

2024/25 FIS Nature and Biodiversity Protection and Restoration Award

- Rules and Regulations -

Aim of the Award

The FIS Nature and Biodiversity Protection and Restoration Award aims to recognize and reward innovative projects that protect and enhance nature and biodiversity in winter sports. This award is grounded in the principles of the Sports for Nature Framework, encouraging sports organizations to actively engage in protecting and restoring natural habitats while inspiring positive action for biodiversity.

Some FIS Member Federations and Organizing Committees are already making significant strides toward nature and biodiversity protection and restoration. This award provides an opportunity for them to share their experiences and knowledge with the entire FIS Family, benefiting both community and the environment.

Award Principles

The award submissions' projects need to cover and implement at least one of the following four principles of the Sports for Nature Framework:

1. Protect Nature and Avoid Damage to Natural Habitats and Species

Initiatives should clearly demonstrate actions taken to prevent harm to local ecosystems and wildlife, including the implementation of best practices that prioritize conservation.

2. Restore and Regenerate Nature Wherever Possible

Projects must include efforts to rehabilitate damaged ecosystems or enhance biodiversity, showcasing tangible outcomes of restoration activities.

3. Understand and Reduce Risks to Nature in Your Supply Chains

Participants should address how they identify and mitigate environmental risks associated with their operations and supply chains, including efforts to source sustainably and reduce ecological footprints of products and services that they procure, licence or acquire.

4. Educate and Inspire Positive Action for Nature Across and Beyond Sport

Initiatives should involve educational components that raise awareness and encourage behaviours aimed at nature and biodiversity protection and restoration among athletes, fans, and the broader community.

Application Process

1. Eligibility

The award is open to Local Organizer Committees (LOC) and National Ski Associations (NSA) actively engaged in projects promoting nature and biodiversity protection and restoration. Each Organizing Committee or NSA that hosted at least one event during the recently concluded seasons (2023/2024 and 2024/2025) is eligible to apply with one action. To qualify, the action must address at least one of the principles described above. This may also include indirect contributions to supply chains and education/communication.

2. Submission Requirements

To apply for the FIS 2024/25 Nature and Biodiversity Protection and Restoration Award it is required to fill in the [Annex 1](#). All the applications must be sent to sustainability@fis-ski.com.

Here is a brief explanation of the information you are required to provide in the Annex 1:

- A detailed action description outlining the initiative and its objectives.
- An explanation of how the action contributed to the protection and/or restoration of nature and biodiversity in relation to the event. It should be noted that the activities in question may have taken place prior to the event itself, as well as after its conclusion. Consequently, any preparatory activities and other actions related to the event are also admissible. Concrete data, testimonials, or case studies demonstrating the initiative's effectiveness, such as – only for example:
 - N° of species protected.
 - M² of forest/number of trees better protected.
 - M² of slopes vegetation recovered.
 - Evidence of new behaviours adoption.
 - Evidence of new procurement procedures to minimise the impact of the supply chain on nature protection and biodiversity.
 - N° of communication campaigns or training hours on nature and biodiversity protection and restoration.
- A description of how the initiative aligns with at least one of the Sport for Nature Framework principles described above, specifying which overall aims it supports.
- Proposed use of the prize money if awarded, including potential next steps that build on the action.

3. Deadline

Applications must be submitted by 30th March 2025.

Jury

The award winner will be selected by a jury consisting of the FIS Director of Sustainability, a representative of the Sports for Nature Initiative and an FIS athlete ambassador. The jury will select the 5 best practices that will be presented during the FIS SEMINAR 2025 - Focus on Nature and Biodiversity Protection and Restoration that will open the FIS Spring Technical Meetings 2025 in Portugal on 5th May **2025**. **During this event, the final evaluation of the Jury will be combined with the vote of all participants** to decide the final winner to be announced at the end of the Seminar. If some of the selected projects cannot participate in person, alternative solutions can be found.

