

SEEKING FORCES OF NATURE

The 2019 online nomination form is available at
<https://fs20.formsite.com/cwadmin/vfv34knodv/index.html>

This PDF version of the nomination questionnaire is intended to help you get ready to submit the online nomination. Please submit all nominations online. If you have questions or feedback, please contact Laura Reilly at laura.reillycw@gmail.com or Cherie LeBlanc Fisher at cherie.l.fisher@usda.gov.

INTRODUCTION

The Chicago Wilderness **Force of Nature Awards** celebrate people and organizations whose conservation, restoration, advocacy, and/or educational activities are inspirational examples for others. The Force of Nature Awards complement the Chicago Wilderness [Excellence in Ecological Restoration Awards](#), which focus on high quality restoration of natural areas (100 acres or larger).

Force of Nature Awards identify and recognize:

1. Outstanding site-specific natural land or water enhancement work.
2. People, programs and projects that are not site-specific but have made a positive impact on conservation in the region.

The purpose of this award is to recognize work that extends above and beyond the ordinary. Think: novel approaches, big ideas, extraordinary collaborations, bold leadership.

Application Guidelines:

1. You may nominate yourself (or your organization) or someone else.
2. Any size organization, project or program is eligible.
3. For site-specific nominations, the intent of this award is to recognize work on landscapes that extends beyond traditional restoration work. (See the Excellence in Ecological Restoration Awards [application](#) for exemplary restoration projects that are 100+ acres.)
4. Nominations are due by March 31.

This nomination form will ask for: contact information for yourself and the nominee, a description of the nominee, an explanation about why the nominee is a Force of Nature, a list of partners or stakeholders (if applicable), and supporting documentation. It will be helpful to have this information handy before starting the nomination form.

Additional information about former Force of Nature Award recipients can be found at:

www.chicagowilderness.org/page/forceofnature.

If you have questions or feedback about nominations or this form, please contact Laura Reilly at

laura.reillycw@gmail.com or Cherie LeBlanc Fisher at cherie.l.fisher@usda.gov.

YOUR INFORMATION

Your information will be kept strictly confidential. We may contact you if more information is needed about the nominee. Other than that, we will not contact you except to notify you about award winners at the end of the review process.

First name:

Last name:

Title:

Organization:

Email address:

Verify email address:

Mailing address:

Address line 2:

City:

State:

Zip code:

Phone number:

WHO OR WHAT ARE YOU NOMINATING?

All of the information about the nominee will be kept strictly confidential. Nominees will not be contacted unless they are selected to receive an award.

Is the nominee a(n)...?

Individual person or persons

Site-specific project

Program

Other (please explain)

Nominee's organization/affiliation:

If the nominee is not an individual, please provide a contact person

Nominee/contact person email address

Verify nominee/contact person email address:

Nominee/contact person mailing address:

Nominee/contact person address line 2:

Nominee/contact person city:

Nominee/contact person state:

Nominee/contact person zip code:

Nominee/contact person phone number:

Nominee website (if applicable):

INFORMATION ABOUT SITE-SPECIFIC PROJECTS

[The online form will automatically skip this section if you are not nominating a site-specific project.]

Please describe the project/landscape and related activities. (250 words or less)

What is the approximate size of the project in acres? (Remember, small is fine.)

Where is the site located? (city, county and state)

INFORMATION ABOUT PROGRAMS

[The online form will automatically skip this section if you are not nominating a program.]

Please describe the program including the audience, purpose, participation, and outcomes. (250 words or less)

Where is the program offered (city and state)? If multiple locations, please list them.

How long has the program been underway? Is it ongoing?

WHY IS THE NOMINEE A FORCE OF NATURE?

Please tell us in your own words what makes the nominee a Force of Nature. (250 words or less)

PARTNERS AND STAKEHOLDERS

If applicable, please list partners or other stakeholders who should be recognized as part of this award. Please provide partner/stakeholder names, contact persons, and contact information including email address and phone numbers.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION AND PHOTOS

To support your Force of Nature nomination, you may email up to 5 documents plus up to 5 photos to laura.reillycw@gmail.com. Letters of support and other supporting documents are not required but will substantially strengthen your nomination.

Please submit all files in pdf format if possible. Quality is more important than quantity. Please limit letters of support to 2 pages. Please submit no more than 2 brochures or marketing pieces. Reviewers will not have time to read long documents such as full management or strategic plans -- please submit executive summaries only.

When emailing supporting documents, please put "Supporting documentation for Force of Nature nomination for [name of nominee]" in the subject line.

For photographs, please provide a short description and a photographer credit for each photo. Please put "Photographs for Force of Nature nomination for [name of nominee]" in the subject line.

YOU'RE DONE!

Thank you for your Force of Nature nomination. We will contact you in the next few weeks if we have follow-up questions. At the end of the review process, we will notify you about whether or not your nominee has been selected to receive an award (and when and where the award ceremony will be).

If you have questions or feedback, please contact Laura Reilly at laura.reillycw@gmail.com or Cherie LeBlanc Fisher at cherie.l.fisher@usda.gov.