

## **WILDLIFE FEDERATION RECOGNIZES SPORTSMEN**

The North Dakota Wildlife Federation recognized a number of sportsmen at its 83rd Annual Convention held in Bismarck, ND.

Byron Richard of Beach was recognized as the Soil Conservationist of the Year for the management of his cattle ranch and farm. Richard and his wife Kathy use rotational grazing systems and have demonstrated successful ranching and wildlife conservation on their ranch. They have also enrolled 24,000 acres of their Badlands ranching operation into the Private Land Open to Sportsmen program managed by the North Dakota Game and Fish Department.

The Hiddenwood Sportsmen's Club of Makoti was selected as the Federation Club of the Year. The club conducts a number of youth fishing and hunting events, offers Hunter Education classes in the community and manages the park and picnic area at Hiddenwood Lake.

Jan Swenson of the Badlands Conservation Alliance and Mike McEnroe, Past-President of the Federation were recognized as the Conservation Communicators of Year for their presentation of the film "Keeping All the Pieces" dealing with oil and gas development in the Badlands at over twenty-five public presentations across the State.

Mark Althoff of Wahpeton was celebrated as the Sportsman of the Year. Althoff, a life-long outdoorsman has organized a youth pheasant hunt and fishing derby for several years, teaches spear fishing, mentors young people in the outdoors and coaches a high school trap shooting team.

Wayne Beyer, President of the North Dakota Wildlife Federation and Sportsmen of the Year in 2011, was recognized for his three decades plus of contributions to the Red River Area Sportsmens Club in Wahpeton and the North Dakota Wildlife Federation, and to outdoor and conservation programs and activities in North Dakota..

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