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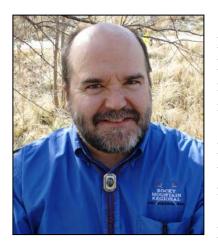
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Bureau of Indian Affairs News Release **Contact:** Robyn Broyles, 208-387-5473

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BIA Wildland Fire Management Welcomes David Peters as the National Budget Officer at the National Interagency Fire Center



Please help BIA-NIFC welcome David Peters, the new National BIA Budget Officer for the Branch of Wildland Fire Management. Peters comes to Boise with 33 years of experience in natural resources management. He began his 11 years with the BIA in 1990 as a Forester.

Peters moved from Billings, Montana, where he was the BIA Prevention/Wildland Urban Interface Specialist for four years with the Great Plains and Rocky Mountain Regions. David has worked in fire education, operations, information and facilities for 23 years.

After Peters earned a degree in Natural Resource Management, he completed six graduate level courses at the Natural

Resources Institute in the Northwest. He has worked for the Bureau of Land Management, BIA Olympic Peninsula Agency, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Hoosier and Routt National Forests, Colorado Division of Wildlife and the Division of Parks and Recreation.

"When we have employees who are familiar with natural resource management, they are more aware of how their decisions will impact the field. Peters' background in natural resource management and interagency collaboration will advance BIA's ability to meet our mission and goals to serve the tribes. We are glad to have him on board," said BIA Fire Director, Lyle Carlile.

As the lead Budget Office for BIA NIFC, Peters will now be the primary point of contact for all budget related questions. He will represent BIA on the DOI Budget Team at NIFC and coordinate with the Office of Wildland Fire Coordination to facilitate the funding formulation. He will oversee two budget analysts that will assist him in the many roles budget performs including funding executions, performing audits, and ensuring fire code needs are met.

In his free time Peters enjoys spending time with his son, who is a freshman in high school and an Eagle Scout. In warm months, he enjoys riding his motorcycle and rooting for the Indianapolis Colts. When winter kicks in, you can find him on the slopes snowboarding or riding his snowmobile.

Please be sure to update your contact information to <u>David.Peters@bia.gov</u>. He can be reached on his desk phone at 208-387-5932.