

February 18, 2004

To Whom It May Concern:

I have known Jim Bedwell since he started his career with the USDA Forest Service on the Coronado National Forest (NF) as the Assistant Forest Landscape Architect in 1980. He advanced to Forest Landscape on the Coronado NF, then moved to the Santa Fe NF as Forest Landscape Architect, then to the Caribbean NF as Forest Recreation Staff Officer, then to the Washington Office as Chief Landscape Architect and finally to the Arapaho-Roosevelt NF and Pawnee National Grassland as Forest Supervisor. I have had the distinct pleasure of observing his entire Forest Service career.

Jim has exceptional skills in all facets of natural resource planning, design, management and administration. He first honed his skills in facility design and project management while on the Coronado NF. He later honed his skills in land management planning and scenery management while on the Santa Fe NF. On the Caribbean NF and in the Washington Office he moved into program management. He currently is responsible for the administration of all of the Forest Service's programs for the Arapaho-Roosevelt NF and Pawnee National Grassland. He has had a distinguished career with the Forest Service during which time he has performed the entire array of responsibilities expected of a public practice landscape architect and has excelled at everything he has undertaken.

Jim has many notable accomplishments. While on the Santa Fe NF he received two Regional Planning and Design Arts Awards for his work on the Holy Ghost Campground and the Lower Jemez Complex. While participating in the Southwestern Region's Partners in Leadership program he was the principle author of the Region's "Capital Investment Process for Recreation and FA&O Facilities" which is the Region's protocol for project management. He received a third Regional Planning and Design Arts Award for that work. He was also on the team that developed the Southwestern Region's process for selecting Recreation capital investment projects. While in Puerto Rico he was involved in the facility design and project management for the El Portal Tropical Rain Forest Visitor Center. While in the Washington Office he was responsible for implementation of the Scenery Management System and development of the Forest Service's "Build Environment Image Guide".

Jim is an outstanding public practitioner. He is an innovator and a leader who has distinguished himself in every facet of the profession-facility design, project management, land management planning, scenery management, program management, and public administration. I consider him a professional colleague of the highest caliber and a close personal friend.

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