
EMINENT ECOLOGIST AWARD

The Eminent Ecologist Award is given in recognition of an outstanding body of ecological work or of sustained contributions of extraordinary merit. It is the highest honor bestowed by the Ecological Society of America. This year's winner is Dr. Robert J. Naiman, who is on the faculty at the University of Washington.

Dr. Naiman has published over 225 peer-reviewed papers and book chapters. His work has also included synthesis, as evidenced from his leadership of the project that resulted in the publication of *The Freshwater Imperative* in 1995, which was instrumental in establishing a national ecological research program in freshwater science at NSF and EPA. His work is clearly extremely influential in the development of freshwater ecology, but his influence has been much broader. He has made fundamental contributions to the study of riparian systems and to the concept of ecotones.



His focus on how transport and retention of organic matter and associated metabolic rates are influenced by the characteristics of the stream network in large watersheds has been particularly influential. He has also been an important mentor to many graduate students, postdocs, and colleagues. For all these reasons, and more, we deem Dr. Robert J. Naiman to be richly deserving of the ESA Eminent Ecologist Award in 2012.