

## STILT – INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

*Stilt* is the journal of the Australasian Wader Studies Group and publishes material on all aspects of waders (shorebirds) of the East Asian-Australasian Flyway and nearby parts of the Pacific region. Authors should send their manuscript by email to the editor at [stilt@birdlife.org.au](mailto:stilt@birdlife.org.au). Authors are strongly encouraged to consult these instructions in conjunction with the most recent issue of *Stilt* when preparing their manuscripts. Authors are asked to carefully check the final typescript for errors and inconsistencies to minimise delays in publication. Authors are also encouraged to seek collegial advice on writing style and English before submitting manuscripts.

Material sent to *Stilt* is assumed to be original and must not have been submitted for publication elsewhere. All authors listed must agree to the publication of the material. Please refer to the *Stilt* Publication Ethics and Malpractice Statement for further information in relation to co-authorship and similar matters. The Publication Ethics statement is available at [www.awsg.org.au/stilt](http://www.awsg.org.au/stilt).

*Stilt* publishes research papers, short communications, reports, book reviews, conference abstracts (usually only from the Australasian Shorebird Conference), notifications of AWSG committee matters and state-wide wader group reports. Research papers and short communications are peer-reviewed, and authors are welcome to suggest two or more suitable reviewers. Other material will usually be edited only, although reports may receive one or more reviews at the editor's discretion. If a revision is requested, corresponding authors must submit the revised manuscript by the requested date or seek an extension from the editor.

*Stilt* is produced twice a year. Suitable material submitted before 1st July/1st January will normally be published in the next issue of *Stilt* in November/May. Late submissions may be accepted at the editor's discretion. Submissions should be presented in a Microsoft Word or Google Doc. All contributions, including table and figure captions and references, should be double spaced in 11 pt Times New Roman font. Tables should be in 10 pt Times New Roman. Please refer to the most recent version of *Stilt* for table styles. If photographs or grayscale images are to be included, please submit images in one of the following formats: jpg, jpeg, tiff, gif, bmp, pdf, pcx or eps. Figures, photos or other graphics exceeding 2 MB in size should be sent as separate files, clearly labelled to enable cross-referencing. Please ensure that photographs are of highest possible quality. Poor quality images will not be accepted.

### RESEARCH PAPERS

Research papers should document the outcome of original research from scientific studies and monitoring of waders. Research papers should contain the following sections:

**TITLE** - in bold, capitalised type.

**AUTHORS NAME AND ADDRESS** – JOHN SMITH<sup>1</sup>, STEPHEN BROWN<sup>2</sup> AND MAX WELL<sup>3</sup>

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The corresponding author should not be underlined.

**RUNNING TITLE** – should be a maximum of 50 characters. For example, this is too long:

*Eurasian Curlew ingesting Long-tailed Tit and Orange-flanked Bush Robin*

**ABSTRACT** – summarise the main findings of the study, preferably in fewer than 200 words.

**KEYWORDS** – No keyword used at present but this could be added in future if DOIs are assigned to articles.

**INTRODUCTION** – a short section of about half a journal page to “set the scene” and explain to the reader why the study was important. It should end with a clear definition of the aims of the study.

**METHODS** – describe the methods used in the study in sufficient detail to enable the work to be repeated.

**RESULTS** – contains the key findings of the study. Where feasible, present data in figures and/or tables.

**DISCUSSION** – explain the significance of the major results obtained, their relevance to other work, and implications for future research.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS** – a section to thank others who have contributed to the work. If applicable, include ethics committee approvals and funding sources.

**REFERENCES** – list the literature cited in the paper. References should be in alphabetical order. If there are several publications by the same author(s), organise these chronologically and list multi-authored references after single author citations by the same author. Examples of the required format:

*Single author papers:* **Smith, F.T.H.** 1964. Wader observations in southern Victoria, 1962-1963. *Australian Bird Watcher* 2:70-84.

*Multi-authored papers:* **Dann, P., R.H. Loyn & P. Bingham** 1994. Ten years of water bird counts in Westernport Victoria 1973-83. II. Waders, gulls and terns. *Australian Bird Watcher* 15:351-67.

*Books:* **Kershaw, K.A.** 1964. *Quantitative and dynamic ecology*. Edward Arnold, London.

