



Curt A. Fransen

Curt Fransen is the Director of the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). He was appointed to this position by Governor C.L. “Butch” Otter in February 2012, after serving five years as the agency’s Deputy Director. As Director, he is responsible for leading the state’s efforts to preserve the quality of Idaho’s air, land, and water for the use and enjoyment today and in the future.

Director Fransen is a graduate of the University of California, Santa Barbara, and the Hastings College of Law.

His career in public service began in 1983 when he joined the Idaho Attorney General’s Office where he represented the Department of Health and Welfare’s Division of Health until 1986. From 1986 to 1997, he served as Chief of the Environmental Quality Section of the Attorney General’s Natural Resources Division, overseeing legal services to DEQ. From 1997 until becoming DEQ’s Deputy Director in 2007, he represented DEQ and other state agencies on mining cleanup and other North Idaho natural resources issues in Coeur d’Alene.

While serving with the Attorney General’s Office, Director Fransen played a key role in negotiating the Consent Decree that led to development of northern Idaho’s 73-mile recreational Trail of the Coeur d’Alenes, the 1991 Federal Facilities/Consent Order for the cleanup of hazardous and radioactive wastes at the Idaho National Laboratory, and the Records of Decision and Consent Orders outlining the cleanup plan for the Bunker Hill Superfund Site.

In addition to heading up DEQ, Director Fransen serves at the request of the governor on a number of state commissions and boards, including the Basin Environmental Improvement Project Commission, which is responsible for coordinating environmental remediation and natural resource restoration in the Coeur d’Alene Basin.

Curt and his wife are avid outdoor enthusiasts and especially enjoy challenging whitewater rafting excursions on Idaho’s and other scenic rivers throughout the Mountain West, backpacking, biking, and skiing of all kinds.