



DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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SECRETARY CLARK ANNOUNCES ESTABLISHMENT OF CONSERVATION FOUNDATION FOR U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Secretary of the Interior William Clark will establish the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Tuesday and has named seven of the nine individuals experienced in wildlife conservation matters who will serve on its board of directors. The board is scheduled to hold its first meeting Tuesday following an introductory meeting with the Secretary.

The Foundation was created by the Congress to provide a better means of encouraging and accepting donations of property and funds on behalf of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), an Interior Department agency. Funds raised by the Foundation will be used to support FWS activities and programs, as well as for other efforts related to the conservation of America's fish, wildlife, and plant resources.

"Establishment of this Foundation marks a significant step in encouraging the private sector -- both individuals and organizations -- to aid in the accomplishment of national conservation goals. The coupling of public and private efforts through this Foundation should help us better protect and enhance our wildlife heritage and supports President Reagan's initiative to increase private sector involvement in areas where it can increase efficiency and reduce taxpayer burdens," Secretary Clark said.

The Fish and Wildlife Service is the Federal Government's primary wildlife agency and is responsible for management, conservation, and research activities involving migratory birds, endangered species, and inland and anadromous fisheries, among others, as well as operation of the national wildlife refuge and national fish hatchery systems.

Congress created the Foundation during its last session with passage of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Establishment Act. The Act authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to provide personnel, facilities, and administrative services to the Foundation for 5 years, at which time it is hoped the organization will have become self-sustaining. The board of directors, whose members serve without pay aside from reimbursement for travel expenses, can appoint officers and employees, including a Secretary of the Board. Its offices are to be located in Washington, D.C.

In general, board members will serve 6-year terms. However, of those named as initial members, three will serve two-year terms, another three for four-year terms, and the remaining three will serve for six years. Those whose appointments were announced by Secretary Clark include:

Thomas G. McMillan, Reno, Nevada, an investor and property developer who has been prominently involved in outdoor sports and conservation activities. A director and founding member of the Pacific Gamefish Foundation, McMillan has worked in a variety of wildlife protection programs in North America and Africa.

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David Packard, Palo Alto, California, co-founder and Chairman of the Board, Hewlett-Packard Co., and former Deputy Secretary of Defense, 1969-71. He is vice-chairman of the California Nature Conservancy, a Director of the Alliance to Save Energy, and received the Environmental Leadership Award from the Natural Resources Defense Council in 1983. As Director of the Packard Foundation he sponsored construction of a \$40 million public aquarium at Monterey, California which reproduces the marine environment of Monterey Bay.

William A. Molini, Sparks, Nevada, the Director of the Nevada Department of Wildlife. A native of Nevada, Molini is an honors graduate of Utah State University with a degree in wildlife management and is a certified wildlife biologist. He began his career with the Nevada Department of Fish and Game in 1968.

G. Ray Arnett, Arlington, Virginia, who recently completed a four year term as Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, is an internationally known conservationist and two-term former president of the National Wildlife Federation. Arnett served as Director, California Department of Fish and Game during President Reagan's two terms as Governor. He is a member of numerous conservation organizations concerned with protecting international fish and wildlife resources.

Mrs. Beatrice C. Pickens, Amarillo, Texas, is on the Advisory Board for Range and Wildlife Management, Texas Tech University and is a member of the Texas Southwestern Cattleraisers Association and the American Quarterhorse Association. Actively engaged in ranching in Texas and Oklahoma, Mrs. Pickens is also involved in numerous civic organizations including membership on the Amarillo Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and the Texas Commission on Art.

John F. Bookout, Houston, Texas, President of Shell Oil Company and one of the charter members of the "Protect Our Wetlands and Duck Resources" (POWDR) task force which was formed in 1982 to analyze wetland resources and suggest legislative and private sector initiatives to stem the nationwide loss of wetlands. An ardent outdoorsman, he is a member of Ducks Unlimited and The Nature Conservancy.

Michael H. Shlaudeman, Altadena, California, Director of Corporate Operations for Bradshaw Incorporated, a food brokerage firm, a member and then President of the Monroe Duck Club which spearheaded a long-term effort to increase wetlands in central California for the enhancement of waterfowl, the conservation of surface water supplies and the creation of improved habitat for a variety of wildlife.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Director Robert W. Jantzen, who will serve on the board as a non-voting member, said the new Foundation will make it much easier for the Service to accept donations of real and personal property as well as the services of individuals interested in volunteer activities. "In the past, such donations were somewhat complicated by governmental regulations and liability concerns. The Foundation's establishment, patterned after a long-standing program associated with the National Park Service, should remove many of the obstacles encountered in the past and prove to be of great benefit to Service programs and this Nation's wildlife heritage," Jantzen said.