



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
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FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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SECRETARY MCKAY CALLS MEETING OF FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay today announced that the American Fisheries Advisory Committee, authorized under the Saltonstall-Kennedy Act, will hold its first meeting on April 28 and 29 in Washington, D. C., in the Department of the Interior Building.

Under a provision of Public Law 466, 83d Congress, 2d Session--the Saltonstall-Kennedy Act--the Secretary of the Interior was authorized to appoint a group of experts from the domestic fisheries and fishery products industry to advise him on industry problems embraced by the new legislation. The Advisory Committee consists of 19 representatives of all segments of the American fishing industry. The members have been appointed to serve until June 30, 1957.

Designed to strengthen the American commercial fishing industry as a whole, Public Law 466 provides that an amount equal to 30 percent of duties collected under the customs laws on fishery products shall be transferred annually for three years from the Department of Agriculture to the Department of the Interior. Expenditures for any one year may not exceed \$3 million.

In order to get the program under way as rapidly as possible after funds became available on July 1, 1954, Secretary McKay approved a number of projects which were considered by the industry to require immediate attention. In most instances, as the Secretary pointed out, these projects paralleled programs already under way or which had been postponed previously because of lack of funds.

Assistant Secretary of the Interior Orme Lewis will be the presiding officer during the meetings on April 28 and 29. John L. Farley, Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service which administers Public Law 466, will report to the Advisory Committee on the progress and accomplishments to date of the projects already initiated by the Service.

The Department has received some 75 suggestions and requests for assistance from various industry and research groups, and from fishery associations. A program for the remainder of the current fiscal year will be discussed, as well as one for next year.

The Committee's advice will be sought on policy, rules, and regulations pertaining to requests for assistance. Procedures will be outlined which the Committee will follow in performing its functions. A system will be established on priorities by types and areas for proposed projects.

The Committee consists of: Moses Pike, Treasurer, Holmes Packing Co., Eastport, Maine; James S. Carlson, Treasurer, Baker, Boies and Watson, Boston, Mass.; J. Richards Nelson, oyster and clam grower and dealer, Madison, Conn.; David H. Hart, independent fisherman and vessel owner, Cape May, N. J.; Harold R. Bassett, Treasurer, C. A. Loockerman, Inc., Crisfield, Md.; George R. Wallace, President, Wallace Fisheries Co., Morehead City, N. C.; Harry F. Sahlman, Sahlman Seafoods, Fernandino Beach, Fla.; Leon S. Kenney, owner, Pinellas Seafood Co., St. Petersburg, Fla.

Alphonse J. Wegmann, President, Mexican Gulf Fisheries, Inc., Coden, Ala.; Lawrence W. Strasburger, Strasburger Inspection Service, New Orleans, La.; Earl Buist Webster, fisherman and vessel owner, Twin City Fishermen's Cooperative Association, Port Isabel, Texas; Emmett M. Concannon, Vice President and General Manager, W. M. Walker, Inc., Chicago, Ill.; Arthur Sivertson, Sivertson Brothers Fisheries, Duluth, Minn.; Donald P. Loker, Vice President, Star-Kist Foods, Inc., Terminal Island, Calif.; Thomas F. Sandoz, President, Columbia River Packers Association, Astoria, Oregon; Mark L. Edmunds, independent fisherman, Garibaldi, Oregon; Lawrence C. Calvert, President, San Juan Fishing and Packing Co., Seattle, Wash.; Jack W. Mendenhall, Manager, Ketchikan Cold Storage Co., Ketchikan, Alaska; Arthur H. Mendonca, President, F. E. Booth, Inc., San Francisco, Calif.

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