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U.S Representative Tom Reed Visits FORECON, Inc.

FORECON and Congressman Reed share insights related to forest land use, and New York landowners' concerns.

Falconer, NY: Congressman Tom Reed, the US representative of the 23rd Congressional District of New York covering most of the Southern Tier, and District Director, Joe Sempolinski, met on June 29th at the FORECON offices. The Congressman discussed forestry issues that impact landowners in the district, and he expressed his passion about private property rights.

Congressman Reed is the Chairman of the Private Property Rights Caucus in the US House of Representatives. He has been effective at pulling together legislators on both sides of the aisle to identify and address the adverse effects government action can have on private ownership. The Congressman said his aim is to "discuss practical solutions to protect the constitutional rights of property owners." He shared details of the bill he introduced in January 2015, H.R. 510, known as the Defense of Property Rights Act. The bill intends to "create a safeguard against unfair and unreasonable government actions that violate (private landowner) property rights."

The Congressman was eager to learn about the services and value FORECON brings to landowners throughout New York State. Congressman Reed listened and shared ideas and insights on a variety of topics including:

- **the ever-increasing tax burdens,**
- **environmental issues impacting the forest industry,**
- **oil and gas fracking ban in New York,**
- **forest pests like the emerald ash borer (EAB) and hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA).**

About FORECON: Since 1954, FORECON, Inc., a consulting forestry and natural resources management firm, has been working with a variety of forest landowners. Through regular meetings with industry leaders and government representatives we effectively communicate issues that affect our clients' interests. Our involvement in groups like the **Forest Landowners Association** (www.forestlandowners.com) gives our company and our clients a voice in the matters that affect private forest landowners.

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