



# Ocean Photo Contest

## Official Rules and Contest Release Form

World Ocean Day reminds us all of the major role the oceans have in everyday life. To celebrate the ocean and the countless benefits it provides us, DNREC is excited to announce an Ocean Photo Contest. Please join us in our admiration of the thriving wildlife, economic opportunities and natural beauty of Delaware's marine areas. We want to see your photos of what you love about the ocean. Starting on June 8, the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control invites Delawareans to submit a photo that addresses:

### What I Love About the Ocean

#### How to Enter

1. Complete the online entry and the photo release form and upload a photo of something you love about the ocean. This could include fishing, wildlife, recreational activities, or anything else you admire about Delaware's natural beauty that is related to the ocean.
2. Submit your images (minimum of 4 MB, no more than 10 photos) to [DNREC.DCP.ADMIN@delaware.gov](mailto:DNREC.DCP.ADMIN@delaware.gov). All images must include the following: photographer's name, short description of what is shown in the photo, where the photo was taken and a signed photo release form.
3. If the participant is under the age of 18, a parent or guardian must complete and submit this release form. If more than one child is included in a photo submission, a release form must be completed for each minor by the minor's parent or guardian.



**Deadline for Entry:** The photo submission, and the completed photo release form(s) must be submitted via email to [DNREC.DCP.ADMIN@delaware.gov](mailto:DNREC.DCP.ADMIN@delaware.gov) by 4:30 p.m. on August 31, 2023.

#### Official Rules

- The Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control ("DNREC") shall not accept late or incomplete entries, or entries that have not followed these official rules.
- DNREC reserves the right to adjust any deadline(s) as the result of causes beyond its immediate control. DNREC will take reasonable steps to notify of any adjustments made to deadlines.
- Photos must have been taken between January 1, 2023 and prior to the 4:30 p.m., August 31, 2023 deadline.

#### Content:

- Images should be no less than 4 MB but may not exceed 8 MB. Digital images must be submitted in .jpeg or .tiff format. DNREC may ask for a larger version of winning photos for use in print publications.
- Photographs must have been taken within the State of Delaware, or offshore of Delaware.
- Photo submissions must not contain inappropriate, indecent, or obscene content. DNREC has sole discretion in determining whether any photo submission contains inappropriate, indecent, or obscene content. Photo submissions determined by DNREC to contain inappropriate, indecent or obscene content shall be rejected by DNREC.
- Photo submissions must be original, previously unpublished, and created solely by the submitting entrant(s), and not violate the intellectual property rights, copyright or right of property of any third party. DNREC will reject photo submissions that it determines, in its sole discretion, contain copyrighted materials. Photo submissions that have been entered into other contests, or have been published elsewhere (newspapers, magazines, online, etc.) are not eligible.
- Photo submissions should accurately reflect the subject matter and the scene as it appeared.
- Photos may not include other discernable people, names, signatures, logos or other identifying marks.

#### Eligibility

- This contest is open to all legal residents of the State of Delaware.
- DNREC employees may submit photos in accordance with these official rules. DNREC employees; however, are not eligible to win prizes.
- Children of DNREC employees may submit photos in accordance with these Official Rules. Children of DNREC employees; however, are not eligible to win prizes.

### Judging and Selection of Winning Entries

- The judging panel will consist of the Director of the DNREC Division of Climate, Coastal and Energy, the Division Ocean Planner and a staff or non-staff member knowledgeable in photography.
- A 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place photo will be selected as winning entries. Honorable mentions will also be selected. Photo submissions shall be judged and winning entries shall be selected based on how well the photos represent the following criteria: photo quality, composition and content.
- DNREC has sole discretion over the selection of winning entries. By entering this contest, entrants waive any right they have to dispute or otherwise challenge DNREC's selection of the winning entries.

### Prizes for Winning Entries

- The winning photo and photographer will be featured in an Outdoor Delaware online article. Additionally, each 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winner will receive a DNREC prize pack.
- DNREC will make reasonable efforts to notify winners publicly, via email, news release(s) and social media.
- Entries may be used by the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control and/or Division of Climate, Coastal and Energy for websites and publications. We will, of course, provide credit to photographers whenever their photo is used.

### General Provisions:

- Photo Release: By entering this contest and submitting this completed release form, I, on behalf of myself and, if applicable, the minor identified on this release form, grant permission to the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control and its employees a royalty-free, world-wide, perpetual, nonexclusive license to display, distribute, reproduce, and create derivative works of the Photo submission, in whole or in part, in any media now existing or subsequently developed, for any State of Delaware or DNREC purpose, including, but not limited to advertising and promotion of DNREC in print, its web site, and its publications. By entering this contest, I further agree that the photo submission complies with to these official rules. I will make no monetary or other claim against DNREC or the state of Delaware for the use of any content provided DNREC in connection with my or my minor child's participation in this contest.
- DNREC is an agency of the state of Delaware subject to Delaware's Freedom of Information Act (29 Del. C. 10001 et seq). Participants are advised that any information provided to DNREC in conjunction with this contest may be deemed a public record under FOIA.
- No Third Party Rights: This release form affects the rights, obligations and duties of the parties only. Notwithstanding any other provision to the contrary, nothing in this release form is intended to, nor shall it be interpreted or construed in a manner which shall: (a) grant any third party the right to enforce any of the terms, rights, or obligations set forth herein; (b) confer any substantive or procedural rights or privileges to any third party in relation to or arising out of any collateral civil or criminal legal proceeding; or (c) waive or otherwise affect the sovereignty of the state of Delaware or the application of 10 Del. C. § 4001, et seq. to any civil proceeding involving any officer, employee or agent of the state of Delaware.
- These terms shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the state of Delaware. Any legal action brought by either party to enforce any provision of this agreement shall be brought in an appropriate Delaware State Court.



# OCEAN PHOTO CONTEST CONSENT AND RELEASE FORM



I hereby give permission for photo images taken by my child or myself (as applicable), to be used for DNREC Division of Climate, Coastal and Energy promotional materials and publications, and I waive any rights of compensation or ownership thereto.

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Name of minor(s) (please print)

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Name of minor's parent/guardian (please print)

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Name of adult(s) (please print)

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Parent/guardian or adult's signature (as applicable)

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Date