



IAVS

The 2018 IAVS 61st Annual Symposium will be held July 22-27, 2018 at Montana State University in Bozeman, Montana, USA. Bozeman is located in the Greater Yellowstone Area close to the Crown of the Continent of the northern Rocky Mountains. The timing of the symposium is optimal to see the subalpine and alpine flora in flower and will also allow participants to attend the 103rd Annual Conference of the Ecological Society of America, which is August 5-10 in New Orleans, Louisiana if they wish.

Given the magnificent natural setting, we chose the primary theme of the meeting as "Natural Ecosystems as Benchmarks for Vegetation Science". Anticipated sub-themes include:

- Theory and Methods in Vegetation Science
- Species Pools Across Scales: An Integrative Perspective
- Vegetation Science in Natural Resource Management
- The US National Vegetation Classification Effort

Proposals for special sessions are welcome.

Excursions

Pre- and post-symposium excursions will visit regional grassland, steppe, forest, and alpine vegetation. The primary pre-symposium excursion will leave Bozeman on Tuesday July 17 for five days (four nights), traveling through the beautiful Swan River Valley to Whitefish, Montana, followed by visits to the extraordinary Glacier National Park, and National Forests in the northern Rocky Mountains. The excursion will return to Bozeman on Saturday July 21.

The primary post-symposium excursion will leave Bozeman on Saturday July 28 for five days (four nights), visiting Beartooth Plateau, Yellowstone National Park, and Grand Teton National Park. The excursion will return to Bozeman on Wednesday August 1.

The capacity of each of these excursions will be around 40. Costs have not yet been accurately determined.

A selection of one-day mid-symposium excursions will be provided to local grasslands, forests, and cultural/historic sites on Wednesday July 25, with costs included in registration.



Workshops

Based on feedback from the 60th IAVS Symposium in Palermo, we plan to schedule a full day for workshops and working group meetings. Facilities will be provided on campus for groups to meet Sunday July 22 for half- or full-day sessions. Please let us know if you would like to hold a workshop or meeting.

Venue and Accommodation

The symposium will be held at the conference center in the Montana State University Student Union Building, with capacity for 500+ people. There will be plenty of hotel rooms (cost about \$130/night) as well as student dormitories for budget accommodation (\$23/night for shared rooms, \$28/night for single rooms). A shuttle bus service will be provided between the three or four official conference hotels and the conference venue. We will post registration fees and accurate accommodation costs as soon as they can be determined.

The weather in Bozeman in July is usually warm, with an average daily maximum of 28 °C, an average overnight minimum of 10 °C, and a mean rainfall of 36 mm.

Travel to Bozeman

Bozeman can be readily reached by connections to Bozeman-Yellowstone International Airport (BZN). Direct flights from the east arrive from Minneapolis and Denver, with connections to New York, Newark, Philadelphia, Washington, and Atlanta. Direct flights from the west arrive from Seattle, Portland, Los Angeles, and San Francisco. The selected conference hotels will provide airport shuttle services and a shuttle bus will be provided for people staying in student dormitories.



Local Organizing Committee

- David W. Roberts, Montana State University (co-chair), droberts@montana.edu
- Peter R. Minchin, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (co-chair), pminchi@siue.edu
- Mr. Kent Houston, US Forest Service (retired)
- Dr. Stephen V. Cooper IV, Montana Natural Heritage (retired)

A scientific committee is currently being formed.

Important Deadlines

- Special session and workshop proposals 15 January 2018
- IAVS travel grant applications and abstracts 19 February 2018
- Travel grant decisions announced 26 March 2018
- Regular abstract submission 5 March 2018
- Decision letters on abstracts 26 March 2018
- Final date for early registration with reduced fees April 30 2018
- Final date for late registration 25 June 2018

Link to survey

In order to help us estimate the number attending, the type of accommodation required, and participation in the pre- and post-symposium excursions, we have set up a short on-line survey. **Please take the survey as soon as possible and no later than 30 September, 2017.**

To access the survey please click on the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2018iavsbozeman>