
Ecology Letters

A flagship journal and how it is run

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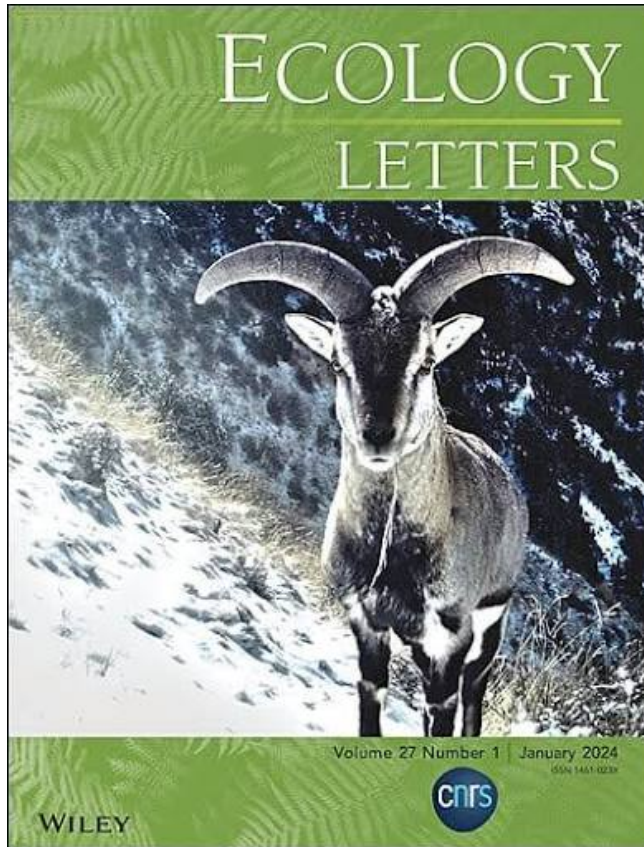
Odum School of Ecology, University of Georgia · Senior Editor, *Ecology Letters*

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The journal at a glance



- Founded **1998**; published by **Wiley** in association with the **CNRS** (French National Centre for Scientific Research)
- International, high-selectivity outlet for **concise, conceptually novel** ecology
- Rolling online publication · ISSN 1461-023X (print) / 1461-0248 (online)

By the numbers

- **Impact factor 7.9** (2024 Journal Citation Reports) — consistently among the top general-ecology journals
- Highly selective: the majority of submissions are declined, many without review
- Short-format by design — a *Letter* is capped at 5000 words

A commercial journal with a national–agency backbone

History and the CNRS

- Launched in **1998** and built quickly into a flagship outlet for general and theoretical ecology
- Published by Wiley **in association with the CNRS** — France's national research organization, founded in 1939 and one of the largest in the world
- The partnership gives the journal a scientific, non-commercial anchor: editorial direction sits with the scientific board, not the publisher

The senior editorial team



Pete Thrall
Editor-in-Chief



John Drake
Methods & Perspectives



Jonathan Chase
Syntheses



Helene Muller-Landau
Senior Editor



Barbara Han
Senior Editor



Akira Mori
Senior Editor

The senior editors set policy and make the final call; each stewards one or more article types. Behind them, the editorial office — **Nathalie Espuno** and **Stephane Hello** — keeps papers moving. They are real people in real offices, not bots, and responsiveness to their emails is the single most important courtesy an editor can offer.

A distributed editorial board

Three functionally distinct roles:

Role	What they do
Editor-in-Chief & Senior Editors	Set policy, make final decisions and appeals, give strategic direction
Associate Editors	Handle peer review for individual papers: assess, choose reviewers, interpret reviews, recommend a decision
Data Editors	Check code and data availability, open-science compliance, reproducibility

Ecology Letters runs a **broad, distributed board** rather than a few high-volume handling editors — more expertise, wider representation, fewer bottlenecks.

The associate editors

Frederick R. Adler
Michelle Afkhami
Marina Alberti
Greg Albery
William Anderegg
Sally Archibald
Louise Amy Ashton
Edith Bai
Petr Baldrian
Gyuri Barabas
Richard D. Bardgett
Andrew Barnes
Ignasi Bartomeus
Frida Ben-Ami
Cleo Bertelsmeier
Carl Boettiger
Jedediah Brodie
Ulrich Brose
James (Jeb) E. Byers
Vincent Calcagno
Cayelan Carey

Jane Catford
Ryan Chisholm
Liza Comita
Julien Cote
Franck Courchamp
Tad Dallas
Jonathan Davies
Nico De Bruyn
Frédéric De Laender
Luc De Meester
Franciska De Vries
Laura Dee
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Anna Jolles
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Po-Ju Ke
Johannes M H Knops
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Kevin Lafferty
Jonathan Lenoir
Lee Hsiang Liow
Lingli Liu
Dustin Marshall
Jason Matthiopoulos
Sean Michaletz

