



Governor's Pride in Arizona Awards Conference

Arizona Clean and Beautiful is seeking nominations for the 2005 Governor's Pride in Arizona Awards to be held on October 27, 2005 at the South Mountain Environmental Education Center in Phoenix. Businesses, organizations, governmental agencies, tribal communities, and individuals can be nominated.

Governor Janet Napolitano has been invited to recognize the 2005 honorees.

Governor's Pride in Arizona Conference is the only statewide environmental award program that recognizes Arizona communities, businesses, and organizations that have demonstrated a commitment to the environmental quality of Arizona by the development of innovative, sustainable programs to improve the quality of life.

In 1990, through the vision of Arizona Clean and Beautiful and the Arizona Department of Transportation, the Governor's Pride in Arizona Awards were started. It has evolved, thanks to help from committee members and the judges, into a landmark event that offers educational workshops and exhibits that address Arizona's current environmental trends and issues.

Please fill out the form and submit by
September 22, 2005 to Arizona Clean and Beautiful

Call ACB at 602-262-2532 if you have any questions.

For additional nominations, feel free to copy the form or download a form from our website at www.arizonacleanandbeautiful.org.

Selected Category Descriptions

Criminal Justice

Open to individuals employed in the criminal justice system as peace officers, prosecutor, investigator or judge, or those who have provided extraordinary assistance to help improve code enforcement that affects the environment and improves the community. Nominee cannot be employed in code enforcement.

Environmental Education

Programs that educate youth, employees or the general public, or provide educational resources to teachers and the community. Example: a comprehensive program that addresses state-specific water issues and includes lesson guides, video and an educational computer game that is distributed to local schools.

Media Leadership

Exceptional coverage of issues or promotion of events that contributes to a broader understanding of environmental issues or encourages constructive change. Includes footage, articles, etc. of the coverage. Two awards will be given: one for statewide coverage and one for local coverage.

Pollution Prevention

Activities or programs that encourage the reduction of hazardous materials at the source and improve Arizona's air or water quality. Describe how pollution prevention was promoted through education, research or direct assistance, developed new techniques or applications of existing technologies, or how an individual was an outstanding advocate for pollution prevention. Examples: changing or improving manufacturing process to reduce or eliminate the release of toxic chemicals.

Recycling

Programs that promote increased recycling and "closing the loop" within a community, company, school, etc. and may include an educational and awareness component. Example: converting a paper mill to produce 100% recycled fiber as its raw material; a company setting up a comprehensive program to collect and recycle surplus construction materials for resell at a discount or donation to nonprofit organizations.

Transportation Enhancement

For Federal Transportation Enhancement funded projects that go "above and beyond" usual transportation facilities to improve environmental and community livability. Surface transportation projects include the construction of landscaping, bike lanes, sidewalks, pathways, and even restoration of old transportation facilities such as canals and railroad depots. Unique projects include turning abandoned railroad tracks into pathways, establishment of transportation museums, archaeological planning, and pedestrian/bicycle safety education.

Water Conservation

Outstanding program that demonstrates the sustainable use and conservation of Arizona's water supplies through low water use landscaping, innovative re-use of gray water, reduction or re-use of water in an industrial setting, etc. Example: a company diverting bleed-off from a reverse osmosis system to a scrubber water supply tank.

Criteria for Recognition

- * Nominations will be accepted from anyone who chooses to submit an application.
- * Successful entries must meet the basic requirements outlined in the entry procedures.
- * Every question must be answered in order to be considered for an award. If you do not understand a question, please call the ACB office at 602-262-2532.

Honorees or their designee must be present to accept their award on Thursday, October 27, 2005 at the annual Governor's Pride in Arizona Awards Ceremony at the South Mountain Environmental Education Center in Phoenix.

Entry Procedure

- * Check the boxes that apply for each category.
- * Submit 5 copies of the summary.
- * Include slides, printed materials, photos, press clippings, etc.
- * Place the Nomination form, the summaries and other documentation into a folder.

Answer the following questions as completely as possible including relevant statistics and quantifiable data. If a question does not apply, then answer accordingly. Submit no more than 4 pages of written information. If information is missing or the guidelines are not followed, the application will be disqualified.

If you have any questions on filling out this form, please call the ACB office at 602-262-2532 or email at azbeautiful@qwest.net.

