



Linda Siebert Career Achievement Award

The Linda Siebert Career Achievement Award recognizes a current or retired Bureau of Land Management (BLM) employee who has significantly contributed to the conservation of fish, wildlife, and/or botanic resources over the course of their career. Any outstanding BLM Botanist, Fisheries or Aquatic Biologist, Wildlife Biologist, state office program lead, or manager is eligible to receive this award. State directors are encouraged to nominate individuals for recognition.

The Linda Siebert Career Achievement Award recognizes a BLM biologist or manager who exemplifies the characteristics and professional dedication of one of BLM's finest biologists, Linda Siebert. Linda passed away on May 31, 2000, at the age of 53, leaving an indelible legacy on the wildlife resources of the desert southwest through her 22-year career with the BLM. Individuals who had the privilege to know and work with Linda, including co-workers in the BLM, professional wildlife biologists in other agencies, teachers, sportsmen, and private citizens, all found themselves in the presence of a truly special person.

Linda's love and passion for the outdoors translated into a tireless advocacy for habitat protection and restoration. Her strong commitment to public service and focus on the public good was reflected in her tireless efforts to build bridges between agencies, non-governmental organizations, community groups, and private citizens interested in public lands management. Linda was an active problem solver who focused on non-confrontational ways to get things done, not the problems that might stand in the way. Through her technical skill and genuine desire to do the right thing for the resources and the public, Linda was able to resolve conflicts and turn them into positive outcomes.

Emphasis will be given to nominees that have:

- Developed strong working relationships with other individuals or organizations.
- Made consistent contributions to natural resources.
- Had a long-term natural resources career (20+ years).
- Accomplished work through innovation and creativity.
- Established and developed partnerships throughout their career.

The nomination packages should include:

- The name and title of nominee.
- The nominee's current position and address.
- A summary of the nominee's achievements.
- The nominator's contact information

Justification statements should include examples of:

- career accomplishments
- professional experience, recognition, and dedication; and
- how the individual uses ingenuity to accomplish natural resource goals

Please limit all nominations to two pages. Nominations must be submitted to Geoff Walsh, Wildlife Biologist, at gwalsh@blm.gov **no later than January 16, 2015**. The recipient of the previous year's Linda Seibert Career Achievement Award will chair a committee to review nominations for the current year's Linda Seibert Award. The Linda Siebert Career Award will be presented at the joint BLM/Forest Service awards reception at the North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference in Omaha, Nebraska during the week of March 9, 2015.



Jim Yoakum Emerging Professional Award

This award is named in honor of BLM's first wildlife biologist, Jim Yoakum, and recognizes an early to mid-career BLM wildlife biologist or fisheries biologist who has demonstrated a high level of professionalism, leadership, and commitment to managing wildlife and fisheries on public lands. Jim Yoakum was hired by the BLM in 1958 to be the agency's first wildlife biologist. He was a World War II veteran who had used the GI Bill to obtain his bachelors and masters degrees in Wildlife Management. He was brought in as part of an effort to increase the number of college graduates within the agency.

In the years before the passage of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, and the Endangered Species Act, Jim Yoakum worked proactively to protect and manage wildlife resources while laying the early foundations for BLM's wildlife program. He was an unrelenting advocate for professionalism and the use of the best science in the field of wildlife management. During the course of his career, Jim published numerous articles in both the scientific and popular literature. He was a teacher and mentor to dozens of young biologists. Jim Yoakum believed that an effective wildlife biologist needed to participate in professional organizations, as well as, work effectively with the public and other professionals.

The Jim Yoakum Emerging Professional Award recognizes the accomplishments of early to mid-career (first 10 years of professional employment) BLM wildlife or fisheries biologists who have shown the initiative to make notable contributions to their profession. The award recognizes outstanding individuals whose leadership, projects, or programs have been recognized by others as advancing the goals of improving or conserving wildlife and fisheries resources. Nominations should describe how the nominee has demonstrated exceptional dedication to resolving complex or controversial wildlife management or conservation issues. Nominees should have developed good communication skills and good working relationships with other federal and state agencies as well as stakeholders. Although not required for award consideration, exceptional nominees will have demonstrated active participation at local, regional, or national levels in appropriate professional societies, such as The Wildlife Society, The American Fisheries Society, Ecological Society of America, and/or Society for Conservation Biology, etc.

Nominations will be accepted from BLM state directors, other agencies, professional societies and non-governmental organizations and partners. Please limit all nominations to two pages. Nominations must be submitted to Geoff Walsh, Wildlife Biologist, at gwalsh@blm.gov **later than January 16, 2015.**

The Jim Yoakum Emerging Professional Award will be presented at the joint BLM/Forest Service awards reception at the North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference in Omaha, Nebraska during the week of March 9, 2015.



BLM/FS Conservation Project Award

This annual award recognizes development and implementation of a joint BLM/FS project with outstanding conservation accomplishments for fish, wildlife, and/or native plants and their habitat on public lands, and/or facilitates their use, enjoyment or appreciation. The project's scale can be at either a local, regional, or national level.

Emphasis will be given to projects that:

- Have demonstrated (through a BLM and FS partnership) unique or innovative approaches and/or work to promote public understanding of cooperative conservation.
- Will work at a watershed or regional scale.
- Are multi-year in scope.
- Involve creative or multiple partnerships.
- Have high conservation value.
- Meet both BLM/FS resource conservation priorities.

The nomination package should include:

- The name and location of the project.
- The title and contact information for the BLM and FS personnel responsible for project.
- A summary of what the project accomplished and its significance for wildlife, fish, and/or native plants and their habitats.
- A description of how the project strengthened interagency coordination.
- A description of the interagency collaborative effort that benefited the species and habitat.
- The nominator's contact information

Please limit all nominations to two pages. Nominations must be submitted to Geoff Walsh, Wildlife Biologist, at gwalsh@blm.gov no later than **January 16, 2015**. Award nominations will be evaluated by an interagency committee of staff and managers from the BLM and FS.

The BLM/FS Conservation Project Award will be presented during the joint BLM/FS awards reception at the North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference in Omaha, Nebraska the week of March 9, 2015.



BLM/FS Conservation Partner Award



This annual award recognizes an organization or individual representing a conservation organization for their outstanding leadership in the development and implementation of conservation programs and activities that have directly benefited fish, wildlife, and/or native plants on public lands or their use, enjoyment, and appreciation.

Nominees for this award must have demonstrated sustained dedication, leadership, and commitment to work collaboratively to build partnerships that promote sound land management practices and the conservation of wildlife, fisheries, and/or native plant resources that depend on public lands. Nominee's accomplishments can be at a local, regional, or national level.

Emphasis will be given to nominees who:

- Have had a long-standing (four or more years) partnership with the BLM and FS.
- Have a demonstrated record of accomplishment of cooperative conservation successes.
- Are recognized as leaders in the conservation field and use unique or innovative approaches.
- Work to promote the public's understanding of cooperative conservation.

The nomination package should include:

- The title of person and/or their organization.
- His/her current position or address.
- The nominator's contact information.
- A summary of achievements.
- Any other appropriate information.

Please limit all nominations to two pages. Nominations must be submitted to Geoff Walsh, Wildlife Biologist, at gwalsh@blm.gov no later than **January 16, 2015**. Award nominations will be evaluated by an interagency committee of staff and managers from the BLM and FS.

The BLM/FS Conservation Partner Award will be presented at the joint BLM/FS awards reception at the North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference in Omaha, Nebraska, during the week of March 9, 2014.