

# AWARDS PROCEDURE MANUAL



Prepared by: IASCD  
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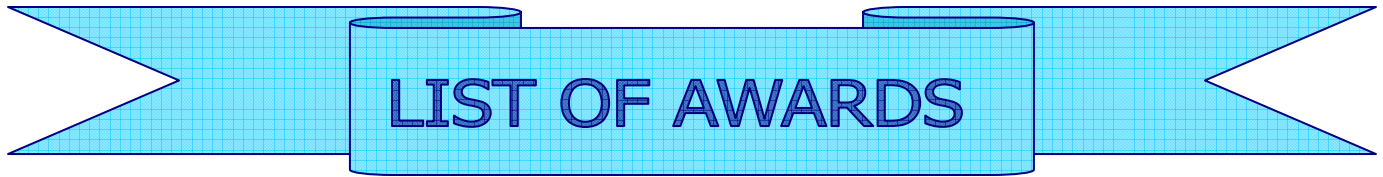
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# LIST OF AWARDS

## IASCD Conservation Education Awards

State District of the Year  
State Elementary Teacher of the Year  
State Secondary Teacher of the Year

## IASCD Awards

Doyle L. Scott  
R.N. Irving  
Idaho Grassman of the Year  
Agency Employee Award  
Legislator of the Year  
Outstanding Resource, Conservation and Development Award  
*(co-sponsored by IASCD, RC&D, and NRCS)*  
Newscaster of the Year  
Conservation Writer of the Year  
IASCD Poster Contest  
IASCD Auxiliary Speech Contest  
Conservation Partnership Field Office Award  
District Employee of the Year  
*(sponsored by the Idaho District Employee's Association)*

A blue banner with a grid pattern and a central white box containing the text "AWARD CRITERIA".

# AWARD CRITERIA

## IASCD STATE DISTRICT OF THE YEAR

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**DEADLINE:**

September 1

**PURPOSE:**

To recognize a district that has created innovative educational activities to promote and improve soil and water conservation.

**NOMINATIONS:**

Q. How are nominations made?

Entry forms are mailed to the districts by the IASCD.

A. Send nominations to:

IASCD  
39 West Pine Avenue, Suite B20  
Meridian, ID 83642

**ELIGIBLE DISTRICT:**

All Idaho Soil Conservation Districts

**GUIDELINES:**

Complete entry form provided by the IASCD, prepare a one page response to the questions and include them with supporting material as described.

**AWARD:**

IASCD supplies a plaque that will be given at the Annual Conference.

The award winning entry will be submitted to the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) for the District Excellence Award at the NACD Annual Meeting the following February. For more information on this award, go to

<http://www.nacdnet.org/news/awards>

**JUDGES:**

Representatives from the following:  
Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts  
Idaho Soil Conservation Commission  
Natural Resource Conservation Service

**RESPONSIBILITY FOR HAVING WINNER AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE:**

Winning district is responsible for having a representative at the Annual Conference and making their own arrangements for lodging and related expenses.

## CONSERVATION EDUCATION TEACHER OF THE YEAR

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### **DEADLINE:**

September 1

### **PURPOSE:**

To recognize elementary and secondary teachers for their innovative activities to teach an awareness and appreciation of the value of conservation education and to stimulate efforts by teachers to advance the wise use, protection and enhancement of the nation's soil, water and related resources.

### **NOMINATIONS:**

Q. How are nominations made?

Districts need to complete the entry form provided by the NACD.

A. Send nominations to:

IASCD  
39 West Pine Avenue, Suite B20  
Meridian, ID 83642

### **ELIGIBLE TEACHERS:**

Eligible teachers are described in the guidelines provided by NACD.

### **GUIDELINES:**

Guidelines are provided by NACD to the districts.

### **AWARD:**

A \$100.00 award may be made to an elementary and/or secondary teacher by IASCD along with a framed certificate from ZENECA/NACD.

### **JUDGES:**

Representatives from the following:  
Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts  
Idaho Soil Conservation Commission  
Natural Resource Conservation Service

### **RESPONSIBILITY FOR HAVING WINNER AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE:**

Nominating district must ensure their teacher is present at the Annual Conference to receive award. District makes arrangements for lodging and is responsible for any related expenses.

## DOYLE L. SCOTT AWARD

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**DEADLINE:**

September 1

**PURPOSE:**

To recognize an outstanding Idaho leader in natural resource conservation who has given exceptional personal contributions. This award is in honor of Doyle L. Scott, district supervisor and SCC administrator.

