

Rich Walters

2015 West 49th St.
Kearney, NE 68845
(308) 390-2511

Education

Masters of Science, Wildlife Biology
University of Nebraska at Kearney, Kearney, NE May 2003

Bachelor of Science in Biology with Wildlife Emphasis
University of Nebraska at Kearney, Kearney, NE May 1997

Experience

- THE NATURE CONSERVANCY Omaha , NE
(1/2013-present)
- Director of Conservation**
- Formed and implemented a shared land management team philosophy for all Nebraska TNC land stewards
 - Oversee all Nebraska TNC fee land holdings and conservation easements encompassing approximately 126,000 acres
 - Supervise all land management team employees for TNC, ranging from 8-9 full time and 1-3 part time employees.
 - Represent TNC on multiple statewide partnerships, including but not limited to Sandhills Task Force, Rainwater Basin Joint Venture, Platte River Recovery and Implementation Program, Nebraska Weed Management Area Coalition
 - Great Plains Division lead on developing and implementing a sustainable grazing strategy
 - Create and oversee contracts, wildlife enhancement agreements, cost-share programs with partners and grant submission and implementation
- THE NATURE CONSERVANCY WOOD RIVER, NE
(2/08 – 1/2013)
- Implementation/Evaluation Coordinator**
- Implement landowner management agreements for the Platte River Habitat Partnership Projects focusing on restoring and managing habitats for endangered species
 - Evaluation of historic management along the Platte River - created a G.I.S. layer showing all management activities within the critical habitat stretch of the river.
 - Coordinated invasive species control within the Platte River through the Platte Valley and West Central Weed Management Association
 - Cooperating with RWBJV staff and other partners on an Adaptive Management program for managing publically owned Rainwater Basins of South Central Nebrask
- NEBRASKA GAME AND PARKS COMMISSION KEARNEY, NE
(11/06 – 02//08)
- Waterfowl and Private Lands Biologist**
- Plan and conduct/or assist with state and federally coordinated waterfowl surveys
 - Assist in administrating wildlife habitat programs for private landowners
 - Identify and coordinate Canada goose banding efforts
 - Perform other wildlife surveys: pheasant crowing surveys, August road side surveys, dove calling surveys, turkey brood surveys, deer check stations and CWD testing.
 - Represent Nebraska on regional planning committees

NEBRASKA GAME AND PARKS COMMISSION

KEARNEY, NE

Fish and Wildlife Biologist II

(3/01-11/06)

- Duties include land management activities on 18 Wildlife Management Areas
- Developed 5 year federal aid plan, annual work plans, and budget plans
- Perform a variety of wildlife surveys: grouse counts, anuran survey, quail listening survey, pheasant crow count survey, August road side survey, variety of nongame surveys.
- Perform aerial waterfowl surveys: Mid-Winter waterfowl count, Sandhill Crane survey, May breeding duck survey, Greater-White Fronted geese survey in Canada, teal observation blinds, Platte River chronology survey, Motion-wing decoy study, Bald Eagle survey, Trumpeter Swan Survey
- Coordinate deer check-in stations, summarize harvest data and assist with big game recommendations.
- Work with to design and implement research projects including: Waterfowl Roosting and Effects On Water Quality, Herpetology monitoring, River Otter Food Habits, Phragmites Water Use and Control Techniques.
- Involved with Inter-agency planning efforts: Strategic Plan, Nebraska Natural Legacy Project, represent Nebraska on the MCP Sandhill Crane Management team

NEBRASKA GAME AND PARKS COMMISSION

KEARNEY, NE

Conservation Technician - Wildlife

(9/96-4/97)(2/98-4/98)(2/99-4/99)(2/00-3/01)

- Duties include Lesser Snow Goose population surveys (visual estimates, line-distance estimates, aerial surveys, random block surveys), cholera pick-up efficiency study, waterfowl inventories on Basins, scientific collection of waterfowl for research
- Perform anuran surveys, pheasant crowing surveys, August roadside surveys, Mid winter waterfowl and eagle survey
- Perform wildlife management duties including: disking, tilling, plowing, operating a seed harvester, establishing food plots, taking vegetation samples, monitoring vegetation within WMA's, establishing fire breaks, noxious weed control, handling wildlife depredation complaints
- Perform prescribed burns on wetland basins and upland vegetation
- Radio telemetry, rocket-netting, and transponder chip experience

LONG PINE INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

Manager and Corn Scout

(summers 1993-1996)

- Duties included corn scouting tasks, making contracts between farmers and the association and vehicle maintenance.

Publications

Ackerman, Josh et al., Effectiveness of spinning wing decoys varies among dabbling duck species and locations. *Journal of Wildlife Management*.
(Reviewed and accepted by JWM)

Rainwater Basin Wetland Complex South-Central Nebraska Vegetation Mapping and Monitoring Project. USFWS final report October 22, 2004.

Assisted other publications related to grassland response to wildfires, reviewed publications relating to Platte River ecology and management issues