

The Partners in Flight Awards Program Nomination Guidelines



Description

The Partners in Flight (PIF) awards program recognizes exceptional contributions to the field of landbird conservation. Nominees who have furthered the goal of protecting migratory and resident landbirds and their habitats will be evaluated in the categories of leadership, investigations, public awareness, stewardship, and lifetime achievement. PIF has been recognizing outstanding individuals and groups for their efforts in landbird conservation and management since 1996.

The Selection Process

PIF takes pride in recognizing outstanding individuals or groups for their efforts. As such, we have assembled an Awards Committee with a broad range of experience and expertise within the bird conservation community. The Awards Chair is responsible for announcing the awards process, soliciting nominations from the bird conservation community, and managing the review and selection of nominees for awards by the committee. The committee members vote individually and make their recommendations to the Chair. Once all votes are compiled, the committee arrives at a consensus for all award winners. The committee reserves the right to reassign a nomination to a different category from which the nomination was originally submitted. To be eligible, projects or activities must have been initiated after 1990.

Award Categories

Leadership: An individual or group that demonstrates outstanding guidance and direction that contributes, or has contributed to, advancing PIF conservation efforts. This award can apply to a range of levels, from individual projects to large programmatic efforts, but should have far-reaching implications at least at the Bird Conservation Region level. Examples could include creation of or participation in significant partnerships, demonstration of leadership skills at a regional, national, or international level, or coordinating groups and individuals with diverse interests and expertise to effectively plan and implement bird conservation efforts.

Investigations: An individual or group that conducts outstanding research and/or contributes scientific data and interpretations that improve our understanding of avian ecology, habitat management, or other scientific factors important to the PIF initiative. Important criteria include the advancement of scientific knowledge, refinement of inventory, monitoring or scientific research methodologies, and development of models and other methods of interpreting scientific data to benefit bird conservation

planning and implementation. These efforts should be applicable to regional, national or international conservation efforts, with a focus on priority bird species and habitats.

Public Awareness: Activities by an individual or group that contribute significantly to increasing the public's awareness and appreciation for birds, their habitats, or the need for conservation. Proposals will be judged based on the development of outreach efforts that enlist volunteers and promote public education. Emphasis will be placed on the effectiveness of the nominee to reach beyond the local level to a state, Bird Conservation Region, or national level.

Stewardship: An individual or group that contributes significantly to the management, conservation, or restoration of landbird habitat or species of concern. Important criteria could include incorporation of a priority habitat in a stewardship program, designation of protected status for a reserve, designation of Important Bird Areas, development and implementation of Bird Conservation Plans, or conservation of significant stopover habitat.

Lifetime Achievement: An individual who has contributed over the whole of his or her career to advancing PIF bird conservation efforts through leadership, investigations, public awareness and/or stewardship activities, as described in the other awards categories.

Recognition

Award recipients are presented their awards in front of an audience of their peers. Past ceremonies have been conducted at International Partners in Flight Conferences and at the North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference.