# [Template Library Tool](http://templatelibrary-alpha.natureserve.org/)

**To ensure a template can be used with Kestrel**

* The template's record type must be Observation
* The template cannot contain subforms
* The template cannot contain headings
* The first five attributes must be, in order:
	+ Species (NatureServe)
	+ Observation Date (NatureServe)
	+ Location (NatureServe)
	+ Primary Observer (NatureServe)
	+ Sensitive (Natureserve)
* The five attributes listed above must be required
	+ Edit the template
	+ Click the binoculars icon next to the attribute
	+ Select **Yes** from the **Required** dropdown list



* All attribute references must support comments
	+ Edit the template
	+ Click the binoculars icon next to the attribute
	+ Select **Yes** from the **Comments?** dropdown list



* The "Taxa Present" property of the template must be set to "Present"
	+ Edit the template
	+ Select the main form
	+ Click the binoculars icon of the Selected Form
	+ Select **Present** from the **Taxa Present** dropdown list



**Main Form**

* Attributes that have a data type of "Reference" can only reference Person records
* Included attributes can only use the supported validation rules which include: numeric range, max days beyond today (date), e-mail string pattern, domain values
* Additional validation rules cannot be specified by the template. For example, a template cannot add, remove, or modify domain values.
* Any customizations made to an attribute's help text or label will be ignored and any headings will be ignored

To have NatureServe incorporate your template into Kestrel, submit an issue with *Application* as **Kestrel** and *Component* as **Template Library** **Tool** to [Kestrel Technical Support](http://support.natureserve.org/Kestrel/default.aspx), identifying the name and version of the template.

**Best Practices**

* Try to think ahead as to how other people might conceivably use an attribute
* Use general names - don't name things "1a, 1b," etc. Those are often very specific to a particular field form.
* For domain lists, think carefully about whether it will make sense for individual templates to define their own sets of values.
	+ If something like "highway", then allow templates to add/remove values
	+ If using a standard set of codes that have real business meaning, then not allowing modifications may be more desirable

**Questions?**

Submit them to [Kestrel Technical Support](http://kestrelsupport.natureserve.org/), identifying the *Application* as **Kestrel** and *Component* as **Template Library** **Tool**

**Bugs, feature requests, enhancements,…?**

Submit them to [Kestrel Technical Support](http://kestrelsupport.natureserve.org/)