

# Solar Wildlife & Ecosystems RESEARCH MEETING

NOVEMBER 17-20, 2025 | SCOTTSDALE, AZ



## Call for Proposals for Workshops, Coordinated Sessions & Field Trips

**Submission Deadline: May 30, 2025**

The [Renewable Energy Wildlife Institute \(REWI\)](#)<sup>1</sup> releases this Call for Proposals for in-person coordinated sessions, workshops, and field trips at the 3<sup>rd</sup> biennial Solar Wildlife & Ecosystems Research Meeting (SWERM) in Scottsdale, Arizona.

This call is seeking proposals for workshops, coordinated sessions, and field trips that will be coordinated by external parties in close collaboration with REWI. **A general call for abstracts for in-person and on-demand presentations and posters will follow separately in a few weeks.** REWI will craft the agenda for the SWERM from both this Call for Proposals and the subsequent Call for Abstracts.

### About the Solar Wildlife & Ecosystems Research Meeting (SWERM)

The biennial [Solar Wildlife & Ecosystems Research Meeting](#) (SWERM), formerly the Solar Power and Wildlife/Natural Resources Symposium, convenes stakeholders from academia, industry, the conservation sector, and public agencies to share and engage in the latest science surrounding ecological interactions and solar buildout. Additionally, the SWERM is a forum for thought leaders to review the state of the science and identify research gaps and priority questions. The SWERM identifies key concepts around balancing conservation and a rapidly growing solar market, and highlights what we know and emerging topics/questions.

This meeting is organized and presented by the [Renewable Energy Wildlife Institute](#) (REWI) in consultation with a multi-stakeholder Planning Committee comprising representatives from the solar industry, environmental and conservation non-governmental organizations, state and federal agencies, and subject matter experts.

---

<sup>1</sup> The [Renewable Energy Wildlife Institute](#) (REWI) is an independent 501(c)3 organization that develops and leverages scientific research around renewable energy interactions with wildlife, habitats, and ecosystems. Built on a partnership of renewable energy companies, conservation and science organizations, and public agencies, REWI develops innovative approaches and independent results that advance renewable energy expansion while meeting conservation goals.

## Opportunities for Workshops, Coordinated Sessions & Field Trips

REWI is seeking proposals for the following activities at the 2025 Solar Symposium:

**Workshops** consist of a structured interactive session (or sessions) to create a space for meaningful work and guide participants through a process meant to provide a beneficial objective. Workshops can also be courses or training on a specific topic, skill, method, or technique. Depending on the workshop content, it can involve one or more instructors or moderators and is often highly collaborative. Organizers should specify an upper limit for attendance, if applicable. Workshops will take place on **November 17** at the meeting venue and can be two, four, six, or eight hours. Attendance will require an additional registration fee.

**Coordinated Sessions and Panel Discussions** provide a forum to share information with attendees and/or facilitate dialogue among speakers. A typical coordinated session will consist of four to six presentations followed by audience Q&A. Panel discussions typically open with introductory remarks followed by a moderated discussion between four to six speakers. These sessions can be 60-90 minutes long and will take place on **November 18-19**. Attendance is open to all in-person and virtual meeting registrants.

**Field Trips** consist of a structured offsite activity with a goal of learning through active participation, discussion, and “hands-on” activities. REWI is looking for proposals for locations within approximately one hour from the SWERM venue. Attendance will require an additional registration fee designed to cover the costs of the field trip (e.g., transportation, entrance fees, meal). Proposers of coordinated field trips will be expected to take the lead on logistics planning, working closely with REWI to ensure plans align with other meeting considerations. Organizers are responsible for all transportation costs, though these can be reimbursed through field trip registration fees. REWI and the planning committee are particularly interested in field trips to solar energy facilities, natural areas of interest to view wildlife, and areas with observable impacts from climate change. Field trips will occur on **November 20**.

## Key Considerations

To be considered, proposals should represent a variety of stakeholder perspectives as relevant to the topic/issue (e.g., including speakers representing state and federal agency, industry, conservation, and scientific perspectives).

## Sponsorship Opportunities

Workshops, coordinated sessions, panel discussions, and field trips are not intended to promote a particular product or organization. Companies interested in promoting their products and services are encouraged to apply to sponsor or exhibit at the SWERM. For more information on opportunities, please view the [Sponsor Flyer](#) and email [solar@rewi.org](mailto:solar@rewi.org).

