

## INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

*Marine Ornithology* is published by the Pacific Seabird Group on behalf of a consortium of seabird groups: African, Australasian, Dutch, Japanese, and Pacific. The journal publishes contributed papers, forum articles (papers on topics of general interest that express a particular viewpoint and may be solicited), and reviews of books, websites, and software on all aspects of marine ornithology worldwide. Review papers or Commentaries (i.e., short articles contributing new perspectives on existing publications) on important or emerging topics in marine ornithology are encouraged. Contributions dealing with coastal or inland seabirds such as gulls, terns, cormorants, and pelicans will also be considered.

Since 2000, *Marine Ornithology* has been published both in hard copy and in electronic format on the *Marine Ornithology* website (MarineOrnithology.org). There is no charge for viewing or downloading papers posted by *Marine Ornithology*. They can be freely distributed and archived under Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License (CC BY-SA).

Authors do not have to be members of the sponsoring seabird groups. All contributions (except for book reviews) are submitted to at least two referees. If revised manuscripts are not received by the editor within four months of author's receipt of editorial and referees' reports, they will be treated as new submissions.

### Requirement for original publication:

Contributions must contain original work that was conducted by the author(s). Work must not be published or be under consideration for publication elsewhere. Previous publication as part of a thesis, dissertation, or conference presentation (oral presentation or poster) is acceptable, as is the publication of an abstract. Theses or manuscripts appearing on pre-print servers such as BioRxiv are not considered to be publications.

### Language:

All contributions must be in English, but may use spelling of any English-speaking country, such as British or US spelling; however, the system used should be consistent throughout the paper.

### Submission:

Submissions must be sent as attachments to e-mails that include the title of the paper and the name(s) of the author(s). The text, figures, and tables must be in a single MSWord file (.docx preferred to .doc) with all lines numbered sequentially from start to finish. Tables must be numbered in the order in which they are to appear, each on a separate page (see **Tables**, below). Each figure should also be on a separate page (see **Figures**, below). Please pay careful attention to the structure and format requirements, below. **Papers that do not conform to these requirements may be returned to the author.**

Submissions must be accompanied by a cover letter that includes a brief statement of the objective of the submitted paper and why it is suitable for *Marine Ornithology*. The cover letter should confirm that

- the manuscript is an original submission that has not been previously published and is not being submitted for publication elsewhere at the time of submission,
- it is the work of the authors listed, and
- all authors agree to the submission.

Sources of support and funding for the research should be mentioned and the contributions of each author listed. Cover letters must also include the names and email addresses of three suggested reviewers. At least one reviewer should possess regional knowledge appropriate to the study area.

### Submission length:

*Marine Ornithology* generally considers submissions up to 30 manuscript pages in length (approximately 7500 words, excluding references). Submissions longer than 30 pages should be accompanied by a justification for the length and may be returned with a request to shorten. Supplementary information may exceed this length limit and be submitted as separate files to be posted online (see **Appendices**).

### Ethics statement:

Methods sections for papers reporting on field studies or studies handling live birds or eggs must include an ethics statement confirming institutional approval (with the name of the institution), permit numbers, and animal care committee certification, as applicable.

### Manuscript structure and format:

Title: All uppercase letters, centred.

Authors: All caps, centred, each followed by a superscript number indicating affiliation and address.

Author addresses: Separate from names, with one address per line in italic font, beginning with the superscript number corresponding to the author. Please include the e-mail address for corresponding author only, in brackets (with an asterisk if there are multiple authors with the same affiliation).

Abstract: The abstract includes the centred heading "ABSTRACT" followed by the citation of the article in reference format, the text of abstract (maximum 300 words for submissions of > 2000 words), and five to seven key words. Short submissions (< 2000 words) should include an abstract of 100 words or fewer. Abstracts do not include tables, figures, or citations. Authors may supply a translation of the abstract in another language, to be published after the English-language version.

