



Washington Association of Conservation Districts

2018 Awards Guidelines & Rules

**ALL AWARDS NOMINATIONS ARE
DUE ON OCTOBER 1, 2018**

Nominations may be emailed to [Lori McLaughlin](#)
Or mailed to WACD PMC c/o Lori McLaughlin
16564 Bradley Road Bow, WA 98232

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Introduction

In 2002, WACD established an Awards Task Force that created guidelines, rules and ranking criteria for each of its sponsored awards. In 2006, the Board of Directors approved changes to the awards program. In 2018, the Board of Directors again approved changes with the addition of a new award recognizing Conservation District/Tribal Partnerships.

As per the governing documents of the Association, Secretary Lynn Bahrych will serve as chair of the Awards Committee.

WACD Sponsored Awards

The following awards may be presented as appropriate at the Association's 2018 Annual Meeting.

- ◆ Conservation District of the Year
- ◆ Eugene Schloz Outstanding Supervisor Award
- ◆ Conservation District/Tribal Partnership Award
- ◆ Wayne Reid "Young Tiger" Award
- ◆ Special Service Award
- ◆ Vim Wright "Building Bridges" Award
- ◆ Wildlife Farmer of the Year Award
- ◆ Wildlife Steward of the Year Award
- ◆ Educator of the Year Award

In addition, the WACD Board of Directors may bestow other awards, special recognitions, and commendations as they deem appropriate and necessary. The WACD Board of Directors shall retain the authority to amend the list of awards given or to stop the awards program at any time.

If any award goes **two consecutive years** without any nominations submitted, the award will be removed from the list. The WACD Board of Directors may add the award back onto the list with a majority vote.

Awards Program Rules

The rules are general enough in nature that they apply to all the awards. The basic rules for the WACD Awards program are found in **Appendix A**.

Nomination Timeline for each Award

The awards timeline is established by the Awards Committee. For 2018, the due date for submittal of all award nominations is **October 1, 2018**.

Selection Criteria and Ranking Process for Each Award

The selection criteria for all the awards and the current nomination ranking forms are included as **Appendix B** to this document.

Eligibility criteria for the WACD awards are established as follows:

Award	Who's Eligible?
Conservation District of the Year	The annual District of the Year Award will be selected from one of the six districts awarded the

Award	Who's Eligible?
	Area of the Year Award as chosen by the Conservation Commission at the fall area meetings.
Eugene Schloz Outstanding Supervisor Award	Active district supervisors and associate supervisors who have made an especially valuable contribution to district conservation programs or to the state conservation movement.
Conservation District/Tribal Partnership Award	A conservation district and an Indian Tribe for demonstrating a relationship that offers examples of regional conservation of natural resources for the betterment of all. (The term "natural resources" is inclusive of healthy water, land, air, flora and fauna.)
Wayne Reid "Young Tiger" Award	Any district supervisor or associate supervisor who has served as a supervisor or associate supervisor <u>for 6 years or less</u> at the time of nomination <u>and</u> has made an extraordinary effort to assist her or his district to meet its goals and objectives in a short period of time.
Special Service Award	Anyone who has provided assistance (paid or unpaid) on District sponsored projects and has made an outstanding achievement and contribution in the field of conservation. Nominees may include supervisors, associate supervisors, staff, volunteers, and agency staff.
Vim Wright "Building Bridges" Award	Any person who has worked within the arena of conservation to foster understanding, partnerships, and greater conservation through collaboration.
Conservation Educator of the Year	Any paid and Washington State licensed instructor who educates in Washington at a private or public institution is eligible. Grades K-12, college, technical, and trade school instructors are all eligible to receive this award.
Wildlife Farmer of the Year	Wildlife Farmer of the Year award is for an owner, lessor/lessee, or manager who is actively engaged in a farming, ranching or forestry <u>business over 50 acres</u> in size.
Wildlife Steward of the Year	Any conservation district cooperator who enhances wildlife habitat on their <u>commercial or non-commercial farm and/or forest smaller than 50 acres</u> in size.

Applicable WACD Policy

Awards Committee.

- (1) Members of the Awards Committee are:
 - (a) The Secretary who shall serve as chair.
 - (b) Other members as determined by the President. The President is encouraged to consider appointing members representing the WSCC, WADE, and NRCS.
- (1) The duties of the Awards Committee are:
 - (a) Review the nominations for each award and complete the ranking and selection process.

