

WYOMING GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

Collectible Conservation Stamp

ART SHOW



Arctic grayling, Hagerty, Ryan/USFWS

FEATURING THE ARCTIC GRAYLING

RULES

Eligibility

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department encourages artists to participate and learn more about Wyoming wildlife. Employees of Game and Fish, their immediate family members, Wyoming Game and Fish Commissioners or their immediate family members are not eligible. All entrants must complete an entry form and artist's data sheet.

Subject matter

All artwork must feature the Arctic grayling (*Thymallus arcticus*). Each painting will be carefully evaluated by Game and Fish biologists for anatomical accuracy of the animal and ecological correctness of any habitat. Judges are instructed to ensure any habitat illustrated depicts the species in its natural habitat and that the habitat is found in Wyoming. Entries determined to be biologically inaccurate will be ineligible to win a monetary award, and may only be eligible to win an Honorable Mention. For this year's species, the biological judge will be looking at the following:

Size/features

Arctic grayling are in the salmon family and have a trout-like body shape with a short, conical head. They are usually gray or bluish with black spots nearer the head. Arctic grayling have a forked caudal (tail) fin, and the most notable characteristic is their sail-like dorsal (back) fin that usually contains 18-21 fin rays. The dorsal fin of breeding males is beautifully colored with blue or violet spots on a dark gray background surrounded by a red outer border. Grayling adults generally reach 12-14 inches in length in Wyoming.

Habitat

Arctic grayling are found in clear waters of large streams and mountain lakes. Adults spawn in the spring and normally migrate into streams to spawn over gravel beds.

Food

Arctic grayling are primarily insectivorous, consuming many aquatic and terrestrial insects. They are opportunistic feeders and have been documented feeding on fish eggs and even small fish.



Arctic grayling, Hagerty, Ryan/USFWS

Original Artwork

The artwork must be the artist's original creation. Any artwork recognized as a copy will be ineligible for a prize. For purposes of this competition an original is defined as follows: A copy of another's artwork is not acceptable, whether the work copied is the actual artwork or a photograph of it published in a magazine or book, posted on a website and whether or not the size is different. A direct copy of a postcard or other published or posted photograph, even with the photographer's permission, is not acceptable, on the grounds that the composition and color scheme are another's. It is acceptable to work from your own photograph, for in that case you have decided upon the composition, and chosen the lighting, which decided the color scheme. Within these concepts, it is left to the conscience of the artist, whether the work submitted is their own work, or the creative inspiration of someone else. Work found to violate this policy will be immediately disqualified.

Medium

Artwork may be multi-color or black and white. It must consist of a two dimensional design, meaning it must be some form of ink, pencil or paint. Photographs, sculptures or other three dimensional submissions will not be accepted.

Format

Two-dimensional art only. Image size of entry must be 18 inches in height by 24 inches in width, drawn in a horizontal format. Artwork submitted on stretched canvas can be no more than 3/4-inch thick. Final stamp size is 2½ inches horizontally and 1½ inches vertically.

Submission procedures

The signed entry form and artist's data sheet must be sent with the entry.

ENTRY FEE: A non-refundable \$30 entry fee (U.S. funds) must accompany the artwork, entry form and artist's data sheet. Cash, money order or check in U.S. funds drawn on a U.S. bank made payable to "Wyoming Game and Fish Department." **Entries must arrive unframed. Any artwork may be signed and all artwork to be sold must be signed. Matted artwork must be done with a single 22 inch by 28 inch (outside dimensions) white mat which is 2 inches (per side).** For paintings submitted on masonite, clayboard or stretched canvas, matting is optional. If desired, the artist may have his or her artwork protected with a clear acetate or plastic. If an artist chooses to have their

artwork wrapped they should note that reflections from wrinkled plastic coverings can make it difficult for the judges to see your work and wrapping may need to be removed during the judging process. If removal is necessary, it will not be reapplied prior to return shipping. Please ensure your artwork is dry (pastels should be treated with a fixative) before plastic wrapping and shipping or delivering. Game and Fish will not be held liable for any damage.

Each entry is to be securely wrapped in a RE-USABLE CONTAINER not to exceed 84 inches (length plus girth). A recommended size package/box to fit the maximum 22x28x1½ inches piece of artwork could measure 23x29x4 inches and still be within the total 84-inch limitation. Carriers for our return shipment consider items over the 84-inch limitation oversized. Do not use Styrofoam peanuts as packing material. No wooden crates allowed. Artwork will be returned to the artist in the same packaging as originally shipped. Game and Fish will not be liable for loss or damage during shipment to or from Game and Fish Headquarters.

