

Natural Sciences Style Guide

Format by Journal

Developmental Biology - Used by Dave Tallmon (Genetics and Evolution only)

Lastname, F.M., Lastname, F.M., YYYY. Article title in sentence-style capitalization. Abbrev. J. Title. volume#, page#–page#.

Ecology - Used by Dave Tallmon and Carolyn Bergstrom

Lastname, F.M., and F.M. Lastname. YYYY. Article title in sentence-style capitalization. Full Journal Title volume#(issue#):page#–page#. <https://doi.org/doi-address-for-article>

Marine Mammal Science - Used by Heidi Pearson

Lastname, F.M, & Lastname, F.M. (YYYY). Article title in sentence-style capitalization. *Full Journal Title*, volume#(issue#), page#–page#. <https://doi.org/doi-address-for-article>.

Example Citations in Ecology Style

Situation	In-Text	References
Journal article	California sea lions have about a 2.13% entanglement rate (Allyn & Scordinio, 2020).	Allyn, E.M., and J.J. Scordinio. 2020. Entanglement rates and haulout abundance trends of Steller (<i>Eumetopias jubatus</i>) and California (<i>Zalophus californianus</i>) sea lions on the north coast of Washington state. PLOS ONE 15(8):e0237178. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0237178
Journal article with more than two authors	July and August have the highest entanglement rates in Kaikoura (Boren <i>et al.</i> , 2006).	Boren, L.J., M. Morrissey, C.G. Muller, and N.J. Gemmill. 2006. Entanglement of New Zealand fur seals in man-made debris at Kaikoura, New Zealand. Marine Pollution Bulletin 52(4):442–446. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.marpolbul.2005.12.003
Book	Blue whales are the largest animal to ever live (Reeves <i>et al.</i> , 2002).	Reeves, P.A., B.S. Stewart, P.J. Clapham, and J.A. Powell. 2002. Guide to marine mammals of the world 5th edition. Alfred A. Knopf, New York City, New York, USA. 492.
Multiple works by the same author in the same year	Marine mammals have been hunted for thousands of years (Würsig, 2018a). They are among the smartest animals on the planet (Würsig, 2018b).	Würsig, B. 2018a. Historical perspectives. Moline: Aquatic Mammals 44(6):745–768. https://doi.org/10.1578/AM.44.6.2018.745 Würsig, B. 2018b. Intelligence. Encyclopedia of marine mammals 3rd edition. Elsevier, London, UK. 512–517.
Personal communication	Offshore ecotype killer whales sometimes venture into the Alexander Archipelago to find food (H. Pearson, personal communication, Feb. 2021).	Pearson, H. 9 Feb. 2021. Personal communication. BIOL S384 Marine Mammalogy, Zoom, University of Alaska Southeast, Juneau, Alaska, USA.

Some Abbreviations

As was clear from some of the citation examples above, journal titles need to be abbreviated in *Developmental Biology*, *Science*, *PLOS ONE*, and *Biological Bulletin*. Although you should always consult your instructor and/or the journal you are submitting to for specific requirements, here are a few rules to follow so you know how to abbreviate your citations:

- “Journal” can be abbreviated as “J.”
- “Bulletin” can be abbreviated as “B.”
- “Science” can be abbreviated as “Sci.”
- “Species” can be abbreviated as “Sp.” (singular) or “Spp.” (plural)
- “Chemistry” can be abbreviated as “Chem.”
- Words ending in “-ology” should only include letters that come before “-ogy.”
 - “Biology” becomes “Biol.” and “Ecology” becomes “Ecol.”
- Other words should be abbreviated either at the first or second syllable, depending on what makes the most sense
 - “Developmental” becomes “Devel.” and “Pollution” becomes “Poll.”
- Single-word titles should not be abbreviated

Writing Names

For many biology and ecology classes, you will be required to write names of many different types of animals, plants, and all types of other living things. Most common species have both a common name and a scientific name. The following shows the proper ways to indicate each.

Common Names

Common names should always be in lowercase letters (ex. 1) except when they begin a sentence or when the name contains a proper noun (ex. 2).

Ex. 1: My favorite animal is the humpback whale. I love mountain hemlock trees, too.

Ex. 2: I enjoy seeing California sea lions. My friend really likes Barclay’s willow.

Scientific/Latin Names

When writing out scientific names, only genus and species should be written in italics. Only species and subspecies (where applicable) should be lowercase (ex. 1). When referring to a specific species, write only the genus and species with the common name in parentheses (ex. 2). Subsequent references may abbreviate the genus name (ex. 3). When referring to any particular clade (i.e., a subphylum or a family), include the type of the clade in the name (ex. 4).

Ex. 1: Domain Eukarya Kingdom Animalia Phylum Chordata Subphylum Vertebrata Class Mammalia Order Carnivora Family Mustelidae *Genus Enhydra species lutris subspecies lutris*

Ex. 2: All *Alnus rubra* (red alder) individuals grew more than three feet during our study.

Ex. 3: We looked for *Salix reticulata* (net-leaf willow) above 600 meters within twenty randomly-selected quadrats. We counted an average of two individuals of *S. reticulata* in each.

Ex. 4: I study all the animals in Infraorder Odontoceti. My favorite animals are in Family Monodontidae.