Numbers: Write out one to nine and first to ninth; use numerals for 10 and 10th and above. Thousands are indicated by a space (SI format) and decimals by a period (e.g., 18 803.72). Numerals are used before units (e.g., 345 km). For "greater than" and "less than", the symbols > and < may be used.

**Units:** The International System of Units (SI) should be used, including standard SI symbols<sup>1</sup>; as exceptions, knots and nautical miles may be used. If non-SI units were measured, write out the non-SI unit (e.g., 15 hectares) and provide an SI conversion in parentheses (0.15 km<sup>2</sup>) at first mention of the unit. Compound units (e.g., km/h) can be indicated with a solidus or a negative exponent. Units should not be repeated for ranges of measures (e.g., 34–38 km), except for % and ‰ (e.g., 34%–38%, with no space between the digit and the unit symbol). Temperature must include a space before the degree symbol (34 °C).

**Geographic coordinates:** Geographic coordinates can be given in any recognized international system. For the degree, minute, second system, indicate locations as follows (note no spaces): 64°34'15"N, 052°34'32"W, using the symbols for degree, prime, and double prime available in MS Word.

**Statistics:** Statistics should be reported with an appropriate indicator of variance and significance. Statistical notation (e.g., *n*, *P*, *t*, *F*) should be italicized.

**Latin abbreviations:** Circa should be given as *ca.* while e.g. (*exempli gratia*, for example) and i.e. (*id est*, that is) are not italicized. The latter two abbreviations should be used judiciously as they are often unnecessary; they are followed by a comma in each case. Limit use of *cf.* to comparisons. For in-text references to works by more than two authors, *et al.* is italicized and followed by a period; it is not italicized in the reference list.

**Punctuation in lists:** In a list of more than two items, use a comma after every item (serial or Oxford comma, i.e., use a comma before “and” or “or” in a list in the body of the text). If one or more items in a list contain a comma, use semi-colons after every item.

**Dates:** For days of the year, use the format 02 February 2016; for months, September 2012; for year ranges, use an en-dash to indicate a range and write out years in full (e.g., 2012–2015). For a season that spans two calendar years, use a solidus and abbreviate second year (e.g., 2012/13 austral summer).

**Stable isotopes:** Notation should follow the Commission on Isotopic Abundances and Atomic Weights (CIAAW) of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) guidelines and recommendations. These are summarized for biological sciences in Bond & Hobson (2012)<sup>2</sup> and the related erratum.<sup>3</sup>

**Citations:** Text citations are in date order and separated by commas (e.g., Gandalf 1601, Baggins & Gamgee 1722, Morgoth *et al.* 1855). Note that *et al.* (italicized) is used for more than two authors.

**Section headings:** Left-aligned, all caps on first-level headings, sentence case on second- and third-level headings. Short manuscripts (< 2000 words) may have few or no headings if appropriate.

First-level: **METHODS**

Second-level: **Statistical analysis**

Third-level: *Multivariate methods*

Normal primary sections:

**INTRODUCTION, METHODS, (or STUDY AREA AND METHODS), RESULTS, DISCUSSION, CONCLUSIONS** (only where necessary to summarize discussion), **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, REFERENCES**

**Figures:**

Figures include charts, graphs, maps, and photographs. They should be submitted embedded at the end of a document as .jpg files. Once the submission is accepted, high-resolution images will be requested to ensure high-quality reproduction. We welcome colour figures. These will appear in colour on the website but will be black and white for the printed edition unless the additional charge is paid (see **Page charges**, below). Photographs should be of high contrast and submitted as high-resolution digital files. **We encourage the submission of relevant, optional black-and-white photographs** that can be used as space fillers, if the opportunity arises.

**Captions:**

Captions for figures must be listed together on a separate page, numbered in the order in which they are mentioned in the manuscript. Figure captions begin with bold letters denoting the figure number (e.g., **Fig. 1.**) and subdivisions of figures should be labelled using uppercase letters (e.g., A, B, etc.).

