

# ABSTRACT SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

## North American Box Turtle Conservation Workshop

*23 October – 25 October 2026*

### Workshop of the North American Box Turtle Conservation Committee

These instructions are provided to assist authors in preparing their abstracts for oral and/or poster dissemination. **Please review this information carefully**, as submissions that do not adhere to these guidelines will be returned for revision.

Abstracts for this year's workshop are due no later than **August 31, 2026**. Please submit your abstract early; not only does this help with workshop planning but we may receive more requests for presentations than we are able to accommodate. Abstract submission will be online, at [washburn.edu/NABTCC-abstracts](http://washburn.edu/NABTCC-abstracts). You should receive confirmation of receipt of your submission via email - if you do not, please contact [benjamin.reed@washburn.edu](mailto:benjamin.reed@washburn.edu)

### General Information

1. The abstract must be written in English.
2. Deadline: abstracts **MUST BE RECEIVED** no later than **11:59 PM Pacific Daylight Time, Monday, August 31, 2026**.
3. Online abstract submission is required.
4. All accepted abstracts for presentation will be included in the Program and Abstracts eBook that will be available for download on the North American Box Turtle Conservation Committee website.
5. Notification of acceptance or rejection will be made via email by September 14, 2026 and may come on a rolling acceptance for earlier submitted abstracts.

### Content of the Abstract

1. Please see sample abstract below
2. Abstracts are limited to 250 words (excluding title and author(s) information).
3. Use Times New Roman font, point size 12
4. Title – should be as informative as possible, many people don't have time to read all the abstracts; this is your first chance to impress and attract them to your presentation. **Use Bold Font, Capitalize Major Words, and Center the Title.**
5. Author(s) full first and last name. **USE BOLD FONT AND SMALL CAPS.**
6. Contact information should be annotated with superscript numbers where necessary. *Do not bold contact information, please use italics.*
7. Place the email address of the presenting author in [square brackets].
8. Body of abstract: purpose of the study, methods used, summary of the results and conclusion reached. Do not indent.
9. Species names should be formatted as: Common Name (*Latin name*)
10. Be clear and concise, the abstract is the "published" record of your work.

11. References and credits SHOULD NOT be included in the abstract.
12. Abstracts MUST NOT include tables or figures.
13. Abstracts MUST NOT include sensitive information or specific site locality.
14. Use standard abbreviations in parentheses after the full word or phrase the first time it appears.
15. Please indicate the subject categories your abstract most closely represents; some examples: Field Studies, Genetics, Conservation, Captive Management, Veterinary, etc. This will aid in placing your presentation on the schedule with similar talks.
16. Indicate if this is for consideration as an **oral** or **poster presentation**.
17. An abstract should not include acknowledgments.
18. Abstracts will be published as submitted. Proof and edit your submission accordingly.
19. Save your abstract file as “Last Name-First Name” e.g. Smith-Joe.doc, and upload it to the NABTCC site: [washburn.edu/NABTCC-abstracts](http://washburn.edu/NABTCC-abstracts)

**\*NABTCC reserves the right to copy-edit abstracts and change wording or titles if necessary\***

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact [benjamin.reed@washburn.edu](mailto:benjamin.reed@washburn.edu)

Sample abstract:

**Demographics of Ornate Box Turtles (*Terrapene ornata*) in Illinois**

**DEVIN EDMONDS, RANDY NYBOER, AND MICHAEL J. DRESLIK**

*Illinois Natural History Survey, Prairie Research Institute, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, Illinois, 61820, USA*

*[dae2@illinois.edu]*

There are few remaining sites in Illinois supporting populations of Ornate Box Turtles (*Terrapene ornata*). Habitat loss due to agriculture, road mortality, and collection for the pet trade are thought to have caused statewide decline. While Ornate Box Turtles still occur at several remnant Illinois prairie reserves, it is not clear whether they represent viable populations, or if they need conservation action to assure their survival. We used vital rates from mark-recapture surveys to develop estimates of population size and growth for two remaining populations. Using demographic models, we examined the effect of survival and fecundity on population growth at each site. We found one population to be stable, whereas the other may be in decline. Our study provides guidance for site managers in Illinois, and helps highlight areas of research still needed to better understand extinction risks.