



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
1829 South Oregon Street
Yreka, California, 96097



November 8, 2010

Contact: Matt Baun
(530) 841-3119

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE WELCOMES NEW YREKA FIELD OFFICE SUPERVISOR

Yreka, Calif., – Erin Williams has been named the new Field Supervisor of the Yreka Fish and Wildlife Office. She began her new duties on October 18 and comes to Yreka from the Service's Fisheries Program in Lakewood, Colo.

A marine and wildlife biologist, Williams has been with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service since 2002. She began her career in the federal service at the Stockton Fish and Wildlife Office (California) as Non-native Invasive Species Program Coordinator working on invasive species issues. Later, she served as Injurious Wildlife Evaluations Coordinator in the Washington Headquarters Office working on Asian carp, snakehead and other ecologically harmful non-native species.

"We're pleased to have Erin leading the Yreka field office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service," said Ren Lohofener, Regional Director of the Service's Pacific Southwest Region. "Her knowledge, experience and energy will serve the local community well on wildlife and habitat conservation issues."

As supervisor of the Yreka Fish and Wildlife Office (Yreka FWO), Erin directs a staff of 18 people and oversees activities in support of a number of programs aimed at the restoration and recovery of rare species and the habitats on which they depend. She will also oversee several voluntary landowner conservation programs aimed at benefiting the larger Klamath River watershed and ecosystem.

"It is an honor and a privilege to be in such a beautiful part of the country, and I look forward to working with our long-time partners, local landowners and other dedicated stewards of our natural resources," said Williams.

Prior to joining the Service, Williams was in Hawaii working at a bottlenosed dolphin cognition facility and worked on invasive species issues in Davis, California. She is from central Minnesota and received a B.S. in Biology and B.A. in Psychology from the University of Minnesota-Duluth. She has a Master's of Science from Oregon State University through the Marine Resource Management program.

An outdoor enthusiast, Williams said she is looking forward to exploring the outdoors and the many recreational opportunities that the area offers.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, 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/

###