

**STATEMENT OF DR. EDWARD S. DEEVEY, SECTION HEAD,
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Dr. DEEVEY. The statement I prepared covers a number of things and will take too long to read it; so, with your permission, I will touch a few of the high spots.

It describes in some detail the situation of research support for ecology as we in the National Science Foundation are in a position to see it.

I will preface this by pointing out that, although I am temporarily on official duty, I have been an ecologist for over 35 years and expect soon to return to academic life. To establish what kind of an ecologist I am, I have practiced limnology and paleolimnology, the study of lakes and the history of environment as recorded in lake mud, and I believe the term that best describes my long-term interest is historical ecology.

I indicated, I must confess, chiefly for Congressman Fulton's benefit, were he to be here, that I knew about eutrophication in 1938 and may have been possibly the first to introduce the word from the German language into English. I am mentioning these things because ecology is very hard to define and a forest ecologist or population biologist or environmental physiologist would probably give you a slightly different perspective. Those descriptions were not intended to apply specifically to Dr. Cantlon and Dr. Cole and Dr. Sargent, but in point of fact they come reasonably close. So I am a limnologist and will give you a slightly different perspective, but I think only slightly different, because ecology is concerned with complex living systems and all of these things are complex living systems.

I will first define ecology as the study of life in environment.

So much that is specifically human—sociology, social psychology, urban ecology, et cetera—is included in that definition, and so much that is also called environmental science could be included, that one rapidly draws more narrowly the limits of competence that ecologists draw for themselves. They are biologists and members of teaching departments of biology.

In that context they say they deal with the mutual relations between animals, plants, and their environment. They are concerned with physical properties of environment because they affect physiologies, but they usually place the emphasis on other animals and plants as the most relevant components of an organism's environment; but they also say at once that that subject as so defined is not the whole of ecology, it is environmental biology. Man has an ecology too, but ecologists do not always place man in the center of the picture. They don't claim to be expert in everything under the sun.

Skipping them a little bit about whether there is or is not a department of ecology on an American campus, I learned from Dr. Cole, this morning, that there is indeed one department of environmental biology. I was going to describe in some detail the research support program in the National Science Foundation especially within my program which is called environmental biology. We think we are in close touch with most of the leading practitioners and graduate teachers in the field because we support much of their research, but the de-