

From the Field – Elevating Indigenous Voices

Submission Guidelines

A Publication for Wildlife Research, Management, and Conservation

From the Field welcomes submissions that advance the understanding of research, management, and conservation, with a particular focus on Indigenous and tribal perspectives. We invite contributions of various types, including short research notes, full articles, scientific papers, opinion or editorial pieces, and other forms of expert exchange.

Scope and Focus

From the Field publishes original research, reviews, short communications, and other types of papers on relevant aspects of the conservation and management of United States flora and fauna and their habitats, particularly where these topics intersect with issues relevant to Native American Tribes and other Indigenous peoples and communities. We are particularly interested in studies that incorporate Indigenous knowledge and methodologies, but also the modern challenges and issues facing tribes today, and the modern techniques and practices they are implementing.

Types of Submissions

1. Original Research Articles

All submissions should present significant viewpoints or findings from empirical or theoretical research or novel techniques. Articles should be no longer than 6,000 words, excluding references, tables, and figures. **2. Review Articles**

Reviews should provide comprehensive and critical assessments of specific topics pertaining to the research and management of flora and fauna and their habitats. These articles should not exceed 4,000 words.

3. Short Research Notes

Brief reports of novel findings or methodological advances. These should not exceed 3,000 words and should include a concise abstract, key results, and discussion.

4. Perspectives and Commentary

Opinion pieces on current issues in pertaining to the biology, policy, or management of flora and fauna and their habitats, especially those impacting tribal communities. These should be between 1,000 and 2,500 words.

5. Case Studies

Detailed reports on specific instances of management or conservation efforts of flora and fauna and their habitats on tribal lands. These should be no longer than 4,000 words.

6. Rapid Communications

Shorter articles that disseminate information on important emerging topics in research and management. These should provide timely updates on recent developments, preliminary data, or urgent conservation issues. Rapid communications should be concise, with a maximum of 2,500 words.

If you have any questions or need clarification, please feel free to reach out to Hannah Golden at hgolden@nafws.org with any questions.

Manuscript Preparation

General Guidelines

- Manuscripts must be written in English.
 - Authors may optionally include an alternative title and/or abstract in their native language.
- Use Times New Roman, 12-point font, and double-spaced text.
- Number all pages consecutively, starting with the title page.
- Line Numbers.
- Use the metric system for all measurements.

Title Page

- Title of the manuscript
- Names and affiliations of all authors
- Corresponding author's contact details, including email address

Abstract

- An abstract is **required** for:
 - Original Research Articles
 - Review Articles
 - Case Studies
- An abstract is **optional** for:
 - Short Research Notes
 - Perspectives and Commentary
- Maximum of **250** words
- Abstracts should clearly summarize the purpose and background of the study, along with the main findings and significance of the work.

Main Text

If submission is a full-length research article, please include:

- Introduction: State the problem, objectives, and relevance of the study.
- Methods: Describe the study area, data collection, and analysis methods in detail.
- Results: Present findings clearly and concisely.
- Discussion: Interpret the results, highlight the significance, and relate to other work in the field (management implications for Tribes).

- Acknowledgments: Recognize contributions from individuals and organizations.
- References: Follow the referencing style described below.

If submission is an alternative submission, please include:

- Content: Clearly present the main content of the submission, which could be:
 - Case studies or project reports
 - Perspectives or opinion pieces
 - Reviews or thematic essays
 - Oral histories or interviews
 - Reports on community initiatives or practices
- Key Findings or Contributions: Highlight the primary insights, findings, or contributions of the submission.
- Relevance: Explain the significance of the content to the field, particularly focusing on its implications for tribal management and conservation.
- Conclusion: Summarize the main points, reflect on the significance, and suggest any potential future directions or actions.
- Acknowledgments: Recognize contributions from individuals, communities, or organizations involved in the preparation of the submission.
- References: Follow the referencing style described below.

Key Words

- Provide 4-6 keywords for peer review assignment purposes.

Tables and Figures

- Submit tables and figures as separate files.
- Include a list of figure legends.
- Ensure figures are high-resolution.

References

In-Text Citations:

- Use the author-date system for in-text citations.
- For a single author: (Smith, 2020).
- For two authors: (Smith and Jones, 2021).
- For three or more authors: (Smith et al., 2022).
- For multiple references: (Smith, 2020; Jones and Brown, 2021).

Reference List:

- General Format: Author(s). Year. Title. Journal Name Volume (Issue): Page numbers.

Important Notes:

- Ensure consistency in the formatting of names, titles, and dates.
- Italicize journal names and book titles.

Submission Process

Online Submission

Manuscripts should be submitted via our online submission form. A link to the form will be provided once submissions open.

Review Process

- All submissions undergo an initial editorial review.
- Manuscripts that pass the initial review are sent for peer review (2-3 reviewers per manuscript).
- Authors will receive reviewers' comments and decisions in 4-6 weeks.

Revision and Resubmission

- Authors should submit revised manuscripts within 4 weeks of receiving reviewers' comments (specific circumstances may be negotiable)
- A cover letter addressing all comments should accompany the revised manuscript.

