

TWS Council Candidate Biographic Sketch Western Representative – 2022

Jim Sedinger

Education

- 1983 Ph.D., Ecology, University of California Davis
- 1971 B.S. Electrical Engineering, University of Washington

Present Position

2019-present Professor Emeritus, University of Nevada Reno

Former Positions

- 2001 Professor of Wildlife Ecology, University of Nevada Reno
- 1986 Assistant, Associate and Professor of Wildlife Ecology, University of Alaska Fairbanks
- 1984 Research Wildlife Biologist, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- 1971 Electrical Engineer, Bonneville Power Administration

The Wildlife Society Activities: Member since 1977

- Associate Editor Journal of Wildlife Management 1991-93 and 2007-09.
- Consulting Editor Wildlife Monographs 1993, 2004.
- Northern Alaska Representative, Alaska Chapter 1996
- Committee to review proposed reintroduction of wood bison into Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska Chapter. 1997.
- President, Nevada Chapter 2011.
- The Wildlife Society Publication Awards Committee 2013.
- Professional Awards Committee Western Section of the Wildlife Society 2014.
- Donald H. Rusch Game Bird Research Scholarship Committee, The Wildlife Society 2020, 2021.
- President Elect, Nevada Chapter 2021.

Other Professional Affiliations

American Association for the Advancement of Science
American Ornithological Society
Ecological Society of America

Leadership Experience (professional and organizations; limit 5):

Chair Wildlife Program, Department of Biology and Wildlife, University of Alaska Fairbanks 1992-1993.

I represented the Wildlife Program (a distinct academic major) to the Department Head after consultation with wildlife faculty and assisted with curricular coordination.

Deputy Director, Institute of Arctic Biology, University of Alaska Fairbanks 1995-1998.

The Institute of Arctic Biology is the principal administrative unit supporting research in the biological sciences at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. The Institute had 30 faculty and 30 staff. I

served as principal advisor to the Institute Director on policy and direction for the Institute and assumed the Director's duties in his absence.

Interim Director, Institute of Arctic Biology, University of Alaska Fairbanks 1998-2001.

I served as Director, a Dean level position at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. I represented the Institute with higher levels of the administration. I supervised the faculty and staff, which included annual evaluation of the faculty. I made the final hiring decisions following faculty searches. I made budget decisions (annual budget \$6M) during an extremely difficult budget period. At the time, UAF did not have a formal mentoring program for young faculty so mentoring became part of the evaluation process. In this role I advised young faculty on their professional development and progress toward tenure. I also worked with the faculty to establish new research direction for the Institute. I certainly made a number of mistakes but certainly improved my interpersonal skills.

Director, Ecology, Evolution and Conservation Biology (EECB) Interdisciplinary Graduate Program, University of Nevada Reno 2007-2010.

EECB is the principal graduate program for students in the basic and applied biological sciences. In this role I interacted with both students and faculty but did not have supervisory responsibility except for my own graduate students. I established direction in consultation with the faculty. I managed the budget (\$100K annually) which primarily supported student activities and a regular seminar program. I represented the Program with the associated departments (primarily Biology and natural Resources) and colleges (Science and Agriculture).

Principal Professional Interests

Development of science to inform effective conservation and management of wildlife and their habitats.

Views: Limit of 250 words.

I believe science is fundamental to effective management, but science is often not effectively communicated from scientists to managers and policy makers. The Wildlife Society is the premier professional organization for both scientists and managers. As such TWS is in a unique position to improve the flow of information, as recognized by recent articles in the Journal of Wildlife Management. Increasing human population and increasing demand for natural resources, however, are placing increasing stress on many wildlife populations. Additionally, increasing urbanization is reducing the experience of citizens with nature. These changes are placing additional pressure on the state and federal agencies responsible of conservation and management of wildlife and their habitats. These changes have immediate practical effects, such as reduced numbers of hunters and associated declining budgets for state and federal agencies responsible for management and conservation. But the declining exposure of the public to our wildlands also has less direct impacts. For example, a significant segment of the public has unrealistic expectations about the ability of public lands to support the exploding populations of free-roaming horses without negative impacts on native species. Our country is rapidly becoming increasingly diverse, yet the wildlife profession has not been particularly successful at increasing the diversity within its ranks. Improving diversity is critical to the success of our profession as we move forward. The Wildlife Society is in a unique position to address these challenges, which is essential to the effective conservation of our wildlife resources.