**NOMINATIONS:**

Q. Who can nominate?

Districts and/or District Supervisors

A. Send nominations to:

IASCD  
39 West Pine Avenue, Suite B20  
Meridian, ID 83642

**ELIGIBILITY:**

Anyone directly connected with and actively supporting soil conservation districts in Idaho.

**GUIDELINES:**

Significant contributions to SCD movement, and continuing commitment to soil conservation with emphasis on outstanding service.

**AWARD:**

IASCD will award a plaque at the Annual Conference.

**JUDGES:**

Representatives from the following:  
Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts  
Idaho Soil Conservation Commission  
Natural Resource Conservation Service

**RESPONSIBILITY FOR HAVING WINNER AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE:**

Sponsor must ensure winning candidate is present at the Annual Conference to receive award. Sponsor is also responsible for lodging and any related expenses.

**R.N. IRVING**  
**NRCS DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST OF THE YEAR**

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**DEADLINE:**

September 1

**PURPOSE:**

To honor R. Neil Irving, the first SCS State Conservationist in Idaho. Mr. Irving was instrumental in the passage of the State Soil Conservation District Law and in organizing Idaho's soil conservation districts during the period December 1, 1938 through March 23, 1959.

**NOMINATIONS:**

Q. Who can nominate?

Soil Conservation Districts

A. Send nominations to:

IASCD  
39 West Pine Avenue, Suite B20  
Meridian, ID 83642

**ELIGIBILITY:**

District conservationists who have made major and widely recognized contributions to the conservation of natural resources on the local level and gone the extra mile on behalf of the nominating soil conservation district(s).

**GUIDELINES:**

The award is given to one person annually. No award shall be made if a suitable candidate is not nominated. The nomination, in narrative form, should clearly document the scope of the nominee's accomplishments, including professional achievements in resource conservation at the field office level and service to the soil (and water) conservation district(s), as well as other local conservation organizations. (Follow attached application form).

**AWARD:**

IASCD will award a plaque at the Annual Conference.

**JUDGES:**

Representatives from the following:  
Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts  
Idaho Soil Conservation Commission  
Natural Resource Conservation Service

**RESPONSIBILITY FOR HAVING WINNER AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE:**

IASCD will inform the NRCS of the winner; the NRCS ensures winner is at Annual Conference including consulting with the nominating district(s) as to the lodging arrangements and any related expenses.

**NOMINATION FORM**

IASCD R.N. Irving Award for  
NRCS District Conservationist of the Year

District(s) Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Field Office Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Written narrative, not to exceed 250 words, that answers the following: (1) Nominee's achievements in resource conservation; (2) nominee's extraordinary contributions to your soil (and water) conservation district(s); (3) example of nominee "going the extra mile on behalf of conservation." *(Use additional paper as necessary.)*

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Soil (and Water) Conservation District(s)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## IDAHO GRASSMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

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**DEADLINE:**

September 1

**PURPOSE:**

To publish good management practices of forage crops and to provide an opportunity for the public to learn about the commitment of farmers and ranchers to a sustainable agriculture and the importance and impact of forage crop management on the environment.

**NOMINATIONS:**

Q. Who can nominate?

Soil Conservation Districts.

A. Send nominations to:

Roger Whitnah  
2954 Whitnah Road  
American Falls, Idaho 83211

**ELIGIBILITY:**

An Idaho producer of forage crops.

**AWARD:**

IASCD will award a plaque at the Annual Conference.

**JUDGES:**

The Chairmen of the IASCD Land Resources Committee is responsible to set up a committee of appropriate judges.

**GUIDELINES:**

Evidence of good forage crop management with special focus on the production and utilization of forage crops, the use of forage crops and livestock in maintaining a sustainable agriculture and forage cropping systems which enhance soil stability and water quality.

The nomination should clearly document the scope of the nominee's accomplishments related to them management of soil, water, animals, plants, air, and people. Attached is an outline for both the preliminary brief submitted to the district and the county brief submitted to the state.

**RESPONSIBILITY FOR HAVING WINNER AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE:**

IASCD will inform the nominating district of the winner. The district will ensure winner is at the Annual Conference and make arrangements for lodging and other related expenses.

