

**JOURNAL OF WILDLIFE DISEASES
INFORMATION FOR AUTHORS AND REVIEWERS**

Contact details revised September 2020

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GENERAL INFORMATION

The Journal of Wildlife Diseases (JWD) is published quarterly by the Wildlife Disease Association (WDA). The WDA is an international organization of scientists, academicians, wildlife and fisheries specialists, and others whose mission is to acquire, disseminate, and apply knowledge of the health and diseases of wild animals in relation to their biology, conservation, and interactions with humans and domestic animals. For a listing of the JWD Editor, Assistant Editors, and Editorial Board see: <https://www.jwildlifedis.org/page/edboard>

The JWD publishes reports of wildlife disease investigations, research papers, brief research notes, case and epizootic reports, review articles, and book reviews. The JWD publishes the results of original research and observations dealing with all aspects of infectious, parasitic, toxic, nutritional, physiologic, developmental and neoplastic diseases, environmental contamination, and other factors impinging on the health and survival of free-living or occasionally captive populations of wild animals, including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals. Papers on zoonoses involving wildlife and on chemical immobilization of wild animals are also published. Manuscripts dealing with surveys and case reports may be published in the Journal provided that they contain significant new information or have significance for better understanding health and disease in wild populations. Authors are encouraged to address Conservation, wildlife management, or One Health implications of their studies, when appropriate.

Manuscripts should be submitted with the understanding that the information and ideas are original (with the exception of reviews), have not been published previously, and are not being considered for publication elsewhere. **Any overlap with publication of material in the ‘grey’ literature, such as internal reports of organisations, or conference presentations, including of preliminary findings, should be mentioned in the submission letter, and a copy of the material should be included as a Supplement with the submitted manuscript** Authors also affirm that, to the best of their knowledge, they have complied with all applicable treaties, laws, and regulations in the collection, maintenance, and disposal of animals used in their study. Authors of manuscripts that are not in the public domain must transfer full copyright interests to the WDA. Forms for this transfer are provided when proofs are sent to authors.

EDITORIAL AND ETHICAL POLICIES

The WDA serves the wildlife disease profession and society at large in several ways, including publication of the results of scientific research in JWD. The Editor of the Journal has the responsibility

to establish and maintain guidelines for selecting and accepting papers submitted to the Journal. These guidelines derive from the WDA's definition of the scope of the Journal and from the Editor's perception of standards of quality for scientific work and its presentation.

An essential feature of a profession is the acceptance by its members of a code that outlines professional behavior and specifies obligations of members to each other and to the public. This code stems from a desire to maximize the benefits to the wildlife disease profession and society at large, and to limit actions that serve self interests of individuals.

This set of ethical guidelines is presented for those involved in the publication of research in the JWD. These guidelines are offered from a conviction that the observance of high ethical standards is so vital to the scientific enterprise that a definition of those standards should be brought to the attention of all concerned. Also, reaching a common understanding on the responsibilities of editors, authors, assistant editors, and manuscript reviewers, and on their expectations of each other, can help all parties work together more effectively in fulfilling the Journal's mission to the wildlife disease profession and the public.

Endangered Species and Humane Treatment of Animals

The JWD, as the primary publication of the WDA, subscribes to the rules, regulations, and laws as established by national and international agencies of all countries represented by WDA membership.

ETHICAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF AUTHORS

The responsibilities outlined for authors and reviewers are reprinted in large part with permission from "Ethical Guidelines to Publication of Chemical Research," Chemical Reviews 95: pp. 11A-13A (1995). Copyright 1985, 1989, 1995 American Chemical Society.

1. The ultimate responsibility for all material published in the manuscript lies with the authors. An author is obligated to present an accurate account of the research performed and an objective discussion of its significance. All work must be free of plagiarism, falsification, fabrications, or omission of significant material.
2. Because Journal space is limited and costly, an author has an obligation to use it wisely and economically.
3. A primary research report should contain sufficient detail and reference to public sources of information to permit the evaluation and repetition of the study by skilled workers.
4. An author should cite those publications that have been influential in determining the nature of the reported work and that will guide the reader quickly to the earlier work that is essential for understanding the present investigation. Conflicting evidence from the work of others should be included to help readers judge the soundness of the conclusions presented in the manuscript. Except in a review, citation of work that is not essential to building a foundation or interpreting the reported research should be avoided.
5. Any previously unrecognized and unusual hazards identified in an investigation should be clearly noted in a manuscript in which that work is reported.
6. **Authors are responsible to be aware of, and adhere to, all laws, treaties, and regulations currently applying to their work. This includes the review and approval of the research protocol by an institutional animal care and use committee, where applicable, and the acquisition of all appropriate permits.**
7. **Fragmentation of research reports should be avoided.** A scientist who has done extensive work on a system or group of related systems should organize the publications so that each report gives a well-rounded account of a particular aspect of the general study. Fragmentation excessively ~~consumes Journal space and unduly complicates literature searches. The convenience of readers is~~

- served if reports on related studies are published in the same journal, or a small number of journals.
8. Research findings should not be presented as original material in more than one scientific publication. **It is inappropriate for an author to submit manuscripts describing essentially the same research to more than one journal, except for the resubmission of a manuscript rejected by, or withdrawn from, another journal.**
 9. **In submitting a manuscript for publication, an author should inform the editor of related manuscripts that the author has under editorial consideration or in press. The relationships of such manuscripts to the one submitted should be clarified, and copies of the related manuscripts should be included with the manuscript submission.**
 10. An author should identify the source of all information quoted or offered, except that which is common knowledge. Information obtained privately, as in conversation, correspondence, or discussion with third parties, should not be used or reported in the author's work without explicit permission from the investigator with whom the information originated, usually by a personal communication. Information obtained in the course of professional services, such as reviewing manuscripts or grant applications, should also be treated as confidential.
 11. Strong criticism of the work of another scientist may be given. However, in no case is sarcasm or criticism of a personal nature appropriate. Authors of a criticized work will have the opportunity to respond.
 12. **Coauthors of a paper should be only those persons who have made significant scientific contributions to the work reported and who share responsibility and accountability for the results.** Other contributions should be indicated in the Acknowledgments section. Deceased persons who meet the criterion for inclusion as coauthors should be so included, with a footnote indicating their death. No fictitious name should be included as an author or coauthor. The author who submits a manuscript for publication accepts the responsibility of having included as coauthors all persons appropriate and none inappropriate. Prior to submission of the manuscript, the corresponding author should have sent each coauthor a draft copy of the manuscript and obtained assent to coauthorship from each coauthor. Manuscripts submitted to JWD that have not been approved by all authors may be rejected without review.
 13. All funding sources should be identified in the manuscript. **Authors should disclose to the Editor any potential conflict of interests, such as consulting or financial interest in a company that might be affected by publication of the results contained in a manuscript.** Authors should ensure that no contractual relations or proprietary considerations exist that would affect the publication of information in a submitted manuscript.
 14. When appropriate, representative biological material should be deposited in a nationally or internationally recognized professional museum. Accession numbers should be reported in the manuscript.

ETHICAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF REVIEWERS

1. A Reviewer should submit a report in a timely manner. If circumstances preclude prompt attention to a manuscript, the Reviewer should decline the request to review. Alternatively, the Reviewer should notify the Assistant Editor (AE) or Editor of probable delays and propose a revised completion date for the review.
2. A Reviewer who feels inadequately qualified to judge the research reported in a manuscript should promptly notify the AE (or Editor) with a brief explanation.
3. A Reviewer should judge objectively the quality of the manuscript, its experimental and theoretical work, and its interpretations and its exposition, with regard to the maintenance of high scientific and literary standards. A Reviewer should respect the intellectual independence of the Authors.
4. A Reviewer should be sensitive to the potential for a conflict of interest when the manuscript under review is closely related to the Reviewer's work in progress or published. If in doubt, the Reviewer

should promptly advise the AE (or Editor). Alternatively, the Reviewer may furnish a review stating the Reviewer's interest in the work, with the understanding that it may, at the Editor's discretion, be transmitted to the Author.

5. A Reviewer should decline to evaluate a manuscript authored or coauthored by a person with whom the reviewer has a personal or professional connection if the relationship would bias judgment of the manuscript.
6. A Reviewer should decline to evaluate a manuscript if the Reviewer may experience a possible financial gain or loss with publication of that manuscript if this financial connection would bias judgment of the manuscript.
7. A Reviewer should treat each manuscript received as a confidential document. It should neither be shown to nor discussed with others except, in special cases, persons from whom specific advice is being sought; in that event, the identities of those consulted should be disclosed to the AE or Editor.
8. Reviewers should explain and support their judgments adequately so that AE, the Editor, and Authors may understand the reasons for their comments. Any statement that an observation, derivation, or argument in the manuscript was reported previously should be accompanied by the relevant citation. Unsupported assertions by Reviewers (or by Authors in rebuttal) should be avoided.
9. A Reviewer should comment if the authors fail to cite relevant work by other scientists.
10. A Reviewer should call to the AE's attention any substantial similarity between the manuscript under consideration and any published paper or any manuscript submitted concurrently to another journal.
11. Although not specifically encouraged, Reviewers may divulge their identity to the authors.
12. Reviewers should not use or disclose unpublished information, arguments, or interpretations contained in a manuscript under consideration. However, if this information provides evidence that some of the Reviewer's work is unlikely to be productive; the Reviewer ethically could discontinue the work.
13. Reviewers should contact the Editor, JWD if they have questions concerning manuscripts that may report dual use research of concern (<http://oba.od.nih.gov/biosecurity/biosecurity.html>).
14. Flaws in a study sometime may justify strong criticism of the work of an Author. However, in no case is sarcasm or criticism of a personal nature appropriate.

PEER REVIEW

Acceptance and publication of a manuscript is based on scientific merit as determined by stringent peer review. The criteria and standards for publication are outlined in [Instructions to Reviewers](#), below.

Manuscripts submitted to JWD generally receive two or more evaluations from external reviewers and an Assistant Editor (AE). Final selection of reviewers will be determined by the editorial staff; however, authors should provide the editorial staff with a list of four to five potential unbiased reviewers, who are experts in the subject area. Include their affiliations, and email addresses. Although the review process for most manuscripts is handled through AEs, all correspondence is through the office of the Editor. If you have questions during the preparation of a manuscript please contact the Editorial office at JWDWDA@peertrack.net.

Prior or Duplicate Publication

In the cover letter accompanying the manuscript, **the author should make a full statement to the Editor about all submissions and previous reports that might be regarded as prior or duplicate publication of the same or very similar work, including conference proceedings, internal reports or newsletters of organisations and other 'grey' literature.** Copies of such material should be included with the submitted paper as Word or PDF files uploaded to PeerTrack as supplemental

information files. We do not consider deposition of raw data in online data repositories ‘previous publication’ of data, and doing so does not preclude publication in the Journal. However, analyses and interpretation of data presented elsewhere could preclude comparable presentation in JWD.

Transfer of Copyright

At the time of first revisions in PeerTrack, the *Journal* requires a signed Copyright Transfer Agreement (CTA) from one author (usually the corresponding author) to be uploaded into PeerTrack, with the understanding that all authors have seen and agree to the contents of the manuscript. If the revision is rejected at any point before publication, the signed agreement is voided by the *Journal*.

CATEGORIES OF PAPERS PUBLISHED

Full-Length Manuscripts

Manuscripts that report novel results from completed quantitative or qualitative research studies and illustrate important advances in the field of wildlife diseases are published as Full-length manuscripts. Full-length manuscripts are ≤ 4000 words of text (Introduction through Discussion). The first page should be a title page containing a Running Head (< 75 characters including spaces) consisting of author’s last name (or first author plus “et al.”) and an abbreviated title; the full title; the authors' names; each author’s affiliation with **complete** mailing address (including zip code/post code); and the name and email address of the corresponding author (see a recent issue for format). Provide the word count at the bottom of the title page. The next pages should contain (in the following order): The Abstract (≤ 300 words), four to eight Key Words (or phrases) in alphabetical order, Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, Acknowledgments, Literature Cited, tables (each table on a separate page), and Figure Legends (also on one [or more if needed] separate page). Figures and images should be submitted as separate files (see below).

