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Re: Manuscript # (OEC-HY-2010-0269)

To the Editor,

Please find attached our revised manuscript “Winter weather vs. group thermoregulation: what determines overwinter survival in hibernating mammals?” which we are resubmitting to *Oecologia*. The manuscript has been substantially edited to address our reviewer’s concerns, and includes a number of changes in our analyses as well as in the format of their presentation. Our core conclusions remain the same, and we believe that the manuscript is now suitable for publication in your journal. We apologize for the extreme delay in our revisions, and thank you for your patience.

Sincerely,

Vijay Patil