

DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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ROBERT F. STEPHENS
APPOINTED FISHERY SERVICES CHIEF

The Interior Department's Fish and Wildlife Service announced today the appointment of Robert F. Stephens, 49, as chief of its Division of Fishery Services.

Major activities of the division involve monitoring for pesticides and heavy metals in fish at 100 locations throughout the country, and providing technical fishery assistance to State and Federal agencies and Indian tribes.

Stephens joined the Service in 1956 as assistant supervisor of the Minneapolis regional office's fish hatchery program. In 1963 he transferred to Albuquerque, New Mexico, to become regional supervisor of the fish hatchery program in the Southwest. Stephens was named assistant regional director in Albuquerque in 1968 and served in that position and as regional environmental coordinator until his selection to the present Washington office post.

Prior to joining the Federal service, Stephens worked for 7 years for the West Virginia Conservation Commission and the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission as a fishery biologist.

He was born in Hillsdale, Pennsylvania, and attended high school in that area. He received his B.S. degree in fish and wildlife management from Cornell University in 1948.

Stephens is married to the former Geraldine Dowell of Grafton, West Virginia. They plan to reside in Falls Church, Virginia.

Two other appointments recently were announced for the division-- Stephen H. Taub as assistant chief of the cooperative units branch and Bernard L. Berger as assistant chief of the branch of environmental improvement.

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