

**Native American Fish & Wildlife Society**

# **Award Policy**

**Chief Sealth,  
Biologist,  
and  
Conservation Officer**

Prepared by  
National Office Staff  
January, 1999

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# AWARD POLICY

## Table of Contents

	Page
<i>PURPOSE</i> .....	2
<i>SCOPE</i> .....	2
<i>DISCUSSION</i> .....	2
<i>1000.1 DEFINITION/CRITERIA</i> .....	3
<i>1000.1.1 Chief Sealth Award:</i> .....	3
<i>1000.1.2 Biologist Award:</i> .....	3
<i>1000.1.3 Conservation Officer Award:</i> .....	3
<i>1000.1.4 Selection Committee</i> .....	4
<i>1000.1.5 Nominator</i> .....	4
<i>1000.1.6 Non-Eligible recipient</i> .....	4
<i>1000.1.7 Nomination Package</i> .....	4
<i>1000.1.8 Nomination Deadline</i> .....	4
<i>1000.1.9 Required Information</i> .....	5
<i>1000.1.10 Optional Information</i> .....	5
<i>1000.2 SELECTION AND ANNOUNCEMENT PROCESS</i> .....	6
<i>1000.2.1 Package Announcement</i> .....	6
<i>1000.2.2 Package Delivery</i> .....	6
<i>1000.2.3 Award Approval</i> .....	6
<i>1000.2.4 Award Announcement</i> .....	6

## **AWARD POLICY**

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this document is to provide criteria for selecting the annual “Chief Sealth”, “Biologist” and “Conservation Officer” awards.

### **SCOPE**

Members of the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society shall follow the guidelines in this policy for submitting their recommendations to the Board of Directors. Additionally, the appointed committee to designate the awardees and the Board of Directors shall follow the guidelines contained within this policy in their selection and announcement, ensuring non-eligible submissions are not selected.

### **DISCUSSION**

The mission of the Society is to promote the prudent use of Native natural resources. This can only be accomplished through the dedication and hard work of all Society members. Awards for the “Biologist” and “Conservation Officer” will be given to two individual members, on a yearly basis, who best exemplifies his or her dedication and hard work. To honor these two individuals is not intended to diminish the contributions of other individuals but to reflect the accomplishments of those individuals involved in Native natural resource management activities. The “Chief Sealth” award shall honor one person who has made a significant and positive impact on Native natural resources.

## **1000.1 DEFINITION/CRITERIA**

### **1000.1.1 Chief Sealth Award:**

This award will go to anyone that works for a Tribe or agency in the natural resources field. This person should be working in the capacity of a director, manager, leader or similar position. This person is recognized for his exceptional work. This person is someone who has worked to develop their program in the name of fish and wildlife protection, preservation and enhancement or has worked with an agency that has made significant and positive impacts to and in Indian country. This person is someone who has dedicated their life and work to fish, wildlife and natural resources. They are a steward of the land or natural resources and their work contributes to the betterment of tribal natural resources. Their impact in Indian country creates the road to the future for better management of natural resources.

### **1000.1.2 Biologist Award:**

This award will go to anyone that works for a Tribe and has a degree in biology or related field or has extensive in-the-field experience that has made an impact in preserving and/or protecting important fish or wildlife species or habitats. This person is one who has spent many hours outdoors collecting data and using that information to educate fellow Tribal and agency personnel in the importance of their work. This person is one who works to manage diverse projects for their Tribe. They cover many geographic areas, deal with multiple agencies, use technical skills in gathering and logging information, understand TEK, but most importantly promotes the importance of the science to protect fish and wildlife.

### **1000.1.3 Conservation Officer Award:**

This award will go to a person that works in the capacity of a CO, game warden, fish and game officer or similar capacity. This person has the training and experience in carrying out themselves in a professional manner while working in an enforcement capacity. They work to ensure that all hunters, fishermen, recreationalists, etc. follow Tribal laws, rules and regulations of the reservation. They also work to continue to educate themselves on ever changing laws and regulations. They continue to participate in training in keeping their skill level proficient. They are responsible for conducting thorough and fair investigations as well as provide accurate and timely information to the court systems. This person is also involved in many other activities, i.e. visitor education, organize hunter and fishing educational courses, conduct fishing and hunting checks and look out for the environment and natural resources.

**1000.1.4 Selection Committee**

The committee consists of the Society’s Board of Directors.

**1000.1.5 Nominator**

A Society member, in good standing, who nominates an eligible recipient for an award.

**1000.1.6 Non-Eligible recipient**

A current member of the Society’s Board or a Society employee is not eligible to receive the “Chief Sealth” award.

**1000.1.7 Nomination Package**

The nomination of an individual must be in a form of a formal letter addressed to the Society’s Board of Directors. Supporting written material of the candidate’s accomplishments may be attached. For the “Chief Sealth” award nomination package, the nominator must also include three letters of support for the nominee. To assist the nominator in preparing a nomination package, the National Office will make available to the nominator the Definitions/Criteria and Nomination Package sections of this policy as well as placing information on the Society’s web site.

**1000.1.8 Nomination Deadline**

The nomination package from the nominator must be received in the National Office by April 27, 2018.

National Office Address:                   NAFWS  
8515 Pearl St., Ste. 203  
Thornton, CO 80229

Fax Number:                                   866.889.4956

### **1000.1.9 Required Information**

The nomination package for the “Biologist” and “Conservation Officer” award shall include:

- A. CONTACT INFORMATION  
Nominator’s name  
Nominator’s phone number  
Member’s name  
Member’s work organization  
Member’s job title  
Award for member being nominated
  
- B. ACCOMPLISHMENTS  
Current year work projects  
Past program/project involvement  
Society volunteer involvement  
Tribal government involvement  
Community involvement
  
- C. OCCUPATION HISTORY  
Time-in-Service in occupation for award being nominated  
Time-in-Service in natural resource occupations

The nomination package for the “Chief Sealth” award shall include:

- A. CONTACT INFORMATION  
Nominator’s name  
Nominator’s phone number  
Member’s name  
Member’s work organization  
Member’s job title  
Award for member being nominated
  
- B. Accomplishments
  
- C. Three letters of support for nominee

### **1000.1.10 Optional Information**

Information may be attached to package to support the candidate’s accomplishments.

## **1000.2 SELECTION AND ANNOUNCEMENT PROCESS**

### **1000.2.1 Package Announcement**

The National Office will forward a copy of all received nomination packages to the President by April 27.

### **1000.2.2 Package Delivery**

The National Office will deliver a copy of all nomination packages to each committee member by April 27<sup>th</sup> or one month prior to the national conference. Whichever date is earliest.

### **1000.2.3 Award Approval**

The committee will vote separately on each award. The committee vote will occur prior to the National Conference. If the committee fails to select a recipient for an award by this date, the Executive Committee will determine the award recipient. Also, the committee may elect to rename the “Biologist” award to the “Biologist” or “Manager” for appropriate recognition of the recipient’s field of work.

### **1000.2.4 Award Announcement**

The President will announce the winner’s of the “Chief Sealth”, “Biologist” and “Conservation Office” awards during the dinner banquet at the Society’s National Conference.