## **Peer Review Process**

The main aim of peer review process is to verify the accuracy and reliability of the manuscript's content, and to request author (where it is needed) to correct the manuscript according to standards adopted in certain scientific area and according to Guidelines for Authors of the Journal «Proceedings of the Mordovia State Nature Reserve».

The manuscript is sent for review to two independent reviewers (double-blind peer review) if it meets the subject and the requirements of the journal for articles. The policy of the journal "Proceedings of the Mordovia State Nature Reserve" implies the anonymity of reviewers and authors in relation to each other. The Editorial Board requests the reviewer to take into account the aim and tasks of the journal "Proceedings of the Mordovia State Nature Reserve" related to nature research and conservation.

The main reasons for rejection of the article are:

- Discrepancy with thematic of journal.
- The absence of objective assessment of the current state of affairs on subject of the article.
- If the submitted material has already been published in other scientific printed and / or electronic publications.

Discrepancy with above conditions will be reason for rejection of manuscript only in case if the authors themselves do not see this discrepancy, if they cannot explain it and if they do not correct these problem causes during the processing of manuscript after receiving of reviewers' comments.

Mismatch of personal opinion of the reviewer with opinion of author in article cannot be considered as a reason for rejection of manuscript.

The peer review policy of the journal «Proceedings of the Mordovia State Nature Reserve» involves the anonymity of reviewers.

Reviewing is carried out confidentially by members of the Editorial Board of «Proceedings of the Mordovia State Nature Reserve». We do not involve experts who work in the same institution where the work was carried out, either where one (or more) author(s) works.

The result of the review process is the recommendation of the reviewer. The Editor-in-Chief (or whole Editorial Board, if it necessary) makes final decision on publication / rejection of the manuscript, as well as on the order of its placement in the journal. If opinions of Editor-in-Chief and Reviewers do not match, then the manuscript will be sent to the additional expert for further (additional) review.

Manuscript, directed to the author for revision, must be returned during one month.

Additionally, author(s) must present the corresponding letter containing answers to all comments of reviewers and this letter should explain all changes made in the article.

## **Order of Peer Review Process**

- Once a manuscript is submitted, Editor-in-Chief or Managing Editor decide on the choice of reviewer(s) for the manuscript according to subject of the manuscript.
  - Manuscript will be sent to two independent reviewers for reviewing of the manuscript.
  - The result of the review process is the recommendations of the invited reviewer.
- Nominated reviewer should review the manuscript over one month (30 days) and then the specialist should provide the recommendation to the Editorial Board.
- The reviews on manuscript containing all the comments and suggestions of reviewers will be sent to the author (taking into account the anonymity of reviewers). Additionally, the

Editorial Board has the right to create its own review, containing recommendations concerning the structure of the manuscript and its compliance to the Guidelines for Authors.

- After receiving of the results of reviewing, during one month (30 days), author must prepare all necessary materials: 1) manuscript corrected in accordance with remarks and comments of the reviewers; 2) files with detailed answers to the comments and remarks of reviewers (one file for each of the reviewers).
  - Revised manuscript will be sent to experts for re-review.
- In a case if all reviews are positive, Editor-in-Chief (or Editorial Board) makes the final decision about the publication of manuscript.
  - In a case of negative review, author gets the reasoned decision on rejection.
- If the author does not agree with the decision, the author may send the reasoned response to the Editorial Board. And it will be reviewed by Editor-in-Chief and Editorial Board of the journal «Proceedings of the Mordovia State Nature Reserve».