Cologne, September 30, 2021

Dear Molecular Ecology Resources Editorial Board,

Please find enclosed a manuscript entitled “Detecting temporal changes in genetic diversity: a new tool for molecular ecology studies with repeated surveys.” We would like you to consider this submission for publication as a resource article in Molecular Ecology Resources.

We built a tool to identify which populations have undergone significant losses or gains in genetic diversity through time, relative to other populations in the landscape. Our easy-to-use tool is exempt of complex assumptions, is theoretically accessible, and is flexible. We successfully tested this tool using a large number of spatially-explicit simulations, covering diverse demographic scenarios. We also featured an application of our tool on empirical data which exemplifies its usefulness.

We feel that this work will make a meaningful contribution to the arsenal of the molecular ecologist and to ongoing discussions around spatiotemporal population genetics, which are key to better monitor populations, especially in a context of widespread biodiversity loss.

We are quite excited to submit this research and believe that it will be of interest to your readers as it focuses on describing a new tool which may be used to make the most of past repeated surveys and may encourage resampling for monitoring purposes. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further details.

Our paper has not been previously published nor peer-reviewed and is not currently under consideration by another journal. All authors have approved of and have agreed to submit the manuscript to this journal.

Sincerely,

Julian Wittische