

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS

## *Western Wildlife*

### **Scope of the Journal**

*Western Wildlife* is an open-access, peer-reviewed journal that publishes original research, notes reviews, perspectives, and correspondence on the ecology, natural history, management, and conservation biology of animals. All taxa will be considered, although species or groups other than vertebrates must be of interest to a wildlife audience. The editor will decide which topics will be considered. Geographic coverage is western North America (to Hawaii). Studies outside this general area will be considered on a case by case basis. *Western Wildlife* is a continuation of the *Transactions of the Western Section of The Wildlife Society* and the journal will continue to cover traditional wildlife species and management topics related to these species, but the coverage is broadened to reflect the need for information on species and topics that are affected by human growth and development. The journal also will publish basic biology of species if the data are robust and soundly collected. Papers on new techniques and methods are welcome. Surveys and population monitoring data are within the scope of the journal, especially if the groups studied are of conservation concern. Notes that only contain observations will be peer-edited by the editors and published quickly if accepted.

### **Submission and Format**

Manuscripts must be submitted electronically as Microsoft Word documents to the Editor via e-mail. Upon final acceptance, articles are published electronically in a portable data file (.pdf) format with full pagination. There are no page charges. Upon final acceptance, manuscripts will be published immediately and then combined with other articles at the end of the year in a volume.

### **Statement of Authorship**

Authors must attest that manuscripts submitted to *Western Wildlife* are original and that no portion of a given work has been published elsewhere, in any language. Moreover, authors must affirm that manuscripts, or parts thereof, are not under consideration for publication in another journal. Theses and dissertations do not normally constitute prior publication. Submission of a manuscript implies that, if accepted, the authors consent to the open-access distribution of the published paper, including any photographs contained therein. Authors should submit low-resolution ( $\leq 200$  kb) images of themselves in .jpg format and a brief accompanying biography, all of which should be embedded at the end of the MSWord manuscript at time of initial submission. Copyright is retained by the author(s). At the time of submission, the corresponding author must assure that every author listed contributed significantly to the manuscript. A significant contribution implies that authors actively participated in at least three of the following five phases of a research project: (1) conceptual; (2) data collection; (3) analyses; (4) writing the manuscript; and (5) editing the manuscript.

### **Language and Style**

Manuscripts must be written in English. Moreover, manuscripts must be clear, concise, and written in the active voice. A second abstract in a language other than English may be included at the discretion of the authors. Common Latin abbreviations such as et al., i.e., and e.g. should not be italicized; whereas, all others are italicized (e.g., *in vitro*, *ad libitum*, *in situ*, *op. cit.*, and *sensu stricto*). Acronyms should be defined upon first use in the manuscript, e.g., carapace length (CL), snout-vent length (SVL), or

temperature-dependent sex determination (TSD). When using numbers in running text, spell numbers one through nine and use numerals for 10 onward (e.g., three doves, nine toads, 11 mice). When numbers are followed by units of measurement, however, the numbers should not be spelled out (e.g., 1,968 ha, 0.3 kg, 3.7 m, 11 km). Use the *Système international d'unités* (SI) when describing units of measure.

The standard reference for English stylistic and grammatical conventions is the Chicago Manual of Style published by the University of Chicago Press. Moreover, authors may wish to consult *Scientific Style and Format: The CSE Manual for Authors, Editors, and Publishers* compiled by the Council of Science Editors and published by Rockefeller University Press in 2006.

## The Manuscript

The entire manuscript must be double-spaced; this includes table and figure headings. Use Times New Roman and a font size of 12, including for figures (axes labels) and tables. Do not right-justify any portion of the manuscript. All manuscript pages are to be consecutively numbered at the bottom of each page. Prospective authors are encouraged to consult recently published *Western Wildlife* articles for stylistic interpretations. Manuscripts that do not follow closely the stylistic guidelines and formats set forth herein will be returned to the corresponding author without review.