Presentation of Awards

All WACD awards shall be presented to the selected nominees at the WACD Annual Meeting. The awards presentations, including all other cooperating entity awards (i.e., NRCS, Conservation Commission), will occur at the Awards Luncheon.

Each of the winning nominees shall receive a plaque for their accomplishments. Every person who is nominated for an award shall receive a letter signed by the WACD President thanking them for their commitment to conservation and efforts to make Washington State a better and healthier place in which to live.

Appendix A – WACD Award Program Rules

1. Anyone can nominate an eligible person or group for these awards. A person may also complete and submit more than one nomination each year. Self-nominations are not permitted.
2. Review the nomination forms for each of the WACD awards to determine who is eligible to receive the various awards. **Nominators are strongly encouraged to write the primary letter of support in a manner that directly answers the judging criteria shown on the ranking forms.**
3. Nominations must consist of the nomination form and at least one letter of support, but no more than three letters of support.
4. If multiple letters of support are submitted, it is strongly recommended, but not required, that they be from different entities. Anyone directly associated with the District (Board Supervisors, Associate Supervisors, employees, and their immediate families) shall constitute one entity.
5. Other nomination letters may and are highly encouraged to come from cooperating agencies (i.e. NRCS, FSA, WSCC, WDF&W, local government, cooperators, etc.).
6. It is the responsibility of the nominator, CD, or nominee's employer to get the nominee to the proper award ceremony at the WACD Annual Meeting. Nominees and the winner may not be notified prior to the award ceremony to maintain the element of surprise.
7. At the discretion of the WACD Awards Committee multiple awards may be given. This may be the result of enough nominations to provide awards by categories, such as type of work, or due to a tie in the judging. Awards Committee decisions are final.
8. At the discretion of the WACD Awards Committee, no award may be given if the committee feels no applicants are qualified for the award or no nominations are received.
9. Judges may use personal knowledge of nominees when considering the overall ranking of nominees.
10. WACD will provide a complimentary meal to the Awards Luncheon for the winners for the year in which they receive the award. Districts or groups nominated for an award shall receive no more than three meals. **WACD will not pay for any other expenses of award recipients.**
11. Nominations are due (received, postmarked, or e-mailed) by **5:00 PM**, on the date listed on the nomination form for each award. **Entry Deadline:** All entries must be received by **5:00 PM, October 1, 2018**, sent by email to wacd@ncia.org or by mail to WACD Plant Materials Center c/o Lori McLaughlin 16564 Bradley Road Bow, WA 98232

Appendix B - WACD Award Nomination Forms



2018 DISTRICT OF THE YEAR AWARD

Criteria: The Washington Association of Conservation Districts gives this award to a District that has shown tremendous efforts to get conservation on the ground and improve or build their overall program through coordinated planning with other entities. The award will be presented at the WACD Annual Meeting.

The District of the Year will be selected from among the six-area district of the year awards as presented by the Washington State Conservation Commission (SCC) each fall during the Area Meetings. The Awards Committee will review the criteria used by the WSCC in making their determination on the district selected for the District of the Year Award.

Presentation is made at the annual meeting Awards Luncheon.

Questions: Lori McLaughlin at wacd@nica.com or 360-757-1094.



2018 EUGENE SCHLOZ OUTSTANDING SUPERVISOR AWARD

Criteria: The Washington Association of Conservation Districts gives this award to an Outstanding CD Supervisor who has made an especially valuable contribution to district conservation programs or to the state conservation movement. This award is given in honor of Eugene Schloz, a supervisor with Grays Harbor Conservation District who served from February 1977 to November 1988. Gene was a dedicated individual and contributed unsparingly of his time and support to the conservation movement before his death in 1988. The award is presented at the WACD Annual Meeting.

Entry Deadline: All entries must be received by **5:00 PM, October 1, 2018**, sent by email to wacd@ncia.org or by mail to WACD Plant Materials Center c/o Lori McLaughlin 16564 Bradley Road Bow, WA 98232

NOMINATION FORM:

Name of Nominee	
Address	
City, State and Zip Code	
Person making Nomination	
Address	
City, State and Zip Code	
Phone / Email Address	

Directions: Please attach a brief narrative about the nominee that addresses the topics below. Supporting materials such as letters, news clippings, photographs, printed materials and other helpful items may be attached.

