

CATEGORY DEFINITIONS

LANDSCAPE / SEASCAPE

- A **landscape** is a photograph of natural scenery with land and sky based elements displayed in a pictorial fashion. It may include evidence of man, people, animals, even part of the sea provided that none of these additional elements dominate the photograph.
- A **seascape** is a photograph of natural coastal scenery, a wave study, or a picture of the open sea, provided always that the sea is the centre of interest of the photograph. People, boats and man-made structures may be present as incidental to the photograph.

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OPEN

Any subject that is treated pictorially, embodying the elements of good design, arrangement or composition, which reflects the personal interpretation of the photographer.

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NATURE

Nature photography is restricted to the use of the photographic process to depict all branches of natural history, except anthropology and archaeology, in such a fashion that a well-informed person will be able to identify the subject material and certify its honest presentation.

The story telling value of a photograph must be weighed more than the pictorial quality while maintaining high technical quality.

Human elements shall not be present, except where those human elements are integral parts of the nature story such as nature subjects, like barn owls or storks, adapted to an environment modified by humans, or where those human elements are in situations depicting natural forces, like hurricanes or tidal waves.

Scientific bands, scientific tags or radio collars on wild animals are permissible.

Photographs of human created hybrid plants, cultivated plants, feral animals, domestic animals, or mounted specimens are **ineligible**, as is any form of manipulation that alters the truth of the photographic statement.

No techniques that add, relocate, replace, or remove pictorial elements except by cropping are permitted. Techniques that enhance the presentation of the photograph without changing the nature story or the pictorial content, or without altering the content of the original scene, are permitted including HDR, focus stacking and dodging/burning.

Techniques that remove elements added by the camera, such as dust spots, digital noise, and film scratches, are allowed.

Stitched images are not permitted. All allowed adjustments must appear natural.

Colour images can be converted to grey-scale monochrome.

Infrared images, either direct captures or derivations, are not allowed. All allowed adjustments must appear natural.

GENERAL SUBJECT MATTER

NATURE

ALLOWED

Anything to do with natural history (the study and description of organisms and natural objects), *except* anthropology or archaeology.

Subject matter must be identifiable.

Human elements that are part of the nature story (such as birds nesting on a man-made structure).

Scientific bands, tags or collars.

Techniques (such as contrast adjustment) that enhance the image without changing the nature story, or altering the pictorial content of the original scene.

Grey-scale monochrome images.

NOT ALLOWED

Anything that is classified as anthropology (the study of humans) or archaeology (the study of historic or prehistoric peoples and their cultures).

Domestic or Feral Animals.

Cultivated plants (e.g. roses)

Human elements (such as cloning) that alters the content of the original scene by adding, moving or removing image elements (e.g. to create a paranormal)

Adjustments that change the nature story, such as turning a daylight scene into a night scene.

Toned monochrome images.

Infrared images.