



**2024 RBMS
Awards Gala
Dinner**

**TUESDAY 13 AUGUST
VICTOR HARBOR
CONVENTION CENTRE**

NOMINATION GUIDE

Nominations due May 24th, 2024





1. Information on the nomination process

This information guide is to help you prepare your award nomination(s) for the 2024 River Basin Management Society (RBMS) Awards Gala.

Please note this is a guide and not the actual nomination form.

The award nomination submission form is available online at www.11asm.org.au

Nominations are due 5pm Friday 24 May 2024.

All nominators are required to follow the nomination process as described in this information guide. Any nominations departing from this process may be disregarded.

Nominations must be submitted using the online nomination form. No other materials will be considered as part of the judging process.

If you have any questions about completing your award nomination form, please contact the Conference Secretariat and/or the River Basin Management Society committee at: info@rbms.org.au and cc president@rbms.org.au

2. Award judging process

Nominations will be judged by a panel. The judging panel members will have strong waterway and catchment management experience and will collectively demonstrate a wide breadth of knowledge, experience and understanding of the many facets of waterway management.

All nominations that meet the eligibility criteria and nomination process will be assessed. The assessment is based on the key judging criteria and the panel decision is final. The award recipient for each category will be announced on the night of the awards except for the Best ASM Conference Presentation which will be judged during the conference and awarded at the end of the conference.

Award category: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledge and practice in waterway management will be judged by a panel made up of entirely Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander waterway management leaders and practitioners.



3. Eligibility

To be eligible for an award:

- **The award nomination must be received by the close date of 5pm Friday 24 May 2024.**
- The nomination must be submitted by (an) entrant/s with a lead role in the project.
- The nomination must acknowledge key partnerships and any support from additional individuals and organisations.
- The majority of the project, partnership, or tool being nominated for an award must have been undertaken since July 2022.
- To support our vision for an Awards Gala that provides positive networking opportunities, at least one representative for the nomination must be registered to attend the Awards Gala.
- All of the key judging criteria must be addressed.
- A project, partnership or tool may only be nominated for one award (with the exception of the Conference specific awards). For example, a single project could not be nominated for both the 'Innovation in Waterway Management' and the 'Advancing Waterway Management through Graduate Research' awards.
- All nominations submitted for the 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019 and 2022 RBMS Awards are ineligible for submission for the 2024 Awards in any category.

4. Online nomination form fields

The award nomination form is completed online and is available at www.11asm.org.au

To mitigate the risk of losing your work on your nomination form prior to submitting, we **highly** recommend that your nomination response is prepared in a separate document and then copy/pasted into our online award nomination form.

Table 1 outlines the fields of the online award nomination form where information is required. The maximum number of characters must be strictly adhered to; concise responses are encouraged. Judges reserve the right to disregard words beyond the limit within each field.

A description of each award and their specific judging criteria are outlined in the pages that follow.



Table 1. Award nomination field requirements

Nomination field	Guidance
A. WHICH AWARD ARE YOU NOMINATING FOR?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Outstanding waterway management project 2. Innovation in waterway management 3. Involving community in waterway management 4. Building knowledge in waterway management 5. Advancing waterway management through graduate research 6. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledge and practice in waterway management 7. Best Paper 8. Best Poster 9. Best Presentation
B. PROJECT TITLE / TITLE FOR THE AWARD NOMINATION	<p>For use in Awards Gala program, should award be shortlisted as a finalist. Max 80 characters including spacing.</p>
C. PROJECT SUMMARY	<p>A short description of the project. For use in the Awards Gala promotional material, and to be read on the night, if the project is awarded. Max 300 characters including spacing.</p>
D. DESCRIPTION OF AWARD NOMINATION	<p>Provided for judging panel context and for use in Awards Gala program. Max 2,000 characters including spaces.</p>
E. KEY CONTACT INFORMATION	<p>Name, position title, email, phone.</p>
F. NOMINATING ORGANISATION/BUSINESS	<p>Organisation name, address. Description of nominating organisation (for use in Awards Gala program). Max 1,000 characters including spaces.</p>
G. MAJOR PROJECT PARTNER ORGANISATIONS	<p>List up to four major partners that made significant contributions. These will be acknowledged on the award, if you are successful, and on promotional material.</p>
H. OTHER PROJECT PARTNER ORGANISATIONS	<p>List any other partner organisations you would like to acknowledge. These will be acknowledged on promotional material.</p>
I. NOMINATION REPRESENTATIVE ATTENDING THE AWARDS NIGHT	<p>To support the RBMS’s vision for an Awards Gala that provides positive networking opportunities, nominations will be accepted only where the entrant, or a representative, is registered to attend the Awards.</p>



J. RESPONSE TO JUDGING CRITERIA	<p>Three judging criteria must be addressed. For use in judging process.</p> <p>Max 3,000 characters including spaces, per criterion. See Section 6: Key Judging Criteria.</p>
K. ATTACHMENTS	<p>It is required that all nominations include at least one and up to three high resolution images (.jpeg, .png, .img) to illustrate the nomination.</p> <p>Each file is limited to 10 MB.</p> <p>The images will not be considered as part of the judging process but will be used in publicizing the award nominations.</p>
L. MARKETING	<p>See the Marketing section below for further guidance on meeting this nomination field requirement.</p>
M. SOCIAL MEDIA	<p>There is an option to provide handles for your organisation/project’s social media platforms (LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook) as well as any project specific hashtags you use, and a project website link.</p> <p>These will help us identify your project and organisation appropriately in our marketing material.</p>

5. Marketing

The RBMS aims to maximise the uptake and learning of the great work across our sector. We would like to provide a short summary of all nominations (i.e. title, brief description, organisation, image) on the RBMS website (www.rbms.org.au), 11ASM website (www.11asm.org.au) and social media streams.

