



Call for Special Session Proposals

Deadline: October 16, 2017

The Society for Freshwater Science (SFS) Annual Meeting Committee invites proposals for special sessions at the 2018 meeting in Detroit, Michigan (May 20-24). The 2018 meeting theme is "Navigating boundaries in freshwater science". Freshwater scientists must bridge boundaries in nature (e.g., land-water, groundwater-surface water, lake-stream, freshwater-marine), connect disciplines (e.g., earth-life-social sciences) and cross cultural divides to advance basic understanding, open new lines of investigation, and address pressing problems. Moreover, solutions to environmental challenges require improved translation of science and a richer, reciprocal linkage across boundaries between science and society.

By proposing a special session, you are expected to serve as session organizer, identify session moderators, and invite speakers and inform them of key dates for abstract submission and other program deadlines. The session organizer should consider opening or closing the session with an overview/summary presentation, or inviting a speaker to do so. Special sessions should avoid overlap with regular sessions; they may represent areas of research that are of growing interest to SFS membership or that relate to the meeting theme. Note that sessions covering similar topics may be combined.

Proposals should include a title, brief description of the session (<250 words), list of five keywords, and a list of at least five potential speakers* with presentation topics/tentative titles. Commitments from speakers are not necessary at the time of proposal submission, but please indicate whether the speakers have been invited and if they have been tentatively confirmed. Proposals must be submitted to lcraig@americanrivers.org by October 16, 2017.

*We ask that session organizers strive to build sessions that include a diversity of speakers by considering career stage, gender, race, ethnicity, geography, and other types of diversity when inviting speakers. SFS is dedicated to promoting diversity among its members and welcomes and encourages participation from all, regardless of ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, socioeconomic status, physical or mental difference, religion, age, or national origin. All special sessions are open to contributed presentations in addition to those invited by organizers; we expect that special sessions will include a mix of invited and self-nominated participants.

Please help us make this an innovative and productive scientific program by submitting a proposal for a special session. Feel free to contact Laura Craig (lcraig@americanrivers.org) or Jeff Wesner (Jeff.Wesner@usd.edu) with questions about hosting a special session. Proposals for special sessions will be reviewed by the Annual Meeting Program Committee; the committee may ask for changes and resubmission of proposals, if appropriate. Results of the review will be sent to chairs of proposed sessions by November 5, 2017. Accepted proposals will appear on the meeting website.