



# DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

## news release

### FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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### FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION NAMES CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation in Washington, D.C., has announced it will name Charles H. "Chip" Collins as that organization's first Secretary of the Board, the Foundation's chief operating officer.

Upon learning of his appointment, Collins said, "I am excited about this new challenge and look forward to representing the Foundation as it seeks to expand private sector support of conservation projects enhancing this Nation's vital wildlife heritage."

The Foundation was created last year by an act of Congress in order to provide a better means of encouraging and accepting private donations of property and funds for the benefit of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, as well as other fish and wildlife conservation activities.

The Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) is the federal government's principle wildlife conservation agency. FWS is responsible for research and management activities involving migratory birds, endangered wildlife and plant species, and fishery resources, as well as operation of the nation's wildlife refuge and fish hatchery systems.

Collins, 31, most recently held the post of vice-president of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation headquartered in Annapolis, Maryland. He previously served as director of the Colorado Field Office of The Nature Conservancy, a national conservation organization. His background also includes posts with a number of land planning, conservation, and urban redevelopment projects.

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During the past several years, he served on a number of advisory councils and committees involved with natural resource issues, mainly in the West and on Maryland's Eastern Shore.

"I am delighted at the prospect of working with the nine nationally prominent conservationists who presently serve on the Foundation's board of directors. I am confident that together we can make major strides to enhance and complement significant wildlife management endeavors undertaken by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other entities," Collins said.

Members of the Foundation Board include Thomas G. McMillan, a Reno, Nevada, conservationist and investor who serves as Chairman of the Board; David Packard, co-founder and chairman of the board of Hewlett-Packard Company; William Molini, director of the Nevada Department of Wildlife; G. Ray Arnett, Executive Vice President of the National Rifle Association; Mrs. Beatrice C. Pickens, an Amarillo, Texas, rancher; John F. Bookout, president of Shell Oil Company; Michael H. Schlaudeman, director of corporate operations for Bradshaw, Inc.; Eugene A. Bay, Jr., vice president and publisher of Field and Stream magazine; and James D. Range, senior director of Waste Management, Inc. and previously chief counsel to former Senate Majority Leader Howard Baker.

Collins, who resides in Annapolis, holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Colorado College in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Collins was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and raised in Easton, Maryland.