

ORDER NO. 3173

SIGNATURE DATE: September 29, 1993

Subject: Establishment of the National Biological Survey

Sec. 1 **Purpose.** The purpose of this Order is to establish the National Biological Survey under the supervision of the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks. The mission of the National Biological Survey is to gather, analyze, and disseminate the biological information necessary for the sound stewardship of our Nation's natural resources and to foster understanding of biological systems and the benefits they provide to society. To accomplish this mission, the National Biological Survey will 1) perform research in support of biological resource management; 2) inventory, monitor, and report on the status and trends in the Nation's biotic resources; and 3) develop the ability and resources to transfer the information gained in research and monitoring to resource managers and to others concerned with the care, use, and conservation of the Nation's resources. This Order supersedes Order No. 3165, Organizational Preparations for the Creation of the National Biological Survey, issued on May 17, 1993.

Sec. 2 **Authority.** This Order is issued in accordance with the authority provided by Sections 2 and 5 of Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1950 (64 Stat. 1262: 5 U.S.C. App.).

Sec. 3 **Establishment and Transfer of Functions.** The National Biological Survey (NBS) is hereby established. Functions necessary to perform the mission of the NBS are transferred to the NBS from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Minerals Management Service, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, U.S. Geological Survey, and Bureau of Reclamation.

Sec. 4 **Organization.** The Director of the NBS shall be under the supervision of the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks. The NBS shall consist of the following functional components:

a. The Office of the Director, with a Deputy Director and an Executive Secretary to a Science Board and a Policy Board.

b. The Office of External Affairs, with Divisions of Congressional Affairs, Public Affairs, and International Affairs, and a Controlled Correspondence Staff.

c. The Office of the Assistant Director for Budget and Administration, with an Office of Equal Opportunity Programs; Divisions of Personnel Management, Management Assistance, Budget, Finance, and Procurement; and a Safety Staff.

d. The Office of the Assistant Director for Research, with Divisions of Cooperative Research, Species Biology, Population

Dynamics, and Ecosystems Research.

e. The Office of the Assistant Director for Information and Technology Services, with Divisions of Information Management, and Information and Technology Transfer.

f. The Office of the Assistant Director for Inventory and Monitoring, with Divisions of Ecosystem Inventory and Assessment; Population Inventory and Monitoring; and Inventory, Standards and Protocol Development.

g. Western, Mid-Continent, Southern and Eastern Ecoregions, each to be directed by a Regional Director reporting to the Office of the Director.

h. Cooperative Research Units reporting to the Division of Cooperative Research within the Office of the Assistant Director for Research.

i. Research Centers reporting to a Regional Director.

j. Other headquarters components and field units to be established by the Director.

Sec. 5 **Delegations**. The Director of the NBS is delegated, through the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, the administrative and program management authority necessary to implement the mission of the NBS. This delegation is subject to the limitations contained in Part 200 of the Departmental Manual.

Sec. 6 **Administrative Provisions**. The Assistant Secretary - Policy, Management and Budget will take appropriate steps to transfer the personnel, funds and property necessary to implement this Order. The Director of the NBS will enter into any necessary agreements with other bureaus and offices of the Department of the Interior for the provision of any administrative support functions which the NBS will not provide within its own organization.

Sec. 7 **Effective Date**. This Order is effective upon establishment of budget authority for the National Biological Survey, either through enactment of the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 1994 or an appropriate Continuing Resolution, but not before October 1, 1993. This Order will remain in effect until its provisions are converted to the Departmental Manual or until it is amended, superseded or revoked, whichever comes first. In the absence of the foregoing actions, the provisions of this Order will terminate and be considered obsolete on October 1, 1994.

/s/ Bruce Babbitt
Secretary of the Interior

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