**THE ALISON HASKELL AWARD**
**FOR EXCELLENCE IN HERPETOFAUNAL CONSERVATION**

**2027 Nomination Announcement**

**About the Award:** This Award is presented annually by Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (PARC), in memory of Alison Haskell (1956 – 2006), who was the first National Federal Coordinator for PARC. The award recognizes an individual who conducts work in an active PARC area (Fig. 1) and exemplifies extraordinary commitment to herpetofaunal conservation, as did Alison. If eligible, award recipients will receive $1,000 in cash and an engraved, commemorative plaque. Please visit http://parcplace.org/about/parc-awards/the-alison-haskell-award/ to learn more about the award and past recipients.

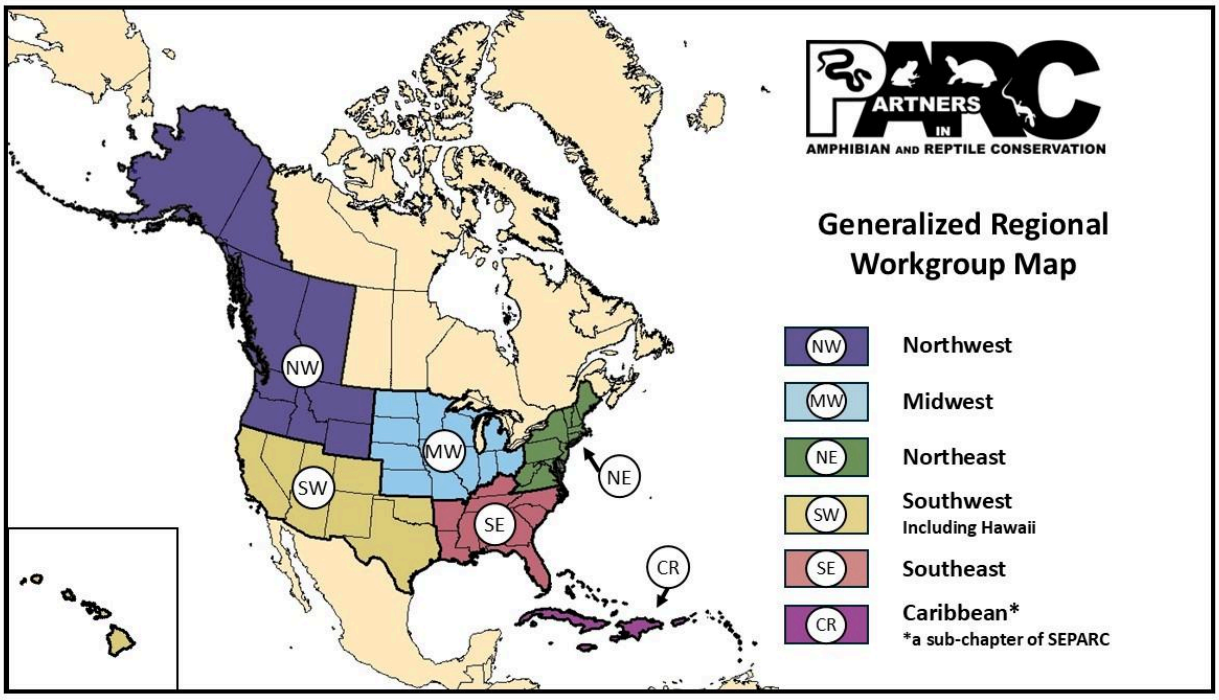



**Figure 1.** Map showing active PARC areas. In practice, many PARC regions cross political boundaries and partners work across regions. These are generalized areas.

**Eligibility:**

At this time, only U.S. citizens are eligible for receiving the cash award associated with the Alison Haskell Award. Current JNSC members (Table 1.) are not eligible to receive the Alison Haskell Award.

**Award Criteria**:

Nominations may be submitted for others, or self-submitted, and must meet **one or more** of the three following criteria as well as the additional criteria after the list:

1. Any person who has displayed exemplary commitment to building or strengthening partnerships: (1) with a broad representation of individuals or organizations across sectors, disciplines, cultures, or backgrounds, (2) with under-represented groups in the field of conservation, and/or (3) that promoted efficiencies in herpetofaunal conservation.

2. Any person who has displayed distinguished career-long contributions to partnerships and herpetofaunal conservation.

3. Special consideration will be given to any person who has exhibited tenacious effort, leadership and professionalism in a manner that is inspiring to their peers, and who has been overlooked by other means of acclaim.

**Additionally, all nominations must also include:**

- A required statement regarding the Nominee's perspective, experience, or contributions to increase diversity and advance inclusion of under-represented groups of people in herpetofaunal conservation.

PARC is dedicated to promoting inclusivity and collaboration as core values, with a strategic focus on improving equity within the herpetofaunal conservation community. We strive to create diverse and inclusive environments and networks for those involved in herpetofaunal conservation.In addition to recognizing excellence in the field of herpetology, the Alison Haskell award highlights the nominee's commitment to this core value.

