Leadership Biography

Chief Randy Moore, USDA Forest Service

Randy Moore is Chief of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service, leading a workforce of more than 31,000 employees who sustainably manage 193 million acres of national forests and grasslands, support the world's largest forestry research organization, and work with states, Tribes and partners to sustain all of America's forests for the benefit of all citizens, today and in the future. Under his leadership, the Forest Service cares for natural resources in ways that promote lasting economic, ecological and social vitality for current and future generations.



Chief Moore has been a catalyst for change throughout his 45-year career. As Chief, he contributes to our nation's most pressing challenges: tackling climate change, advancing

racial equity and helping the people we serve recover and heal from the global pandemic by connecting them with our treasured public lands. He is committed to seeking new and better ways to address the many issues facing our ecosystems, our communities and our employees.

Chief Moore believes strongly that a leader must adapt and grow, but that there are some principles that always hold true: A leader must be fair, inclusive, and willing to listen to and trust his employees. He is committed to the Forest Service mission, distilling it to its core of improving forest and grassland conditions by bringing together partners from Tribes, state and local governments, communities, and nonprofit and private sector interests.

Prior to serving as Chief, he served as Pacific Southwest regional forester from 2007 to 2021, where he was responsible for 18 national forests in California, covering one-fifth of the state on 20 million acres of land. He also oversaw State & Private Forestry programs in Hawaii and the U.S.-affiliated Pacific Islands. Chief Moore served as regional forester for the Eastern Region in Wisconsin, forest supervisor for Mark Twain National Forest in Missouri and in myriad other roles throughout the agency. He began his 45-year career in 1978 with USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service in North Dakota and joined the Forest Service in 1981.

A native of Bastrop, Louisiana, Chief Moore earned his bachelor's degree in plant and soil science from Southern University. He and his wife Antoinette have two sons, two daughters-in-law and three grandchildren.