

Theme: Animals

Title	Judge's Comments	Result
Grey Crown Crane	A lovely bird to photograph with the colours and plumage, you have captured it well, I like the portrait crop, the image is sharp and the harsher middle of the day lighting is handled well. I would like to see the bird angled more towards camera, it looks to be trying to move away from you. Earlier and later in the day will give you more pleasing light.	Acceptance
Ground Squirrel	So cute, lovely sharp well exposed image here, the background is nicely blurred out removing all distractions. The squirrel is looking at you and has good highlights in its eyes, well done	Honour
Pika	This shot has great potential, the composition is good and lighting is well handled. Its great that the animal is doing something here, this adds more to the story of the animal. Although the background is not blurred it has few distractions and shows the habitat of the Pika. I would love to see the animal in focus more, try to get in closer so you don't need to crop in too far.	Acceptance
Portrait of an Ostrich	Ostriches are such characters, love the red in the beak. The Ostrich is very sharp through the eye and feathers. The background is blurred out nicely. I little longer depth of field would get all of the beak in focus and add to this image.	Merit
Caged	A different point of view here, makes for an interesting story. The cage and bird are sharp and the colours are good. Very important that the birds eye is fully visible through the wire. I would suggest a tighter crop to really focus on just the head of the bird.	Merit
Fly Catcher	The bird is sharp and the background sufficiently blurred to remove distractions, your composition is good with the bird on the third. You a little under exposed on the bird making that dark little face harder to see. This can be brought up in post production a little.	Acceptance
Hunting	Nice shot of the bird in its enviroment, the composition is good and surroundings not distracting. The bird is not as sharp as I would like to see, either from cropping in or slower shutter speed. Getting in closer and or a faster shutter will freeze its movements here.	Acceptance
Patiently Waiting	Beautifully lit image here, the dog waiting for something exciting to happen. The eye is sharp and I like the side on portrait. Over half of the image is blurred, I would suggest a crop to the shoulder from the right side as it does not add to the image.	Honour