**Nominees must observe and uphold the highest standards of scientific integrity and professional behavior, and must uphold PARC's Code of Ethics and Meeting Code of Conduct:**

**Nominee:**

Name:
Mailing Address:
PARC Area(s) in Which the Nominee Conducts Work:
Phone:
Email:

**Nominated by:**

Name:
PARC Region(s) and/or National:
Phone:
Email:

**Nomination:**

Please adhere to the word and page limits, or the nomination will not be considered.

1. **In 100 words or less**, describe how the nominee has fostered herpetofaunal conservation.

2. **In 300 words or less,** provide examples of how the nominee has displayed an exemplary commitment to building or strengthening partnerships.

3. **In 150 words or less,** describe how such partnerships significantly improved herpetofaunal conservation.

4. **In 150 words or less,** describe the nominee's perspective, experience, or contributions to increase diversity and advance inclusion of under-represented groups of people in herpetofaunal conservation.

5. [OPTIONAL] **Using no more than 5 additional pages,** you may provide a letter or letters of support. This page limit is inclusive of signatures (i.e., you cannot submit a 5-page letter with 2 pages of signatures for 7 pages total). Recommended formatting for nomination packets is 12-point font with 1-inch margins. Nomination packets should be submitted as a single PDF file. Please adhere to the word and page limits, or the nomination will not be considered.

Please note that nominees are evaluated on the merit of the nomination, not on the number of letters of support or the number of supporting signatures per each letter.

**Submission:**

Please complete and submit nomination packages through the **PARC Alison Haskell Award Nomination Form**.

**Deadline for Submission: January 8, 2027**

Nominations received after this date and incomplete forms will not be considered. The award winner will be notified by Spring 2026.

**Selection Process:**

PARC JNSC members (Table 1.) will review nominations, evaluate carefully against the criteria, and vote anonymously to determine the selection.

**Table 1.** Current voting members on PARC's Joint National Steering Committee.

| JNSC MEMBER | PARC ROLE | TITLE AND AFFILIATION |
|---|---|---|
| **Executive Committee** | | |
| Melissa Youngquest | JNSC Senior Co-chair | Reptile and Amphibian Conservation Coordinator, Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission |
| Dede Olson | JNSC Junior Co-chair | Research Biologist, John G. Shedd Aquarium |
| Mark Mandica | DEI Representative | Executive Director, Amphibian Foundation |
| Michelle Christman | National Federal Agencies Coordinator | Fish and Wildlife Biologist, US Fish and Wildlife Service |
| Brad O'Hanlon | JNSC Ex-officio Chair | Southwest Program Coordinator, Amphibian and Reptile Conservancy |
| **Midwest PARC** | | |
| Callie Klatt Golba | Senior Co-chair | Associate Professor, St. Cloud State University |
| Mic Rohde | Junior Co-chair | |
| **Northeast PARC** | | |
| Beth Schlimm | Senior Co-chair | Amphibian and Reptile Program Leader, West Virginia Department of Natural Resources |
| Harrison Goldspiel | Junior Co-chair | Graduate student, West Virginia University |
| **Northwest PARC** | | |
| Daniel Trovillion | Senior Co-chair | Veterinary Medical Officer, US Fish and Wildlife Service |
| Jason Reilly | Junior Co-chair | Fish Biologist, US Fish and Wildlife Service |
| **Southeast PARC** | | |

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|---|---|---|
| Houston Chandler | Senior Co-chair | University of Central Florida |
| Cyndi Carter | Junior Co-chair | Director of Science, The Orianne Society |
| **Southwest PARC** | | |
| Cassidy Lee | Senior Co-chair | Biologist, Project Manager, US Fish and Wildlife Service |
| Dalton Neuharth | Junior Co-chair | Lead Biologist, Origin Ranch Texas |
| **DoD PARC** | | |
| Dave McNaughton | DoD PARC Representative | Natural Resources Specialist, US Navy |
| Chris Petersen | DoD PARC Representative | Senior Natural Resources Specialist, US Navy |
| **At-large Members** | | |
| Sara Walker | Zoos and Aquariums Representative | Senior Advisor on Wildlife Trafficking, Association of Zoos and Aquariums |
| **Federal Agencies Steering Committee** | | |
| Brad Jost | Federal Agencies Steering Committee Senior Co-chair | Wildlife Biologist, US Bureau of Land Management |
| Amy Commens-Carson | Federal Agencies Steering Committee Junior Co-chair | Southern Region Fisheries Program Manager, USDA Forest Service |
| **AFWA Amphibian and Reptile Committee** | | |
| David Golden | Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Committee Chair | Director, New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife |
| Becky Gwynn | Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Committee Vice-Chair | Deputy Director, Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources |