

DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

news release

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FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE NAMES
JOHN A. MATTOON ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Interior Department's Fish and Wildlife Service today announced the appointment of John A. Mattoon, 51, as assistant director for public affairs, a new position in the agency.

Mattoon has headed the Bureau of Land Management's Office of Public Affairs since 1967. He is a career civil servant, having spent more than 20 years with the Forest Service before going to BLM.

In announcing the appointment, agency Director Spencer Smith noted that Mattoon possesses wide experience in both natural resources management and public relations. "He is exceptionally qualified to fill this new and important position in the Service," Smith said.

Mattoon was born in Hartford, Conn. He graduated from Pennsylvania State University's School of Forestry in 1942, later obtaining a Master's degree in forestry from Yale, serving on the faculty there during the 1949-50 school year. From 1942 to 1945, he was a Navy carrier pilot.

During his years with the Forest Service, Mattoon had tours of duty at Green Mountain, Arapaho, Roosevelt, San Isabel, Siskiyou, and Olympic National Forests. He was appointed information specialist in the Washington office headquarters of the Forest Service in 1960. In 1964, he transferred to Ogden, Utah, as assistant regional forester in charge of the agency's information-education program for the intermountain region.

In 1972, Mattoon received the Department's Award for Meritorious Service.

Mattoon is married to the former Shirley Ann Truesdell of Denver, Colorado. They reside in Falls Church, Virginia.