



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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FISH AND WILDLIFE SURVEY TEAM MAKES REPORT

Four major recommendations, directed to improving the organization and services performed by the Fish and Wildlife Service were made by a Survey Team which was appointed by Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay last March 31.

The Survey Team, which recently completed its assignment after six weeks of intensive study and investigation was made up of: James R. Turnbull, Seattle chairman; Ross L. Leffler, Pittsburgh, Pa., and John D. Pennekamp, Miami, Fla. M. George Goodrick and John B. Bennett, career employees of the Department completed the team.

Prefacing the Team's report was recognition that the Director of the Service had plans available for reorganization, which at the request of Secretary McKay were held in abeyance until the current survey could be completed. The Survey Team voiced the hope that its report would assist the director in his effort to affect a reorganization.

The recommendations follow:

1. The Fish and Wildlife Service be reorganized to conform with the organization recommended in the report.
2. All functions of the Service be regionalized except that of fundamental research as defined.
3. Research relating to Wildlife and research relating to Fisheries be more closely coordinated with the operating requirements of the Service.
4. The public relations and publications programs be revitalized to achieve better public understanding and cooperation for the objectives and programs of the Service.

The problems of the Service, the Team points out, stem from three primary sources, defined as (a) lack of cohesion and unified purpose; (b) more and more States are becoming self sufficient in fish and wildlife management and conservation; and (c) public relations and publications.

One of the major sources of impaired morale within the Service, the Team pointed out would be eradicated by "getting the operating branches out of research and getting the Branch of Research into the research the Service needs."

The Team stated that it found in discussions with Service personnel and with State officials who deal with its representatives that "improved public relations" ranked high in the list of pressing needs of the Service.

Sixteen specific recommendations to improve the public information program of the Service were made.