

“How Do You See Your Landscape?”

A Seasonal Photo Contest

Contest Rules and Regulations

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I. Category Definitions

Images will be judged on their technical quality, composition, and their ability to express the contest’s theme: **“How do you see your landscape?”** SRT is interested in seeing the role that natural and agricultural spaces play in people’s lives. Each person has a different way of seeing the landscape, and we want photographs that exhibit your unique perspective.

Images entered for each category should be photographed within the foothill and valley communities of Tulare, Kings, Kern and Fresno Counties. Photos taken within one of the six Sequoia Riverlands Trust preserves are desirable but not required; slight preference in judging will be given to these photos. A maximum of three photos may be submitted per category.

1. *Farms & Working Landscapes*

Photos that depict any aspect of farming, ranching or rural life, all of which should portray sound land use practices.

2. *Open Spaces*

Any image of a local area that demonstrates the natural beauty of our region’s open spaces. Photos of rivers and streams, mountain vistas taken from the valley floor or foothills, vernal pools, foothill communities, grasslands, patterns in nature, etc. are all encouraged.

3. *People in Nature*

Images of individuals or groups of people enjoying a local nature setting.

4. *Wildflowers*

Pictures can include individual flowers or groups of flowers, whether taken close-up or as a major component of a larger landscape.

5. *Wildlife*

Any non-pet animal photographed in its natural environment. This includes insects and other invertebrates, as well as, vertebrates.

II. Entering Photos:

1. All photographs must be submitted digitally at a minimum of 300 dpi, a minimum resolution of 1280x960 pixels (we will need larger files for winning photographs), a maximum file size of 4MB, and in .JPG format.
2. Photographs may be emailed to photocontest@sequoiariverland.org, or snail mailed or hand delivered on a CD with entry fee to:
Sequoia Riverlands Trust
c/o SRT Photo Contest
427 S. Garden Street
Visalia, CA 93277
3. All images and entry fees must be received by **Monday, October 4, 2010**, with your completed contest application (we will send that out separately). Entry fees may be paid online through our secure online donation portal, Network for Good. You will see "donation" categories for photo contestants at the top of the page: \$5/4 pictures, \$10/10 pictures.
4. Each photo submission will have to be named according to the following file structure separated by underscores (1) the photographer's name and first initial, (2) the number of the category being entered and (3) first three words of the title (maximum of 30 characters). If the title is longer than that, you will print the full title name in your application.
 - Example: WaltonJ_2_Valley oak sunset
 - Note: descriptive names are more helpful than generalized names (e.g. "Kaweah River Rapids" is better than "River #3")
5. Parental Release: Photographs of children (when recognizable in the photograph) must have a written and signed consent by a parent or legal guardian of the child or children on file with SRT. Please mail a signed release to us when submitting your photo with a recognizable person or child. You may download the consent forms [here](#). [link]

If you do not include a release form, we will not be able to use your photograph for publicity purposes, but you may still submit the image.

6. In the event that ownership of any contest photograph submitted to SRT is disputed in any manner, SRT reserves the right to remove and disqualify the photograph from the contest.
7. By submitting your photographs to the SRT Photo Contest, you agree to the following:

Release by the Photographer

I warrant that I took the photograph(s) submitted here (collectively, the "Photographs"), that I own the copyrights to the Photographs, and that I have authority to enter into this Release.

I understand that SRT has permission to use the Photographs in all forms, media and manners, without restriction as to changes or alterations, for advertising, trade, promotion, exhibition, or any other lawful purposes. (Please note that in the event that SRT has to modify an image, we will always proceed with consideration to the integrity of the photo. If you have strong reservation/concerns about this, please make a note of it on your application.)

By registering my Photographs with SRT, I grant SRT the royalty-free and non-exclusive right to use my Photographs as follows: (i) on SRT websites; (ii) for SRT advertising and brochures; (iii) in SRT electronic emails. I waive the right to inspect or approve the final use of my Photographs by SRT for the above uses.

I understand that SRT will request permission from me before using my Photographs for purposes other than listed above. I understand that my Photographs will not be otherwise distributed to any third party or sponsors without my permission.

I release SRT from any liability whatsoever that arises from the use of the Photographs except for uses that violate the terms and conditions of this release. I agree to work in good faith with SRT to promptly resolve any problems or disputes that may arise due to my registration and the use of the Photographs.

This agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the state of California.

I agree that if any portion of this Release is found to be void or unenforceable, the remaining portions shall remain in full force and effect. Void where prohibited by law.

III. Judging

1. A panel of judges with experience in photography and land conservation will select a Winner and one or more Honorable Mentions in each of the five categories (for each of the two age group categories), plus an overall Grand Prize Winner.
2. Images will be judged on their technical quality, composition, and their ability to express the contest's theme: ***"How do you view your landscape?"*** SRT is interested in seeing the role that natural and agricultural spaces play in people's lives. Each person has a different way of seeing the landscape, and we want photographs that exhibit your unique perspective. Ask yourself what you see when you look at an open field, an oak tree, a farm, or a wild animal. What do you think about? What does that say about the role it plays in our community? For example, if you are a carpenter, you might be preoccupied with the grain you see in a fallen log. Use your photograph's title to help capture the perspective you are taking. For example, you might consider titling that photograph, "To See a Cabinet in a Grain of Wood."

We are eager to see your creative interpretations and unique perspectives on the spirit of our southern Sierra Nevada and San Joaquin Valley landscape. Have fun!

3. Judges will give some preference to images captured on SRT conservation properties, so please join us on guided walks and exclusive photography opportunities on SRT preserves that are usually closed to the public.

IV. Prizes

1. The grand prize winner will receive the equivalent of a \$100 gift certificate.
2. Division winners (10 in all) will receive a John Muir Laws book and their choice of SRT land conservation merchandise.
3. SRT will print winning photos from each category in a calendar, and, potentially, any other excellent photo submissions that reflect the beauty of our diverse landscape's changing seasons.
4. Division winners and honorable mention winners will have the privilege of seeing their photographs printed in SRT publications and on the SRT website, always with a photo credit to recognize your talent and identify your contribution.

V. FAQ's

1. May I submit photographs taken previous to the start of the photo contest?

Absolutely! We encourage any beautiful photos that you have taken of SRT preserves and other shots that express the spirit of land conservation in the southern Sierra Nevada and San Joaquin Valley. Since the photo contest time frame excludes the winter, we particularly encourage you to submit photos that you have previously taken during the winter months.

2. Why can I only submit 12 (or 6) photographs to the contest?

Because we are expecting such a high level of participation in the contest, and because we have so many categories (options to win), we'd like you to select only your very best photographs to submit. We know it's hard, and we really wish that we could view every one of your personal expressions of the beauty of our landscape, but we don't want to intimidate the judges. Thanks.

3. May I register photographs with people recognized in the photo?

Yes! However, please download the following release forms for parents or guardians of children under the age of 18 or individual releases and adults who are recognizable in the photograph.

[Download a parental consent here \(PDF\) – coming soon](#)

[Download a release statement here \(PDF\) – coming soon](#)

For those photographers out there who do not want to ask identifiable individuals in their photographs to sign a release, a good rule of thumb for taking photographs with people in them is to make sure that the person(s) in the photograph are facing away from the camera or are far enough away as to not be easily identifiable. Photographs of people in a public area usually do not require a release, however, if the individual is recognizable then a release should be obtained whenever possible.

4. Do you protect contest participants' photographs if/when they are displayed online?

Photographs will only be displayed at a maximum size of approximately 730x486 pixels, which should minimize any risk of theft for publishing purposes.

5. How will SRT use the photos I submit to the contest?

Photographs that you submit for the contest may be used for display purposes on the SRT website for the ultimate purpose of promoting land conservation, and in SRT marketing materials, calendars, publications and e-newsletters.

6. Do I, as the photographer, retain all rights to my photographs?

Yes! Photographers retain all rights to their photographs after submitting them to the SRT photo contest, and we will always give you photo credit when your photograph is used.

7. How do I know if SRT received my photographs?

We will send you confirmation of your complete contest submission (photos, application and payment) within one week of receiving your submissions. Incomplete applications submitted after the deadline will not be accepted, sorry.

8. What should I do if there are no answers to my question?

Please send us any questions or comments at photocontest@sequoiariverlands.org, or via our [contact us](#) form on the website. We'll contact you to answer your question as soon as possible. We will also email you periodic updates/amendments on contest rules, regulations, photo opportunities, etc.