

Conditions for Rejection Without Review (RWR) at *Journal of Phycology*

The following conditions must be met for an article submitted to *Journal of Phycology* to enter the review process. The major reasons to introduce RWR at *Journal of Phycology* are:

1. Publish only the best articles.
2. Optimize limited resources, in particular, to minimize “reviewer fatigue.”
3. Speed up the publication process by reducing the total number of manuscripts considered for publication.
4. Return the article as rapidly as possible to the authors so that they can submit their work in a timely manner to another journal, or add new information and/or improve the text in ways that address the issues and concerns that resulted in a RWR.

When is a manuscript considered for RWR? RWR is initiated when the AE and CEC conclude that the manuscript does not meet the standards of **Journal of Phycology**. In such a case, the AE/CEC will check off the appropriate boxes and provide a brief explanation (1 or 2 sentences) that describes the major issue(s) that led to the RWR decision. This information will be provided to the communicating author.

1. Article content outside the scope of *Journal of Phycology*. YES NO
2. Non-conformity with journal style or format. YES NO
3. Significant overlap with existing work or evidence of plagiarism. YES NO
4. Results not novel or of high significance; i.e., incremental advance. YES NO
5. Conclusions not strongly supported by the results. YES NO
6. Experimental design or execution requires more rigor. YES NO
7. Results or interpretation are too preliminary or speculative. YES NO
8. Lack of clarity/conciseness in presentation. YES NO
9. English usage not sufficiently clear to allow easy appraisal of the work. YES NO