

AWF 2024 Aldo Leopold Conservation Awards

The Arizona Wildlife Federation recognizes individuals and organizations that have made significant contributions to Arizona conservation over the course of the last 12 months, or for a lifetime of achievement, by annually presenting **AWF Aldo Leopold Conservation Awards** in several distinct categories. *While AWF presents awards annually, each award is only given when outstanding nominees are presented for that category.*

Any person or organization can make nominations for these awards by completing the [AWF Aldo Leopold Conservation Award Nomination Form](#) by Monday, April 8, 2024.

The Thomas E. McCulloch Memorial Award

For the most outstanding overall effort and achievement, or most significant contribution to the cause of a major conservation issue or project by a professional individual acting within the capacity of their respective career field or a non-professional contributing to the field, or for a lifetime of conservation efforts. These achievements can be in any field of natural resource management, including the enhancement and preservation of natural beauty, fish, wildlife, or habitat, etc.

Patti Ho Lifetime Achievement Award

For the most significant contribution of service to the Arizona Wildlife Federation by an individual during the tenure or tenures of service within the ranks of the organization. This effort should be those duties relating to office, board of directors, committees, or special projects wherein the efforts evolved significant dedication, change, or direction of Arizona Wildlife Federation involvement in issues, policies, or procedures, which enhanced the operation, status, finances, and performance of the Federation and collaborative efforts with AWF and its supporters.

Conservation Organization Partner of the Year

For the outstanding contribution to the conservation effort by an organization in the state during the period. Statewide or local bona fide organizations including, but not limited to, garden clubs, civic organizations, women's clubs, fishing clubs, shooting/hunting clubs, biking clubs, etc. Recipients should have demonstrated a keen interest in projects and programs within the state, which deal with basic and serious natural resource issues or problems and have evolved an action program stemming from that interest. Industrial firms may also be eligible for this award.

Volunteer Conservationist of the Year

This award is given to an outstanding volunteer in recognition of their success in leading restoration work, promoting conservation in their community, or volunteering directly with AWF frequently and significantly. It is a symbol of AWF's appreciation for volunteers' contributions and their dedication to protecting wildlife and wildlife habitat.

AWF Aldo Leopold Conservation Achievement Awards

These awards acknowledge a variety of contributions to conservation efforts in Arizona that support wildlife, public lands, habitat, gardening for wildlife, outreach, education, and any other efforts significant to conservation. *As with all awards, AWF presents these awards only when outstanding nominees are presented for that category.*

Sample awards are as follows.

AWF Aldo Leopold Conservation Achievement Award for ...

- **Government Agency Conservation:** Recognizing government agency staff for outstanding conservation accomplishment and collaborative efforts with AWF and its supporters.
- **Conservation Education:** Given to an individual or a group for original and significant work that promotes public understanding and appreciation of the present and future well-being of Arizona's wildlife, wildlife habitat, and natural systems.
- **Youth Conservationist of the Year:** Honors outstanding individuals who volunteer by giving of their time, their talents, and their service for outstanding conservation accomplishment.
- **Emerging Conservationist of the Year:** Honors outstanding individuals who have just begun on their conservation path, have made meaningful contributions to the field in the past year, and are clearly dedicated to conservation.
- **Legislative Conservation:** Honoring those who have made a special effort to protect or restore the environment or natural resources through the use of the law or elected office.
- **Media Coverage of Conservation:** Recognizing individuals in media for exemplary conservation achievement through their personal efforts and commitment.
- **Unique Contributions:** Individuals who have contributed significantly to Arizona conservation in ways not covered by the above categories can also be nominated to receive an Aldo Leopold conservation award.