

**STATE OF NEVADA
BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS**

Commission Policy Number 51

Number: P-51

Title: Wayne E. Kirch Nevada Wildlife Conservation Award

Effective Date: August 8, 2003

Reviewed Date: 2022

Amended Date: September 24, 2011 and March 16, 2018, August 20, 2022

PURPOSE

To establish a policy for the administration of the Wayne E. Kirch Nevada Wildlife Conservation Award.

POLICY

1. The Wildlife Commission's Wayne E. Kirch Nevada Wildlife Conservation Award is presented annually to bestow a richly deserved honor on the individual, nonprofit organization, outdoor sports club or business that has shown outstanding achievement and significant results in the conservation, management or enhancement of wildlife in the State of Nevada during the calendar year preceding the award. Two Board of Wildlife Commissioners, to be named by the chairman, will be represented on the Kirch Award Committee.
2. Nominations Schedule: Nominations for the award will be printed each August and mailed out September 1 to all County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife (CABMW), the agency's established sportsman's directory list, the wildlife commissioners, and all agency offices. A press release to announce the award will be sent out statewide. Nominations will be accepted until November 15 of the current year at 5 p.m., and judges will receive nominations for review by December 1. The judging panel must review nominations and return ratings sheets to Department staff by December 15 of the current year. Staff will report to the Kirch Award Committee at the earliest date possible as to the outcome of the award and to determine whether a tie-breaker is needed.
3. Judging Panel: The recipient will be selected by a judging panel made up of two wildlife commissioners, Department staff assigned to the Kirch Award Committee, and Marlene Kirch, daughter, or other appointed family member of former commissioner Wayne E. Kirch. In addition, four judges representing CABMWs or outdoor groups will be selected biennially by the Habitat Division, Game Division, Diversity Division and Fisheries Division Administrators. Each judge will independently rank the nominees and provide a final ranking sheet to the Department staff. Any tie breakers will be decided by the two Wildlife Commissioners serving on the Kirch Award Committee and Department staff assigned to the Kirch Award Committee. The award will be presented to the selected candidate at the next Wildlife Commission meeting held closest to the recipient's home.
4. Judging Criteria: Selection of the award winner will be made solely from the official Conservation Award nomination form. The following criteria will be considered in evaluating nominees:

- a. Time and depth of commitment to conservation, management, or enhancement of wildlife in the State of Nevada during the current calendar year.
 - b. Influence of the person/project on the public and in presenting positive public relations in regard to wildlife conservation in Nevada.
 - c. Quantity and quality of measurable results for wildlife conservation.
 - d. Obstacles, difficulties and personal sacrifice involved in meeting wildlife conservation goals.
5. Type of Award: The perpetual award is a plaque made out of wood and bronze to which each year's recipient's name will be added. The perpetual award is permanently installed in the lobby of the Department. In addition, each annual recipient will receive a smaller version to commemorate the award. The perpetual plaque and annual awards will be sponsored by Marlene Kirch or other appointed family member of their choosing, in her father's name, in perpetuity.
 6. Publicity: An announcement of the availability of nomination forms will be made each September. Announcements will be emailed statewide to sportsmen/outdoor retail stores. An email notification of the announcement will be sent to NGO's and Conservation Partnerships for their review and dissemination to members. The Conservation Education Division will air information through the Nevada Wild Podcast, as well. A statewide press release acknowledging the award recipient and their contributions on behalf of wildlife conservation will be prepared and sent out after the announcement of the award.
 7. All costs for printing and any other administrative costs of the Kirch Award are to be paid out of the commission budget.
 8. Copies of the Wayne Kirch nominations will be retained by Nevada Department of Wildlife and/or a permanent repository preserving the history of the Nevada Department of Wildlife and the wildlife of Nevada. Certificates of appreciation should also be sent to nominees.

This policy shall remain in effect until amended, repealed, or superseded by the Board of Wildlife Commissioners.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS IN REGULAR SESSION,
AUGUST 20, 2022.

Chairman Tommy Caviglia
Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners