



C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER
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CONTACT: Jon Hanian
208-334-2100

LAND BOARD APPOINTS DUSTIN MILLER TO LEAD IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF LANDS

(BOISE) – The State Board of Land Commissioners (Land Board) announced today that it selected **Dustin Miller** for the position of Director of the Idaho Department of Lands (IDL).

Miller has been the Administrator of the Governor's Office of Species Conservation and a member of the Governor's Natural Resources Cabinet since 2012. Miller started his career as a wildland firefighter for the U.S. Forest Service.

"Dustin is highly regarded as a leader in Idaho's natural resources field, and we are confident in his ability to lay out a vision for the Department of Lands and help the Land Board meet its many duties, especially as trustees of the state's endowment lands and funds that support our public schools," Governor Otter said. "His strength is building strong working relationships across State and federal agencies, user groups, the Idaho Legislature, and others to solve complex natural resource issues."

Miller has participated in State and national committees related to wildlife and land use planning, and is experienced in building support for land use initiatives. Miller has held other positions within OSC and worked extensively across the state as a natural resources field coordinator for the U.S. Senate. Throughout his career, he has helped establish collaborative relationships with State and federal agencies, private landowners and resource industry leaders. Miller earned a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Science from the University of Idaho.

"I am honored to be selected by the Land Board. I value Idaho and its abundant natural resources, and I am excited to lead the hard-working and dedicated people at the Department of Lands in the important work they do for Idahoans," Miller said.

Miller will lead more than 320 full-time and 250 seasonal employees at IDL. He will be the secretary to the Land Board and a member of the Idaho Oil and Gas Conservation Commission. Miller also will serve as chairman of the Idaho Board of Scaling Practices and as a member of the Idaho Geological Survey, Idaho Forest Products Commission, Idaho Strategic Energy Alliance, and University of Idaho Policy Analysis Group.

Miller lives in Boise with his wife, Dana Miller, and their two young children. He frequently hunts, fishes, and rafts Idaho's extraordinary rivers.

Under the direction of the Land Board, the IDL manages more than 2.4 million acres of endowment under a constitutional mandate to maximize long-term financial returns to public schools and other State of Idaho institutions. The IDL also provides fire protection on 6.3 million acres of mostly State and private land, provides technical assistance to private landowners and forest managers in the management of their forest lands, and administers the Forest Practices Act, Oil and Gas Conservation Act, Surface Mining Act, Dredge and Placer Mining Act, Abandoned Mine Reclamation Act.

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