# CASQA 2023 Conference Call for Abstracts: Information and Requirements

The CASQA 2023 Conference Call for Abstracts is open to technical presentations, posters, panel discussions, and training workshops. Track descriptions and presentation/session type definitions are provided below. To integrate the conference all presentation/session types will be incorporated throughout the conference agenda. Submissions will be reviewed by the Technical Program coordinators and track-specific review teams.

➢ Carefully read all information in this document before submitting your abstract via the link to the online submittal form provided at the bottom of this web page: https://www.casqa.org/events/annual-conference/call-abstracts

➢ **The submitter is required to be one of the following** (depending on the submission presentation type):
- The Primary Speaker for a Technical Presentation
- The Poster Presenter for a Poster Presentation
- The Moderator for a Panel or Training Workshop

## Dates

Submittal Period Open: Tuesday, March 21, 2023
**Submittal Deadline: Monday, April 17, 2023 at 12:00 NOON Pacific**
- IMPORTANT: Allow plenty of time to complete the online abstract submittal form. Do not wait until 11:30am on the last day! Abstracts not submitted by the deadline will not be reviewed or selected.

Selection Notification: Week of June 5, 2023
- CASQA will email selection results (selected and not selected) to the submitter.
- At the discretion of the Conference Program Team, abstracts may be selected for a different track, presentation/session type, or length than as submitted.
- Following notifications, further instructions will be sent to selected speakers, panelists, poster presenters.

## Theme: CASQA 2023 Conference - September 11-13

**Rain Ready California: Protecting and Collecting Water for Our Future**

The last few years have demonstrated the impact of drought and the changing magnitude and frequency of our precipitation events. Now, more than ever, the work in the stormwater management field is critical to achieving a more resilient future. Collectively, our actions can lead to a *Rain Ready California*. What does that look like? Investing in our communities to reconnect the hydrologic cycle (e.g., stormwater capture). Rethinking how we work to integrate across water sectors to achieve our shared common goals. Protecting our waterways through true source control and effective BMPs. Engaging within the stormwater profession and the communities we serve to communicate that stormwater is a resource. Advocating for funding, regulations, and legislation to support these outcomes. And most importantly, learning from each other to make it all possible. Let's get *Rain Ready* together!

## Track Descriptions (15)

### BMP Effectiveness

This track will focus on advances in BMP performance and in BMP effectiveness assessment methods for treatment control and source control practices. Assessment methods include performance monitoring, benchtop special studies, innovative assessment methods, operation and maintenance practice assessments, challenges, and solutions, and/or lessons learned/case studies.

### Climate Change, Resiliency, and Sustainability

This track will look at climate resiliency, sustainable practices, legal requirements and barriers, opportunities for collaboration, and programs that connect stormwater and other environmental sectors. Important topics will be discussed such as climate change adaptation and mitigation, water supply, water rights, groundwater recharge, energy, watershed management, integrating climate resiliency with green stormwater infrastructure, and wildfire planning.

### Construction General Permit

This track will focus on the newly adopted 2022 CGP and will include discussions on permit changes and address construction stormwater challenges including: innovative BMPs and controls; TMDL implementation; passive treatment; challenges and solutions to site management; implementing cost controls; resolving monitoring and sampling issues; dealing with the different challenges of linear underground and overhead projects; and other implementation challenges with the newly adopted permit.

### Equity and Environmental Justice

This track will focus on the connections between the business of water management and its direct and indirect impact on underserved communities and will include discussions of current programs; lessons learned; and how to bring diversity, equity, and inclusion into all aspects of our work in stormwater communities.

### Funding

This track will address stormwater program and infrastructure funding and financing, including asset management—both tracking for capitalization and schedule for replacing aging infrastructure, its role in full stormwater program integration, and funding and financing mechanisms that may be available to the regulated community.

### Industrial General Permit

This track will cover various aspects of the Industrial General Permit such as pollutant source assessments, monitoring and reporting, Exceedance Response Action requirements, Best Management Practices (BMPs), Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), water quality based corrective actions, compliance options, permit participation initiatives (e.g., SB 205), and Clean Water Act citizen lawsuits.

### Looking Beyond California

This track will focus on advances and practices developed outside of California that California's stormwater practitioners may benefit from. Examples include water management practices, climate/coastal resiliency examples, scientific advances, or any other stormwater practice relevant to California!

### Modeling and Data Tools

This track will focus on modeling of all types, including hydrologic, water quality, and geographic information systems (GIS). Innovative data collection, visualization, assessment tools, and quantification methods and metrics. This track will also include how data tools from other industries may be repurposed for use in the stormwater arena.