## IDAHO GRASSMAN OF THE YEAR PROGRAM

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### Preliminary Brief Outline

- I. Name – Ranch and location
- II. Brief description of operation
  - A. Classes and numbers of livestock
  - B. Crops produced (including pasture and range)
    1. typical rotation
    2. grazing management program with approximate dates of use
    3. normal yields
- III. Conservation program
  - A. What kinds of erosion problems are present and what has the operator done about them?
  - B. What kinds of water quality problems are present and what has the operator done about them?
  - C. How do current wildlife populations affect the operation and does the operator plan for their management?
  - D. Describe improvements that the operator has constructed.
    1. improvements that affect water quality
    2. improvements that affect water distribution
    3. improvements that affect livestock distribution
  - E. What kinds of noxious weed problems are present and what has the operator done to prevent or control them?
- IV. The operator
  - A. Indicate progressive and public-spirited attributes of the nominee.
  - B. Does the operation serve as a demonstration for others in the area?

## IDAHO GRASSMAN OF THE YEAR PROGRAM

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### County Brief Outline

#### I. Land (300 points)

What land resources are available to the operator? Discuss location, size and types of land in the operation.

- A. Is the operator using the land for the purposes for which it is best suited?
- B. Are the facilities and improvements adequate for the system of management used?
- C. Does the operator take equally good care of land under his control, but not owned by him?
- D. Is the land management system flexible to allow for climatic variability?
- E. Does the operator manage to minimize potential adverse impacts to his own land and adjacent properties?
- F. What noxious weeds or potential noxious weed problems are present and has the operator attempted to manage them?

#### II. Plants (200 points)

- A. What is the crop rotation and is it conducive to resource and economic stability?
- B. Is the native rangeland being managed with a plan which provides for sustained production and resource stability or improvement?
- C. Are best-adapted forage species being used when reseeding is necessary?
- D. Is fertility being maintained or improved?
- E. Does the management of forage resources allow flexibility to account for effects of climatic variability?

#### III. Water (200 points)

- A. Is the irrigation program consistent with plant requirements and soil water- holding capacity?
- B. Is water quality a consideration given in livestock waste management, waste water management and general land management?
- C. Has stock water been adequately developed?
- D. Is water for wildlife a consideration in water developments?

IV. Livestock (150 points)

- A. What classes of livestock are involved in the operation?
- B. Does the livestock production cycle fit the climatic and workload conditions of the operation?
- C. Does the livestock management plan optimize use of the forage resources of the operation?
- D. Are livestock numbers and forage productions in balance?
  - Is proper feed reserves provided?
  - Is allowance for wildlife use made?

V. The people (200 points)

- A. Does the nominee indicate a commitment to sustained and multiple use management?
- B. Does the nominee demonstrate citizenship and leadership abilities within his area?
- C. Does the nominee demonstrate innovation in the application of technology or management?
- D. Does the operation serve as a demonstration to others?

## AGENCY EMPLOYEE AWARD

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**DEADLINE:**

September 1

**PURPOSE:**

To recognize outstanding contributions to the soil and water conservation movement in Idaho by local, state or federal employees.

**NOMINATIONS:**

Q. Who can nominate?

Soil (and Water) Conservation Districts/District Supervisors

A. Send nominations to:

IASCD  
39 West Pine Avenue, Suite B20  
Meridian, ID 83642

**ELIGIBILITY:**

Anyone actively and directly connected with Idaho soil and water conservation programs, including local, state or federal employees assisting with soil and water conservation programs.

**GUIDELINES:**

- A. Evidence of a significant contribution to the soil and water conservation movement in Idaho.
- B. A continuing commitment to soil and water Conservation with emphasis on service beyond the job responsibility.

Develop a one-page resume including nominees' conservation accomplishments and information on the candidate concerning personal data such as: location, position, education, etc.

**AWARDS:**

IASCD will award a plaque at the Annual Conference.

**RESPONSIBILITY FOR HAVING THE WINNER AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE:**

The nominating district must ensure the winning candidate is at the Annual Conference to receive their award. This includes making arrangements for lodging and any other related expenses.

## LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

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**DEADLINE:**

September 1

**PURPOSE:**

To recognize Idaho legislators who have made a significant contribution to agriculture and soil (and water) conservation districts on conservation issues and the environment.

**NOMINATIONS:**

Q. Who can nominate?

Soil (and Water) Conservation Districts

A. Send nominations to:

IASCD  
39 West Pine Avenue, Suite B20  
Meridian, ID 83642

**ELIGIBILITY:**

Current legislators

**GUIDELINES:**

Nominations should include legislators that have made a significant contribution to the soil and/or water conservation movement.

Develop a one-page resume including nominee's conservation accomplishments and support of key legislation.

**AWARD:**

IASCD will award a plaque at the Annual Conference.

