

Christopher J. Keleher

Recovery Programs Assistant Director, Utah Department of Natural Resources

Education:

B.S. Biology, State University of New York College at Brockport

M.S. Zoology and Physiology, University of Wyoming

Experience:

Over 25 years experience in research, conservation and management of fish and wildlife including: 15 years experience in conservation of native species in Utah; effective coordination with federal, state, local, and university partners in collaborative research and endangered species recovery efforts; knowledge and training in federal and state laws including the Endangered Species Act, National Environmental Policy Act, Clean Water Act, and Utah State Water Law; leadership in sensitive, threatened and endangered species recovery efforts; design, implementation and publication of scientific research; budget and contract management; and, aquatic biota sampling, monitoring and habitat inventory techniques. For eight years served as the Recovery Coordinator for the June Sucker Recovery Implementation Program with responsibilities that included: coordinating multi-agency effort to ensure Endangered Species Act compliance for water development and operations; coordinating recovery efforts for the endangered June sucker; coordinating annual work plan development with multi-agency partners; developing scopes of work and requests for proposals for recovery activities; managing contracts for research and recovery activities; chairing the Technical Committee for the Recovery Program; representing the Recovery Program with local elected officials, stakeholders, and members of the public; serving as technical advisor on the informational book Utah Lake: Legacy; and, authoring public interest articles on Utah Lake and the Recovery Program.