

Biographical Sketch
For
Jim Olivarez

Jim Olivarez retired from the USDA Forest Service after 35 years of service. He spent half of his career focused in the Rangeland Management arena. The last half of his career was as the Northern Regional Program Leader for Noxious Weeds, headquartered in Missoula, Montana.

During his career he had a hand in the formalization Forest Service National Policies for Noxious Weeds, Native Plants and Invasive Species. Locally, he helped guide the development of the Statewide Noxious Weed Plans in Montana and Idaho. Jim represented National Forest Systems in the creation of the agencies Biological Control Research program, based in Bozeman, Montana. He was also the agency representative responsible for the creation of the Noxious Weed Short Course for Federal Land Managers as created by Montana subject experts. One of his early projects was helping formalize the Certified Weed Free Forage Program and associated Closure Orders requiring its use on National Forest Systems lands in the Northern Region.

During his tenure he represented the Northern Region as advisor to Directors of Agriculture in Montana and Idaho as associated with: Noxious Weed Management Plan Implementation, Noxious Weed Seed Free Forage, and The Montana Trust Fund. He also served on the Missoula County Weed Board for seven years.

Jim and his wife Marilyn reside in Missoula enjoying retirement.