

# Introduction (continued)

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# The role of activists



- Define/frame problems
- Move the middle
- Motivate the public and politicians

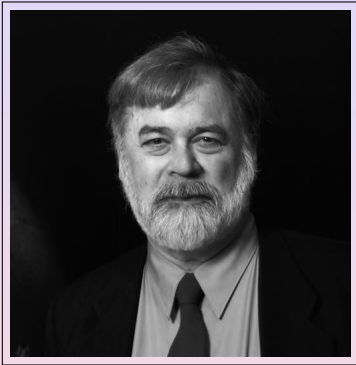
# The role of scientists

- Identify environmental problems
- Refine our knowledge
- Communicate research results—Tell the story



# Niles Eldredge

Our narratives—our stories—should give kids a sense of the intellectual (and sometimes derring-do!) adventures of actually doing science. If we let storytelling like this into the science curriculum, we instantly humanize science, make it relevant to the random child, and automatically make it seem more inviting, less hard. We can do this without watering down scientific rigor, with its canons of evidence that are justly the hallmark of scientific research, innovation, and progress.



# The role of economists



# Action or inaction

Prevention is usually cheaper than remediation.



# Government-policy shapers

- Legislators
- Administrators
- Judges



New EPA Head Michael Regan

# Non-governmental influencers

- NGOs and advocates
- Experts
- The media





# The policy-making process

## Congress Passes Bipartisan Water Infrastructure Legislation

**December 22, 2020**

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Today, U.S. Senators John Barrasso (R-WY) and Tom Carper (D-DE) released the following statements on Congress passing the Water Resources Development Act of 2020 (WRDA 2020). The legislation was included in the omnibus. The legislation passed the Senate by a vote of 91 to 7. The bill will now go to President Trump to be signed into law.

“Congress has passed significant bipartisan legislation to improve our dams, ports, flood-prevention infrastructure, reservoirs, and water systems,” **said Barrasso**. “The Water Resources Development Act will get our economy moving again. It will help ensure American-made goods are shipped safely from the heartland, to the coasts, and around the world. The Water Resources Development Act will keep communities safe and cut red tape. I am thankful to Ranking Member Carper for his partnership, and I look forward to President Trump signing the Water Resources Development Act into law.”

- Set agenda
- Formulate alternatives
- Make decisions
- Implement
- Evaluate

Iowa should ban manure application for Nov-Mar



'What they put on the fields contaminates our water': Iowa's pollution problem