## Topics of Interest

REWI and the members of the planning committee are particularly interested in sessions that cover the following topic areas (not in any order of importance):

1. **Solar-Wildlife Ecological Interactions**
  - a. Short- & long-term effects on habitat
  - b. Population-level studies - demography, behavior, & genetics
  - c. Community Studies – composition, diversity, abundance, species interactions, etc.
  - d. Cumulative effects & landscape considerations
  - e. Monitoring techniques, standardization, data management & accessibility
2. **Studying Solar Farms through the Lens of Ecosystem Function & Service**
  - a. Ecosystem responses to different construction practices, vegetation establishment & management strategies
  - b. Wildlife compatibility with dual-use solar & agrivoltaic systems
  - c. Nutrient cycling, soil-plant interactions, & microclimates
3. **Evaluating the Efficacy of Mitigation Strategies Associated with Solar Buildout**
  - a. Avoidance - strategies avoiding impacts amidst constraints & multiple interests
  - b. Minimization - onsite practices & design features reducing impacts & providing benefits
  - c. Compensatory strategies – implementation, evaluation, & lessons learned
4. **Water Resource Management**
  - a. Water use & conservation
  - b. Short and long-term effects on hydrology, water quality, wetlands, & aquatic wildlife
  - c. Stormwater best management practices & regulations
  - d. Ecological effect of floating PV solar
5. **Climate Change, Solar Energy, & Wildlife Ecology**
  - a. Counterfactuals to assess solar-wildlife interactions
  - b. Modeling effects of climate change & solar buildout on wildlife populations
  - c. Interactions among climate change, microclimates, & regional weather
6. **Placing Science in Context**
  - a. Common community concerns re: solar-wildlife-ecosystem interactions
  - b. Engaging community representatives in the full research process
  - c. Disseminating research in a dialogue with community stakeholders
  - d. Lessons learned/case studies/future needs

## **Submission Instructions**

**Submission Process:** Please [visit this link](#) and follow the instructions provided to submit proposals.

Submissions in response to this call for proposals should include the following information:

1. Session type: Workshop, coordinated session/panel discussion, or field trip
2. Topic area(s) covered
3. Preferred session length
  - Workshop: 2, 4, 6, or 8 hours
  - Coordinated session: 60 or 90 minutes
  - Field Trip: Half day (4 hours) or full day (8 hours)
4. Organizer names, including affiliation(s) and email address(es)
5. Title of coordinated session/workshop/field trip
6. A brief description of the session. This will be used to advertise your session if selected (150-word limit)

7. Detailed description of the session. This will be used to evaluate your proposal (1,000-word limit)
8. Names, emails, and draft presentation title for all speakers if known/applicable

If the proposal is for a workshop or field trip, the following information is also required:

9. Minimum and maximum attendance
10. Who (or what organization) is supporting the workshop or field trip
11. For field trips – Estimated cost for participants (or recommended registration fee). Please include the proposed fee and associated budget. Transportation needs (field trips)
12. Room set up (workshop)
13. For workshops - AV requirements.
14. Any additional requirements will need to be noted (flipcharts, paper, power for laptops, etc.)

**Submission Deadline:** Submissions will be accepted until **May 30, 2025**

**Late Proposals:** Consideration of submissions received after the deadline cannot be guaranteed. Please contact [solar@rewi.org](mailto:solar@rewi.org) with inquiries regarding late submissions.

**Proposal Review and Selection Process:** Acceptance of submissions is not guaranteed, and the schedule is limited. Proposals will be evaluated by REWI and the planning committee on the timeliness of the subject, contribution to science, and the overall quality of the written proposal. We expect session organizers to include diverse speakers and multiple stakeholder perspectives. Proposals that do not include diverse speakers or that present a single perspective on a multifaceted topic are not likely to be accepted.

**Approximate Timeline for Review and Selection Process:**

- **May 30, 2025:** Proposals due
- **June/July 2025:** Submitters notified of proposal selection or rejection
- **August/September 2025:** Meeting registration opens

## Questions?

Email [solar@rewi.org](mailto:solar@rewi.org)