

A Government* Perspective on the Current State of Entomology and What it Takes to Excel Today and Survive in the Future

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*Actually Dan Strickman's perspective

Some Numbers

- ~6000 members of ESA
- ~170 entomologists in ARS now
- ~200 entomologists in ARS four years ago
- 29 open positions on USAJobs
 - 14 not really entomology
 - 2 permanent
 - Top pay range \$34,412 to \$125,695
- Higher paying jobs more specialized



Kinds of Work

FUNCTIONS

- Technical
- Operational
- Research
- Administrative

AGENCIES

- USDA
- HHS
- EPA
- DoD
- DoI
- NSF



Excellerate

- Operations
 - See through
 - Drive through
 - Follow through
- Research
 - Satisfy
 - Innovate
 - Communicate
 - Develop
- Administration
 - Serve
 - Provide
 - Lead
 - Say “no”
- **EVERYONE HAS A BOSS**



Survive

The Ideal

- Have a goal
- Make a plan
- Work for early successes
- Adjust as necessary
- Be willing to accept personal disruption

Sometimes the Reality

- Get a foot in the door
- Make yourself indispensable
- Avoid trouble
- Be positive
- Be willing to accept personal disruption



The Future

- Grand sorting of traditional skills
- We need a breakthrough in effectiveness
- Tension between more specialized training and more flexible work goals
- Greater biological challenges

AT THE END OF THE DAY....



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THE BUGS WILL DECIDE



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