



## **Box 1: Folder 4: Miscellaneous honors, 1985-2001. 1985-2001**

[s.l.]: [s.n.], 1985-2001

<https://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/OEXLOY4J4VKG58K>

<http://rightsstatements.org/vocab/InC/1.0/>

For information on re-use see:

<http://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/Copyright>

The libraries provide public access to a wide range of material, including online exhibits, digitized collections, archival finding aids, our catalog, online articles, and a growing range of materials in many media.

When possible, we provide rights information in catalog records, finding aids, and other metadata that accompanies collections or items. However, it is always the user's obligation to evaluate copyright and rights issues in light of their own use.

WILDLIFE & FISHERIES PROGRAM - NATIONAL AWARDS

6/89

USDA Honor Award, Bob Nelson, Director

"For outstanding leadership, creativity, and innovation in developing cooperative relationships resulting in a revitalized, high quality, cost-efficient Forest Service Wildlife and Fisheries Program"

6/89

Government Entity Award - National Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame, Hayward, Wisconsin

"World recognition for outstanding continuous public service and programs to benefit the nation's anglers through good management of the sport fishing resources"

2/89

Partnership Award - Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation

"In Recognition of Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation - Forest Service Partnership"

8/88

Special Conservationist of the Year 1988 - Trout Unlimited

"Forest Service for their Rise to the Future. For distinguished and dedicated service to the national conservation policy and the cause of the coldwater fishery resource, and for the improvement and perpetuation of the recreational qualities of fishing on the American continent

6/88

USDA Unit Award for Superior Service to the Fisheries Task Force

"For outstanding leadership and coordination in the development and marketing of a national system to revitalize and strengthen the Forest Service fisheries program"

<b>DEPARTMENTAL REGULATION</b>		NUMBER: 1042-66
SUBJECT:  Forestry Research Advisory Council	DATE:  April 23, 1993	OPI: Cooperative State Research Service

**1 PURPOSE**

The Cooperative Forestry Research Advisory Council is hereby renamed and renewed. The new name is "Forestry Research Advisory Council (FRAC)." The Council is required by the Agriculture and Food Act of 1981, Section 1441 (c) to provide advice to the Secretary of Agriculture on accomplishing efficiently the purposes of the Act of October 10, 1962 (16 U.S.C. 582a, et seq.), commonly known as the McIntire-Stennis Act of 1962. The Council will also provide advice related to the Forest Service research program, authorized by the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Research Act of 1978 (P.L. 95-307, 92 Stat.353, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1600(note)). The Council will report to the Secretary on regional and national planning and coordination of forestry research within the Federal and State agencies, forestry schools, and the forest industries. The Council shall also advise the Secretary on the apportionment of funds for the McIntire-Stennis Program.

**2 SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS/CANCELLATION**

- a This regulation will expire two years from the date of this regulation. The purpose of the Council could not be accomplished in less than two years.
- b Departmental Regulation 1042-66, dated June 21, 1991, is hereby superseded.

**3 OFFICERS AND MEMBERSHIP**

- a The Council shall consist of 20 voting members from the following membership categories. Members shall represent:
  - (1) Federal and State agencies concerned with developing and utilizing the Nation's forest resources, in particular committee membership will include representation from National Forest System and Forest and Range Experiment Station leaders, Forest Service,
  - (2) The forest industries,

- (3) The forestry schools of the State-certified eligible institutions, and State agricultural experiment stations, and
- (4) Volunteer public groups concerned with forests and related natural resources.

Representation will be geographically balanced insofar as possible. Some members will reflect regional perspectives; others will be more oriented toward national perspectives. Nomination of members representing the forestry schools (Category 3 a (3) above) will be sent to the Secretary by State-certified eligible forestry schools with two nominations for each eligible vacancy. All voting members will be appointed by the Secretary. Additional resource persons may be invited to attend the meetings of the Council.

The Council Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson shall be elected by the Council from among its members. The Executive Secretary for the Council shall alternate annually between the Cooperative State Research Service Deputy Administrator for Natural Resources, Food and Social Sciences and the Forest Service Deputy Chief for Research.

- b Equal opportunity practices, in line with USDA policies, will be followed in all appointments to the Council. To ensure that the recommendations of the Council have taken into account the needs of the diverse groups served by the Department, membership should include, to the extent practicable, individuals with demonstrated ability to represent minorities, women, and persons with disabilities.

