

# Help Us Recognize the Importance of Science to Wetlands Conservation Calling on the Science Community to Nominate Scientific Leaders



## 2009 National Wetlands Awards

**Celebrating 20 Years of Outstanding  
Contributions to Wetlands Conservation**

Nomination forms for the 2009 National Wetlands Awards are now available. For 20 years, this program has honored individuals who have demonstrated extraordinary commitment to the conservation and restoration of our nation's wetlands.

Help us celebrate our 20th anniversary by nominating someone you know for this prestigious award.

Visit [www.nationalwetlandsawards.org](http://www.nationalwetlandsawards.org) and submit your nomination by December 15, 2008

Photo by Matt Gianetti

## Help Us Celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the National Wetlands Awards Program

The National Wetlands Awards Program recognizes extraordinary individual achievement in six categories: Education and Outreach; Science Research; Conservation and Restoration; Landowner Stewardship; State, Tribal, and Local Program Development; and Wetland Community Leader. The winners in each category will be honored in a ceremony on Capitol Hill in May 2009.

The awards are administered by the Environmental Law Institute, and supported

by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Federal Highway Administration, NOAA Fisheries, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and USDA Forest Service.

## **Inspiring Leaders: Past Science Research Awardees**

### **Raymond Semlitsch, 2008**

Dr. Semlitsch is a Professor in the Division of Biological Sciences at the University of Missouri-Columbia. He is leader in amphibian ecology and has led the conservation of small isolated wetlands by documenting their importance to the survival of amphibians and reptiles. His most important work established the ecological connection between aquatic and terrestrial environments for semi-aquatic species and defined terrestrial habitat around wetlands as “core habitat” for management and conservation. He currently is working on three projects that focus on the impacts of forest management on wetland-breeding amphibians, the balance between biodiversity conservation in isolated wetlands and land-use practices, and development of better wetland mitigation practices.

### **Paul Keddy, 2007**

Dr. Paul A. Keddy served on the faculty at the University of Guelph and the University of Ottawa before becoming the first holder of the Edward G. Schlieder Endowed Chair for Environmental Studies at Southeastern Louisiana University. Dr. Keddy and his former students and collaborators completed a host of studies in wetlands of Ontario and elsewhere that largely define the current understanding of plant competition and responses to environmental gradients and various forms of disturbance in northern temperate wetlands. Since moving to Louisiana, his focus has been on competitive interactions among freshwater wetland plants and responses to environmental disturbances.

### **Curtis Richardson, 2006**

Dr. Curtis J. Richardson is a professor in the Nicholas School of the Environment and Earth Sciences at Duke University, where he is the founder and director of the Duke Wetlands Center. Since 2003, Dr. Richardson has been a scientific advisor to Iraqi ecologists working to restore the marshlands in southern Iraq. He has managed large-scale research projects such as the multi-investigator effort examining the impact of hydrological and nutrient alterations on the restoration of the Everglades. Dr. Richardson served as vice-president and president of the Society of Wetland Scientists. He is a fellow of SWS, the Soil Science Society of America, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Throughout his career, Dr. Richardson has pioneered groundbreaking approaches

to making sound science an integral part of public policy decisions.

**Barbara Bedford, 2005**

Dr. Barbara Bedford is a senior research associate in the Department of Natural Resources of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell University, and is director of the Ecosystems Research Center there. Dr. Bedford engages in cutting-edge and widely published research on landscape-level approaches to wetland science and management, focusing on the importance of regional hydrology and biodiversity in wetland systems. She excels at integrating her research with her teaching, allowing students to gain first-hand experience with the practice of wetland science and understand pressing wetland research questions. Dr. Bedford advocates for the use of sound science in decision-making by serving on numerous review and advisory committees, including the National Research Council Committee on Restoration of the Greater Everglades Ecosystem and the advisory board of the Smithsonian Institution Environmental Research Center.

**Francis Golet, 2004**

In his long and distinguished career in research, teaching, and advocacy, Dr. Golet has inspired generations of college students, helped define the framework of wetland protection and management at all levels of government, and effectively shaped the science of wetland ecology. Dr. Golet was among the first researchers to focus on classification and assessment of wetland functions and values, providing definitional bases for modern wetland law. His classification of wetlands and deepwater habitats has been applied nationwide and has contributed immeasurably to wetland management and protection in the United States. Dr. Golet has also taught courses in wetland ecology and management at the University of Rhode Island for more than 30 years, encouraging hundreds of students to understand and appreciate wetland systems.

**Honor a scientist you know by submitting a nomination form for our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!**

For more information, profiles of past awardees, or a nomination form, visit [www.nationalwetlandsawards.org](http://www.nationalwetlandsawards.org) or contact us at:

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