



NMFA AWARDS RULES AND INFORMATION

General Background

The National Military Fish and Wildlife Association (NMFWA) is dedicated to providing for natural resource management on Department of Defense lands and waters in support of the military mission of the Armed Services. NMFWA supports the military mission through ensuring it complies with federal regulations protecting natural resources in a manner consistent with no net loss to the military mission, encouraging problem-solving strategies, science, management, projects and partnerships which support this goal.

NMFWA awards provide a mechanism to recognize volunteers, colleagues, service organizations and others that have been instrumental in supporting the military mission through natural resources management on DoD lands. NMFWA awards reflect the mission and goals of NMFWA to promote communication and partnership between natural resource professionals; coordination of DoD command levels for resolution of common problems; sound, professional natural resource management; and awareness and promotion of the military's conservation of natural resources.

General Rules

- Anyone can nominate award candidates. No one may nominate themselves or a family member. Awards can be given to individuals or groups. Awards recognize work above and beyond work requirements.
- **In order to qualify**, nominations must include fully completed ballots and a narrative of 1000 words or less, covering the following topics: the nominee's accomplishments, **a)** why they deserve this award, and **b)** how their achievements meet the intent of the award and **c)** how their achievements meet the ranking criteria.
- **General** award categories are for short-term achievements (< 5 years), while the **presidential** awards are for long-term and lifetime achievements.

General Awards

- Nominations for **general** awards are open to all. Nominees need not be NMFWA members or DoD employees. Nominees for general awards can be volunteers, professional DoD personnel, or non-DoD personnel.
- Send **general** awards nominations to the Awards Committee Chair lisa.markovchick@navy.mil.

Presidential Awards

- Nominations for **presidential** awards are open to specific groups as follows: 1) Bio-political Leadership award nominations are open to all, 2) Laurence Jahn nominations are open to non-DoD employees and non-NMFWA members only, 3) NMFWA lifetime achievement awards are open to NMFWA members only, and 4) NMFWA Historical Conservation Achievement awards are open to all.
- Send **presidential** awards nominations to the Immediate Past President at Michael.F.Passmore@usace.army.mil.

Time Table

Nominations should be closed by January 15, and selection made by the committee by February 20 for presentation at the March Annual Training Workshop Awards banquet at the Association's workshop.

Awards Ceremony

Awards are handed out during the awards ceremony at the annual training workshop. The Chair generally announces the individuals and their achievements, and the President concurrently hands out the awards. Recipients receive official certificates of recognition and plaques honoring their achievement, as well as being honored by an awards luncheon in their honor and/or honorary attendance at the annual training workshop banquet.

Award Categories and Definitions

NMFWA awards are divided into two categories, general special achievement awards for short-term (less than or equal to 5 years) and presidential awards for long-term / lifetime achievements.

General Awards

1. Military Natural Resource Conservation Research.

This award is intended to recognize technicians, scientists, researchers, volunteers, and personnel from non-profit organizations, government agencies, academic institutions, contractors, cooperators, and the DoD who have contributed to significant research that has either taken place on a military installation or was funded by DoD funds, in any of the areas of research listed below. The subject research should improve the understanding and management of natural resources on DoD lands in support of the military mission.

- a) Fish & wildlife
- b) Vegetation
- c) Insects
- d) Ecosystem / Cross-species interactions
- e) Pest management/Invasive species control
- f) Pollution prevention & cleanup / clean air & water

2. Natural Resource Conservation Management, Model Programs / Projects.

This award category is intended to recognize resource managers (including but not limited to technicians, program managers, biologists, and project managers), regardless of their source of employment, who further natural resource management on military installations in support of the military mission through developing programs or projects which can serve as models for conservation on military installations.

3. Natural Resource Conservation Management, Policy.

This award category is intended to recognize policy-makers, regardless of their source of employment, who further natural resource management on military installations in support of the military mission through the creation or interpretation of natural resource legislation and policy.

4. Natural Resource Conservation Management, Enforcement.

This award category is intended to recognize game wardens, conservation officers, police officers, range regulation enforcers, wildlife services personnel, lawyers and judges who have contributed to natural resource conservation on military lands in support of the military mission through their enforcement of law, policy, and regulations.

5. Natural Resources Conservation Communication, Military Involvement.

This award category is intended to recognize those who increase military involvement in or understanding of natural resource conservation on military installations. This includes both military personnel who take part in conservation and natural resource personnel who promote and foster military involvement and understanding in support of the military mission. Recipients may include but are not limited to volunteers, educators, negotiators, public affairs personnel, journalists, and military personnel.

