



**File Code:** 6100

**Date:** January 12, 2022

**Route To:**

**Subject:** Leadership Announcement - Director, Fire and Aviation Management

**To:** Regional Foresters, Station Directors, IITF Director, Deputy Chiefs, and WO Directors

It is my pleasure to announce that Jerome “Jerry” Perez has accepted the offer to permanently serve as the National Director for Fire and Aviation Management in Washington, D.C. Jerry is currently Forest Supervisor for the Angeles National Forest in Arcadia, CA. Jerry replaces Shawna Legarza, who retired. I also want to thank those who have served as Acting Fire and Aviation Management Director during this time: Klamath Forest Supervisor Patty Grantham (retired), Helena-Lewis and Clark Forest Supervisor Bill Avey, and Southwest Region Fire Director Jacob Nuttall.

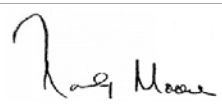
In his new role, Jerry will oversee all aspects of the Fire and Aviation program. His responsibilities include Washington Office programs, the National Interagency Fire Center in Boise, ID, and the National Fire Training center in Tucson, AZ. The agency’s work in Fire and Aviation includes aviation operations, wildfire response operations, risk management and doctrine, landscape management, partnerships, workforce management, wildfire prevention, budget, and fire information technology.

Jerry has contributed over 32 years of federal service in a variety of roles, with the last 17 years serving as a line officer. Prior to arriving in southern California, Jerry served as California State Director for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) as well as the Oregon/Washington State Director for the BLM. Before his time with the BLM, Jerry worked for the Forest Service in several positions, including Deputy Regional Forester for the Intermountain Region in Utah; Forest Supervisor on the Daniel Boone National Forest in Kentucky; Deputy Forest Supervisor for the Stanislaus National Forest in California; and National Litigation Coordinator in the Washington Office. He started his career as a Student Conservation Association volunteer on the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest in Colorado and started his permanent career on the Green Mountain National Forest on the Rochester Ranger District in Vermont.

A graduate of West Virginia University, Jerry received a bachelor’s degree in Forest Resource Management in 1986. He received his law degree in 2005 from Columbus School of Law at The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. Jerry served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Ghana, Africa, where he met his wife Rita who was also serving as a Peace Corps Volunteer.

Please join me in congratulating Jerry in his new role as the National Director for Fire and Aviation Management.

 Recoverable Signature

X 

Signed by: RANDY MOORE  
RANDY MOORE  
Chief