1. Description of the nominee's contribution to district conservation programs or to the statewide conservation movement.
2. Description of the nominee's selfless giving of time and energy to promote conservation.
3. Description of how the nominee's efforts and/or activities have affected others in a positive and helpful manner.
4. Description of how this nominee's selection would be appropriate and timely.
5. Description of how this nominee's contribution is special or in some way noteworthy.

Questions: Lori McLaughlin at wacd@ncia.com or 360-757-1094.



2018 CONSERVATION DISTRICT/TRIBAL PARTNERSHIP AWARD

Criteria: The Washington Association of Conservation Districts (WACD) may award a Conservation District and an Indian Tribe a Conservation Partnership Award for demonstrating a relationship that offers an example of regional conservation of natural resources for the betterment of all. (The term “natural resources” is inclusive of healthy water, land, air, flora and fauna.)

Entry Deadline: All entries must be received by **5:00 PM, October 1, 2018**, sent by email to wacd@ncia.org or by mail to WACD Plant Materials Center c/o Lori McLaughlin 16564 Bradley Road Bow, WA 98232

Purpose:

The purposes of this annual award opportunity are to recognize and support a partnership involving at least one Tribe and at least one Conservation District that meets the goal of the award and to celebrate the power of collaborative relationships that promote healthy natural resources.

The WACD is not limited to a single award per year for such a partnership award. It *may* award as many as have met the criteria. The purpose is to provide “*Recognition*” over “*Competition*.” Likewise, there may be a year(s) when no Conservation District & Tribal effort has been initiated or completed. The emphasis is on the *opportunity* to recognize special partnerships.

The WACD, if it so chooses, may recognize a worthy CD/Tribal partnership that has not been nominated, if the Board determines that the criteria have been met.

Goal:

The goal of this award program is to promote partnerships between Tribes and Conservation Districts that demonstrate the value and results of working together toward the shared vision of healthy natural resources.

Award:

Partner selectees will each receive the award with the Partnership names, date and reason for the Award.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Selection Criterion #1 - The focus of the partnership is on supporting healthier natural resources. [Please provide a brief description of how the partnership is focused on supporting healthier natural resources. You may include maps, pictures and/or a PowerPoint link that might more fully portray the specific project(s) that is the focus of the partnership.]

Selection Criterion #2 - The partnership pools resources to do conservation work across boundaries. [Please provide a brief description of how the partnership has pooled resources for the project(s) and a brief description of how pooling resources allowed accomplishment of partnership and project goals that would not have been realized by the partners acting on their own.]

Selection Criterion #3 - The partnership can serve as an exemplar of a relationship that benefits the shared vision of healthy natural resources. [Please provide a brief description of why this partnership can serve as a model relationship.]

Selection Criterion #4 - The partnership is preserved in some form for historical reference. [Please provide a brief description of how the partnership is documented; e.g., written agreement, recorded oral agreement, video recorded agreement].

Questions: Lori McLaughlin at wacd@ncia.com or 360-757-1094.

The WACD Tribal Relations Committee will participate on the WACD Awards Committee to help make the final selection.

**WACD Tribal Partnership Award
Required Nomination Elements**

Name of Participating Tribe:

Name of Participating Conservation District:

Signature of Tribal Contact, if relevant

Signature of CD Contact Person

Name:

Name:

Address:

Address:

Phone:

Phone:

Email:

Email:

Date:

Date:



2018 WAYNE REID "YOUNG TIGER" AWARD

Criteria: The Washington Association of Conservation Districts gives this award to a supervisor who has jumped in with both feet and hit the ground running. The individual is someone who has really helped the district meet their goals and objectives in a short period of time. This individual must have served as a supervisor for less than 6 years. Please submit a letter of recommendation and two letters of support. The award will be presented at the WACD Annual Meeting.

Entry Deadline: All entries must be received by **5:00 PM, October 1, 2018**, sent by email to wacd@ncia.org or by mail to WACD Plant Materials Center c/o Lori McLaughlin 16564 Bradley Road Bow, WA 98232

NOMINATION FORM:

Name of Nominee	
Address	
City, State and Zip Code	
Person making Nomination	
Address	
City, State and Zip Code	
Phone / Email Address	

Directions: Please attach a brief narrative about the nominee that addresses the topics below. Supporting materials such as letters, news clippings, photographs, printed materials and other helpful items may be attached.

1. Demonstrated professional growth as a supervisor.
2. Dedication to developing/maintaining District program(s).
3. Demonstrated leadership on conservation issues.
4. Work relationship with and effectiveness with: Board of Supervisors, staff, agency staff, landowners, etc.
5. Dedication to conservation and promoting conservation districts.

