Chas Van Genderen
MT State Parks Administrator
Bio

Chas Van Genderen has been the Administrator for Montana State Parks, a division of the Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks, since 2009. Chas oversees 54 state parks that feature destinations explored by Lewis & Clark, dinosaur trail archeology, Native-American culture, and include 7 National Historic Landmarks and 10 National Register of Historic Places. In this role, he has made preservation and promotion of Montana's natural, cultural and recreation heritage top priorities. His first job in the outdoors was as a Youth Conservation Corps member in 1976 at Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area and that experience helped guide a career in park and conservation work. Chas' experience spans more than twenty-five years where he worked with Colorado State Parks, served as a County Park Manager in Michigan, and held several field and administrative positions with Utah State Parks before settling in Montana in 1998. Chas received the 2012 Governor's Award, a special recognition for his leadership.

Jennifer Lawson
MT State Parks Marketing & Communications Manager
Bio

Jennifer Lawson joined Montana State parks as the Marketing and Communications Manager in 2011. She received the 2012 Marketing Award from the Montana Recreation and Park Association. Her career

spans nearly 20 years working in Washington DC as a writer/producer/message strategist. She has been involved in creating a wide variety of projects for network television, non-profit organizations, federal and state government agencies, corporations and leading public relations firms. She has worked with clients including; The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, American Cancer Society, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and National Public Radio's "All Things Considered". Jennifer was a producer for CBS News for nearly a decade and has interviewed such notable personalities as former President Bill Clinton, Stevie Wonder, Sir Edmund Hillary, Tony Bennett, BB King, Walter Cronkite and Robert Redford. Jennifer has written and produced video projects narrated by Jeff Bridges and Tom Brokaw.