

APLIC'S Morley Nelson Award

Morley Nelson

(1917 – 2005)



“A man born with the heart and soul of an eagle”

Morley Nelson devoted his life to promoting raptor conservation and educating the public about their importance. He accomplished this through his personal zeal for working with raptors and his cinematography skills. Morley's achievements include: award-winning films on raptors, the establishment of the Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area, raptor rehabilitation, public lectures that helped educate Americans about the importance of raptors, and research that formed the foundation of recommendations made to the electric utility industry for reducing raptor electrocutions.

A master falconer, Nelson raised public awareness about birds of prey through dozens of movies and TV specials starring his eagles, hawks and falcons—including seven films for Disney. His love of raptors began when he was a boy growing up on a farm in North

Dakota. Moving to Boise after serving in World War II, he began his raptor conservation efforts along with rehabilitating and training birds.

Morley's raptor/power line research became the focus for cooperation among conservation groups, resource agencies and electric utility companies.

To foster the memory of Morley, APLIC periodically presents the *Morley Nelson Award* to an individual who makes significant contributions to raptor conservation. The individual must demonstrate a long-term commitment to natural resources, a consistent history of investigating or managing the natural resource issues faced by the electric utility industry, and success in developing innovative solutions.

Award Winners ▼

Alan Ansell - 2006

Dick Thorsell - 2007