#### 4 DUTIES

The Council shall meet at least annually and shall submit a report to the Secretary on regional and national planning and coordination of forestry research within the Federal and State agencies, forestry schools, and the forest industries. The Council shall also advise the Secretary on the apportionment of funds. Actions of the Council will be reported to the Secretary in the form of resolutions, to be accompanied by minutes of the annual meeting to provide background information on the resolutions. The Council shall adopt such by-laws as are necessary to conduct its business and accomplish its legislative purpose. The Council may make special reports to the Secretary jointly through the Assistant Secretary for Science and Education and the Assistant Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment.

5 ESTIMATED ANNUAL OPERATING COST

- a Members shall serve without pay, but with reimbursement of travel expenses and per diem for attendance at Council functions approved by the Chairperson.
- b Annual operating costs are estimated at \$27,732 with 0.3 staff years.

6 NUMBER AND FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

The Council will meet at the call of the Secretary, but at least once annually. All meetings will be open to the public.

7 REPORTS/SUPPORT

- a Support to the Council is to be provided by the Cooperative State Research Service and the Forest Service, USDA.
- b The Council reports to the Secretary of Agriculture, through the Assistant Secretary for Science and Education and the Assistant Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment.

- END -



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Cooperative  
State Research  
Service

Natural Resources,  
Food and Social  
Sciences

Washington, D.C.  
20250-2200

**Dr. Michael P. Dombeck**  
U. S. Dept. of Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
1849 C Street NW, mail stop 6628  
Washington, DC 20240

September 9, 1993

Dear Dr. Dombeck:

I am writing to you on behalf of Dr. Colien Hefferan, Executive Secretary of the Forestry Research Advisory Council (FRAC) of The Department of Agriculture (USDA). You have been nominated by the Department of the Interior as a potential nominee to the FRAC, representing the category of Federal and State agencies-Department of the Interior. USDA implements two forestry research programs: Cooperative Forestry Research (McIntire-Stennis), and Forest Service Research. FRAC enhances the advisory service of its predecessor, the Cooperative Forestry Research Advisory Council, which existed to serve the McIntire-Stennis program only. The intent is to constitute this council by assembling members of the highest caliber, drawing from a broad range of forestry research interests, thus enabling FRAC to provide the Secretary of Agriculture with the highest quality of advice concerning forestry research.

FRAC will provide advice to the Secretary of Agriculture on accomplishing the purposes of the McIntire-Stennis program, which has greatly enhanced the current knowledge base and cadre of trained scientists and professionals for the effective management and use of forest resources by providing funds to conduct research and graduate education programs. FRAC also will provide advice related to the Forest Service Research program, which covers a broad range of research in forestry and range management. The National Forests are the prime beneficiaries of this research program. The Council will report to the Secretary on regional and national planning and coordination of forestry research within Federal and State agencies, forestry schools, and the forest industries. The Council shall also advise the Secretary on the apportionment of funds for the McIntire-Stennis program.

USDA recently approved the charter for FRAC. It will have a total of twenty (20) members: representing Federal and State agencies, 5 members; forest industries, 5 members; forestry schools and State agricultural experiment stations, 5 members; and volunteer public groups concerned with forestry and natural resources, 5 members. FRAC will meet annually to discuss forestry research and provide advice to the Secretary. Costs of travel, lodging, and meals to Council meetings can be paid by the government. The Council's charter is enclosed for your reference.

A list of potential nominees will be presented to the Secretary of Agriculture. The Secretary will then appoint members to the Council, for two year terms, renewable up to six years. Members would then receive a letter of appointment from the Secretary. Federal law requires the **completion of the enclosed form AD-755** by all potential nominees to advisory groups. A preaddressed envelope is enclosed for return of the form. It would also be helpful if you could **include a brief biographical sketch**.

**Please return the completed form AD-755 and a copy of your biographical sketch, as soon as possible, to:**

Mr. Peter A. Muscato  
USDA-Cooperative State Research Service  
AGBOX 2210  
Washington, DC 20250-2210

If you have any questions regarding the Council or the nomination process do not hesitate to contact me or Dr. Hefferan by phone at, (202)401-4555, or by FAX (202)401-1706.

