

Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge

9th Annual Photography Contest

Sponsored by the Friends of Hagerman NWR

OVERVIEW

In order to increase awareness and appreciation of Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge, the Friends of Hagerman NWR is sponsoring a photography contest. Ribbons will be awarded for First, Second, and Third place in each of four categories in 2 divisions. In addition, a cash prize will be awarded for First Place in each category and the single photo judged as "Best of Show". Winners will be determined by a panel of judges, who will review the submitted photos without reference to entrant name.

Winners' photographs will be displayed at the Refuge Visitor Center, and published on the Friends of Hagerman web site.

The Friends of Hagerman Nature Photo Contest Committee will coordinate and conduct the contest for the Refuge and Friends of Hagerman NWR.

CONTEST DEADLINE

Entries will be accepted from. Aug 1, 2018 through 4 pm, Aug 31, 2018. All entries including those sent by mail must be RECEIVED at Hagerman NWR by the deadline. THERE WILL BE NO DEADLINE EXTENSION!

RULES

ENTRIES THAT DO NOT COMPLY WITH THE RULES WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.

The contest is open to all photographers EXCEPT U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service employees and their immediate families AND the Friends of Hagerman Board of Directors, including the Nature Photo Club leader and their immediate families, who are not eligible.

All submitted images must have been taken within the boundaries of the Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge within the last five (5) calendar years (2014-2018). Furthermore, previous winning entries (First, Second or Third Place in any category of previous Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge Photo Contests) are ineligible for entry.

Entry fee of \$1 must be presented for each submission. Each entrant may submit as many images as desired in any combination of categories for which they are eligible, but each image requires a separate \$1 entry fee.

Submitted entries must be the original work of the photographer, and the photographer must own the copyright to the image. The photographer retains the copyright of the submitted images, but must agree to allow the Refuge to use and publish the submitted entries showing photographer credit without further compensation to the copyright holder.

Photos that have been published for compensation or sold may not be submitted.

Submissions must be digital and must be submitted on a CD or DVD. Photos that were taken with a film camera must be scanned to a digital JPEG format and submitted on a CD or DVD.

High-resolution JPEG images measuring at least 2000 pixels on the longest side may be burned on the same CD or DVD or submitted on as many additional CDs or DVDs as needed. These will be used for judging and publication/exhibition, if selected as a winner.

Each image file must be labeled with the photographer's first and last name, image title and the category it is to be entered in. For example: JohnSmith-Little blue heron-Wildlife.jpg. Photographer's name will be removed

from the filename and replaced by a code prior to judging. Photographs where the image itself is labeled with a watermark or copyright tag will be disqualified and will not be judged.

Each CD or DVD must bear the photographer's name, phone number and e-mail address.

ALL PHOTOGRAPHS, except those submitted as Artistic, must accurately reflect the subject matter as it appeared in the viewfinder. Photos that have been altered beyond standard dust removal, minimal cropping, and correction will be disqualified. This includes the addition or deletion of any objects in the photos.

DIVISIONS

Contestant may only submit entries to one division.

Beginner/Intermediate – some knowledge of camera and editing software

Advanced - Knows technical aspects of camera, exposure, lighting, composition and some knowledge of editing images with photography software such as Lightroom, Photoshop, etc.

CATEGORIES

Entries will be judged on technical excellence, originality, creativity, visual impact, and artistic merit. All decisions of the judges are final.

Wildlife – Animals and birds in their natural habitat.

Flora and Macro – Flowers, trees, and shrubs in their natural habitat. This category includes images of insects, plants, and animals taken with specialized macro equipment, settings or close up images taken with a telephoto lens.

Landscape – Expansive and dramatic views of the land and its features. Photographs in this category may include images of people enjoying the Refuge.

Artistic – Artistic compositions in nature, both natural and manipulated in post processing (black and white, infrared, stitched panoramas, multiple-exposure, digital manipulation). Photographs in this category may include images of people enjoying the Refuge. HDR will be judged in this category.

ENTRY INFORMATION

ENTRY FEE: A check or money order in the required amount due based on the number of entries submitted (i.e. \$1.00 for each photo entered) must be included with your entry and made out to the FRIENDS OF HAGERMAN NWR. There is no limit to the number of photos that may be submitted. Furthermore, in the event of a returned entry fee (non-clearing/returned check) any and all entries submitted with that check will be disqualified.

ENTRY FORM: Each submission MUST be accompanied by a completed entry form with ALL information clearly filled out. See last page for entry form.

SUBMISSION: Entries can be dropped off or mailed to the Hagerman Visitor Center at:

Hagerman Photo Contest
6465 Refuge Road
Sherman, TX 75092-5817

PRIZES

If there are less than 6 entries in any of the 4 main categories (**Wildlife, Flora and Macro, Landscape, or**

Artistic), judging will not be conducted in that category. Prizes include:

Best in Show – Special ribbon and cash award in the amount of \$100

Each category awarded will receive:

1st Place - Ribbon and cash award in the amount of \$50

2nd Place - Ribbon

3rd Place - Ribbon

Winning photos will be exhibited at the Refuge Visitor Center and other venues.

CONTEST TIPS

Visit the Refuge often to take your pictures. The more times you visit, the more likely you will be able to get the photograph you want.

Submit photos to more than one category. You increase your likelihood of winning by entering photos in the less popular categories. Wildlife is the most popular category and is often crowded with similar entries.

Read and follow the contest rules. If you are unsure about something, contact us for clarification.

Try to come up with a unique image and submit your best work.

Make sure your entries are in focus, sharp, and have good lighting.

Do not be discouraged if you don't win. Try again the following year and enter other photography contests to gain additional experience.

NOTES:

It is very important that we have your correct e-mail address with your entry so that we can contact you if needed.

Winners will be announced on November 10, 2018 during Second Saturday activities.

CONTACT US

If you have questions regarding the photography contest, please contact us on www.friendsofhagerman.com or by email to fohphotoclub@gmail.com.

Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge 9th Annual Photography Contest
Sponsored by The Friends of Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge

Photography Contest Entry Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Division (select one only): Beginner/Intermediate____ or Advanced____

Entry Information:

Category	Title
1)	
2)	
3)	
4)	
5)	
6)	
7)	
8)	
9)	
10)	

Categories: Wildlife, Flora and Macro, Landscapes, Artistic

____ I have enclosed \$1 for each entry submitted (total = \$____) and understand if paid with a check and the check fails to clear any and all of my entries will be disqualified.

Entering the 2018 Friends of Hagerman Nature Photo Contest grants the Friends of Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service the right to reproduce, publish, and publicly display the submitted photographs in print or electronic form for educational and promotional purposes and/or create items for sale in 'The Nature Nook at Hagerman' without further compensation. Reproduction and display of images will include photographer credit. The submitted photographs will become the property of the Refuge. All other rights to these images will be retained by the photographer.

Entries may be mailed to: Attn-2018 Photo Contest, Hagerman NWR Visitor Center, 6465 Refuge Rd, Sherman, TX 75092, **or** dropped off at the visitor center, in the basket provided for drop off entries, between Aug 1, 2018 to Aug 31, 2018.

I understand and agree to the contest rules and conditions and certify that all photo entries were produced by me and taken at Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

For Participants under the age of 18, a parent or legal guardian must complete the following:		
I have read the contest rules and hereby grant him/her permission to participate in the contest.		
_____	_____	_____
Print Name	Signature	Date