



DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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Craig Rieben (202) 343-5634

TWO TOP LEVEL APPOINTMENTS IN FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE ANNOUNCED

The appointment of two top level managers in the Department of the Interior's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was announced today by Service Director Robert W. Jantzen.

Ronald E. Lambertson has assumed the post of associate director for wildlife resources, while Robert E. Gilmore became the associate director for federal assistance, the position vacated by Lambertson. Gilmore was the deputy associate director for the National Wildlife Refuge System.

In making the appointments, Jantzen referred to the wealth of experience the two career civil servants bring to their new posts and their dedication to the profession of wildlife management. "Both have demonstrated excellent managerial skills and are looking forward to the challenges presented by their new positions," Jantzen said.

Lambertson, 42, has headed the Service's endangered species and federal aid programs since 1979. His background includes a unique combination of natural resources law, as well as wildlife management. He joined the Department of the Interior's legal staff in 1970 and soon became the assistant solicitor for fish and wildlife.

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As head of the wildlife resources program, Lambertson will be responsible for operation of the agency's 90-million-acre system of national wildlife refuges and a number of the Service's wildlife management activities. He is a native of Colorado and holds a degree in wildlife management from Colorado State University and a law degree from the University of Colorado.

Gilmore, 48, will be responsible for administering provisions of the Endangered Species Act including the listing or delisting of species and consultation with other Federal agencies on projects which could impact endangered species. He will also supervise the process of providing individual States and territories with over \$100 million in funds derived from excise taxes on certain items of sporting equipment. The funds are used for fish and wildlife restoration and enhancement projects.

Gilmore joined the Service in 1966 as an assistant refuge manager at Chassahowitzka National Wildlife Refuge in Florida. He has been stationed at a number of other refuges and in the Portland, Oregon, Regional office, as well as Washington, D.C. As the deputy associate director for Wildlife Management, he was instrumental in implementation of changes in the Service's wildlife assistance program. He is a native of Fairhope, Alabama, and graduated from Auburn University with a degree in wildlife management.