All entries will be promptly processed upon receipt. Packaged artwork must be shipped or hand-delivered to:

**Collectible Conservation Stamp Competition
Services Division - Wy Game and Fish
5400 Bishop Blvd. Cheyenne, WY 82006-0001**

Artists may submit up to two entries accompanied by their \$30 entry fee (per entry, non-refundable). Only the highest placing entry from each individual artist will be recognized and receive a monetary award.

Insurance needs for entries

All competing artists are advised it is their responsibility to obtain adequate property insurance for their respective entry during its transport to Game and Fish. Artists agree to assume the risk of loss or damage of their original artwork and are responsible for obtaining insurance to cover any loss or damage while it is in the possession of Game and Fish. At the discretion of Game and Fish, if a painting is lost while in our possession, Game and Fish may assume limited responsibility and retains the right to determine an amount not to exceed a maximum payment of \$500 as reimbursement for such loss.

Deadline for entries

Game and Fish begins accepting entries on Jan. 2, 2026. Entries must be received at Game and Fish Headquarters at the above address by 5 p.m. on March 31, 2026.

Date and location of judging

The judging will be held the week of April 13, 2026 and the ceremony will be held virtually on the Wyoming Game and Fish Department Facebook page on April 24, 2026.

Judging

If needed, there will be a pre-judging round to narrow the art show down to 100 final pieces of artwork. This will take place prior to the final judging. These 100 pieces of artwork will then compete in the final judging and official competition. Any artwork not qualifying for the 100 selected will be returned to the artist.

All 100 final entries will be displayed on the date of the judging. The only visible identification mark on each entry during judging will be the number assigned to the entry by the competition coordinator or his/her designated representative. Signatures will be concealed during judging. Artists receiving first through fifth place and up to 10 honorable mentions will be awarded. Entries determined to be biologically inaccurate will be ineligible to win a monetary award, and may only be eligible to win an honorable mention. A panel of judges from the arts, printing and biology professions will evaluate the entries. Entries will be judged on the following:

- Anatomical accuracy (including ecological correctness of any habitat - see specifics in "Subject Matter").
- Artistic composition.
- Suitability of images that will reproduce well as a collectible stamp (the species must be the dominant feature in the design and must be noticeably larger than any other element).

Display and sale of original art

All artwork, other than the winning entry, will be returned by mail to the entrants by June 30, 2026. Game and Fish retains the right to exhibit and sell the artwork in Cheyenne, Wyoming, or such other place it selects through June 1, 2026. For any artwork sold, Game and Fish shall be entitled to retain forty percent (40%) of the selling price as commission and shall remit sixty percent (60%) of the net proceeds to the artist by September 15, 2026. Pricing of the artwork is at the discretion of the

artist. Artists will not be allowed to change the price of their artwork once the entry form is received by Game and Fish. The judging panel will have no knowledge of artwork pricing when the judging is taking place. The first-place artwork will not be for sale and will not be returned to the artist. During the exhibition period, Game and Fish shall have the exclusive right to sell all other entered artwork for such price as the artist establishes.

Compensation

The first-place winning artist will receive a \$3,500 payment; second place \$2,000; third place \$1,000; fourth place \$500; fifth place \$250.

The first-place selection will be printed on the 2026 Collectible Conservation Stamp. The original piece of artwork will become the property of Game and Fish.

Production of prints or other promotional materials (if undertaken) will be the sole responsibility of Game and Fish, as set forth in Item 11 of the Entry Form.

Printing details

The printing details of the winning print will be as follows:

There will be 25 artist proof prints (for the winning artist to keep), and 230 limited edition prints. The winning artist must sign all 25 artist proofs (example 1/25 AP), and the limited edition (example 1/230 SN). The artist will also be given a set number of stamps to sign as soon as they are available. Game and Fish will pay the winning artist a \$3 signing fee for each s/n prints that are sold and a flat rate of \$50 for signing the stamps. The winning artist will receive \$75 for each remarque sold. This will be the cost for either a pencil or a color remarque. A maximum of 25 remarque prints (out of the 230 s/n print) will be sold. There also may be a potential to remarque in the matte for a custom frame but this would have to be counted towards the 25.

Social media

To keep the anonymity of artists secure up until the judging process is complete, artists are not allowed to post any photos of their artwork on any type of website or social media page prior to the competition. This also includes other competitions, public forums, etc. After the contest, however, all artists are free to post and share their artwork as they please. Game and Fish retains the right to share any submitted images on our website, magazine, newsletters and on any of our social media outlets.

