

Freshwaters Illustrated Image Archives

Thank you for your interest in sharing photos with Freshwaters Illustrated. Our image archives were created for the exclusive purpose of providing an organized collection of freshwater-related images for educational use.

What types of photos do we archive?

We seek high quality images of all kinds of freshwater-related organisms (both aquatic and terrestrial), including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals, insects, mollusks, crustaceans, plants, algae, and other invertebrates. We are most interested in images of organisms behaving naturally in their habitat. However, we accept laboratory, aquarium, or sampling images of organisms that may be difficult to photograph in their natural habitat (e.g., microorganisms, turbid water inhabitants).

Why share your photos?

We understand the reservations you might have about sharing photos. You may not be certain if your photos are of high enough quality, you may not know exactly what organism you photographed, or you may be used to selling, rather than donating, the use of your photos. We offer you the following reassurances that sharing your photos is the right thing to do:

- We review each photo according to photographic, biological, and environmental criteria. A decent photo of a rare organism may be as useful as great photo of a common organism.
- We add the photographer's name or copyright within the image space of all accepted photos.
- When necessary, we enhance the tonal qualities of images to improve their appearance.
- We add an informational tab to all images, which contains photographer name and contact info, as well as biological and geographic information.
- We convert each accepted photo to a web quality, *not print quality*, digital image.
- We permit the browsing, viewing, and downloading of images only to members and K-12 educators who agree to terms of educational, private, and not-for-profit use.
- We promote contributing photographers, by listing their websites and contact info with photos. We also showcase the work of exceptional contributors in our website and newsletter.
- An archived photo may be used in hundreds of classrooms and outreach presentations, and reach thousands of viewers, learners, and future stewards of freshwater ecosystems.

Photo review process

In order to maintain high-quality and usable image archives, we archive only those photos that meet reasonable quality standards. Submitted photos are evaluated by a Freshwaters Illustrated reviewer, who may consult with additional outside reviewers. Each image will be reviewed according to the following criteria:

- Heuristic and aesthetic qualities
- Technical qualities (e.g., focus, composition, exposure)
- Uniqueness of captured organism, behavior, or environment

Contributors of accepted photos must subsequently provide supporting biological and habitat information and license Freshwaters Illustrated to distribute photos through the FI Archives.

Photo archive publishing

We convert all still images to jpeg digital image files with a maximum dimension of 800 pixels, at 72 dpi resolution. We securely retain high-resolution files of each image to facilitate future changes in file format. We add an information tab along the bottom edge with relevant biological, ecological, and photographer information (see example image). Finally, in the most appropriate corner, we add the photographer's name, an archive record number, a small FI logo, and any copyright information requested.



Photo submission guidelines

We invite photo submissions in nearly all digital image formats, as well as slides and prints. Although we may accept edited images, we strongly urge contributors to submit unedited images, which contain all native image information and any photographic metadata (e.g., date, shutter speed, aperture). We will make any necessary adjustments to the image using digital editing software. Digital photos or photo groups under 5 megabytes may be emailed to:

photos@freshwatersillustrated.org

Large photo groups are best saved on a compact disk and mailed in. Disks, slides, and prints can be mailed along with an electronic or hard copy photo information sheet to:

Photo Submission
Freshwaters Illustrated
P.O. Box 2252
Fort Collins, CO 80522-2252



Promoting aquatic awareness through photo, video, and film

Freshwaters Illustrated is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with the mission of (1) educating diverse public audiences about the life, study, and conservation of freshwater ecosystems through illustrative science-based efforts, and (2) providing illustrative resources and services to scientists, educators, and media specialists

www.freshwatersillustrated.org