



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

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NEW ENGLAND MAN NAMED AIDE TO FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSIONER

The appointment of Robert H. Johnson, assistant director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service since 1955, to the position of special assistant to the Commissioner of Fish and Wildlife, was announced today by Assistant Secretary of the Interior Ross L. Leffler.

Mr. Johnson, before coming to the Service, was prominent in New England conservation circles and from 1948 to 1955 was director of the Division of Fisheries and Game of the State of Massachusetts. As assistant director of Fish and Wildlife Service, he was in charge of the wildlife program.

In his new post, Mr. Johnson will serve as the immediate and personal assistant to Commissioner Arnie J. Suomela in all matters pertaining to fish and wildlife. He will be vitally concerned with problems of both the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries and the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife in connection with the Commissioner's supervision and coordination of those two units which make up the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

A native of Massachusetts, Mr. Johnson has a Master of Science degree from the University of Maine. He also has a Bachelor of Science degree in forestry from the University of Idaho. Before joining the staff of the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Game, he was employed in New Hampshire by the United States Forest Service and by the State of Maine.

Active in the old New England Fish and Game Administrators group and its successor, the Northeastern Fish and Game Commissioner's Association, he was also a member of the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners and on its executive committee when he joined the Service staff.

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