

Guidelines for Findings Abstracts Submitted to the *Human Dimensions of Wildlife*

Jerry J. Vaske
Professor
jerryv@cnr.colostate.edu

Michael J. Manfreda
Professor
manfreda@cnr.colostate.edu

Co-Editors, *Human Dimensions of Wildlife*
Human Dimensions in Natural Resources Unit
College of Natural Resources
Colorado State University
Fort Collins, CO 80523

Please direct all correspondence to Jerry J Vaske at the above address.

Abstract

The following demonstrates and explains guidelines for submitting *Findings Abstracts* to *Human Dimensions of Wildlife (HDW)*. The purpose of findings abstracts is to promote the awareness and use of research findings that typically may not be published in refereed journals. This might include abstracts of dissertations, agency reports, and private consultant research. Findings abstracts are typically a total of 4 pages (with page 1 the title page), double-spaced, 12-point font, 1 inch margins, and less than 450 words. Authors should consult the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (Fifth edition) for extensive information on abstract preparation (§1.07). On the title page, include the title of the full manuscript, the full name of the author(s), academic or professional affiliation(s), and complete address (including email address, phone and fax) of the person to whom correspondence should be sent. The names of the author(s) should only appear on the title page. The word “Abstract” should be typed at the top (centered) of the first page of the actual abstract (i.e., the second page after the title page).

Findings abstracts are a summary of data based research findings that have not been published in a refereed journal. Readers often use abstracts to determine whether to read or obtain the full manuscripts. It is important that text be relevant, concise, and present the vital components of papers. Abstracts should explain the purpose of the study, method, results, the most important findings with significant levels, conclusions, and managerial implications.

Although the abstract may be rich with data, it should be brief, readable, organized, and self-contained.

The lead sentence should contain the most important information. Summarize data verbally, including only four or five of the most significant concepts and findings. Findings abstracts typically do not include tables or figures. Report only those findings that are contained within the full document (e.g., dissertation, agency report) and avoid evaluating, adding, or commenting. To reduce length, use digits for numbers (except at the beginning of sentences), and employ universal abbreviations (e.g., “vs.” rather than “versus”). Acronyms must be spelled out and less common abbreviations defined the first time they are used. Write in the active voice, avoiding the use of personal pronouns. Finally, cite references if they are used.