



# Biography

USDA Forest Service • Alaska Region

## ANDREA GEHRKE DIRECTOR, INFORMATION MANAGEMENT



Andrea Gehrke became the Director of Information Management (IM) in August 2010. The newly-formed IM staff is responsible for the collection, management, analysis and sharing of data used in the stewardship of the natural and physical resources in the Alaska Region.

Gehrke's goal is to assist the region in understanding information resources in all of its many forms and qualities—in ways that contribute to sound decision-making processes and can be easily communicated to diverse audiences. She provides the IM staff with the necessary guidance, training and tools they need for success.

Gehrke is responsible for coordination of IM programs that include: Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Cartography, Remote Sensing, Web Management, Natural Resource Manager (NRM), which includes a combination of these

national applications: Forest Activity Tracking System (FACTS), Timber Information Management (TIM) and Infra (I-WEB) and Data and Technology support, including residual duties not part of the Chief Information Office services.

Gehrke's experiences across the nation and at different levels of the Forest Service have given her keen insight in the geographic, cultural, political and socio-economic environments that make her work so complex. She has served on many national teams, which set policy and designed national application tools and training material. She has combined a professional resource background with the savvy and desire to use technology to meet Forest Service business needs.

Gehrke served as a member of the Chief Information Office's Reorganization Team from 2008 to 2010. Between 2004 and 2008 she served as the Intermountain Region's Infra Coordinator. Her first position which encompassed full-time information management responsibilities was the Regional Information Program Manager for Recreation, Wilderness, and Heritage in the Eastern Region from 2001 to 2004. Gehrke's early career focused on Recreation and Wilderness Management working on the Sacramento Ranger District, Lincoln National Forest, Southwestern Region from 1997 to 2001, Seeley Lake Ranger District, Lolo National Forest, Northern Region from 1989 to 1997 and the Eagle Cap Ranger District; Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, Pacific Northwest Region in 1987 and 1988.

Gehrke has a Bachelor of Science in Forest Resource Management degree from Oregon State University. She has received training in leadership, interpersonal communications, Emotional Intelligence, equine-assisted learning and natural horsemanship. She received her certificate as a Project Management Professional PMP® in 2009.