



Take your best shot!

BY ENTERING THIS COMPETITION, YOU AGREE TO THESE TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

1. WHO IS ELIGIBLE: SFWC's 2025 Wildlife Photography Contest is open to all photographers who are at least 13 years of age ("Entrants"). 13 to 17 years of age ("Junior Photographers") **MUST** enter only the Junior Photographers described below). Entrants under 18 years of age require the permission of a parent or guardian. By entering the contest, entrants under 18 years of age agree that they have obtained permission to enter from a parent or guardian. Entrants 18 years or older ("General Entrants") are not allowed to enter the Junior Photographers category.

2. HOW TO ENTER: Entries must be submitted as digital files or as digital prints, both in color and/or black and white is acceptable. After the donation form has been submitted, instructions on uploading photos are shared.

3. CONTEST ENTRY PERIOD: SFWC's 2025 Wildlife Photography Contest opens at 12:01 am North American Eastern Standard Time (EST) on March 15, 2025, and the final date for submitting photos is April 15, 2025, at 11:59 pm North American Eastern Standard Time (EST). SFWC may modify the contest entry period at its sole discretion. Submissions will not be accepted once the deadline lapses. To avoid uploading delays, do not wait until the final days of the contest to enter to avoid technical problems with the uploads. Entries will be judged by a guest judge, and all decisions will be final. SFWC anticipates announcing winners on Earth Day, April 22nd, 2025. The prizes must be collected by the winners. The winners will be contacted via the email address provided during entry. If no response is received after seven business days, the winners will forfeit all rights to the prizes.

4. PHOTO ENTRY INFORMATION: All photos must have complete information attached, including their full names, and age if applicable (Junior Photographers). Entries will not be accepted unless submitted via the official contest channel. The South Florida Wildlife Center reserves the right to disqualify any entry that is deemed inappropriate or does not conform to stated contest rules. SFWC will not retain copyright, ownership, or any other rights to your images, however, by submitting your photo/s to our contest, entrants agree that you give SFWC permission to use your images for purposes of promoting current or future photo contests, usage on our website www.southfloridawildlifecenter.org, our social media platforms, SFWC newsletters featuring contest winners/runners-up, and electronic email.

5. CATEGORIES: General Entrants must enter images related to the following first five categories (categories i-v below). Judges reserve the right to place photo entries into the appropriate categories. Junior Photographers must enter images into the Junior Photographers category and write JUNIOR as part of their subject line.

- i. Birds: Portraits and behavior – native to North America only
- ii. Mammals: Portraits and behavior – native to North America only
- iii. Reptiles: Portraits and behavior – native to North America only
- iv. Urban Wildlife: Portraits and behavior (capturing wildlife in developed urban areas)
- v. Up Close: Portraits – native to North America only (capturing close up details of birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians or invertebrates)
- ix. Junior Photographers: For photographers aged 13-17 – all categories apply.

6. WHAT PHOTOS TO ENTER: We are looking for striking color and black-and-white images of wildlife in nature—on land, in the air, and above the water's surface—from anywhere in the United States. From backyard habitats to wild lands, these images may show animal behavior, and portraits of wildlife in natural habitats and should include plant life and natural landscapes. Do not include photographs of pets, domestic animals, captive animals at game farms or roadside zoos, or animals from such facilities photographed elsewhere with a handler's control. Such images will be disqualified. Previously published photos may be entered.

7. ETHICS: We seek images obtained in the wild under natural conditions and in an ethical manner that places the welfare of wildlife above the photographer's desire to obtain an image. Photographers should make every effort to avoid any action that might interfere with natural wildlife behavior. Entrants must not submit images that involve the willful harassment of wildlife or damage to the environment. For more questions or concerns related to this, please email photography@southfloridawildlifecenter.org.

8. TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS: Entrants encountering technical problems while uploading may request help by emailing photography@southfloridawildlifecenter.org. Accepted file formats: jpg or png. Camera-made digital images or scans of slides or prints must be uploaded as jpg or png files. Digital files must be at least 1000 pixels and no more than 2000 pixels on the long edge, with resolution set to at least 72 ppi. Photos of at least 1,600 pixels wide (if a horizontal image) or 1,600 pixels tall (if a vertical image) are preferred but not required. Larger images are acceptable and may improve your photos' quality. There is a maximum file size of 12 megabytes per image. You are encouraged to give your photo a short title (maximum five words), include a brief caption (maximum 50 words). Most importantly, have fun!