

Field Workshop

Field workshops emphasize NAC theme and topics and facilitate more in-depth understanding and discussion of regional challenges and opportunities in natural areas protection and/or management among conference attendees. These are full-day, on-the-ground experiences that showcase and tell the stories of a region's natural areas, offer participants clear learning objectives, and afford leaders a unique opportunity to share their work and consult with natural areas professionals from across the country.

Field workshop leaders, in consultation with conference staff, will be asked to develop a workshop itinerary and provide participants with learning materials (site map, management plan, species lists, etc.). Field workshop destinations must be within one and a half hours of one-way travel time from the conference hotel. Please note that the NAC audience is primarily people involved in on-the-ground protection and management of natural areas. Expenses, including transportation, equipment rentals and lunch, are covered by a participant registration fee.

By submitting a field workshop proposal, you are indicating that you are willing to collaborate with the NAC committee to build a professional, useful and enriching experience for conference attendees. We ask that, as a field workshop leader, you communicate with NAA staff and your field workshop co-leaders before and during the conference regarding field workshop content, organization, schedule, and logistics.

Proposal Submission

Please have the following assembled before beginning the electronic proposal submission.

- Field workshop title
- Leader: Name, affiliation, email address, and phone number of the person organizing the field workshop. This person will have primary responsibility for planning and leading the field workshop, and will serve as the main point of contact for the NAC committee.
- Co-leaders: Name, affiliation, email address, and phone number of each person contributing to the planning and/or execution of the field workshop.
- Workshop description: Site name(s), location(s) and notable features, challenges and/or management; field workshop activities (tours, presentations, discussions, demonstrations, surveys, etc.) and expected learning outcomes for participants
- Preliminary itinerary: Estimated departure from and return to the hotel, and schedule of workshop activities with leader(s) and locations within site identified.
- Special equipment and/or supplies: List of non-personal gear and materials (bikes, boats, spotting scopes, etc.), where these can be obtained (organization, retailer, or commercial outfitter name) near the workshop location, and an estimate of cost per participant.
- Physical activity: Description of required physical activity for individuals to fully engage in the workshop (biking six miles on a level gravel path, rafting 10 miles of Class II whitewater, hiking three miles at high elevation, etc.). Rate strenuousness as high, medium, low.
- A maximum number of participants based on site and equipment capacity and leader: participant ratio.

Proposal Review Criteria

All proposals will be reviewed and scored by the NAC program committee. The program committee will also consider how the proposed field workshop relates to other proposed sessions and fits into the overall program.

Accepted field workshop proposals meet the following criteria:

- Address the conference theme and/or topics
- Focus on current concerns, novel information and/or concepts, and practical approaches relevant to natural areas protection and/or management
- Indicate why the field workshop site(s) is noteworthy for natural areas professionals.
- Clearly present expected learning outcomes for participants and illustrate how those outcomes will be achieved through planned workshop activities

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