DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

news release

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INTERIOR ANNOUNCES TWO ALASKA AREA OFFICE APPOINTMENTS

The Department of the Interior, in order to implement recent actions taken by the President and the Secretary to protect Alaska's natural and cultural heritage, announced today that it will appoint new Alaska area directors for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

Keith Schreiner, currently Associate Director for Federal Assistance of the Fish and Wildlife Service, and Janet McCabe, land management planner for the joint Federal-State Land Use Planning Commission for Alaska, will be named to the area director jobs, according to Robert L. Herbst, Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife and Parks.

"These are critical jobs," Herbst said. "In Alaska we have unique opportunities but also must meet unique challenges in the period following resolution of the Alaska conservation lands (D-2) issue.

"The area directors of the agencies responsible for meeting these challenges must be experienced, innovative and resourceful. I'm convinced that Keith Schreiner and Janet McCabe have all those qualifications."

Herbst said.

Lynn A. Greenwalt, Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service said of Schreiner: "There is probably no person in our organization more capable of dealing effectively with the great natural resources issues of Alaska.

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"Schreiner's past experience with Federal aid programs has given him keen appreciation for the close, cooperative relations between States and the Federal Government. Under his direction, the Nation's endangered species program went through its birth pains and today there is an endangered species consciousness in the United States where none existed before."

Schreiner, 53, has served 23 years with the Service and has broad experience in natural resource management. He joined the Service in 1956, as a wildlife research biologist and held several positions in Oklahoma and New Mexico in the Service's Federal Aid and River Basin Studies (now Ecological Services) programs. In 1972, he was promoted to Chief of the Office of Endangered Species and International Activities, a position he held until he was appointed Associate Director in 1974.

Schreiner was born in Ollie, Iowa. He received a B.A. in biology from Parsons College in 1948, and an M.S. in wildlife management in Iowa State University in 1950. After graudation, he worked with the Iowa and North Dakota game and fish departments until 1956, when he joined the Service. He and his wife Mary have three sons.

McCabe will be the first woman field office director in the history of the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service or its predecessor agency, the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation.

As Alaska Area Director, McCabe will be responsible for directing the full range of Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service programs within the State, including studies under Section 17 of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (P.L. 92-203). In addition, she will be responsible for certain efforts associated with the Naval Petroleum Reserves Protection Act (P.L. 94-258).

Since December 1972, she has been with the Joint Federal-State Land Use Planning Commission for Alaska. She was a staff planner for the Alaska State Housing Authority in Anchorage from 1964-72; from 1960-62, she served as planning officer for the city of Fairbanks.

She is the author of several publications, including "Agenda for State Lands," "Outdoor Recreation in Alaska: an examination of governmental roles," and "ANSCA 14(c) Handbook."

McCabe was born July 2, 1935, in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and is a 1957 graduate in Smith College, Northampton, Massachusetts, where she received a B.A. in history. She received an M.C.P. from the Harvard Graduate School of Design, Department of City and Regional Planning, in 1964.

Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service Director Chris T. Delaporte said, "I am very pleased with the appointment of Ms. McCabe. The fact that she has lived in the State for 18 years and has had extensive contacts with Native corporations and really knows and loves Alaska—together with her superlative academic and professional background—makes her an ideal appointment at this crucial juncture in Alaska history."