

# James (Jim) Bendell



James Francis Sidney (Jim) Bendell dedicated his life to wildlife research and making the world and its environment a better place than what his generation started with. He was loved by his many students across Canada, some even calling him “Uncle Jimmy.” Jim was born in 1926 in the east end of Toronto. He obtained his BSc. (Honours Science) at the University of Toronto. He moved on to the University of British Columbia (UBC) where he obtained his PhD in population ecology. Jim was a founding member of the Wildlife Research Station in Ontario, Algonquin Park. He attributes his experience at the research station as his “entry” into a new world of biological science. His central scientific interest was *how is animal density regulated?* Grouse were his study subject in a variety of projects while he was a lecturer at Queens University, Associate Professor at UBC, and Full Professor at the University of Toronto in the Faculty of Forestry. He was doing final edits on a manuscript on how moisture in the forest floor affects the incubation of eggs of Spruce and Ruffed Grouse up to the time of his passing. Jim was President and founding member of the BC Natural History Society and the Canadian Society of Environmental Biologists. He was Director of the Queen’s Biology Station and the Reifel Waterfowl Reserve in British Columbia.

In 2008, he was the proud recipient of the ‘Champion of Nature’ award from the Mississippi Valley Field Naturalists. He also worked with Fred Zwickel to publish “Blue Grouse: Their Biology and Natural History” in 2004 for which they received The Wildlife Society Publication award in 2005. Jim was much loved and supported in his work by his wife Yvonne and their five children. Jim Bendell passed away in January 2020.