

News Release



U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Idaho Fish and Wildlife Office

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Pacific Region Welcomes New Idaho Leader

Brian T. Kelly has been named State Supervisor of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Idaho State Office. His appointment was announced today by Pacific Regional Director Robyn Thorson.

Kelly, a graduate of the University of Idaho, assumes the position previously held by Jeff Foss, who left the Service to become Deputy State Director for Resource Services for BLM's Idaho State Office.

I am looking forward to returning to Idaho. The Service's Idaho Fish and Wildlife Office has been at the forefront of challenging conservation opportunities, thanks to a dedicated staff and willing partners who have been committed to partnership-based conservation," Kelly said.

Kelly served as the Service's Cheyenne, Wyoming Field Supervisor for over seven years, where he emphasized partnership collaboration, including the Wyoming Landscape Conservation Initiative (WCLI), a multi-partner effort to proactively conserve listed and non-listed fish and wildlife resources. Kelly noted, "No conservation challenge stands alone anymore. We will sustain, grow, build and participate in partnerships to ensure successful conservation throughout the State of Idaho."

Kelly worked to establish a Memorandum of Agreement between the Wyoming Governor's Office and the Game and Fish Department to enable close collaboration on listed species and species of greatest conservation need.

In addition, Kelly assumed the leadership role for the Service's participation in the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA) efforts to conserve greater sage-grouse in eleven western states. As the Service's Mexican wolf recovery coordinator in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and red wolf recovery field coordinator in North Carolina, he focused on local input and solutions to the challenges of wolf recovery and management.

Kelly has worked with multiple federal, state and private entities as a wildlife biologist, researcher and manager in Idaho, Utah, and California, focusing on canine predator-prey research, ecology and management.

Kelly earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Fish and Wildlife Science from Utah State University in 1981, and his Masters degree in Wildlife Resources from the University of Idaho in 1991.

Brian Kelly may be reached at 208-378-5243 after August 4, 2010. The Service's Idaho State Office is located at 1387 S. Vinnell Way, Boise, Idaho, 83709.

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The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov.