

The Tasmanian Naturalist

Guidelines for authors

Preamble

The Tasmanian Field Naturalists Club aims to encourage the study of all aspects of natural history and to support the conservation of our natural heritage. Club members are amateurs and professionals with a common interest in the natural world. The journal is a forum for observations on natural history, and views on the management of natural values.

The Tasmanian Naturalist is published annually by the Tasmanian Field Naturalists Club Inc. and was first published in 1907. All back issues of *The Tasmanian Naturalist* can be found on the Club's website.

Authorship is unrestricted: Club and non-Club authors, whether local, national or international, are welcome to submit articles.

The following guidelines are provided for authors wishing to submit articles.

Content

The Tasmanian Naturalist publishes articles on all aspects of natural history and the conservation, management and sustainable use of natural resources, with a focus on Tasmania and Tasmanian naturalists. Articles can be in a formal or informal style; they need not be written in a traditional scientific format unless appropriate for the content. For instance, the journal will publish articles which:

- summarise or review relevant scientific studies, in language that can be appreciated by field naturalists;
- stimulate interest in, or facilitate the identification, study or recording of particular taxa or habitats;
- record interesting observations of behaviour, phenology, natural variation or biogeography;
- stimulate thinking and discussion on points of interest or contention to naturalists;
- put the study of natural history today into context through comparisons with past writings, archives, etc.;
- review recent publications or web content that are relevant to the study of Tasmanian natural history.

Authors are welcome to contact the Editor to seek feedback on whether the content and/or format of any proposed submission is appropriate.

Submission of manuscripts/articles

Submissions should be provided in standard word processing format (i.e. .doc or .docx file). Please number all pages. Graphs, illustrations, photographs, maps and tables **must be provided as separate files and be of high resolution**. The Naturalist pages are A5 portrait, and it is the authors' responsibility to ensure that any graphics will fit onto the A5 size. This is particularly important with tables. Ensure that any characters on maps and diagrams are readable when printed to fit on A5 size pages.

If a paper has more than one author, the Editor will correspond with the primary author.

Style and format

Formal articles should follow the style of similar articles in recent issues (see back issues on the Club's website).

Articles should be word-processed in one font only and with single line spacing. Authors may use up to 4 levels of headings. Type headings in sentence case. Do not use all uppercase. Keep formatting to a minimum, as the desktop publisher will format articles in the Tas Nat style.

Please do not embed illustrations or tables, and write captions for all illustrations at the end of the document. Do not use text boxes for captions or other text. Disable hyperlinks (right-click, Remove Hyperlink), such as those in the reference list.

Title

Ensure that the title is succinct and relates directly to the content of the manuscript.

Author

Please provide the full name of the author(s), including middle initials if desired, and an address, either postal and/or email, and provide the affiliation of the authors where needed.

Abstract

An abstract is only required for articles written in a scientific style. Abstracts should be concise (preferably fewer than 200 words) and include the key objectives and findings of the work.

Units and measurements

International scientific units should be used, except where not relevant (e.g. in a citation of historical imperial information). In text, values should be followed by the abbreviated scientific unit, with a space between the value and the abbreviation e.g. the tail was 10 cm long and had a diameter of 4 mm.

Illustrations

Authors are encouraged to include colour photographs and to use colour in graphs and figures. They should ensure that the text includes a cross-reference to the numbered illustration. In *The Tasmanian Naturalist*, illustrations take the following form:

1. figures (graphs, line drawings, diagrams, maps, etc.),
2. plates (colour or black-and-white photos, microscope-captured images, etc.), and
3. tables (for any tabulated information).

Maps must have a scale bar and north arrow. To assist with the best layout of pages, please do not crop photographs too closely. This will allow the desktop publisher to adjust the dimensions of the image to fit layout. Ensure that tables will fit the A5 size of the publication, and keep formatting to a minimum.

Credit, copyright and acknowledgement

Unless otherwise stated, all images will be assumed to be by the author/s. Please provide credit for photos taken by others. The Editor will assume that the permission of the copyright owner has been gained. Authors should ensure that use of copyright-restricted material such as web-based satellite imagery or state-owned cadastral, topographic and geological mapping products is credited within the text. The Editor will also assume that other people appearing in photographs have given their permission. Authors may be requested to provide formal acknowledgement that these people have provided permission for their image to appear in print, a requirement under privacy legislation.

Authors should acknowledge, as concisely as possible, any other people or organisations who have assisted with the work presented.

Permits and approvals

Where applicable, authors are responsible for obtaining appropriate permits and ethics approvals for their work, which are to be reported in the journal.

Appendices

Appendices may be accepted at the Editor's discretion depending on relevance and available space.

