To: Regional Foresters, Station Directors, Area Director, IITF Director, Deputy Chiefs and WO Directors

REPLY DUE JANUARY 19, 2018

Each year, along with our partners, we are pleased to honor those who have exhibited leadership in our fisheries, hydrology, air, and soil science programs across the country. Once again, we ask for your assistance in identifying those top performers who have made outstanding contributions to fisheries, hydrology, air, soils, and watershed resource management both on and off our National Forests and Grasslands.

A summary of the award categories is provided within the enclosed nomination form. Note that several of the awards can be given to either internal or external individuals or groups. Nominations should clearly identify the proposed award recipient(s) and individual(s) suggested to receive the award in-person. We anticipate the National Rise to the Future - Fisheries, Hydrology, Air and Soil Science Resource Awards will be presented in May or June of 2018, at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Jamie L. Whitten Building in Washington, D.C., as the potential location.

Please share this nomination request widely, both internally and externally. Completed forms should be sent to Mr. Nathaniel Gillespie, Assistant National Fisheries Program Leader, no later than January 19, 2018. Nathaniel will coordinate with the Watershed Program, Air Program, and Soil Program leaders to provide appropriate review of the nominations for each category. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Nathaniel Gillespie at (202) 697-1055, or ngillespie@fs.fed.us.

/s/ Glenn P. Casamassa
LESLIE A. C. WELDON
Deputy Chief, National Forest System

Enclosure