



Ovenbird

Sharon Ann (Brady) Wander

Education

Ph.D. in Ecology, Rutgers University, 1985. Thesis topic: Comparative breeding biology of the Ovenbird in large vs. fragmented forests: Implications for the conservation of neotropical migrant birds.

B.S. in Wildlife Ecology, Cook College, Rutgers University, 1976. With Highest Honors.

B.A. in English, Carnegie Institute of Technology, 1964. With High Honors.

Teaching Experience

Dr. Wander held graduate teaching assistantships at Rutgers University in General Biology, General Ecology, Dendrology, Ornithology, and Wildlife Ecology

From 1990-2007, she was affiliated with the Cook College Office of Continuing Professional Education (OCPE), for which she taught field courses in Summer and Winter Vegetation Identification for Freshwater Wetland Delineation. From 1997-2007, she and Wade Wander organized, and made presentations in, annual courses on identification, regulation, and habitat assessment of Threatened and Endangered Species in New Jersey for the OCPE, and in 2005 and 2007 conducted a field course in Endangered Species Habitat Assessment. The classroom presentations and field course are ongoing.

The Wanders have also presented a wetlands awareness course to maintenance employees of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, and a field short course in identification of wetland vegetation to employees of the New York State Department of Transportation.

Professional Experience

1964-1973—Between her graduation from Carnegie Institute of Technology (1964) and resuming her college education at Cook College (1973), she was employed in various positions as a copy editor and copywriter. Her copy-editing experience includes full-time and freelance positions with Prentice-Hall, Inc., Macmillan & Co., and Rutgers University Press.

1984-Present—In 1984, Sharon and Wade Wander formally established their full-time environmental consulting practice, Wander Ecological Consultants, of which she is Managing Partner. The firm specializes in wetland delineation and permitting, endangered species surveys, avifauna studies, flora and fauna inventories, environmental impact statements, and environmental reviews. Dr. Wander served as a member of the New Jersey Highlands Council Ecosystem Management Technical Advisory Committee.

Publications

Brady, S.A., and J.S. Shisler. 1982. Effects of stream alteration on the avifauna of a shrub-swamp: preliminary assessment. Proceedings of the Sixty-ninth Annual Meeting of the New Jersey Mosquito Control Association. Pp. 107-114.

Wander, W., and S.A. Brady. 1980. Summer Tanager and Red-headed Woodpecker in the Pinelands. NJ Audubon VI(3):34-37.

Leck, C.F., S.A. Brady, and W. Wander. 1982. The effects of canopy opening on breeding and migrant birds at Hutcheson Memorial Forest. The William F. Hutcheson Memorial Forest Bulletin 6:20-23.

Wander, S.A., and W. Wander. 1985. Observations at a Northern Waterthrush nest. Journal of Field Ornithology 56(1):69.

Wander, W., and S.A. Wander. 2000. Wetland dependent butterflies of the Northeast. Wetland Journal 12(2): 14-21.

Professional Certifications

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Certified Wetland Delineator WDCP94MD0310150B
- Society of Wetland Scientists Certified Wetland Professional 000676
- Certified Ornithologist by the NJ Department of Environmental Protection

Other Relevant Skills and Experience

- Dr. Wander is knowledgeable in the field of butterfly identification and butterfly gardening. She is Director of the national Butterfly Count Program for the North American Butterfly Association (NABA), and organized butterfly surveys (by the NABA-North Jersey chapter) of New Jersey Wildlife Management Areas for the NJ Endangered and Nongame Species Program.
- Dr. Wander is former co-editor of North American Bird-Bander, the technical publication of the Eastern, Inland, and Western Bird-Banding Associations.

Affiliations

Dr. Wander's affiliations include the Society of Wetland Scientists, the Association of State Wetland Managers, the Wildlife Society, the New Jersey Audubon Society, the Xerces Society, and the North American Butterfly Association.