



New Area Managers for the Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) began work today as the entire department begins implementing structural changes that will streamline services in the field and refocus our efforts in managing of millions of acres of state endowment trust land as well as our duties in a number of regulatory and assistance capacities.

Eric Besaw takes over as the new Area Manager of the Mica Supervisory Area stationed in Coeur d'Alene. This Area handles numerous duties in Kootenai County, Shoshone County (the Silver Valley), and a sliver of Bonner County related to the Lake Protection Act, timber management, fire management, forestry regulation and assistance, and leasing of minerals.

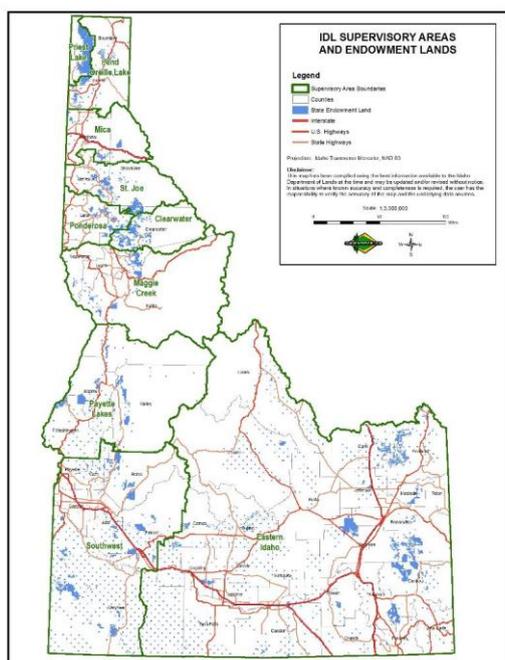
Jay Sila takes over as the new Area Manager of the Clearwater Supervisory Area stationed in Orofino. This Area - like others in north central Idaho - is known as a "wood basket" of timber harvest and regeneration and covers most of Clearwater County along with small portions of Shoshone and Idaho Counties.

Two other remaining Area Manager vacancies at the Payette Lakes Supervisory Area in McCall and the St. Joe Supervisory Area in St. Maries likely will be filled in April 2013.

The IDL just began implementing a new organizational structure that **streamlines services provided in the field by maintaining all existing office locations but reducing the number of "Supervisory Areas" from 14 to 10 statewide.**

The Supervisory Area boundaries have been redrawn while maintaining program staff levels at all 10 fire protection areas (forest protective districts).

A map of the new Supervisory Area boundaries and all office locations is available [here](#).



Other changes as part of the reorganization

State Forester David Groeschl continues as the Deputy Director of Division of Forestry and Fire. This division - which handles policy issues in endowment forest management, forestry regulation and assistance programs, and fire management - experiences few changes in the reorganization and remains based in Coeur d'Alene.

Kathy Opp assumes the role of Deputy Director of the "Division of Lands and Waterways" based in Boise. This division will administer the leasing of state endowment trust lands; strategic land acquisitions and dispositions; and regulatory programs in mining, lake protection, and public trust land management (the State-owned lands beneath the beds of Idaho's navigable waters).

Bob Brammer assumes the role of Chief Operations Officer in Boise to handle policy and Land Board-related issues, enabling existing operations leadership to focus more on Area-level issues.

Dan Raiha was hired as the Chief of our Information Technology (IT) functions, enabling IDL to become even more efficient over time through technological advances.

The **reconfigured organizational charts** with names of individuals in all positions are available [here](#).

All of these changes are achieved with existing funding and Full Time Equivalent (FTE) positions.

At its regular meeting in February, the Land Board gave its approval for the IDL to start implementing these changes over the next six months and to evaluate additional long-term recommended changes over the next 18 months.