

Poster Presentation Guidelines*

General Instructions

- The purpose of the poster should be to convey highlights of a study or project in an attractive format that can be easily read and comprehended in a short period of time (*i.e.*, 3 to 5 minutes).
- Posters will be on display in the Nautilus Building. Dedicated poster sessions will be held on Monday and Tuesday evenings. Authors are expected to attend their posters during these sessions.

Poster Content

- Authors should minimize the amount of text in the poster (*i.e.*, 300-400 words), and to do so, use of bulleted phrases rather than complete sentences is recommended.
- The contents should contain Title, Abstract (*optional*), Introduction, Methods or Experimental Design, Results, Conclusions or Implications, References (*optional*), and Acknowledgements (*optional*):
 - i) Title: the title should fit across the top of the poster on one line; authors' names and affiliations appear below the title.
 - ii) Abstract: this section is optional; if authors decide not to include an abstract on the poster, they should be sure to clearly state key items such as objectives and conclusions.
 - iii) Introduction: this section should be kept short; limit it to a few statements; clearly state the objectives.
 - iv) Methods or Experimental Design: text should be kept to a minimum; use graphics where possible.
 - v) Results: This section should take up most of the space; graphs (figures) are preferred over tables; keep graphs simple; include captions with graphics; include credits on photographs taken by someone other than the authors; keep statements brief.
 - vi) Conclusions or Implications: limit this section to a few bulleted statements.
 - vii) References: this section is rarely included.
 - viii) Acknowledgments: include this section when appropriate.

Poster Design Specifications

- A key feature of the poster is that it can be easily read at a distance of 2 m.
- Overall size: the typical size of a poster is 91 cm x 112 cm (36" x 44") in a landscape or portrait format.
- A 3-column format best fits this size poster in landscape format. The flow of material should be from top to bottom of each column and left to right among columns. Leave 3.8 cm (1.5") between columns.

* Adapted from American Fisheries Society Poster Presentation Guidelines

- Highlight the sections: use thin-lined borders around sections or blocks of subsections to emphasize how items are grouped. Light-colored background fill can also be used to highlight different sections.
- Photograph backgrounds: use of photographs as backgrounds is not recommended, because legibility is usually compromised. Text boxes with a background fill can be superimposed on photographs. Text printed directly on photographs should be avoided.
- Background: light pastel backgrounds are attractive and allow use of contrasting font colors, such as black, dark blue, and red. White backgrounds are acceptable, though they are less attractive than colored ones.
- Font type and size: Sans serif typeface such as Arial is best for good visibility at a distance; use the same font type throughout. The following provides a guideline for the different font size recommended on your poster:
 - i) Title - 72 point or larger; keep it short, not more than 80 characters including spaces.
 - ii) Authors' names and affiliations - 48 point.
 - iii) Section headings - 36 point, bold.
 - iv) Text - 28 point.
 - v) Graphs and tables - all numbers and labels 28 point or larger.
 - vi) Graph bars and symbols – use colors; avoid cross hatching.
 - vii) Acknowledgments – 20 to 24 point

Setting Up Your Poster

- You will be assigned a space within the Nautilus Building for your poster.
- Authors are responsible for setting up and removing their poster. Materials for hanging your poster will be provided.
- Posters should be set up on Monday, September 1st by 6 p.m.
- Posters should be removed on Wednesday, September 3rd by 10 a.m.