

ROGER M. LATHAM SPORTSMAN WILD TURKEY SERVICE AWARD

The award is used by the National Wild Turkey Federation to recognize outstanding contributions by the chapter volunteers who give of their personal time, energy and money to the conservation and management of the American wild turkey. Up to five awards can be given by the NWTF in any one year. The recipient is presented a plaque and recognized at a national convention awards breakfast.

Only non-professionals making significant contributions to the betterment of the wild turkey will be eligible for the awards. To preserve the integrity of this award, we feel it necessary to define exactly what a "non-professional" means in this context.

"A non-professional is defined as an individual who is not a trained wildlife biologist and/or who has not worked in a professional position for pay with a private, state, or Federal agency or organization where wild turkey populations benefited directly or indirectly. An individual who has benefited monetarily from the wild turkey through the sale of items directly related to wild turkeys is not eligible. This would not preclude those individuals, for example, who are NWTF officers or state wildlife commissioners who hold non-paying positions but are reimbursed for travel expenses in carrying out their duties."

Procedure for nominating potential recipients:

1. Each state chapter may nominate one recipient each year for the award. This will allow for primary screening on the state level. *It will be the responsibility of the state chapter to provide the necessary material concerning the individual for final screening.*
2. Nominations need to be sent to James Earl Kennamer, Ph.D., Senior Vice President for Conservation Programs on or before **October 31** for final screening. Awards will be presented at the next annual convention of the NWTF.

Requirements for recipients:

1. Outstanding contributions to the wild turkey on a local, state, and national level. The recipient must have shown a high quality of leadership and demonstrated exceptional conservation of the wild turkey.
2. Application **must** include signed and approved qualification form to be eligible (**see page 3**).

3. Recipients will be judged on each of the following categories:
- a) Support of organized efforts for the betterment of the wild turkey.
 - b) Support of the state game agency in its efforts to expand wild turkey populations through live trapping relocation.
 - c) Support of game laws in the state by example and by influence on other sportsmen.
 - d) Efforts to help benefit and reduce the destruction of wild turkey habitat.
 - e) Participation in the news media to influence and educate the public on matters important to the wild turkey.
 - f) Participating in hearings and public meetings concerning wildlife and work toward laws regarding hunting, based on sound biological information, not politics.
 - g) Helped raise funds to benefit the NWTF mission.
 - h) Support of NWTF programs, such as JAKES, Women in the Outdoors, Wheelin' Sportsmen, Wild Turkey Woodlands, and regional habitat programs.
 - i) Support of wildlife educational programs in schools, scouting, and club meetings. Such programs should include broad conservation ideas and concepts as well as sportsmanship and ethics.
 - j) Other outstanding contributions to the wild turkey.

Applications should be typed on 8 ½" x 11" paper and include supporting letters of recommendation. Applications should be neat and concise. Each applicant will be judged on performance, not volume of the resume.

*Please send **one (1)** original and **six (6)** copies of each resume*

Although not required, a recent snapshot or black and white photograph of the applicant would be appreciated for NWTF use.

If you have questions concerning a candidate's eligibility, please contact **James Earl Kennamer, Ph.D.**, Senior Vice President for Conservation Programs, NWTF, P. O. Box 530, Edgefield, SC 29824, in writing, by phone at 803-637-3106, or e-mail to jkennamer@nwtf.net.