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David Elliott Awarded 2015's Jerry L. Johnson Award for Public Service

AUBURN, Nov. 24, 2015 – USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Alabama today announced that David Elliott has been named 2015's Jerry L. Johnson award winner. Elliott was recognized at the 73rd annual Alabama Association of Conservation Districts (AACD) conference in Orange Beach, Alabama on November 16, 2015.

This award is given to an Alabama NRCS employee for "Excellence in Public Service through One's Family, Employment, Profession and Community." The nominated employee who exhibits the characteristics of Jerry Johnson's spirit and concern for his family, fellow employees, the environment and his community will be recognized.

The award's 10th recipient was born in south Alabama in Escambia County and lives on his family's 120 year old farm with his wife. This background in agriculture gave Elliott the perfect foundation for what later became his life's work in conservation with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Alabama. Elliott's life goal has been and continues to be working with people and to leave this a better place for our children and the next generations that will follow.

He currently serves as a Liaison for NRCS on the Poarch Band of Creek Indians reservation in Atmore, AL and has helped to build a very strong relationship with those he represents. He helps them preserve, maintain, and enhance their natural resources for future generations.

"David Elliott has dedicated the past 36 years to conservation and serving his community. The selection committee was proud to present him with this year's award because he has without a doubt, positively impacted lives statewide," said Ben Malone, state conservationist for NRCS Alabama.

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For over 30 years, Jerry L. Johnson served conservation in Alabama. As NRCS State Staff Forester, he worked with the conservation partnership to assist landowners with natural resource concerns. His work and dedication positively impacted the forest, wildlife, and water resources of our state. He passed away on December 31, 2003 after a lengthy battle with cancer, only a few months after retiring from the agency. Nominations for the Jerry L. Johnson award are accepted each year in August.

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