

**The John Pierce Outstanding Graduate Student Award**  
**Washington Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit**  
**Request for Nominations**

The Washington Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit (WACFWRU; <https://depts.washington.edu/wacfwru/>) is requesting nominations for The John Pierce Outstanding Graduate Student Award. The award will be presented to an outstanding graduate student from either the University of Washington or Washington State University who best embodies the mission and spirit of the WACFWRU. The recipient will be invited to an award ceremony at the WACFWRU autumn Cooperator's meeting. They will receive a certificate and a cash award.

Mr. John Pierce was Chief Wildlife Scientist for Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and served on the WACFWRU Cooperator's board for decades. He was a tireless advocate for the WACFWRU, and for fish and wildlife conservation in Washington, until his untimely death in 2018. This award honors John's commitment to the mission of the WACFWRU, and to graduate student training.

To nominate a student, please send an email to Sarah Converse, WACFWRU Unit Leader, at [sconver@uw.edu](mailto:sconver@uw.edu) by 9/1/XXXX and attach two documents: 1) the student's most recent CV, and 2) a letter of nomination. Your letter should specifically address the following criteria, considering the student's entire graduate career but focusing particularly on the previous academic year.

Criteria for eligibility include:

1. Student was funded for at least 1 quarter of the previous academic year on a project funded through the WACFWRU, or is advised by the WACFWRU Unit Leader or Assistant Unit Leader;
2. Student has not received the award previously (but may have been nominated previously).

Criteria for selection include:

1. Students who received all or most of their funding from a project funded through the WACFWRU will receive preference
2. Students who are working on a research project in Washington State will receive preference
3. Students who best embody the mission and spirit of the WACFWRU will have the following characteristics:
  - a. commitment to conducting research relevant to the conservation and management of fish, wildlife, and their habitats;
  - b. commitment to working with agencies to conduct research relevant to agency needs;
  - c. excellence in research productivity, as indicated by progress on research goals, publications, and presentations;
  - d. commitment to service within the university and community;
  - e. commitment to public outreach in science and/or fish and wildlife conservation; and
  - f. commitment to supporting diversity in the community of fish and wildlife scientists and managers.