Short Communications

Shorter manuscripts that report completed studies that are narrower in scope than those described in Full-length manuscripts are published as Short Communications. Methodological or descriptive studies that represent significant contributions to the literature may also be considered as Short Communications. These are ≤ 2000 words, including the Literature Cited but not including the title page, abstract, or acknowledgements. The first (title) page should have a Running Head entitled "Short Communications," the full title, the authors' names, affiliations, and complete mailing addresses, and the name, address, phone number, and email address of the corresponding author. Provide the word count at the bottom of the title page. The next page should contain: an Abstract (≤ 225 words), 4-8 Key Words (or phrases) in alphabetical order, and then continue right on with the main body of the paper without subheadings, Literature Cited, Tables (each table on a separate page) and Figure Legends. Figures and images should be submitted as separate files (see below).

Letters

Two categories of letters are published in JWD:

1. *Long letters* are brief notes and case reports that describe novel findings that contribute significantly to understanding of wildlife diseases within scope for the Journal. Limited to 1000 words of text plus a 50-word abstract, 15 references, and 2 tables or figures or 1 of each. Title and authors follow Short Communication style.
2. *Short letters* provide commentary on other articles in JW. Restricted to 500 words and 7 references and have no abstract.

Key words are not provided in Letters. The first (title) page should have a Running Heading entitled

"Letters," the full title, the authors' names, affiliations, and complete mailing addresses, and the name, address, phone and fax numbers, and email address of the corresponding author following Short Communication format. Provide the word count at the bottom of the title page.

Reviews

Reviews are on current topics relevant to JWD readership that provide a critical review and synthesis of the literature (NOT simply a restatement of what is available in the literature), and include discussion of important gaps in knowledge in the subject area. Although reviews are generally solicited by the Editor, authors interested in publishing a review are encouraged to contact the Editor, JWD (email: editor@wildlifedisease.org). Reviews may be longer than a regular article (>4000 words).

Book Reviews

Book reviews, limited to approximately 1200 words, are managed by the JWD Book Review Editor, Charles Rupprecht. To request that a book be reviewed or to offer to review a book, please contact the Editorial Office JWDWDA@peertrack.net.

Normal Hematology and Biochemistry

Articles presenting normal hematology and biochemistry values will be considered as letters (routine normal values) or short communications (studies involving multiple species, examining temporal or spatial trends, or comparing between normal and diseased populations). In addition to adhering to word limits of letters and short communications (see above), these papers should adhere to the following guidelines (headings in italics are provided for organization and should NOT be added to manuscript).

Introduction: Not to exceed 200 words. State what is known about normal values on the species being examined or on closely related species, and the purpose of the study.

Methods: Provide the following concerning sampling and collection: Health status of animals; month, year, and time of day of sampling; age, sex, and location of animals; number of animals immobilized; drugs used for sedation; time from immobilization to sample collection; parameters monitored (e.g., body temperature, respiration rate); how blood was collected and from what anatomic location. For biochemistries, provide make and model of biochemistry analyzer; whether plasma (citrate, EDTA, heparin) or serum was used; how and for how long samples were stored prior to centrifugation; how and for how long serum was stored before analysis. For hematology, state whether differentials were done manually or automatically (if latter, indicate make and model of machine). For total cell counts, indicate method (e.g. Unopette, Natt & Herricks) and number of samples stored prior to processing and for how long.

Results: Should consist of one table for hematology and one table for biochemistry values. Values for differentials should be expressed as $10^3/\mu\text{L}$ in cases where total white cell count is available or % when not. Values for biochemistry should be expressed in SI units. All values in table should have mean, range, SE, and n. If applicable, add a column of other published values from same or closely related (same genus) species.