6. Natural Resources Conservation Communication, Conservation Partnerships.

This award category is intended to recognize those who develop fruitful partnerships benefiting natural resource conservation on military installations in support of the military mission. This includes both DoD personnel who take part in conservation and external organization representatives who promote and foster partnerships with the DoD. Recipients may include but are not limited to volunteers, educators, negotiators, public affairs personnel, journalists, and DoD natural resource personnel, non-profit staff, and non-DoD government staff.

7. Natural Resources Conservation Communication, Promoting Public Awareness.

This award category is intended to recognize those who promote public awareness of the military role in conserving the nation's natural resource legacy. This includes both DoD personnel who promote better external understanding of natural resource conservation on DoD lands, and external organization representatives who promote external awareness of these issues. Recipients may include but are not limited to volunteers, educators, negotiators, public affairs personnel, journalists, and DoD natural resource personnel, non-profit staff, and non- DoD government staff.

Presidential Awards

8. Award for Bio-Political Leadership.

The award was established to recognize outstanding bio-political leadership, commitment, and ethics on behalf of or affecting wildlife and natural resources on military lands. In particular, bio-political actions, where personal risk is involved and progress towards ultimate success is achieved, are the focus of this award. For the purposes of this award, bio-politics is defined as that arena where biological decisions may be influenced as much, or more, by political factors as they are by sound science. The award was formally established at the 1994 annual meeting. Any individual or group who fulfills the purpose of the award (above) is eligible. The award may be presented for either short-term or long-term accomplishments. Nominations should be submitted to the Immediate Past-President, who will coordinate nomination reviews and approval among the Past-Presidents of the Association. Nominations for this award are open to all.

9. Laurence R. Jahn Award.

The Laurence R. Jahn Award was established to recognize a person(s) or organization(s) not directly affiliated with NMFVA that has donated time and energy over the course of their career toward making significant contributions to benefit natural resources policy and programs on DOD lands in support of the military mission. This special award was established in honor of Larry Jahn (deceased), a former President of WMI. Dr. Jahn provided tireless support to help NMFVA grow and become established within the national community of conservation organizations. Selection criteria are as follows:

- Nominee's actions must have had an impact at the national level.
- Nominee's efforts must have related to program and/or policy issues.
- Nominee's efforts must have extended far beyond the scope of normal duties and should involve considerable personal time and energy.
- Nominee's actions must have involved collaboration with other agencies and conservation organizations.

Nominations should be submitted to the Immediate Past-President, who will coordinate nomination reviews and approval among the Past-Presidents of the Association. Nominations for this award are open to non-DoD employees and non-NMFVA members.

10. NMFVA Lifetime Achievement Award.

This award category is intended to recognize those who have contributed significantly over the course of their career to NMFVA's progress as an organization and to conservation on DoD lands in support of the military mission. The current history-in-the-making and progress of NMFVA rests on the shoulders of giants – these are the giants. Nominations should be submitted to the Immediate Past-President, who will coordinate nomination reviews and approval among the Past-Presidents of the Association. Nominations for this award are limited to NMFVA-members only.

11. NMFVA Historical Conservation Achievement Award.

This award category is intended to recognize those who have played a historically significant role in preserving our national natural resource legacy, both on and off DoD lands in support of the military mission. Anyone who has made historically significant contributions to our nation's natural resource legacy is eligible. This award is intended to honor the legacy of these individuals, as well as preserve the history of the political battles, scientific breakthroughs, and policy changes that have created the national natural resource legacy we inherit today. Nominations should be submitted to the Immediate Past-President, who will coordinate nomination reviews and approval among the Past-Presidents of the Association. Nominations for this award are open to all.

Award Nomination Ranking

Nominees will be ranked in each award category based on the following criteria:

- To what extent does the achievement enhance the military mission?
- Is the nomination for work and effort above and beyond normal work duties?
- If the achievement nominated had not taken place, would this have represented a loss to mission capacity or the natural resource heritage of the country on DoD lands?
- How great of an impact did the achievement have on the DoD military mission and natural resource heritage, relative to the job scope of the individual or group involved?
- How great of a personal achievement does the nomination represent, given the resources available to the person / group involved?
- Does the achievement nominated increase efficiency or relations with the public, partners, or other DoD commands or departments?
- Does the achievement represent an improvement to ethical or scientific standards of conduct within the DoD community in support of the military mission?