

Biography

Environmental Council of the States, Past President Dick Pedersen

Dick Pedersen started his job at the helm of Oregon's top green agency in June 2008. Although he's only been Director for a few years, his career in environmental protection has been years in the making. Dick is a scientist—he has a combined degree in Biology and Chemistry from Carroll College—and a career public servant with more than 30 years experience in both federal and state environmental programs including the Fish and Wildlife Service of the US Department of Interior, Montana's Natural Resource Program, and Oregon DEQ. Pedersen has worked at DEQ since 1996 in a variety of positions including Administrator of the agency's Northwest region and Land Quality Division, and deputy director. If you ask him, he'll tell you he's done every job in environmental protection job there is, from taking stream samples, to testing them, to working on basin issues and permitting, to hazardous and solid waste management. Pedersen currently serves as ECOS Past President.