



15TH BIENNIAL LONGLEAF CONFERENCE

October 8-11, 2024 | Sandestin, Florida

longleafconference.com

Biennial Longleaf Conference Call for Proposals – Seeking Submissions in Science, Arts, & Humanities

Deadline: May 3, 2024

The Longleaf Alliance invites you to join the [15th Biennial Longleaf Conference](#) on **October 8-11, 2024**. Meeting at the Sandestin Beach and Golf Resort in Florida, we will gather at the heart of the [Gulf Coastal Plain Ecosystem Partnership](#) (GCPEP) landscape, home to some of the best remaining longleaf pine habitats in the world, including at least 50% of the surviving old-growth longleaf, and a long track record of active management and coordinated conservation projects.

WHO SHOULD SUBMIT?

The Alliance encourages individuals, students, and professionals passionate about the longleaf pine ecosystem to use the Biennial Longleaf Conference as a forum for information exchange, project feedback, and networking. Submitting your work for inclusion in the Conference program provides a platform to do just that!

We welcome contributions from private landowners, longleaf enthusiasts, land managers, wildlife biologists, students, researchers, consultants, forestry, business, and technology professionals, agency and outreach personnel, artists, and content creators.

WHAT TOPICS WILL THE LONGLEAF CONFERENCE FOCUS ON?

The Conference theme will be *Joining Together for Tomorrow's Forest*, and the tracks will center around the components of the recently updated [Range-wide Conservation Plan for Longleaf Pine \(2025-2040\)](#).

We invite you to submit proposals on pertinent topics of management, fire, ecological services, groundcover restoration, economics, wildlife conservation, education, policy, history, art, and culture.

PROPOSAL TYPES

Presentations – Contributed presentations will be scheduled within Concurrent Sessions on October 9th and October 11th. We are offering two types of oral presentations:

- *Oral presentations* will be 30 minutes, which includes 25 minutes for the presentation and 5 minutes for questions.
- *Fire Whirls* are SHORT presentations (15 minutes) intended for emerging research ideas and results or case studies, which are noteworthy, but may not rise to the level of a full presentation.

Posters – Posters can be submitted in any category pertaining to longleaf; cultural and historic aspects are especially invited. We also encourage student research; abstracts can include studies in progress, a proposed project (with a focus on study design); or results from completed undergraduate research projects. The poster reception will be Wednesday, October 9th from 6-8 pm. Posters should be landscape orientation and will be mounted on a 4ft x 4ft display.

Organized Sessions – Lead coordinators of organized sessions may organize multiple oral presentations (3) or fire whirls (up to 6). Organized sessions are 90 minutes and scheduled within Concurrent Sessions on October 9th and October 11th.

Panel Discussions – Sessions include a panel of speakers addressing questions posed by the moderator or audience on the proposed topic. Panels are 90 minutes and scheduled within Concurrent Sessions on October 9th and October 11th.

Workshops, Working Groups, & Meetings – The Longleaf Conference traditionally serves as a rallying spot for other organizations and agencies, like the Longleaf Partnership Council of America’s Longleaf Restoration Initiative. Our Call for Proposals includes an opportunity for our partners to offer additional workshops, working groups, and meetings in conjunction with the conference programming. Proposed offerings may be incorporated into the conference as pre-conference events, concurrent session offerings, or the afternoon of October 11th as a post-conference session.

Sponsored Social Activities – To emphasize our conference theme of “*Joining Together,*” we are expanding our social offerings for the 2024 Conference. We welcome creative events from our partners including receptions, meet-ups, organized hikes, etc. Proposed offerings may be incorporated into the conference as pre-conference events, evening activities, or the afternoon of October 11th as a post-conference session.

Art & Media Content – We’re looking for art and other creative content that celebrates longleaf pine savannas and the many plants and animals that live in longleaf pine habitats. Art may include paintings, drawings, photos, basketry, fiber arts, and more. Other media may include videos, social media reels, etc.; we encourage contributors to share an abbreviated "teaser" of longer products to accommodate time restrictions. Submissions that are selected will be incorporated into the Conference program and displayed in various locations.

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING PROPOSALS

The online portal for proposals is open. **The deadline for proposal submission is May 3, 2024.**

All information is required to complete online submission, including:

- Contributor information
- Contributor biography (150 words or 50 words per coauthor)
- Proposal Abstract or Description
 - 300 word maximum
 - Include a statement of objectives, brief description of methods, and outcomes.
 - Do not include title or author information in the 300-word limit of the proposal.

- Event or session details, if applicable

Proposal abstract/descriptions and contributor biographies will be included in conference materials.

Individuals may submit more than one proposal for consideration but must complete separate submissions for each contribution.

There is no option to save partial work, but revisions are accepted until the submission deadline of May 3, 2024.

A copy of your submission will be sent to the email address provided. Your confirmation email will also contain a link to edit your proposal if needed.

PROPOSAL EVALUATION

Contributed proposals will be evaluated based on technical merit, contribution to our knowledge of longleaf restoration, relevance to subject categories, and scheduling accommodations. Proposal will be reviewed by our Session Planning team. Due to time/space limitations we will not be able to accept all proposals submitted. Notice of decision will be issued in June 2024 via email.

CONFERENCE DETAILS & REGISTRATION

The 15th Biennial Longleaf Conference will take place October 8-11, 2024 at the Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort in Florida. The conference website is continuing to be developed and registration will open on July 1st. All presenters register for the Conference, with discounted rates available for students and supporters of The Longleaf Alliance. Registration waivers will also be available for those in financial need.

QUESTIONS?

Questions about the conference program may be directed to Program Committee Chair, Ad Platt at ad@longleafalliance.org. For all other conference questions, please email Sarah Crate, Conference Coordinator, at sarah@longleafalliance.org.