



PHOTOGRAPHIC GUIDELINES FOR GEOLOGICAL CALENDAR SUBMISSIONS

The following information is provided for the use of those who are considering submission of digital images for possible use in the CSPG annual Geological Calendar. Please use these guidelines to help you take and screen your pictures appropriately.

DO:

- Submit multiple entries (Up to 5) if the quality of the images is adequate.
- Please ensure a minimum 5 MB file size to allow for it to be blown up, cropped, sliced and diced without becoming distorted. We accept digital file formats including: .JPG and .BMP and .TIFF
- Please, please...ensure you only submit landscape orientation photographs (meaning: horizontal is the long axis – this is not a reference to being about the landscape [as it were] itself).
- For photo composition, consider using the rule of thirds. See this link for clarification: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rule_of_thirds
- Make sure that the geological feature of interest is obvious. To do this, hold the picture some distance away and see if the feature jumps out at you. This certainly improves your chance for the second round of judging.
- Provide a reasonable caption to orient the selection committee. Note that this may be edited, fine-tuned or elaborated upon for publication.
- Be self-critical about your submissions. This is really the first stage of screening.

DON'T

- Don't include people in the picture. Photographs of geology that have people in them apart from a mega-scale photo, typically are not utilized.
- Don't include large scale bars as they typically distract from the aesthetic of the photo – size and scale can be described in the caption.
- Don't include unnecessary things like power lines, fences, cars, etc.
- If you decide to run your photograph through an editor like Photoshop or Illustrator, make sure the alteration does not detract from the original image.
- Scanned slides or negatives with dust or other aberrations on them will not be considered.
- Consider light when composing your shot. Shots that are significantly over or underlit in exposure do not fare well in the calendar and will not print properly.
- If you plan on taking long exposure shots, make sure that your resolution doesn't degrade or become blurry. Use stylistic techniques to overcome this if you wish with this method.
- Don't be discouraged if your photo(s) are not selected – we get many submissions each year and there's always next year. Please feel free to resubmit entries the following year. It may be the case that we liked your submission but in the final round of selection we have to balance a number of criteria, specifically, all of the aforementioned, and sometimes there just is not room for all of the quality - Unless we lived on Mars; then we would almost be able to make a 24-month calendar. 😊

Thanks for taking the time to review this. Happy Snapping.