Discussion: Not to exceed 200 words and should state: These values can be compared with the following species or added to table (with appropriate citations) or differences found between or among populations and differences in spatial/temporal trends. If appropriate, provide statement regarding how findings might impact investigations of wild populations.

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH COMPLIANCE GUIDELINES

The Journal of Wildlife Diseases supports the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Public Access policy. Authors should visit the NIH website to determine if their manuscripts meet the NIH requirements. Using the [NIH Manuscript Submission System](#), the accepted manuscript should be submitted by the

lead author to [PubMed Central](#). The accepted manuscript is the version of the manuscript that has been accepted prior to editing, image quality control, and production and should include the published paper's full reference citation (including DOI). Public release of NIH-funded research will be allowed by the Journal of Wildlife Diseases 12 months after the manuscript is accepted for publication, and as such, during the process of submission, the author should designate 12 months as the release date to the public.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE EDITING

Prior to submission, authors who believe their manuscripts would benefit from professional editing are encouraged to use a language-editing service. Some services available are listed [here](#). The Journal of Wildlife Diseases does not take responsibility for or endorse these services; use of an English-language editing service is not mandatory and will not guarantee acceptance or preference for publication, however it may minimize delays in the editing process by increasing the effectiveness of the manuscript. The authors assume financial responsibilities of utilizing professional editing services.

SUBMISSION OF MANUSCRIPTS

How to submit your manuscript to JWD for consideration for publication

PeerTrack (also known as Editorial Manager) is the online manuscript tracking system provided by our publisher, Allen Press. Using this system, all aspects of the manuscript review process are carried out online. Online submission is required, except in special circumstances. **To submit an article, please go to <https://www.editorialmanager.com/jwd/default.aspx>**

File Formats

Electronic text files should be submitted as Microsoft (MS) Word files. Tables should be prepared using the Table function of MS Word and included in the manuscript text file. Do not upload text files in PDF format. Each manuscript should have >25 mm margins all around and be typed in 12-point font (Times New Roman, Courier, or Arial preferred). Lines of type should be justified left with ragged right margins and contain no end-of-line hyphens. Double space all parts of the manuscript, including the title page, Literature Cited, and Tables. Preferably use the American form of English for spelling. Number all pages in the upper right corner, starting with the title page. Please provide continuous line numbers if possible (available as a setting in e.g. Word).

Author Charges and Payment for Publication

See: [Author Charges](#)

Open Access

Online access to manuscripts published in the Journal of Wildlife Diseases is available only to members of the Wildlife Disease Association for the first 18 months following publication. Authors may choose to avoid this embargo period for their manuscripts by choosing the Open Access option when they submit their manuscript and specifying the same in their cover letter to the Editor. Authors who choose the Open Access option will be billed an additional \$1,000 (for WDA members) and \$1,500 (for nonmembers) when the manuscript is accepted. The manuscript will appear as open access at the time it is posted on the JWD website.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR MANUSCRIPT PREPARATION

In order to minimize delays, authors are urged to carefully read these instructions. Manuscripts will be returned if authors do not follow instructions for manuscript preparation. Only original papers written

in English will be accepted. All manuscripts must be free of plagiarism. The Journal of Wildlife Diseases is a member of [CrossCheck](#) and may screen manuscripts for potential plagiarism.

Cover letter

A cover letter to the Journal Editor should include the following:

- A declarative statement that the manuscript represents new information that has not been previously submitted or published elsewhere; **or an explanation of any previous publication (including grey literature such as internal reports or newsletters of organizations) or presentation of all or parts of the manuscript.**
- A declarative statement that all authors of the paper have read and approved the final version of the manuscript submitted and that all have made substantive contributions to the work.
- Specification of the type of manuscript that is being submitted.
- A description of how the information provided in the manuscript is original, new, timely, significant, and relevant to the readers of JWD.

