

DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

news release

For Release September 3, 1974

McGarvey 202/343-5634

SENIOR ECOLOGIST NAMED FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Dr. Allan Hirsch has been named Senior Ecologist of the Office of Biological Services for the Fish and Wildlife Service--a key position involved in detecting emergent environmental problems associated with over 700 major land and water resource development projects, Lynn A. Greenwalt, Director of Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service announced today.

The Senior Ecologist will be responsible for a program involving over 100 field biologists engaged in biological monitoring, environmental impact research, and comprehensive natural resource planning. The program will be implemented through the Regional Offices and the Research Divisions of the Fish and Wildlife Service. This newly created position evolved out of the increasing responsibilities placed on the Fish and Wildlife Service since 1973 when "Project Independence" was launched and the Atomic Energy Commission--the lead agency in the project--recommended to the President that environmental effects research related to energy development be stepped up.

Dr. Allan Hirsch, 23 years a biologist, comes to the Fish and Wildlife Service from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration where he worked from 1972 to 1974, most recently as Director of the Marine Environmental Protection Office. Prior to that Hirsch directed the Division of Program Development for the Environmental Protection Agency from 1971 to 1972. He served as Assistant Commissioner of the Federal Water Quality Administration from 1966 to 1971. Dr. Hirsch's field experiences range from water pollution studies with the Public Health Service to serving as Executive Secretary of the Columbia Basin Inter-Agency Committee and the Huron River Watershed Intergovernmental Committee. He worked as a pollution biologist in New Zealand also.

Hirsch holds a B.S. and an M.S. in Zoology from Michigan State University, was a Fulbright Scholar at Canterbury University in New Zealand and earned his doctorate in Conservation from the University of Michigan.

He was the recipient of a Presidential commendation for his work on the negotiation of the U.S.-Canada Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, and in addition to the Interior Department's Distinguished Service Award and Meritorious Service Award, Hirsch was given the Samuel Trask Dana Award in conservation by the University of Michigan.

X X X