**Title.**—Be brief yet informative. Titles should convey the focus of the investigation and include the scientific name of the species studied. Scientific names should be in *italics* (in title and text). Capitalize first letter of each word except articles (the, an) and prepositional words (of, on, at, etc.). The first letter of each word composing a common name should be capitalized (e.g., Mule Deer, Great Horned Owl, and Blunt-nosed Leopard Lizard).

**Abstract.**—An abstract is required for all manuscripts. It should be a concise summary of the manuscripts objectives, results, and conclusions. The abstract should begin with “**Abstract.**—” in boldface italics. All of the abstract should be in boldface and should not exceed 250 words.

**Key Words.**—A maximum of eight key words should describe the main aspects of the investigation. They should include words not found in the title. Key words should be listed in alphabetical order and separated by semi-colons. They should form a new paragraph that follows immediately after the Abstract. The heading should be two words, in italics, and followed by a period and “em dash” (—). Format as shown:

*Key Words.*—biology; birds; conservation; journal; mammals; research; success; wildlife

**Text.**—Each research manuscript should be comprised of the following sections: Title, **Abstract**, *Key Words*, **INTRODUCTION**, **METHODS**, **RESULTS**, **DISCUSSION**, *Acknowledgments*, **LITERATURE CITED**, Tables, Figure Legends, Figures, and Appendices. Non research papers may not make use of these headings. The preceding major section headings should be in small caps, boldface, and centered with the exception of *Acknowledgments.*—, which should be lower case, italicized, and indented by 0.33 cm (0.13 inches). Section sub-headings should begin a new paragraph after a space, be indented by 0.33 cm (0.13 inches), boldface, and italicized:

**Study site.**—We translocated kangaroo rats from a site southeast of Bakersfield in Kern County to the Allensworth Ecological Reserve in southern Tulare County, approximately 60 km north of Bakersfield, California. Allensworth consists of a patchwork of parcels that total 2,142 ha...

In-text citations should be in chronological order and separated by a semicolon (Iverson 1991; McCallum and Trauth 2000; Steen et al. in press). Multiple papers by the same author(s) should be cited as (Gibbons 1983, 1990). Do not include a comma between the author and year of publication. Equipment and/or

software providers should be cited in running text (Holohil Systems Ltd., Carp, Ontario, Canada) or SYSTAT (SPSS Inc., Chicago, Illinois, USA). Numbered lists should be: (1) more than two items long; (2) have semi-colons between items; and (3) have parentheses on both sides of the numbers. Authors should verify that there are exactly two spaces between sentences.

## INTRODUCTION

The Introduction should not be exhaustive; rather it should acquaint the reader to the present state of knowledge through the judicious use of relevant citations. A more complete argument within the framework of published knowledge should be included in the Discussion. The introduction should end with a clear statement of the specific objective(s) of the study. In some cases, these would include the specific hypotheses tested.

## METHODS

This section should provide a level of detail sufficient to ensure future repetition of the study. If particularly lengthy, such information can be provided as an appendix. Precise locality data such as latitude and longitude for Special Concern, Threatened, or Endangered species should not be included in the manuscript. Instead, these data should be deposited at an established museum or secure institution that is referenced in the text. Dates in running text should be formatted as 29 March 2006. Units of time such as year, month, day, hour, minute, and second should be abbreviated as y, mo, d, h, min, and s, respectively. Use the 24-hour system to specify a given time (e.g., 0956, 1645); please note the absence of colons and units.

## RESULTS

The results section should include neither raw data nor interpretations or conclusions. In most cases, authors should summarize data using statistics, tables, and/or figures. Statistical results should be presented in the following format: ( $t = 1.395$ ,  $df = 3$ ,  $P = 0.040$ ). Morphological mean (range) should be reported as: Mass = 14.3 g (12.2–16.5 g). Use Arabic numerals to number sequentially each table and figure. Self-explanatory titles should accompany tables and figures. Such detailed titles are placed at the top of tables; whereas, those for figures should be listed sequentially on a separate page that precedes the figures. Footnotes may be used sparingly for tables; although they are not permitted elsewhere in the manuscript. Figures containing histograms, pie charts, line graphs, etc. must have legible text when reduced to the width of one published column. Photographs may be in color or black and white. Figures should be high-resolution (~ 1 MB) .jpg files embedded at the end of the manuscript submitted for consideration.

