

Guide to Authors

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.

And 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.

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.

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

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GENERAL GUIDELINES

JMS accepts original papers and invited reviews that have never been published in English in any form. All manuscripts including revision will be subjected to a *plagiarism* checking system by CrossChecking Software iThenticate to avoid plagiarism and inappropriate citation.

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.

SPECIFIC GUIDELINES

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.

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. All authors must consent the submission. **A cover letter with signature by the corresponding author is required** when the manuscript is submitted.

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.

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. Without this, we cannot publish the figures.

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. 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.

Word fonts in the figures must be in **Times New Roman**. Suggested figure sizes are 7-8 cm or 14-16 cm at width with the 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.

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.

1. 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)

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. 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. DOI: [10.1007/s11629-010-1116-1](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. DOI: [10.1007/s11629-011-2040-8](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11629-011-2040-8)

5. 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)

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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.

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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.
- Requests to add or delete authors at revision stage or after submission is a serious matter, and can only be considered after receipt of written approval from all authors and a detailed explanation about the

role/deletion of the new/deleted author (s). The decision on accepting the change rests with the Editor-in-Chief of the journal.

- Upon request authors should be prepared to send relevant documentation or data in order to verify the validity of the results. This could be in the form of raw data, samples, records, etc.
- 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.

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

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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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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".

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

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Title Page should include the title, each author's name, affiliation and email address, and the complete contact information of the corresponding author. The acknowledgement including the funding source should also be put in the title page.

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