

INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS

Ela Journal of Forestry and Wildlife (EJFW) invites original research articles in the field of Ecology, Natural History, Biodiversity, Ethno-biology, Bio-acoustics, Conservation and related fields of biological research for publication.

Manuscript preparation

Language:

Only English language manuscripts are accepted. *EJFW* allows authors to choose either British or American English to be used consistently throughout the manuscript.

Types of contributions:

EJFW accepts manuscripts in following categories.

1. **Reviews:** Should provide an up to date examination of topics related to the aims of the journal. They should not just list a bibliographic summary of the topic but they should contain some analysis and expert opinion on the subject. If the topic is under debate both sides of the debate should be presented without keeping any personal bias.
2. **Research articles:** Should provide original work that is not published partially or as a whole in any other form. They should provide detailed introduction of the topic, detailed methodology and substantial results and discussion.
3. **Research notes:** Research notes are original findings that form a part of the bigger question in hand. They are not as extensive as a research article but contain all the components as that of the research articles.
4. **Checklists:** Manuscripts with extensive lists of species, both qualitative and quantitative, with minor component of analysis but primarily written to provided to species composition of an area will be considered as checklists.
5. **Natural history notes:** Short notes that contribute substantially to our knowledge on the natural history or ecology of a species will be considered as natural history notes.
6. **Popular articles:** Apart from rigorous scientific articles under different types of contributions, *EJFW* also accepts scientific popular articles written in semi-technical or non-technical language aimed at science education and dissemination. Popular articles should be written in easily understandable language and all the inevitable technical words should be explained in a separate box titled 'Glossary'. Popular articles section will also accommodate short notes, poems and observations along with good quality photographs of general interests. For example, observations on migratory birds, occurrence of an organism, observations on behavior of an organism, etc. So also photographs, illustrations, audio files, and video clips highlighting conservation or natural history topics, range extensions, etc. are welcome.

Manuscript layout:

Research articles and research notes should have following components/subheading. Natural history notes and checklist may have following components but the manuscript should be prepared as a continuous text and not divided in separate subheadings. Reviews may not follow the following format and can contain headings and subheadings as per the nature of the review and the subject in hand.

1. **Title page:** Should contain the following information.
 - a. **Title:** Concise title for the article that provides the gist of the manuscript. Scientific names of taxa should be accompanied with common names (if present), but should not be accompanied with the taxonomic status, authority and year. However, this information must be given in the text (including abstract) only where the scientific name is stated for the first time.

- b. Author name and affiliation: First and last names of all authors along with affiliation for each author. Corresponding author should be indicated by an asterisk and Email ID of the corresponding author should be provided along with detailed postal address.
- c. Key words: Maximum of ten words should be provided separated by a semicolon.
2. **Abstract:** Abstract should provide the background of the study and key points from methods, results and conclusion. It should not exceed 250 words.
3. **Introduction:** Should provide the background of the study with appropriate literature review along with the aim/hypothesis, importance and objectives of the study.
4. **Materials and Methods:** Should be provided in details. It should include the dates of study (if applicable), study area with latitude, longitude and altitude information and/or map, design of the study/experiment, details of computer packages (if any) and details of data analysis along with details of statistical analysis with citation of appropriate programs.
5. **Results:** All the results should be provided in details with appropriate information/data as tables, figures (Charts, Drawings, Photographs etc.) or appendix.
6. **Discussion:** This section can either be merged with the results section or be kept separately. Discussion should be confined to and based on the obtained results and should not provide unsubstantiated claims.
7. **Acknowledgment:** A brief acknowledgment with details of funding agencies supporting the work (if any) should be provided.
8. **Author Contributions:** The details of contribution of work by each author should be given under one or more of the following heads:
 1. Original Idea
 2. Design of the study
 3. Survey and Data collection
 4. Laboratory Experimental work
 5. Data analysis
 6. Manuscript Preparation
9. **References:** All the references listed in the reference section should be cited in the text and/or tables, figures and appendix. In the text, references should be cited in surname and year format. Depending on the nature of sentence the citation can be provided as Pande (2003) or (Pande 2003) for references with single author, Pande and Dahanukar (2012) or (Pande and Dahanukar 2012) for references with two authors and Padhye et al. (2012) or (Padhye et al. 2012) for references with three and more authors. When providing multiple citations in parenthesis, use the format: (Pande 2003; Pande and Dahanukar 2010; Padhye et al. 2012; Pande et al. 2012a; 2012b).

All references cited in the text should be listed in the reference section in alphabetical order. Journal names should be expanded. For example, expand *JoTT* to *Journal of Threatened Taxa*. References should be listed in the following format:

Journal articles:

- Pande, S. and Dahanukar, N. (2011) Ecological effects on morphometric development of the Indian Eagle Owl *Bubo bengalensis*. *Journal of Threatened Taxa* 3(4): 1677-1685.
- Padhye, A., Shelke, S. and Dahanukar, N. (2012) Distribution and composition of butterfly species along the latitudinal and habitat gradients of the Western Ghats of India. *Check List* 8(6): 1196-1215.

