

GUIDELINES FOR REVIEWERS

Basic philosophy

The purpose of peer review is to improve the quality of the manuscript under review, and of the material that is eventually published. Conscientious peer review is a time-consuming task but is essential to assure the quality of scientific journals. The International Journal of Primatology and the International Primatological Society are very grateful for the time and effort you invest in the review process.

The International Journal of Primatology adheres to the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) Code of Conduct and Best Practice Guidelines (<http://publicationethics.org>). We strive to ensure that peer review is fair, unbiased and timely. Decisions to accept or reject a manuscript for publication are based on the manuscript's importance, originality and clarity, and the study's validity and its relevance to the remit of the journal.

We use a wide range of sources to identify potential reviewers, including the editorial board, personal knowledge, author suggestions, and bibliographic databases. Reviewers' evaluations play a major role in our decision as to whether to accept a manuscript for publication.

The International Journal of Primatology operates a double-blind review process in which the identities of the authors are hidden from the reviewers, and identities of the reviewers are hidden from the authors. Reviewers can choose to sign their reviews if they wish.

General notes

Reviews should be conducted fairly and objectively. Personal criticism of the author is inappropriate. If the research reported in the manuscript is flawed, criticize the science, not the scientist. Personal criticism is likely to lead an author to ignore useful comments, making your review less useful to your field. Criticisms should be objective, not merely differences of opinion, and intended to help the author improve his or her paper.

You should decline to review manuscripts in which you have conflicts of interest resulting from competitive, collaborative, or other relationships or connections with any of the authors, companies, or institutions connected to the papers.

If your previous or present connection with the author(s) or an author's institution might be construed as creating a conflict of interest, but no actual conflict exists, please include this issue in your confidential comments to the editor. If in doubt, please contact the Editor who requested the review before accepting.

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If you choose to remain anonymous, ensure that you avoid comments to the authors that might serve as clues to your identity.

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Comments to the Author

Your Comments to the Author will be submitted to the Handling Editor and the Editor-in-Chief. They are also communicated to the authors and to the other anonymous reviewers of the manuscript once the editor has made a decision.

Comments should be constructive and designed to enhance the manuscript. You should consider yourself the authors' mentor. Make your comments as complete and detailed as possible. Express your views clearly with supporting arguments and references as necessary. Include clear opinions about the strengths, weaknesses and relevance of the manuscript, its originality and its importance to the field. Specific comments that cite line numbers are most helpful. If you feel unqualified to address certain aspects of the manuscript, please include a statement to identify these areas.

Begin by identifying the major contributions of the paper. What are its major strengths and weaknesses, and its suitability for publication? Please include both general and specific comments bearing on these questions, and emphasize your most significant points.

Support your general comments, positive or negative, with specific evidence.

If you wish to make comments directly on the manuscript pdf using the Note tool, you may do so. However, we do not expect you to copy-edit the manuscript. If you do annotate the pdf, please also include a summary of your general comments. You may also upload other documents (e.g. your review as a document, useful references). The journal editorial assistant will remove your identity from the properties of these documents to maintain your anonymity.

Points to consider in your review include:

- Is the topic of the manuscript appropriate for the Journal? Is the information of significant interest to the broad readership of the Journal?
- Do the title, abstract, key words, introduction, and conclusions accurately and consistently reflect the major point(s) of the paper?
- Is the writing concise, easy to follow, and interesting, without repetition?
- Is the aim clearly stated?
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- Are appropriate statistical analyses used? Are they sufficiently justified and explained? Are statements of significance justified?
- When results are stated in the text of the paper, are they supported by data? Can you verify them easily by examining tables and figures? Are any of the results counterintuitive?
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- Does this manuscript report data or conclusions already published or in press? If so, please provide details.
- Has the author plagiarised another publication?
- Is there any indication that the data have been fabricated or inappropriately manipulated?
- Have the authors declared all relevant competing interests?

Mechanics of Editorial Manager

Please contact the Journal Editorial Assistant, available through [Editorial Manager](#)

Checklist for transparency in empirical studies (modified from Tools for Transparency in Ecology and Evolution (TTEE) 1.0, downloaded from <https://osf.io/y8aqx/> 31 Aug 2016).

