



Call for Abstracts

2019 NRM Knowledge Conference

Creating Resilience through Natural Resource Management –

how do we do it?

18 to 20 November 2019

Wodonga, Victoria

We'd love you to be involved no matter where you come from and how you contribute to natural resource management – in your local bush group, on your tractor, crunching data, managing Indigenous lands, running grants programs... It's a diverse sector working across the country.

Regional Natural Resource Management (NRM) organisations cover all of Australia and deliver sustainable NRM services on behalf of the Australian and State/Territory governments. Since 2008 NRM practitioners from these and other organisations have held biennial Knowledge Conferences to facilitate the sharing of knowledge and build national networks of organisations and practitioners.

Our 7th conference will be held in Wodonga, Victoria from 18 to 20 November 2019 and will address the theme *Creating Resilience through Natural Resource Management – how do we do it?*

We're planning a highly interactive conference with very different types of sessions for which we're seeking abstracts.

Our aim for the conference is to identify a shared future for Australian natural resource management – and actions we will collectively pursue to address the Conference theme.

Submitting an Abstract

There are many ways for delegates to contribute to the Conference. At this stage we are looking for an **abstract** of up to **250 words** on a topic/issue you would like to present. Below is a list of and brief description about the very different sessions we are planning. You can nominate your abstract for up to 3 sessions.

In addition to nominating sessions we would also like you to identify a conference sub-theme that relates to your topic/issue (you can indicate more than one). This will allow us to schedule presentations so that delegates can follow a particular sub-theme. The sub-themes are:

- Community engagement and planning
- Practice change and industry development
- Knowledge creation and innovation

R&D and University Panel

Universities and other Research and Development Organisations will have the opportunity to share with delegates the outcomes of their work and how this will impact on natural resource management. Short (5 minute) presentations will be made to the Conference followed by presenters leading table discussions where each will provide details of the work and delegates will have the opportunity to discuss the findings. (These can be collaborative/joint presentations as long as they remain at 5 minutes).

Number of presentations sought: Up to 10

Problem Solving

For this session we are inviting regional NRM organisations to nominate a difficult challenge they face in managing natural resources in their region. A short (5 minute) overview of the challenge will be presented to the Conference and the regional NRM organisation representative will then run two (20 minute) workshop sessions where delegates can contribute ideas for addressing the problem.

Number of presentations sought: 5

Concurrent Sessions

Three concurrent sessions will address the following issues:

- Concurrent Session 1 Resilient communities and industries
- Concurrent Session 2 Ecosystem resilience
- Concurrent Session 3 Systems resilience on a Landscape Scale - why is this important?

Our aim is to share how NRM practitioners around Australia are addressing these issues and in doing so explore your views of the longer-term outcomes we are working toward and how we might get there.

Each presenter is to provide a 10-minute overview of their topic and lead discussion in either world café, panels discussion or small group discussion session.

Number of presentations sought: Up to 27

Side Meetings and Meeting Space

Would you like to nominate your own topic for presentation and discussion? The Conference design allows for a Side Meeting session where larger groups can gather to discuss issues and for two (2) Meeting Space sessions where individuals can meet with others to discuss matters of mutual interest.

Number of presentations sought: No limit set at this stage

Poster Display

Delegates may like to contribute to the Conference in other ways. We are seeking posters that not only summarise your work but displays your aspirations about the longer-term impact of what you do. To assist with our planning, we are seeking feedback on who would like to submit a poster display and a brief description of the topic you will cover.

Number of presentations sought: No limit set at this stage

Video Display

Videos are a great way of sharing your experiences with others, particularly for those that are unable to attend the conference. We plan to run a series of videos (2 to 3 minutes each) over the morning and afternoon tea and lunch break sessions.

Number of presentations sought: Up to 20

How to lodge your abstract

We have engaged Cvent to assist with the on-line components including abstract management. The abstract management component is now open, the web-site and registration portal will be launched shortly.

You can access the abstract management portal [here to prepare your](#) abstract. You will be required to create an account (this enables you to save and return to your submission). We are looking for up to 250 words for your abstract (less if it's a poster display etc). If you have queries about the process please contact Danny O'Neill (danoneill@bigpond.com), Danny is assisting the Organising Committee with running the Conference.

We will close the call for abstracts on Friday 14 June 2019 and provide feedback to submitters by **Friday 21 June 2019**. Following your agreement to proceed, we will begin populating the conference website with presenters' names and topics from late June 2019.

Other matters to note

Presenters will still need to register and pay to attend the conference. For those delegates from remote communities the Organising Committee may be able to assist with some of your travel costs (please email Danny if you feel this may apply to you - he will collate requests and present to the Organising Committee for consideration).