**RESPONSIBILITY FOR HAVING WINNER AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE:**

Nominating district must ensure the winning candidate is present at the Annual Conference to receive their award. This includes making arrangements for lodging and any other related expenses.

**IASCD/RC&D/NRCS  
OUTSTANDING RESOURCE, CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT AWARD**

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**DEADLINE:**

December 1 - awarded at RC&D meeting in March

**PURPOSE:**

To recognize an outstanding Idaho RC&D Council member.

**NOMINATIONS:**

Q. Who can nominate?

Members of NRCS, RC&Ds,  
IASCD Directors& Staff and  
Idaho Soil (and Water) Conservation Districts

A. Send nominations to:

IASCD  
39 West Pine Avenue, Suite B20  
Boise, ID 83642

**ELIGIBILITY:**

A current or past RC&D council member.

**GUIDELINES:**

Nominations should include any person who has made a significant contribution to the Idaho Resource Conservation and Development movement and has advanced beyond their council position responsibilities.

Develop a one-page resume including nominee's conservation activities and accomplishments.

**AWARD:**

Engraved Plaque

**JUDGES:**

President, RC&D Association  
President, IASCD  
NRCS State Conservationist

**RESPONSIBILITY FOR HAVING WINNER AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE:**

Nominating organization must ensure winning candidate is present at the RC&D meeting in March to receive the award. This includes making arrangements for housing and meals.

## NEWSCASTER OF THE YEAR AWARD

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**DEADLINE:**

September 1

**PURPOSE:**

To recognize outstanding efforts in communicating the story of natural resource conservation in Idaho through radio and/or television media.

**NOMINATIONS**

Q. Who can nominate?

Soil (and Water) Conservation Districts/District Supervisors

A. Send nominations to:

IASCD  
39 West Pine Avenue, Suite B20  
Meridian, ID 83642

**ELIGIBILITY:**

Anyone who regularly broadcasts information about conservation in Idaho on radio or television is eligible. Anyone who has produced a single, but especially significant broadcast program about conservation will also be considered.

The award is designed to recognize outstanding contributions to the conservation of natural resources through communication.

**GUIDELINES:**

Submit a one-page written description of the nominee's contributions and activities. Supporting materials, such as broadcast tapes or videos, are encouraged but not required.

**AWARD:**

IASCD will award a plaque at the Annual Conference.

**JUDGES:**

NRCS Public Information Officer  
SCC Information Specialist

**RESPONSIBILITY FOR HAVING WINNER AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE:**

The nominating district must ensure the winning candidate is present at the Annual Conference to receive their award. This includes making arrangements for lodging and any other related expenses.

## CONSERVATION WRITER OF THE YEAR AWARD

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**DEADLINE:**

September 1

**PURPOSE:**

To recognize outstanding efforts in communicating the story of natural resource conservation in Idaho through written material.

**NOMINATIONS:**

Q. Who can nominate?

Soil (and Water) Conservation Districts District Supervisors

A. Send nominations to:

IASCD  
39 West Pine Avenue, Suite B20  
Meridian, ID 83642

**ELIGIBILITY:**

Anyone who regularly writes about conservation in Idaho for newspapers, periodicals or magazines is eligible. Anyone who has written a single, but especially significant article about conservation will also be considered.

**GUIDELINES:**

The award is designed to recognize outstanding contributions to the conservation of natural resources through written communication.

Submit a one-page written description of the nominee's contributions and activities. Supporting materials, such as article clippings, are encouraged but not required

**AWARD:**

IASCD will present a plaque at the Annual Conference.

**JUDGES:**

NRCS Public Information Officer  
SCC Information Specialist

**RESPONSIBILITY FOR HAVING WINNER AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE:**

The nominating district must ensure the winning candidate is present at the Annual Conference to receive their award. This includes making arrangements for lodging and any other related expenses.

## POSTER CONTEST

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### **DEADLINE:**

Each school supervises its contest, with the winners applying to the district for sponsorship to the division competition held in October.

### **PURPOSE:**

To encourage Idaho 4<sup>th</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grade students to think more creatively about our environment and soil and water conservation activities and issues.

### **PARTICIPANTS:**

Participants must be sponsored by a district and compete in a division competition.

### **ELIGIBILITY:**

The poster contest is open to all currently enrolled Idaho 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> grade students.

### **GUIDELINES:**

Each student may submit one original poster created by the student. Submissions must be on a poster board size of 14" x 22", illustrating the "annual theme" and must contain at least one of the following subjects: soil, water, wildlife, forestry or range conservation. State winners are submitted to the national NACD competition, which announces the theme annually. Each poster must be labeled on the back with the student's name, school name and address, teacher, district and division. Rules may be obtained from the IASCD office and/or website.

