



Bureau of Indian Affairs
U.S. Department of Interior



Branch of Wildland Fire Management

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Bureau of Indian Affairs News Release

Contact: Robyn Broyles, 208-387-5473
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Bob Roberts Named BIA's Assistant Director, Branch of Wildland Fire

The Bureau of Indian Affairs, Branch of Wildland Fire is pleased to announce that Bob Roberts has been selected as the BIA Assistant Director, Branch of Wildland Fire in Boise.



Roberts, an enrolled member of the Hoopa Valley Tribe, comes to the National Interagency Fire Center with a long and diverse background in forestry and wildland fire management.

“Fire management in Indian Country has always been closely tied to the resources, particularly timber assets. Bob’s familiarity with forest management and understanding of Indian Affairs trust mission will complement BIA’s Fire Management program. I am pleased to have him as my new Deputy,” said Lyle Carlile, BIA Fire Director.

From 1977 - 1981 Bob worked as a co-op student for the Yolla Bolla Ranger District, Shasta-Trinity National Forest. As a student, he gained valuable experience in forest management and eventually became a professional forester working for the Olympic Peninsula Agency in Washington and Nez Perce National Forest on the Salmon River, Red River, and Elk City Ranger Districts in Idaho.

Throughout his forestry career, Bob always maintained a connection to wildland fire, earning his fire qualifications as a Type 3 Incident Commander, task force leader and a Type 2 prescribed fire burn boss. He got his first taste of wildland fire in 1975 working on the Hoopa Valley Tribe fire crew.

After a season, he began his federal service with the USDA Forest Service working on the Silver Lake Ranger District, Fremont National Forest as an engine crew member.

He has spent 12 years working for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, which began as the Assistant Fire Management Officer for the BIA Southern Ute Agency in Colorado in 1999. He progressed to the Ute Mountain Agency Fire Management Officer position and soon transferred to the Rocky Mountain Regional Office as a Fuels Specialist and then as the Regional Fire Management Officer.

Bob graduated in 1980 from Humboldt State University with a BS in Forestry. He also attended the Silviculture Institute, which included courses at Oregon State University and University of Washington.

Bob has been married to Becky for 34 years and has two sons, Byron and Derek. He enjoys hunting and boating and looks forward to returning to Idaho to enjoy the many recreation opportunities it has to offer.

He will arrive at NIFC September 14, and can be reached then at Bob.Roberts@bia.gov or by phone at 208-387-5620.

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