



## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### INFORMATION SERVICE

#### FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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#### FRANK DUFRESNE RETIRES FROM FEDERAL SERVICE

Frank Dufresne, Chief, Division of Information, Fish and Wildlife Service of the Department of the Interior, retired on June 20 after 30 years of continuous Federal service, Albert M. Day, Service Director, announced today.

Mr. Dufresne, who has headed the Service's information division since July 1944, exercised the right of optional retirement at the age of 55.

Twenty-four years of Mr. Dufresne's 30 years of Federal service were spent in Alaska, on difficult tours of duty, according to Director Day.

After serving with the 103d Field Artillery, 26th (Yankee) Division, in France for 19 months during World War I, Dufresne went to Alaska in 1920. In 1921 he was appointed Deputy U. S. Marshal at Nome.

He entered on his life work in the field of Federal wildlife conservation when he was appointed by the former Bureau of Biological Survey as a fur warden on October 23, 1922, with headquarters in Nome, to assist in enforcing the law and regulations for the protection of land fur-bearing animals in the Territory.

On July 1, 1924, he was promoted to U. S. game warden and in 1925 he was transferred to Fairbanks as resident game warden under the newly created Alaska Game Law. In October 1928 he was transferred to Juneau. On March 1, 1935, he became Assistant Executive Officer of the Alaska Game Commission and on July 10, 1936, he was stepped up to the position of Executive Officer.

As a result of his long service in Alaska, Mr. Dufresne has become known as an outstanding authority on the Territory, and its wildlife in particular.

In the early 20's in Alaska he made many long and hazardous patrol and reconnaissance trips by dog teams to gather material which was used in framing the original Alaska Game Law which became effective on August 1, 1925. In 1924 he spent five months in the lower Yukon area observing, photographing, and reporting on bird migrations; in 1931 he investigated the Aleutian Island areas, bringing back the first authentic report, as well as a photograph, of the rare sea otter. From 1932 to 1934 he was in charge of investigations dealing with moose on Kenai Peninsula and grizzly bears on Admiralty Island.

For eight years, from 1936 to 1944, he served as executive officer of the Alaska Game Commission. His administrative ability in handling public relations problems in order to promote cooperation and interest in the protection of the valuable wildlife resources of the Territory led to his appointment as chief of the Service's Division of Information in 1944.

Nationally known as a prolific writer of articles on hunting and fishing, many with an Alaska locale, which have appeared in the outdoors magazines, Mr. Dufresne will continue his activity in this field after retirement by serving as Pacific Coast editor of Field and Stream.

Mr. and Mrs. Dufresne will make their new home in Olympia, Washington.