

## Gabrielson Fish, Wild Life Director

*Journal*  
*May 31, 1940*

WASHINGTON, May 31. (AP)—Interior department sources disclosed today that Secretary Ickes shortly would name Ira N. Gabrielson, 51, of Sioux Rapids, Iowa, director of the new fish and wild life service.

The service combines the old bureau of biological survey of the agriculture department and the bureau of fisheries of the commerce department in the interior department as part of President Roosevelt's reorganization of governmental services.

Informants said Ickes would name W. C. Henderson, now associate chief of the biological survey as the new director of wild life research, economic conservation and regulatory work; and appoint Charles E. Jackson, acting director of the fisheries bureau, as the new director of fisheries research economic conservation and regulatory work.

Gabrielson has been in the government service since 1915; Henderson, a native of Chelsea, Mass., since 1916, and Jackson, Columbia, S. C., since 1933. Gabrielson now is director of the biological survey.

### Appointment Wins Local Applause

Appointment of Gabrielson, former Portland resident, to head the fish and wildlife service confirms reports current here for several days.

The appointment is a popular one with wildlife enthusiasts as Gabrielson is known as a strong conservationist. His selection brought immediate applause today from William L. Finley, noted Portland naturalist.

Gabrielson, who passed through here early this week en route to Alaska, spent many years in the Northwest as regional director of rodent and predatory control. He left here in 1934 when named assistant chief of the biological survey's wildlife research division and the following year was appointed to head the survey.

**Finley Going East**—William L. Finley of Portland, Oregon naturalist, will leave here today for St. Louis, where he will attend a conservation meeting of the National Wild Life federation. Mr. Finley is vice-president of the organization. The meeting will be held Sunday, Monday and Tuesday.

*Oregonian June 1, 1940*

## Wild Life Group *St Louis Globe Democrat* Urges Study of Dams

*June 5, 1940*

The National Wild Life Federation's Executive Committee decided yesterday at the closing session of its three-day meeting at Park Plaza Hotel to request all state conservation organizations to participate in a move to have the Federal Government consider dam projects from all viewpoints before construction is started, lest more be destroyed than created.

One of the leaders of the discussion was William L. Finley, vice president of the federation of Portland, Ore., who declared dam construction and proposed dam construction in Washington, Oregon and California are threatening elimination of the best commercial varieties of salmon from waters of the United States.

Countless numbers of chinook salmon of the spring run are now faced with destruction because the path of their natural spawning ground in headwaters of the Columbia River has been blocked by the Grand Coulee Dam, which is not equipped with a fishway, he declared.

Construction of a series of dams in the Willamette River, which joins the Columbia below the Grand Coulee Dam, would result in the final death blow to the chinook species, which has been dwindling in number rapidly in the last 40 years, Finley stated.

## Science Studies Declared Need In Conservation

*Journal*  
*June 8, 1940*

The main need of the United States in the field of conservation is more scientific study, particularly in regard to water resources, according to William L. Finley, vice president of the National Wildlife federation, who returned Friday from a four-day session of the group at St. Louis.

Four main problems were considered, Finley said. The first and most important concerns the improper use of water, with resultant lowering of water tables and concomitant dust storms and extension of desert areas. This, the federation declared, has been the result of consideration of problems of water use from the local angle and the angle of private gain, without examination on a national scale.

The second problem was the ever-present one of pollution of streams and rivers, and the third was use of public funds, particularly in the West, for the erection of dams. The federation urged a broader scope in preliminary surveys, with more emphasis on the scientific and economic aspects of the projected improvement rather than too close confinement to engineering aspects.

In consideration of the fourth problem, the federation stressed the need for more scientific study of fish life. It was pointed out that relatively little is known about fish in comparison with the vast body of material available on plant, animal and bird life.

## *Los Angeles, Calif* Big Dams Called *Examined* Menace to Salmon

*884 June 23, 1940*

PORTLAND, June 22.—William L. Finley, vice president of the Wildlife Federation, pointed out that proposed dam construction in Washington, Oregon and California is threatening destruction of the best commercial varieties of salmon from waters of the United States.

He said that countless numbers of chinook salmon of the spring run are facing destruction because their spawning ground in headwaters of the Columbia River has been blocked by the Grand Coulee dam, which is not equipped with a fishway.