## DISCUSSION

An ideal Discussion interprets the relevance of data presented in Results and is a logical conclusion to the Introduction. A discussion should present both sides of an argument and draw upon all relevant publications. Speculative statements that go beyond the scope of a given investigation are strongly discouraged. Still, authors should attempt to interpret results that exhibit no clear trend or that contradict their initial suppositions. Authors should indicate aspects of studies that would benefit from further research.

*Acknowledgments.*—These should appear in the last paragraph prior to the Literature Cited section. The section heading should be in italics and followed by a period and Em dash. Authors should acknowledge individuals and organizations that contributed materially or financially to the project. Also, colleagues that contributed to only one or two of the aforementioned phases of a research project should be acknowledged.

Please do not abbreviate first names. Authors should not acknowledge editorial staff or anonymous peer reviewers. Where applicable, Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) protocol and/or research permit numbers must be stated in the Acknowledgments.

## LITERATURE CITED

The citation formats presented below should be strictly adhered to; otherwise, authors demonstrate a lack of attention to detail and expose themselves to increased scrutiny by editors and peer-reviewers. Likewise, authors should verify that the Literature Cited section contains all in-text citations and vice-versa. Note that there should be only one space between elements of a given citation (e.g., between date and title, title and journal name). In citation titles, the first word following a colon should only be capitalized if it begins a complete sentence.

Conference abstracts and submitted manuscripts that are not yet accepted should not be cited. Personal communications, as well as unpublished and non peer-reviewed reports, should be cited sparingly in running text rather than be included within the Literature Cited section (e.g., David Germano, pers. comm.; Patrick Gregory, pers. obs.; Raymond Saumure et al., unpubl. report; Brian Cypher, unpubl. data). Authors may not cite their own unpublished reports; rather, they are encouraged to summarize the information or place it within an appendix. Websites are to be cited sparingly in running text using the following format: (IUCN, Conservation International, and NatureServe. 2006. Global Amphibian Assessment. Available from <http://www.globalamphibians.org> [Accessed 22 December 2007]). If a particular website is cited more than once, please abbreviate to (IUCN, Conservation International, and NatureServe. 2006. *op. cit.*) for all subsequent citations.

Do not abbreviate journal names; spell out completely. Please note the use of en-dashes without adjacent spaces to separate numerals, whether the numerals represent statistics or a range of page numbers. As done in text, capitalize all specific common names in citations. If a citation has more than 10 authors, write out the first 10 names and then use et al.

**Tables and Figures.**—Authors should create tables using the Tables function in MSWord. Authors should submit low-resolution ( $\leq 200$  kb) figures/images in .jpg format imbedded within the MSWord manuscript submitted for consideration. Illustrations in color are accepted at no cost to the author(s). Electronic manipulations and/or enhancement to original digital photographs must be disclosed in the figure title. Photographic data must also include the photographer's name, which should be listed as: (Photographed by John Behler).

**Author(s) Biosketch and Photograph.**—Please submit a photograph of the author(s) and a brief accompanying biography at time of initial submission. As with all photographs, give the full name of the photographer and place this parenthetically after the biosketch: (Photographed by David Germano).

**Appendices.**—If appendices are  $> 1$  page, then author biographies should precede the appendices. If, however, the appendices are  $\leq 1$  page, then author biographies should follow them. Appendices may include a variety of additional data:

- (1) Large data sets;
- (2) Sensitive locality data (password protected);
- (3) Translation of manuscript in a language other than English; and
- (4) Additional illustrations (e.g., photographs, x-rays, and/or maps).