District supervisors judge posters submitted by students in their district and enter the three winning posters in the division contest. Division directors select three posters at the fall division meeting to be entered in the state competition at the annual IASCD conference. Posters are judged for message, originality, art, balance and neatness.

### **AWARD:**

State winners are awarded the following:

1<sup>st</sup> place - \$100 & plaque

2<sup>nd</sup> place - \$75

3<sup>rd</sup> place - \$50

### **RESPONSIBILITY FOR HAVING WINNER AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE:**

District supervisor ensures that winning district posters are at the fall division meeting and at the IASCD annual conference.

## **IASCD AUXILIARY SPEECH CONTEST**

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### **DEADLINE:**

Each school supervises its contest, with the winner applying to the district for sponsorship to the division competition held in October.

### **PURPOSE:**

To promote an interest in agriculture, resource conservation and the environment in Idaho high school students.

### **PARTICIPANTS:**

Participant must be sponsored by a district, compete in a division competition and complete an entry form supplied by the IASCD Auxiliary.

### **JUDGES:**

Selected each year by IASCD Executive Director and Conference Planning Committee.

### **ELIGIBILITY:**

Students, grades 9-12, enrolled in an Idaho school in the fall of the year.

### **GUIDELINES:**

IASCD will announce the annual topic for the speech contest to be submitted with a completed entry form, which includes guidelines. The speech contest rules and guidelines may be obtained through the IASCD office, or website. For further questions contact the IASCD Executive Director or Assistant.

Each applicant is selected by their school to apply for sponsorship from their local Soil (and Water) Conservation District for Division competition. Division winners will compete in state competition at the Awards Banquet of the Annual Conference in November.

### **AWARD:**

IASCD Auxiliary provides prizes for state winners, designated as an educational award for advanced education.

|                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Place | \$250 and a plaque |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place | \$150              |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place | \$100              |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Place | \$ 75              |

### **RESPONSIBILITY FOR HAVING WINNER AT CONFERENCE:**

The participating districts must ensure that their contestant is at the Annual Conference to participate in the state contest. This includes making arrangements for lodging and any other related expenses. The IASCD usually contributes funding for contestants' travel expenses.

**IASCD AUXILIARY  
CONSERVATION EDUCATION SPEECH CONTEST  
APPLICATION FORM**

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

High School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Club Affiliations:

Briefly state your interest in conservation or agriculture practices:

Each year's topic may be obtained from your local Soil (and Water) Conservation District Office or the IASCD. Return application to: Soil and Water Conservation District Office.

## **Conservation Partnership Field Office Award**

The Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts (IASCD), Idaho Soil Conservation Commission (SCC), and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will bestow this award in recognition of exceptional cooperation and teamwork of the conservation partners at the field office level. The Conservation Partners include but are not limited to Conservation Districts, NRCS, SCC, IASCD, and RC&Ds.

A committee comprised of IASCD, SCC, and NRCS leadership or designees will select the award winners. The decision of the committee shall be final. There is no limit on the number of awards that will be presented each year. The award will be presented annually at the IASCD Conference.

### **Award Criteria**

Nominations should present adequate detail so that the merits and accomplishments may be judged on:

- conservation of natural resources
- degree of cooperation and teamwork
- achievement of mutual partnerships objectives
- partnership program integration
- collaborative planning and implementation
- technical assistance integration
- communication
- teamwork tools, techniques, processes employed
- creative problem solving
- involvement of other partners
- accomplishments/progress
- quality of conservation accomplishments

### **Application Process**

1. Applications can be submitted by filling in the Conservation Field Office Award Application **or** submitting one (1) page (double spaced, 12-point font) for each question. The entire application must not exceed a total of two (2) pages front and back or four (4) single sided pages.
2. The Conservation Partners, individuals, agencies, and groups associated with the field office are encouraged to submit nominations.
3. Award nominations are due September 15. Send to the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts, 39 West Pine Avenue, Suite B20, Meridian, ID 83642.



3. Describe the management tools and innovative processes currently used, or that have recently been created in the field office that both meet and implement the partnerships plans, programs and projects. How did the process advance the teamwork in the field office.

4. Provide a brief narrative of the field office partnership's accomplishments. What did you do? How did you measure the quality of and quantity of accomplishments? How did the accomplishments benefit constituents and land owners.

Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_