

## CORPORATE AWARD



### **Humboldt Water Resources, Arcata, California**

The Corporate Award is made annually in one of six categories to identify and recognize a corporation, business, division, program, or an individual of a company for its accomplishments in incorporating sound ecological concepts, knowledge, and practices into its planning and operating procedures. This award was designed to encourage the use of ecological concepts in business and industry and to enhance communication among ecologists and the private sector. The Corporate Award in 1999 was made in Sustainability of Biological Resources in Aquatic Environments. The winner of the 1999 Corporate Award is Humboldt Water Resources, a privately owned and operated company in Arcata, California. The owner, Mike Wilson, is a graduate of the Environmental Resources Engineering Department, Humboldt State University, and his partner is Laura Kadlecik. They provide services in integrated water and land use water and wastewater treatment, and technology transfer. (See their home page: <[www.humboldt1.com/~water](http://www.humboldt1.com/~water)> Their work continues an on-going commitment by the City of Arcata to incorporate innovative, community-based development of managed marshes and wetlands into the community's planning. This small company provides a model for others interested in working to create new wetland habitats for many wildlife species, while also taking advantage of natural ecosystem services to treat stormwater runoff and some types of waste water. They emphasize restoration of populations of native species in their designs.

Professor Robert Gearheart of Humboldt State University provided some of the history related to earlier wetland studies in Arcata. Bob Ornelas, Mayor of Arcata, also wrote to support the nomination. Other individuals who have been supportive via e-mail and telephone include: Luke George and Charles Chamberlain of Humboldt State University, Mark Andree of the City of Arcata, and Prof. George Allen, retired professor at Humboldt State University, who pioneered the first city-owned, constructed wetlands for wastewater treatment. His work and the more recent studies by Professor Robert Gearheart and his students place this community in the forefront of wetland research.

The company is active in the use of constructed wetlands and filter strips for managing stormwater runoff and wastewater reuse. Their work within the community in Arcata extends from municipal wetland projects to Native American projects that incorporate best management practices into their designs. They also work internationally (a project in Belize) to provide for erosion control, wetland preservation (in temperate and tropical regions), and environmental monitoring. They incorporate recreational and cultural values in their planning to optimize their sustainable management of water resources and to provide habitat for a wide variety of fish and wildlife.

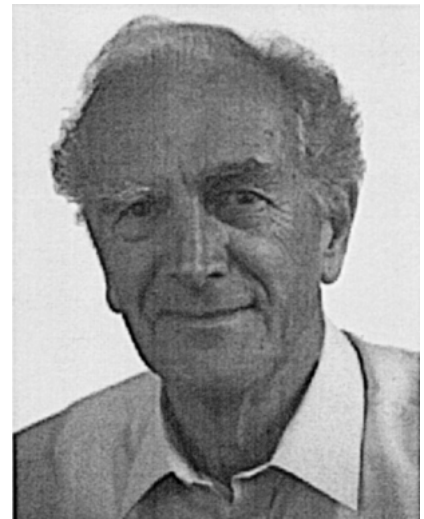
One current notable project is the restoration of a 20-acre site including native and wetland regions for the United Indian Health Services in Arcata. They are working closely with a consortium of native people to restore this site so that native plants can be harvested for medicinal herbs, basket making, and edible plants. The site had been intensely grazed and tilled since 1920. The plans to create a new marsh have incorporated use of native plants and restoration of topographic relief to maintain the site in a sustainable manner. Their work incorporates principles of wetland science and engineering along with multicultural values. In this latest restoration effort, they have demonstrated their ability to integrate wetland plants, stormwater treatment, habitat values, aes-

thetic values, respect for the historical setting of a Native American site, and planning for a health-care facility into a successful and sustainable project.

### **Corporate Award Subcommittee**

Alan Covich (Chair), Susan Galatowitsch, Donald Hey, Judith Li, Catherine Pringle

## HONORARY MEMBER AWARD



**John Robert Lewis**

Honorary membership in the Ecological Society of America is awarded to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the field of ecology, and who live and work outside the United States, Mexico, and Canada.

The 1999 Honorary Member is Dr. John Robert (Jack) Lewis. Dr. Lewis is the former Director of the Wellcome Marine Laboratory of the University of Leeds in Robin Hood's Bay, Yorkshire, United Kingdom. He holds both a Ph.D. and the Doctor of Science degree from the University of Wales.

Over his 50-year career, Jack Lewis' distinguished, visionary work has inspired generations of ecologists around the world. His pioneering studies of the distribution and abundance of littoral plants and animals over the entire rocky coastline of the British Isles provided an extraordinarily broad