

Charles A. Pelizza Jr.

Charles is currently employed as the Senior Wildlife Biologist at the Sonny Bono Salton Sea National Wildlife Refuge. His positions' duties involve supervising habitat management activities for a broad range of migratory and resident bird species, and also the administration and coordination of the Wildlife Disease Response Program on the Salton Sea. The Disease Response Program is a multi-agency effort focused on the recovery and rehabilitation of the California Brown Pelican, and other species, from the effects of botulism toxin.

Charles has been employed by the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Refuges for 22 years. He has held various biological positions with Refuges along the East Coast and Midwest. Prior to arriving at the Salton Sea in December of 2000, he held a regional biologist position for Refuges in South Dakota. His undergraduate education was completed at Elmira College, Elmira, New York in 1982. He completed his graduate training at the University of South Dakota, Vermillion, SD in June, 2001. His research interests have included: the wintering ecology of Trumpeter Swans; foraging behavior of Lesser Snow Geese and Ross' Geese; and most recently the recovery and long term survival of California Brown Pelicans affected by botulism at the Salton Sea.