



Malheur National Forest

P.O. Box 909, John Day, OR. 97845 (541) 575-3000
www.fs.fed.us/r6/malheur

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 25, 2006

For More Information: Pattie Hammett
Phone: 541-575-3144

BENES NAMED MALHEUR NATIONAL FOREST SUPERVISOR

John Day, OR – Gary L. “Stan” Benes (pronounced “Benesch”) has been officially selected for the Forest Supervisor position on the Malheur National Forest. Benes comes to the position from the Custer National Forest in Montana where he was the Deputy Forest Supervisor.

"Stan is a welcome addition to the Malheur," Pacific Northwest Regional Forester Linda Goodman said. "His commitment to working with people and his proven land ethic will serve the Forest and its communities well."

Benes has been the Interim Malheur National Forest Supervisor since April, replacing former Supervisor Roger Williams. He has spent that time meeting with elected officials, other agency partners and people in the local communities as well as getting fully engaged with ongoing Forest projects.

“This past month working on the Malheur has been filled with interesting challenges,” Benes noted. “I have found people are actively engaged with the Forest and working with us for mutual success. There are so many things we can accomplish working together, focusing first and foremost on productive, healthy forest resources that are resilient to insects, disease, and fires and protect our valuable watersheds. From that basic standpoint, this Forest can provide many opportunities in the coming years. I look forward to making real progress on the ground working with the dedicated, professional staff on the Forest.”

Benes’ career was spent mostly in small ranch and logging towns in several regions of the country, beginning on the Fremont National Forest in southeastern Oregon. He held a District Ranger position on the Hebgen Lake Ranger District of the Gallatin National Forest with District headquarters in West Yellowstone, prior to his assignment on the Custer National Forest. Benes and his wife, Pat, have two grown children.

###

“The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation or marital or family status. (Not all bases apply to all programs) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audio tape, etc.) should contact the USDA’s TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Ave. S.W., Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA Forest Service is an equal opportunity provider and employer.”