

NEWS RELEASE

USDA Forest Service -- Northern Region



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Forest Service Welcomes New Tribal Relation's Specialist

Missoula, MT- Dale Kanen has begun work as the new Tribal Relations Specialist for the Northern and Intermountain Regions of the Forest Service. His duty station will be in Missoula, MT in the State and Private Forestry staff.

“I’m very pleased to have him join our region, to share his expertise in working with our line officers and have his assistance in working with Tribal leaders,” said Gail Kimbell , Northern Regional Forester. As a Tribal Relations Specialist, Dale will work with Tribal governments and agency line officers in the Northern Region to facilitate and foster government-to-government relationships. In working closely with tribal and agency leadership, Dale will focus on issues related to the special forest products policy, the Energy Bill, protecting and recognizing sacred tribal sites, conservation education amongst the tribes and the implementation of the Tribal Forest Protection Act.

Prior to joining the Northern Region, Dale was the Forest Service Director of the Tribal Relations office in Washington D.C. He has an extensive background in Tribal work and experience at all levels of the organization including the Washington Office, Supervisor Office, as well as a District line officer.



“This is my first time to the Northern Region and I’m very glad to be here. I’m looking forward to working with Tribal leaders and getting to know the people and the land,” Kanen said as he settles into his new office in Missoula’s downtown federal building.

Prior to his appointment in Washington D.C., Dale worked for sixteen years on the Tongass and Chugach National Forests in Alaska. He was instrumental in the design and construction of more than 30 fish ladders for anadromous salmonids along the west coast from California to Alaska.

He was appointed District Ranger on the Tongass National Forest in 1995, and immediately led the development of the Region's special forest products policy and helped establish the Klawock watershed restoration partnership in conjunction with the surrounding tribes and Native Corporations.

Dale was born near Glacier Bay, Alaska and is a member of the Tlingit and Haida Tribe. He and his wife, Susan, look forward to being closer to their son and daughter who live in Pocatello, Idaho.

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