Evaluation Criteria

Applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria, which align with the Sports for Nature Framework principles and framework:

- 1. Impact on Biodiversity**

The project should demonstrate a positive effect on local ecosystems and species. This could include evidence of habitat restoration, species protection, and enhancement of biodiversity.

- 2. Measurable Outcomes**

Applicants must provide concrete data illustrating the sustainability impact of their initiatives. Metrics can include the numbers of trees, species, m2 restored and so on.

- 3. Innovation and Replicability**

Projects should feature innovative approaches that can be replicated by other organizations. Initiatives should address broader environmental challenges, demonstrating potential for widespread application.

- 4. Future Potential**

Proposals should include a clear plan for the use of the award prize money, detailing specific and measurable next steps that build on the original initiative and provide valuable practices for others.

- 5. Presentation**

As previously stated in the section dedicated to the jury, a Seminar on nature and biodiversity will be held at the upcoming FIS 2025 Spring Technical Meetings in Portugal. The five best practices will be presented by those directly involved, and then put to a joint vote by the jury and participants. If some of the selected projects cannot participate in person, alternative solutions can be found.

Award

The Jury will declare a winner among LOC applicants and one winner among NSA applicants. The winners will:

1. Receive a trophy, certificate, and promotion through FIS channels, showcasing their commitment to sustainability and 3.500 € to support future initiatives focused on nature and biodiversity protection or restoration or environmental sustainability.

General Terms

This framework fosters a competitive yet collaborative environment where sports organizations can showcase their efforts in promoting sustainability and protecting and restoring biodiversity in and through sport.

By submitting an application for the Awards to the FIS, Candidates fully and unreservedly accept all the terms and conditions of these present General Rules and Regulations and the decisions of the FIS, including those made by the Jury. The FIS's decisions on all matters relating to the Awards are final and binding on all Candidates. The FIS reserves the right, at its absolute discretion, to vary, delete, or add to any of these present General Rules and Regulations from time to time without prior notice and without any compensation or indemnification being due to Candidates.

These present General Rules and Regulations prevail over any provisions or representations contained in any promotional materials relating to the Award.

Data Protection

The FIS is committed to protecting the privacy and personal data of all participants, nominees, and stakeholders involved in the Award process. This passage outlines how your personal data will be handled during the course of the Award.

1. Types of Data Collected

As part of the application process for the FIS Nature and Biodiversity Protection and Restoration Award, we may collect the following personal data:

- First and last name
- Nationality
- Contact information (email address, phone number)
- Professional affiliations or titles
- Additional information relevant to your application or nomination

2. Purpose of Data Collection

The data collected will be used solely for purposes related to the FIS Nature and Biodiversity Protection and Restoration Award, including:

- Verifying eligibility and processing applications.

- Communicating with candidates, nominators, and endorsers regarding the Award.
- Managing the Award evaluation and selection process.
- Promoting the Award and publicizing the names and achievements of Award winners.

3. Data Processing and Storage

The personal data provided will be processed by the FIS in compliance with applicable data protection laws. We will use appropriate technical and organizational measures to ensure that your data is kept secure, protected from unauthorized access, alteration, or destruction.

4. Sharing of Data

In the course of the Award process, your personal data may be shared with the FIS staff, the Judging Committee, and third parties who assist with the Award's administration. We may also share limited information about Award recipients, such as names and awarded projects, for public relations and promotional purposes, including in press releases, publications, and on the FIS website.

5. Retention of Data

Your personal data will be retained only for as long as necessary to fulfil the purposes for which it was collected and to comply with legal obligations. Once the data is no longer needed for these purposes, it will be securely deleted or anonymized.

For candidates who are not selected for the Award, their data will be retained for a reasonable period, up to five years after the Award year, unless they request earlier deletion.

6. Changes to this Privacy Notice

This privacy notice may be updated periodically to reflect changes in our data processing practices. We will notify you of any significant changes by posting an updated version of this notice on our website.

By submitting an application or nomination for the FIS Nature and Biodiversity Protection and Restoration Award, you consent to the processing of your personal data in accordance with this policy.