Book:

- Pande, S., Tambe, S., Francis, C.M. and Sant, N. (2003) *Birds of Western Ghats, Konkan and Malabar (including birds of Goa)*. Oxford University Press, Pune, India, 375p.

Edited Book:

Molur, S., Smith, K.G., Daniel, B.A. and Darwall, W.R.T. (eds) (2011) *The status of freshwater biodiversity in the Western Ghats*. International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Gland, Switzerland & Zoo Outreach Organization (ZOO) Coimbatore, India. 116p.

Book Chapter:

Dahanukar, N., Raghavan, R., Ali, A., Abraham, R. and Shaji, C.P. (2011) The status and distribution of freshwater fishes of the Western Ghats. pp 21 -48. In: Molur, S., Smith, K.G., Daniel, B.A. and Darwall, W.R.T. (eds), *The status of freshwater biodiversity in the Western Ghats*. International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Gland, Switzerland & Zoo Outreach Organization (ZOO) Coimbatore, India. 116p.

Web resource:

Dahanukar, N. (2011) *Schismatorhynchus nukta*. In: IUCN 2012. IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2012.2. <www.iucnredlist.org>. Downloaded on 23 December 2012.

Thesis:

Pande, Satish (2011). Ecology of the Indian Eagle Owl *Bubo bengalensis* (Franklin) with emphasis on breeding and feeding habits. *PhD Thesis*. Department of Environmental Sciences, Science Faculty, University of Pune. Xii + 221pp + v.

10. **Tables:** Tables should be numbered in the order of their citation in the text. Table caption should be concise and should explain the abbreviations, if any.
11. **Figures:** Figures should be numbered in the order of their citation in the text. *EJFW* publishes color figures free of charge. Photographs should not contain watermarks, emboss, or other markings and should be at least 600dpi in JPG or TIF format. Captions for figures should be self explanatory and independent of the methods and results section.
12. **Appendices:** Any additional information/data that cannot form the part of the main text or tables should be provided as appendix.

Manuscripts should be 1.5 spaced, typed on A4 paper, in a WORD document. Times New Roman font should be used throughout with 12 points size. Footnotes should be avoided. All units of measurement should be in metric units. All pages should be numbered. All tables and figures should be embedded in the word document at the end of the Manuscript.

Submission details

Only electronic submissions are allowed as email attachment to the Editor at pande.satish@gmail.com. Covering letter should provide the details of all the files attached, number of tables, figures, audio files, video files and appendices.

If authors are using any copyrighted material, including text, figure or table, a written consent from the copyright holder should be attached along with the manuscript submission as a scanned copy.

Authors from institutions with formalities should submit the manuscripts through the 'Official channels'. Obtaining different permissions are authors' responsibility and *EJFW* will process the manuscripts with the faith that authors have taken all such permissions.

Covering letter should explicitly mention that the work presented in the manuscript is original and the manuscript as a whole or in parts is not considered for publication anywhere else. All authors should approve the manuscript before it is submitted to *EJFW*. It is advisable that authors provide names, addresses and working email ids of at least three experts on the subject who would be appropriate reviewers. Suggested reviewers should not be from the same organization or collaborators of one or more of the authors' of the manuscript.

Review process

All contributions to *EJFW* will be reviewed by at least two referees and/or a subject editor before being accepted for publication. Decision taken by the Chief Editor will be final.

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Statement on scientific conduct

EJFW believes in good scientific practices and submission of the article to the journal means that authors have followed scientific integrity in performing the research as well as preparing the manuscript. *EJFW* does not tolerate any kind of misconduct, including falsification, fabrication and plagiarism. Appropriate disciplinary measures will be taken regarding any article that does not follow scientific ethics. Perspective authors are advised to read following articles on the issues related to scientific conduct.

- Dahanukar, N. and Molur, S. (2012) Scientific conduct and misconduct: honesty is still the best policy. *Journal of Threatened Taxa* 4(9): 2845-2848.
- Errami, M. and Garner, H. (2008) A tale of two citations. *Nature* 451: 397–399.
- Handa, S. (2008) Plagiarism and publication ethics: Dos and don'ts. *Indian Journal of Dermatology, Venereology and Leprology* 74: 301–303
- Martinson, B.C., Anderson, M.S. and de Vries, R. (2005) Scientists behaving badly. *Nature* 435: 737–738.
- Rathod, S.D. (2010) Combating plagiarism: a shared responsibility. *Indian Journal of Medical Ethics* 7: 173–175.
- Resnik, D.B. (2003) From Baltimore to Bell Labs: reflections on two decades of debate about scientific misconduct. *Accountability in Research: Policies and Quality Assurance* 10(2): 123– 135.