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## U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Pioneers Oral History Project

The Alaska Region of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recognizes the rich history and heritage of the Service in Alaska, and the many contributions of employees and others to the mission of the Service. As one way to acknowledge the contributions of these Pioneers, a working group formed to develop an oral history program to record their personal reminiscences.

Our goals are simple:

- To recognize and validate the contributions and achievements of our Service pioneers
- To add a personal and human touch to the official records to round-out our view of Service activities and history

We want to talk to everyone; former Regional Directors, refuge managers, biologists, clerical and support staff, people from Washington DC, and people who worked closely with the Service as contract pilots, guides and members of conservation organizations, who was influential in our history.

Your stories will be tape recorded and then transcribed into written form. You will have the opportunity to review and comment on the tape recordings and written transcripts before they are archived. We plan to store the interviews at the National Archives Anchorage office, the ARLIS Library in Anchorage, at the National Conservation and Training Center in Sheppardstown, West Virginia, the University of Alaska Archives in Fairbanks and other repositories you prefer. Copies of the tapes and/or transcripts can also be made for you if you wish. After the materials are placed in the archives they will be available for all to use and enjoy.

Thank you for your help and for being part of our heritage.

I would like to be part of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Pioneers Oral History Project and have my experiences recorded.

[Donald Thurston]  
*Donald Thurston*

Signature

6-15-98  
Date

*Liz Williams*

Interviewer

1-15-98  
Date