

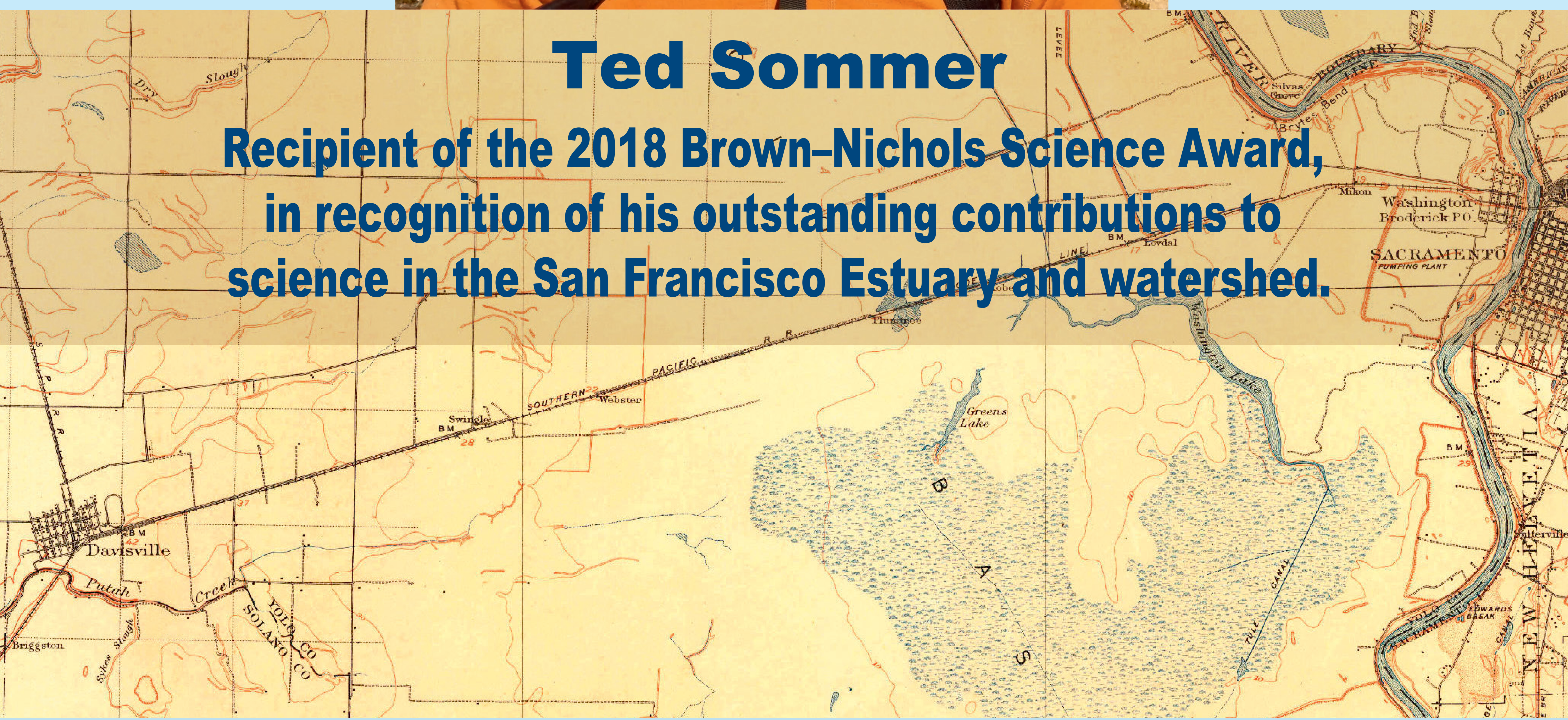
Congratulations...



He is a leading researcher on native fishes, with studies on salmon biology, native fishes, floodplain ecology, food webs, and hydrology. Since 2001 Dr. Sommer has published more than 50 research articles in peer-reviewed scientific publications. Career highlights included many collaborative and multi-disciplinary efforts including founding the Yolo Bypass floodplain monitoring program, co-leading the Pelagic Organism Decline research effort, and synthesis of long-term data to address management questions (e.g. Delta Smelt, Chinook Salmon, Sacramento Splittail, and Striped Bass). He is particularly excited about his recent large scale adaptive management studies: the Knaggs Project (salmon habitat); the Suisun Marsh Salinity Control Gate Action (Smelt habitat); and the North Delta Food Web Action (food web support). Throughout his career Dr. Sommer has placed high value in mentoring younger scientists at DWR and other organizations. He is proud of the fact that his recruits and former staff work in multiple parts of the Bay-Delta science community including state agencies, federal agencies, NGOs, and consulting firms.

Ted Sommer received his MS and PhD from University of California at Davis, where he studied under noted fisheries biologist and Brown-Nichols Award winner, Dr. Peter Moyle. Early in his career he focused on aquaculture projects, including research in France, Australia and the southern California desert. After returning from overseas, Dr. Sommer began his long career with California Department of Water Resources in 1991 under Dr. Randy Brown. Early on in his work at DWR, Dr. Sommer founded the Feather River fish monitoring program, which has continued for more than two decades. His work moved progressively downstream to the Bay-Delta, where he has helped manage the Interagency Ecological Program since the late 1990s.

Dr. Sommer currently serves as the first Lead Scientist for DWR, guiding the department's aquatic science efforts, particularly for the Delta and its tributaries. A key part of his work is to provide scientific input and recommendations to DWR and other agencies about resource management decisions for Bay-Delta aquatic species and habitats.



Ted Sommer

Recipient of the 2018 Brown-Nichols Science Award, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to science in the San Francisco Estuary and watershed.



The Brown-Nichols Science Award has been established to honor the substantive contributions of Dr. Randall Brown and Dr. Frederic Nichols to science, their facilitation of good science by others, and their communication of science to managers and policy makers in the San Francisco Estuary and watershed.

