

Guide to authors

1. Aims and Scope (Editorial Policy)

2. Research Data Policy

3. General Guidelines

4. Specific Guidelines

4.1 Author information

4.2 Authorship

4.3 Figures and Tables

4.4 References

4.5 Manuscript submission and Processing

5. Ethical Responsibilities of Authors

6. Disclosure of Potential Conflict of Interests

7. Electronic Supplementary Material

8. Open Access

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1. AIMS AND SCOPE (Editorial Policy)

The *Journal of Mountain Science* (JMS) is devoted to mountains and their surrounding lowlands - ecoregions of particular global importance, with a particular emphasis on the important highlands/ mountains in the world, such as the Tibetan Plateau, the Himalayas, the Alps, the Andes, the Rockies and many other mountain ranges of our planet.

JMS mainly publishes academic and technical papers concerning environmental changes and sustainable development in mountain areas under natural conditions or / and with the influence of human activities.

It also accepts book reviews and reports on mountain research and introductions to mountain research organizations.

This journal pays particular attention to the relationships between mountain environment changes and human activities, including the processes, characteristics and restoration of mountain ecosystem degradation; dynamic processes, and the theory and methods of controlling mountain hazards, such as debris, landslides and soil erosion; the protection and development of special mountain resources; culture diversity and local economic development in mountain regions; and ethnic issues and social welfare in mountain areas.

Academic papers should display universal, strategic and innovative characteristics in both theory and practice. Technical papers should report on development programmes, project planning and community actions.

We especially welcome papers which emphasize the application of new technologies, such as GIS and remote sensing, in mountain research and development, and the papers on new concepts and new methods deriving from disciplinary, interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research in mountains.

2. RESEARCH DATA POLICY

The journal encourages authors, where possible and applicable, to deposit data that support the findings of their research in a public repository. Authors and editors who do not have a preferred repository should consult Springer Nature's list of repositories and research data policy.

- [List of Repositories](#)

- [Research Data Policy](#)

General repositories - for all types of research data - such as Figshare and Dryad may also be used.

Datasets that are assigned digital object identifiers (DOIs) by a data repository may be cited in the reference list. Data citations should include the minimum information recommended by DataCite:

authors, title, publisher (repository name), identifier.

- [DataCite](#)

Springer Nature provides a research data policy support service for authors and editors, which can be contacted at researchdata@springernature.com.

This service provides advice on research data policy compliance and on finding research data repositories. It is independent of journal, book and

conference proceedings editorial offices and does not advise on specific manuscripts.

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3. GENERAL GUIDELINES

JMS accepts original and invited review manuscripts that have never been published in English in any form. All manuscripts will be subjected to a *plagiarism* checking system by CrossChecking Software iThenticate in case of plagiarism and inappropriate citation. Manuscript with total similarity index higher than 40%, and with similarity index more than with one single literature will be directly rejected

Manuscript should be written in good and easily-understood English with a definite theme and concise contents. Manuscript should be provided in electronic format (in Microsoft Word). Manuscript is required with single spacing and 10-point type in A4 papers.

The metric system should be applied for all the measures. Numerical values should be identical with the international system of units. The names of places should be transliterated into the phonetic alphabet form that is officially regulated by the country where the research has been conducted. The author should also provide the latitude and longitude for the places in the text (preferably in the part of "Study Area"). A formal letter of authorization should be provided for all the photos, figures and tables, which have obtained copyright.

4. SPECIFIC GUIDELINES

Journal of Mountain Science (JMS) takes **DOUBLE-BLINDED PEER-REVIEW** policy. Only manuscripts of high relevance and suitability will enter into the peer review process, which will be conducted by at least two known experts in the field, and will aim to ensure that all published manuscripts provide new scientific knowledge.

4.1 Author Information

The authors should provide the following information for all authors when submitting a paper: author names, institutions, mailing addresses, email

addresses, and research interest. Each letter of the family names of all authors should be capitalized.

4.2 Authorship

Authorship of articles is hugely important in academic careers as it is used to measure research productivity and as the basis for decisions on appointments, promotions, tenure and funding.

The authorship of academic papers should reflect who did the work. Papers submitted to the JMS should follow these rules:

1. A person who has not made a sufficient contribution to the work should not be included in the authors.
2. A person who has contributed substantially should be included in the authors.
3. If there are two or more authors, the corresponding author should be assigned. The first author will be taken as the corresponding author when no corresponding author is assigned.
4. Authors must sign to consent the submission.
5. The author list and the author sequence should be fixed before submission. Requests to add or delete authors at revision stage or after submission can only be considered after receipt of written approval from all original authors and a detailed explanation from the **corresponding author** about the role/deletion of the new/deleted author (s).

Once an authorship dispute arises before publication, the process should be halted until the dispute is resolved. Changes of authorship or in the order of authors are not accepted after acceptance of a manuscript.

4.3 Figures and Tables

The Copyright and License Policies that apply to articles also apply to figures. Please do not submit any figures, photos, or tables that have been previously copyrighted unless you have and can supply written permission from the copyright holder to publish under the CC-BY or CC0 license.

Figures (photographs, graphs and diagram) should be in high quality, and in TIFF format. The TIFF figures should be saved at a minimum resolution of 600 dpi (dots per inch) at final size. TIFF file, especially those containing color, should be large after it is accepted for publication. We encourage authors to

provide color figures. Figure legends should be related to figures or plates, and they should be placed outside the figures or plates, NOT inside. The size of all letters and symbols should be appropriately fitting figures. The plate number and author's (photographer) name should be placed below or beside plates. Words in the figures must be in **Times New Roman**. Suggested figure sizes are 7-8 cm or 14-16 cm at width with font size at 8-9 point.

Tables should be editable in Microsoft Word easily, i.e., they should NOT be in picture format. Table titles should be concise and exactly to explain what the table shows.

4.4 References

The references are listed by the "author-publishing year" system. When a reference is cited in the text, the author(s) name(s) should be given if there are one or two authors (Zhang and Li 2009). If there are more than two authors, et al. is added after the first author. The year of publication should be indicated after the author(s) name(s) (Zhang et al. 2000). If a same author has more than one paper cited in one year, a, b, c ... should be added after year of publication (Guo 2001a). When two or more references are cited in the same place in the text, ";" should be added between them (Zhang et al. 2000; Guo 2001a).

References after the text (cited list) should be a list of all the sources used in your paper, and arranged alphabetically by author's last name (family name), or when there is no author, by the first word of the title (except A, An or The). The author name should be written in the form of family name (written in full) first and then the initials (the capitalized first letter of the given name). The year of publication, the volume number of journals, the page range, the place of publication and the name of the publisher for each book cited should be provided in the references. For Non-English publication, the language should be marked at the end. All the items in reference should be shown as complete unabbreviated source citation except for author's name. All the listed references should be cited in the text.

For journal articles, Doi should be added at the end of each item of reference if they have ones.

Please refer to the following examples for the reference.

Book or monograph

Shrestha TB, Joshi RM (1996) Rare, Endemic and Endangered Plants of Nepal. Kathmandu: WWF, Nepal Program. p 244.

Hao F, Quan J, Yang ZS, et al. (2000) Land Resources of Yunnan, Kunming, China. Yunnan Science and Technology Press. pp 60-62. (In Chinese)

Thesis

DeConto RM (1996) Late Cretaceous Climate, Vegetation, and Ocean Interactions: An Earth System Approach to Modeling an Extreme Climate. PhD thesis, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado. p 10.

Paper from a proceedings or monograph

Smaling EMA, Nandwa SS, Janssen BH (1997) Soil fertility in Africa is at stake. In: Buresh RJ et al. (eds.), Replenishing Soil Fertility in Africa. SSSA Special Publication No. 51. Wisconsin, USA. pp 47-61.

Paper from a serial publication

Kuhle M, Kuhle S (2010) Review on dating methods: numerical dating in the quaternary geology of high Asia. Journal of Mountain Science 7: 105-122.<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11629-010-1116-1>

Cui P, Hu KH, Zhuang JQ, et al. (2011) Debris flow discharge calculation and inundation simulation. Journal of Mountain Science 8: 1-9.<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11629-011-2040-8>

Web resource

FAO (2017). Global food prices decline in March as sugar and vegetable oils slide.<http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/878800/icode>(Accessed on 7 April 2017)

4.5 Manuscript Submission and Processing

All manuscripts have to be submitted online to the manuscript system at <http://mc03.manuscriptcentral.com/jmsjournal>.

The submitted files should include **Title Page, Main Document, and Cover Letter**.

Title Page should include the title, **each author's name***, **affiliation***, **email address***, and **research fields*** (***required**), and the complete contact information of the corresponding author. The acknowledgement including the funding source should also be put in the title page. **The first author's past representative publications are suggested to be listed too.**

Main Document is used for peer-review, which may include the title, abstract, key words, main body, references, figures and tables and supplementary materials (Figures and Supplementary materials can be submitted separately).

The names of all authors and their institutions should not be included in the main document.

Cover Letter should **highlight the novelty** of the submitted paper and make a statement: All authors agree the submission and the paper has not been published or considered for publication elsewhere in part or as a whole, and state the conflicts of interest. The corresponding author should be on behalf of the authors to sign his name in the cover letter.

