From:	Farrell, Robert
To:	DOF-ALL EMPLOYEES
Subject:	The Branch
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Good morning everyone;

I got to spend the day with Patrick Murphy last week in the Heartland work area and met several folks that rely on the DOF to help manage their forestland. It was a great reminder of the impact you all have in the communities that you serve.

Last week I also got to read the most recent version of the Virginia Forestry Association magazine. I have to commend Justin Barnes who serves on the VFA magazine committee and who helped to organize this issue about fire and forestry. A great range of stories that really showed the extent and importance of fire in forestry across Virginia. Also, the message from Corey Conners, VFA executive director, makes a great comparison between our hardwood initiative today and the creation of the RT program fifty years ago. As always I have to remind everyone that membership in VFA is an important way to support forestry in Virginia.

DOF has been around over 100 years and our work is gaining in significance today. Trees are the answer and trees are our thing. Thanks for everything you are doing.

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