



American Fisheries Society

Western Division

December 2, 2005

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Dear Richard:

The Western Division of the American Fisheries Society invites the Bureau of Land Management to participate in the annual Riparian Challenge.

The Riparian, Watersheds and Habitat Committee is now seeking entries for the Western Division's 2006 Riparian Challenge Award. The Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service and other conservation agencies in the states encompassed by the Western Division are encouraged to participate in the contest. Winners will receive the Western Division's *Award of Excellence in Riparian Management*. The purpose of the award is to:

- Encourage the Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service and other conservation agencies to strive for excellence in riparian and watershed habitat management,
- Encourage agencies to progress in on-the-ground accomplishments which when added together throughout the West, will significantly improve riparian systems,
- Recognize managers and resource specialists for their efforts in maintaining, restoring, and improving riparian and watershed ecosystems.

We hope to receive a number of quality nominations from BLM, USFS and other conservation agencies or private industry this year describing their efforts in riparian management. I would appreciate it if you could distribute this information to all field offices and encourage Bureau of Land Management employees to participate. Winners will be selected in the following categories (depending on the number of submissions received):

British Columbia • Yukon • Mexico • Alaska • Arizona • California • Colorado • Hawaii • Idaho • Montana • Nevada
New Mexico • Utah • Washington • Wyoming • Western Pacific islands and trust territories

Attachment 1-1

BLM

- Best Resource Area or Field Office

Forest Service

- Best Ranger District

Other Conservation Agency or Private Industry

- Best Riparian Project

The entry format and the criteria that will be used to judge the nominations are described on the following two pages. Entries must be received no later than April 1, 2006. The 2006 Awards of Excellence in Riparian Management will be presented at the Western Division's annual meeting in Bozeman, Montana. The meeting will be held from May 15-19, 2006. Thank you very much for your participation in this process.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Hilda Sexauer
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