

RULES AND REQUIREMENTS

The Cultivating Commerce Digital Photography Competition ("Photographic Competition") is open to all amateur photographers residing within the United States in either the Youth Division (17 years of age and under) or Adult Division (18 years of age and older). Board Members, Employees, or interns of the North Coast Resource Conservation & Development Council (NCRC&DC), as well as the immediate family (spouse, parents, siblings, and children) and household members of employees, are not eligible to enter.

By submitting an entry to the Photographic Competition, entrants certify that their participation in this Photo Contest is not illegal or in violation of any law, regulation, treaty or administrative act, and that the laws of their governing jurisdiction of residence at the time of entry do not prohibit or restrict the receipt of any Prize under this Photographic Competition.

The NCRC&DC reserves the right to reject any entry if, in the NCRC&DC's sole discretion, the laws of an applicable jurisdiction, including but not limited to the entrant's jurisdiction of residence at the time of entry, would prohibit or limit the NCRC&DC from proceeding with the Photographic Competition as intended or the consideration or awarding of any Prize would impose additional administrative, tax, operational, or legal burdens on the NCRC&DC.

ENTRY PERIOD: The Photographic Competition begins at 12:00 am Pacific Daylight Time on May 31, 2017 and ends at 11:59 pm Pacific Daylight Time on August 31, 2017 (the "Entry Period"). Entries submitted before or after the Entry Period will not be eligible. The NCRC&DC's computer is the official time-keeping device for the Photographic Competition. To ensure eligibility for the contest, please submit files no larger than 10 MB at the time of entry. Higher resolution files of at least 240 dpi/ppi will be requested should an entry be preselected to be awarded a prize. All photographs should accurately reflect the subject matter and the scene as it appeared. Photos that have been digitally altered beyond standard optimization (removal of dust, cropping, reasonable adjustments to exposure, color and contrast, etc.) will be disqualified.

Entries may originate in any format — including, but not limited to digital files, digital prints, color transparencies, color prints, or black and white prints — so long as they are submitted electronically in a .JPEG .jpg, or .jpeg form. Multiple exposures that have been combined to produce a single "High Dynamic Range" image are acceptable.

No previously published material may be entered. If you choose to include people in your submission, you are responsible for obtaining the necessary releases from the individuals depicted, and must be able to provide copies of those releases to the NCRC&DC upon request.

The following submissions are ineligible:

- Photos that violate or infringe upon another person's rights, including but not limited to copyright and photographs of persons without the necessary consent required by law in your jurisdiction. The NCRC&DC reserves the right to require entrants to submit evidence of the subject's legal consent to be photographed for the submitted photograph, which may include a signed waiver from the subject. NOTE: Waiver requirements vary by jurisdiction, and the entrant is responsible for obtaining a legally enforceable waiver from any photographed subject.

- Photos that contain sexually explicit, nude, obscene, violent or other objectionable or inappropriate content.
- Images that involve the willful harassment of wildlife, or damage to the environment by the photographer.
- Images that involve putting any individual or animal in danger.

The NCRC&DC shall determine entry eligibility in its sole and absolute discretion.

Submissions may be watermarked if desired, but the watermark should be inconspicuous enough to not interfere with the judging of the photo. A watermarked photo might not be honored by the competition (at the judges' sole discretion) if the photographer is unable or unavailable to provide a pristine, watermark-free version of the image when asked. Images will be judged on originality, technical excellence, composition, overall impact and artistic merit.

HOW TO ENTER

All images must be submitted through our photo submission websites, including all required fields, including name, email and other information about your photo submission. Failure to provide to provide a valid email address will result in disqualification.

You can select an image directly from your computer desktop. Digital images that are sent via mail or email will not be accepted.

You may enter an unlimited number of times, but you may not use an agency or automated system to enter. The NCRC&DC reserves the right to reject any additional entries or entries that do not comply with these Official Rules. By entering, you indicate your unconditional agreement to, and acceptance of, these Official Rules and NCRC&DC's decisions, which are final and binding. You cannot win a prize unless you comply with all requirements in these Official Rules.

Entrants may be asked to supplement their submission (such as with a paragraph about their photo or the highest resolution version of their photo) anytime on or after August 31, 2017.

Adult (18 years of age and over) entrants to the Adult Division must submit a \$10.00 entry fee for each photographic submission. The fee is paid through the PayPal site, but you do not need a PayPal account and may use a credit card. Upon payment of the fee, PayPal will return you to the NCRC&DC website.

JUDGING

Photos will be judged on originality, technical excellence, composition, overall impact, artistic merit and subject matter relevance to humans and nature. Judging will be conducted by a panel of NCRC&DC representatives as selected by the NCRC&DC at its sole discretion (the "Panel"). In each of the Youth and Adult Divisions, the Panel will evaluate all valid entries and pick the following winners in the following categories:

- North Coast Vision -- photographs of Marin, Sonoma, Mendocino, and Lake County landscapes that capture the land and/or community around us; selection of First, Second, and Third.
- Pollinators & Pollinator Habitat – photographs of bees and other pollinators and their environment; selection of First, Second, and Third.