Your willingness to serve in this advisory capacity would be very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

*Peter A. Muscato*

PETER A. MUSCATO  
Program Specialist

Enclosures

*I have enclosed the information requested concerning my nomination to the Forestry Research advisory Council. Please contact me if you need additional information.*

*Enclosures*

*Thank You.*

*Michael Donahue, PhD*

United States Department of Agriculture  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP BACKGROUND INFORMATION

**Privacy Act Notice**

Public Laws 95-113 and 93-579 permit collection of the data requested on this form. The information is used to determine qualifications, suitability and available for service on advisory committees. The information will be used to conduct background clearances and/or for annual reports on advisory committees. Failure to submit this information may result in nonselection of a prospective advisory committee member or termination of the committee.

1. Name (Last, First, Middle)	2. Social Security Number
Dombeck, Michael Paul	[REDACTED]
3. Residence Address (include ZIP Code)	4. Telephone: Home: 703- Office: 202- FAX: 202-
305 Broadleaf Drive Vienna, Virginia 22180	[REDACTED]
5. Place of Birth	6. Date of Birth
Stevens Point, Wisconsin	[REDACTED]
7. Name of Employer	8. Employer Address (include ZIP Code)
U.S. Department of the Interior	1849 C Street, N.W., Room 6618 Washington, D.C. 20240
9. Your Occupation/Title	Chief of Staff

10. List your business experience.

See attached.

11. List education and any specialized experience.

See attached.

12. If applicable, how long have you been engaged in farming or production, and what is the size of your farming operation (i.e., list acreage and pounds produced by kind of crop, as well as kinds and numbers of livestock)?

None

13. List producer or farm organizations (include whether a member or officer and how long affiliated).

None

14. List other affiliations and/or service as a community leader that would benefit you in your role as a member of the advisory committee.

None

15. List any Federal advisory committee or board on which you are currently a member and the number of years you have served on that committee or board.

None

16. List sources of income—in excess of \$10,000—for the past calendar year from other than your primary employment. List only sources; do not show amounts of income from each source.

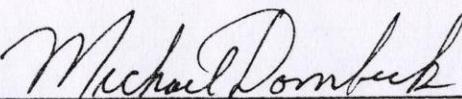
None

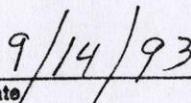
17. Have you ever been convicted of a felony? (A felony is defined as any violation of law punishable by imprisonment of longer than one year.) If so, please explain.

No

18. As a result of your participation in Federal programs, have any judgments been rendered against you? As a result of participation in any governmental programs relative to the purposes of the advisory committee for which you are a nominee, have any civil or criminal actions been initiated against you? If so, please explain.

No

  
Signature

  
Date

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 30 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching for existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Department of Agriculture, Clearance Officer, OIRM, Room 404-W, Washington, D.C. 20250; and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (OMB No. 0505-0001), Washington, D.C. 20503.

REQUEST FOR BIOGRAPHICAL UPDATE  
December 15, 1999

Mr. Michael P. Dombeck  
Chief  
U.S. Forest Service  
Department of Agriculture  
201 14th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20090

Dear Mr. Dombeck:

You have again been selected by our Board of Editors for biographical coverage in the *Federal Staff Directory 2000/Summer* to be published in April 2000.

Please review the attached copy from the 2000/Winter edition. We will appreciate your returning this reprint with your corrections, additions or deletions within twenty working days. If you have any questions, or if you have a problem meeting this deadline, please call Betty Goldman at (703) 739-0900, ext. 221, or e-mail her at [bgoldman@cq.com](mailto:bgoldman@cq.com).

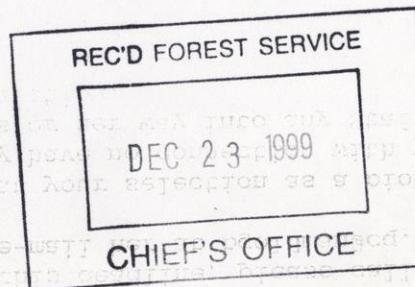
May I remind you that your selection as a biographee and the publication of your biography have no connection with your buying anything. No one has ever paid his or her way into any Staff Directory publication. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

*Barbara M. Rogers*

Barbara M. Rogers  
Associate Editor

Enclosure





## Federal Staff Directory

(483)

CQ Press - A Division of Congressional Quarterly  
815 Slaters Lane, Alexandria, VA 22314  
(703) 739-0900, Ext. 221 FAX (703) 739-0234

### Biographical Update

Attached is your biographical sketch as it appeared in the *2000 Federal Staff Directory / 1*. Please review it and make any corrections and additions. This updated biography will appear in the *2000 Federal Staff Directory / 2*. We need this copy returned to us, with or without changes, within twenty (20) working days in order to meet our press deadline. If you should have any questions, please contact Betty Goldman at (703) 739-0900, ext. 221, or send e-mail to [bgoldman@cq.com](mailto:bgoldman@cq.com). Thank you for your cooperation.

