

Official Rules: Arizona Wildlife Views photo contest

Do you want to see your photo on the cover of Arizona Wildlife Views magazine? Do you have a knack for capturing great photos of wildlife? Then you won't want to miss the Arizona Game and Fish Department's 13th annual Arizona wildlife photo contest.

One best in show and 11 first-place winners will be showcased in the 2020 calendar, which is published in the November-December issue of Arizona Wildlife Views. The best-in-show photo is published on the cover of the issue and as one of the photos representing a month.

Entrants are responsible for complying with the Official Rules or may result in disqualification.

The deadline is 5 p.m. MST on Aug. 9, 2019.

REMEMBER: Email photo submissions to photocontest@azgfd.gov

OFFICIAL RULES

Eligibility

The contest is open to all amateur and professional photographers, age 18 and older, and to amateur photographers under the age of 18 with parents' permission. Employees of the contest sponsor (the Arizona Game and Fish Department) and members of their immediate family (spouse, parent, child, sibling and their respective spouses, regardless of where they live) or persons living in the same households of such employees, whether or not related, are not eligible.

Content

This contest is for images of Arizona wildlife. All photos must depict wildlife native to and found in Arizona, and all photos must have been taken in Arizona settings. As defined in Arizona statute, the term "wildlife" does not include insects, including dragonflies, butterflies, scorpions or arachnids. Photos of pets, livestock, horses, or burros are not eligible. Photos that include people or recognizably man-made objects including roads, powerlines, fence posts, bird feeders, artificial water supplies, and bird bands are not eligible.

Images of captive animals photographed in game farms or roadside zoos, or animals from these facilities photographed elsewhere with a handler's control, will be disqualified. Captive animals photographed in major zoos, wildlife research facilities or rehabilitation centers are permitted if the location is identified. The other elements of the photo must not be identifiably man-made. In order not to encourage behavior that may disturb wildlife, photos of baby birds in a nest, or of baby elk, deer, or pronghorn bedded down, will not be accepted.

Submissions and Format

This is a digital photo contest (digital images submitted electronically for commercial print publication). Transparencies (slides) and prints are not accepted.

Submission: Digital images must be emailed to photocontest@azgfd.gov. Or you may upload images through a file sharing site, such as WeTransfer.com, etc. If uploading files via a file sharing site, remember to follow the entry procedure (below), and include all required information in the same message with the files. Do not send a separate email.

Please do not email zipped files. They are blocked from being received.

Format: Images must be in RGB color format, HORIZONTAL (not vertical), 300 dots per inch, 8 bit, and at least 9x12 inches when printed at 300 dpi. To be sure your images qualify, check pixel dimensions as well. For a 300 dpi, 9x12 inch image, pixel width should be 3600 and pixel height should be 2700. Images that do not meet these requirements may be disqualified. Please note that these dimensions will be used to prepare final winning images for publication, and some cropping may be done at the sponsor's discretion.

To capture the required high-resolution image, set your camera at the highest level of quality possible; on some cameras, this setting is called "super fine." Read the owner's manual for instructions. This setting will create big files (meaning fewer pictures will fit on each memory card).

Images in which content has been altered will not be accepted, nor will photos that have been digitally altered beyond standard optimization. Do not oversharpen images or hypersaturate the color.

Images less than 300 dpi and 9x12 inches will be disqualified. Note about smartphones: Even at actual size, photos from a typical smartphone are 10.8x8.1 inches at 300 dpi, too small to qualify for this contest.

Entry Procedure

1. Each contestant may submit a maximum of three (3) entries per person.
2. Email to photocontest@azgfd.gov must contain the following:
 - Name of photographer (how you would like your name published in the magazine)
 - Mailing address (good through December 2019)
 - Telephone number (good through December 2019)
 - Subject/location for every photo
3. Incomplete submissions will be disqualified.

Return of Entries

No materials will be returned.

Prizes

Eleven first-place awards will be given, plus one "Best in Show" for the cover photo. There is a limit of one winning photo per photographer. All winners receive cash prizes and complimentary copies of the calendar issue of Arizona Wildlife Views magazine. No prize transfer, assignment, or substitution by winners is permitted. Winners will be notified via email. Winners are required to register with the Arizona Procurement Portal in order to receive a cash prize. Any winner who fails to register in a timely manner will not receive a cash prize, but the photo will still be published (with credit).

Honorable mention will also be given to photos of particular merit. All honorable mention photographers receive complimentary copies of the calendar issue of Arizona Wildlife Views magazine.

The names of winning photographers and those selected for honorable mention will be posted on www.azgfd.gov/photocontest and provided to the media.

Judging

Entries are judged separately and anonymously — there is no personal information included with them during the judging process. Winners will be chosen on or around Nov. 1, 2019, and notified thereafter. Decisions of the judges are final and binding.

Entries are judged on the basis of:

- creativity
- photographic quality
- composition
- effectiveness in conveying the unique character of the subject

Entries subject to disqualification:

- photos too small (follow format above)
- photos of insects, livestock, wildlife not native to Arizona
- photos depicting: fences, hummingbird feeders, people
- wildlife not clear or close enough
- submitting too many photos (limit of three per photographer)

Deadline and Proof of Submission

The deadline for receipt of entries is 5 p.m. (MST) Aug. 9, 2019. Entries received after this deadline will be disqualified. Proof of submission is not proof of receipt. Entries must be made by the authorized account holder of the email address submitted at the time of entry.

“Authorized account holder” is defined as the natural person who is assigned to an email address by an Internet access provider, online service provider, internet domain owner, or other person or organization (e.g., business, educational institution, etc.) that is responsible for assigning email addresses for the domain associated with the submitted email address. Email all entries to: photocontest@azgfd.gov.

Rights and Permissions

Photographers retain copyright to their submitted photographs. By submitting one or more entries, contestants agree that, if selected as a winner or for honorable mention, the photo can be published in the calendar issue of the Arizona Game and Fish Department’s magazine, Arizona Wildlife Views, and posted to the department’s website (at a reduced size and with the photographer’s copyright information included). Winning and honorable mention photos also may be used in promotions of Arizona Wildlife Views magazine and the calendar photo contest. The Arizona Game and Fish Department will not use any submitted photos in any other way or for any other purpose without permission and agreed-upon compensation.

Winners List

Entrants are responsible for complying with these Official Rules. Winners’ names will be available online at www.azgfd.gov/photocontest after Nov. 1, 2019.