



DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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David Klinger 202/343-5634

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE ANNOUNCES
NEW DIRECTORS FOR SOUTHEAST, SOUTHWEST;
NEW ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR FOR WILDLIFE RESOURCES

Robert A. Jantzen, director of the Interior Department's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, today announced the appointment of new directors for the agency's Southeast and Southwest regions and a new associate director for wildlife resources in its Washington headquarters.

James W. Pulliam, Jr., has become the director of the agency's 10-State Southeast region, headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia. Michael J. Spear is the new director of the four-State Southwest region, based in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Dr. Robert E. Putz has become the new associate director for wildlife resources in Washington, D.C.

Jantzen praised the new appointees, saying, "They are all skilled professional career people with outstanding leadership ability. I know they will bring enthusiasm and dedication to their new posts."

Pulliam, 45, has been serving as acting director of the Service's North Central region in Twin Cities, Minnesota, since September 1981. A native of Henderson, North Carolina, Pulliam's career with the Fish and Wildlife Service spans more than 20 years. He became the agency's first deputy associate director for the National Wildlife Refuge System in 1979, supervising the policies and operation of the 410-unit, 87 million-acre system, as well as activities in youth programs and realty.

A graduate of North Carolina State University with a B.S. in wildlife conservation, Pulliam received the Department of the Interior's meritorious service award in 1979.

The Atlanta region includes the States of Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, Tennessee, Kentucky, and North and South Carolina, and Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

Spear, 40, becomes the new regional director in Albuquerque after serving as the agency's associate director for environment since 1978. He joined the Fish and Wildlife Service in 1973 as its assistant director for planning and budget. He had earlier positions with the Interior Department's assistant secretary for program development and budget and the old U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

A native San Franciscan, Spear received a B.S. from the U.S. Naval Academy. After serving 6 years in the Navy's nuclear submarine program, he received an M.B.A. in business administration from Stanford University.

The Southwest region is one of the Service's largest; it includes the States of Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Arizona.

Putz, 47, assumes responsibility for the Service's diverse activities in wildlife resource management in Washington, D.C., after serving as director of the agency's National Fisheries Center at Leetown, West Virginia--an international center for fishery research and training.

Putz joined the Service in 1962 as a parasitologist at the West Virginia facility and served as deputy associate director for research in Washington, D.C., for 2 years. While Leetown director, Putz served as project leader for plant and animal ecology activities under the U.S.-U.S.S.R. Environmental Agreement, and in 1979 established a new project on ichthyology and aquaculture with the Soviet Union under the same agreement.

A native of Clarksburg, West Virginia, Putz holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in science and zoology from the University of Iowa and a Ph.D. in biological sciences from Fordham University. He received Interior's meritorious service award in 1975.

Putz will direct wildlife resource activities that range from operation of the National Wildlife Refuge System to the Service's migratory bird programs and law enforcement operations. Activities in animal damage control, realty, marine mammals, non-endangered mammals, and non-migratory birds are also included as part of Putz's new responsibilities.

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