- Water – photographs of our ocean, rivers and streams, and lakes and reservoirs and the importance of clean water for our community sustainability; selection of First, Second, and Third.
- Recycling & Composting – photographs emphasizing the importance of recycling and composting and/or showing recycling and composting in action; selection of First, Second, and Third.
- Best of Show -- the top three photographs from each of the above four categories in each of the two Divisions will be entered into Best of Show for a chance to win a cash prize. The cash award for the Youth Division is a \$100 prize. The cash award for the Adult Division is \$250.

All judging decisions are final. Please do not contact us about the status of entries or judging.

The NCRC&DC will notify the winner(s) via the contact information provided at the time of entry.

You will retain all rights to any photograph you submit -- including ownership if applicable. If you submit a photograph to enter the Photographic Competition, you grant the NCRC&DC a 5 year royalty-free, nonexclusive right to:

Display the photograph on our websites.

Allow third-parties to share the photograph on social media.

Use the photograph on the Internet and in Social Media in support of our mission.

Use the photograph in the NCRC&DC's internal and external communications materials including but not limited to web sites and web publications, fact sheets, fund raising publications, advertising, multimedia, presentation and membership services, annual report and newsletters.

Provide your photograph to other individuals and organizations for NCRC&DC-related use in news stories, newsletters, reports, slide shows, displays, web pages, videos, membership premiums, and the like

Use, in connection with the Photo Contest, your name, city, state and country of residence in promotions and other publications

Retain a digital copy of your photograph that will be archived in the NCRC&DC photo library and accessible to NCRC&DC staff via the NCRC&DC internal online photo archive

The NCRC&DC will endeavor to credit all photographs with the caption "Person's Name" when the full name is available.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

In the event that the operation, security, or administration of the Photographic Competition is impaired in any way, the NCRC&DC may, in its sole discretion, either: (a) suspend the Photographic Competition to address the impairment and then resume the Photographic Competition; or (b) award the prize(s) from among the eligible entries received up to the time of the impairment. The NCRC&DC reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to disqualify and seek damages from any individual who tampers with the operation of the Photographic Competition, violates these Official Rules, or acts in a disruptive or unsportsmanlike manner. The NCRC&DC's failure to enforce any term of these Official Rules shall not constitute a waiver of that provision. Proof of sending any communication to the NCRC&DC by mail shall not be deemed proof of receipt of that communication by the NCRC&DC. In the event of a dispute as to the owner of an online entry, the authorized account holder of the e-mail address used to enter will be

deemed to be the owner. The Photographic Competition is subject to federal, state, and local laws and regulations and is void where prohibited.

RELEASE AND LIMITATIONS OF LIABILITY

By entering, you agree to release and hold harmless the NCRC&DC and each of our respective officers, directors, employees, and agents (the "Released Parties") from and against any claim or cause of action arising out of participation in the Photographic Competition or receipt or use of any prize, including, but not limited to: (a) unauthorized human intervention in the Photographic Competition; (b) technical errors; (c) printing errors; (d) late or undelivered mail; (e) errors in the administration of the Photographic Competition; or (f) injury or damage to persons or property. You waive the right to claim any attorneys' fees and any damages whatsoever, including, but not limited to, punitive, consequential, direct, or indirect damages.

E-SUPPORTER

When you enter, you will automatically become an e-supporter of NCRC&DC. This includes special event invitations, digital messages, text and e-newsletters. You may cancel and unsubscribe at any time.

PRIVACY AND PUBLICITY

Any information you submit as part of the Photographic Competition will be used in accordance with the NCRC&DC's Privacy Policy. The information you provide when you enter is provided solely to the NCRC&DC. Except where prohibited, you consent to the NCRC&DC's use of your name in any list of winners (if applicable) and for promotional purposes in any media without further payment or consideration.

DISPUTES

You agree that any and all disputes, claims and causes of action arising out of, or connected with, the Photographic Competition or any prize awarded shall be resolved individually, without resort to any form of class action, and exclusively by the appropriate court located in California. All issues and questions concerning the construction, validity, interpretation and enforceability of these Official Rules, your rights and obligations, or the rights and obligations of the NCRC&DC in connection with the Photographic Competition, shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of California, without giving effect to any choice of law or conflict of law rules (whether of California or any other jurisdiction), which would cause the application of the laws of any jurisdiction other than California.

RESULTS

The List of Winners will be posted on the NCRC&DC website at cultivatingcommerce.org. To request a printed winners list, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your request to the NCRC&DC, P.O. Box 6417, Santa Rosa, CA 95406. Requests must be received by Oct 1, 2017.