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BILLINGS -- Bureau of Land Management Director Kathleen Clarke has named Gene Terland as the agency's new State Director for Montana and the Dakotas.

Terland is a Montana native and holds a degree in fish and wildlife management from Montana State University. "Gene's background and experience form a great fit for the resource issues facing Montana and the Dakotas," said Clarke.

Terland has been BLM's Associate State Director in Utah since 2003. He began his BLM career in Oregon in 1974. Between then and now, he has also served in a variety of leadership roles in Idaho and Alaska.

Terland will likely report for his new duties before the end of November. He replaces Marty Ott, who retired last year, and will be joined by another native Montanan, Associate State Director Howard Lemm who was named to that post last week.

Gene and his wife, Dee, have three children and four grandchildren. His outside interests include hunting, white water rafting and cross country skiing.

In Montana and the Dakotas, BLM has responsibility for 8.3 million acres of public land and 50 million acres of subsurface mineral estate.

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