Questions: Lori McLaughlin at wacd@ncia.com or 360-757-1094



2018 SPECIAL SERVICE AWARD

Criteria: The Washington Association of Conservation Districts gives this award to an individual, volunteer or paid, who has made an outstanding contribution in the field of conservation. The award will be presented at the WACD Annual Meeting.

Entry Deadline: All entries must be received by **5:00 PM, October 1, 2018**, sent by email to wacd@ncia.org or by mail to WACD Plant Materials Center c/o Lori McLaughlin 16564 Bradley Road Bow, WA 98232

NOMINATION FORM:

Name of Nominee	
Address	
City, State and Zip Code	
Person making Nomination	
Address	
City, State and Zip Code	
Phone / Email Address	

Directions: Please attach a brief narrative about the nominee that addresses the topics below. Supporting materials such as letters, news clippings, photographs, printed materials and other helpful items may be attached.

1. Description of the nominee's dedication to the furthering of conservation ideals.
2. Dedication to developing/maintaining conservation program(s)/practice(s).
3. Description of the nominee's leadership in the conservation community.
4. Explanation of total impact upon natural resource conservation in this person's community, Washington, and/or nationwide.
5. Description of how this nominee's contribution is special or in some way noteworthy.

Questions: Lori McLaughlin at wacd@ncia.com or 360-757-1094



2018 VIM WRIGHT “BUILDING BRIDGES” AWARD

Criteria: The Washington Association of Conservation Districts gives this award to a person who has worked within the arena of conservation to foster understanding, partnerships, and greater conservation through collaboration. This award is given in honor of Vim Wright, long-time member of the Washington Conservation Commission. Vim worked tirelessly to bring traditional agriculture and environmental representatives together to work on conservation projects and develop a better mutual understanding.

Entry Deadline: All entries must be received by **5:00 PM, October 1, 2018**, sent by email to wacd@ncia.org or by mail to WACD Plant Materials Center c/o Lori McLaughlin 16564 Bradley Road Bow, WA 98232

NOMINATION FORM:

Name of Nominee	
Address	
City, State and Zip Code	
Person making Nomination	
Address	
City, State and Zip Code	
Phone / Email Address	

Directions: Please attach a brief narrative about the nominee that addresses the topics below. Supporting materials such as letters, news clippings, photographs, printed materials, and other helpful items may be attached.

1. Known presence and respect in their conservation community
2. Development of unique partnerships
3. Diversity of organizations/participants in partnership efforts
4. Improvements in conservation values that resulted from this person’s efforts
5. Longevity of the partnership they helped foster

Questions: Lori McLaughlin at 360-757-1094 or wacd@ncia.com



2018 CONSERVATION EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

Criteria: The Washington Association of Conservation Districts gives this award to an educator (K-12, college, technical, or trade school) who is working for a public or private school in Washington State. The WACD award is presented at the WACD Annual Meeting Awards Luncheon. The honoree's nomination shall be submitted, as appropriate, to the National Association of Conservation Districts for consideration at that level.

Entry Deadline: All entries must be received by **5:00 PM, October 1, 2018**, and sent by email to **wacd@ncia.com** or by mail to WACD Plant Materials Center, 16564 Bradley Road, Bow, WA 98232

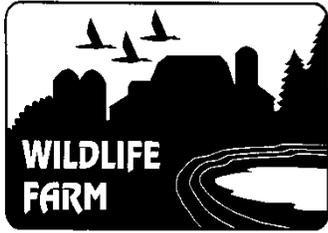
NOMINATION FORM:

Name of Nominee	
Address	
City, State and Zip Code	
Person making Nomination	
Address	
City, State and Zip Code	
Phone / Email Address	

Directions: Please attach a brief narrative about the nominee that addresses the topics below. Supporting materials such as letters, news clippings, photographs, printed materials and other helpful items may be attached.

1. Describe the teacher's program for involving students in the betterment of natural resources.
2. List and describe the areas of study incorporated in your conservation education program.
3. Describe any assistance received from community organizations or resource specialists from local, state, or federal agencies or organizations.
4. Explain how the program is being extended to other grades, other areas and to people in the community.
5. Document how your students have shared and applied their knowledge of natural resource conservation with individuals, groups, schools, and community projects.