Category	Description
Introduction	
Study purpose	State the original purpose for which the study was conducted and data were gathered
Methods	
Meta-analysis	If the study is a meta-analysis, comply with the required components of meta-analysis checklist (see TEE checklist at https://osf.io/y8aqx/)
Context	If the article reports results from a portion of a larger study, include a statement about the broader scope of the larger study and, if appropriate, indicate other publications from this study
Blinding	If possible, data recorders should be blind to the experimental treatment imposed on the subjects when gathering data. Report

	whether or not blinding was implemented.
Location	For field studies, include specific location(s) (e.g., latitude and longitude, elevation)
Timing of study	Report study start date, end date, duration, and justification for duration and end date
Timing of sampling	Report timing (date, time of day if appropriate, etc.) and frequency of sampling, including storage duration for samples
Study conditions	Describe environmental or other conditions that authors believe may be relevant to the study question and taxa (e.g., temperature, light:dark cycle, etc.)
Subjects and treatments	Report methods used to choose subjects and to allocate subjects to treatments (e.g. randomized assignment), including organism taxon/taxa, source, and background (e.g., inbred lines, commercial seed, wild caught from X number of males and females and laboratory bred for Y generations, etc.) with institutional approvals as required and appropriate
Design	Describe design of experiment or study, including complete treatment factors and interactions, design structure (e.g., factorial, blocked, nested, hierarchical), nature of experimental units and replicates
Magnitude of treatment	Report both treatment and control values (with units and variation) for independent (explanatory/predictor) variables
Sample size determination	Report how sample size was decided or determined. If sample size was not set prior to initiation of study, explain stopping rule for sampling
Sample sizes	Report sample sizes for all data, including subsets of data (e.g., each treatment group, other subsets), and sample size used for all statistical analyses. Ideally also reported in results section

Analysis methods	Provide the precise details of data analysis (including information on computer software programs and packages, and annotated full code or set of commands) as supplementary materials with submission and archived on a permanently supported platform <u>on publication</u>
Data	Post data on which analyses are based as supplementary materials with submission and archive them in a permanently supported, publicly accessible database <u>on publication</u>
Materials	Provide comprehensive materials as supplementary documentation with submission and archived on a permanently supported platform <u>on publication</u> . These are materials that are excluded from the methods section but which might be important for interpreting results or later attempts to replicate the study.
Voucher specimens	If relevant, possible and allowable, deposit voucher specimens of the studied taxon/taxa in an appropriate curated collection
Replication	If study is a replication, identify it as such and identify differences in methods between this study and the original
Funding and conflicts of interest	Disclose all funding sources and potential conflicts of interest
Ethics and permit	Provide relevant details of ethical and other required permits if applicable (e.g., name of permit, permit number, etc.)
Results	
Complete statistical reporting	List each statistical test and analysis conducted in sufficient detail such that they can be replicated and fully understood by those experienced in those methods Fully report outcomes from each statistical analysis. For most analyses,

	<p>this includes (but is not limited to) basic parameter estimates of central tendency (e.g., means) or other basic estimates (regression coefficients, correlation) and variability (e.g., standard deviation) or associated estimates of uncertainty (e.g., confidence/credible intervals)</p> <p>Thorough and transparent reporting will involve additional information that differs depending on the type of analyses conducted.</p> <p>For null hypothesis tests, this also should at minimum include test statistic, degrees of freedom, and p-value.</p> <p>For Bayesian analyses, this also should at a minimum include information on choice of priors and MCMC (Markov chain Monte Carlo) settings (e.g. burn-in, the number of iterations, and thinning intervals).</p> <p>For hierarchical and other more complex experimental designs, full information on the design and analysis, including identification of the appropriate level for tests (e.g. identifying the denominator used for split-plot experiments) and full reporting of outcomes (e.g. including blocking in the analysis if it was used in the design).</p> <p>Relevant information will differ among other types of analyses but in all cases should include enough information to fully evaluate the design and analysis</p>
<i>post hoc</i> acknowledgement	When hypotheses were formulated after data analysis, this should be acknowledged
References	
Citation of archived data, code, and materials	Properly cite any archived data, code, or materials made available by others and used in this manuscript
Literature cited	By citing an article, authors certify they have read the original article



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