

2015 NATIONAL WETLANDS AWARDS U.S. RAMSAR WETLANDS PHOTO CONTEST

Official Rules and Instructions

The Environmental Law Institute (ELI), U.S. EPA (EPA), and the U.S. National Ramsar Committee (USNRC) are pleased to announce the 2015 U.S. Ramsar Photography Contest. The contest will be administered in conjunction with the 2015 National Wetlands Awards (NWA) program. The contest reflects the commitment of ELI, EPA, and USNRC to engage the public in the protection and restoration of wetlands habitats. The photographs will be used to help raise awareness of Ramsar, NWA, and the importance of wetland protection throughout the country.

About Ramsar

The Ramsar Convention on wetlands is an intergovernmental treaty that was adopted on February 2, 1971. Over 160 countries, including the United States, are parties to the Ramsar Convention. Members are encouraged to designate sites as "wetlands of international importance." More than 2180 sites worldwide have been designated as wetlands of international importance, including 36 sites in the United States.

About NWA

NWA is an annual awards program that recognizes the work of wetland advocates in six categories: Conservation & Restoration; Education & Outreach; Science Research; State, Local, and Tribal Program Development; and Wetlands Community Leader. Award recipients are invited to an award ceremony in Washington, DC, and are provided with support to increase local and national awareness of their wetland achievements.

Scope of the Contest

ELI, EPA, and USNRC seek entries that convey the value of wetland habitats and the importance of wetland conservation and preservation through the work done by Ramsar. Photographs must be taken at and/or depict one of the 36 U.S. Ramsar wetland sites (listed on page 2). Extra consideration will be given to photographs that reflect the 2015 Ramsar theme, *Wetlands for our future*.

How to Enter*

Photographers of any age or skill level are encouraged to participate. A parent or guardian signature is required for an entrant under 18 to compete in the contest.

Submit an original photograph (digital format only) by e-mailing a completed and signed entry form and Grant of License form (page 4) along with your photo as an attachment to wetlandsawards@eli.org. Each e-mail must include an entry form and a single image. Photos should be saved with a resolution of 300 dpi and at the maximum quality setting, with a maximum file size of 5mb. Individuals may submit up to three (3) photos, but each photo must be submitted in a separate e-mail and have its own entry form and release form. Any questions should be directed to wetlandsawards@eli.org or call (202)939-3806.

The deadline to submit entries is April 24, 2015 at 11:59pm. The winning photographs will be announced and displayed at the NWA ceremony on May 21, 2015 in Washington, DC.

* If you are between the ages of 15-24, you are encouraged to also submit your photographs to Ramsar's World Wetlands Day Youth Photo Contest, details found here: <http://www.worldwetlandsday.org/photo-contest>. The deadline to enter this separate photography contest is March 2, 2015.

U.S. Ramsar Wetlands and Locations	
Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge	Nevada
Bolinas Lagoon	California
Cache-Lower White Rivers	Arkansas
Cache River-Cypress Creek Wetlands	Illinois
Caddo Lake	Texas
Catahoula Lake	Louisiana
Chesapeake Bay Estuarine Complex	Virginia
Cheyenne Bottoms	Kansas
Congaree National Park	South Carolina
Connecticut River Estuary & Tidal Wetlands Complex	Connecticut
Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary	Florida
Delaware Bay Estuary	Delaware, New Jersey
Edwin B Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge	New Jersey
Everglades National Park	Florida
Francis Beidler Forest	South Carolina
Grassland Ecological Area	California
Horicon Marsh	Wisconsin
Humbug Marsh	Michigan
Izembek Lagoon National Wildlife Refuge	Alaska
Kakagon and Bad River Sloughs	Wisconsin
Kawainui and Hamakua Marsh Complex	Hawaii
Laguna de Santa Rosa Wetland Complex	California
Missisquoi Delta and Bay Wetlands	Vermont
Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge	Georgia, Florida
Palmyra Atoll National Wildlife Refuge	Hawaii
Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge	Florida
Quivira National Wildlife Refuge	Kansas
Roswell Artesian Wetlands	New Mexico
Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge	South Dakota
San Francisco Bay/Estuary	California
Sue and Wes Dixon Waterfowl Refuge at Hennepin & Hopper Lakes	Illinois
The Emiquon Complex	Illinois
Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve	California
Tomales Bay	California
Upper Mississippi River Floodplain Wetlands	Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois
Wilma H. Schiermeier Olentangy River Wetland Research Park	Ohio

**2015 NATIONAL WETLANDS AWARDS
WETLANDS PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST**

Entry Form

Entrant Name	
Entrant E-mail	
Entrant Age	
Entrant Phone	
Entrant Address	
Photo Title/Caption	
Photo Date	
Ramsar Site Location	

Entrant's Signature

_____ Date _____

Parent or
Guardian Signature

_____ Date _____

(If entrant under age 18)

GRANT OF LICENSE

I, _____, ("Licensor") do hereby give, grant, and convey to the Environmental Law Institute, U.S. EPA, and U.S. National Ramsar Committee ("Licensees") a license for my photography submitted to the 2015 National Wetlands Awards U.S. Ramsar Wetlands Photo Contest.

The license conveyed is for my photography and any other related materials submitted in consideration for the contest in any digital, electronically retrievable format (jointly and separately referred to as "the Work"), and: my name; image, video, or voice recording; title; name of employer; and biographical information.

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Licensor retains the same rights in the Work as the Licensees. Such retained rights of the Licensor are reserved in all languages, forms, and media.

By signing below, I, the Licensor, represent and warrant that the Work is original and/or that I am authorized by its copyright holder to authorize Licensees' use of it as stated herein. I attach or will cause to be sent to Licensees written consent from any other copyright owner of a portion or all of the materials submitted as my Work authorizing their republication and use in the Awards.

This agreement shall not be deemed to create a work for hire.

Entrant's Signature _____ Date _____

Parent or Guardian _____ Date _____
(If entrant under age 18)