



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
INFORMATION SERVICE

office file
1/20/54

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release JANUARY 21, 1954

VETERAN FWS REGIONAL DIRECTOR TO RETIRE

James Silver, regional director for the Fish and Wildlife Service's Region 4, headquartered at Atlanta, Ga., will retire on January 31 after nearly 39 years of Federal service, Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay announced today.

Mr. Silver was first appointed to the former Bureau of Biological Survey (a predecessor agency of the Fish and Wildlife Service) in April 1912 at Jefferson, Colorado, as a biological assistant concerned with the control of prairie dogs in the Pike National Forest. Later he served in other western and southwestern areas in demonstrations of rodent control procedures.

After engaging in private business for several years, Mr. Silver rejoined the Survey in 1921 to head the rodent and predatory animal control work in the East with offices in Washington, D. C. In 1934 he became the regional director of the Division of Game Management in Washington. In 1937 he was transferred to Atlanta as a regional director of field activities. In 1940, when the Survey became part of the Fish and Wildlife Service, Mr. Silver was selected as regional director of the Service's Southeastern Region which comprises Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, and Kentucky.

Mr. Silver was born on March 9, 1890, at Kansas City, Mo. He attended public schools in Denver, Colo., and was graduated from the Colorado School of Agriculture in 1912. Mr. Silver has been a member of the Washington Biological Society, American Society of Mammalogists, the Wildlife Society, and the Georgia Society of Naturalists. He is the author of numerous technical articles and bulletins, mostly on predator and rodent control.

Mr. Silver has been interested for many years in the protection for the diminutive Key deer of Florida. After retirement he plans to continue his close association with this activity.

The Silvers live at 3196 Rilman Road, N.W., in Atlanta.

x x x