Manuscript Components

Manuscripts should be composed of the following elements in the below order. Figures or images should be submitted as separate files.

Title Page

The first page should be a title page containing a Running Head. See description above in [Categories of Papers Published](#) for a detailed description of title pages by manuscript type (see a recent issue for format). To avoid delays, authors should ensure that the word count is within the limits specified for the manuscript type.

Abstract

Abstracts are unstructured. References are not cited and figure or table callouts not allowed. Provide inclusive dates of the study in the Abstract and main body of the text. The abstract and body of the text should provide a clear statement of the objective(s), such as the hypothesis tested or the question addressed. Abstracts should highlight new information made available as a result of the work being described. Provide the genus and species of each organism the first time it is given in the Abstract, and again in the text.

Keywords

Key words are included in Review, Full-length, and Short Communication articles. Four to eight key words should appear in alphabetical order, separated by commas.

Headers

Headers for Full-length articles include: Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, Acknowledgments, Literature Cited. There are no textual heads in Short Communications or Letters except for Literature Cited.

Acknowledgments

For Reviews, Full-length manuscripts, and Short communications, acknowledgments are placed at the end of the text before the Literature Cited in one indented paragraph. For Short Communications there is no "Acknowledgments" header. Grant and funding information appears in acknowledgments, omitting the number sign and abbreviation ("No."). Honorific titles such as Dr or Ms, and degrees (MD, PhD, etc.) are not included.

Literature Cited

The Literature Cited section of the manuscript should be prepared in appropriate Journal style. References in the body of the text follow the author–year style, with parenthetical entries in chronological, then alphabetical, order. Use BIOSIS journal abbreviations. Many university libraries provide online lists by discipline. In addition, authors may check the [Serials Source List for Biological Sciences](#) from Cambridge Scientific Abstracts.

- The authors should carefully check that all literature cited appears in the text, and vice versa.
- As a rule, use only one literature citation to make each point in the text; omit redundant citations; if multiple citations are required in the text, list them in chronological order, from oldest to most recent separated by semicolons.
- Meeting abstracts, unpublished materials, and non-peer reviewed materials generally are not acceptable as citable materials; **exceptions must be justified by the authors.**
- Theses and dissertations, state and federal documents intended for professional distribution, and *peer-reviewed* proceedings of meetings generally are acceptable citations.

Article in a journal:

Smith AB, Jones CD. 1994. Hepatitis of viral origin in Canidae: An etiologic hypotheses. *J Wildl Dis* 76:371–380

Smith AB, Jones CD, Garwin EF. 1995. An outbreak of cowpox in captive cheetahs: Virologic and epidemiologic studies. *J Hygiene* 89:72–79.

Chapter in a book or an edited book:

Smith AB. 1998. *The insects of Australia*, 2nd Ed. Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation, Division of Entomology, Melbourne University Press, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, 542 pp.

Jones CD. 1997. *Biostatistical analysis*. Prentice-Hall, Inc. Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, 153 pp.

Jordan FT. 1996. Avian mycoplasmosis. In: *Poultry diseases*, Jordan FT, Pattison M, editors. W. B. Saunders Company Ltd., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, pp. 81–93.

Cheville NF, editor. 1994. *An introduction to interpretation*. Iowa State University Press, Ames, Iowa, 502 pp.

Proceedings:

Dickinson VM, Jarchow JL, Trueblood MH. 2002. Hematology and plasma biochemistry reference range value for free-ranging desert tortoises in Arizona. In: *Proceedings of the 54th annual meeting on pathology and medicine of reptiles and amphibians*, American Veterinary Association, Phoenix, Arizona, 17–21 January, pp. 129–134. (if published: ... 17–21 January; W. B. Saunders, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, pp. 129–134.)

Dissertation/Thesis:

Hathaway SC. 1978. *Leptospirosis in free living animals in New Zealand, with particular reference to the possum (Trichosurus vulpecula)*. Ph.D. Thesis, Veterinary Pathology and Public Health, Massey University, Palmerston North, New Zealand, 434 pp.

