



News Release

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ARIZONA ECOLOGICAL SERVICES FIELD OFFICE WELCOMES NEW MANAGER

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has named Steve Spangle as the Field Supervisor of the Arizona Ecological Services Field Office. The Arizona Ecological Services Office is located in Phoenix with satellite offices in Flagstaff and Tucson. The office's primary responsibility is the management of threatened and endangered species programs and the conservation of habitats upon which endangered species depend. In addition, the office has responsibility for the Environmental Contaminants, Federal Activities, and Partners for Fish and Wildlife programs.

Spangle looks forward to working with the State of Arizona, other Federal agencies, Native American tribes, the military and Arizona's citizens in conserving the rich and unique biological resources of Arizona. "I'm a person who believes that conflict and litigation are costly and counterproductive to accomplishing our mission, and strongly advocate a collaborative, rather than confrontational approach to resolving resource management issues," said Spangle.

A 1977 wildlife management graduate of Humboldt State University, Spangle worked for several agencies, including the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and State of California, before joining the Service's Sacramento, California, Ecological Services Field Office in 1989. For the next three years, he was heavily involved in the designation of critical habitat for the northern spotted owl and other complex issues dealing with management of forest ecosystems.

He became the Southwest Region's Listing Coordinator in Albuquerque in late 1992, and for the next eight years dealt with numerous controversial endangered species listings and critical habitat designations. Spangle's in-depth experience resulted in his participation in national level complex issues such as those surrounding the northern goshawk, black-tailed prairie dog, and piping plover. He served as the regional liaison to the Mexican Spotted Owl recovery team and coauthored the recovery plan. The team received the Department of the Interior's Conservation Service Award for its accomplishments.

In 2001, Spangle became the Supervisor of the Endangered Species Sub-office in Flagstaff where he guided the implementation of the National Fire Plan statewide.

Spangle's personal interests fit right into his Service role. He is an avid birder, an angler and especially enjoys family camping trips where he instills a love of all things natural in his two sons and stepson. Steve, his wife Belinda and the boys look forward to making Phoenix their home.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal Federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting and enhancing fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The Service manages the 95-million-acre National Wildlife Refuge System which encompasses nearly 540 national wildlife refuges, thousands of small wetlands and other special management areas. It also operates 70 national fish hatcheries, 64 fishery resource offices and 78 ecological services field stations. The agency enforces Federal wildlife laws, administers the Endangered Species Act, manages migratory bird populations, restores nationally significant fisheries, conserves and restores wildlife habitats such as wetlands, and helps foreign governments with their conservation efforts. It also oversees the Federal Aid program that distributes hundreds of millions of dollars in excise taxes on fishing and hunting equipment to state fish and wildlife agencies.

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