



News Release

**Supervisors Office
Sierra National Forest
1600 Tollhouse Rd.
Clovis, CA 93611**

**Media Contact: Aimee Smith
(559) 297-0706 ext. 4885
asmith03@fs.fed.us**



Sierra National Forest announces Antonio Cabrera as new Forest Engineer

Antonio Cabrera was recently selected as the new Forest Engineer for the Sierra National Forest. Antonio is a civil engineer and graduate of Fresno State University who has been with the Sierra National Forest since 2009.

Originally from Mexico, Antonio once worked as a farm laborer and crew supervisor in Reedley while attending night school at Reedley College to fulfill his dream of becoming an engineer. In 2007 Antonio transferred to Fresno State University's Engineering Department. It was just prior to his graduation in 2009 that he was made aware of the Forest Service through the Central California Consortium, an environmental education; minority outreach and recruitment program with a mission to diversify the Forest Service workforce. Antonio was introduced to Jim Oftedal, the Director of the CCC at the time. In 2010, due to the connection with Jim Oftedal and the CCC, Antonio enrolled as a graduate student at Fresno State University and began an internship with the engineering department on the Sierra National Forest.

Antonio's father always encouraged him to be a good person and instilled a strong work ethic and high standards that remain with Antonio. Antonio lives by the belief that if you put the best of you forward and work hard you will always have a job. When Antonio got word that he was selected for the Forest Engineer position his mother was the first person he called and he sweetly told her that it was because of her and his father.

Antonio is working with Jesus Larralde, Chair of the Civil Engineering Department at Fresno State providing these opportunities to other students and is currently mentoring Saul Rico, a civil engineering graduate student at Fresno State. Exercise is a big part of his life and Antonio follows the maxim that if you eat healthy, exercise and focus on studies and school you will be able to give a lot back. Antonio and his wife Sandra have three daughters, Wendy, 20 years old, Miriam, 16 and Kenya, 11. The Sierra National Forest congratulates Antonio Cabrera on his new position as Forest Engineer effective January 12, 2015.

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