

Guidelines for Authors

Natural Areas Journal provides a forum for communication among persons involved in the identification, preservation, protection, and management of natural areas and elements of natural diversity. We welcome articles focusing on nature preserves, natural areas, state or national parks, rare and endangered species, land preservation, and practical approaches to natural areas work.

Submit manuscripts online via Editorial Manager at www.editorialmanager.com/naj. Please identify the intended manuscript category following the guidelines given below.

Natural Areas Journal welcomes manuscripts for publication in several categories.

- **Research Articles** ($\leq 10,000$ words*) Peer-reviewed articles that report results of original, data and hypothesis driven theoretical, empirical, or synthetic research in which new data, concepts or applications are presented. Submission text should include clearly defined introduction, methods, results, and discussion sections with a conclusion on the research's implications for natural areas.
- **Research Notes** ($\leq 3,000$ words) Peer-reviewed articles that report results of original, data and hypothesis driven research of a smaller scope with limited or preliminary data or descriptive analysis, and/or limited to no replication. Submission text should include clearly defined introduction, methods, results, and discussion sections with a conclusion on the research's implications for natural areas.
- **Stewardship in Action articles** (≤ 5000 words) Reviewed by the Editorial Board, these articles include, but are not limited to, describing stewardship techniques or methods, innovative ideas, or best management practices, whether successful or not. Submissions should generally include details on goals, project area, methods, and broader applications.
- **Natural History articles** (≤ 5000 words) Reviewed by the Editorial Board, these articles discuss descriptive or opportunistic novel observations that add to our understanding of natural area biodiversity, ecology, or management. Submissions should include a detailed description of the observation or phenomena, location information, any methods, and how it adds to current knowledge.
- **Conservation Issues articles** ($\leq 5,000$ words) Reviewed by the Editorial Board, these articles discuss current topics, events, legislation, trends, emerging issues, or historical perspectives related to natural areas or the profession. Submissions should be evidence-based and include a description of the issue or topic and implications for conservation in natural areas.
- **Book Reviews** (1,000 to 2,000 words): Prospective book reviewers and publishers should contact the Book Review Editor at scott.rush@msstate.edu for more information.

*Word counts do not include titles, captions, references, or figures.

Page Charges

Page charges are \$100 per page (\$60 for NAA members) and an additional \$600 for each color image and an additional \$2500 to make your article open access

Preparing your Manuscript

For each submission type, please prepare the following files for upload:

1. Manuscript file, please include the following in this order:
 - Title (do not use abbreviations)
 - Short title or running head
 - Authors' names in the correct order
 - Affiliations for each author
 - Contact information for the corresponding author
 - Abstract (250 word limit)
 - Key words (up to five)
 - Text - main body of manuscript
 - See submission types for required sections, if applicable
 - Express all measurements in metric units.
 - Scientific names of taxa must be supplied, specifically at first mention of a vernacular name in both the abstract and in the text. Include naming authority at first mention of species in the text.
 - Include line and page numbers for the review process
 - Acknowledgments
 - References or Literature Cited section
 - Appendices, if applicable
 - Table captions
 - Figure captions
2. Figure file(s)
 - Figures should be left in individual files in their native format. Do not place them in a Word file because the resolution of the figure may be decreased. Include all figures in the order in which they are referenced in the manuscript. All maps submitted must contain a compass and a scale (in metric units).
3. Table file(s)
 - Tables must be in an editable format such as Word or Excel. PDF files cannot be used for typesetting. Include all tables in the order in which they are referenced in the manuscript.
4. Supplemental Material file, if applicable
 - Include any supplemental material, if applicable, to support your work.

Format Free Submission

The Natural Areas Journal is format-free. As such, beyond the guidelines outlined above, you may submit your manuscript, tables, figures, supplemental material, and references in any scholarly format or layout. References can be in any style or format, as long as they are in a consistent scholarly citation format that includes the author name(s), year of publication, article or chapter title, journal or book title, and volume and issue (where appropriate). If your manuscript is accepted for publication, our managing editor will format your manuscript to match the publisher's requirements.