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## **New Tellico District Ranger**

**CLEVELAND, TN --- May 26, 2009 ...**Cherokee National Forest Supervisor, Tom Speaks recently announced the arrival of Katherine Foster as the new Tellico District Ranger. Ms. Foster transferred to the Cherokee National Forest from the Manti La Sal National Forest in Utah where she served as the Forest Hydrologist.

Supervisor Speaks said, “Ms Foster has over 30 years of experience with the Forest Service and has demonstrated her understanding of natural resources, leadership qualities, and her interpersonal skills time and again. Katherine will bring a wealth of experience to the Cherokee National Forest.”

Upon graduating from the University of Georgia Ms. Foster began her Forest Service career in 1976 as a hydrologist for the Ozark-St Francis National Forest in Arkansas. Since then she has worked in Nevada, California, Colorado and Utah.

Ms. Foster said, "I am excited about the opportunity to serve the Tellico Ranger District and surrounding communities. I feel very privileged to be in East Tennessee. I am really looking forward to working with a great staff as well as meeting new people and facing new challenges. I've heard and seen a lot of very positive things about the area and know that we will continue to build on the positive things that have been done and are being done here.”

Ms. Foster grew up in the Southeast and has family in the Knoxville and Franklin areas. She enjoys cooking, knitting, gardening and a variety of outdoor activities. Ms. Foster said, “After spending many years in the Western United States, I am looking forward to getting to know the history, ecology and the communities of East Tennessee.”