Questions: Lori McLaughlin at 360-757-1094 or wacd@ncia.com



Criteria Sheet

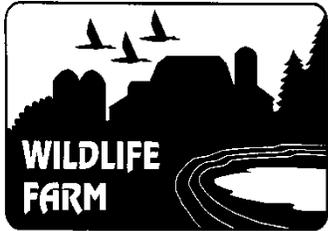
Wildlife Farmer of the Year award is for an owner, lessor/lessee, or manager who is actively engaged in a farming, ranching or forestry business OVER 50 ACRES IN SIZE

1. What are the landowner's overall objectives?
Examples to include: commercial crop production, total land base and percentage targeting fish and/or wildlife habitat, voluntary implementation of practices above and beyond BMP's; long range goals; educational outreach; hunting, fishing or wildlife viewing. (500 words or less).
2.
 - What fish and wildlife species are found in the landowner's region? (Be as thorough as possible)
 - What fish and wildlife species are targeted by this landowner? (Be sure to highlight any species or concerns.)
3. Although not required for an award, does the landowner/manager provide any fish and wildlife-dependent public recreational opportunities? (i.e. hunting, fishing, viewing).
4. How long has this landowner been involved in habitat preservation and/or restoration?
5. What is the landowner's investment? (i.e., time, money, land not in production, labor, machinery, materials.)
6. Is permanent, year-around cover available? (i.e., riparian areas, ditch borders, unmowed roadsides, timber stands, etc.)
7. SUPPORTING MATERIALS. Please include color photos, site maps, drawn plans, etc.

Farm Nominated _____

Date _____

Nominating District _____



Wildlife Farmer of the Year award is for an owner, lessor/lessee, or manager who is actively engaged in a farming, ranching or forestry business OVER 50 ACRES IN SIZE

Checklist for District Participation

The following is a quick checklist of activities for carrying out the Wildlife Farmer of the Year program. This will not be a labor-intensive project, but supervisors should assign people to tasks with completion dates.

Activity

Person/Deadline

Have district board review packet, discuss how the program supports district goals, and decide on participation.

Map out a plan and assign tasks, such as advising media, handling sign installation, filing out nomination forms, checking criteria.

Review selection criteria and make selection for District Wildlife Farmer of the Year.

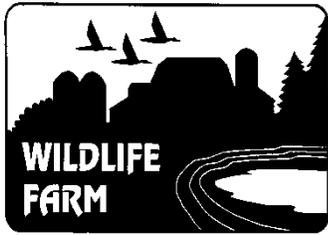
Order the free property sign provided by Fish and Wildlife (order form provided).

Meet with the selected farm operator/owner to talk about their involvement in a potential recognition event, i.e., a tour, presentation at a public meeting, or a community event.

Post property sign; distribute media materials to promote WFY.

Hold recognition event.

Evaluate the WFY program and incorporate it into the District's Annual Plan of Work.



Wildlife Farmer of the Year award is for an owner, lessor/lessee, or manager who is actively engaged in a farming, ranching or forestry business OVER 50 ACRES IN SIZE

State Wide Nomination Form

Name of Farm & Operator

Farm Type & Location

Nominating Conservation District

Number of Criteria Affirmed

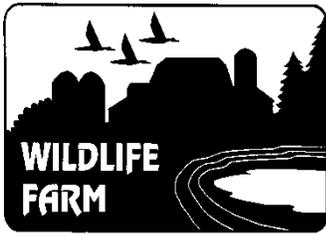
Eligibility:
Any farm recognized as a District Wildlife Farmer of the Year may be nominated for state-wide recognition

Deadline:
Nominations are due
October 1, 2018

Return Form To:
WACD Plant Materials Center
16564 Bradley Road
Bow, WA 98232
Or email forms to wacd@ncia.org

Executive Summary: [Overview of landowner's project(s)]

Conservation District Chair's Signature _____



Wildlife Farmer of the Year award is for an owner, lessor/lessee, or manager who actively engaged in a farming, ranching or forestry business OVER 50 ACRES IN SIZE

ROADSIDE SIGN ORDER FORM

Conservation District Name and Shipping Address

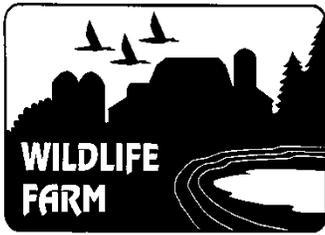
District Wildlife Steward of the Year - Landowner Name and Address

Send sign order form to:

WACD Plant Materials Center
16564 Bradley Road,
Bow, WA 98232
Or email forms to **Wacd@ncia.com**