**Monitoring and Special Studies**

This track will highlight innovations in monitoring methodologies or monitoring programs and the development and implementation of special studies such as those investigating pollutant source, fate, and transport, including how monitoring results can be used to inform stormwater management.

**Municipal Programs**

This track will focus on the challenges and solutions faced while implementing a municipal stormwater program for Phase I and Phase II agencies, The track will also address emerging issues for municipalities such as planning activities for permit compliance, workforce development, operations and maintenance, permanent post-construction BMPs, monitoring program challenges and unique solutions, and transient encampments.

**Outreach, Engagement, and Education**

This track will share ideas for creating and implementing innovative stormwater outreach projects/programs that are designed to educate the community about stormwater pollution, actions they can take to protect local waterbodies and their watersheds, and the importance of recognizing and utilizing stormwater as a resource. Projects/programs can include efforts such as media campaigns, social media strategies, educational programs for youth, rebate programs, engaging with underserved communities, and measuring the effectiveness of outreach and education activities.

**Pollutants of Concern**

This track will focus on statewide priority pollutants, in addition to contaminants of emerging concern: what we know or don't know or need to learn, upcoming regulatory changes that may impact the stormwater community, and new advances in science that allow us to measure or characterize both human and environmental risk related to emerging contaminants. The topics could include trash, PFAS, mercury, pesticides, microplastics, and other constituents of concern.

**Regulatory and Legislation**

This track will provide a forum for updates from regulators, discussions of future policy and legislative initiatives, newly enacted legislation and its impacts on stormwater, updates from legal experts, and examples and case studies of legislative engagement and innovative ways that regulatory obligations can be met.

**Stormwater Capture, Use, Green Infrastructure, and Nature-Based Solutions**

This track will highlight examples of physical infrastructure for improving stormwater runoff quality, protecting natural channels from the effects of hydromodification, preventing flood impacts to property, recharging groundwater supplies, permanent post-construction BMPs, and stormwater capture and use. It will focus on planning efforts, pilot studies, design lessons learned, operation and maintenance challenges / solutions, and adaptive management strategies after installation.

**True Source Control**

This track will incorporate the practice of true source control, and how it relates to stormwater compliance and sustainability. Additionally, examples of how to implement true source control, how to expand true source control in stormwater, and considerations for permit compliance will be addressed.

## Presentation / Session Type Definitions

**Technical Presentation:** A 20-minute oral presentation followed by a 5-minute Q&A. The presentation is limited to one primary speaker. Due to time constraints this presentation is also limited to one supporting speaker, if any. Technical presentations will be grouped into ~1-hour sessions based on related content within the Technical Program tracks.

➢ **Speakers:** It is required to include all speakers and their details at the time of submittal: Limited to 1 primary speaker and 1 supporting speaker (if any).

**Poster:** A research presentation that generally includes an Introduction and Background; Methods or Approach; Results; and the Conclusion and/or Discussion.

- Selected poster presenters will be sent detailed information about the required poster specifications (size, color, resolution, type size, fonts), file format and size, and components to include
- Posters will be displayed in the Poster Hall throughout the conference

**Panel:** An approximately 1-hour panel session featuring up to four subject matter experts responding to questions from a moderator on a specific subject, question, or issue affecting our field. CASQA may solicit audience questions prior to the panel. The moderator shall prepare their own questions to lead the discussion, as well as a brief opening statement (five minutes maximum) to introduce the panel and the subject. The panel is not a technical presentation, but rather a discussion of an issue or topic from multiple perspectives, and exploration of potential solutions.

➢ **Panelists**: It is required to include all panelists and their details at the time of submittal: Limited to 4 panelists.

**Training Workshop:** An approximately 1-hour, 2-hour, or 3-hour interactive training designed to include attendee participation and engagement. The training workshop moderator will prepare concepts and techniques to be presented and discussed through a combination of visual materials, interactive tools (pending CASQA production team agreement), and demonstrations.

