



File Code: 2350**Date:****Route To:****Subject:** 2024 National Wild and Scenic Rivers Awards Nominations**To:** Regional Foresters, Station Directors, IITF Director and Deputy Chiefs**REPLY DUE APRIL 26, 2024**

National Wild and Scenic Rivers Awards nominations are now being accepted for calendar year 2023 accomplishments. These awards provide an opportunity to recognize exemplary efforts to protect and enhance the free-flowing condition, water quality, and outstandingly remarkable values of over 5,000 miles of wild and scenic rivers managed by the Forest Service.

I strongly encourage units to nominate internal and external individuals, groups, and programs that have improved river-related service to the public, championed new and effective approaches to river stewardship, or otherwise displayed noteworthy dedication to a wild and scenic river, wild and scenic river study, or river identified as a candidate for future designation. The National Wild and Scenic Rivers Awards are:

- **Outstanding Wild and Scenic Rivers Stewardship**
- **Outstanding River Manager/River Ranger**
- **Outstanding Support to the Wild & Scenic Rivers Program**

A description of each award and criteria for selection is enclosed along with a nomination form. Units are encouraged to submit succinct nominations that address relevant criteria. Please avoid elaborate nomination packages.

Please submit your nominations for the 2024 National Wild and Scenic Rivers Awards (or any questions about the awards process) to Dusty Vaughn, Washington Office Wilderness and Wild and Scenic Rivers Program Specialist, at gary.vaughn@usda.gov by April 26, 2024.

In addition, the Interagency Wild and Scenic Rivers Coordinating Council's **Jackie Diedrich Wild and Scenic Rivers Leadership Award** is open to Federal and State agency staff responsible for managing wild and scenic rivers. The nomination deadline for this award is the same as stated above. More information about this award and nomination submittal instructions are available at <https://www.rivers.gov/national-awards>.

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Enclosures (2)

