

KARL BROOKS  
DEPUTY ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR, OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION AND RESOURCES  
MANAGEMENT

Appointed Deputy Assistant Administrator for the Office of Administration and Resources Management in February 2015, Brooks directs provision of core support services to all EPA operations throughout the United States. OARM hires, protects, trains, offices, secures, and equips 15,000 career staff. OARM distributes federal grants that enable states and tribes to carry out their environmental protection duties. And OARM safeguards such fundamental principles governing the federal workplace as the civil service merit system, collective bargaining with union partners, and diversity and inclusion.

Before joining EPA's senior staff in Agency Headquarters, Brooks was EPA Region 7 Administrator, where he had supervised Agency operations in Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, and nine Tribal Nations since 2010. As in Region 7, he reports directly to EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy.

Karl and his wife Mary are parents of three adult children: a lawyer in St. Louis, a standup comic in Los Angeles, and a wildland firefighter in Alaska. Mary Brooks, a graduate of the University of Missouri School of Journalism, is a professional indexer and editor of scholarly books for American publishers.

Brooks was educated at Yale College, London School of Economics, and Harvard Law School, before earning his Ph.D. from the University of Kansas and joining its faculty in 2000. He has taught American environmental, political, and legal history, as well as environmental law and policy, to thousands of KU undergraduate, graduate, and law students. Author of *Before Earth Day: The Origins of American Environmental Law, 1945-1970* (2009) and *Public Power, Private Dams: The Hells Canyon High Dam Controversy* (2006), and editor of *The Environmental Legacy of Harry S. Truman* (2009), Brooks has written many articles for newspapers, magazines, and scholarly journals.

Brooks practiced trial and appellate law in his hometown of Boise, Idaho, for a decade, representing individual, small-business, and corporate clients in various American courts and agencies. A member of the Idaho State Bar since 1983, he is admitted to practice before the Supreme Court and several federal appellate courts. During 2001-2002, as a Supreme Court Fellow in Washington, D.C., he drafted a history of the U.S. Sentencing Commission.

Brooks was elected in 1986 to the first of three terms in the Idaho Senate, becoming co-chair of the Judiciary and Rules Committee and ranking Democrat on the Local Government and Taxation Committee. Retiring from elective politics after the birth of his second child, from 1993 to 1996 he served as executive director and legislative liaison for the Idaho Conservation League, his home state's largest citizens' environmental organization.