➢ **Panelists / Speakers**: It is required to include all panelists / speakers and their details at the time of submittal:
- Training Workshop - (1) ~1-hour session: Limited to 4 panelists / speakers
- Training Workshop - (2) ~1-hour sessions or (3) ~1-hour sessions: Limited to 6 panelists / speakers

## Abstract Submission Evaluation Criteria

- Addresses the conference theme (see Theme and description on page 1)
- Demonstrates knowledge of the abstract subject matter
- Corresponds content-wise to the submission track selected (see Track Descriptions on pages 2-3)
- Demonstrates current relevance of the abstract topic to CASQA conference attendees
- Provides clear takeaway tools, ideas, and concepts
- Describes how the technical presentation, panel, or training workshop will engage audience participation
- Adheres to the abstract submission requirements (provided below)

## Abstract Submission Requirements and Guidelines

1. **Abstract / Description**
   General:
   a. The abstract must concisely describe the proposed technical presentation, poster, panel, or training workshop based on the evaluation criteria noted above
   a. The abstract may not exceed 5,000 characters (including spaces). Abbreviations may be used in the abstract description if they are defined at their first mention
   b. The abstract itself will be the sole basis for selection; supplemental data will not be accepted
   Details:
   a. Explain the purpose of the technical presentation, poster, panel, or training workshop
   b. Briefly describe the main ideas
   c. Summarize the tools, ideas, and concepts that conference attendees can apply
   d. State how the content will address the conference theme
   e. **Technical presentations**: State how the speaker will engage the audience to make it an interactive experience
   f. **Panels**: Include a statement of how the panels will be moderated and any polls, surveys, or other methods of engagement that will be used (pending CASQA production team agreement)
   g. **Training workshops**: Include a statement of how the presenters will engage the audience to make it an interactive experience, such as polls or games (pending CASQA production team agreement)

2. **Submittal Form Required Information**
   ➢ All speakers and/or panelists are required to be provided **at the time of submittal** or the submission will be considered incomplete and will not be reviewed. Adhere to the limits as given in the 'Presentation / Session Type Definitions' above. Substitution of speakers and panelists following both submittal and selections is not allowed without advance approval from CASQA.
   ➢ The following information will be required to complete the online abstract submittal form (not included in the 5,000-character limit):
   a. Submitter name, job title, organization, and contact information - the abstract submitter must be one of the following:
      • The Primary Speaker for technical presentations
      • The Poster Presenter for posters
      • The Moderator for panels or training workshops
   b. Title of the technical presentation, poster, panel, or training workshop
      • Should clearly indicate the content of the abstract
      • Avoid nonstandard abbreviations
      • Should not be too long
   c. Track to which you are submitting (e.g., Funding)
   d. Additional speakers / panelists (name, job title, organization, and contact information):
      • One Supporting speaker (if any) for technical presentations
      • All panelists and/or speakers for panels or training workshops (adhere to # limits)

3. **Instructions for Entering Information on the Online Form:**
   a. **Letter Case**: Do not use all uppercase (e.g., SMITH) or all lowercase (e.g., smith) when entering any information.
   b. **Abstract Title Field**: Before entering the title run it through this title case converter, then copy and paste the result into the Title field of the form.

c. **Abbreviations**: May be used in the Description field if they are defined at their first mention.

d. **Check Your Spelling**: Mistakes in spelling can carry through to the online agenda and printed conference program (title of presentation, poster, panel, or training workshop, speaker/panelist names, job titles, organizations, and email addresses).

4. **Moderator Acknowledgement (For Panel and Training Workshop Submissions)**
At the time of submittal, abstract submitters will be required to accept the following agreement included on the submission form. Note: If the submission is for a technical presentation or poster, the submitter will select this option: 'N/A - This is not a panel or training workshop submission'.

By submitting this abstract I acknowledge the following:

1. I am responsible for securing the participation of each proposed panelist / speaker
2. I, not CASQA, am requesting participation by the proposed panelist / speaker
3. Panelists / speakers are not invited speakers or guests
4. If the panel or training workshop is selected to be part of the program, all panelists / speakers will be required to pay the applicable speaker registration fee, unless attending only the session in which they are participating
5. I have communicated this information to all proposed panelists / speakers
6. All proposed panelists / speakers have agreed to participate in this panel or training workshop, if selected

5. **Confirmation**: Upon submitting your abstract, you will immediately see a confirmation page with a message including your submission confirmation number - please make a note of it. You will also receive an email confirmation - be sure to check any junk/spam mailboxes or email blocking by your organization.

## Speaker, Panelist, Poster Presenter Registration (opens mid-June)

All final speakers and panelists must attend in person. We are not offering an option to participate virtually. Speaker, panelist, and poster presenter registration will open following abstract selections and confirmations. CASQA offers a reduced conference fee for eligible speakers, panelists, and poster presenters, as well as the CASQA Member discount. Visit the [Attendee Registration](#) page to learn more.