1. Identify the need or problem that this program has addressed.
2. What were the goals of the program? Include the scope and the size of the target audience.
3. Briefly describe the program history.
4. What is the current status of the program activities and techniques?
5. What innovative approaches were used to accomplish the program?
6. How many participating volunteers, employees, and program partnerships, etc. were involved?
7. What was the program's budget?
8. What were the results of the program (quantity, if possible), including improvements in public attitudes?
9. What were the environmental, economic and quality of life benefits?
10. What other details would you like to add that were not required above?

Pollution Prevention, Environmental Technology & Leadership Categories only:
Complete the following information (no more than 2 additional pages)

11. Explain your management commitment.
12. What outreach techniques were used?
13. Which source reduction activities were considered?
14. Please describe how the program can be adopted by others?

Award Category (Select One)

- Adopt-A-Program (State, County or City)
- Beautification and Forestry
- Community Leadership
- Criminal Justice*
- Environmental Education*
- Environmental Leadership
- Environmental Technology
- Media Leadership*
- Pollution Prevention
- Recycling
- Transportation Enhancement*
- Water Conservation*

Type of Community

- Rural, Unincorporated, County
- Up to 25,000 population
- 25,000 to 80,000 population
- Over 80,000 population - *Statewide*

Type of Applicant

- Individual
- Business/Industry
- Educational Institution
- Government
- Military Installation
- Native American Community
- Nonprofit or Civic Organization
- Arizona Affiliate Network Member

Please complete the following information

Name of individual, organization, group or program being nominated:

Southwestern Bald Eagle Management Committee
c/o Arizona Game and Fish Department

Address: 2221 West Greenway Road

City: Phoenix State: Az Zip: 85023

Contact Name: Bill VanPelt, Nongame Birds and Mammals Program Manager

Phone: 602-789-3573

Email: brvanpelt@azgfd.gov

Verification & additional background information is available from:

Name: Amy Hewstein, Bureau of Indian Affairs

Phone: 602-379-6750

Name: Henry Messing, Bureau of Reclamation

Phone: 602-216-3856

In the event that your program is chosen, please write a short description (100 words or less) that will be used for the introduction.

Submit entry to:

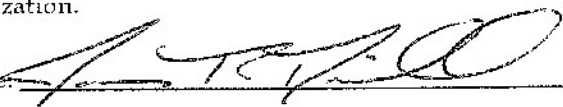
Arizona Clean and Beautiful
2323 N. 3rd Street, Suite 200
Phoenix, Arizona 85004

Entries must be postmarked no later than September 22, 2005. This entry is for the program activities for the 12 months proceeding August 31, 2005.

Your original entry will be available at the Governor's Pride in Arizona Awards luncheon for you to pick up. If you want your materials returned via mail, include a \$10.00 check for postage and handling payable to Arizona Clean and Beautiful.

Certification

I certify that all statements contained in this nomination are true and that I am duly authorized to sign and submit this entry on behalf of our community or organization.

Signature: 

Date: 09/21/05

Phone: 602-789-3581

2005 Governor's Pride in Arizona Awards Conference

October 27

South Mountain Environmental Education Center

Phoenix, Arizona

Look for this form on our website at

www.arizonacleanandbeautiful.org

GOVERNOR'S PRIDE IN ARIZONA AWARDS

Environmental Education

Nominee: The Southwestern Bald Eagle Management Committee
For: The Arizona Bald Eagle Nestwatch Program

Need, History, and Goals

Bald eagles are extremely sensitive to human activity during their breeding cycle. Due to an increasing demand for water based recreation, and the affect this activity could have on Arizona's breeding bald eagle population, the U.S. Forest Service began to monitor the recently listed bald eagle on the Tonto National Forest in 1978. They use volunteers from the Maricopa Audubon Society to collect data on behaviors and to educate the public about the breeding bald eagles in the area. Slowly this effort expanded to cover most of the bald eagle breeding areas on their national forest land, and was named the Arizona Bald Eagle Nestwatch Program (ABENWP).

In 1984, the newly formed Southwestern Bald Eagle Management Committee (SWBEMC) adopted the program, developed goals, and expanded the range of its coverage to include the entire state. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, as part of the SWBEMC, administered the ABENWP from 1984-1991 when the lead was passed to the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

The program, now in its 27th year, contracts 20-24 biologists from around the nation to monitor the success of 10-15 bald eagle breeding areas statewide. The goals of the ABENWP are to: 1) educate the recreating public on bald eagle management and the need to protect the breeding attempt, 2) collect data on the birds behavior and habitat use so that land and resource managers and make informed management decisions, and 3) conserve the breeding attempt by notifying biologists when a bald eagle encounters a life threatening situation so that a rescue effort can be made.