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Juan Manuel Morales
Erin Mordecai
David Mouillot
Stephen Munch
Tamara Münkemüller
Shuli Niu
Vojtech Novotny
Rick Ostfeld
Jelena Pantel
Josep Peñuelas
Malin L. Pinsky
Mathias Pires
Timothée Poisot
Jennifer Powers
Heather Reynolds
Pejman Rohani
Kristen Ruegg
Rob Salguero-Gómez
Christoph Scherber
Thad Scott

Marc-André Selosse
Emily Shepard
Lauren Shoemaker
Andrew Sih
Chuliang Song
Gabriele Sorci
Orr Spiegel
Adrian Stier
David Storch
Nathan Swenson
Marlee Tucker
Ted Turlings
Wim H. van der Putten
Diego Vázquez
Montserrat Vilà
Cyrille Violle
Shaopeng Wang
David Westneat
John J. Wiens
John Williams
Tim Wootton

Article types

Type	Purpose	Limit
Letter	Main article type — concise, novel primary research	5000 words · 6 display items
Review & Synthesis	Synthetic advances that reshape a question	7500 words · 10 display items
Perspective	Forward-looking conceptual argument	7500 words · 10 display items
Methods	New methodological or analytical tools	5000 words · 6 display items
Viewpoint	Short opinion or commentary	2000 words · 2 display items
Technical Note	Brief technical point	800 words · 2 display items

Match the recommendation to the type: do not decline a *Methods* paper for being methodological, or a *Viewpoint* for being short.

How it all moves: REX

The screenshot displays the WILEY REX interface, which is used for manuscript submissions and editorial workflows. The interface is divided into several sections:

- WILEY Logo:** Located at the top left.
- Search and User:** A search bar and a user profile dropdown (John M) are located at the top right.
- Filters:** A sidebar on the left contains filters for Journal (All), Focus (Journal-wide, Editor), Priority (Action required, In progress, Finalized, All), Status (Assign Editor, Make Decision), Article type (Perspective, Method), and Special Issue (Part of Special Issue, All).
- Action required:** A section showing manuscripts 1-5 of 5. It includes a "Detailed view" toggle and a "Sort by" dropdown (Last update (oldest first)).
- Manuscript Details:** Three manuscript entries are shown, each with a "TRANSPARENT PEER REVIEW" label and a "MAKE DECISION" or "ASSIGN EDITOR" button.
 - Manuscript 1:** ID 4336452, Title: "The Temporal Constancy Hypothesis and the Stability of Plant-Insect Interactions under Climate Change", Author: Lauren Azevedo-Schmidt, S. Augusta Maccracken, Jessica A. Rick, Richard J. Knecht, Ellen D. Currano, Naomi E. Pierce, William F. Fagan, Conrad C. Labandeira, Anshuman Swain. Article Type: Perspective. Peer Review Editor: Christoph Scherber. Reviewer reports: 2 Used of 2 Submitted, 0 Overdue, 0 Invalidated. Keywords: climate change, global change, herbivore, ecology, biodiversity, global warming, terrestrial ecosystem, last glacial maximum, biology, ecosystem. Reviewer invitation statuses: 0 Accepted, 0 Pending, 0 Declined, 0 Expired, 0 Revoked. Required reviewers for accept decision: 2 of 1 Required unique reviewers. Journal: Ecology Letters. Submitted on: May 26, 2026 (1 month ago).
 - Manuscript 2:** ID 2630685, Title: "Beyond multiple stressors: ecological systems as interlocked stress-scapes", Author: Léa Lorrain-Soligon, François Brischoix. Article Type: Perspective. Peer Review Editor: Unassigned. Reviewer reports: 0 Used of 0 Submitted, 0 Overdue, 0 Invalidated. Keywords: stressor, abiotic component, ecological systems theory, ecology, adaptation, interdependence, biology. Reviewer invitation statuses: 0 Queued, 0 Accepted, 0 Pending, 0 Declined, 0 Expired, 0 Revoked. Required reviewers for accept decision: 0 of 3 Required unique reviewers. Journal: Ecology Letters. Submitted on: Jun 09, 2026 (24 days ago).
 - Manuscript 3:** ID 3185490, Title: "Not-So-Remote Sensing: Using UAV and smartphone photogrammetry to quantify individual-scale microhabitats", Author: L. Claire Powers, Helena Shapiro, Megan L. DeMarche, Meredith A. Zettlemoyer, William F. Morris, Daniel F. Doak. Article Type: Method. Peer Review Editor: Unassigned. Reviewer reports: 0 Used of 0 Submitted, 0 Overdue, 0 Invalidated. Keywords: photogrammetry, environmental change, digital elevation model, terrain, environmental data, drone, tundra, cushion, geography, silhouette. Reviewer invitation statuses: 0 Queued, 0 Accepted, 0 Pending, 0 Declined, 0 Expired, 0 Revoked. Required reviewers for accept decision: 0 of 3 Required unique reviewers. Journal: Ecology Letters. Submitted on: May 26, 2026 (1 month ago).

REX is the submission and editorial system where the whole workflow lives — assignments, reviewer invitations, recommendations, and the office's messages to you.

Which is what the next ninety minutes are about.

The rest is judgment