



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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DR. GARDINER BUMP JOINS RESEARCH STAFF OF FWS

The appointment of Dr. Gardiner Bump as a biologist in the Branch of Wildlife Research, Fish and Wildlife Service, was announced today by Director Albert M. Day.

Dr. Bump will make extensive surveys and studies of major game species in various parts of the world which might be suitable for habitat not currently occupied by native game species in the United States, according to the Service Director. "He will be responsible for coordinating and directing current efforts to find new and desirable game birds and mammals that might thrive in habitats not now producing what they should.

"The success or failure of previous attempts to transplant exotic species has been more or less a matter of chance because little advance thought or research went into the undertaking," declared Mr. Day. "The approach we are now taking is going to be based entirely on research. Dr. Bump will go to a number of foreign countries to explore likely areas and to observe the characteristics and habitat requirements of some of the birds and mammals that might be suited to portions of our own depleted regions.

"He will gather data as complete as possible on such factors as food habits, breeding habits, soil and cover requirements, diseases and parasites, mortality, migratory habits, seasonal habitat requirements, and climatic adaptations for comparison with selected areas in the United States.

"Before we transplant any new and untried forms of game birds and animals into the United States we must have assurance, based on biological research, that the newcomers will encounter favorable conditions and will not overwhelm a desirable native fauna. The Service will discourage attempts to introduce any species which might seriously compete with present game populations or which might become a nuisance."

Through his broad past experience in handling wildlife problems, Dr. Bump comes to the Service well equipped to handle his new assignment, said Mr. Day. For 18 years he served with the New York State Conservation Department where he directed the State's extensive game research and management programs. He built up and operated the game farms and supervised restocking activities.

Dr. Bump also organized and directed the most comprehensive survey ever undertaken of a game species. The results were published as a 915-page book entitled "The Ruffed Grouse," of which he is the senior author.

With the rank of a major, Dr. Bump served from 1943 to 1946 as forestry, fisheries, and agricultural officer for the Allied Military Government in Europe. Through this work he became familiar with wildlife conditions in North Africa, Italy, Austria, Great Britain, and the Scandinavian countries.

Dr. Bump is a native of Binghamton, N. Y. He is a graduate of Cornell University from which he received a B.S. degree in 1925, an M.F. in 1926, and a Ph.D. in Game Management in 1948.