



# J. DEWEY SOPER AWARD

## NOMINATION FORM

### Nominator Information

Name:

Full Mailing Address:

Phone:

E-mail:

### Biologist Being Nominated:

Name:

Employer:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Nominator

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date submitted

**(Please submit all components of the award nomination by March 1st to:**

**Awards Committee Chair,  
c/o Alberta Society of Professional Biologists,  
P.O. Box 21104,  
Edmonton, AB, Canada T6R 2V4**

## **Award Overview**

The ASPB 's highest award—the **J. Dewey Soper Award**—recognizes a professional biologist who has made outstanding contributions in the field of biology and who practises in Alberta.

## **Conditions**

The recipient must be an Albertan biologist, be nominated by an ASPB member using the designated nomination form accompanied by supporting letters from a minimum of three ASPB members, and receive unanimous consent of the ASPB Board of Directors.

## **Submission Deadline**

All submissions must be received by the Chair of the Awards Committee by March 1<sup>st</sup> to be considered for the current year; however, the award is bestowed when warranted and is not necessarily an annual award. Submissions that are unsuccessful in a particular year may be resubmitted with additional information in subsequent years.

## **Reviewing Nomination**

- A committee of three ASPB members, including the Chair of the Awards Committee, will undertake a substantive review of the nomination and provide recommendations to the Board of the ASPB.
- Reviewers score each submission and evaluate the nomination based on all supporting documentation.
- An objective score sheet will be used to measure contributions in different categories of qualifications as a biologist.

### **5 = *Extraordinary*:**

Demonstrates extraordinary depth of knowledge, insight or skill. Has made an extraordinary contribution as a biologist.

### **4 = *Significantly better than adequate*:**

Consistently applies biological concepts and practices creatively and responsibly. In general has made a greater than average contribution as a biologist.

### **3 = *Adequate*:**

Demonstrates appropriate and ethical application of biological concepts, skills and practices. Demonstrates professionalism and an understanding of the role of a biologist. Has made an average contribution as a biologist, or achieved average outcomes in the particular category.

### **2 = *Somewhat less than adequate*:**

Demonstrates deficiency in some, but not all key areas, leaving doubt about the sufficiency of the candidate's contribution or achievement.

### **1 = *Significantly less than adequate*:**

Major aspects of the candidate's impact or contribution are based on faulty assumptions or misconceptions, while other aspects may be appropriate to varying degrees.

### **0 = *Information missing or major flaws in approach*:**

No information given or the contribution/outcomes described are almost completely inappropriate.

### ***N/A = Not Applicable***

This question is not relevant to the candidate's contribution. Candidate will not be penalized.



## Submission Content

Each submission must include the following information:

- 1. Curriculum vitae or Resume:** A complete summary of career is essential as a background document for reviewers' reference. The summary is to include education and training, as well as a list of publications, awards and other honours.
- 2. Biographical Overview:** A brief description of the nominee including current position and professional responsibilities; professional area of practice, study, and/or interests; as well as their career highlights.
- 3. Nomination Form:** This document is part of the award entry. Read the instructions thoroughly to ensure the nomination is complete. The nomination form will comprise 50 per cent of the submission's total score.

Reviewers will evaluate submissions based on the individual's outstanding achievements in three or more of the following areas:

- Advancing biological knowledge
- Mentorship, teaching and training
- Professional development and service
- Voluntary contribution
- Commitment to public

Reviewers will be focusing primarily on the quality and impact of the candidate's contributions as an Alberta biologist.

- 4. Supporting Letters:** Written submissions, from at least three supporters who are members of ASPB, describing the nominee's biological contribution and the overall impact of the nominee's accomplishments. Additional letters of support from non-members are welcome. All submissions must accompany the nomination form. The submissions will be evaluated based on the individual's achievements and service. The written submissions will comprise 50 per cent of the submission's total score.

For the award, the successful candidate will receive the following:

- An Honorary, Life-time Membership in the Alberta Society of Professional Biologists
- An attractive award for display
- A media release to local media
- Recognition on the ASPB website and in the BIOS newsletter
- A letter of recognition to their employer

## Nomination Form (50%)

The ASPB's **J. Dewey Soper Award** recognizes a professional biologist practising in Alberta who has made outstanding contributions in the field of biology. Please include specific information about the individual's activities and the outcomes of his/her efforts that demonstrate excellence as a biologist. The quality of an individual's contribution and achievement will be a primary consideration for this award.

