



NEWS

from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

August 1, 1997

Mitch Snow 202-208-5634

JAMIE CLARK CONFIRMED DIRECTOR OF U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Late on July 31, the United States Senate confirmed Jamie Rappaport Clark as Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Clark, a career civil servant, has been an employee of the Service for the past 8 years.

"Americans are passionate about wildlife, and that passion fuels the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service," Clark said. "This is an exciting time to be at the helm of this agency. I look forward with great enthusiasm and excitement to the challenge of leading an agency dedicated to conserving, protecting, and enhancing fish and wildlife and their habitats for the continuing benefit and enjoyment of the American people."

Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt praised the Senate's action in confirming Clark. "Jamie Clark is an experienced career professional who has been involved on a daily basis with many of the major wildlife issues facing the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. She knows the Service well and will bring to the job energy, commitment, and an understanding of the Service and its major constituents. I am very pleased that the Senate has confirmed her as Director."

As Director, Clark pledged to increase the Service's role in cooperative approaches to fish and wildlife conservation. "Throughout my Federal career, I have participated in numerous partnership efforts and firmly believe that involving stakeholders and other agency expertise early on reaps long-term benefits for fish and wildlife resources and the economy. I believe that the Service needs to continue looking for new and innovative ways to achieve species and habitat conservation," Clark said. "Our state, Federal, Tribal, and private partners have great capabilities to provide leadership and assistance in the management and recovery of natural resources. The Service needs to communicate the fundamental message that the fate of wildlife and humans alike is linked to the well-being of the environment around us."

Clark has served as the Service's Assistant Director for Ecological Services since 1994. In this position, she has been responsible for implementation of the Endangered Species Act nationwide and has overseen habitat restoration programs, wetlands protection, contaminants damage restoration programs, and other Service initiatives involving environmental protection.

*Office of Public Affairs
1349 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240
Room 3447*

*(202) 208-5634
FAX (202) 219-2428*

During her career with the Service, she has served as chief of the Division of Endangered Species and as Deputy Assistant Regional Director in the Southwest Region and as senior staff biologist.

Before joining the Fish and Wildlife Service 8 years ago, she served as Fish and Wildlife Administrator for the Department of the Army from 1988-89, and Natural/Cultural Resources Coordinator for the National Guard Bureau from 1984-88. She also has worked as a research biologist for the Army Medical Research Institute and a wildlife biologist for the National Institute for Urban Wildlife.

Clark received a Bachelor of Science in Wildlife Biology from Towson State University and a Master of Science in Wildlife Ecology from the University of Maryland. She and her husband, Jim, currently reside in Leesburg, Virginia.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal Federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting, and enhancing fish and wildlife and their habitats. The Service manages 511 national wildlife refuges covering 92 million acres as well as 65 national fish hatcheries. The agency also enforces Federal wildlife laws, manages migratory bird populations, stocks recreational fisheries, conserves and restores wildlife habitat, administers the Endangered Species Act, and helps foreign governments with their conservation efforts. The Service oversees the Federal Aid program that funnels Federal excise taxes on angling and hunting equipment to state fish and wildlife agencies for fish and wildlife restoration programs.