



## **H. David Nahai Water Quality Awards**

### **2008 Award Descriptions and Nomination Application**

#### **H. David Nahai Water Quality Awards**

The H. David Nahai Water Quality Awards recognize extraordinary efforts to safeguard or restore water quality in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties. The awards are given annually by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board. Award recipients are selected from nominations submitted by state and local governments, the business community, professional and trade associations, environmental and philanthropic organizations, community and neighborhood groups and individuals concerned about water quality. The 2008 Water Quality Awards will acknowledge accomplishments in water quality education/research, protection/restoration and excellence.

The awards are named in honor of Mr. H. David Nahai. Mr. Nahai was first appointed to the Board in 1997 by Governor Pete Wilson. He was re-appointed in 2000 by Governor Gray Davis and in 2004 by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. Mr. Nahai served an unprecedented four terms as Board Chair, notably in 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2006.

The Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board is a component of the California Environmental Protection Agency, sets regional water quality standards and enforces both federal and state clean water statutes. The Board is comprised of nine individuals, each of whom is appointed by the Governor, and a small professional staff, comprised mostly of scientists, engineers and geologists. The Board's geographic jurisdiction covers Los Angeles County and Ventura County and includes more than 11 million residents.

#### **How the Water Quality Awards Program Works**

The Regional Board calls for award nominations from all interested parties, including state and local governments, the business community, professional and trade associations, environmental and philanthropic organizations, community and neighborhood groups and individuals concerned about water quality. Nominations submitted by the application deadline are reviewed and evaluated by an awards panel comprised of the Regional Board Chair, selected board members and senior staff. The awards panel ranks each nominee based on the relevant award criteria. In each award category, the nominee with the highest ranking is named the award recipient. Regional Board staff notifies all award recipients and individuals submitting nominations of the award panel's decision.

As the Regional Board's guest, each award recipient will be recognized during the annual Water Quality Awards Banquet. This year the banquet will be held on Thursday, October 30, 2008 at the Omni Hotel at California Plaza, located in downtown Los Angeles. Those who wish to join the Regional Board in honoring the award recipients are invited to purchase event tickets.

## **How to Apply for a Water Quality Award**

An award application is attached to this document. An electronic version of the application can be viewed and downloaded at the Regional Board's web site:  
[www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/)

### **Step 1: Review Award Categories and Evaluation Criteria**

- Applications should be submitted only for individuals, community or neighborhood groups, environmental or philanthropic organizations, business interests, government bodies or projects that reflect the award focus and evaluation criteria.
- An individual, group, organization, business interest, agency or project can be nominated for more than one award. However, a separate application must be submitted for each award.

### **Step 2: Complete a Nomination Application**

- You may nominate yourself or anyone who wishes to be recognized for their work protecting or restoring water quality.
- Activity descriptions should reflect award focus and evaluation criteria.
- Activity descriptions cannot exceed 600 words.
- Typed, double-spaced activity descriptions are recommended.
- Applicants may submit photographs, videos, newspaper articles and other support materials to supplement the activity descriptions. Support material is not subject to the 600-word limit.

### **Step 3: Submit a Nomination Application**

- Only complete applications submitted by the application deadline will be considered.
- Applications may be submitted electronically to:  
[lgallardo@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:lgallardo@waterboards.ca.gov)
- Applications may be mailed or hand delivered to:

2008 Water Quality Awards  
c/o Ms. Laura Gallardo  
Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board  
320 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street, #200  
Los Angeles, CA 90013

## **Water Quality Award Nomination Deadline**

The deadline for submitting complete nomination applications is **September 26, 2008**. Applications sent electronically or hand delivered to the Regional Board or postmarked by this date will be accepted. No nomination applications will be returned.



## H. David Nahai Water Quality Awards

### 2008 Nomination Application

*This is a voluntary awards program. Award nominations should be submitted only for those who wish to be recognized for their efforts to protect or restore water quality. Award nominations are considered public documents and may be subject to public review. Participation in the awards program is immaterial to any current or pending decision before the Regional Water Board.*

#### **NOMINATION APPLICATION SECTIONS**

- I. Nomination Deadline and Submittal Instructions
- II. Nomination Questions/Assistance
- III. Award Categories and Criteria
- IV. Nominee/Nominator Contact Information
- V. Award Designation
- VI. Activity Description

#### **I. NOMINATION DEADLINE AND SUBMITTAL INSTRUCTIONS**

The deadline for submitting complete nomination applications is **September 26, 2008**. Applications sent electronically or hand delivered to the Regional Board or postmarked by this date will be accepted. Late nominations will not be accepted. Nomination applications will not be returned.

Applications may be submitted electronically to:

[lgallardo@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:lgallardo@waterboards.ca.gov)

Applications may be mailed or hand delivered to:

2008 Water Quality Awards  
c/o Ms. Laura Gallardo  
Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board  
320 West 4th Street, #200  
Los Angeles, CA 90013

#### **II. NOMINATION QUESTIONS/ASSISTANCE**

For additional information about the awards and nomination process, please contact

Ms. Laura Gallardo  
Phone: 213.576.6613  
Email: [lgallardo@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:lgallardo@waterboards.ca.gov)

### III. AWARD CATEGORIES and EVALUATION CRITERIA

The 2008 H. David Nahai Water Quality Awards will recognize outstanding accomplishments in water quality education/research, protection, restoration and excellence. A description of each of the four award categories and evaluation criteria follows.

