

BIOGRAPHY

Ronald E. Ries
Staff Director
Highway Rail Crossing and Trespasser Division
Federal Railroad Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E., Mail Stop 25
Washington, D.C. 20590

Telephone (202) 493-6285
Facsimile (202) 493-6216
E-Mail Ronald.Ries@DOT.GOV

After graduating from the University of Washington with a bachelor's degree in psychology, Ron was hired in 1974 by the Davenport, Rock Island and North Western Railway in Davenport, Iowa. He worked as a yard clerk for several years before he was promoted to trainmaster and eventually became the Manager of Administration for the railroad. He joined the FRA in October 1994 as the Crossing and Trespasser Regional Manager for Region 8 based in Vancouver, Washington where he worked with the state agencies, railroads and communities in the Pacific Northwest promoting highway-rail grade crossing safety and trespass prevention. He oversaw FRA's first pilot quiet zone in Spokane County, Washington. Since October 1998, Ron has worked on crossing safety and trespass prevention issues at FRA Headquarters with the Crossing Safety and Trespass Prevention Programs team. He was appointed Staff Director of the crossing team in January 2001.

Ron was worked with several national studies on crossing safety and trespass prevention and also cooperates with Transport Canada on these issues. He is actively involved with Operation Lifesaver and is a member on OLI's National Advisory Council.