



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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ARNE J. SUOMELA NAMED ASSISTANT FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE DIRECTOR

Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay today announced the appointment of Arne J. Suomela, Portland, Oregon, as Assistant Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service.

Mr. Suomela, who has been Oregon State Director of Fisheries, since 1945, made a special survey of the Alaska fisheries for the Department of the Interior last summer.

Born in Ilwaco, Washington in July 1902, Mr. Suomela was graduated from the University of Washington with a B.S. in fishery biology, and received his master's degree in 1931. From 1931 to 1934 he was employed by the Bureau of Fisheries, Alaska Division in Seattle, later transferring to Washington, D. C.

Mr. Suomela is considered one of the Nation's authorities on the salmon fisheries and has done extensive research in Alaska and the Pacific Northwest.

During the construction of Grand Coulee, he was in charge of field work in the Columbia River, particularly the "salmon salvage program" which resulted in successfully transplanting salmon which formerly migrated above the dam. He directed the location and establishment of runs in streams below the dam.

In 1934 he became managing biologist of the Washington Department of Fisheries at Seattle, and in 1945 he joined the Oregon Fish Commission.

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