**Dombeck, Michael P.**, Chief, U.S. Forest Service, Dept. of Agriculture, 201 14th Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20090. Born Sept. 21, 1948 in Stevens Point, WI. Married. One child.

**Education:** University of Wisconsin, B.S. in biology and general science, and M.S.T. in biology and education; University of Minnesota, M.S. in zoology; Iowa State University, Ames, Ph.D. in fisheries biology; Pennsylvania State University, 1987, Executive Management for Natural Resource Managers; Federal Executive Institute, 1991; Senior Executive Service, 1991-92, Candidate Development Program.

**Career Record:** 1966-77, fishing guide, Hayward, WI; 1971-73, Instructor of Zoology, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point; 1974-75, Instructor of Science, Holcombe Schools, Holcombe, WI; 1978-81, Project Leader, Milwaukee, WI, 1985-87, Regional Fisheries Program Manager, Pacific Southwest Region, San Francisco, CA then 1978-89, Natl. Fisheries Program Manager, all with Dept. of Agriculture Forest Service; 1988, Legislative Fellow, Senate Committee on Agriculture, Natural Resources and the Interior; 1989-92, Science Adviser and Special Asst. to the Director, Bureau of Land Management; 1993, Acting Asst. Secy.-Deputy Asst. Secy. for Land and Minerals Management, 1993-94, Chief of Staff to Asst. Secy. for Land and Minerals Management then 1994-96, Acting Director, Bureau of Land Management, Dept. of the Interior; 1997-present, current position.

1997

**Publications:** author of numerous publications the most recent being "Roles, Responsibilities, and Opportunities for the Bureau of Land Management in Aquatic Conservation" (with J. E. Williams), *Evolution and The Aquatic Ecosystem: Defining Unique Units in Population Conservation* (J. L. Neilson, editor), American Fisheries Society Symposium no. 17, Bethesda, MD 1995; "Ecosystem Management: Successes With the Bureau of Land Management," *Fisheries* 21, 1996; "BLM's Ecosystem Approach to Management," *Natural Resources and Environmental Issues* 5, 1996; "Toward an Understanding of Watershed-Scale Restoration for Aquatic and Riparian Resource Conservation" (with J. E. Williams, C.A. Wood), *Watershed Restoration: Principles and Practices*, American Fisheries Society, Bethesda, MD (in press); co-editor of *Watershed Restoration: Principles and Practices* (with J. E. Williams, C. A. Wood), American Fisheries Society, Bethesda, MD (in press).

I have read my biography and it is OK.

OK with corrections.

Signature:

*M Dombeck*

Date: 1/4/00 Phone: 202-205-1661



## Federal Staff Directory

(484)

CQ Press - A Division of Congressional Quarterly  
815 Slaters Lane, Alexandria, VA 22314  
(703) 739-0900, Ext. 221 FAX (703) 739-0234

### Biographical Update

Attached is your biographical sketch as it appeared in the *2000 Federal Staff Directory / 1*. Please review it and make any corrections and additions. This updated biography will appear in the *2000 Federal Staff Directory / 2*. We need this copy returned to us, with or without changes, within twenty (20) working days in order to meet our press deadline. If you should have any questions, please contact Betty Goldman at (703) 739-0900, ext. 221, or send e-mail to [bgoldman@cq.com](mailto:bgoldman@cq.com). Thank you for your cooperation.

**Awards:** "Man of the Year," American Sportfishing Association, 1999; Secretary's Award for Outstanding Federal Service, Dept. of Agriculture, 1999; Conservation Award, *Outdoor Life* magazine, 1999.

**Member:** American Institute of Fishery Research Biologists; Gamma Sigma Delta; Sigma Xi; Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame, Board of Governors; American Fisheries Society, life member; Society of American Foresters.

