



## News Release

# TONGASS NATIONAL FOREST

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE-FOREST SERVICE

Contact: Wendy Zirngibl  
Phone: 907.789.6272  
Email: [wmzirngibl@fs.fed.us](mailto:wmzirngibl@fs.fed.us)  
Release Date: 1/7/2011

### **Tongass National Forest welcomes new Deputy Forest Supervisor**

**Ketchikan, AK** – The Tongass National Forest is pleased to announce that Tricia O’Connor, currently Staff Officer for Wildlife, Subsistence, and Planning on the Tongass, has accepted the position of Deputy Forest Supervisor. After serving since July as the Acting Deputy, she will assume the position officially on February 13, 2011.

Forest Supervisor Forrest Cole made the announcement on Friday, citing O’Connor’s “extensive work with the State of Alaska, Tongass Futures Roundtable, Tribal and Native Corporation interests, as well as her key role in getting the 2008 Forest Plan completed.”

Forest Wildlife Biologist Brian Logan, a member of O’Connor’s staff for the past year, echoed Cole’s praise, referring to her “ability to bring stakeholders together to meet multiple objectives,” a quality that is critical among agency leadership.

Logan further describes her as “a great leader and mentor for Forest Service employees.” Indeed, O’Connor says that a major draw to the Deputy Forest Supervisor position for her is the greater opportunity she’ll have to assume an advisory role with other staff members, whom she admires for their commitment to work on the Forest.

“Our employees show a lot of enthusiasm for what’s happening on the Tongass, from our transition to young-growth timber harvest, to connecting with youth through new programs, to managing the incredible natural resources here and working with the communities of Southeast.” O’Connor concludes, “It’s an exciting and challenging time to be on the Tongass.”

A graduate of Humboldt State University with a Master’s degree in Natural Resource Management, the new Deputy Forest Supervisor has held several positions on the Tongass. In 2001, O’Connor left Montana’s Lolo National Forest, where she was a district wildlife biologist, to become Yakutat District Ranger. She transferred to Juneau in 2006 as Wildlife, Subsistence, and Planning Staff Officer, a role that eventually led to her new position.

O’Connor is extremely pleased to continue her career on the Tongass. Ultimately, she says, “I’m excited to be here because Alaska is in my blood.”

Her new duty station will be in Ketchikan.

###

Tongass National Forest  
648 Mission Street, Ketchikan, AK 99901  
Voice 907-225-3101 FAX 907-228-6215 TTY 907-228-6222  
**The USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.**



**Tricia O'Connor**  
Tongass National Forest

Tongass National Forest  
648 Mission Street, Ketchikan, AK 99901  
Voice 907-225-3101 FAX 907-228-6215 TTY 907-228-6222  
**The USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.**