



AFWA R3 ADVANCEMENT AWARD

Purpose of Award:

To recognize outstanding, national or regional level achievements in efforts that have proven recruitment, retention and reactivation (R3) impacts for hunting, fishing, recreational target shooting, boating and trapping by an individual, a unit, bureau, division, non-governmental organization or a combination of the preceding that measurably advance the science and or application of R3.

This award is designed to be a recognition of the R3 community for accomplishments above and beyond simply doing a “good job.”

Nominations:

Over the past two decades, the R3 movement has evolved into a sophisticated, scientific and critical wing of state fish and wildlife agencies and their partners. The Association establishes this award to encourage the continued advancement of this important field by recognizing individuals, bureaus, work teams and others.

The recipient will be directly involved in the R3 work of an organization or governmental entity, however, is not required to be a direct R3 practitioner and could include a biologist, public relations officer, conservation officer, specialist, or professional supporting the R3 work within the AFWA regions who has contributed significantly by providing a measurable effort that either supports the field of R3 or scalable and innovative efforts providing measurable outcomes for participation and or public support.

Nominations will be evaluated based on:

1. Quality and effectiveness of the nominee’s work using proven R3 Best Practices.
2. Impact of the nominees work in advancing the R3 effort regionally or nationally.
3. The level of benefit (immediate, long-term or anticipated) attributed to the nominee’s work.

Judging:

All nominations will be reviewed by a chosen member from the Association's Hunting/Shooting Sports Participation Committee, Angler and Boater R3 Committee, as well as the award's sponsor organizations – Council to Advance Hunting and Shooting Sports and the National Archery in the Schools Program. The R3 Award Judging Committee will make recommendations to the Annual Awards Committee for final selection.

Award:

Recipient(s) of the R3 Advancement Award will be recognized at the Annual Awards Banquet held at AFWA's Annual Fall Meeting.

Application:

Agency directors, State R3 Leaders and NGO administrators are invited to submit letters of nomination for the AFWA R3 Advancement Award. Please include the following items in your nomination package:

1. Name, address and telephone number of nominator(s).
2. Name, address and telephone number of the nominee.
3. Description of the nominee's contributions to R3 advancement (please provide a brief narrative, and pictures and/or video if applicable) related to:
 - a. Innovations in proven R3 advancement;
 - b. Efforts to advance the R3 science;
 - c. Regional or national successes in R3 application.

Direct Questions & Annual Award Nominations to:

Patricia Allen pallen@fishwildlife.org

*Accepting electronic nominations only. Please submit nominations to pallen@fishwildlife.org

Deadline to Submit Nominations: July 1, 2026