

Professional Biography

Lenise Lago

Deputy Chief for Business Operations

Lenise Lago grew up in Athens, Georgia, where she attended the University of Georgia. She earned a Bachelor's Degree in Timber Management and a Master of Forest Resources from the University of Georgia's Warnell School of Forest Resources.

Lenise worked briefly in the forest products industry before joining the Forest Service in 1989. She has worked in a variety of Planning, Budget, and Resource Management jobs. She has had assignments on two Ranger Districts, two National Forests, and two Regional Offices all within Montana, Oregon and Washington.

Lenise moved to Washington, DC, to become Assistant Budget Director in October 2003 and became Director of Budget for the Forest Service in November 2006. Lenise has prepared and presented five Agency Budget Requests to Congress and accompanied the Chief as a witness at the annual budget hearings for three budget cycles. Lenise worked very closely with Congressional Staff on a number of funding bills including the annual appropriations and emergency supplemental appropriations for hurricanes, wildfires, and the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act.

In 2009, Lenise became Deputy Regional Forester of the Pacific Northwest Region. In this position, she provided oversight for Recreation, Lands, Minerals, Engineering, Public Affairs, Civil Rights, Human Resources, Acquisition Management and Data Resource Management for the Region, in addition to co-chairing the regional labor management forum.

Since being selected to serve as Deputy Chief for Business Operations in 2011, Lenise provides leadership and oversight for all the administrative functions for the agency which include Safety, Job Corps, and Sustainable Operations. As Deputy Chief for Business Operations, Lenise oversees the work of more than 4,000 employees.



Jacquelyn Lenise Lago
Deputy Chief for Business Operations

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