Guidelines for *Ecological Modelling*

January 15, 2024

Type of contribution: Original research paper

Submission checklist

* Corresponding author’s email and postal address (should my affiliation be SBU or MACAN?)
* Manuscript
  + Keywords
  + Figures and captions
  + Tables with titles and descriptions
  + Indicate if color should be used for any figures in print
  + Graphical abstracts/highlights files (where applicable)
  + Supplemental files (where applicable)
  + Check reference list/in text citations, figure and table numbers, spelling and grammar.
  + Competing interests statement.
  + Author contributions
    - They have 14 different roles you can use.
  + Funding sources and acknowledgements
  + Data and code availability
  + Referee suggestions (4) and contact details (address and email).
* Editorial policy
  + Papers should include the support of ecological data for calibration and validation.
    - Which datasets are these for mine?
  + Highlight novelty of model compared with previous models focusing on same topic and ecosystem. Why should people use the new one and not an existing one?
  + Emphasize ecological implications.
  + Review questions:
    - Does it focus on an ecological model or on systems of ecology?
    - Are the results original and novel?
    - Does the paper clearly emphasize the scientific progress compared with existing literature?
    - Are the results based on ecological observations?
    - Is the ecological component sufficiently strong?
    - Has the model been presented by a conceptual diagram?
    - Has the model been presented in such details that the reader is able to develop the model?
    - Are the state variables, forcing functions, and the parameters clearly defined and dimensionalized?
    - Are the equations presented in sufficient detail? Should they be presented in an appendix (or online)?
    - Are all relevant references included?
    - Does the discussion focus on the scientific progress in ecological modeling?
    - Is the paper well written and the English language presentation clear?
* Language: it can be in American or British English, but not a mixture.
  + “Modeling” is US version, British can be either.
* Submission guidelines
  + Double or 1.5 spacing
  + Can put everything in one word/pdf file, or include figures as source files.
    - If an individual figure is >10 MB it must be uploaded separately.
  + References
    - For initial submission any consistent formatting is okay, and using doi is encouraged. They will apply the reference style at proofing.
  + Essential elements: abstract, keywords, introduction, materials and methods, results, conclusions, artwork and tables with captions.
  + Place figures and tables next to relevant text in manuscript, not at the bottom. Put the caption below the figure or table.
  + Number the sections the same way as in the dissertation. Don’t number the abstract. In the methods I can refer to “section 1” for hypotheses laid out in the introduction.
  + Introduction: objectives and adequate background, avoid detailed literature survey.
  + Materials and methods: sufficient detail for reproducibility, summarize methods that are already published, use quotations if quoting directly.
  + Theory or Calculation section??
  + Discussion: explore significance of the results of the work (without just repeating them). Explain significance in the context of the current literature.
  + Conclusions: need to add this. Or use existing last 2 paragraphs. Did dissertation chapter have conclusions section?
  + Title page: Title, author names and affiliations (where the actual work was done – so SBU), lowercase superscript letters, email of each author, and full postal address with country. Corresponding author, Present address (if author has moved)
  + Highlights: