



National Forest Recreation Association Annual Ranger of the Year Award

The National Forest Recreation Association (NFRA) originated its annual 'Ranger of the Year' Award in 1982. The award is conducted with the cooperation and approval of the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management to generate nationwide recognition of outstanding professional and community service by federal recreation managers at the local level.

Candidates for 'Ranger of the Year' may be nominated by any private citizen using public lands for recreational purposes.

Final selection is made by NFRA's Board of Judges chaired by NFRA's President. The Award is based on the following:

1. Dedication to duties and cooperation with private parties and permit holders using America's public lands for recreational purposes.
2. Specific accomplishments relating to service to the public.
3. Participation in local community affairs.

Ranger of the Year Award Winners:

1983	<u>Raymond O. "Slim" Wright</u> Animal Packer Wapiti Ranger District Shoshone National Forest - Wyoming	USDA Forest Service
1984	<u>Virgil Anderson</u> Recreation Specialist Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit – California	USDA Forest Service
1985	<u>Dale Bittle</u> Supervisory Forest Technician Grand Mesa-Gunnison-Uncompahgre National Forest – Colorado	USDA Forest Service
1986	<u>Robert N. Boyle</u> Forestry Technician Wapiti Ranger District Shoshone National Forest – Wyoming	USDA Forest Service
1987	<u>Norman Anderson</u> Wenatchee National Forest – Washington	USDA Forest Service

1988	<u>Alexander “Skip” Shoutis</u> Forestry Technician Lander Ranger District Shoshone National Forest – Wyoming	USDA Forest Service
	Darrell Sall Manager Garnet Resource Area – Montana	Bureau of Land Management
1989	<u>Robert Addison</u> District Ranger Cannell Meadow Ranger District Sequoia National Forest – California	USDA Forest Service
	<u>LuVerne Grussing</u> Recreation Planner Cottonwood Resource Area – Idaho	Bureau of Land Management
1990	<u>N. Jane Oden</u> Special Uses Permit Administrator Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit – California	USDA Forest Service
	<u>Wesley Girard</u> Prescott National Forest – Arizona	USDA Forest Service
1991	<u>John Hojnowski</u> Special Uses Administrator Diamond Lake Ranger District Umpqua National Forest – Oregon	USDA Forest Service
1992	<u>Christine Nota</u> District Ranger Minarets Ranger District Sierra National Forest – California	USDA Forest Service
	<u>Mark Buckbee</u> Recreation Operations Manager Roseburg – Oregon	Bureau of Land Management
1993	<u>Jack Horner</u> Landscape Architect Plumas National Forest – California	USDA Forest Service

1994	<u>Bob Wetzel</u>	USDA Forest Service Recreation & Wilderness Manager Calaveras Ranger District Stanislaus National Forest – California
1995	<u>Marily Reese</u>	USDA Forest Service Assistant Recreation Officer Sequoia National Forest – California
1996	<u>Dale Potter</u>	USDA Forest Service Assistant Recreation Officer Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest – Washington
1997	<u>Teri Drivas</u>	USDA Forest Service Acting District Ranger Mariposa Ranger District Sierra National Forest – California
1998	<u>Vicki Ramming</u>	USDA Forest Service Permit Administrator Bend and Fort Rock Ranger Districts Deschutes National Forest - Oregon
	<u>Ken Anderson</u>	USDA Forest Service Coconino National Forest
1999	No Record	
2000	<u>John Knorr</u>	USDA Forest Service Recreation Special Uses Program Manager Intermountain Region – Utah
2001	<u>Mary Allison</u>	USDA Forest Service Recreation Officer Hume Lake Ranger District Sequoia National Forest - California
2002	<u>Steven Nelson</u>	USDA Forest Service Recreation Planner Gifford Pinchot National Forest- Washington

2003	<u>Connie Lane</u> Recreation Officer Globe Ranger District Tonto National Forest - Arizona	USDA Forest Service
2004	<u>Scott Layton</u> Developed Recreation Manager Ogden Ranger District Wasatch-Cache National Forest- Utah	USDA Forest Service
2005	<u>Jim Thorsen</u> District Ranger Seminole Ranger District Ocala National Forest – Florida	USDA Forest Service
2006	<u>Tom Burns</u> Resource Officer Tule River Ranger District Sequoia National Forest – California	USDA Forest Service
2007	<u>Barbara Croonquist</u> Special Uses Permit Administrator San Gabriel River Ranger District Angeles National Forest – California	USDA Forest Service

Distinguished Service Awards:

<u>Arthur Wirtz</u> District Ranger Mesa Ranger District Tonto National Forest – Arizona	USDA Forest Service
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<u>Dave Carey</u> Outdoor Recreation Planner Bozeman Ranger District Gallatin National Forest – Montana
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2008	<u>Arthur Wirtz</u> District Ranger Mesa Ranger District Tonto National Forest – Arizona	USDA Forest Service
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2015	<u>Don Lane</u>	USDA Forest Service Supervisory Recreation Forester Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit - California
	<u>Dave McKee</u>	USDA Forest Service Recreation, Lands, Heritage & Wilderness Staff Officer Bighorn National Forest - Wyoming
2016	<u>Deborah McDougald</u>	USDA Forest Service Wilderness Special Uses Permit Administrator and Forest Stock Manager Sierra National Forest – California
2017	<u>Mike Kenealy</u>	USDA Forest Service Special Uses White River National Forest - Colorado
2018	<u>Brian Poturlaski</u>	USDA Forest Service Recreation Program Manager Coconino National Forest – Arizona
2019	<u>Tricia Maki</u>	USDA Forest Service District Recreation Staff Officer Kern River Ranger District Sequoia National Forest / Giant Sequoia National Monument – California
2020	No Conference due to Covid-19	
2021	<u>Michael Morse</u>	USDA Forest Service Wilderness and Trails Supervisor Mammoth Ranger District Inyo National Forest – California
2022	<u>Robert Becker</u>	USDA Forest Service Recreation Specialist Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit – California & Nevada
2023	<u>Legacy Award – Eric Mart</u>	Concessionaire California Land Management
2024	<u>Rick DeLappe</u>	National Park Service Program Manager – Recreation One Stop / Recreation.gov Edgewater, Colorado