**Tables:**

Tables typically present summary data or outcomes of analyses. Full data sets, unless they are small, should be presented as online appendices rather than as tables in the manuscript. Tables should be designed so that they will fit on a single page of the journal in the normal portrait orientation. Tables are numbered in sequence of their mention in the text and “TABLE 1” is indicated centered, all caps, on a separate line preceding the title. Titles should be brief and descriptive of the overall content. Variables appearing in the table headings or left-hand column, as well as units and significance levels, should not be part of the table title. All information needed to understand the content of cells should appear in the table headings and left-hand column, including units and variables. Spanner headings are a useful way to indicate information common to more than one column. Rows spanning the columns can be used in the table field to indicate divisions in the table by categories. Data should be arranged so that columns generally present comparable amounts. As noted, footnotes to the table should be indicated by superscripted lowercase letters (a, b, c, etc.) on the title or at an appropriate place in the field, and they should be defined below the table. Footnotes should be in order of appearance

<sup>1</sup> TAYLOR, B.N. & THOMPSON, A. (Eds.) 2008. *The International System of Units*. National Institute of Standards and Technology Special Publication 330. Gaithersburg, USA: National Institute of Standards and Technology, US Department of Commerce.

<sup>2</sup> BOND, A.L. & HOBSON, K.A. 2012. Reporting stable-isotope ratios in ecology: Recommended terminology, guidelines and best practices. *Waterbirds* 35(2): 324–331. doi:10.1675/063.035.0213

<sup>3</sup> BOND, A.L. & HOBSON, K.A. 2012. Authors' Erratum. *Waterbirds* 35(3). doi:10.1675/063.035.0318

in the table (from left to right, top to bottom.) Footnotes are useful for indicating significance level, exceptions, methodological details, etc.

### Appendices:

Additional information, including large tables and data sets, may be published as appendices. Appendices are published on the Marine Ornithology website only, with a link from the article's webpage. The author's unedited file is converted to .pdf format for online publication. Multiple figures and tables (denoted Fig./Table A1, A2, etc.) may be included in a single appendix file. References cited in an appendix only are to be listed in the appendix file, rather than in the main paper. Appendices should be numbered in order of their mention in the manuscript (e.g., "Appendix 1, available online"). The appendix number (e.g., "Appendix 1") should be indicated at the beginning of each file. Appendices will not be edited; they will be posted online as submitted, with a header and footer linking it to the paper.

### References:

References should be listed at the end of the paper in alphabetical order of the first author's name. Authors should ensure that they are written in the style used in *Marine Ornithology*. Use in-text references judiciously. Only one or two citations are necessary to support well-established concepts, such as the use of seabirds as ecological indicators or the effects of introduced predators on seabird populations; more may be required in a Discussion to support an author's particular interpretation of results. Please note if references are unpublished or in press.

For author lists with more than six authors, indicate the first three, followed by "ET AL." (not italicized).

#### Journals:

FÉRET, J.-B. & ASNER, G.P. 2014. Microtopographic controls on lowland Amazonian canopy diversity from imaging spectroscopy. *Ecological Applications* 24(6): 1297–1310. doi:10.1890/13-1896.1

HAMMOND, R.L., CRAMPTON, L.H. & FOSTER, J.T. 2015. Breeding biology of two endangered forest birds on the island of Kauai, Hawaii. *The Condor* 117(1): 31–40. doi:10.1650/CONDOR-14-75.1

HUNT, G.L., JR. & HUNT, M.W. 1975. Reproductive ecology of the Western Gull: The importance of nest spacing. *The Auk* 92(2): 270–279. doi:10.2307/4084556

All journal names are written out in full and italicized. Please use a digital object identifier (doi) whenever available. A doi is persistent and is normally available on the first page of a journal article.

#### Books:

Book titles are written in title case.

CAMPBELL, R.W., DAWE, N.K., MCTAGGART-COWAN, I., COOPER, J.M., KAISER, G.W. & MCNALL, M.C.E. 1990. *The Birds of British Columbia*. Vol. 1 - Nonpasserines (Introduction, Loons Through Waterfowl). Victoria, Canada: Royal British Columbia Museum.

