

## **“Year of the Terns” Photo Contest Guidelines**

There are over 150 seabird species in the East Asian – Australasian Flyway (EAA Flyway). Many of them spend most of their lives in offshore oceans and have long trans-equatorial migration routes, making their lives mysterious to us. At the same time, they are facing the risk of extinction due to various threats such as incidental bycatch, overfishing, pollution, invasive species, and habitat loss. To raise awareness of seabirds and their conservation, the East Asian – Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP) and the [Seabird Working Group](#) designated 2022 as the “Year of the Terns”.

Under the “Year of the Terns”, a *Photo Contest* is launched, aiming to raise awareness and encourage birdwatchers and photographers to discover the beauty of the seabirds, especially terns species.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

- The Year of the Terns Photo contest is open to all participants regardless of age, gender, residence and nationality. Participation in the Year of the Terns Photo Contest is free - there is no registration fee.
- All entries must involve images photographed in countries within the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership's region. These countries include *Australia, Bangladesh, Brunei Cambodia, China (including Hong Kong, Macau, and Taiwan), Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, North Korea, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Russia (Far East), Singapore, South Korea, Thailand, Timor-Leste, USA (Alaska), and Vietnam.*

### **CONTEST PERIOD**

- The Year of the Terns Photo Contest opens on 14 May 2022 (Saturday) and will close on 17 September (Saturday), 11:59 p.m. (KST).

### **SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

1. All entries must be uploaded to the Year of the Terns Photo Contest webpage: <https://woobox.com/dsmyac>.
2. Photos must be taken from 1 January 2022 through 17 September 2022.
3. There are two categories for entrants to submit entries and each entrant may submit up to **3 photos** for the whole contest, e.g. **If an entrant submitted one photo to category 1 can, then he/she will have two quotas of entry left to submit for category 2.** Each category has a different set of submission requirements and judging criteria. Please refer to **How To Win** for further details.

4. Information to be provided for each entry:

- Date when the photograph was taken
- Name of the location and GPS coordinates
  
- Species

- Any information on leg flags/tags

5. All submitted photographs must be in JPEG format, and NOT exceed 5MB in file size. Rename the file name to Photographer's name\_MMDD (date of entry), e.g. Kenneth\_Lam\_0706.
6. Photographs should not be substantially altered with digital means beyond the standard types of edits (e.g. cropping, reasonable adjustments to exposure, balance, sharpness, colour and contrast, etc.). The judging panel reserves the right and discretion to disqualify an entry if there is reasonable evidence to suggest that the image has been excessively or dishonestly edited.
7. No signature, logos, and watermark text should be present on submitted images.
8. Please contact us at [yearoftheterns@gmail.com](mailto:yearoftheterns@gmail.com) for any inquiries.
9. Please use the hashtag-YearofTerns (#YearofTerns) for promoting the event or calling for votes on the Year of the Terns Photo Contest webpage.

### **JUDGING CRITERIA**

- The judging panel will select winning photographs based on composition, creativity, originality, representativeness (of the subject), conservation message and overall impression.
- The judging panel retains the sole discretion over the selection of any particular entry as a winner. All decisions are final and no negotiation/appeal with respect to any decision will be entertained.
- Winners will be announced on the EAAFP website and will be notified by email.

### **HOW TO WIN**

There are two categories for entrants to submit entries and each entrant may submit up to **3 photos** for the whole contest, e.g. **If an entrant submitted one photo to category 1, he/she will have two quotas left to submit for category 2. Entrant may submit all three entries in a single category; however, he/she will not be able to submit additional entry in another category.**

### **Category 1. THE BEST PHOTO OF TERN SPECIES**

- Each entrant may only submit one entry per species. Entrants may, however, submit multiple entries covering different species of terns.
- Each entrant needs to write the description **in English within 100 words** (e.g., threats to the species, conservation efforts).
- We welcome photos of any tern species taken in the EAAF, especially the following 27 highlighted species which are regularly recorded in the flyway:
  - Aleutian Tern
  - Antarctic Tern
  - Arctic Tern
  - Australian gull-billed tern
  - Black-bellied Tern
  - Black-fronted Tern
  - Black-naped Tern
  - Black Noddy
  - Bridled Tern

- Brown Noddy
- Caspian Tern
- Common Gull-billed Tern
- Common Tern
- Common White Tern
- Chinese Crested Tern
- Greater Crested Tern
- Lesser Crested Tern
- Lesser Noddy
- Fairy Tern
- Grey-backed Tern
- Little Tern
- River Tern
- Roseate Tern
- Sooty Tern
- Whiskered Tern
- White-fronted Tern
- White-winged Tern

For a comprehensive listing of terns mentioned above, you may consult the [EAAFP website](#) for species, common name and IUCN status.

**Category 2. TERN PHOTO WITH THE BEST CONSERVATION MESSAGE** • Each entrant may submit tern photo and message **in English within 200 words**. • Each photo and its corresponding message should highlight, for example, the threats to seabirds and the marine environment, conservation efforts, or relations between or among seabirds and other creatures in marine ecosystems.

