

## Nature Digital Image Order and Definitions

The Nature Photography Sections (digital and print) are restricted to the photographic process to depict observations from all branches of natural history, including botany, zoology, physics, chemistry, meteorology, paleontology, in such a fashion that a well informed person will be able to identify the subject material and to certify to its honest presentation. The story telling value of the photograph should be weighed more than the pictorial quality. Human elements should not be present. On the rare occasion where human elements enhance the nature story, they should be unobtrusive. Photographs of artificially produced hybrid plants or domesticated animals, mounted specimens, derivations, or any form of photographic manipulation that alters the truth of the photographic statement are ineligible. No elements may be moved, cloned, added or deleted, rearranged or combined. No manipulation or modification is permitted except resizing, cropping, selective lightening or darkening, and restoration of original color of the scene.

(Exceptions: detailed micro or macro photographs, and scientific banding on wild animals.) Descriptive titles are recommended for nature pictures.

**Insects/spider** Insects are minute invertebrate animals that typically have the body divided into a head, a thorax of 2 segments; and in development, usually pass through metamorphosis. There is usually 2 pairs of wings, sometimes 1 pair or none. Spiders are any of one of a large family of arachnids forming an order having an unsegmented abdomen and are capable of spinning silk in the construction of webs for capture of prey such as flies or other insects.

**Fungi/Mushroom** The non flowering plants subdivision of the Thallophyta which are devoid of chlorophyll, reproduce chiefly by asexual means, and obtain nourishment either as a parasite on living organisms or as a saprophyte on dead organic matter. They include molds, mildews, rusts, mushrooms, and puffballs.

**Wild Flower** Wild flowers are NOT cultivated. Cultivated flowers, such as roses and tulips are not eligible for competition in this category.

**Birds** Birds are warm-blooded, feathered, egg-laying vertebrate having fore limbs modified as wings. Chickens or other domesticated fowl are not eligible for competition in this category, nor are they eligible in the nature division.

**Wild Animal** Animals are living organisms other than plants. Wild animals inhabit the forests, deserts, etc., and are NOT domesticated, tamed or bred for specific characteristics. Domesticated animals are not eligible for competition in this category, nor are they eligible in the nature division. Insects, Spider and Birds are not eligible for competition in this category of competition because of their special designation in other competitions.

**Natural Landscape (New)** No hand of man (roads, trails, light poles, buildings, etc.)