

Poster Presentations

Proposals are due April 15, 2019

Thank you for considering the development of a poster 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 posters different from individual presentations or symposia?**

A poster presents information in the primary form of a physical poster, whose size cannot be more than 4 feet by 4 feet. If their proposal is accepted, the presenter will bring their poster to the Natural Areas Conference and mount it in the place designated for the Poster Session and Reception at the event venue. By submitting a proposal for a poster and having it accepted by the Program Committee, poster presenters agree to be present during the Poster Session and Reception IN PERSON in order to present their work and respond to questions by attendees. Posters are a critical part of the Natural Areas Conference Programming, but they are presented at a dedicated event, rather than during regular sessions. The program committee may also opt to offer some presenters who submitted an individual presentation abstract an opportunity to present work in the form of a Poster, instead of an oral presentation.

- **Who should consider submitting a proposal for a poster?** We encourage anyone in, or currently a student of, the natural areas profession who wants to share useful, actionable information for their colleagues to consider a proposal once they have looked at our proposal review criteria. But posters are a perfect way to convey the results of a smaller-scale initiative or study in a timely, economical way – or to call attention to information that is still under development. 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 Poster 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:

- Poster title. See example:
Restoring carbon sequestration processes in a degraded wet meadow
- Name, email, and phone of presenter – indicate whether you are a full-time student
- An abstract (not to exceed 400 words). See example:
Wet meadows throughout the Sierra Nevada that were historically disturbed are currently losing both soil water holding capacity and the ability to store carbon. While these wetlands formerly functioned as sinks of carbon dioxide, they could now act as significant sources of CO₂ to the atmosphere. Given the imminent threat of climate change, it is vital to explore techniques to facilitate the potential recovery of a greenhouse gas sink. Furthermore, the maintenance and addition of carbon to soil can also enhance its water holding capacity. I am testing whether the reestablishment of a sedge dominated community at Tuolumne Meadows, a high elevation wet meadow in Yosemite National Park, will restore the meadow to a carbon accumulating ecosystem. In 2016, 20,000 *Carex scopulorum* (mountain sedge) were planted into the meadow and by the end of the summer of 2018, over 100,000 more will also be planted. Gross primary production and plant respiration are being monitored to create a model of growing season carbon dynamics to determine if these treatments increase the meadow's carbon storage. The outcome of this restoration project will inform land managers facing similar issues of drying meadows with potentially large losses of CO₂.
- 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

Poster 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 poster fits into the overall program.

- Proposed poster 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.