

The Journal of the Tennessee Herpetological Society

INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS

(SEPTEMBER 2016)

Scope:

The Journal of the Tennessee Herpetological Society is an open-access, peer-reviewed journal published biannually (January and July) by the Tennessee Herpetological Society. We publish research on ecology, natural history, conservation, management, and captive breeding of amphibians and reptiles in Tennessee and adjacent states along with site surveys of public and private lands in Tennessee. Additionally, we publish sightings of rare and uncommon species (other than county records) as well as unusual observations such as behavior, coloration, predation, diet, reproduction, or other life history data.

General Formatting Information:

- Write in active voice
- Provide 1-inch margins on all sides
- Double-space the entire manuscript
- Use 12-point Times New Roman Font
- Left justify the manuscript

Nomenclature, Symbols, and Units:

- Use both the scientific (binomial) and common name after the abstract when introducing a species [Weller's salamander (*Plethodon welleri*)] and the common name thereafter
- Submit geographic coordinates as decimal degrees (36.9194°N; 82.6268°W)
- Define acronyms at the first use [snout-vent length (SVL)]
- Use an "en-dash" between a range of values (32–64)
- Use a comma in numbers with more than four digits (1,245)
- Use the International System of Units (SI; mm, cm, m, km, mL, L, g, kg)
- Use a 24-hour clock to report time (1600 h)
- Report dates as day month year (1 July 2016)
- Report temperature as degrees Celsius (25.6 °C)
- Separate mathematical operators by spaces on both sides ($P < 0.001$; 25 ± 0.09) except when used as modifiers (+3.1)
- Italicize statistical symbols (r , r^2 , P)
- Do not italicize Greek letters (α , β)
- Represent sample size with lower case and italicized n ($n = 82$)
- Use the following abbreviations: Standard deviation = SD; standard error = SE; confidence interval = CI

In-text Citations:

- Cite in chronological order separated by a semicolon (Dunn 1926; Pope 1950)
- Provide names for up to two authors and use “et al.” for 3 or more (Highton and Larson 1979; Semlitsch et al. 1988)
- List multiple same-year references by the same author with a letter designation (Williams 2014 a,b)
- Alphabetize citations from the same year (Tilley 1980; Wake 1980)
- Cite multiple papers by the same author chronologically separated by a comma (Hairston 1949, 1951)
- List single author references first, then those with a coauthor (two-authors before multiple authors; Smith 1998; Smith and Jones 1998; Smith et al. 1998) if there are multiple same-year references by an author with different coauthors
- Cite papers awaiting publications as “(Jones in press)”
- Cite unpublished data as “(Smith pers. obs.)”
- Cite equipment with the model and manufacturer: HPT8 PIT Tag (Biomark, Boise, ID, USA)
- Cite commercial software with version and source (SPSS 23.0, IBM)
- Cite Figures as “Fig. 1” or “Figs. 2, 3” and tables as “Table 1.”

Tables:

- Create tables in MS Word as a table or single-tab delimited text
- Begin each table title with “TABLE 1.” followed by a period and placed above the table
- If a table continues to an additional page, title the table on the new page as “TABLE 1, CONTINUED.”
- Do not use vertical lines
- Column headers and subheaders should be underlined

Figures:

- Begin each figure title with “FIG. 1.” followed by a period and placed below the figure
- Label multiple parts of the same figure with capital letters (A, B, C)
- Use color figure when appropriate and avoid color combinations that could present problems for readers with difficulties distinguishing colors
- Take photographs at high resolution >300 dpi

Manuscript Layout:

TITLE

- Use small caps font for the title and center it at the top of the first page

Authors and affiliations

- Center names of all authors and use a subscript to identify affiliations and addresses of each author while including city, state, and country of the agency or institution
- Designate one author as the corresponding author and provide an email

Abstract.—

- Summarize your findings concisely in the abstract in ≤ 250 words
- Italicize and embolden the “***Abstract***” header and follow with a period and an “em-dash”

Key Words.—

- Provide a maximum of 8 key words not previously used in the title that convey focus on the manuscript. Phrases (e.g. Northern Pygmy Salamander) count as one key word.
- Arrange key words alphabetically
- Italicize the “*Key Words*” header and follow with a period and “em-dash”

INTRODUCTION

- Do not include a heading of “INTRODUCTION”
- Conclude the introduction with the objective(s) of the study

METHODS AND MATERIALS

- Provide a heading of “METHODS AND MATERIALS”
- Italicize any subheadings (e.g. *Study Site*—.) and follow with an “em-dash” and period
- Do not include precise locations for listed or rare species
- Provide sufficient details to allow study replication

RESULTS

- Provide a heading of “RESULTS”
- Summarize data referencing tables and figures instead of including raw data

