

NEWS RELEASE

USDA Forest Service -- Northern Region



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Kootenai Forest Supervisor Named

Missoula, MT – Paul Bradford has been selected as the new Kootenai National Forest Supervisor by Northern Regional Forester Gail Kimbell. Bradford will replace Supervisor Bob Casteneda who retires May 26.

“Paul has an outstanding background in forestry, land management planning and in managing a large organization,” said Kimbell. “I’m very pleased to have him join our region and feel his skills are a good match for the large and multifaceted Kootenai forest.”

Bradford is currently the acting budget director for the national forest system and the assistant director for the national ecosystem management coordination staff. He has worked in the Forest Service national office for the past fifteen years but also completed a temporary assignment as forest supervisor on the Huron-Manistee national forest in 1999 and 2000 and an assignment as Legislative Fellow in Congresswoman Karan English (AZ) office in 1994. He started his career as a forestry technician on the Murphy Lake and Rexford ranger districts of the Kootenai NF in the late 1970s. Work in intervening years included increasingly more complex assignments in northern California, eastern Oregon, and Alaska. “I look forward to returning to the beautiful country in northwestern Montana and to working with the employees, communities and organizations involved in forest management,” said Bradford.

Born and raised in Ohio, Bradford is married to Sherry, a 30 year Forest Service employee. They have two grown sons; Jeremy, a computer programmer in Virginia, and Todd, a freshman at Christopher Newport University in Newport News, VA. Bradford is an avid golfer and enjoys hiking, hunting, fishing, youth sports and skiing. His first trip west of the Mississippi River was for his first Forest Service job and he remembers, “Coming into Big Sky country and just how amazing the landscape of the Kootenai forest was to a boy from Ohio.” He added, “After working nationally on the forest plan

revision and other analysis processes, I'm anxious to get my boots on the ground and to implement our plans.”

Bradford was named “Top Scholar” and graduated cum laude with a Bachelor’s degree in Natural Resource Management from Ohio State University. He earned a Master’s degree in Forest Management from Oregon State University

He will report for his new assignment on June 25.

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Paul Bradford

Contact Paula Nelson for other photos and information next week. She can also arrange phone interviews.