

*Office Memorandum*  
5-10-48



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release PM's MONDAY, MAY 10, 1948.

ANNOUNCES ALASKA APPOINTMENTS

To implement a new plan for closer coordination in the management of Alaska's valuable fishery and wildlife resources which the Fish and Wildlife Service put into operation on May 1, Albert M. Day, Service director, announced the appointment today of George B. Kelez as Supervisor of Fisheries and Dan H. Ralston as Supervisor of Law Enforcement for the Territory.

The new supervisors will work under Clarence J. Rhode, recently appointed as regional director for the Service in Alaska.

Mr. Kelez, who has been with the Fish and Wildlife Service since April 1929 as a biologist engaged in Pacific salmon research, will be responsible for collecting information and data on which the annual commercial fishery regulations for Alaska will be based. His new duties will include the supervision of the Service's fishery biological research programs and activities in the Territory, the stream improvement program, the installation and operation of weirs, and spawning ground surveys.

Mr. Kelez is a native of Seattle, Wash. He received his B. Sc. in Fisheries from the University of Washington in 1930 and his M.A. in Zoology from Stanford University in California in 1932. After nearly four years of service in the Navy, Mr. Kelez was released from active duty in December 1945 with the rank of lieutenant commander.

In his new capacity Mr. Ralston will have charge of the enforcement of laws pertaining to both fish and game in Alaska. He will supervise a staff of approximately 30 full-time enforcement agents and 60 seasonal stream guards and patrol agents.

Mr. Ralston has been with the Service since May 1942, as a wildlife agent at Ketchikan and Seward. Prior to that he served for a year as Territorial highway patrolman and from April 1937 to April 1941 he was chief of police at Juneau. He is a native of Oregon.

x x x