ENTRY AGREEMENT

I, _____, hereby submit original artwork to the Wyoming Game and Fish Department (Game and Fish), 5400 Bishop Blvd., Cheyenne, Wyoming 82006, as an official entry in the annual art competition for the Collectible Conservation Stamp, authorized by Wyoming law (W.S. 23-2-306), for use in Wyoming during 2026 and agree to all the following conditions:

1. My Collectible Conservation Stamp entry is an original artwork of my own creation, as defined in the rulebook.
2. I have sole and exclusive right to dispose of the artwork and every right therein; that neither the artwork nor any part thereof is in the public domain; and that I will grant no right, license, or privilege with respect to any of the artwork unless and until the artwork is rejected by Game and Fish.
3. I agree to protect, defend, indemnify and hold harmless the State of Wyoming, Game and Fish, and their officers, agents, employees, successors or assignees from any and all claims, lawsuits, losses and liabilities arising out of my malpractice or any violation of proprietary right or copyrights or because of any unlawful matter contained in the artwork.
4. I agree to assume the risk of loss or damage of my original artwork and am responsible for obtaining insurance to cover any loss or damage while it is in the possession of Game and Fish. At the discretion of Game and Fish, if a painting is lost while in the possession of the department, Game and Fish may assume limited responsibility and retains the right to determine an amount not to exceed a maximum payment of \$500 as reimbursement for such loss.
5. If Game and Fish determines to use the artwork prepared by me in accordance with this entry form for its Collectible Conservation Stamp, Game and Fish shall notify me in writing.
6. Contingent upon receipt of the written notice in accordance with paragraph (5), I hereby assign to Game and Fish, all rights of my collectible stamp artwork, including my right to apply for a copyright thereof in the United States of America and any other country in the world, all extensions and renewals of such copyrights, and with complete and unrestricted rights of publication, private and public.
7. If Game and Fish fails to notify me, in accordance with paragraph (5) hereof, of its determination to use the artwork prepared by me in accordance with this entry form for its Collectible Conservation Stamp by June 1, 2026, Game and Fish will be deemed to have rejected the artwork.
8. If my artwork is selected, I hereby relinquish all title and claim of ownership and acknowledge that it will become the property of Game and Fish. I also acknowledge that compensation is contingent upon returning all fiscal paperwork by May 15, 2026.
9. Any and all reproductions or copies of the artwork made, caused to be made, or authorized by Game and Fish under the terms of this entry form, except for the making of reproduction plates and printing of the appropriate stamp, will identify the artist.
10. I understand that the printing details of the winning print will be as follows: There will be 25 artist proof prints (for the winning artist to keep), and 230 limited edition prints. The winning artist must sign all 25 artist proofs (example 1/25 AP), and the limited edition (example 1/230 SN). The artist will also be given a set number of stamps to sign as soon as they are available. Game and Fish will pay the winning artist a \$3 signing fee for each s/n prints that are sold, and a flat rate of \$50 for signing the stamps. The winning artist will receive \$75 for each remarque sold. This will be the cost for either a pencil or a color remarque. A maximum of 25 remarque prints (out of the 230 s/n print) will be sold. There also may be a potential to remarque in the matte for a custom frame but this would have to be counted towards the 25. Artist fees will be paid for an eight year term.
11. I may not produce extra stamps, duplicate stamps, prints, or other promotional materials for any purpose whatsoever. Such undertakings will be at the discretion and direction of the director of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department or his authorized representative.
12. I warrant that all information contained in the attached artist's data sheet is true and correct.
13. The Rules of the 2026 Collectible Conservation Stamp Art Competition are attached and incorporated herein by this reference.
14. I hereby authorize Game and Fish to exhibit my artwork after selection of the winner and to photograph my entry for its future publications relative to the Collectible Conservation Stamp Art Competition.
15. I hereby authorize Game and Fish to exhibit my artwork, if chosen, April 2026 through June 1, 2026 and also authorize Game and Fish exclusive rights to sell my artwork for such price as I have established. I understand that for my artwork to even be accepted, it must be priced "For Sale." Game and Fish shall be entitled to retain forty percent (40%) of the selling price as commission and shall remit sixty percent (60%) of the selling price to the artist.
16. The State of Wyoming and the Wyoming Game and Fish Department do not waive sovereign immunity by entering into this agreement and specifically retain immunity and all defenses available to them as sovereigns pursuant to Wyoming State Statute 1-39104(a).

____ (Please Initial) I have read and understand the 2027 Collectible Conservation Stamp Art Competition Entry Form and rules and will comply with all terms listed.

Artist's Signature _____ Date _____

ARTIST DATA SHEET

Artist's Name: _____

Title of Entry for Judging: _____

Medium of Entry: _____

Retail Price of Artwork: _____

(Must be fair market value considering Artist's reputation, current selling prices for comparable size painting, and medium)

E-mail address: _____

Artist Website, if applicable: _____

Birth date: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

UPS Delivery Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone (necessary for UPS delivery): _____

Brief History of Art Career:

Art Shows Entered/Prizes Received:

For Office Use:

Date Artwork Submitted: _____

Date Received: _____

By: _____