Call for Proposals for Educational and Training Sessions
Opens: January 31, 2022
Deadline: March 11, 2022, 11:59 p.m. EST

29th Annual Conference of the Wildlife Society
November 6 – 10, 2022

The Wildlife Society will hold its 29th Annual Conference in Spokane, Washington from Nov. 6 – 10, 2022. Proposals for education and training programs including workshops, symposia and panel discussions are invited. Proposals related to all aspects of wildlife ecology, management, policy, human dimensions and conservation are invited.

TWS is committed to developing a society diverse and inclusive of perspectives and individuals that work to manage, conserve and protect wildlife and their habitats. As such, all proposals submitted to TWS2022 should be multifaceted with topics and speakers representing diverse perspectives of our communities (see TWS Standing Position Statement on Workforce Diversity). You will be asked to provide a short statement as a part of your proposal that describes how your session represents diverse perspectives, individually and organizationally. Your proposal’s commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility will be considered during the review process.

Symposia are comprised of a series of presentations that address aspects of a single topic. Organizers can request sessions that are 6, 12 or 18 talks in duration. Each talk is 15-minutes. Symposia may include panel discussions as part of their session. Symposia are scheduled to run concurrently with other conference sessions. Symposia with more than 12 talks may be scheduled to occur on one day with a break partway through the session or two days depending on the conference schedule. Attendance is open to all conference registrants.

Panel Discussions are a forum for interactive discussion of a topic among a panel of experts and an interested audience. Typically, a panel of four to eight speakers makes introductory remarks. The audience is then invited to make comments and question the panel. Panel discussions are scheduled for 90 minutes and will run concurrently with other conference sessions. Attendance is open to all conference registrants.

Workshops, Field Trips, & Trainings are courses on specific skills, techniques or processes and may involve one or more instructors. Workshops are intended to emphasize learning through participation, discussion and "hands-on" activities. For this reason, organizers must specify an upper limit on attendance. Attendance at workshops is by advance registration only. TWS requires a minimum fee of $30 for professionals and $15 for students and new professionals. Workshops may be a half day (4 hours) or full day (8 hours) in length.

Offsite workshops, field trips, and trainings that require transportation require a deposit of $1,000 by August 31, 2022 and are responsible for all transportation costs. Arrangement for transportation must occur through TWS. Further details on payment instructions will be provided when the workshop proposal is accepted.

Workshops are not intended to promote a commercial product, product line or company. That type of activity belongs in the trade show. If the nature of the workshop requires demonstration of specific products, it is
preferred that the instructor be a practitioner rather than a company representative. Alternatively, company representatives may serve as instructors if at least two competing companies are invited to participate. These companies also would be expected to participate in the trade show at regular booth fees.

**Responsibilities of Session Organizers**

Organizers are responsible for coordinating with the Program Committee, planning their sessions, selecting instructors/presenters, moderating their sessions and meeting all deadlines.

As part of the proposal symposium submission process, you will provide names, contact information, and titles for each of the speakers in your symposium. While changes can be made to the session agenda after the proposal is submitted, this will require promptly communicating changes with Tricia Fry, tricia@wildlife.org. Sessions, including workshops, will be scheduled on all days of the conference. **Abstracts from all symposium presenters will be requested after the symposium is accepted and must be submitted by April 29, 2022.** Presenters in symposia must submit their slide deck (e.g. PPT, PDF) via an online submission site 24 hours prior to their talk. In addition, all presenters will be required to submit a pre-recorded video of their talk by October 28, 2022. Please mark these dates on your calendar!

**All organizers and symposium speakers must register for the conference.** Organizers may seek outside support to cover registration, transportation, lodging, and other conference-related expenses that are necessary to participate in the conference.

**Proposal Submission and Requirements –**

Please note: some of the guidelines have been updated this year.

All proposals must be submitted through the online submission site. An active link will be available via the Call for Proposals when the submission site opens.

The submission process will prompt you for the following information:

1. Session Type – workshop, symposium, panel discussion
2. Preferred Session Length – Workshops and Symposium only
   a. Symposia – a symposium can include 6, 12, 18 presentations (longer sessions may be broken up into two or more sessions. Contact Tricia Fry for more information).
   b. Workshops, Field Trips, Trainings – Full day (8 hours) or half day (4 hours)
   c. Panel Discussions – 90 minutes only
3. Session Title
4. Diversity Statement (under 300 words)
5. Organizer(s) – names and complete contact information (the submitting organizer will be the contact person)
6. Supported by – institutions/groups that are financially or otherwise supporting the proposed session. Emails confirming the support of a special session should be emailed to Tricia Fry (tricia@wildlife.org) prior to March 11, 2022. Organizations whose support has not been confirmed will not be published in conference materials. *Support is specific to the proposed session and separate from Sponsorship of the TWS Annual Conference.*
7. A brief description of the session – this will be used to advertise your session (100 words)
8. Detailed description of the session – used to evaluate your proposal (1,000 word limit).
9. Names, emails, and draft presentation title for all speakers (Symposium only)
Workshop and Field Trip proposals also require the following additional information:

10. Minimum Attendance
11. Maximum Attendance
12. Registration fees – a minimum fee of $30 for professionals and $15 for students and new professionals will be charged and this fee will go to TWS, if registration costs exceed these minimums, please include a proposed fee and associated budget with your submission.
13. Room set up/Transportation needs
14. AV requirements – a projector and screen will be provided. If you have additional request please note them (e.g. power for participant’s laptops, wifi, flip chart). Organizers will need to bring their own laptops. Please be specific – Workshops Only

Proposal Evaluation and Notice of Decision

Proposals will be evaluated on timeliness of the subject, importance to the profession and/or contribution to science, and the overall quality of the written proposal. We expect session organizers to include diverse speakers. Proposals that do not include diverse speakers or that present a single perspective to a multifaceted topic will be returned to the submitter or rejected.

Submissions from TWS working groups are especially encouraged. Submitting Organizer will be notified regarding the status of their proposal by April 11, 2022.

Please direct any questions related to proposal preparation or submission to Tricia Fry, Program Committee Coordinator, at tricia@wildlife.org.