#### ▪ Water Quality Education/Research

*Description:* This award acknowledges 1) an educational activity or program fostering a better public understanding of water quality, in general, or of a water quality issue, in particular; or 2) a study or on-going research endeavor advancing the scientific understanding of water quality or a new strategy or technology for protecting or restoring water quality.

<i>Criteria</i>	<i>General Focus</i>	<i>Max. Points</i>
Environmental Need	Was a significant and pressing water quality issue addressed? Was an emerging or long-standing water quality issue tackled?	15
Initiative	What was the impetus and driving force for the activity? Was the activity unprecedented or did it follow/expand upon another endeavor?	10
Innovation	Was a unique paradigm or approach employed? Were resources used in a distinctly efficient or creative manner?	15
Scope of Impact	Was a narrow or broad range of water quality benefits sought? Was the geographic focus narrowly or broadly defined? What was accomplished?	15
Immediacy	Were immediate, near future or distant environmental benefits sought?	20
Water Quality Benefits	How has water quality and the environment been helped by the activity?	25
Total		100

#### ▪ Water Quality Protection/Restoration

*Description:* This award acknowledges a singular activity or series of activities that has further protected or prevented the loss of surface or groundwater quality in a watershed, waterbody or wetland or other aquatic habitat in Los Angeles County or Ventura County.

<i>Criteria</i>	<i>General Focus</i>	<i>Max. Points</i>
Environmental Need	Was a significant and pressing water quality issue addressed? Was an emerging or long-standing water quality issue tackled?	10
Initiative	What was the impetus and driving force for the activity? Was the activity unprecedented or did it follow/expand upon another endeavor?	10

(Water Quality Protection: Award Criteria Continued)

<i>Criteria</i>	<i>General Focus</i>	<i>Max. Points</i>
Innovation	Was a unique paradigm or approach employed? Were resources used in a distinctly efficient or creative manner?	10
Immediacy	Were immediate, near future or distant environmental benefits sought?	10
Scope of Impact	Was a narrow or board range of water quality benefits sought? Was the geographic focus narrowly or broadly defined? What was accomplished?	20
Water Quality Benefits	How has water quality and the environment been helped by the activity?	25
Sustainability	How long can the activity continue? How long will the water quality benefits last?	15
Total		100

▪ **Water Quality Excellence**

*Description:* This award acknowledges an individual, community or neighborhood group, environmental or philanthropic organization, business interest or government body that has demonstrated significant initiative, commitment, leadership and accomplishment in developing or implementing an activity or program that has resulted in substantive and long-term water quality benefits or advances in environmental justice.

<i>Criteria</i>	<i>General Focus</i>	<i>Max. Points</i>
Initiative	What was the impetus and driving force for the activity? Was the activity unprecedented or did it follow/expand upon another endeavor	10
Commitment	How long has this activity be going on? Is this activity linked to earlier and other environmental activities?	10
Innovation	Was a unique paradigm or approach employed? Were resources used in a distinctly efficient or creative manner?	10
Leadership	Did the activity foster awareness of and interest in water quality issues? Did the activity provide meaningful opportunities to participate in protecting or restoring water quality?	15
Scope of Impact	Was a narrow or board range of water quality benefits sought? Was the geographic focus narrowly or broadly defined? Were immediate, near future or distant environmental benefits sought? What was accomplished?	15
Water Quality Benefits	How has water quality and the environment been helped by the activity?	25
Sustainability	How long can the activity continue? How long will the water quality benefits last?	15
Total		100

**IV. NOMINEE/NOMINATOR CONTACT INFORMATION**

If you are nominating yourself or another individual, please provide the appropriate contact information. If you are nominating a group, organization, business, agency or project, please supply the contact information for the primary representative (e.g. president, program sponsor or project manager).

Nominee’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

If you are not nominating yourself or are not the primary representative, please supply your contact information.

Nominator’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**V. AWARD DESIGNATION**

You may nominate yourself, another individual, community or neighborhood group, environmental or philanthropic organization, business interest, government body or a project for more than one award. However, a separate application must be submitted for each award. Please designate below the award you wish to have your nominee receive.

\_\_\_\_\_ Water Quality Education/Research  
\_\_\_\_\_ Water Quality Protection/Restoration  
\_\_\_\_\_ Water Quality Excellence

**VI. ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION**

In 600 words or less, please describe why your nominee should receive the designated water quality award. Please keep in mind award focus and evaluation criteria. Please use the space below or one 8 ½ x 11-inch sheet of paper to write you justification. It would be appreciated if your justification was typed and double-spaced.

\_\_\_\_ Please check here if you are including with your application photographs, videos, newspaper articles or other support materials. Support material is not subject to the 600-word limit.