

Author Guidelines

Aims and Scope

Natureza & Conservação (Brazilian Journal of Nature Conservation, N&C) is a scientific journal devoted to improving theoretical and conceptual aspects of conservation science. It has the main purpose of communicating new research and advances to different actors of society, including the academy, conservationists and practitioners, government and decision-makers. N&C publishes original papers on biodiversity conservation and its implications, including population viability analysis, biological invasion, species distribution modeling, diversity patterns, phylogeography and conservation genetics, reserve design and selection, ecosystem management, conservation policy, among others.

There is no bias towards particular biogeographic regions, organisms or ecosystems, although we expect more submissions from Tropical and Neotropical regions. Scientific papers must focus on new conceptual or methodological developments with practical implications. Case studies will be considered only if inserted in these more general contexts. Authors are encouraged to submit reviews and essays on arising issues, in agreement with the editorial board. Purely descriptive papers will not be considered.

Submission

Please submit your manuscript through our electronic submission system (<http://www.elsevier.com/ncon>). In the initial e-mail, corresponding author must explicitly state that the manuscript was not submitted to other journal and that all co-authors are aware of the submission. Also in the submission message, authors must indicate three preferred reviewers (along with their e-mails and affiliations), as well as stating if someone is to be avoided as a reviewer (non-preferred reviewer).

Manuscripts will be screened by the editorial board before being sent out for external review and may be rejected editorially. Editorial reject decisions are based on how well a manuscript fits the scope of the journal as well as on the quality of the manuscript.

Sections

N&C publishes original papers in English, following four formats: *Essays Perspectives* will deal with longer essays and reviews (up to 6000 words) updating recent topics of interest in conservation science. *Essays Perspectives* will be usually invited, but submissions can be discussed with the editors in advance and suggestions are welcome. Original scientific research will be published in the format of *Research Letters*, which are short and concise manuscripts with up to 3000 words in length, up to 4 figures and/or tables, and 25 references. *Policy forums* are brief essays (1000 to 2000 words

plus 1-2 figures) for a general audience on issues related to conservation and society. Contributions to this section should clearly articulate the significance of their ideas for conservation policy and practice. *Book reviews* (up to 2000 words) will be included in the journal on a range of relevant titles that are not more than two years old.

Submission to this journal proceeds totally online and you will be guided stepwise through the creation and uploading of your files. The system automatically converts your files to a single PDF file, which is used in the peer-review process

Manuscripts

Format

Manuscripts should be double-spaced throughout (including tables, figure legends, literature cited) with all lines and pages numbered.

Text

The title page must contain the section for which the manuscript is intended, the title of the manuscript and the authors' name, associated by superscript numbers indicating their affiliations, the total word count (including references, tables and figure legends) and a short title. The second page must contain 5 keywords for indexation purposes and an abstract with up to 300 words for *Essays Perspectives*, and up to 150 words for *Research Letters*. The next pages will contain the main text. For *Research Letters*, main captions will follow the standard format (introduction, material and methods, results, and discussion), but there is no specific format for *Essays Perspectives*. In both cases, main captions must be typed in uppercase bold font, and subtitles within each main caption must be italicized. A limit of 25 references is established for *Research Letters*, and about 50 references are suggested for *Essays Perspectives*. For *Research Letters*, a limit of 4 figures and/or tables is recommended and authors must write as concise as possible, especially the methods section. It is strongly advised that the details of methods or original data are assigned to a supplementary material (with all figures and tables referred in the main text as Table S1, Figure S1, S2 and so on), which will be published online only. Avoid right margin justification and hyphenation. Double-check the contents of your manuscript before submitting. Only printer' mistakes in proofs will be changed free of charge.

Figures

Since first submission, high-resolution figures in TIF, WMF or EMF formats will be required, with a minimum resolution of 300 dpi. Figure legends must be, as much as possible, stand-alone and must be typed separately, appearing in the end of the main text. Tables must be inserted at the end of the

main text with the title, and built using the “Table” option of word processor or any open-source application (and not typed “manually” or pasted from spreadsheet applications).

Within figures, authors must be aware that symbols must be large-enough to be readable after reduction in size in the final publication.

Units

Use SI units as far as possible.

Nomenclature

Binomial Latin names should be used in accordance with International Rules of Nomenclature.

References

Citations in the main text will follow the author-year standard format - 2 Harvard [i.e., Rabelo 2007; Bini & Diniz-Filho 2005; Loyola et al. 2008; or Loyola et al. (2008)]. In the reference list, papers with more than 3 authors must be referred as “et al.” as well, and references to articles, books and book chapters are as follows:

Silva JMC, 1995. Birds of the cerrado region, South America. *Steenstrupia*, 21:69-92.

Balmford A *et al.*, 2001. Conservation conflicts across Africa. *Science*, 291:2616-2619. PMID:11283376. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1126/science.291.5513.2616>

Marinho-Filho J, Rodrigues FHG & Juarez KM, 2002. The Cerrado mammals: diversity, ecology, and natural history. In Olivera PS & Marques RJ (eds.). *The Cerrados of Brazil*. New York: Columbia University Press. p. 266-284.

Legendre P & Legendre L, 1998. *Numerical ecology*. Amsterdam: Elsevier.

Do not refer to unpublished material.

The reference list should be arranged alphabetically on authors’ names and chronologically per author. If the author’s name is also mentioned with co-authors, the following order should be used: publications of the single author, arranged chronologically - publications of the same author with one co-author, arranged chronologically – publications of the author with more than one co-author, arranged chronologically. Publications by the same author(s) in the same year should be listed as 2009a, 2009b, etc. Reference lists not conforming to this format will be returned for revision.

We recommend the use of a tool such as Mendeley or EndNote for reference management and formatting. Click **here** to download the most up to date EndNote reference style for *Natureza Conservação*. Mendeley users will find it in the Mendeley citation styles repository.

Language and style

Manuscripts will be checked for style and language and authors are invited to ask native speakers or use available online services to improve correctness of language and style. For standardization purposes, authors must check for spelling using the US-English option in their word processor or any open-source application. Editors and reviewers are invited to help in the process of improving as much as possible language and style of the manuscript.

The impact of the paper and, consequently, of the journal, will largely depend upon the quality of the English. After acceptance of the manuscripts, editor(s) will deserve the right to do minor changes to improve language and style.