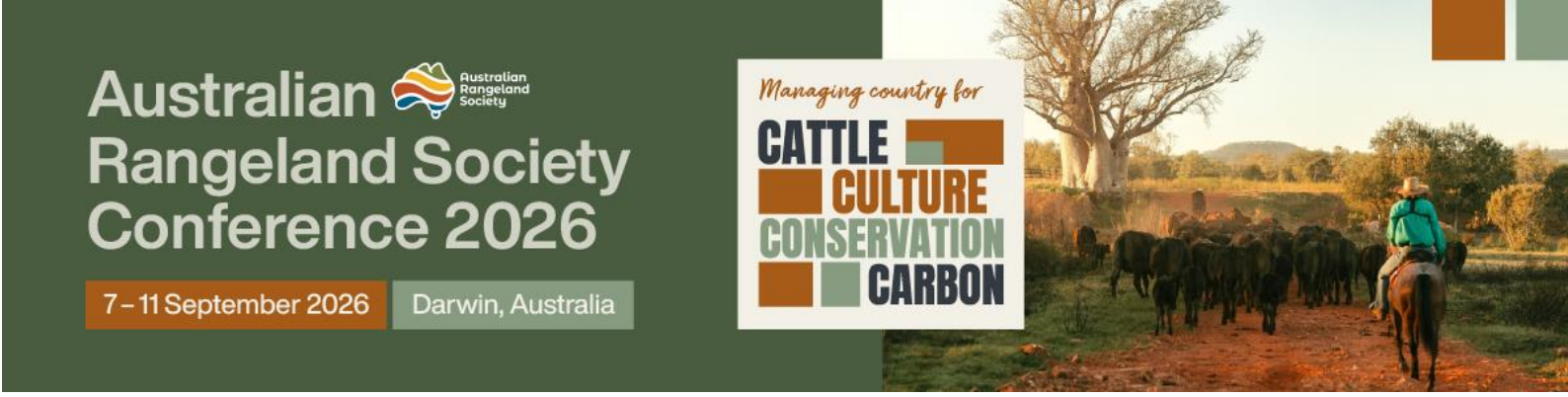

PRESENTER GUIDELINES

Lightning Presentation (3 Minutes)

Congratulations on having your paper accepted as a 3-minute lightning presentation at the Australian Rangeland Society Conference 2026.

The speaker guidelines below aim to support you deliver a presentation that is:

- Engaging,
- Accessible to a diverse audience, and
- Aligned with Conference requirements.

We ask all speakers to abide by these guidelines. All the best with the preparation of your presentation. We look forward to your contribution at ARS 2026!

Location
ARS 2026 will be held in Darwin in September from September 7th to 11th. We expect speakers to deliver their lightning presentation in person. If you have any questions, please contact Abby Hill-Stanley via abby.hill-stanley@aomevents.com.

Speaker Registration
All speakers at ARS 2026 must be registered to attend the Conference. If you have not already registered, please register by Friday 28 August 2026.

Presentation Upload
All PowerPoint presentations must be uploaded prior to the Conference. Click here to upload your presentation by Monday 31 August 2026. Assistance regarding uploading your presentation will also be available at the venue.

Please label your file name: *Day of Presentation – Room (if known) – Time – Full Presenter Name.*

To avoid any potential issues, ensure to also bring a copy of your presentation on a USB.

Where possible, please arrive to your allocated session room 10 minutes before the session commences and introduce yourself to the chairperson. The chairperson will ensure you are familiar with the AV equipment prior to the start of the session.

ARS2026 Audience
Considering your audience when preparing your presentation will help ensure that it is accessible to all audience members. ARS 2026 attendees come from diverse backgrounds, including various nationalities, cultures, occupations, and knowledge domains. The ARS 2026 audience includes

scientists, government officials, policy-makers, extension officers, advisors, training professionals, pastoralists, conservation land managers, NGO professionals, media, First Nations people, and more!

We ask speakers to deliver their presentation English and avoid jargon and overly technical language, as some attendees may be unfamiliar with them. If you use acronyms or jargon, please provide the full name or definition first (e.g., 'American Broadcasting Company, ABC').

Presentation Length
Presentations should be 3 minutes long.

To ensure that the Conference stays to schedule, speakers will be interrupted by the Chair should they go over their allocated time.

Q&A
An additional 1 minute will be provided after each presentation for questions from the audience.

The chairperson is responsible for managing questions, aiding in the effort to maintain the schedule, and taking questions from a diverse audience.

Presentation style
ARS 2026 welcomes diversity of presentation styles. Presentations may include traditional academic content delivery, storytelling, artistic expressions, interaction with the audience, etc.

Pace and clarity

- We ask speakers to keep a moderate speaking speed to make it easier for the audience to understand them.
- We ask speakers to always use the microphone when delivering their lightning presentation, to ensure the audience can hear them well.

Technical Requirements

- Speakers will receive instructions closer to the Conferences date on uploading their PowerPoint presentations before the event.
- Speakers should arrive in the designated room at least 10 minutes before their session.
- We ask speakers to stay for the entire concurrent session, not just their own talk, to support fellow speakers and minimize disruptions.

Basic Slide Design

- ***Keep your presentation concise*** - The amount of text on each slide should be minimised (e.g., 6-8 lines per slide and no more than 30 words). Bullet points instead of full paragraphs can ease readability.
- ***Aim for three slides in addition to your title slide*** – this will help you keep within your 3 minute speaking limit. This is your elevator pitch to the conference audience. **Slide 1** to explain the problem and why it matters. **Slide 2** Explain what you did. **Slide** 3 Explain the main findings and take-home message. You do not need to speak to your title slide. It will be shown for everyone to see while the Session Chair introduces you.
- ***Photography*** – Presenters are asked to include symbols on the slides encouraging or not allowing photography and sharing outside the Conference.
- ***Title slides*** – These will be prepared by the Conference organisers and displayed at the start of each presentation, stating the name of the presenter and the title of their presentation. This means that you do not have to make your own title slide.

- ***Acknowledgement of Country*** – There will be a place on the title slide template to list the traditional custodians of the land on which your presentation is relevant to. This is to save time so that you can spend the full 10 mins on your presentation content.
- ***Font type*** – Easy-to-read font should be used, e.g., Arial, Calibri, Gill Sans, Comic Sans, Verdana, Franklin Gothic, Rockwell, Tahoma, Lucida, and Times New Roman.
- ***Font and figure sizes*** – Font size, figures and tables should be large enough in size to be readable by the audience in the room.
- ***Colour blindness*** – For colour blindness considerations, add patterns or labels to graphs and charts, or select sight-friendly colour palettes. Avoid these colour combinations: green and blue, dark yellow and green, purple and blue, orange and green, and red and green.
- ***Illustrations*** – Do not hesitate to use images (e.g., illustrations, cartoons, photos), to convey ideas. Images, graphs, charts, or diagrams are preferable over tables and words for understanding complicated data.
- ***Animations*** – Some people are sensitive to flickering and may have difficulty reading moving text. Blinking text and animations that endlessly repeat should be avoided.

The value of rehearsing

Rehearsing your presentation will help you stay within the 3-minute limit and ensure a smooth delivery. Rehearsing in front of others is also a good opportunity to get feedback.

For general assistance during the Conference, please see the staff at the registration desk.

Thank you once again. If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact Abby Hill-Stanley via abby.hill-stanley@aomevents.com.

More information about the ARS 2026 Conference is available at: https://ars-conference-2026.eventsairsite.com/

Thank you once again for your participation! We look forward to welcoming you to ARS 2026 this September!