



News for Immediate Release

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DCNR Appoints New Manager at Tioga State Forest District

Harrisburg – The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources today named Christopher S. Gastrock as manager of the Tioga State Forest District, based in Tioga County.

“Chris’ entire forestry career has been spent in the north central area of the state where he has forged a strong knowledge of the area’s people and the woodlands they value and enjoy,” said DCNR Secretary Ellen Ferretti. “Most recently, as a Tioga assistant manager, he mastered the public relations and managerial skills needed to assume the top post there.”

Heading one of 20 state forest districts across the state, Gastrock will oversee forest-growth management, personnel coordination, infrastructure maintenance and fire prevention and suppression. He also will manage service foresters who provide support, direction and technical assistance to private forest landowners.

Headquartered in Wellsboro, Tioga County, Tioga State Forest District includes Tioga and Bradford counties. Its state forest totals more than 161,890 acres and, along with seven other forest districts, anchors the Pennsylvania Wilds region. With its panoramic views, miles of pristine streams and Pine Creek Gorge adventures, Tioga draws legions of outdoors enthusiasts in all seasons.

“It is a valued honor to accept the district forester position in the Tioga State Forest District,” Gastrock said. “I intend to continue building relationships and working with the stakeholders, communities and district staff to preserve and maintain our natural resources for generations to come.”

Gastrock began his career with the Bureau of Forestry in 2000, working two years as a forest technician at Penn Nursery, Centre County; the Susquehannock State Forest District, based in Coudersport, Potter County; and the Tioga district. He worked then as a Susquehannock forester; a Tiadaghton assistant forester and, most recently, for the past six years as a Tioga assistant forester.

A graduate of Pennsylvania College of Technology, Gastrock, 36, is a native of Wellsboro, Tioga County. He and his wife, Jill, are the parents of three children and reside in Middlebury Center, Tioga County.

For more information on the Tioga State Forest District, as well as Pennsylvania’s other 19 districts, visit www.dcnr.state.pa.us and select “Find a Forest.”

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