



PROTECTING FISH AND WILDLIFE

In this photo from 1954, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) agent Jim King is preparing to walk to an illegal beaver trap about 20 miles southwest of Galena, Alaska. FWS agents routinely used airplanes to travel around Alaska, enforcing animal protection and conservation efforts throughout the state. Today, FWS agents are still responsible for enforcing federal wildlife laws as well as protecting endangered species, managing migratory birds, restoring nationally significant fisheries, and conserving and restoring wildlife habitats.

PHOTO from the Records of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Archives, courtesy of National Archives History Office, in collaboration with the Society for History in the Federal Government (SHFG), bringing together government professionals, academics, consultants, students and citizens interested in understanding federal history work and the historical development of the federal government. To join, visit www.shfg.org.

DID YOU KNOW?

The U.S. Commission on Fish and Fisheries was an independent agency created in 1871 to study and provide solutions for a decline in fisheries. In 1903, the Commission was renamed Bureau of Fisheries and moved to the Department of Commerce and Labor. In 1940, the agency combined with the Bureau of Biological Survey and became the Fish and Wildlife Service under the Department of Interior.

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