



DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

Fish and Wildlife Service

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FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE DIRECTOR HONORED BY
RECREATIONAL FISHING INTERESTS

Frank Dunkle, Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, has been presented the Award of Merit by the American Fishing Tackle Manufacturers Association (AFTMA), and the Fish and Wildlife Service has been accorded the 1988 Government Entity Award by the National Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame.

The awards were made at opening ceremonies of AFTMA's 31st Annual Super Outdoor Market Trade Show, held this year July 28-31 at the Las Vegas Convention Center.

Dunkle was selected by the AFTMA Board in recognition of his "many years of resource management experience and public service as well as (his) leadership and initiative in developing a National Recreational Fisheries Policy."

The Fish and Wildlife Service was cited by the National Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame for "its long-time public service in conservation of the natural resources by its activities and awareness programs."

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Accepting the awards on behalf of the Fish and Wildlife Service, Dunkle thanked the AFTMA and Fishing Hall of Fame representatives for their recognition and told the group, "We have put the 'Fish' back in the Fish and Wildlife Service and we intend to keep it there. I am proud to receive this award because it says people who know fish and fishing are taking notice of what we are doing. I am proud also of the creativity and energy being demonstrated by the Service's fisheries staff."

AFTMA, with nearly 600 member companies and corporations, has been increasingly active in fishery conservation projects in recent years. It founded and continues to co-sponsor National Fishing Week each year, and funds aquatic resource education projects. AFTMA was among the first non-government organizations to endorse the recently adopted National Recreational Fisheries Policy.

The National Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame is a non-profit public service organization that maintains a fishing museum in Hayward, Wisconsin, and serves as a national information depository for records of freshwater fish catches.