Target Audience

The ABENWP is designed to educate the public near bald eagle breeding areas within high recreation areas. It is within these areas that the program can make the biggest impact. Most of our contractors are stationed around the metropolitan Phoenix area, where recreation could potentially cause the biggest impact to the breeding success of the resident pairs. The ABENWP monitors bald eagle pairs on Lake Pleasant, the lower Verde and Salt rivers, Roosevelt Lake, in addition to Luna Lake near Alpine, Crescent Lake near Grier, the Verde River near Clarkdale and Camp Verde, and San Carlos Reservoir near Peridot.

In areas with high recreation, for example the lower Verde River or Lake Pleasant, the ABENWP contractors can talk to over 4,000 recreationists in one breeding season. Some of those come to see the bald eagles and get weekly updates from the contractors; others are visiting the area to recreate and did not know a bald eagle was breeding nearby. Most individuals contacted appreciate the fact that the bald eagle is being protected in Arizona, and are more than willing to change the way they recreate to give the species a chance to be productive.

Techniques and Innovative Approaches

Funded by the 19 federal, state, local agencies, private organizations, and Native American tribes, about 20 contractors are hired each February to June to monitor the nests. They participate in a 2 day training session, and are sent into the bald eagle breeding areas to camp for

the next four months. Working on 10 days on 4 days off cycles, they watch the adult bald eagles from atop mountainsides or in drainage bottoms to collect data and monitor the human activity within the breeding area. Data is collected on field forms, and then written up into a final site specific report to be distributed to the land managers. Those reports are then discussed at the SWBEMC meeting to determine what actions could be taken to benefit the species locally, thus improving their status statewide.

Some bald eagle breeding areas have seasonal closures to protect the breeding attempt. The "Nestwatchers" help enforce those closures by educating the public who may have entered the closure, thus eliminating the need to additional law enforcement personnel.

Countless numbers of nestlings have successfully fledged due these educational interactions which eliminate a disturbance before it can affect the breeding attempt. In addition, by having this on site daily monitoring, the nestwatchers can notify biologist when a bald eagle finds itself in a life threatening situation. Bald eagle nestlings can become entangled in fishing line that was brought back to the nest attached to a fish, leave the nest before they can fly, threaten with inundation during flash floods, etc. To date, the ABENWP has been responsible for saving the lives of 47 bald eagles in these situations, or 10% of the productivity during that time frame.

Partnerships and Budget

Oversight and funding for the ABENWP comes from the SWBEMC. The committee is formed of 19 federal, state, local agencies, private organizations, and Native American tribes including Arizona Game and Fish Department, Arizona Public Service, Arizona State Parks, Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation, Luke Air Force Base, Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department, National Park Service, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, Salt River Project, San Carlos Apache Tribe, Tonto Apache Tribe, U.S. Air Combat Command (GeoMarine Incorporated), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the White Mountain Apache Tribe.

The 20 or so contractors cost an average \$7,320.00/contractor/4 months or a total \$176,640.00 annually. In addition, an administrator costs an average \$60,200.00 for a grand total of \$234,840.00 annually.

Results and Benefits

In addition to the benefits listed above, a Survey of Public Opinions about Arizona's Bald Eagle Management in 2000 quantified public attitudes. The recreating public was asked a series of questions after having spoke with the ABENWP contractors, these are the results:

- 95% (n=165) believe the bald eagle should be protected.
- 87% (n=162) agree with the seasonal closures.
- 97% (n=160) were given enough information by the contractors.
- 78% (n=157) increased their knowledge about Arizona Bald Eagle Management after speaking with the ABENWP contractors.
- 85% (n=163) believe seeing bald eagles is important to their recreational experience.

However, the ultimate benefit to a management program such as this one is related to the last question. The true benefit is having a self sustaining population of bald eagles for Arizona's

recreating public to enjoy, while imposing proactive management to recover a species from near extinction with a positive response from the public.

If selected:

Introduction

The Southwestern Bald Eagle Management Committee is a cooperative effort by agencies of all levels, Native American Tribes, and private organizations whose sole purpose is the conservation of the bald eagle in Arizona. The Arizona Bald Eagle Nestwatch Program is their main sounding board for conservation efforts by taking biologists from across the nation, and putting them in Arizona bald eagle breeding areas to educate the recreating public, and to protect the breeding attempt. The efforts of the Arizona Bald Eagle Nestwatch Program have helped this species come from near extinction, to a position where they can be considered recovered.