Ethical Considerations

Authorship/Acknowledgements

- All listed authors must have meaningfully contributed to the paper in at least one of the following ways:
 - Contributed to the development of research questions or hypothesis.
 - Played a key role in designing the study and methodology.
 - Actively participated in data collection, analysis, or interpretation.
 - Contributed significantly to the writing and revision of the manuscript.
- All authors must approve the final version of the manuscript and take responsibility for its content.
- Acknowledgment of Non-Authorship Contributions:
 - Individuals or groups who have contributed to the research but do not meet the criteria for authorship should be appropriately acknowledged.
 - This includes:
 - Tribal council members, cultural staff, or community leaders who provided essential cultural insights, permissions, or logistical support.
 - Recognizing the role of tribal councils in facilitating access to lands, resources, or cultural knowledge.
 - Highlighting the contributions of cultural staff who offered expertise on traditional practices, protocols, or ethical considerations.
 - Administrative or technical staff who assisted with research logistics, data management, or other support roles.
- Ethical and Cultural Sensitivity:
 - Ensure that acknowledgments reflect respect for the cultural and intellectual property of tribal communities.
 - This includes:

- Seeking explicit consent from tribal authorities before including any sensitive cultural information in the publication.
- Acknowledging any contributions related to cultural or traditional knowledge and ensuring proper credit is given to the respective communities.

Conflict of Interest

- Authors must disclose any potential conflicts of interest.

Ethical Research

- By submitting a manuscript to *From the Field*, the authors affirm that they have obtained all necessary permissions and approvals, including but not limited to tribal council consent, ethical permits, and compliance with relevant laws and regulations.
- Research involving animals must comply with relevant ethical guidelines and legislation.
- Research involving human subjects must align with Institutional Review Board (IRB).
- Authors are required to disclose any use of artificial intelligence (AI) in the creation, research, or editing of their manuscript. This includes, but is not limited to, AI-generated text, data analysis, or image creation. Full transparency regarding AI involvement is necessary to ensure the integrity and originality of the submitted work.

Open Access Policy

From the Field is committed to open access and encourages transparency in research. However, we recognize the importance of respecting Tribal data sovereignty, particularly for research involving Indigenous communities.

From the Field seeks to balance the commitment to open access with the ethical responsibilities involved in research with Tribal communities. For questions about specific data-sharing requirements or permissions, please contact Hannah Golden at hgolden@nafws.org for further guidance.

**For further information or assistance, please contact Hannah Golden at hgolden@nafws.org
We look forward to your contributions!**

Appendix: Relevant Topics for Submission

From the Field welcomes submissions that explore Indigenous knowledge, natural resource management, and environmental stewardship, with a special focus on the conservation of flora, fauna, and habitats. Below is a list of suggested topics, though related submissions are also encouraged.

Indigenous Flora, Fauna, and Habitat Conservation

- Traditional ecological knowledge in the conservation and management of plant and animal species
- Indigenous-led conservation efforts for flora, fauna, and habitats, including case studies and collaborative projects
- Preservation of culturally significant species and their natural habitats
- Restoration of native ecosystems and habitats for Indigenous flora and fauna
- Traditional hunting, fishing, and gathering practices as sustainable resource management models
- Adaptive management strategies to balance ecological health with community needs
- Climate change impacts on Indigenous flora, fauna, and habitats
- Indigenous-led strategies for biodiversity protection and habitat resilience
- Sacred landscapes and their role in cultural and spiritual practices
- Cultural significance of specific plant and animal species within Indigenous traditions
- Flora, fauna, and habitats as integral elements of Indigenous identity and heritage

Food Sovereignty and Traditional Agriculture

- Restoration and revitalization of traditional crops and farming practices
- Seed saving and preservation of Indigenous plant varieties for future generations
- Community-led initiatives for building sustainable and resilient food systems

Water Management

- Indigenous perspectives on water sovereignty, access, and sustainable use
- Traditional water management practices and their application to modern water challenges

Oral Histories and Indigenous Knowledge

- Documentation of Tribal elders' ecological knowledge, especially related to natural resources
- Oral histories of land use, environmental changes, and their impact on community practices
- Language preservation through the documentation of environmental and ecological terminology

Interviews with Tribal Leaders and Environmental Stewards

- Conversations with Tribal leaders on natural resource governance and environmental policy

- Perspectives from Indigenous scientists, farmers, and environmental stewards on sustainability
- Tribal youth programs, initiatives, and student perspectives in environmental fields

Land Reclamation and Stewardship

- Tribal-led land restoration projects, success stories, and best practices
- Repatriation of sacred sites and its significance for community well-being and cultural continuity
- Indigenous land management practices and their contributions to environmental conservation

Climate Change and Resilience

- Effects of climate change on Tribal lands, resources, flora, and fauna
- Indigenous strategies for climate adaptation, community resilience, and environmental stewardship

Cultural Preservation through Natural Resources

- The role of natural resources in maintaining cultural practices and strengthening identity
- Cultural landscapes and their importance in Indigenous community traditions and values

Sustainable Development and Economic Sovereignty

- Tribal enterprises focused on sustainable resource management and economic resilience
- Renewable energy projects on Indigenous lands and their benefits for community independence
- Economic models that integrate traditional ecological knowledge with sustainable practices

Intergenerational Knowledge Transfer

- Programs designed to teach younger generations traditional ecological practices and values
- The importance of intergenerational learning for sustainable natural resource management
- Challenges and successes in maintaining continuity of ecological knowledge across generations

These topics are intended as a guide for potential submissions to *From the Field*. We especially encourage submissions that honor Tribal sovereignty, respect cultural sensitivity, and recognize the importance of traditional ecological knowledge in modern environmental stewardship.