission are required to comply with Chapter 112, Florida Statutes, the Financial Disclosure Law. If applicable, would you be willing to file the required financial statement?

Yes No

Do you affirm that your personal and business (if applicable) affairs within Alachua County are in substantial compliance with all county regulatory and taxing authorities rules and regulations?

Yes No

Please Agree with the Following Statement

Appointees to advisory board/committees are required to attend scheduled meetings as specified in the "Guidelines for Citizen Advisory Boards and Committees".

I Agree

Please Agree with the Following Statement

I understand that this completed application is the property of Alachua County and I hereby certify that the statements made on this application are true and correct.

I Agree

Ross Wygmans

Alachua, FL 32615

(352) 301-2060 rwygmans@gmail.com

[linkedin.com/in/rosswygmans](https://www.linkedin.com/in/rosswygmans)

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Experienced forester and GIS professional with a demonstrated history in a wide range of forestry and natural resource subsectors including conservation land management, forestry consulting, and biomass procurement. Strong forestry and geospatial science background with a Master of Science from the University of Florida and a Graduate GIS Certificate from the University of West Florida.

WORK HISTORY

GIS/LIDAR TECHNICIAN | 04/2022 to Current

University of Florida – Business Affairs Technical Services - Gainesville, FL

- Work with a wide variety of end users to design and build web apps and ArcGIS Field apps to streamline data collection and provide easy access to relevant information.
- Conduct and process terrestrial LiDAR scans and use scans to update GIS.
- Use Model Builder to implement time-saving GIS automation processes.
- Build and customize web map displays through the use of Arcade.
- Extract information from CAD files for updating GIS.
- Create public-facing ArcGIS StoryMaps to present geospatial data in an interactive, aesthetic, and easily comprehensible format.

ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST | 09/2019 to 04/2022

Alachua County – Office of Land Conservation - Gainesville, FL

- Lead management responsibilities for Mill Creek Preserve, a 1,200-acre conservation area near Alachua, FL.
- Performed all aspects of conservation land management including prescribed burning, invasive species management, ecological data collection, and infrastructure and trail maintenance.
- Produced professional map layouts while implementing key cartographic principles.
- Used ArcGIS Field Maps to collect location and attribute data related to invasive species, roads, gates, water crossings, threatened or endangered species, and other features found on nature preserves.
- Used aerial photos, GPS data, and satellite maps to locate forest inventory plots.
- Developed detailed work plans to complete projects effectively and efficiently.
- Defined scope of services, conducted pre-bid meetings, and monitored contractors.
- Gave presentations to our citizen advisory board showcasing properties nominated for the Alachua County Forever program.

BIOMASS FORESTER | 01/2018 to 09/2019

BioResource Management - Gainesville, FL

- Passed three semi-annual Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) external audits receiving the highest possible scores.
- Ensured producer compliance with Florida's Silvicultural Best Management Practices (BMPs).
- Maintained harvest tract geodatabase using ESRI's ArcGIS Desktop software.
- Used "heads-up" digitizing techniques to trace harvest tract boundaries from scanned maps.
- Used network analyst to conduct woodshed analysis for biomass plants in the Northeast.
- Facilitated and organized third-party audits for Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification.

FIELD FORESTER | 05/2016 to 04/2017

F & W Forestry Services - Gainesville, FL

- Passed all internal timber cruise audits with a score of 90% accuracy or higher.
- Estimated the timber harvest volume from an inventory cruise on a 1,500-acre tract within two truckloads of the actual harvest.
- Collected and uploaded forest plot data for timber inventories.
- Monitored logging crews, tree planting crews, and site preparation crews.
- Used GPS to map timber sale boundary lines, gates, monuments, property lines, roads, and other features.
- Used UAVs to remotely collect seedling survival data.

EDUCATION

University of West Florida - Pensacola, FL | Graduate Certificate

Geographic Information Science

April 2022

GPA: 4.0/4.0

University of Florida - Gainesville, FL | Master of Science

Forest Resources and Conservation, Concentration in Ecological Restoration

May 2018

GPA: 3.9/4.0

University of Florida - Gainesville, FL | Bachelor of Science

Forest Resources and Conservation, Forest Resource Management

May 2016

GPA: 3.9/4.0

CERTIFICATIONS & AFFILIATIONS

- Society of American Foresters - Certified Forester, 2022 Suwannee Chapter Chair
- Part 107 UAV License
- Florida Pesticide Applicator License - Natural Areas Weed Management
- Xi Sigma Pi Honors Society