Please indicate in the nomination form whether you consent to the RBMS to use your nomination information in this way.



6. Key Judging Criteria

1. Outstanding waterway management project

Recognition of a project that has led to outstanding river basin management outcomes on the ground

KEY JUDGING CRITERIA:

1. Project objectives and outputs strongly align with the strategic direction of the industry and key stakeholders.
2. Best practice in project management has been implemented, including planning, delivery and monitoring and evaluation; health and safety; timeframes; and budgets.
3. Sustainable environmental, social and economic outcomes have been achieved.

2. Innovation in waterway management

Recognition of implementation of a novel technology, process, business model or partnership that tangibly contributes to the advancement of the industry and leads to positive change

KEY JUDGING CRITERIA:

1. The nominated project demonstrates the successful application of a new idea in waterway management.
2. The nominated project contributes to the sustainable management of waterways.
3. The nominated project helps to advance the industry.

3. Involving community in waterway management

Recognition of an industry project or partnership that demonstrates outstanding community engagement, input or collaboration to enhance project or partnership outcomes

KEY JUDGING CRITERIA:

1. The nominated project demonstrates breadth of confidence, trust and ongoing support built in the community as a result of the nominated project or partnership.
2. The nominated project demonstrates engagement and contribution of the community, which has significantly enhanced the project or partnership outcomes.
3. The nominated project considers a wide range of values and perspectives as part of the community engagement approach.



4. Building knowledge in waterway management

Recognition of an academic or knowledge transfer project (closely aligned with waterway management) that clearly builds and shares knowledge to advance the industry

KEY JUDGING CRITERIA:

1. The nominated project can contribute to the sustainable management of waterways.
2. The nominated project can be widely applied to advance the industry.
3. The nominated project has been collaborative and sought consultation with key stakeholders to respond to the existing knowledge gaps and skillsets within the industry.

5. Advancing waterway management through graduate research

Recognition of a research project (Honours, Masters or PhD level) that builds knowledge to directly advance waterway management

KEY JUDGING CRITERIA:

1. The research has been, or can be, applied to advance the industry in Australia.
2. The research strongly aligns with the strategic direction of the industry and key stakeholders.
3. The research has been, or will be, disseminated within the industry.

6. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledge and practice in waterway management

Recognition of a project, process and/or partnership in which the application of traditional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledge and practice in waterway management is paramount to the outcomes of that project

KEY JUDGING CRITERIA:

1. The nominated project is led by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, or embraces their involvement and expertise through key decision making roles during project design, planning and delivery.
2. The nominated project incorporates effective traditional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledge and management practices, which enhances the overall outcomes of the project.
3. The nominated project provides a platform for recognition, trust, empowerment, knowledge sharing and ongoing support for traditional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledge and practice in waterway management.



7. ASM Best Conference Paper

Recognition of technical excellence in a project within integrated catchment management represented in a clear and coherent format that explores new ways of thinking and shares knowledge to advance the industry

KEY JUDGING CRITERIA:

All papers which are presented at the Conference (excluding Keynote speaker papers) are eligible for the Best Conference Paper Award presented at the Awards Gala. All author of papers (excluding Keynote speaker papers) presenting at the Conference are also eligible for the Best Presentation Award which is awarded at the end of the Conference. This award is judged by the Conference Editorial Committee, using a point scoring system for papers that meets the following criteria.

Papers are judged on the following criteria:

1. Creativity & Relevance – The paper explores a new avenue, takes a new angle or extends thinking in its area and addresses an important and relevant topic to the industry
2. Expression and Authority – The paper is well-written, clear, well-structured, engaging etc and draws clear conclusions based on sound evidence (incl referencing where relevant)
3. Transferable – The paper has methodological developments or new thinking that is transferable across our industry and stimulates debate or interest in the topic

8. ASM Best Conference Poster

Recognition of a project presented in a poster format that provides an effective balance of the content (information) and the layout (how the information is presented) to convey project information, using a range of visual techniques and cues such as bullet points, colour and design

KEY JUDGING CRITERIA:

All posters which are presented at the ASM Conference are eligible for the Best Conference Poster Award presented at the Awards Gala. This award is judged by members of the Conference Committee and/or Judging Panel attending the Conference, nominating a poster they believe meets the following criteria.

1. Effectiveness of communication / purpose - The Poster content should be easy to understand with an appropriate amount of text and graphics and should provide a clear and concise message.
2. Visual style - Designed in an appealing layout and typography, that is well organised and



constructed.

3. Relevant and meaningful content - The poster should convey easily digestible scientific content, that demonstrates originality of the research

9. ASM Best Conference Presentation

Recognition of a project presented at the ASM Conference that is delivered in an accurate, clear, relevant, & objective manner, that drives discussion and engages the audience within the time frame specified

KEY JUDGING CRITERIA:

This Award is given to the speaker who delivers the best presentation at the ASM Conference. Presentations will be judged during the Conference using a point scoring system by members of the Conference Committee and/or Judging Panel attending the Conference. This award is presented at the end of the ASM Conference.

1. Clearly states the project aim and purpose whilst provides project context.
2. Presents methods and findings clearly and attractively.
3. Ends the presentation with a powerful 'take-home' message and manages questions effectively and within the time frame.