

Commissioner Goldmark appoints two deputy supervisors

Local News

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Posted on : March 24, 2009 at 4:10 pm

OLYMPIA — Commissioner of Public Lands Peter Goldmark today appointed two deputy supervisors at the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Clay Sprague will serve as the deputy supervisor for uplands, and Chuck Turley will serve as the deputy supervisor for regulatory programs. “Clay and Chuck have each done an exemplary job as “acting” deputy supervisors in these challenging economic times. I couldn’t imagine anyone doing a better job on a permanent basis,” said Commissioner Goldmark. “Each of these gentlemen has the experience and integrity to excel in their new post. The people of Washington will be well served by Clay and Chuck.”

The appointments make permanent their previous role as “acting” deputy supervisors through this transitional period in the new Goldmark administration. Sprague and Turley each have experience working in multiple program areas and parts of the state for DNR. Sprague, a 29-year veteran of DNR, will have management responsibility for the Asset Management & Recreation, Engineering & General Services, Land Management, and Product Sales & Leasing divisions. He will also oversee the Department’s Chief Appraiser and Law Enforcement offices. “I’m pleased to be part of Commissioner Goldmark’s leadership team and am excited to help bring the management of this state’s trust lands into the 21st century, including expanding opportunities in renewable energy and ecosystem services,” said Sprague. “I believe my long history and experience with the DNR positions me well to help the commissioner achieve his goals and best serve the people of the state.” Sprague completed his Bachelor of Science degree in forest management with an emphasis in Wildlife Habitat from Washington State University and holds a Master of Forest Resources degree in regional planning and resource policy from the University of Washington. Having served as an assistant region manager for land management and assistant division manager in land transactions, Sprague has a diversity of experience at the management level. He has also been charged with implementing a habitat conservation plan for 1.8 million acres of state trust lands and led the project team charged with developing sustainable forest policies for the Board of Natural Resources. Before his temporary appointment, Sprague served as a senior policy advisor. Turley, a 17-year veteran of DNR, will become the new deputy supervisor of regulatory programs and have his acting assignment as State Forester become permanent. His management responsibilities will include the Forest Practices, Resource Protection, and Geology & Earth Resources divisions. He will also oversee the Department’s Environmental Review & Analysis office. “I am very excited to be part of the leadership of the Washington State Department of Natural Resources and look forward to helping it realize its mission of sustainable management of our natural resources,” said Turley. “I am ready for the challenge of managing through these tough budgetary times.” Turley holds a Bachelor of Science in wildlife management and conservation and a secondary teaching certification from Southwest Missouri State University and attended a graduate program in raptor biology at Boise State University. Among other duties at DNR, Turley has led survey efforts for spotted owls, served as a member of the Forest Practices Board’s Scientific Advisory Group for marbled murrelet rule-making and before his temporary assignment, he most

recently held the position of assistant division manager for policy and services in the Forest Practices Division. Turley has been an active participant in with DNR's wildfire program for eight years, most recently serving as a public information officer on one of Washington's Interagency Incident Management Teams. Each new deputy supervisor will earn \$103,000 per year. When Commissioner Goldmark took office, he restructured Executive Management by replacing four supervisors with one department supervisor and three deputy supervisors, and eliminating 11 funded exempt positions. The restructuring, coupled with reduced salaries for DNR's leadership team, will save the Department over \$600,000 in the next biennium. **DNR: Managing your public resources**DNR manages more than 5.6 million acres of state land: § 2.9 million acres of trust lands, including forest, range, agricultural land, and commercial properties that earn revenue to build public schools, universities, prisons, and other state institutions, and help fund Westside county services.§ 2.6 million acres of 'aquatic' lands: the bedlands under Puget Sound and the coast, many beaches, and navigable natural lakes and rivers.§ 130,000 acres of natural areas that protect rare and threatened species, as well as high-quality examples of the native ecosystems and landscapes of Washington.