



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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ORGANIZATION OF NEW FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE DESCRIBED

Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton today announced organizational details of the new United States Fish and Wildlife Service, whose establishment under Public Law 1024 became effective on November 6, 1956.

As announced earlier, two new top-level positions were created by the reorganization to direct the activities of the new Service. Appointments to these new positions, Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Commissioner of Fish and Wildlife, will be made by the President, subject to confirmation by the Senate.

Direct supervision will be exercised by the Commissioner over the operations of the two new bureaus, the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife and the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries. Each bureau will have a Director, Associate Director, and Assistant Director. At present, John L. Farley is Acting Director, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, and Arnie J. Suomela is Acting Director, Bureau of Commercial Fisheries.

The Commissioner will be responsible also for functions of the Divisions of Administration, Information, and River Basins, each of which will perform services in connection with the work of both the bureaus.

Each of the bureaus will have its office of budget and finance, and each will maintain its regional organizations and research activities in their respective fields of responsibility.

With reference to the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, the organizational details approved by the Secretary state the bureau's objectives as follows:

"To insure the conservation of the Nation's wild birds, mammals, and sport fish, both for their recreational and economic values, with a view to preventing their destruction or depletion and to encourage the maximum present use of the Nation's fish and wildlife resources that is compatible with their perpetuity. This objective is to be achieved by the acquisition and application of fundamental knowledge necessary for intelligent management of fish and wildlife resources so that hunters, anglers, and others may continue to enjoy and use these resources."

Principal components of this bureau are the Division of Sport Fisheries, Division of Technical Services, and Division of Wildlife. Responsibility is vested in this bureau for fish hatcheries, except those operated in connection with the Columbia River fisheries program which are assigned to the Division of River Basins and under the direct supervision of the Commissioner.

The Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife will be responsible for matters relating primarily to migratory birds, game management, wildlife refuges, sport fisheries, sea mammals (except whales, seals and sea lions), and related matters.

Objectives of the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries are stated as follows:

"To aid in maintaining the welfare of the commercial fisheries of the United States and its Territories by conducting research, investigations, and studies and by providing marketing, informational and other services for the commercial fishing industry and the general public. This objective is to be achieved in consonance with the policy to prevent the destruction and depletion of the Nation's fishery resources and to encourage their maximum utilization for the benefit of the country as a whole."

Principal components of this bureau are the Division of Fisheries Management, Division of Marketing and Technology, and Division of Research. In addition, it has an Office of Loans and Grants to administer the loan program designed to aid the commercial fishing industry.

The Bureau of Commercial Fisheries will be responsible for matters relating primarily to commercial fisheries, whales, seals, sea lions, and related matters.

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