During the submission process, all authors listed in the manuscript should have their information filled in the online submission system and their affiliations and email addresses provided (The authors' email addresses filled in the manuscript system and included in the title page should be consistent). Thus, the author who is responsible for the submission should check the consistency of the listed authors in the manuscript and the filled-in names of the authors in the manuscript system. If the administrator detects the required information is incomplete, the manuscript will be unsubmitted.

The authors are required to recommend three potential reviewers. Suggested reviewers should NOT be at your institution (preferred outside your country or regions) and should have expertise in your content area/method. You should NOT have substantially worked with the reviewer in the past few years, and in particular, this should not be someone who has already reviewed or otherwise contributed to the manuscript. To the best of your knowledge, reviewers should not have conflicts (financial, personal) which would interfere with their objectivity. The journal reserves the rights not to send your manuscript to the author-recommended reviewers for peer-review.

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5. ETHICAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF AUTHORS

This journal is committed to upholding the integrity of the scientific record. As a member of the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) the journal will follow the COPE guidelines on how to deal with potential acts of misconduct.

Authors should refrain from misrepresenting research results which could damage the trust in the journal and ultimately the entire scientific endeavour. Maintaining integrity of the research and its presentation can be achieved by following the rules of good scientific practice, which includes:

- The manuscript has not been submitted to more than one journal for simultaneous consideration.
- The manuscript has not been published previously (partly or in full), unless the new work concerns an expansion of previous work (please provide transparency on the re-use of material to avoid the hint of text-recycling ("self-plagiarism")).
- A single study is not split up into several parts to increase the quantity of submissions and submitted to various journals or to one journal over time (e.g. "salami-publishing").
- No data have been fabricated or manipulated (including images) to support your conclusions
- No data, text, or theories by others are presented as if they were the authors own ("plagiarism"). Proper acknowledgements to other works must be given (this includes material that is closely copied (near verbatim), summarized and/or paraphrased), quotation marks are used for verbatim copying of material, and permissions are secured for material that is copyrighted.
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- Authors whose names appear on the submission have contributed sufficiently to the scientific work and therefore share collective responsibility and accountability for the results.

In addition:

- Changes of authorship or in the order of authors are not accepted after acceptance of a manuscript.
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- Once an authorship dispute arises before publication, the process should be halted until the dispute is resolved.

If there is a suspicion of misconduct, the journal will carry out an investigation following the COPE guidelines. If, after investigation, the allegation seems to raise valid concerns, the accused author will be contacted and given an opportunity to address the issue. If misconduct has been proven, this may result in the Editor-in-Chief's implementation of the following measures, including, but not limited to:

- If the article is still under consideration, it may be rejected and returned to the author.
- If the article has already been published online, depending on the nature and severity of the infraction, either an erratum will be placed with the article or in severe cases complete retraction of the article will occur. The reason must be given in the published erratum or retraction note.
- The author's institution may be informed.

6. DISCLOSURE OF POTENTIAL CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

Authors must disclose all relationships or interests that could influence or bias the work. Although an author may not feel there are conflicts, disclosure of relationships and interests affords a more transparent process, leading to an accurate and objective assessment of the work. Awareness of real or perceived conflicts of interests is a perspective to which the readers are entitled and is not meant to imply that a financial relationship with an organization that sponsored the research or compensation for consultancy work is inappropriate. Examples of potential conflicts of interests *that are directly or indirectly related to the research* may include but are not limited to the following:

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See below examples of disclosures:

Funding: This study was funded by X (grant number X).

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7. ELECTRONIC SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

The Journal of Mountain Science accepts electronic multimedia files (animations, movies, audio, etc.) and other supplementary files to be published online along with an article or a book chapter in the SpringerLink. This feature can add dimension to the author's article, as certain information cannot be printed or is more convenient in electronic form.

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Supply all supplementary material in standard file formats.

Please include in each file the following information: article title, journal name, author names; affiliation and e-mail address of the corresponding author.

To accommodate user downloads, please keep in mind that larger-sized files may require very long download times and that some users may experience other problems during downloading.

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If supplying any supplementary material, the text must make specific mention of the material as a citation, similar to that of figures and tables.

Refer to the supplementary files as "Online Resource", e.g., "... as shown in the animation (Online Resource 3)", "... additional data are given in Online Resource 4".

Name the files consecutively, e.g. "ESM_3.mpg", "ESM_4.pdf".

Caption

For each supplementary material, please supply a concise caption describing the content of the files.

Accessibility

In order to give people of all abilities and disabilities access to the content of your supplementary files, please make sure that The manuscript contains a descriptive caption for each supplementary material.

Video files do not contain anything that flashes more than three times per second (so that users prone to seizures caused by such effects are not put at risk).

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