URLs:

United States Department of Agriculture. 2001. *The Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996*, www.usda.gov/farbill/title0.htm. Accessed April 2002.

Tables

Tables should be prepared using the Table function in MS Word. Omit all vertical lines. Do not enclose tables with borders. Footnotes in the table should be identified by superscript lower-case letters. **The table caption should appear above the table and should be complete enough to “stand alone” without reference to the text.**

Figure captions

Figure captions are included on a separate page following the Tables. Figure captions must **be complete enough to “stand alone” without reference to the text.** Include “what, when, and where.” Provide scientific names for all species mentioned and explain all abbreviations.

Figures and Images

Figures are submitted as separate files (not included in the text file). Most figures will be reproduced at single-column (7-cm) width. Large or complex figures may be full-page (14-cm) width. **All text and symbols must be easily legible at the dimensions to be published.** Embed or Outline fonts to ensure accurate representation of the figure; use common fonts such as Helvetica or Arial. Avoid using unusual symbols or Greek characters. Figures must be in sharp focus.

Mount a scale bar directly on all photomicrographs; the metric equivalent of the scale bar may be given directly on the figure or defined in the figure legend. Provide a scale bar and a north directional arrow if North is not toward the top of the figure.

Figures should be submitted in tagged image file format (.tiff), JPEG, portable document format (pdf), or Adobe Photoshop document (psd). Files in CorelDraw and PowerPoint are usually NOT acceptable (the quality is not adequate for acceptable reproduction). **Resolution (at the dimensions to be published) should be at an absolute minimum of 300 dpi. Color figures are acceptable, but the additional printing costs will be borne by the authors.** Submit figures in color only if the authors want the final figure to appear in color and are willing to assume the additional costs (see [Author Charges](#)). Authors may designate that one or more images appear in black and white in the paper copy of the Journal and color in the online version. Online-only images will be billed at \$100 per image. Compound images (e.g., Fig. 1a and b) count as a single image. **Authors must ensure that the same figure caption is appropriate for both the black and white and the color versions.** Crop figures to remove extraneous material and to emphasize significant features.

To minimize delays, authors are **strongly encouraged** to check quality and correctness of digital images using the Allen Press online figure verification tool Allen veriFig™ 1.5. Navigate to <http://verifig.allenpress.com/login> and log in with an email address. The password is “figcheck.” Authors can submit multiple files online and receive a report that provides details about the resolution, figure size, fonts, and color mode of the files. If an error in the report is received, or for further assistance, please e-mail JWDWDA@peertrack.net.

Supplementary Material

Lengthy tables or additional lengthy documents may be submitted to JWD as supplementary material that is published online but not in the paper copy of the Journal. Please consult with the Editor if you would like to request supplementary material be published with your manuscript.

Style

Journal style follows Scientific Style and Format, 8th Edition (Council of Science Editors).

Nomenclature for mammals (both common and scientific names) follows Wilson and Reeder, *Mammal Species of the World*, 3rd Edition, 2005 (<http://www.bucknell.edu/msw3/>); for birds, use the latest

Clements checklist

(<https://www.birds.cornell.edu/clementschecklist/download/>). **Capitalize standard full common names of birds** but not of other species, nor generic names ('American Crow' but 'crows'). GenBank accession numbers should be provided for nucleotide sequences.

Provide enough detail or documentation in the materials and methods so that a skilled worker could repeat the study. Degrees and minutes of latitude and longitude of specific study sites should be identified. Coordinates are not necessary for large features easily identifiable on a map (e.g., States, major cities, large bodies of water, or large National Parks). The manufacturer's or distributor's name, city, state or province, and country should be provided for each specialized chemical and specialized item of equipment mentioned in the text.

Write out acronyms and genera the first time they are used, and when they are used as the first word of a sentence. Write out numbers under ten unless they are associated with units of measure. Give references for all factual statements, and for all statistical tests used.

