



## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release: Immediate May 31, 1946.

Secretary of the Interior J. A. Krug today announced a major reorganization of the Fish and Wildlife Service designed to bring about a more efficient functioning of this agency and to improve its services to the public.

The Fish and Wildlife Service was created in 1940 by President Roosevelt's reorganization plan, which consolidated the former Bureau of Biological Survey and the Bureau of Fisheries. Because the functions of the new agency have grown far beyond those of the parent organizations, it has become necessary to effect a re-alignment of its subdivisions.

The functions of the reorganized agency will be concentrated in four branches, instead of being scattered among twelve. These will be concerned with administration, research, commercial fisheries, and management of fish and game resources.

One of the most far reaching effects of the reorganization will be to give increased importance to activities related to the commercial fishery industries. This branch will include the former Divisions of Commercial Fisheries and Alaska Fisheries and will rank as one of the four major subdivisions of the Service.

All scientific studies of fish, birds, and mammals will be consolidated under a single head, who will administer the formerly independent divisions relating to fishery biology and wildlife research.

Under management will be included such diversified functions as Federal aid in wildlife restoration, control of predatory animals and rodents, administration of wildlife refuges, game management, game fish management and hatchery operation, and acquisition of lands.

The Branch of Administration will include all activities relating to budget, finance, and personnel.