

DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

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DOUGLAS P. WHEELER APPOINTED DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE AND PARKS

Secretary of the Interior Rogers C. B. Morton today announced the appointment of Douglas P. Wheeler of North Carolina to be a Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks.

Wheeler, 30, will work under the direction of Assistant Secretary Nathaniel P. Reed, handling legislation, interagency and inter-Departmental coordination, and special assignments. Reed's senior deputy will continue to be E. U. Curtis Bohlen, who has held that post since August 1971.

"Doug Wheeler has had responsibility for legislation for the National Park Service, the Fish and Wildlife Service and related subject areas for most of the three years he has been with Interior," Secretary Morton said. "As an Assistant Legislative Counsel for the Department during the past year he has rendered outstanding service at a time when many urgent bills were drafted, introduced, considered and passed by Congress. He has contributed very substantially to the success of President Nixon's program on Capitol Hill, and I know he will continue to do so in his new assignment."

Said Assistant Secretary Reed: "Mr. Wheeler has shown the interest and the capacity to understand difficult natural resource problems and translate them into legislative proposals which can lead to needed solutions. I welcome him to our staff."

A native of Brooklyn, N.Y., Wheeler attended public schools in Huntington, on Long Island, and won degrees from Hamilton College, Clinton, N.Y., and Duke University School of Law. He practiced law in Charlotte, N.C., from 1966 until he entered Interior's Office of the Legislative Counsel in September 1969.

He is a member of the North-Carolina and Federal Bar Associations and of the Naval Reserve Lawyers Assn. He is a Lieutenant in the Judge Advocate General's Corps of the Naval Reserve and lives with his wife, the former Heather Campbell, and 3-year-old son in Washington, D. C.

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