

Symposium

A symposium is a series of five presentations focusing on a particular natural areas topic. Each presentation is 20 minutes long followed by a 10-minute Q&A period. There is a 30-minute facilitated discussion at the end of the symposium. Symposia facilitate the exchange of information and ideas around a topic of regional or national priority for natural areas protection and/or management. A symposium involves presenters and an organizer (who may also be a presenter).

By submitting a symposium proposal, the organizer indicates that they are willing to collaborate with the NAC committee to build a professional, useful, and enriching experience for conference attendees. The organizer will also be asked to communicate with presenters in advance of the conference regarding symposium content and organization, and serve as moderator for the symposium.

Proposal Submission

Please have the following assembled before beginning the electronic proposal submission. **Proposals are due by April 15, 2020.**

Symposium Organizer

- Symposium title
- Brief Symposium description
- Presentation abstract (if you are also one of the five speakers) in the style of a peer-reviewed journal article (not to exceed 400 words).

You will also be asked to select which conference topic your symposium addresses.

Symposium Presenter

- Organizer name
- Presentation title
- Presentation abstract in the style of a peer-reviewed journal article (not to exceed 400 words). See example (hyperlinked to the 2019 abstract page)

Proposal Review Criteria

All proposals will be reviewed and scored by the NAC program committee according to the criteria below. The program committee will also consider how the proposed symposium relates to other proposed symposia and fits into the overall program. The committee may accept, decline, or offer an opportunity to present in another format.

Accepted symposia 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
- Illustrate how the symposium will tell a full, balanced, coherent story including history, current status, and future directions aimed at a professional audience
- Indicate that the symposium will include a diverse mix of presenters (may include students) presenting a range of perspectives
- Suggest how the symposium is likely to lead to further action to advance natural areas conservation (working group, white paper, agency guidance, etc.)

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