



NEWS RELEASE

Colorado Springs, Colorado

June 27, 2017

MARKIT! FORESTRY MANAGEMENT NAMED 2017 WOMAN-OWNED BUSINESS CONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR BY THE U.S. FOREST SERVICE

Markit! Forestry Management ("Markit! Forestry") has been selected as the 2017 Woman-Owned Business Contractor of the Year by the US Forest Service. Markit! Forestry, headquartered in Colorado Springs, was selected as the U.S. Forest Service's leading woman-owned business contractor out of all of its woman-owned business vendors across the United States. The U.S. Forest Service (the "Forest Service") considered hundreds of woman-owned contractors before conferring its prestigious woman-owned business contractor award for 2017 on Markit! Forestry.

The Forest Service manages 193 million acres in 44 States and territories, including 154 national forests, 20 national grasslands, and nine national monuments. In addition to land and water management, the Forest Service manages approximately 158,000 miles of trails, 4,300 campgrounds and 120 ski areas. The Forest Service also manages 28 Job Corps Civilian Conservation Centers in 18 states, and operates two Technology and Development Centers. In 2016 the Forest Service operated on a budget of over \$7 billion, and employed approximately 35,000 scientists, administrators, and land managers.

The Woman-Owned Business Contractor of the Year award was presented to Markit! Forestry in a ceremony at the U.S. Department of Agriculture Administration Building (the Jamie L. Whitten Building) in Washington D.C. on Wednesday, June 21, 2017. Leigh Ann Wolfe, the President of Markit! Forestry, accepted the award during the ceremony on behalf of Markit! Forestry's management team and employees. Leigh Ann Wolfe commented, "It is a tremendous honor for Markit! Forestry to be recognized as the leading woman-owned contractor for the U.S. Forestry Service. The award is a testament to every employee of Markit! Forestry, and to our drive to perform our work with excellence. Markit! Forestry is proud to have completed a number of stewardship projects for the U.S. Forest Service in the Pike and San Isabel National Forests, and we appreciate the Forest Service's recognition of our work. Markit! Forestry greatly values the partnership that we have developed with Mr. Marty Martinez and Ms. Star Yeo in the U.S. Forest Service's Rocky Mountain Regional office in Denver. Our collaborative relationship with Marty and

Star was recognized in the Washington headquarters of the Forest Service as a model that can and should be duplicated across the nation. Markit! Forestry is delighted to accept the award, and looks forward to continuing to work with the U.S. Forest Service to protect and enhance the forests in Colorado and in states across the western United States."

Washington D.C. - June 21, 2017
U.S. Department of Agriculture Building

Markit! Forestry Management Accepting the
2017 Woman-Owned Business Contractor Award



Pictured, left to right: Patrick Gayner, Alyssa Priest, Leigh Ann Wolfe, Jeremy Moore, Mark Herndon, Jesse Wittry

With a diversified portfolio of natural resources, buildings and structures, land improvements, personnel and research facilities, the Forest Service purchases a wide range of equipment, services and supplies from woman-owned businesses across the



United States. The Forest Service remarked on the fact that it is a great honor for Markit! Forestry to be recognized as the outstanding woman-owned business for its dealings with the Forest Service, particularly since Markit! Forestry is directly involved in preserving and enhancing the forests managed by the Forest Service.

Markit! Forestry Management is a full service environmental forestry management company headquartered in Colorado Springs. Markit! Forestry provides Forest Fuels Reduction, Forest Health Restoration, Post-Fire Rehabilitation, Defensible Space, Timber Harvesting and Trail Building services on Municipal, State, Federal and private land. For more information on Markit! Forestry Management please visit www.markitforestry.com, or call Pat Gayner at 719-593-2365.