

National Association of Forest Service Retirees

John R. McGuire Award

For outstanding accomplishments in implementing the statutory Multiple Use mission of the Forest Service.

Background: “Perhaps the greatest challenge facing forestry today is the calendar namely the arrival of the 21st century. My question is, will American forestry be ready to meet the 21st century?”

The preceding quotation was stated by John McGuire and he was quite prophetic as he looked into the future while expressing his concerns about American forestry as the profession prepared to enter the 21st Century. Chief McGuire was a man for his time and his rich legacy of accomplishments is well documented.

In honor of John R. McGuire, the National Association of Forest Service Retirees (NAFSR) takes great pride in the accomplishments of the Forest Service in managing the National Forest System, in providing the technical and scientific knowledge for management of the nation’s forest resources, and for implementing programs in support of state and private forestry. The Forest Service has enjoyed a well-founded reputation as an effective “can do” outfit. In recent years escalating regulatory requirements, changing public attitudes, appeals, and lawsuits have frustrated efforts to complete many essential activities. There is a growing perception that the agency is suffering from process gridlock.

Retirees are aware that there continues to be a strong commitment to sound resource management within the agency. Dedicated individuals and groups are finding ways through the complex processes, mobilizing public support, and accomplishing needed resource management activities. NAFSR wants to provide recognition to outstanding examples of such accomplishments.

Eligibility: Individual current Forest Service employees, groups of employees, and organizational units that have outstanding accomplishments in implementing the mission of the Forest Service are eligible for consideration.

Nomination: Forest Service employees or members of NAFSR may nominate candidates for the **John R. McGuire Award**. The nomination must identify the responsible Forest Service employee(s) or organizational unit. The nomination must describe the nature of the accomplishment, how it relates to the Forest Service mission, and why it should be recognized as outstanding.

The nomination should be submitted to the regional representative of NAFSR. There is no deadline for nominations. Outstanding accomplishments should be nominated as they are recognized. Regional Representatives may also work with outside entities that actively work with Forest Service units on a regular basis to help identify outstanding candidates for the Award. Examples of such entities include local governmental units, associations, tribal governments and NGO’s.

Nomination Documentation Suggested: There are no set formats or precise requirements for submitting a nomination. However, there are at least five key features that will help support the nomination including:

- How did the nominated person or group meet the challenge expressed by John R. McGuire (“*Perhaps the greatest challenge facing forestry today is the calendar namely the arrival of the 21st century. My question is, will American forestry be ready to meet the 21st century?*”).
- General information concerning location, scope, cooperators, implementation requirements, barriers and special challenges. Identify that key person(s) without which this effort would not have succeeded; regardless of GS level in the organization.
- What were the significant economic considerations obtained.
- What was the role of significant partners or collaborators (include supporting letters or documentation).
- Recommendations from appropriate line officer(s), i.e. Forest Supervisor, Regional Forester Station Director and Area Director. If from W.O., appropriate Deputy Chief. The line office recommendation(s) are required for every application.

All of the supporting documentation for the nomination should be short and to the point.

Evaluation: Regional representatives receiving nominations should consult with other Retirees and the Regional Forester, Station Director, or Area Director, as appropriate. Regional retiree groups may establish local evaluation procedures. Following evaluation, nominations deemed worthy of recognition should be forwarded to the Executive Director who will send copies of each nomination to the Awards Committee.

The Board of Directors of NAFSR will appoint an Awards Committee consisting of five members of NAFSR or others, as they deem appropriate. The chairman of the Awards Committee, designated by the Board of Directors, will be responsible for publicizing the Awards Committee will review nominations and recommend those deemed worthy of the [John R. McGuire Award](#).

The Board of Directors will review the nomination material, the recommendations of the JRM Committee and approve or deny the nomination. The Award is not an annual award. It will be awarded when outstanding accomplishments in carrying out the mission of the Forest Service are recognized. There may be more than one award in a year or there may be none.

Presentation: (Alt. 1) Regional representatives of NAFSR will arrange for presentation of the award at the local level or at another appropriate location for maximum recognition. Coordination with the travel schedule of the Chief, Associate Chief, or Deputy Chiefs, and the Regional Forester, should allow their participation.

The Award will consist of an appropriate framed document or plaque and a citation for the exemplary accomplishment.