

## FWS Historic Preservation Award

The US Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is responsible for protecting tens of thousands of archaeological and historic sites, sacred and traditional areas and scientifically-important museum collections that reflect the long and diverse history and traditions of our nation.

Every day, National Wildlife Refuge System staff perform outstanding work in support of the National Historic Preservation Act's objectives that help meet our conservation mission.

The *National Wildlife Refuge System Historic Preservation Award* will be used to recognize hard work and outstanding results in the protection and use of cultural resources that we manage.

### Award Criteria:

1. Innovative use of funds and/or expertise for, historic building rehabilitation for interpretive or adaptive re-use purposes. The Service has incredible resources as part of its built environment. This criterion focuses on some extraordinary efforts made by Service personnel to rescue and reuse or to educate using these historic assets.

2. Interpretation of the history/prehistory of the field station into management and operations. Every Refuge and Hatchery tells a story. Whether it is about pioneering conservation efforts, historical events or sites within our boundaries, or important historical connections to the communities in which we reside. This criteria seeks to draw out those important and over and above efforts to bring our historical message to the public fore.

3. Engagement with tribes or other traditional community partners to understand their history and traditional connections with important places (beyond what is called for by law). Tribes and other organizations can offer valuable insights into the history that took place on lands and waters managed by the Fish and Wildlife Service. This criterion seeks to identify key partnerships to build upon relationships and acknowledge the traditional uses of nearby communities.

4. Supporting independent historic preservation research, including use of museum collections, and supporting the publication such studies and making them available to interested parties. Historic resources on Refuges and Hatcheries are invaluable to our understanding of both our own, agency history, and the larger history of the communities that our properties call home. This criterion focuses on those efforts made by our staff to use our resources as part of larger investigative efforts to better understand what history has left to us.

## **Nomination Submission Requirements:**

Regions are welcome to submit more than one nomination but they must do so on separate nomination forms. **Do not exceed two (2) pages per nomination** Nominations should provide detailed information for **each** award criterion used to describe their nominee.

## **Proposal Review Process and Scoring Criteria:**

Each project proposal will be reviewed and ranked by a panel of Service cultural resource and other staff to make a recommendation for the annual award.

The panel will rate nominations solely on the information provided. Therefore, each nomination should include sufficient detail to ensure a complete review.

The proposal evaluation criteria are:

- Adherence to Award Criteria. How effectively does the nomination adhere to the award criteria? Nominations will be scored on how well their narrative develops the award criteria selected for use with the submission. *(20 points maximum)*
- Uniqueness of the nomination. How well does the nomination convey the unique and extraordinary efforts of the nominee with respect to the criteria selected? *(20 points maximum)*
- Benefit to the Service and to Cultural Resources. Each award will showcase how the nominee has excelled in maintaining cultural resources for research, the use of innovative partnerships, and use and benefit supporting our mission. *(20 points maximum)*

## **Award**

The winner of each year's award will be announced by the Chief, National Wildlife Refuge System and be accompanied by a \$2,500 STAR award for the selected individual or team and a certificate of award and plaque.

Please direct any questions to the Service Archaeologist, Eugene Marino  
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