Statistical style: Provide a standard error or standard deviation for all mean values reported and 95% confidence limits for all proportions and prevalence estimates. **Use no more than two significant digits in reporting percentages or three significant digits for probability values.** Whenever possible provide exact probabilities, avoiding use of ">" and "<" symbols. **Use metric and SI units.**

Avoid lengthy descriptions of individual animals or lesions; summarize findings to highlight significant points. Write in past-tense, unless a generalization is presented. Avoid the passive voice.

If personal communications are used they must be verified by attaching a copy of the manuscript page on which the citation occurs with the person's signature of approval on the page. The signed manuscript page should be submitted to the Editor along with the manuscript.

Authors are encouraged to address the conservation, management, or One-Health implications of their findings when appropriate.

Permission to Reproduce Material

For permission to reproduce material from articles published in Journal of Wildlife Diseases, please contact the Editor (editor@wildlifedisease.org).

Cover Photos

The Journal prints high quality color photos on the cover of each issue. Authors are encouraged to submit suitable color photographs related to their articles to be considered for the Journal cover.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR REVIEWERS

Reviewer Anonymity

Reviewers for manuscripts submitted for publication in JWD generally remain anonymous to the Authors in the interest of securing unbiased review. While not specifically encouraged, reviewers wishing to sign a review may do so.

Endangered Species and Humane Treatment of Animals

Reviewers should notify the Assistant Editor (AE) of any concerns regarding the procurement or research on endangered species, or on the humane collection, maintenance, or treatment of animals used in studies.

Standards for Publication

The JWD publishes results of original research and observations on the health and diseases of wild animals. Except for review articles, submission of manuscripts is with the understanding by the Authors that the ideas and information are original, have not been published previously, and are not being submitted for publication elsewhere. If a Reviewer suspects or has knowledge that a submitted manuscript does not meet these criteria, this should be called to the attention of the AE or Editor. The JWD publishes in all areas of wildlife disease research, including fields covered by many specialty journals. In the interest of maintaining the highest standards of quality, we ask that Reviewers evaluate submitted manuscripts to JWD by the same high standards they would for papers submitted to leading specialty journals. We are interested in manuscripts that present new information, are interesting and important to the disciplines represented in wildlife disease research, and are technically well executed.

Management Implications

Fundamental biological relationships must be emphasized. We also are concerned that the Authors include, where relevant, the wildlife and fisheries management implications of their research, discuss possible impacts on animal populations, and emphasize the importance of their findings to humans.

Alternative or Additional Reviewers

We try to select the best and most appropriate Reviewers for submitted manuscripts. Your suggestions of other individuals who should be consulted regarding a specific manuscript are welcome.

Review Timelines

Through the cooperation of our Reviewers, the JWD has maintained a relatively short review time for most submitted manuscripts. The period required for the review process from submission until the fully evaluated manuscript is returned to the Authors for appropriate action is usually about 6 weeks. Your cooperation in minimizing the review time is urgently requested. If you cannot review and return a manuscript **within two weeks**, please notify the Assistant Editor immediately. This will allow us to find another Reviewer, without unnecessarily delaying the review process.

Correspondence

Although the review process for some manuscripts is handled directly through the Office of the Editor, review of most manuscripts is directed through an Assistant Editor. These individuals are appointed by the Editor-in-Chief. All correspondence regarding a manuscript under review should be directed to the individual from whom you received the initial correspondence and who requested your services as a Reviewer. However, the Editor-in-Chief may be contacted for unique problems.

Acknowledgments

The peer review system in which Reviewers evaluate the merit and quality of manuscripts is the core of scientific communication. Our Reviewers are selected because they are authorities in their fields, through no small effort on their part. They are not paid a fee for their services, and all are busy professionals with their own responsibilities and careers. Reviewers are expected to read carefully, evaluate critically, and provide thoughtful comments within a few days on a research paper that has taken the Authors months to prepare. You have our sincere thanks for assisting us in the review of our submitted manuscripts. Annually, we publish an Editorial Acknowledgment in which we thank all our Reviewers collectively. If your name inadvertently is omitted from that list, please inform the Editor in Chief.