



ASSOCIATION *of*
FISH & WILDLIFE
AGENCIES

CRITERIA FOR THE MARK J. REEFF MEMORIAL AWARD

Given: Annually, at annual general meeting in September. Inaugural Presentation: 1998

To: A person 35 years of age or younger, employed by a member (or affiliate) agency.

For: Outstanding service in the conservation of fish and wildlife resources; in overcoming difficult circumstances through creative, determined initiatives of the nominee's own device; to the direct benefit of the resource, the agency and its clients; especially those initiatives which produce benefits beyond the immediate area of mandate of the nominating agency.

Rationale: It is in the conservation movement's best interest to encourage younger professionals to address the myriad of issues they now face, ever increasing in range and complexity, with a spirit of innovation and determination. Particular recognition is due to those who willingly accept more difficult challenges, and inspire others to do the same. The Association, according to its funding principles and objectives, should be a discernible leader in doing so. The hallmark of Mark Reeff's career was to take a good idea and pursue it with dedication and persistence, not cowed by his relative youth when work in "high places."

What: Engraved plaque, similar to Ernest Thompson Seton award. One each to both recipient and nominating agency.

Chosen by: Association Awards Committee

Process: Accomplishments submitted for adjudication may be in any area of resources conservation work: biological, extension, administrative, etc.

Nominees may come from any level off an agency, but encouragement would be to select individual not yet in the spotlight – from more junior levels. Overriding conservation would be the complexity and difficulty of the nominee's accomplishments, and the level of benefit (immediate or long-term, anticipated) accruing to the cause.