*Reports:* **Noor, Y.R.** 1994. A status overview of shore birds in Indonesia. Pp. 178-88. *In:* Wells, D.R. & T. Mundur. (Eds.) *Conservation of migratory water birds and their wetland habitats in the East Asian Australia Flyway*. Asian Wetland Bureau, Malaysia.

*Online material:* **Dutson G., S. Garnett & C. Gole** 2009. Australia's Important Bird Areas: Key sites for bird conservation. *Birds Australia (RAOU) Conservation Statement Number 15*. Available at <http://www.birdlife.org.au/document/OTHPUB-IBA-supp.pdf> (accessed 10 August 2012). Please check the copyright section of the webpages, they usually have a recommended citation.

Recommended format for online early articles (with no volume/page number available yet):

*Stilt* **73-74 (2020)**: 1-11 (online early)

All tables and figures should be referred to in the main text. For example:

**TABLES** – There should be no lines in the table except at the top and bottom of the table and below the column headings. All tables should be prepared using the word processing table function and included after the Reference section. Please do not produce tables created as lists using tab stops.

**FIGURES** – All maps should have a border, distance scale, reference latitude and longitude and/or inset map to enable readers unfamiliar with the area to locate the site in an atlas. Google Maps and Google Earth images will be accepted but are discouraged as they reproduce poorly in print. Line figures are preferred. At their minimum, Google Earth images should retain the Google trademark device and year of image publication. Figures should have a self-explanatory caption. Figures should be placed after Tables.

**APPENDICES** – Appendices should supplement but not repeat material elsewhere (i.e. in tables and figures). Appendices should be accompanied by a self-explanatory caption. Formatting should follow that for other manuscript components. *Stilt* does not have the capacity to accommodate Supplementary Material Online.

### **SHORT COMMUNICATIONS**

These present material, insufficient for a research paper on any matters relating to the flyway and the shorebirds in it. They are not usually subdivided into sections like research articles and do not require an abstract. Generally, short communications should be word documents less than six pages 1.5-spaced including all tables, figures and photographs.

### **REPORTS**

Reports are intended to provide updates on wader group activities, regular monitoring and related topics. Reports are not usually subject to peer-review, although the editor and editorial board reserve the right to send reports out for review if they feel another opinion on content is required. Reports should be written following the same style as Research Papers, however they do not require an abstract and Results and Discussion may be combined into a single section "RESULTS AND DISCUSSION".

### **STILT STYLISTIC MATTERS**

Use British English not American. E.g., characterise not characterize.

In general, nomenclature of Australian birds should follow **Christidis, L. & W. Boles**. 2008. *Systematics and Taxonomy of Australian Birds*. CSIRO Publishing, Australia. The first reference to a species in the text should have the scientific name in italics after the common name. The scientific name of the species should be written out full in the abstract. Where alternative nomenclature is used, the appropriate reference(s) should be clearly cited.

The terms "summer" and "winter" should be avoided, if possible. Instead, it is recommended that authors use the terminology "breeding" and "non-breeding". If this is not possible, a clear explanation of the month(s) referred to are necessary. East Asian-Australasian Flyway (**not** East-Asian Australasian Flyway) should be spelt out in full on first mention and then subsequently written as EAAF. Subsequent mention of the EAAF as the flyway should be title case, as in, Flyway.

Directions should be lower case and hyphenated, as in "north-west" not "North West". Coordinates should be listed in degrees and minutes, usually with the northing (or southing) first followed by the easting, as in Bagan Serdang (3o 42' N, 98o 50' E).

For all manuscripts, first level headings should be **BOLD and UPPERCASE**, second level headings should be **Bold and lower case** and further subheadings in *italics*.

All measurements must be in the metric system and SI units where appropriate (e.g. mm, km, °C etc). Rates should be recorded as, for example, d<sup>-1</sup> rather than /day or per day. Whole numbers one to nine should be spelled out and numbers 10 onwards given in numerals. Full binomial names should be given on the first occasion a common name for an organism is used. Authors are encouraged to examine previous recent issues of *Stilt* for examples of the presentation of different types of material. The editor is happy to advise on issues that cannot be so resolved.