



Cetacean Population Studies

Paper Submission

INSTRUCTIONS TO CONTRIBUTORS

CETACEAN POPULATION STUDIES (CPOPS) is an English peer reviewed on-line journal which publishes scientific articles on cetaceans and other marine mammals in the form of (1) Original study – Full paper, (2) Original study – Short note, (3) Review of studies, (4) Photo gallery with explanatory note as well as (5) Others, subject to authorization by the Editor-in-Chief in advance of formal submission. CPOPS welcomes contributions from accredited scientists in any country. Copyright for articles published in CPOPS is transferred to CPOPS when the article is accepted for publication. Articles published in CPOPS may not be reproduced, in whole or in part, without written permission from CPOPS. CPOPS does not charge any submission or publication fee.

Full paper and Short note

A Full paper is a self-contained piece of work composed of systematic analyses which are scientifically organized using a significant number of samples or a significant quality of information. For clarification of structure, the paper should be subdivided into meaningful sections such as introduction, materials and methods, results and discussion, etc. The paper should include an appropriate abstract (less than 300 words) and keywords (less than 6 words), and a list of references cited in the text.

A Short note should be composed of important information or analyses which are also scientifically organized, but it is not necessary that the information is based on a sufficient number of samples or observations. The short note contents do not need to be subdivided by sections as in the case of a full paper. It should include an appropriate abstract (less than 100 words) and key words. The short note should not exceed 6 printed pages in length and include some thoughtfully selected tables and figures.

For more information, please visit our website (<https://cpops.jp>).

Submission of Manuscripts

Manuscripts should be original work not previously published. Manuscripts must (in principle) be prepared in Microsoft WORD or PDF files and submitted to the email address below.

cpopspaper@gmail.com

The information obtained through paper submission will not be used for purposes other than those of publication without the consent of the author himself/herself.

Manuscripts are peer-reviewed typically by three anonymous referees nominated by the Editorial Board. Contributors, if they wish, can suggest specific names of up to two experts with sufficient knowledge and experience to review the paper. The Editor-in-Chief will attempt to include one reviewer from the nominated experts.

When contributors are requested to revise their manuscripts, they can resubmit, within 30 days, the revised manuscript incorporating comments and suggestions by referees, together with an attached note describing how the revision has been carried out. The final decision on acceptance or rejection for publication is that of the Editor-in-Chief in consultation with other members of the Editorial Board.

You can find the Instructions to Contributors, Organization of Manuscripts, General Instructions and the Cover Page Template for manuscript submission in the following link.

https://cpops.jp/paper_submission/index.html

The Instructions to Contributors may be revised from time to time according to development of CPOPS and discussions in the Editorial Board.

Launching CPOPS



Cetacean Population Studies

Successor to The Scientific Reports of the
Whales Research Institute, Tokyo (1948–1988)



Cetacean Population Studies

Prospectus for “Cetacean Population Studies”

Remarkable evolution in cetacean studies in recent decades owes much to major journals that have made significant contribution to the development of modern cetology: Discovery Reports, published by the National Institute of Oceanography in the United Kingdom, and Norwegian Whaling Gazette in Norway, as well as The Scientific Reports of the Whales Research Institute in Japan.

The Scientific Reports of the Whales Research Institute was first published in 1948, a year after the Whales Research Institute was established. Aiming to share valuable research findings and scientific knowledge worldwide, the publication was formatted in English since its beginning, quite an ambitious attempt in Japan still recovering from the devastation of World War II.

Since its first publication, a total of 246 scientists contributed 419 scientific papers to The Scientific Reports of the Whales Research Institute. It is widely acknowledged and appreciated that these scientific papers were the foundation for the development of cetacean studies worldwide, and in today's terms, it was a research journal that had a significant impact factor, or high number of citations. Regrettably, however, The Scientific Reports of the Whales Research Institute was discontinued in 1988 with the 39th volume after the institute was reorganized into the Institute of Cetacean Research.

In the 30 years since then, various types of journals on cetacean studies have been published globally, each offering different perspectives on scientific research outcomes. As for Japan, no research journal matching The Scientific Reports of the Whales Research Institute in its quality has been published. It is probably because many domestic cetologists have sought to publish their papers in international research journals based outside Japan.

As the global environment surrounding the issue of whaling became increasingly complex, we have observed a shift in publishing policies among these journals, rejecting papers whose findings are based on specific research methods such as lethal sampling. Because of this, no small numbers of papers submitted by biological scientists using samples collected through lethal surveys, even just for some parts, have been denied proper reviews. While we agree that animal ethics should be given high priority when writing a research paper, if a paper, the research method of which is allowed under domestic and international rules, is rejected, it is a decision made beyond scientific judgment.

Our new journal for cetacean population studies in the planning intends to follow the scientific policy of The Scientific Reports of the Whales Research Institute, that is, to contribute to global development of cetacean studies. As long as submitted papers conform to scientifically-accepted animal ethics, we do not make distinctions based on research methods. At the same time, to maintain the journal's neutrality in the complex global environment surrounding whaling issues, the journal will be published from a newly organized committee, rather than as a bulletin type scientific report from a specific research institute. The title of the new journal will be Cetacean Population Studies to be abbreviated CPOPS, and we aim to keep our door wide-open for researchers worldwide, contribute to the scientific development of resource studies for marine mammals especially focusing on cetaceans, and nurture many aspiring scientists.

November 1st, 2017

Seiji Ohsumi, Ph. D.
Lead founding member
Publication Committee for “Cetacean Population Studies”

Seiji Ohsumi



Cetacean Population Studies

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