

NEWS



Forest Service

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Lassen National Forest

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New Lassen National Forest Supervisor Arrives

Susanville, CA.....A 20-year Forest Service veteran with strong ties to national forests in the Sierra Nevada has been selected to oversee the 1.1 million-acre Lassen National Forest.

Kathleen Morse, Forest Supervisor on the Allegheny National Forest in Northeastern Pennsylvania, since 2005,



returns to the Sierra Nevada where she led a regional effort to revise land management plans on 11 national forests. Morse is excited about the opportunity to implement changes she helped initiate.

“I am really excited to get back to the eastern Sierra,” Morse said. “I was fascinated with the Quincy Library Group—citizens who made the health of national forests their charge. I played a role in looking at how our forest plans could be structured to increase our ability to respond to fire and fuels concerns they raised. We successfully revised plans and honored Quincy Library Group’s work. Now I can go back and actually help implement it. I’ll be able to see the work move forward.”

Morse reported for work January 22, 2008. She replaces Laurie Tippin, who was named regional director of State and Private Forestry.

Randy Moore, new Regional Forester for the Pacific Southwest Region, who coincidentally served as Morse's supervisor in the Eastern Region, lauded her selection.

"Kathleen's familiarity with the Sierra Nevada, coupled with her proven commitment to work alongside citizens to address critical forest needs, will be a great match for the Lassen," Moore said. "We're eagerly anticipating her return to Northern California."

A native of Red Lodge, Montana, Morse launched her Forest Service career in Alturas, as an operations research analyst. She later moved to the Tongass National Forest in Alaska, where she served as the regional economist. She also served on the Alaska Governor's Timber Task Force, leading an assessment of the state's timber industry's capability in the wake of changing markets. Morse later became acting district ranger for Thorne Bay and Wrangell Ranger Districts in Southeast Alaska before she went on to become district ranger at Mammoth Lakes on the Inyo National Forest in California.

Morse earned a bachelor's degree in natural resources economics at Montana State University and a master's degree in coastal zone management at the University of Washington in Seattle. Her hobbies include backpacking, scuba diving and mountain climbing.

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