

FIAP / PSA / RPS / APS NATURE DEFINITION CHECKLIST

The updated Nature definition has been used from 1st January, 2015. Some exhibitions/competitions may have both a Nature and a Wildlife section. While it is permissible to enter Wildlife images in the Nature section, there are additional requirements for images entered in the Wildlife section. When deciding whether or not a particular image meets the requirements of the Nature and/or Wildlife definitions you need to consider the following factors.

GENERAL SUBJECT MATTER

	ALLOWED	NOT ALLOWED
NATURE	Anything to do with natural history (the study and description of organisms and natural objects), <i>except</i> anthropology or archaeology. Subject matter must be identifiable.	Anything that is classified as anthropology (the study of humans) or archaeology (the study of historic or prehistoric peoples and their cultures)
WILDLIFE	Same as Nature.	Same as Nature.

SPECIFIC SUBJECT MATTER

	ALLOWED	NOT ALLOWED
NATURE	All extant (not extinct) organisms (plants, animals, etc); landscapes, geological formations, and weather phenomena.	Human created hybrid plants, cultivated plants, feral animals, domestic animals, mounted specimens of plants and animals.
WILDLIFE	Animals, birds, insects that are <i>free & unrestrained</i> in a natural or adopted environment. Carcasses of extant species.	Landscapes and geological formations. Animals, birds, insects, etc that are in captivity or under controlled conditions. Botanical species under controlled conditions (such as plants growing in a hothouse).

HUMAN ELEMENTS

	ALLOWED	NOT ALLOWED
NATURE	Human elements that are an integral part of the nature story (such as birds nesting on a man-made structure). Scientific bands, tags or collars.	Human elements (such as buildings) that are not part of the nature story being told by the image.
WILDLIFE	Same as Nature.	Same as Nature.

IMAGE ALTERATIONS

	ALLOWED	NOT ALLOWED
NATURE	Cropping. HDR techniques. Focus stacking. Removal of dust spots, digital noise or scratches on film. Subject must be presented honestly.	Anything (such as cloning) that alters the content of the original scene by adding, moving or removing image elements. Stitching together multiple images (e.g. to create a panorama)
WILDLIFE	Same as Nature.	Same as Nature.

IMAGE ADJUSTMENTS

	ALLOWED	NOT ALLOWED
NATURE	Techniques (such as contrast adjustment) that enhance the image without changing the nature story, or altering the pictorial content of the original scene. Grey-scale monochrome images.	Adjustments that change the nature story, such as turning a daylight scene into a night scene. Toned monochrome images. Infrared images.
WILDLIFE	Same as Nature.	Same as Nature.

NOTES

1. Images are expected to be of high technical quality.
2. The story telling value of a photograph must be weighed more than the pictorial quality