



DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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SECRETARY HODEL HAILS SELECTION OF WILLIAM P. HORN AS ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Secretary of the Interior Don Hodel today said President Reagan's nomination of William P. Horn to be Assistant Interior Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks is "good news for the Department and for the future of America's heritage of wildlife and natural beauty."

Horn is currently Deputy Under Secretary of the Interior with special responsibility for Alaskan issues, the Great Lakes Fishery Commission and negotiating certain fishery and water disputes. His appointment requires Senate confirmation.

"Bill Horn is well known as an expert on Interior issues in Alaska," Hodel said, "and in the last few years he has demonstrated a tremendous capacity for negotiating difficult and contentious issues to resolutions that are satisfactory to all concerned.

"His skills and dedication will help this Department carry out its mandate to protect our heritage of natural beauty and wildlife with increased efficiency in a truly cooperative spirit."

The Secretary cited Horn's work in negotiation of the U.S.-Canadian Salmon Treaty affecting the Pacific Northwest, the settlement of an Indian fishing dispute in the Great Lakes area and settlement of the two Indian water claims cases in Arizona. "These are success stories brought about by hard work, tenacity and the ability to win and hold the respect of those with whom he works," Hodel said.

Before coming to Interior in 1981, Horn, 34, was minority staff consultant to the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee and prior to that, a special assistant to the Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Land and Water Resources during the years 1976-77.

Horn also worked as special assistant to the late Rogers C.B. Morton, a former Interior Secretary, when Morton was Secretary of Commerce in 1975. For three years prior to that he was a staff member of the House Republican Conference, advancing to the position of Acting Executive Director.

Horn was appointed to the Great Lakes Fishery Commission by President Reagan in February 1982 and elected Chairman of that international body in May 1984.

A skilled fly fisherman and upland bird hunter, Horn is an honors graduate of the American University, Washington, D.C., where he earned a J.D. Degree in 1983. He is a member of Trout Unlimited, the Ruffed Grouse Society, Ducks Unlimited and the District of Columbia Bar.

Horn grew up and attended schools in Summit, New Jersey. He lives with his wife, Susan E. Shekmar, and sons Michael and Alexander in McLean, Virginia.