



Dr. James Dane "Jim" Hall

Aug. 31, 1933 — Oct. 14, 2021

Dr. Jim Hall passed peacefully in Seattle on Thursday morning, Oct. 14, with Hospice and his daughters, Carolyn and Kate by his side. He was 88. Jim Hall was born Aug. 31, 1933 in Columbus, Ohio, and the family soon moved to Orinda, California. A biologist from an early age, he could identify 12 birds by song and 20 by sight when he was 2½ years old. His father was a forest entomologist and directed a field station in Lassen National Park. In high school, he conducted a study of the trout and invertebrates in Hat Creek, California and submitted it to Cal Fish and Game. He attended UC Berkeley as a Starker Leopold Wildlife Conservation major and graduate student, where he met his future wife, Bonnie, in an aquatic entomology class. After serving as an Ensign in the Navy for three years and retiring with the rank of Commander, Jim completed his M.S. and Ph.D. in Fisheries at the University of Michigan, studying the ecology of the chestnut lamprey in the Manistee River.

After graduation, he directed the high-seas salmon tagging program at the Fisheries Research Institute at the University of Washington.

Jim joined the faculty of the Department of Fisheries & Wildlife at Oregon State University in 1963 and retired in 1992. Jim was the first Head Advisor in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, which now has one of the largest advising programs on campus. He taught classes in Fisheries Biology and Population Dynamics, started the graduate Stream Ecology class, and mentored more than 30 graduate students. He has been a pioneer in watershed research in the Pacific Northwest and directed the first paired-watershed study of the effects of logging on salmon and watersheds in the western United States. He cofounded the Stream Team research group, one of the early interdisciplinary research programs at Oregon State University.

In the early 1950s, the Governor of Oregon formed the Office of Natural Resources and charged it to coordinate natural resource management and resolve conflicts. One of their first actions was to form the Alsea Watershed Study, which was the first long-term interdisciplinary study of the effects of forest practices on salmon populations and watershed processes in the western United States.

Jim Hall was the Director of the Alsea Watershed Study from 1963-1973, directing his own aquatic research team and collaborating with hydrologists, forest ecologists, logging engineers, and water quality specialists. Under Jim's leadership, this innovative study laid the foundations for the creation of the Oregon Forest Practices Act in 1972. Jim participated in a follow-up investigation of long-term trends in habitat and fish populations as part of the Coastal Oregon Productivity Enhancement Program from 1988-1996, and advised the ongoing research in the Alsea Watershed. Jim was the leader of the aquatic program of the Coniferous Forest Biome of the International Biological Program from 1964-1974, which evolved into the aquatic component of the H.J. Andrews Long-Term Ecological Research Program.

Over his career, Jim and his students have published more than 100 papers, books, and proceedings on salmon and watershed processes based on their landmark watershed studies. In recognition of his research, education, application of fisheries science to management, and professional leadership, Jim Hall was awarded the Award of Excellence by the Western Division of the American Fisheries Society and was elected a Fellow of the American Fisheries Society in the first year the award was created.

As a professor in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, Jim taught Fisheries Biology for 30 years. In the 1960s, he compiled data on fish communities in lakes and reservoirs from district offices of the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife and required students to

develop management plans and justify them based on technical analysis of the data. He invited ODFW biologists to attend the students' presentations and provide real-world input. His early innovative approach integrated quantitative analysis, experiential learning, group problem solving, and interactions with natural resources professionals, which can still be traced to our current curricula in group problem solving and internships with natural resources agencies. Jim was also the first instructor in the Department's graduate course in Stream Ecology, a course that attracts graduate students from a wide array of departments and colleges at OSU. As Head Advisor in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, he worked closely with Lenora Bond, another legendary advisor in the department. Together, Jim and Lenora created an advising system where every undergraduate student was assigned to a faculty advisor for the duration of their education at OSU. Each faculty member would advise 20-35 undergraduates, and Jim and Lenora would supervise the process and approve forms and applications. This advising system they created is still the framework of our Department's advising program, which has grown to six advisors and now includes online curriculum and advising material and both on-campus and online Bachelor of Science degrees in Fisheries and Wildlife Science. In recognition of his leadership in undergraduate advising, the College of Agricultural Sciences awarded him with the Earl Price Award for Excellence in Student Advising as well as the Dar Reese Award for Excellence in Advising.

Jim Hall created an enduring legacy of student mentoring, interdisciplinary research and teaching, and university service. The Stream Team seminar series that Jim helped develop 49 years ago still brings students, faculty, local scientists, and the public together to share new ideas and explore emerging issues in aquatic ecology and natural resource management. The undergraduate and graduate courses he began are important cornerstones of our curriculum. His principals of personal interaction and mentoring of students still live on in our advising program. Fisheries and forest management in the state of Oregon are based on his leadership and foundational studies in watershed management. Jim served as a great role model of a scientist to his students and colleagues, as he was highly professional, thoughtful, principled, hardworking, and dependable. Jim was insightful, measured in his speech and a demanding editor. Above all else, Jim is best described as steady. He was part of everything, always there, from collaboration on the International Biological Program with UW and UBC, to the River Continuum, to the H.J. Andrews LTER Program and beyond. Taking a course from him or interacting with Jim in meetings was a formative experience that shaped the lives of many aspiring young scientists. We are all better for knowing Jim Hall.

In lieu of flowers, Jim requested that donations can be made to the Jim and Bonnie Hall Diversity Scholarship Endowment in the Department of Fisheries, Wildlife, and

Conservation Sciences at OSU (<https://fwcs.oregonstate.edu/fisheries-and-wildlife/make-gift-department-fisheries-and-wildlife>). Jim created the Endowment to support efforts to diversify the field of fisheries and wildlife and support all students in the department.

—Submitted by Stan Gregory, Peggy Wilzbach, Ken Cummins, Dale McCullough, and Jim Peterson.