

# Individual Presentations

**Proposals are due April 15, 2019**

Thank you for considering the development of a presentation for the Natural Areas Conference! We appreciate your efforts to bring the very best of your knowledge and insight to a wider audience at the conference, and to help us make this event as engaging, collaborative and cutting-edge for your colleagues as possible. We are pleased to provide a venue for you to advance discussion of natural areas topics to this audience.

Please check for this year's conference theme and topics. We ask that all proposals connect to the theme and fall under the heading of one or more of our announced topics. We also ask that you consider our audience, which is primarily people involved in on-the-ground management and adaptation work, when submitting your proposal.

- **How are individual presentations different from a Symposium?**

An individual presentation is a single talk which takes place in a 30-minute time slot, with 10 minutes for Q&A and discussion. It is important to note that at the Natural Areas Conference, each presenter during a session takes responsibility for fostering an engaging Q&A and discussion period for their own presentation, by having in mind several questions that can engage attendees on the themes and ideas they present. An individual presentation can stand on its own, although the program committee may choose to place your presentation, if accepted, within a Symposium. However, an individual presentation is not proposed as part of a Symposium.

- **Who should consider submitting a proposal for an individual presentation? We**

encourage anyone in, or currently a student of, the natural areas profession who wants to share useful, actionable results and information for their colleagues to consider a proposal once they have looked at our proposal review criteria. It is important to note that our conference emphasizes on-the-ground solutions for land managers, rather than data for its own sake, and those considering a proposal should bear this in mind. **All presenters will be required to register for the conference and cover their registration cost and associated expenses.** We suggest that prospective presenters consider how they will pay for these costs before or at the time of submitting a proposal, as applying for and receiving financial support from any organization can be time-consuming, and NAA only makes conference scholarships available to full-time students *on a competitive basis*.

## Instructions and Judgment Criteria

***On this page, you'll find detailed instructions for how to put together a 2019 Natural Areas Conference Individual Presentation Proposal.***

***When you have read through the instructions and are ready to submit your proposal, click back to the main Call for Proposals Page and press Submit Proposal.***

Our proposal submission form will ask for the following information, so please have everything assembled before beginning your electronic submission:

- Presentation title. See example: ENDEMIC PLANTS OF THE CENTRAL GRASSLAND OF NORTH AMERICA: DISTRIBUTION, ECOLOGY, AND CONSERVATION STATUS
- Name, email, and phone of presenter – indicate whether you are a full-time student
- An abstract (not to exceed 400 words). See example: Establishing conservation priorities for the Central Grassland of North America requires sound knowledge of the distribution and ecology of endemic and at-risk plants. A growing body of floristic and ecological research provides data for the first full enumeration of the endemic plants of the region. A total of 382 plant taxa are identified as endemic to the Central Grassland, which encompasses the full extent of the tallgrass, mixed-grass, and shortgrass prairies plus floristically related ecological systems that adjoin and/or interdigitate with these grasslands including savanna-open woodland systems, shrub-steppe, and rock outcrop communities. Nine regional concentrations of endemic taxa are identified as centers of endemism for the Central Grassland: Arkansas Valley Barrens, Edwards Plateau, Llano Estacado Escarpments, Llano Uplift, Mescalero-Monahans Dunes, Niobrara-Platte Tablelands, Raton Tablelands, Red Bed Plains, and Reverchon Rocklands. Most of the endemics (299 taxa or 78%) are habitat specialists, associated with rock outcrop, sand, hydric, or riparian habitats. Fifty-nine percent of Central Grassland endemics (225 taxa) are rock outcrop specialists, with most of these associated with carbonate rock types. Of Central Grassland endemics, 124 (33%) are of conservation concern (G1/T1-G3/T3) and 78 (63%) of these at-risk taxa are primarily associated with one of the centers of endemism. Insular ecosystems such as rock outcrop communities, sandhills, and playa wetlands support the greatest concentrations of endemic and at-risk plants in the Central Grassland.
- Conference topics to which the proposal is related
- Option to be part of the Student Competition, either as a student to be judged or a judge yourself

### **Individual Presentation Proposal Review Criteria**

All proposals will be reviewed and scored by the conference program committee according to the criteria below. The program committee will also consider how the proposed session relates to other proposed sessions and fits into the overall program. The committee may accept, decline, or offer an opportunity to present the proposed work in a revised format.

- Proposed presentation seeks to share information and results on a compelling and germane topic to the conference theme
- Summarizes important advances or concepts related to the conference theme
- Content is focused on **applied concerns**, and topic is of clear interest and importance to managers/practitioners

**NOTE: Each presenter will be required to register for the conference and cover their registration cost and associated expenses.**