



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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Dr. Ira N. Gabrielson, Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service of the Department of the Interior, today announced the appointment of Dr. Willis H. Rich as consulting director of the Service's salmon fishery investigations on the Pacific coast.

Dr. Rich will immediately undertake a complete survey of the Federal Government's research program for the conservation and restoration of the salmon fisheries and will recommend changes and extensions that may be necessary to increase the effectiveness of the program, Dr. Gabrielson said.

Dr. Rich has been on leave from the zoology faculty of Stanford University since July serving the Office of the Coordinator of Fisheries as administrator of the pilchard production program in California and is nationally known as an authority on the biology and conservation of salmon and an expert in other phases of marine fishery conservation. He was formerly associated with the Bureau of Fisheries, now part of the Fish and Wildlife Service, as a fishery biologist and administrative official.

In addition to serving as consultant for the entire salmon research program, Dr. Rich will assume immediate direction of the work on the Columbia River, where intensive efforts to protect and restore the valuable salmon runs have been made necessary by recent power and irrigation projects.