

PEOPLE AND PLACES

Larson Tackles New Job



Jim Larson

Jim Larson, whose NPS career has had him filling slots all over the Park System, is currently settled (but by no means "at rest") in Seattle, as chief of biological services for the Science & Technology Division in the Pacific Northwest Region.

A North Dakota native, Larson earned his B.S. in zoology at the University of Wisconsin, his M.S. in forest ecology at the University of Washington. Starting in 1959, Larson has been a park ranger at Mt. McKinley NP, a park naturalist at Rocky Mountain NP, chief park naturalist at Haleakala NP, staff biologist in the chief scientist's office in Washington, D.C., regional chief scientist of the Southeast and of the Midwest Regions, and most recently chief of the Alaska Area Division of Natural Resources.

His research activities include a life history study of the Hawaiian dark-rumped petrel in Haleakala Crater and the ecological study of lodgepole pine at North Cascades NP. He co-authored the National Park System Plan — Part II (Natural History) and prepared a national park system plan (natural history) for Greece.

Jim's boss, Don Field, has expressed great enthusiasm for the appointment, and is showing his appreciation by burying Larson under a mountain of administrative work. Just before he went under for the third time (when the picture was taken) Jim was still smiling.