



DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

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PRESIDENT CLINTON NAMES GEORGE FRAMPTON
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR - FISH AND WILDLIFE AND PARKS

President Bill Clinton today announced his intention to nominate George T. Frampton, Jr., to serve as Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife and Parks.

"George Frampton will be a staunch defender of our National Parks and wilderness areas," said Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt. "As a leader in the environmental community, his passion for wilderness is matched by his reasonable approach."

The Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks has jurisdiction over the National Park Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The nomination is subject to confirmation by the U.S. Senate.

Frampton was one of six senior Interior Department officials appointed today.

"This group brings a great mix of skills and experience, and will provide great leadership for the Department," Secretary Babbitt said. "They bring a sense of balance. In different ways and in different fields, each has helped build agreements among groups that might otherwise have stayed opposed. That ability, combined with their strong belief in environmental protection, is what makes them so valuable."

Frampton has been president of The Wilderness Society since 1986. The society is a non-profit membership organization devoted to preserving wilderness and wildlife, protecting America's prime forests, parks, rivers, and deserts, and fostering an American land ethic. Under Frampton's leadership, the society's membership increased from 100,000 to 325,000.

From 1976-1985, Frampton was a partner in the Washington, D.C. law firm of Rogovin, Huger & Lenzner. From 1973-1975, he served as Assistant Special Prosecutor on the Watergate Special Prosecution Force and was a member of the team that conducted the grand jury investigation and trial of the Watergate Cover-Up Case against President Nixon's chief aides.

Frampton earned his bachelors degree cum laude in physics and philosophy from Yale College and a masters in advanced

economic theory from the London School of Economics. He was managing editor of the Harvard Law Review and was graduated magna cum laude from the Harvard Law School in 1969. Following law school, he served as law clerk to U.S. Supreme Court Justice Harry A. Blackmun (1971-1972). He was also a VISTA Volunteer Lawyer in New York City (1969-1970); consultant to a Middle East peace project under auspices of American Friends Service Committee, Harvard and NYU Law Schools (1970-1971), and a fellow at the Center for Law and Social Policy in Washington, D.C. (1972-1973).

He has been admitted to the Bar in New York and the District of Columbia and the U.S. Supreme Court, and is a member of the editorial board for the D.C. Bar Magazine. Frampton is on the Board of Directors for Island Press, Washington, D.C., and the Board of Directors for Glen Eagles Foundation.

Frampton was born in Washington, D.C., and grew up in Champaign-Urbana, Illinois, where he graduated from University of Illinois High School. His parents, Margaret Ann and George Frampton, reside in Champaign and Rehoboth Beach, Delaware. Frampton and his wife, Betsy, have two children, Adam and Thomas.