

Northern Region Appointments

April 8, 2011

I am pleased to announce the appointment of the following individuals to Unit Chief in CAL FIRE's Northern Region effective April 18, 2011:

Kelly Keenan, Amador-El Dorado Unit
Rick Kyle, Shasta-Trinity Unit
Jeff Schori, Tehama-Glenn Unit



Kelly Keenan, Amador-El Dorado Unit

Kelly started his career in CAL FIRE in 1986 as a Forestry Assistant II on the Jackson Demonstration State Forest. In 1988, Kelly promoted to Forester I in the Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit (NEU) and in 1998, promoted to Forester II. While in NEU, Kelly held positions as Area Forester, VMP Coordinator, Unit Forester and Interim Unit Administrative Officer.

In 2004, Kelly accepted an Assistant Chief position in the Amador-El Dorado Unit as the North Division Operations Chief, which included responsibility for Growlersburg Conservation Camp. During Kelly's 25 years with CAL FIRE, he has been involved with a variety of assignments, working groups and cadres in both the Resource Management and Fire Protection programs and worked cooperatively with numerous state, federal and local government agencies.

Since 2003, Kelly has served on CAL FIRE Incident Command Teams in a variety of positions, including Planning Section Chief, Deputy Incident Commander and is currently the Incident Commander of ICT #1. While the Deputy Incident Commander on ICT # 10, Kelly was directly involved with some of California's most challenging wildfires and disasters. Kelly holds a Bachelor of Science Degree from Cal Poly State University, is a Peace Officer and a Registered Professional Forester.

Rick Kyle, Shasta-Trinity Unit

Rick began his CAL FIRE career in 1982 as a Seasonal Firefighter in the Butte Unit, where he promoted to LT FAE in 1984, and then permanent FAE in 1986.

In 1989, Rick promoted to Fire Captain and worked in various assignments, including Intermountain Conservation Camp and Bieber Station/Helitack Base in the Lassen Modoc Unit (LMU), and in the Butte Unit's Emergency Command Center. Rick was appointed as a Battalion Chief to LMU's Training and Safety Officer in 1999, with a subsequent assignment as LMU's Bieber Battalion Chief. In 2003, Rick became LMU's Administrative Division Chief, and 3 years later, returned to Intermountain Camp as the Camp Division Chief. Rick transferred to the Shasta-Trinity Unit in 2007 to serve as the Central Division Operations Chief, where he has responsibility for a wide variety of programs within the Unit and Shasta County Fire Department.

Rick is a CAL FIRE-trained Peace Officer and served as a Shasta County Sheriff's Reserve Deputy for 4 years. He has also served as a Hazardous Materials Specialist on

the Shasta Cascade Hazardous Materials Response Team (SCHMRT) for 7 years. Rick has been the Cascade Area's Supervision 2 Course Coordinator since 2003.

Jeff Schori, Tehama-Glenn Unit

Jeff began his career with CAL FIRE in 1981, as a Seasonal Firefighter in the Riverside Unit. In 1982, Jeff worked as a Forestry Aide on the Jackson Demonstration State Forest and in 1991, was appointed as a Forester I in the Shasta-Trinity Unit. In 2003, Jeff was appointed to Battalion Chief at Northern Region Operations Center and since then has held positions as Division Chief and Deputy Chief of both the Vegetation Management Program and Operations.

Jeff served on CAL FIRE Incident Command Team #3 from 2000-2003, and held positions of Safety Officer and Planning Section Chief Trainee. Jeff serves on a variety of cadres, working groups and committees in support of the Unit, Region and Department. Jeff has also held several positions within CDF Firefighters.

Prior to his permanent appointment with CAL FIRE, Jeff worked for a Fire Protection District and as a forester for private industry. Jeff holds a Bachelor of Science Degree from Humboldt State University, is a Registered Professional Forester and a Peace Officer, having graduated at the top of his POST Basic Academy.

Each one of these individuals is uniquely qualified for their new appointment. Please join me in congratulating them in their new positions.

Ken Pimlott, Chief
Acting Director