DISCUSSION

- Provide a heading of “DISCUSSION”

Acknowledgments.—

- Provide agency permit number(s) and Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) approval required to conduct the research
- Italicize the “*Acknowledgment*” header and follow with a period and “em-dash”

LITERATURE CITED

General Information:

- Personal observations or unpublished data are not listed in literature cited
- Use an “en-dash” between page numbers
- Cite the minimum number of digits for page numbers (e.g. 181–2; 181–93; 181–204)
- List the full journal name
- Place citations in alphabetical order
- List single author citations before those with various coauthor if the author has multiple same-year references
- Order citations by the junior author’s name if the same author collaborated with different coauthors during the same year [e.g. (Smith and Bell 1998) comes before (Smith and Jones 1998)].
- List multiple “et al.” references by the same author in chronological order.
- Always list author names when they are repeated

Journal Articles:

- Semlitsch, R.D. 1987. Relationship of pond drying to the reproductive success of the salamander *Ambystoma talpoideum*. *Copeia* 1987:61–9.
- Semlitsch, R.D. 2000. Principles for aquatic-breeding amphibians. *Journal of Wildlife Management* 64:615–31.
- Semlitsch, R.D. and J.R. Bodie. 2003. Biological criteria for buffer zone around wetlands and riparian habitats for amphibians and reptiles. *Conservation Biology* 17:1219–28.
- Semlitsch, R.D., D.E. Scott, and J.H.K. Pechmann. 1988. Time and size at metamorphosis related to adult fitness in *Ambystoma talpoideum*. *Ecology* 69:184–92.

Books:

- Petranka, J.W. 1998. Salamanders of the United States and Canada. Smithsonian Institution Press, USA.

Chapter in a Book:

- Semlitsch, R.D. and B.B. Rothermel. 2003. A foundation for conservation and management of amphibians. Pp. 242–59 in R.D. Semlitsch (Ed.), *Amphibian Conservation*. Smithsonian Institution Press, USA.

Thesis or Dissertation:

- Cecala, K.K. 2012. The Role of Behavior in Influencing Headwater Salamander Responses to Anthropogenic Development. Ph.D. diss., The University of Georgia, USA.

Non-commercial Software:

- Hines, J.E. 2012. PRESENCE5.5—software to estimate patch occupancy and related parameters [Internet]. United States Geological Survey, Patuxent Wildlife Research Center. Available from: <http://www.mbr-pwrc.usgs.gov/software/presence/html>.

Technical Report:

USEPA (United States Environmental Protection Agency). 1989. Mountain Cloud Chemistry Project–Wet, Dry, and Cloud Water Deposition. EPA- PB 89-148 597/AS.

Online source:

Hammerson, G. and D. Beamer. 2004. *Plethodon welleri*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Available <http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2004.RLTS.T59363A11909428.en>. Accessed 7 September 2016.

Herpetological Notes

-Geographic Distributions:

- Submit county records to *Herpetological Review*
- Publish additional records for species poorly documented in counties, physiographic provinces, watersheds, or unique areas
- Archive voucher specimens or photographs in Austin Peay State University's David H. Snyder Museum of Zoology or any other recognized natural history museum in Tennessee or adjacent states.
- Use the format of *Herpetological Review*

SCEINTIFIC NAME (Common Name). STATE: COUNTY CO.: Location description including latitude and longitude for common species. Date. Collector/Observer. Verified by. Museum or other collection holding specimen or photograph. Description of the significance of the record (e.g. second county record, first observation in the Ridge and Valley, first observation in the Duck River drainage, etc.). Brief description of capture, habitat, etc. Citation of known distributions. Collection permit information.

AUTHOR NAME, Affiliation, Address include city, state, and zip code, (e-mail:);

SECOND AUTHOR NAME, Affiliation, Address include city, state, and zip code, (e-mail:).

-Natural History Notes:

- Focus on novel or underrepresented observations
- Review relevant literature to ensure the observation is truly novel or rare
- Follow directions for figures if including a photograph
- Title your observation based on the type of behavior noted (e.g. Predation, Nesting, etc.)

SCEINTIFIC NAME (Common Name). **TITLE**. Your observation(s) providing a statement explaining the significance of the observation. Relevant citations

AUTHOR NAME, Affiliation, Address include city, state, and zip code, (e-mail:);

SECOND AUTHOR NAME, Affiliation, Address include city, state, and zip code, (e-mail:).

The format of *The Journal of the Tennessee Herpetological Society* is based on the format of *The Journal of Herpetology*, *Herpetological Review*, *Southeastern Naturalist*, and *Herpetological Conservation and Biology*. The Editorial Board hopes this minimizes preparation efforts by adopting a similar format to these herpetological journals.