

Tom Hittle - Chair

Represents: The interests of a forest products company that owns and manages large tracts of private forest land that supply raw materials to the forest products industry

Steigerwaldt Land Services

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Tom Hittle was born in Manitowoc, Wisconsin. After graduating from Roncalli High School, Tom attended the University of Wisconsin Madison and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Forest Science in 1983. Tom worked as an intern with the Department of Natural Resources in Trempealeau County while in college and also worked for the US Forest Service on the Flathead National Forest in Montana before joining Steigerwaldt Land Services in 1985. He currently serves as Senior Vice President, Project Coordination and Client Services at Steigerwaldt Land Services, Inc. and is the acting Director for Steigerwaldt's appraisal department. He has over 35 years of forestry consulting experience and served as Steigerwaldt's Forestry and GIS Operations Director for 15 years prior to his current position. In this previous role, he was responsible for management of over 350,000 acres of client-owned timberland. He has a wide range of expertise in forest management and timberland real estate gained from years of hands-on consulting and forest management efforts on small and large private forestlands, and for county, state, federal, tribal, utility, investment, and conservancy clients. Tom's experience includes due diligence for timberland acquisitions, resource analysis and forest management planning, systems development and implementation, and management scenario modeling on a variety of consulting projects. He has appeared as an expert witness, testifying on timber volumes, values, and forest management practices in Marquette County, Michigan, and Adams, Washburn, Portage, and Langlade Counties, Wisconsin, and has worked on numerous other projects settled prior to court. Tom was appointed in 2013 by the governor to serve on the Wisconsin Council on Forestry; and in 2019 he was appointed as the Chair of the Council. He served as State Chair for the Wisconsin Society of American Foresters (SAF) (2014 – 2015), and also served as the State Chair for the Wisconsin Chapter of the Association of Consulting Foresters (2017 – 2018). Tom was elected as a SAF Fellow in 2019 and was the 2018 WI SAF John Macon Award recipient.