FY2015
USDA Forest Service Award Categories
National Rise To The Future-Watershed Resources Awards
(Fisheries, Hydrology, Air, and Soils)

- **Aquatic Recreational Accomplishment:** Recognizes significant accomplishments in implementation of Recreational Fisheries Executive Order 12962, or significant accomplishments in promoting aquatic resource awareness or management highlighting recreational fisheries. Individual or group award; may be internal, external, or joint.

- **Collaborative/Integrated Aquatic Stewardship:** Recognizes collaborative/integrated efforts in aquatic resource management or monitoring that resulted in, or will result in meaningful changes in NFS aquatic resource condition. Group award, including internal and external participants.

- **Friend of the Fish/Watershed:** Internal recognition for individuals in non-fisheries/aquatic resource positions who have contributed significantly towards the protection, restoration, or enhancement of fishery/aquatic and watershed resources.

- **Line Officer:** Recognizes line officers who have demonstrated sustained outstanding management of aquatic or watershed resource protection, restoration, or enhancement through implementation and support of effective and innovative fisheries and/or watershed stewardship programs.

- **Partnership:** Recognizes an external partner who has made outstanding contributions to, or advanced the effectiveness of, the Forest Service fisheries, aquatic resources, or watershed stewardship programs.

- **Public Awareness:** Recognizes significant contributions in communicating the aquatic resource or watershed stewardship management story. Individual or group award; may be internal, external, or joint.

- **Tribal Accomplishment:** Recognizes exemplary or innovative “on-the-ground” accomplishments that benefit NFS lands, accomplished by federally-recognized, as well as non-recognized tribes, or NGO’s working with tribes. Particular emphasis would be given to those incorporating traditional ecological knowledge. Individual or group award; may be external or joint.

- **Jim Sedell Research Achievement:** Honors science leadership, accomplishment, and intellectual curiosity contributing to freshwater ecology, fisheries and watershed management. Weaves new knowledge discovery or synthesis into watershed research or management, more fully developing the story of why we should care about aquatic resources. Individual or group award; may be internal, external, or joint.

- **Professional Excellence In Fish Management:** Recognizes sustained high performance fostering technically sound fish/aquatic resource management or innovative approaches with lasting impact in any aspect of aquatic resource management, monitoring, or mentoring. Internal individual recognition.

- **Field Soil Scientist:** Honors an individual or a group of soil scientist(s), located on a field unit or research station, for exceptional effectiveness and creativity in applying soil and site information to maintain ecological integrity on National Forests and Grasslands. This award is for internal individual or group recognition.

- **“Wagon Wheel Gap” Hydrology:** Recognizes a high level of performance by hydrologists and hydrologic technicians that are engaged in watershed management on the Nation’s forests and grasslands or in delivery of hydrologic services to domestic or overseas partners as part of their normal duties. This award, named in honor of the first watershed experiments in the United States at the Wagon Wheel Gap Experimental Forest on the Rio Grande National Forest, is for internal individual recognition.

- **Paul Miller Air Resource Management Award:** Recognizes singularly outstanding performance by an air quality specialist, manager, scientist, or technician who displays excellence through initiative, skill, determination, commitment, and/or achievement in furthering the stewardship of air resources on National Forests and Grasslands. This is an individual award named in honor of Dr. Paul Miller, a world class Forest Service scientist and gentle friend who pioneered early studies of the effects of air pollution on forests.