

THE NIGERIA NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY AWARDS

OFFICIAL RULES & GUIDELINES

1. Eligibility

- The Competition is open to individuals from any country. However, all submitted images must be taken in Nigeria.
- Entrants must be 18 years or older at the time of submission.
- The Competition is open to photographers of all levels, including amateur and professional photographers.
- Photographs may have been taken at any point in time and may have been previously published, provided the entrant retains full copyright ownership and discloses prior publication history if applicable.
- Entrants must be the sole copyright holders of all submitted images. By entering, you confirm that your submission is original and does not infringe any third-party rights.

2. Submission Guidelines

Entry is completely free! No submission fees apply

- Entries must be submitted in JPEG (JPG) format only.
- Submissions must be made via the official website submission portal.
Entries submitted by email, post, or other means will not be accepted.
- Each entrant may submit up to 20 photographs.
- Each submission must include:
 - Photographer's full name
 - Image title
 - Location and date the photograph was taken
 - A short description (maximum 150 words), including factual context such as story, species, or phenomenon.

Submission Deadline : July 31st, 2026 at 23:59 WAT

3. Image Authenticity & Editing

- Images must not mislead or misrepresent the natural world.
- Basic post-processing is permitted, provided it does not alter reality.
- The use of AI-generated images or AI-based manipulation is strictly prohibited.
- Removal or addition of elements (e.g., cloning or content manipulation) is not allowed, except for minor sensor dust or lens spots.

4. Ethics & Wildlife Welfare

Entrant must not:

- Injure, distress, or harm wildlife or habitats
- Intentionally disturb wildlife (including the use of drones)
- Use live bait, tape lures, or decoys
- Stage or manipulate natural scenes in a misleading way
- Photograph captive or restrained animals, except where part of a verified conservation story

All submissions must respect wildlife, ecosystems, and local communities and adhere to ethical wildlife photography standards. Entries raising ethical concerns may be disqualified at the discretion of the organisers.

5. Judging Criteria

Rarity and Significance

- Rarity of species, behaviour, or moment captured
- Representation of Nigeria's biodiversity
- Cultural or conservation relevance

Technical Excellence

- Sharpness and clarity
- Exposure and lighting
- Composition and framing
- Effective use of colour, contrast, and depth

Creativity & Storytelling

- Originality of perspective
- Emotional or educational impact
- Communicates key message about the environment

6. Copyright, Licensing and Image Use

- Entrants retain full copyright of their images.
- The Competition does not claim ownership of any submitted work.
- By entering, you grant the Competition a non-exclusive licence to use submitted images for competition-related purposes, including website, social media, and promotional materials.
- If selected for exhibition, organisers may print, display, and offer works for sale as part of the exhibition and will receive an agreed share of any sales proceeds.

7. Confidentiality & Publicity

- Shortlisted entrants must keep all communications confidential until official announcements are made.
- Winners and highly commended entrants agree that their name, likeness, and images may be used for promotional purposes without additional compensation.

8. Disqualification

Entries may be disqualified at any stage if they:

- Do not comply with these rules
- Cannot be authenticated or verified
- Are found to involve unethical practices
- Are of insufficient technical quality

Winners found in breach of the rules must return prizes within 30 days of notification.

9. Legal & Liability

- The Competition reserves the right to amend these rules at any time.
- The Competition accepts no liability for any loss or damage arising from participation or prizes.
- The Competition is not responsible for third-party misuse of submitted images.
- Third-party users of submitted images must adhere to the same licensing terms.

Need help?

- For all competition inquiries, contact: **info@nnpawards.com**.