

**James R Wright**

Division Director

Division of Forestry

Commonwealth of Kentucky

Energy and Environment Cabinet

Department for Natural Resources

***James R. Wright***was appointed by Gov. Matt Bevin as Director of the Division of Forestry in April 2017. Mr. Wright is a 1993 graduate of the University of Kentucky with a Bachelor of Science degree in Forestry.

Mr. Wright has served with the KY Division of Forestry for over 23 years. He began his career in Southeast KY as a Service Forester. Later, he served as Chief Forester in the Bluegrass District before becoming Regional Forester of the North Central Region. Mr. Wright also served as Acting State Fire Chief beginning January 2017 until his appointment as Director. He has extensive experience in forest management and wildland fire suppression. Mr. Wright most recently served as a Division Supervisor in Southeast KY during the fall 2016 forest fire emergency.