References

Authors are encouraged to cite peer-reviewed literature rather than 'grey literature', e.g. unpublished internal government reports, postgraduate theses, informal newsletters and brochures of organisations, and 'shifting' information sources such as web pages, internet dictionaries and encyclopaedias. However, the use of such sources may often be necessary or warranted.

In-text citations are as follows:

The cats we examined were all black, a finding also presented by Felix (2009). The dogs were all brown, a finding not supported by previous studies (Growler et al. 1969; Growler 1996; Furball & Growler 2003; Barker 2005; Furball 2009a, 2009b). However, Furball and Growler (2003) found that ...

That is, citations are chronological, then alphabetical. No punctuation marks follow the author name; multiple citations are separated by semi-colons. Two authors are written in full separated by an ampersand (&); three or more authors are written as the primary author followed by 'et al.', not italicised.

References cited in the text should be listed at the end of the paper in the following format (alphabetical and chronological):

Bryant, S.L. (1991). *The Ground Parrot Pezoporos wallicus in Tasmania: Distribution, Density and Conservation Status*. Scientific Report 1/91. Department of Parks, Wildlife and Heritage, Hobart.

Parks & Wildlife Service. *Wombat, Vombatus ursinus*.
<http://www.parks.tas.gov.au/index.aspx?base=4898>

Ponder, W.F. (1993). Endemism in invertebrates in streams and rivers as demonstrated by hydrobiid snails. In: *Tasmanian Wilderness: World Heritage Values*. Eds. S. Smith & M. Banks. Royal Society of Tasmania, Hobart.

Rankin, D.J.W. (1998). *Patterns of Variation and Relationships in the Peppermint Eucalypts (Eucalyptus L'Her. ser. Radiatae Chippendale)*. Unpublished PhD thesis, LaTrobe University, Melbourne.

Ratkowsky, A.V. & Ratkowsky, D.A. (1976). The birds of the Mt. Wellington Range, Tasmania. *Emu* 77: 19–22.

Watts, D. (1993). *Tasmanian Mammals: A Field Guide*. Second edition, Peregrine Press, Kettering.

Scientific and common names

Authors may use either scientific or common names of species but should keep in mind the wide readership of the journal. The scientific name of a species should appear at the first mention in an article. Thereafter, the common name or the abbreviated scientific name (e.g. *E. globulus*) may be used.

Scientific names should be as up to date as possible and, where appropriate, the authority of the names should be acknowledged at first mention or in the title.

Scientific names of species should be italicised and common names in plain type. Common names of plants are generally in lower case unless they involve a proper noun (e.g. pencil pine

and Huon pine). Common names of animals can have upper case initial letter (especially for birds).

Authors may find the Australian National Species List a useful resource:

<https://biodiversity.org.au/nsl/>

Book (and other material) reviews

Reviews of books (and other materials such as websites) are welcomed. Please keep reviews factual and informative about their relevance to field naturalists.

Reviews of hardcopy publications should include the following details:

- full title of the publication, including subheadings
- full author names (as they appear on the cover of the book, including initials if present)
- ISBN code
- date of publication
- publisher
- format of the publication (e.g. soft cover, hard cover, pamphlet, etc.)
- number of pages
- illustration style (e.g. illustrated book, black and white photos, colour plates, etc.)

If possible, a high resolution scan of the cover should be included as a separate file.

Review process

Acceptance of submitted material for inclusion in *The Tasmanian Naturalist* is at the discretion of the editorial committee.

Formal articles are normally sent to at least one reviewer for comment. This is undertaken to try to ensure accuracy of information and to improve the quality of presentation. Authors may request or suggest a referee for their manuscript.

Copyright and other matters

All authors will be provided with a printed copy of the volume of *The Tasmanian Naturalist* in which their article appears. If their organisation requires additional copies, a request should be made to the Editor prior to printing because the Club has a limited print run (an at-cost fee may apply in these cases).

In addition, all authors will receive an “unprotected” (i.e. copyable and printable) pdf file of their article. The Tasmanian Field Naturalists Club Inc. authorises the author(s) to copy and distribute hard copy and electronic versions of their articles, including publishing pdf files on the author’s own website or the website of their affiliated institution cited in the article, after the print version of the *Naturalist* has been distributed. However, article content must remain unaltered, including reference to title of manuscript, author name(s), year of publication, volume number and page numbers. Any copying and distribution must be in accordance with Australian and international copyright laws.

The Club distributes *The Tasmanian Naturalist* to several Tasmanian and Australian libraries and institutions/organisations, and some overseas facilities. In addition, the Club publishes each volume on the Club’s website via links to pdf files after a 12-month embargo.

The editorial committee, *The Tasmanian Naturalist*

Tasmanian Field Naturalists Club Inc.

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