



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
INFORMATION SERVICE

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FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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ALASTAIR MacBAIN JOINS FWS STAFF

Secretary of the Interior Oscar L. Chapman today announced the appointment of Alastair MacBain as chief information officer of the Fish and Wildlife Service. MacBain succeeds Frank Dufresne who recently retired from the Service.

MacBain has been a writer and authority on conservation and the outdoors for 20 years. In 1935 he made the first of several country-wide surveys on the general subject of conservation—with primary emphasis on fish and wildlife—on assignment from The Saturday Evening Post. He has made five extensive survey trips to Alaska, one of them including the entire Aleutian Islands chain. He was among the first to study the newly discovered herd of sea otter at Oogliugla Island, at a time when the northern sea otter was considered extinct.

In the course of numerous wildlife-observing trips all over the United States and Canada, MacBain has been a regular contributor of articles and fiction to national magazines—including Collier's, This Week and True, as well as the sporting magazines. Many of his stories have been written in collaboration with Corey Ford.

During World War II, MacBain served with OSS and the Air Force, working closely with Army Public Relations. He held the rank of major at the end of hostilities in 1945.

"MacBain is particularly well-qualified for this position," Director Albert Day of the Service said, "being thoroughly familiar with public information procedures in addition to having a broad knowledge of conservation aims and problems."

MacBain was born in Closter, New Jersey, in 1908. After graduating from Columbia University, where he specialized in English, he immediately started freelance writing, his first assignment being for The Saturday Evening Post.

MacBain is married and has one child. He and his family have been living in Westchester County, New York.

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