

The Major Conservation Awards

presented by the SWF at the annual convention in February

Careful consideration should be given towards choosing worthy recipients for these most prestigious awards. **Please send your submissions into Central Office by January 1.** Submissions can be made by your branch or any interested individual. All awards, except the Ed Begin Conservation Project Award, are voted on by a judging panel prior to convention. The Project Award is voted on by the Convention delegates – all that is required by the January 1 deadline is the branch and the name of the project - the presentation by the branch is done on the convention floor and time will be set aside on the convention agenda for the project presentations). All awards are presented on the final night of convention.

Clayton Young Memorial Award

Presented to individuals whose lifetime volunteerism has had a profound positive influence towards fulfilling our Federation's mission statement "to ensure the wild life legacy we leave to our children surpasses that which we inherited." These activities would include branch and membership support, wildlife and habitat conservation and education.

The SWF would like to thank the branch executive and individual members who continually support the Federation's many program. We would be in dire straits without our dedicated volunteers who give freely of their time and expertise, to say nothing of the money spent out of their own pockets. Although we can't individually thank each and every one of our volunteers, every branch has a core few that do the majority of the work or someone who has stepped up to the plate and taken on a major project. The branches are responsible for nominating their key volunteers and we will honor 6 recipients per year - one from each region.

Ed Begin Conservation Project Award

Presented to the SWF Branch for the best fish or wildlife habitat project, contributing to the conservation, improvement, and/or public awareness of Saskatchewan's fish or wildlife habitat.

Many projects undertaken by the branches of the SWF are certainly worthy of nomination. If your project was worth the hours of volunteer time, money and effort it took to complete, it is certainly worth the effort it takes to nominate it for this award. Judging on this award depends on how well the submission is done up. Branches make presentations on their projects (power point, pictures, newspaper clippings, etc) on the convention floor. The convention delegates vote on the projects and the award plus \$500 is presented to the winning branch at the convention.

Resource Management Conservation Award

Presented to the professional employee in the conservation and/or resource management field, who has demonstrated dedication, courage, ability and expertise above and beyond the normal course of duty in managing and preserving Saskatchewan's natural heritage.

There are many employees in the resource field that are well deserved of this nomination. Consider for example your local conservation officer, local biologist (fisheries/wildlife), personnel from Ducks Unlimited, SE, Nature Saskatchewan, or your own SWF, etc.

Gordon Lund Memorial Award

Presented to the person who, by thought, effort, or deed, is considered to have contributed the most towards the conservation of Saskatchewan's renewable natural resources.

Again, there are many people across the province that should be nominated for this award. This could be your neighbor, wife, husband or local conservationist - anyone who you feel has contributed to the conservation of our natural resources (i.e. someone who spends countless hours teaching our youth about wildlife and conservation, a certain person who has spearheaded an ongoing project and has stuck it with from beginning to end, etc.) It is very important how you present your nomination. Just because you or your branch know of all the good things this person has done, remember the judges don't.

Bill McDonald Youth Conservationist Award

Presented to the youth (18 and under), who, by thought, effort, or deed, is considered to have contributed the most towards the conservation of Saskatchewan's renewable natural resources.

Any youth, 18 years of age or under, can be nominated for this award. This could be someone who has initiated programs for the local youth group or branch in general; has grown with your youth group and now has taken over a leadership role in teaching others; shows a great concern for our natural resources and is taking an active role in conservation; started a group with their friends or at their school etc., etc. There are many young people out there who deserve the recognition and encouragement to continue on with their efforts. They are the future!