



# POLICY – Retired Members and Volunteering

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*Approved November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2005*

Volunteers are individuals who contribute time and a service typically to a not-for-profit cause in the belief that their activity is beneficial to others as well as satisfying to themselves. Volunteers who are Retired Professional Biologists represent a wide range of experiences, education and professional training and can therefore be an important asset to the community.

Rule 7.1.2.1 states that a retired member “Not be eligible to engage in the practice of applied biology in either a paid or voluntary capacity”.

## Interpretation

This rule does not mean that retired RPBios cannot volunteer their time to local organizations or causes. Christmas bird counts, Habitat Acquisition Trust initiatives, stream rehabilitation tasks are some of the varied activities that Retired Professional Biologists become involved in. These undertakings are all acceptable within Rule 7.1.2.1. If, however, the information gathered or task undertaken by the Retired member was to be used by these organizations or others to structure or develop policy or guidelines or to inform a legal undertaking, the Rule would be contravened. In other words, it is not whether an RPBio is charging for their services that dictates whether they need to continue to pay the dues of an Active practicing member; it is the type of tasks the individual is undertaking and how that information is used.

Where an individual or organization is going to rely on the information provided by an RPBio, that information may only be provided by an RPBio who is in the Active category, and not by an individual in the Retired category. It is the obligation of the retired member to inform the organization of the appropriate use of the information they provide.