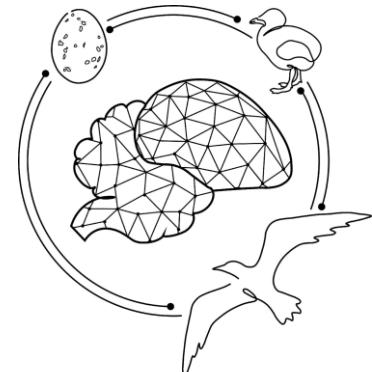


Publishing a preregistered report in the Royal Society Open Science

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Centre for Research on
Ecology, Cognition, and
Behaviour of Birds



Free and transparent pre- and post-study
recommendations across research fields

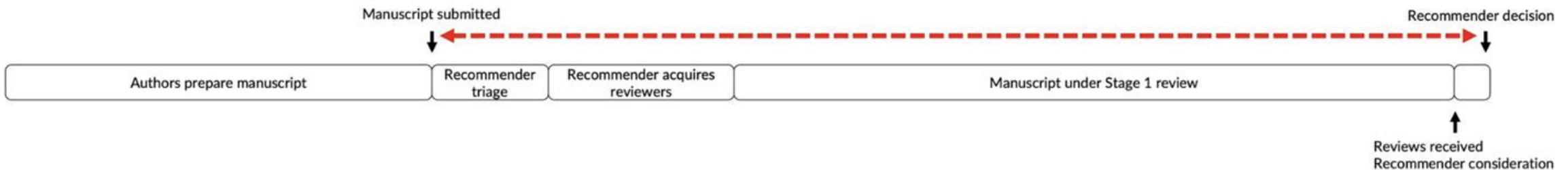
PCI Registered Report: RRs are a form of empirical article in which study **proposals** are **peer reviewed** and pre-accepted **before research** is undertaken.

Stage 1: Introduction + methods + data analysis plan

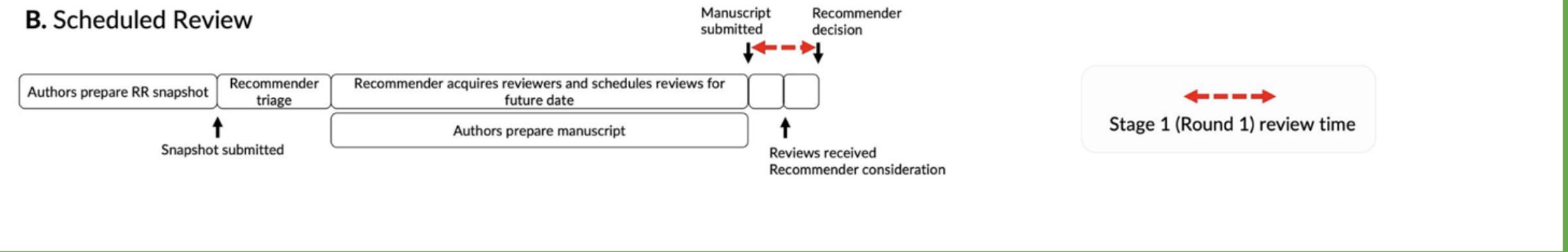
Stage 2: Full manuscript

Scheduled review

A. Standard Review



B. Scheduled Review



Timeline: Stage 1



Submission started

Submission date: 16 February 2024



Submission pending validation

Submission validated: 16 February 2024



Recommender needed

Invited: 0

Declined: 0

Recommender: [Ljerka Ostojic](#) (16 February 2024)



Round 1: Reviewers needed

Invited: 12

Declined or cancelled: 10

Agreed: 2

Scheduled reminders to the recommender to invite reviewers: no



Round 1: Reviews underway

All reviews uploaded: 20 April 2024

Abstract and snapshot (1 page summary of planned study)

Abstract and snapshot were accepted

Recommender assigned

Looking and assigning two reviewers

1st April: submission of introduction, methods, and planned analyses

Reviews came in

Timeline: Stage 1



Round 1: Awaiting decision

Decision uploaded: 21 April 2024



Round 1: Decision validated by the Managing board

Revision requested: 21 April 2024



Round 1: Awaiting revision

Resubmitted: 02 May 2024



Round 2: Decision validated by the Managing board

Revision requested: 11 June 2024



Round 2: Awaiting revision

Resubmitted: 12 Jun 2024



Round 3: Decision validated by the Managing board

Recommended: 17 June 2024

Waiting on recommender decision

Recommender request revision

Resubmission of manuscript, sent to reviewers

Recommender request revision

Resubmission of manuscript

Accepted

Timeline: Stage 2



Submission started

Submission date: 26 November 2024



Submission pending validation

Submission validated: 26 November 2024



Recommender needed

Invited: 0

Declined: 0

Recommender: [Ljerka Ostojevic](#) (27 November 2024)



Round 1: Reviewers needed

Invited: 2

Declined or cancelled: 0

Agreed: 2

Scheduled reminders to the recommender to invite reviewers: no



Round 1: Reviews underway

All reviews uploaded: 08 January 2025



Round 1: Awaiting decision

Decision uploaded: 09 January 2025

Submission of full manuscript

Same recommender assigned

Same reviewers assigned

Reviews came in

Waiting on decision from recommender

Timeline: Stage 2



Round 1: Decision validated by the Managing board

Revision requested: 10 January 2025



Round 1: Awaiting revision

Resubmitted: 03 Feb 2025



Round 2: Decision validated by the Managing board

Revision requested: 18 February 2025



Round 2: Awaiting revision

Resubmitted: 18 Feb 2025



Round 3: Decision validated by the Managing board

Recommended: 20 February 2025

Recommender request revision

Resubmission, new round of reviews

Recommender request revision

Resubmission, new round of reviews

Accepted

Submitting to Royal Society Open Science

25th February: 1st submission

5th of March: accepted

Registered report

Neophobia across social contexts in juvenile herring gulls

Reinoud Allaert[†]✉, Sophia Knoch[†], Simon Braem, Dries Debeer, An Martel, Wendt Müller, Eric Stienen, Luc Lens and Frederick Verbruggen

Published: 21 May 2025 | <https://doi.org/10.1098/rsos.250398>

Cons

- Longer process
- Cumbersome forms
- Forced to communicate all changes in protocol, difficult to combine with animal work (deviations can lead to rejection of manuscript)
- Limited journal options
- Ethical approval must be in place early, but takes time
- No submission during closing times (December/January and July/August).

Pros

- Publication guaranteed (incl. null result)
- In principle acceptance even before data collection
- Better design & manuscript quality; feedback prior to study
- Cuts p-hacking/HARKing bias
- Structured protocol & deadlines
- Transparent and reproducible