Dr. J. Dewey Soper was a biologist based in Alberta with a long career covering many facets: an Arctic researcher and explorer, a federal wildlife manager for western and northern Canada, an author of more than 130 articles, monographs, and books on biology and natural history, a collector of more than 10,000 scientific specimens, and someone who was engaged in communicating biological knowledge to fellow biologists and the general public. Not all biologists have such a wide-ranging variety of career and contributions; however, those who are considered outstanding contribute in many ways, which is why this nomination form addresses several types of accomplishments.

A paragraph or two for each category will suffice; make reference to CV or resume of the candidate for specifics.

1. **Advancing Biological Knowledge or Management**—Describe how the candidate has contributed to advancing knowledge about biology through research, applied management, study or exploration.
  - Inventory publications, roles, discoveries, or insights—not limited to traditional academic fields or agency management; the intent is to capture the essence of contribution to biology in its many forms and through many avenues.
2. **Mentoring, Teaching or Training**—Describe how the candidate has contributed to the education, training, technology transfer, or enrichment of students or colleagues about the field of biology.
  - Document the candidate's inspiration of other biologists or the general public through sharing of knowledge.
3. **Professional Development and Service**—What significant contributions and impact has the candidate made in the area of personal and professional development as a biologist or in finding ways to be of service in the professional development of others?
  - Identify what commitment the candidate has shown to life-long development of personal biological knowledge, skills or in enabling or encouraging others to enhance their level of professionalism.
4. **Voluntary Contribution**— Describe how the candidate has contributed to the strengthening of the discipline of biology through voluntary participation within a professional, scholarly, managerial, or other organization related to biology.
  - Document how the candidate has served through any relevant organization to strengthen biology by sustaining the network of biologists at a local, national, or global scale.
5. **Commitment to Public**—Describe how the candidate contributed service to the public by performing as a biologist in a professional manner and adhering to the ethical principles espoused by the ASPB.
  - List the ways in which the candidate has shown commitment to or engaged the public.

## EVALUATION

*(For Use of Reviewers Only)*

**Not all biologists who make an outstanding contribution are active in all categories. Descriptions are needed for the candidate's accomplishments in at least three categories. Candidates will not be penalized for being inactive in one or two categories.**

### Nomination Form Responses

Category 1: <b>Advancing Biological Knowledge or Management</b>	5	4	3	2	1	0	N/A
Category 2: <b>Mentorship, Teaching or Training</b>	5	4	3	2	1	0	N/A
Category 3: <b>Professional Development and Service</b>	5	4	3	2	1	0	N/A
Category 4: <b>Voluntary Contribution</b>	5	4	3	2	1	0	N/A
Category 5: <b>Commitment to the Public</b>	5	4	3	2	1	0	N/A

### Total Marks \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Possible Marks (10 \* number of categories completed):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Per Cent Score (Total Marks/Total Possible Marks)\*100:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Final Score for Entry Form (Per Cent Score / 2)** \_\_\_\_\_/50

**Support Letters:** *The entry form also requires letters of support (at least 3) that outline the overall contribution and impact made by the candidate as a biologist. A minimum of three letters are to be from ASPB members who are familiar with the candidate's qualities. (50%)*

### Support Letter Responses

Overall contribution and impact by candidate as a biologist.	Ltr 1	5	4	3	2	1	0
	Ltr 2	5	4	3	2	1	0
	Ltr 3	5	4	3	2	1	0

**Total Marks:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Per Cent Score (Total Marks/Total Possible Marks):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Final Score for this Section (Per Cent Score / 2):** \_\_\_\_\_

**(An additional 5% is to be added to evaluation for candidates who are members of ASPB)**

**FINAL SCORE FOR NOMINATION:** \_\_\_\_\_

*(A minimum score of 75% will be required for consideration of a candidate for this award.)*

[All personal information gathered on this form is for the sole purpose of adjudicating the award.]