

NPPNW JUDGING and SCORING GUIDELINES

JUDGING GUIDELINES

1. Use the 65—99 point scoring system described below.
2. Be Consistent. Don't change your scoring in the middle of a judging session.
3. Set aside your personal biases on subject and style.
4. Do not indiscriminately apply the “Rules of Composition.” Evaluate composition based on how it works in the image, not just how it follows or fails to follow the rules.
5. Do not give a disproportionate number of high or low scores (see scoring table below)
6. Take artifacts and sensor dust into account, if significant.
7. Keep in mind that this is nature photography. Limited or minimal “Hand of Man” will be the overall guide. For example, a bird sitting on a fence post or barbed wire would be acceptable, providing the bird and/or its natural environment is clearly the main subject. Images with evidence of more than minimal “Hand of Man” should be scored slightly lower.
8. If you know the maker or you are otherwise biased, you may recuse yourself from voting by tapping Recuse on the keypad and the moderator will enter the third score.

SCORING GUIDELINES

Score	Description
65	The image is WEAK in impact, shows serious technical defects - gross under or over exposure, poor focus, significant camera movement, or similar problems. Inappropriate category.
66 - 69	The image is reasonably SOLID , with interest. Technically okay.
70 - 79	The image is very STRONG . Technical aspects and image contents are a notch above competent, and the image rewards contemplation.
80 - 89	The image is EXCELLENT . Unique content, strong design, and technical excellence create a high impact, or WOW factor! You should feel excited about the image.
90 - 99	The image is SUPERIOR - No design, compositional, or technical fault. Outstanding impact. Equal to the best you have ever seen.

Thank you very much for your voluntary judging on behalf of the Nature Photographer's of the Pacific Northwest.

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