



Biography

USDA Forest Service • Alaska Region

RUTH MONAHAN DEPUTY REGIONAL FORESTER



Ruth Monahan has been the Deputy Regional Forester of the Alaska Region since September 2010. She served as the Alaska Regional Director for Recreation, Wilderness, Heritage, Lands and Minerals programs from 2006 to 2010.

Monahan has worked for the Forest Service for over 30 years, serving in a variety of positions in Washington, Idaho, Utah and Alaska. She began her Forest Service career in 1980 as a student trainee working in forest management. Since then, she has held a number of leadership positions including Acting Regional Forester for the Alaska Region, Forest Supervisor on the Sawtooth National Forest in Southcentral Idaho, District Ranger assignments on the Challis and Payette National Forests in Idaho and the Wasatch-Cache National Forest in Utah, Regional Wilderness and Rivers Specialist for the Intermountain Region and a number of long-term detail assignments. She has also served in a variety of forest- and district-level resource management positions in forestry, planning, recreation and wildland fire. She also worked temporarily at the USDA Office of the Under Secretary for Natural Resources and the Environment. As District Ranger on the Ogden Ranger District she provided shared leadership for the Forest Service 2002 Winter Olympics Planning Team and was directly accountable for the preparation of the Snowbasin Venue, site of the Olympic alpine races.

Monahan has received numerous awards and commendations over her career including the 2009 Regional Forester's Hector Gandara Memorial Award for her efforts to champion Alaska Region Diversity Strategy, awards for outstanding performance as Forest Supervisor and District Ranger, 1999 Intermountain Region District Ranger of the Year, the Chief's National Partnership Award given to the Sawtooth National Recreation Area and Sawtooth Society, Spirit of the Land Awards for outstanding environmental achievement during the Winter Olympic Games of 2002 and recognition from a number of community partners and nonprofit organizations.

Monahan received her Bachelor's of Science Degree in Forest Management from Washington State University in 1982. She has been an active member of the Society of American Foresters.

The Tongass and Chugach are the two largest single national forests in the nation. The Tongass National Forest stretches the 500-mile length of the Alaska Panhandle. The Chugach National Forest makes the 210-mile arc around Prince William Sound. The beauty and bounty of these forests draw attention from around the nation and the world.