

# 2017 Annual WSDOT Environmental Awards

## PURPOSE:

WSDOT's Environmental Services Office (ESO) sponsors the WSDOT Environmental Awards annually. The purpose is to recognize outstanding achievement and innovation in environmental stewardship at WSDOT.

## AWARD CATEGORIES:

### **Environmental Excellence Award:**

*...for projects or activities that demonstrate environmental excellence*

This category includes any aspect of planning, designing, constructing, maintaining or operating the transportation system that demonstrates extraordinary or innovative protection of environmental resources. Examples include: sustainability efforts, improving environmental conditions as part of construction or maintenance activities, responsiveness under difficult conditions, unique design features that improve the environment or avoid or minimize impacts, and innovative waste recycling.

### **Environmental Process Improvement Award:**

*...for efforts that result in a process improvement*

This category includes the development or improvement of a process, procedure or on-going activity that improves WSDOT's stewardship of the environment. Examples include: community engagement to identify better ways to address stormwater and alternative approaches to monitor environmental resources.

### **Director's Choice Award:**

*...for exceptional efforts and dedication to environmental stewardship*

The Director may select a winner from nominations associated with the first two categories; stand-alone nominations; or efforts brought directly to her attention.

## NOMINATION PROCESS:

Nominations are made by submitting the attached nomination form. Any WSDOT staff can submit nominations. Any WSDOT staff or team can be nominated, except for ESO staff. WSDOT contractors and consultants can be nominated as well. We encourage projects to resubmit applications when projects are ongoing or meet new milestones. Nominations should be for efforts occurring between July 2016 and June 2017.

## EVALUATION PROCESS AND CRITERIA:

ESO will work with the contact listed on the form to set up a 30-minute phone call with each of the nominated individuals/team to discuss their nomination. ESO will share the discussion questions with the contact person before the interview. The Director's Choice Award is

determined solely by the ESO Director. Evaluators will judge each nomination on its own merits. Evaluators will look for nominations that exhibit one or more of the following criteria:

- Overall benefits to the environment
- Avoidance/minimization of environmental impacts
- Proactive effort to ensure compliance
- Application of new environmental strategies/sustainability principles
- Innovative problem-solving
- Practical solutions and asset management
- Lean process improvements
- Inclusion and collaborative partnerships
- Responsiveness to emergent situations

### AWARD RECOGNITION:

ESO's Director will announce winners at the Statewide Project Engineers Conference in November and will acknowledge them in an agency wide email. Team leads will receive individual plaques and team members will receive certificates. ESO will also feature award winners on the WSDOT internet and add them to an award plaque at the Headquarters Transportation Building in Olympia.

### CONTACT:

Please contact Victoria Book at (360) 705-7408 if you have any questions and submit your nominations to her via email at [BookV@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:BookV@wsdot.wa.gov).



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## Nomination Form

Office/Region: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Project/Activity: \_\_\_\_\_

Individual/Office/Team Nominated: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Briefly describe the project/activity and explain why it's deserving of recognition:

You may include up to three pages of supporting information – photos, drawings, and positive feedback from tribes or regulatory agencies is strongly encouraged!

Please email completed package to Victoria Book at [bookv@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:bookv@wsdot.wa.gov)

**Nominations Due: September 15, 2017**