



DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE NAMES NEW ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

Rolf L. Wallenstrom has been named associate director for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Federal Assistance program, Director Robert A. Jantzen announced today. Wallenstrom will replace Robert E. Gilmore, who has been appointed Regional Director for Alaska.

"Rolf Wallenstrom brings to the Federal Assistance program a wealth of experience in working with State wildlife agencies and in dealing with complex natural resource issues requiring interagency coordination at the Federal level," Jantzen said. "He has more than 25 years experience in the Fish and Wildlife Service and has served ably as deputy associate director for our Habitat Resources program since 1979."

As associate director for Federal Assistance, Wallenstrom will be responsible for administering the Service's Federal Aid and Endangered Species programs. The Federal Aid program provides over \$100 million annually to the States, Puerto Rico, and the Territories for fish and wildlife restoration and enhancement projects. The funds are derived from excise taxes on hunting and fishing equipment. The Endangered Species program includes listing of endangered and threatened species, recovery programs, grants to States, consultation with other Federal agencies on projects that may affect listed species, permit activities, and U.S. participation in the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

A native of Syracuse, New York, Wallenstrom holds a B.S. degree from the New York State College of Environmental Science and Forestry at Syracuse University and is a graduate of Harvard University's executive program in environmental policy and management. Before joining the Fish and Wildlife Service in 1959, he worked for the Diamond Match Corporation in Superior, Montana, and the Crown Central Petroleum Corporation in Baltimore, Maryland.

Wallenstrom's first assignment with the Service was in the Division of Realty in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He later served as the senior appraiser in the wetlands program in Fergus Falls, Minnesota, and then as the wetlands program supervisor in Aberdeen, South Dakota.

After graduating from Interior's Departmental Manager Development Program in 1972, he became the area manager for the States of South Dakota and Nebraska until he assumed the post of Deputy Associate Director--Habitat Resources in Washington, D.C.

Wallenstrom received the Department's meritorious service award in 1978 for his leadership of Service programs while serving as area manager.