Requesting and Confirming Signatures:

Conservation District Chairman _____



Criteria Sheet

The Wildlife Steward of the Year award is for an owner, lessor/lessee, or manager who is actively engaged in a farming, ranching or forestry business LESS THAN 50 ACRES IN SIZE

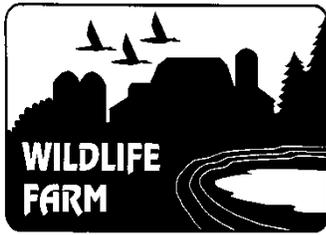
1. What are the landowner's overall objectives?
Examples to include: commercial crop production, total land base and percentage targeting fish and/or wildlife habitat, voluntary implementation of practices above and beyond BMP's; long range goals; educational outreach; hunting, fishing or wildlife viewing. (500 words or less).
2. What fish and wildlife species are found in the landowner's region? (Be as thorough as possible)

What fish and wildlife species are targeted by this landowner? (Be sure to highlight any species or concerns.)
3. Although not required for an award, does the landowner/manager provide any fish and wildlife-dependent public recreational opportunities? (i.e. hunting, fishing, viewing).
4. How long has this landowner been involved in habitat preservation and/or fish and wildlife recreational access?
5. What is the landowner's investment? (i.e., time, money, land not in production, labor, machinery, materials)
6. Is permanent, year-around cover available? (i.e., riparian areas, ditch borders, unmowed roadsides, timber stands, etc.)
7. **SUPPORTING MATERIALS.** Please include color photos, site maps, drawn plans, etc.

Farm Nominated _____

Date _____

Nominating District _____



The Wildlife Steward of the Year award is for an owner, lessor/lessee, or manager who is actively engaged in a farming, ranching or forestry business LESS THAN 50 ACRES IN SIZE

Checklist for District Participation

The following is a quick checklist of activities for carrying out the Wildlife Steward of the Year program. This will not be a labor-intensive project, but supervisors should assign people to tasks with completion dates.

Activity

Person/Deadline

Have district board review packet, discuss how the program supports district goals, and decide on participation.

Map out a plan and assign tasks, such as advising media, handling sign installation, filing out nomination forms, checking criteria.

Review selection criteria and make selection for District Wildlife Steward of the Year.

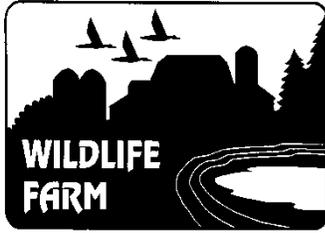
Order the free property sign provided by Fish and Wildlife (order form provided).

Meet with the selected farm operator/owner to talk about their involvement in a potential recognition event, i.e., a tour, presentation at a public meeting, or a community event.

Post property sign; distribute media materials to promote WSY.

Hold recognition event.

Evaluate the WSY program and incorporate it into the District's Annual Plan of Work.



The Wildlife Steward of the Year award is for an owner, lessor/lessee, or manager who is actively engaged in a farming, ranching or forestry business LESS THAN 50 ACRES IN SIZE

State Wide Nomination Form

Name of Farm & Operator

Farm Type & Location

Nominating Conservation District

Number of Criteria Affirmed

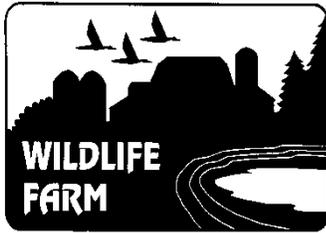
Eligibility:
Any farm recognized as a District Wildlife Steward of the Year may be nominated for state-wide Recognition

Deadline:
Nominations are due
October 1, 2018

Return Form To:
WACD Plant Materials Center
16564 Bradley Road,
Bow, WA 98232
Or email forms to **Wacd@ncia.com**

Executive Summary: [Overview of landowner's project(s)]

Conservation District Chair's Signature _____



The Wildlife Steward of the Year award is for an owner, lessor/lessee, or manager who is actively engaged in a farming, ranching or forestry business LESS THAN 50 ACRES IN SIZE

ROADSIDE SIGN ORDER FORM

Conservation District Name and Shipping Address

District Wildlife Steward of the Year - Landowner Name and Address

Send sign order form to:

WACD Plant Materials Center
16564 Bradley Road
Bow, WA 98232

Or email sign order form to wacd@ncia.com

Requesting and Confirming Signatures:

Conservation District Chairman _____