#### Chapter or section of book:

Chapter titles are written in sentence case.

CLOBERT, J. & LEBRETON, J.-D. 1991. Estimation of demographic parameters in bird populations. In: PERRINS, C.M., LEBRETON, J.-D. & HIRONS, G.J.M. (Eds.) *Bird Population Studies: Relevance to Conservation and Management*. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.

#### Reports:

Reports are referenced like book sections, but include report numbers and/or series information, along with the institution as the publisher. If there is no named author, the institution is also the author.

KINLAN, B.P., ZIPKIN, E.F., O'CONNELL, A.F. & CALDOW, C. 2012. *Statistical analyses to support guidelines for marine avian sampling: Final report*. OCS Study BOEM 2012-101. NOAA Technical Memorandum NOS NCCOS 158. Herndon, USA: US Department of the Interior, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Office of Renewable Energy Programs.

#### Electronic resources:

Such resources include software and databases; they are similar to books but with the addition of online information and doi, if available.

HIJMAN, R.J. 2021. *raster: Geographic Data Analysis and Modeling*. R package Version 3.4-13. [Manual accessed at <https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=raster> on 24 February 2024.]

R DEVELOPMENT CORE TEAM 2018. *R: A Language and Environment for Statistical Computing*. Vienna, Austria: The R Foundation for Statistical Computing.

STRICKLAND, D. & OUELLET, H. 2011. Canada Jay (*Perisoreus canadensis*), version 2.1. In: POOLE, A. (Ed.) *The Birds of North America Online*. Ithaca, USA: Cornell Lab of Ornithology. [Accessed at <http://bna.birds.cornell.edu/bna/species/040> on 28 May 2015.] doi:10.2173/bna.gryjay.02.1

#### Webpage:

This example has no author and no date of publication of the page (as is often the case with websites), so the page title is used in the in-text citation and to order the reference. An access date is added to indicate when the author last checked the website.

*Threats to birds*. n.d. Carlton, Australia: BirdLife Australia. [Accessed at <http://birdlife.org.au/conservation/science/threats-to-birds> on 06 September 2015.]

#### Thesis:

DAVIS, M.B. 1999. *Reproductive Success, Status and Viability of American Oystercatcher (Haematopus palliatus)*. MSc thesis. Raleigh, USA: North Carolina State University.

**Species names:**

On first mention in the abstract and in the body of the manuscript, species should be given by English-language common name directly followed by scientific name (no parentheses or comma), e.g., Sooty Shearwater *Ardenna griseus*. Species names should follow the latest edition of the IOC World Bird List (<http://www.worldbirdnames.org/ioc-lists/crossref/>). If another international source is used, it must be named in the Methods, particularly for species where taxonomy is currently in flux. English names of species should be capitalized (e.g., White-chinned Petrel) but not the name of a group of species (e.g., petrels). Scientific names of genera and species—but not family names—should be italicized. Trinomials should be used only when accurately known and essential to the text. After first mention, only the English common name need be used. English names for flora and fauna other than birds are not capitalized, as there is no internationally accepted list of common names.

**After acceptance:**

Upon acceptance, the technical editors will apply house style while copy-editing the manuscript. The edited manuscript, followed by page proofs, will be sent to the corresponding author and must be carefully checked and returned within five days of receipt. Because papers are available for download from the website free of charge, reprints are not supplied.

**Page charges:**

All prices are given in US dollars. A contribution of \$50 per printed page for papers and short communications accepted is requested

from authors who have institutional funds or grants that cover publication costs. If pages are printed in colour, a non-waivable charge of \$120/page is required (no charge is levied for colour figures published online). If the contributor is already paying the \$50 page charge, colour will be included for an extra \$70/page. Additional charges may be requested if figures must be redrawn. **Please discuss any requests to waive page charges with the Editor-in-Chief *before* the accepted manuscript is sent to the technical editor.**

**All material, except book reviews, should be submitted to:**

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([erlwagne@gmail.com](mailto:erlwagne@gmail.com))

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