

Bulletin

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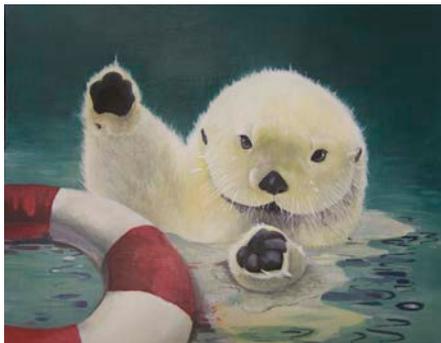
Service Invites Kids Across the Nation to Participate in this Year's Saving Endangered Species Youth Art Contest

Contest encourages children in grades K through 12 to learn about the plight of endangered wildlife around the globe and the importance of conservation

Youth across the nation are invited to put their creative skills to work for wildlife in the 2015 Saving Endangered Species Youth Art Contest, an integral part of the 10th annual national Endangered Species Day celebration.

The contest provides school children in grades K through 12 an opportunity to learn about threatened and endangered wildlife and the importance of protecting them, and encourages kids to express their knowledge and support for conservation efforts through their artistic and creative talents. Young artists who are home schooled and participate in youth groups are also eligible to enter.

Organized by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Endangered Species Coalition, Association of Zoos and Aquariums, and International Child Art Foundation (ICAF), the contest promotes national awareness of the importance of saving endangered species while recognizing conservation initiatives across the country.



Last year's grand prize winner, Southern Sea Otter, by Amy Feng.

Contest winners will be chosen by a prestigious panel of artists, photographers and conservationists, including Wyland, renowned marine life artist; Jack Hanna, host of *Jack Hanna's Into the Wild*; David Littschwager, freelance photographer and regular contributor to *National Geographic* magazine; Susan Middletown, a photographer who has collaborated with Littschwager and whose own work has been published in four books; and Alice Tangerini, botanical illustrator for the Smithsonian Institution.

Along with direct action, it takes empathy and awareness to prevent the extinction of endangered species, and these are qualities the judges will look for in the winning submissions.

For more information, including entry categories, judging criteria, prizes, and the entry form, visit www.endangeredspeciesday.org. Entries must be postmarked no later than March 1, 2015.

Across the country, organizations hold special events to celebrate Endangered Species Day which was proclaimed by the United States Congress in 2006. Many of the Service's field and regional offices will be hosting such events in their communities and providing unique programs to visitors on endangered species conservation. For more information, visit www.fws.gov/endangered/ESDay/index.html.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service works with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. For more information, visit www.fws.gov, or connect with us through any of these social media channels:



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