

# UC Berkeley

## The George Wright Forum

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Sigurd F. Olson, 1899-1982

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#### **ABOUT THE GEORGE WRIGHT FORUM**

*The George Wright Forum* was the journal of the George Wright Society from 1981 through 2018, published in 35 volumes with a total of 125 issues. Its mission was to “examine critical issues and present new research related to parks, protected areas, and cultural sites around the world.” The hallmark of the journal was its interdisciplinary approach, covering all fields relevant to natural and cultural heritage stewardship.

Early volumes of the journal did not carry dates embedded on each page, so that information is provided on this cover sheet.

*The George Wright Forum* ceased publication at the end of 2018. Beginning in 2020, it is continued by *Parks Stewardship Forum*, an open-access journal co-published by the George Wright Society and the University of California, Berkeley, Institute for Parks, People, and Biodiversity. *Parks Stewardship Forum* continues both the mission and the interdisciplinary approach of *The George Wright Forum*. The first volume of *Parks Stewardship Forum* is denominated as Volume 36 to indicate this continuity. *Parks Stewardship Forum* is published at <https://escholarship.org/uc/psf> and has been selected by the Library of Congress to be archived as “an important and valuable addition to our collections and to the historical record.”

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We recommend that you use the DOI (Digital Object Identifier) as the weblink. DOIs for each article are available at *The George Wright Forum's* permanent archive website, <https://escholarship.org/uc/gwf>.

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When citing, please note that the definite article “The” is part of the journal’s title.

#### **ABOUT THE GEORGE WRIGHT SOCIETY**

The George Wright Society supports parks, protected/conserved areas, cultural sites, and other kinds of place-based conservation by encouraging communication among and convenings of researchers, managers, educators, practitioners, and the public to facilitate informed decisions and actions that embrace our values.

GWS is a membership organization and we would welcome your support. To find out more, or to donate, please go to <https://www.georgewrightssociety.org>.

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If wolves exhibit a moderate rebuilding of numbers within a couple of years, as we expect, this predator-prey system should soon approximate the state de-

scribed 25 years ago. Accumulating evidence suggests that we are witnessing a predator-prey cycle with an extended period of fluctuation.

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SIGURD F. OLSON, 1899-1982

Few have had as great an influence on our understanding of the natural world—and our comprehension of human good—as Sig Olson. Many eloquent words have been written about Sig since his death on 13 January, and we can only applaud them as we remember Sig's enormous contribution to our consciences. In the mid-1960s Sig was a member of the [USNPS] Director's Natural Sciences Advisory Committee, along with Stanley Cain and Starker Leopold. This Committee probably had more influence on the future of scientific research in the parks than any other factor or person. Sig was always a thoughtful participant in meetings of the Committee; as was characteristic of him, when he spoke everyone knew he had an important contribution to the discussion and everyone listened. In fact, it was impossible for anyone not to listen—Sig always spoke truth kindly and poetically, no matter the subject or heat of the moment.

Sigurd Olson died after 82 beautiful years while snowshoeing in his beloved north woods country near Ely, Minnesota. In the cabin he used for thought and writing his typewriter contained a sheet of paper with the words:

"A new adventure is coming up,  
and I know it's going to be a great one."

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