## Citation Formats

### Journal article:

- Germano, D.J., G.B. Rathbun, L.R. Saslaw, B.L. Cypher, E.A. Cypher, and L.M. Vredenburg. 2011. The San Joaquin Desert of California: ecologically misunderstood and overlooked. *Natural Areas Journal* 31:138–147.
- Grinnell, J. 1932. Habitat relations of the Giant Kangaroo Rat. *Journal of Mammalogy* 13:305–320.
- McCallum, M.L., and S.E. Trauth. 2000. Curly-tail malformity in hatchlings of the Alligator Snapping Turtle, *Macroclemys temminckii* (Testudines: Chelydridae), from northeastern Arkansas. *Journal of the Arkansas Academy of Science* 54:150–152.
- Mitchell, A.M., T.I. Wellicome, D. Brodie, and K.M. Cheng. 2011. Captive-reared Burrowing Owls show higher site-affinity, survival, and reproductive performance when reintroduced using a soft-release. *Biological Conservation* 144:1382–1391.

### Book:

- Gibbons, J.W. (Ed.). 1990. *Life History and Ecology of the Slider Turtle*. Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington, D.C.
- Minnich, R.A. 2008. *California's Fading Wildflowers: Lost Legacy and Biological Invasions*. University of California Press, Berkeley, California.
- Sokal, R.R., and F.J. Rohlf. 1995. *Biometry: The Principles and Practices of Statistics in Biological Research*. 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition. W.H. Freeman and Company, New York, New York.

### Book Chapter:

- Germano, D.J., F.H. Pough, D.J. Morafka, E.M. Smith, and M.J. Demlong. 2002. Growth of Desert Tortoises: implications for conservation and management. Pp. 265–288 *in* *The Sonoran Desert Tortoise. Natural History, Biology, and Conservation*. Van Devender, T.R. (Ed.). University of Arizona Press, Tucson, Arizona.
- D'Antonio, C.M., C. Malmstrom, S.A. Reynolds, and J. Gerlach. 2007. Ecology of invasive non-native species in California grassland. Pp. 67–83 *in* *California Grasslands: Ecology and Management*. Stromberg, M.R., J.D. Corbin, and C.M. D'Antonio (Ed.). University of California Press, Berkeley, California.
- MacMahon, J.A., and F.H. Wagner. 1985. The Mojave, Sonoran and Chihuahuan Deserts of North America. Pp. 105–202 *in* *Hot Deserts and Arid Shrublands*. Evenari, M., I. Noy-Meir, and D. W. Goodall (Ed.). Elsevier Scientific Publishers B. V., Amsterdam, Netherlands.

### Thesis or Dissertation:

- Bjorndal, K.A. 1979. Nutrition and Grazing Behavior of the Green Turtle, *Chelonia mydas*, a Seagrass Herbivore. Ph.D. Dissertation, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida. 73 p.
- Tennant, E.N. 2011. Conservation of Tipton Kangaroo Rats (*Dipodomys nitratoides nitratoides*): Effects of Competition and Potential for Translocation. M.S. Thesis, California State University, Bakersfield, California. 84 p.

**Published Report/Serial:**

Crother, B.I., J. Boundy, F.T. Burbrink, J.A. Campbell, K. de Queiroz, D. Frost, R. Highton, J.B. Iverson, F. Kraus, R.W. McDiarmid, et al. 2008. Scientific and Standard English Names of Amphibians and Reptiles of North America North of Mexico, With Comments Regarding Confidence in Our Understanding. 6<sup>th</sup> Edition. SSAR Herpetological Circular 37. 84 p.

Schmidley, D.J. 1977. Factors governing the distribution of mammals in the Chihuahuan Desert. Pp. 163–192 *in* Transactions of the Symposium on the Biological Resources of the Chihuahuan Desert Region – United States and Mexico. Wauer, R.H. and D.H. Riskind (Ed.). USDI, National Park Service, Transactions and Proceedings Series, No. 3.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 1986. Recovery Plan for the Pacific Bald Eagle. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Portland, Oregon. 160 p.

**In Press:**

Steen, D.A., M.J. Aresco, S.G. Beilke, B.W. Compton, E.P. Condon, C.K. Dodd, Jr., H. Forrester, J.W. Gibbons, J.L. Greene, G. Johnson, et al. In press. Relative vulnerability of female turtles to road mortality. *Animal Conservation*.

Please contact an Editor concerning submission guidelines for Appendices.