

National Forests in Alabama

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Talladega National Forest Has A New District Ranger

(Heflin, AL) August 1, 2006 – The Shoal Creek District has a new ranger on board who is dedicated to working together with community stakeholders, partners, and Forest Service employees to manage more than 120,000 acres of the Talladega National Forest. The USDA Forest Service named Kimberly Bittle as the new district ranger who is responsible for the administration of the staff and natural resources of the Shoal Creek Ranger District in Heflin, Alabama.

Miera Crawford, acting forest supervisor for the Conecuh, Talladega, Bankhead, and Tuskegee National Forests said that Bittle comes to Alabama with 16 years of experience working in forestry. Bittle has held numerous assignments as a silviculturist and forester in Arkansas, Mississippi, and Florida. Her last assignment before transferring to Alabama was as a deputy district ranger on the Wakulla Ranger District in Crawfordville, Florida. “Bittle has outstanding leadership skills, and we are delighted to have her as one of our rangers,” said Acting Forest Supervisor Crawford. Bittle is the Shoal Creek District’s second female district ranger.

A graduate of Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, Texas, Bittle earned a bachelor of science degree in forest management in 1992. She is a certified silviculturist and a member of the Society of American Foresters. She assumes responsibility of the Shoal Creek District that moved into a new office last year. The district has 20 employees who work together to managed recreation, fire, special uses, wildlife, and timber programs. A native of Clarendon, Texas, Bittle is married to Wayne and has two children, Katlyn, and Max.

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(Photograph enclosed of Kimberly Bittle, Shoal Creek District Ranger)