

National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior Intermountain Region

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## **Intermountain Region News Release**

## Aaron Mahr to Manage the Intermountain Region's National Trails System Program



**Aaron Mahr** 

**DENVER** – Aaron Mahr, a 14-year veteran of the National Park Service has been named general superintendent for the Intermountain Region's National Trails System Program, according to Intermountain Regional Director Mike Snyder. Mahr will assume his new responsibilities effective immediately.

"Through his years of experience and work with a number of partners and organizations, Aaron knows that the success of our trails program means cultivating partnerships for trail resources," said Snyder.

For the past seven years, Mahr served as Historian in the National Trails System-Santa Fe office where led efforts to nominate over 30 properties along several of the trails to the National Register of Historic Places

In his new role Mahr will manage the National Trails System program

of the Intermountain Region, with offices in Salt Lake City and Santa Fe. The program has oversight for nine National Historic Trails (Santa Fe, Trail of Tears, El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro, El Camino Real de los Tejas, Old Spanish, Oregon, California, Pony Express, Mormon Pioneer), the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program, and the Old Santa Fe Trail Building.

"It's a tremendous honor to have the opportunity to play a leadership role in the National Trails System. Administration of our nation's national historic trails is at the forefront of the National Park Service's emphasis on partnership development, and I'm proud to be part of the team. I look forward to working closely with a great staff and the wide array of constituents that support and visit the trails."

Mahr began his career with the National Park Service in 1990 as a graduate assistant at the Spanish Colonial Research Center, where he transcribed and researched colonial-era Spanish-language documents. His first park experience came at Palo Alto Battlefield National Historic Site where he was the park's first Historian and Chief of Resource Management. He helped establish the Underground Railroad Network to Freedom in the Intermountain Region.

He holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Spanish and a Masters in Latin American Studies from the University of New Mexico. Before beginning his NPS career, he became a Ph.D. candidate in history while serving as an instructor at the University of New Mexico, and a visiting professor at the Universidad Autónoma de Ciudad Juárez. Aaron and his wife Eva, who teaches Spanish at the Santa Fe Community College, live in Albuquerque.

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