Adjunct Professor - Forestry & Environmental Studies  
Yale University, New Haven Conn. \*

Adjunct Professor - University of Wisconsin Stevens Point,  
WI College of Natural Resources.

I have read my biography and it is OK.

OK with corrections.

Signature:

*MDomhoff*

Date:

*1/14/00*

Phone:

**Nomination for Distinguished Rank Award****Dr. Michael P. Dombeck****Chief, USDA Forest Service**

Dr. Michael P. Dombeck is recommended for the President's Distinguished Rank Award in recognition of his exceptional leadership in managing and directing the USDA Forest Service. He is responsible for managing the delivery of programs and services for four basic components of the Agency--National Forest System, State and Private Forestry, Research, and International Programs. He has demonstrated excellence in strategic thinking, policy implementation, visioning, and organizational management and development that has led to achievements on a broad spectrum of natural resource issues and programs. He has strongly supported the Administration's programs and policies and focused resources to meet and exceed requirements established by the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the Forest Service.

**Leading Change:** Dr. Dombeck is a change agent who has set the Forest Service on course as the Nation's conservation leader, thereby ensuring that national forests and grasslands will be healthy, water will be clean, and resources will be available for many generations to come. He changed the focus of the Agency from resource development toward a more balanced approach of conservation, stewardship, and restoration. His vision and organizational management ability has also led to the reinvention of the Forest Service, resulting in the Agency meeting the needs of our partners and its mission of caring for the land and serving people.

Dr. Dombeck brought about change in the Departments of the Interior and Agriculture. For example, as a fisheries biologist in the 1980s he basically shaped the fisheries program in the Northeast region of the Forest Service. Dr. Dombeck later served as the National Fisheries Program Manager, with direct responsibility for implementing the "Rise to the Future" fisheries program. His efforts resulted in the integration of the fisheries program into the overall multiple use management of 192 million acres of Federal lands. In recognition of his effectiveness in leading this effort, the Forest Service received four major National awards.

Dr. Dombeck has achieved a distinguished record of accomplishments in positions such as Special Assistant and Science Advisor to the Director of the Bureau of Land Management, Acting Assistant Secretary of Lands and Minerals Management, and Acting Director of the Bureau of Land Management. He was responsible for integrating science and technology into the agency's decision-making process and leading the strategic and tactical planning effort for the development and implementation of the national science, research, and technology program. These efforts resulted in improved organizational efficiency and customer service by streamlining processes, cutting red tape, and reengineering the organizational structure, with significant cost savings and faster service to the public.

**Leading People:** Dr. Dombeck has a passion for ensuring that human and civil rights of all people are respected. He has an outstanding record in managing the Forest Service's workforce of approximately 30,000 employees. He promotes a healthy work environment through his inclusive and participatory management style. He leads by example in fostering a work environment that promotes acceptance of diversity in the workplace and provides employees with an abundance of opportunities for advancement.

Dr. Dombeck has emphasized the need to make investments in the future. He has invested tireless energy into recruiting, developing, and retaining a qualified and diverse workforce that will ensure sound resource management well into the future. He recently initiated and implemented a five-year recruitment strategy to build a highly skilled and diverse organization.

Dr. Dombeck provided leadership in developing and implementing action-oriented measures in the Agency's civil rights program, such as establishing concrete, visible measures of accountability and holding line managers and supervisors accountable. He spearheaded actions to quickly

resolve conflicts before formal grievances were filed, ensured that all employees received civil rights training, and took actions to expedite processing of Equal Employment Opportunity complaints. These actions greatly reduced the amount of time and money spent on resolving complaints, resulting in more funds available for programs.

**Results Driven:** Dr. Dombeck has demonstrated a passion for achieving results. He has led the Forest Service in achieving major accomplishments that promote conservation and sustainability of resources for the American public. He has clearly established and communicated the Agency's goals and objectives to his senior executives and program managers resulting in the Forest Service, a decentralized Agency that has offices in 44 States, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands, remaining focused on the top priorities for the Agency.

