

2026 SEDSG Abstract Submission Guidelines for Oral and Poster Presentations

A. Oral Presentation Guidance

Presentations will be selected based solely on the merits of the abstract's originality, quality, management applicability, and significance to the meeting theme. Abstracts scheduled for presentation during the sessions will be compiled as part of the meeting proceedings. Subject matter may include progress reports, preliminary results, or research results intended for future publication. Presentations by wildlife agency personnel or agency collaborators relative to the theme of the meeting are strongly encouraged.

Submission guidelines should be shared with call for abstracts that are consistent with formatting guidelines listed below.

Student papers and posters: Judging score sheets are posted on the SEDSG website.

Scoring submissions

Since the abstract is the only record of the presentation, evaluation will be based solely on abstract content and quality rather than what the author intends to have prepared by the meeting date.

Authors

Each abstract in program/proceedings should list authors and their affiliations in order provided in abstract submission. If the presenter is different than first author, this should be indicated on abstract page. If it is a student presentation, this should also be clearly indicated in the program wherever the speaking lineup is listed as a courtesy to judges of student presentations.

Abstracts

- Presentation Title (Title Case, bold font, 15 words or less)
- 250-word limit
- All distances, areas, weights, etc., must be presented in English units (feet, acres, etc.). DO NOT use metric units.
- Abstracts should describe:
 - What was studied and why - place the research in perspective by explaining the reason for the work.
 - How research was done - briefly explain methods.
 - What was found - summary of results.
 - What it means - state conclusions and management implications.
- Dates should follow format date month year (e.g., 1 February 2017)
- Scientific names provided in parentheses in italics for first instance of species name other than white-tailed deer
- Spell out numbers less than 10

- Use USA for all references to the United States, United States of America, U.S., U.S.A., etc.

B. *Poster Guidance*

Poster Specifications

- Posters must be designed to fit a 40-inch x 60-inch foam board. Easels will be provided. Business cards or small leaflet literature for distribution may be inserted in an envelope and affixed to the board.
- Poster mounting supplies will be provided.
- Posters may be prepared as a single poster or as several smaller sections mounted together.

Advice on Production of Posters

- Keep text brief. Report only key aspects of each section (e.g., introduction, study area, methods, results, discussion, and management implications). It is not advisable to display the entire text from a manuscript. Too much detail detracts from the primary message of the text.
- Keep figures simple. Convey only one idea per figure, table, or photograph. Figures from publications, theses, or dissertations normally do not make good visuals. Too much detail detracts from the primary message of the figure.
- Text and figures should be readable to someone standing at a distance of six feet. Adjust font and image sizes accordingly. BIG IS BEAUTIFUL and easy to read.
- Photographs should clearly show what you want the audience to see.
- Use appropriate blank space between words, sections, and figures.
- Use appropriate and compatible colors for fonts, backgrounds, graphics, and matting. White backgrounds generally are best for text.
- Simple typefaces are preferable to fancy fonts. Bold type may be effective on headings.