### **MOST VOTED PHOTO**

- The entrant whose photo receives the most votes on the Year of the Terns Photo Contest webpage will be the winner\*.

\*Please note that 'likes' on social media are not regarded as valid votes. Only votes on the webpage will be counted.

### **PRIZES**

- **Category 1. THE BEST PHOTO OF TERN SPECIES - Swarovski CL Companion binoculars**

- **Category 2. TERN PHOTO WITH THE BEST CONSERVATION MESSAGE – Hand Painted Artwork by Thai Nature Artist - Ayuwat Jearwattanakanok**

- **MOST VOTED PHOTO - Seabirds The New Identification Guide**

Winning photos will be published in EAAFP's 2023 Calendar.

### **GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

- Photographs submitted to the Year of the Terns Photo Contest must be the original work of the entrant and must not involve photographs that have been submitted to prior photographic competitions and contests, or have been officially exhibited (or featured in exhibitions) in any form, online or offline.
- By entering this contest, the entrant thereby asserts his/her right to the submitted work,

and the right to distribute the submitted photograph in any digital or print form. The entrant retains full rights to the copyrights of the photograph submitted.

- In no event will the contest organizers and sponsors, its advertising or promotion agencies, or its officers, directors, employees, shareholders, representatives or agents be responsible or liable for any damages or losses of any kind, including direct, indirect, incidental, consequential, special or punitive damages arising out of any entrant's access to and use of the submission website, or in the course of obtaining a photographic image for the contest.
- Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, everything on the Website is provided "as is", without warranty of any kind, either express or implied, including but not limited to, the implied warranties of merchantability, fitness for purpose or use or non-infringement.
- The contest organizers reserve the right to adjust the contest deadline as and when necessary, without informing the entrants in advance.
- Neither the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP), any co-organizers, nor the judging panel shall bear responsibility for any damaged, lost, late or incomplete entries.
- By submitting an entry to this contest, all entrants agree to these terms and conditions.

## **RIGHTS TO USE AND DISTRIBUTE PHOTOGRAPHS**

By entering the Year of the Terns Photo Contest, the entrant retains **full rights** to the copyrights of the photograph submitted and agreed to grant the contest organizers a non-exclusive right to:

- Publish submitted photographs on the contest organizers' (East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership) media and publications in any printed and online format for **non-commercial purposes** in association with the photo contest, including but not limited to websites, social media accounts, and printed material such as newsletters, brochures, magazines, calendars, fundraising appeals, public service announcements, grant proposals, reports, awards, displays, mailings, and event invitations.
- Use, in connection with the Year of the Terns Photo Contest, the entrant's name, and the location of each image as provided by the entrant for the purposes of promotion on social media and all types of print and digital publications.
- Retain the photographic files provided and archive them in electronic forms as appropriate, so that photographs can be used to support seabird conservation.

As a condition of granting this non-exclusive right to use images to the contest organizers for non-commercial purposes, all future use of photographs will be credited with the caption '© photographer's name' if the entrant's full name is available.

## **ETHICAL BIRD PHOTOGRAPHY GUIDELINES**

- Minimum interference and disturbance to the bird subjects should be observed as far as possible. For instance, photographers should maintain a reasonable distance to allow the birds to behave naturally, whilst avoiding disturbance or stress to birds, especially during their breeding season.
- Photographs should not attempt to influence the behaviour of bird subjects (e.g. by flushing, playback, chasing, or baiting). Never approach birds with the intention of making them fly.
- Photographers are responsible for their own behaviour in the field and should observe discretion not to trespass, or damage facilities or properties while taking photographs.

### **PERSONAL INFORMATION**

- By entering the Competition, entrants agree and acknowledge the contest organizers are permitted to receive and hold the personal information you supply for the purposes of the Year of the Terns Photo Contest.
- Personal information is collected solely for the execution of the Year of the Terns Photo Contest. For example, to notify winners of results, carry out promotional campaigns and local events during and after the Contest, provide and correspond with entrants' contest information, and submissions, announce the winning entries, send out feedback questionnaires about the contest and deliver prizes, and for sending out e-newsletters.
- Personal data to be supplied and collected: Name, country of residence, e-mail address, other context details, websites, and biographical information.
- Data protection: Using appropriate measures, we will work to ensure that your personal data is not used or accessed in an unauthorized way, and outside of the scope of the Contest. We will limit access to your personal data to employees and contractors purely on an as-needed basis. Where needed, they will process your personal data on our instructions, and they are subject to a duty of confidentiality.
- Data retention: We take your personal data seriously. Your personal data will be stored no longer than it is necessary for the purpose of your participation in the Year of the Terns Photo Contest, and in compliance with legal and fiscal obligations. The data retention period is 1 year.

### **INQUIRIES**

Please contact us at [yearoftheterns@gmail.com](mailto:yearoftheterns@gmail.com) for any inquiries.