Dr. Dombeck provided the strategic direction, planning, and review for the development of a new Agency rule, at the request of the President, to increase protections for roadless areas in the national forests. He also initiated a process to revise laws governing payments to states and counties. The resulting new legislation fulfilled the Agency's policy goal of separating timber harvesting on national forests from revenue to states derived from forest receipts. Dr. Dombeck has better positioned the Forest Service to make the case to the American people that the Agency can both protect the most pristine and rare wildlands while employing active forest management to protect communities, habitat, and municipal watersheds from fire and insects and disease. These highly visible and complex issues will lead to long-term positive outcomes that will have significant impacts on the future of public land management.

Dr. Dombeck led the Agency through a rigorous and unprecedented process to identify lands for greater roadless protections. He collaborated with senior officials in the Agency, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Administration on critical issues such as the forest planning regulations, Rocky Mountain front minerals withdrawal, land purchases of the Valles Caldera National Preserve and the Land Between the Lakes, enactment of the payments to states legislation, and protecting the giant sequoias in California. He accomplished desired goals and objectives by implementing policies that will have significant positive impacts on protecting and conserving Forest Service lands for the American people to cherish and enjoy for many generations to come.

**Business Acumen:** Dr. Dombeck provided the direction, vision, and oversight to address the problems identified by the Congress on issues such as financial management and accountability, weakened credibility with the public, and lack of attention to critical natural resource issues. He has been successful in making significant organizational efficiency improvements to address these issues. For example, he established two new positions and provided the proper tools and resources for accomplishing major progress in financial management. This included the installation of the new Foundation Financial Information System accounting system and general ledger that meets Federal standards. As a result, the Forest Service will be able to clearly and accurately communicate to the public how their money is being spent and what benefits result from their investment. The Forest Service has made dramatic improvements in financial accountability and integrity and is now better positioned to receive a clean audit opinion from the Office of the Inspector General.

Dr. Dombeck was instrumental in putting the business side of the agency on a status quo level with the natural resource side of the organization. He has been a strong proponent of reassessing the Agency's business-oriented programs to consider incorporating successful private sector management approaches to modernize and make these important support functions more effective in supporting the overall natural resource stewardship mission. For example, he enthusiastically supported and provided resources for the automation of programs to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of business functions.

He worked collaboratively with the Office of Management and Budget and the Department of Agriculture with participation from the General Accounting Office and Congressional staffs to simplify the budget structure for the Agency. The new structure reduced the line items from 34 to

13 and resulted in increased accountability in the use of public funds. The Agency's performance-based budget is also linked to the Strategic Plan for the Forest Service through a number of performance measures.

Dr. Dombeck has implemented actions to ensure that the Forest Service will have a highly skilled and diverse workforce in the future. He provided the necessary resources to ensure that the entire workforce of 30,000 has access to the latest information technology, tools, and training to efficiently and effectively perform their jobs.

As a result of Dr. Dombeck's determination and keen business sense, the Forest Service will continue to achieve efficiencies thereby making more funds available for a healthier environment and productive workforce.

**Building Coalitions/Communication:** Dr. Dombeck is an exceptional coalition builder who knows the value of working in partnership with others to accomplish the greatest good for the greatest number of people. Dr. Dombeck has a clear and simple approach to communicating with people that has brought about higher public acceptance for the Agency. He discusses interagency and inter-departmental matters with other Administration leaders to develop a consistent approach on programmatic issues. He believes that all interested parties should understand the management philosophy of the Forest Service and collaborates on relevant issues that affect the Agency.

Dr. Dombeck met with the western Governors, industry, and environmental representatives after the western wildfires to determine the best methodology for providing assistance to communities and restoring public and private lands. Dr. Dombeck provided a public forum to discuss differing views and concerns in an open and friendly environment. His ability to listen to a wide range of opinions has resulted in re-established trust and greatly improved working relationships.

Dr. Dombeck has initiated numerous diverse partnerships, such as Memorandum of Understandings with the National Black Farmers Association, the National Hispanic Environmental Council, and the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma to provide technical assistance to managing their lands. He has effectively communicated with various audiences on the Agency's policies, clarifying information as needed, listening to their concerns, and fostering an atmosphere of open communication.

Dr. Dombeck is an outstanding and persuasive leader. His vision, coupled with his ability to move from rhetoric to action, has restored the Forest Service to a position of conservation leadership. His extraordinary performance over his 22 years of federal service, his impeccable talents, and his passion for caring for the land and serving people, clearly establishes his qualifications for the President's Distinguished Rank Award.