Vijay Patil

Department of Biology and Wildlife

University of Alaska Fairbanks

Fairbanks, AK 99775

September 6, 2012

Re: Manuscript # (OEC-HY-2012-0281)

To The Editor,

Revisions to our manuscript, "“Winter weather vs. group thermoregulation: what determines overwinter survival in hibernating mammals?”, are attached. We thank our reviewer and the editors again for their helpful suggestions, and have made the corrections suggested. We were able to address all of our reviewers’ concerns without conducting any new analyses, and all of our results and conclusions are unchanged. We believe the revised manuscript is now suitable for publication in your journal.

Sincerely,

Vijay Patil