



July 12, 2021

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Dear Randy,

Congratulations on your appointment as the next Chief of the Forest Service. The National Association of Forest Service Retirees (NAFSR) is delighted that you were chosen for this critical agency leadership position. As an organization, we have valued our exceptional, and close working relationship with Chief Vicki Christensen during her tenure. We look forward to having a similar relationship with you. As a group, NAFSR offers thousands of years of experience in natural resource management. We have membership in every state. You can count on the same pledge of support we have made to the past Chiefs.

We stand ready to help you and the organization be successful. Please do not hesitate to reach out whenever you feel we can add value. As a highly active advocacy organization we have accomplished many positive results over the years. We are in a unique position to advocate and openly support many actions and issues that the Forest Service may not be able to engage. Our goal is to inform you in advance whenever we are preparing to make major policy statements to Congress or the Administration. In addition, we are a credible voice with several other organizations that have profound interest in natural resource issues related to all facets of the Forest Service mission.

Many of our members know and have had the privilege of working with you. You are highly respected as a leader who is open, honest, fair, and knows how to get results. There may be some who are impatient and/or have unrealistically high expectations of you and the agency in delivering quick solutions to complex issues in a difficult political environment. We believe there are few easy, short-term solutions to many challenges the Forest Service is facing. Our best advice at this time is for you to rely on your many experiences, accomplishments and successes that got you to this place. NAFSR is confident that you will find the appropriate balance and do a great job!

We very much look forward to working with you in your new role.

Sincerely,

*James L. Caswell*

James L. Caswell, Chair

*Larry Payne*

Larry Payne, Vice Chair

*Steve Ellis*

Steve Ellis, Chair Elect

National Association of Forest Service Retirees