

Transitional Waters Bulletin

Transitional Waters Bulletin is a journal edited by the University of Lecce.

This journal is dedicated to publish rapidly and for a large audience innovative results of field and laboratory experiments, new techniques and creative new ideas and theoretical developments on all aspects of the ecology and conservation of river mouth ecosystems, lagoons, coastal lakes and brackish wetlands. Theoretical, analytical, experimental, empirical, historical, descriptive approaches are all included, from any field and organization level of interest in ecology (i.e., from ecophysiology and ecotoxicology to ecosystem and landscape ecology). Papers reporting ecological research on all kind of organisms are welcome. *Transitional Waters Bulletin* will also strongly encourage the submission of technical papers, reporting technical and methodological innovations or new technical and methodological developments in the fields of most general interest. The journal provides a multidisciplinary unifying Forum in which all aspects of monitoring and conservation of transitional ecosystem health and of sustainable and adaptive management of the natural heritage of transitional landscapes, also with historical and socio-ecological perspectives, can be presented and discussed. Short research or concept papers and letters that are well grounded in ecological theory and have broad implications for environmental policy and resource management are well suited for the publication in the Forum section.

Transitional Waters Bulletin will start with four issues per year. Relatively short papers, 6 to 8 printed pages, corresponding roughly to 3-3.5 manuscript pages inclusive of tables and figures, are strongly encouraged. Papers longer than 16-18 printed pages may be considered for the publication on *Transitional Waters Monographs* at the discretion of the editors. Papers must be original and not be work previously published in the primary literature. This does not mean that reanalysis, interpretation or assessment of published data is in anyway excluded from the journal. Some forms of prior grey literature publication are acceptable both on *Transitional Waters Bulletin* and, particularly, on *Transitional Waters Monographs*, at the discretion of the subject-matter or eco-regional area editor.

Transitional Waters Bulletin is expected to have a wide audience, encompassing scientists in research institutes, universities, industry, environmental organisations and all level of government as well as aquatic habitat managers and policy makers concerned with these issues.

All aspects of the ecology and conservation of river mouth ecosystems, lagoons, coastal lakes and brackish wetlands are subjects covered by *Transitional Waters Bulletin*; they include the following topics:

- Transitional water ecology & phenomena
- Species distribution in relation to varying environments
- Transitional water sedimentary processes and bio-geochemistry
- Modeling of transitional water ecosystems
- Habitat typology and community classification
- Theoretical principles underlying ecosystem health surveillance and monitoring
- Impact assessment research and study cases

- Management, conservation and rehabilitation of habitat and communities
- Historical and socio-ecological adaptive management
- Legal framework for conservation

Types of contributions

Perspectives. Perspectives are expected to be pivotal papers providing synthetic overview, critical commentary, historical and multidisciplinary perspective, primarily by established scientists and outstanding experts in transitional aquatic ecosystem ecology and management. Perspectives will be generally invited papers, but aspiring authors should feel encouraged to contact the Editor-in-Chief.

Reports & Article. Reports and articles are expected to disclose original and innovative work that substantially advance a field, overturn existing ideas or advance the knowledge on transitional water ecosystems at eco-regional level. Reports are expected to be concise and effective presentations of theoretical, analytical, experimental, empirical, historical, descriptive work, with an average length of 5-6 printed pages. Submissions may contain up to 20 manuscript pages, roughly 5000 words with an up to 200 words abstract. Manuscript longer than 20 manuscript pages, up to 50 manuscript pages, can be accepted as Articles. The greater length of Articles relative to Reports must be justified by their significance for science. The abstract can have a maximum of 350 words. Our target is a rapid peer review process, editorial decision and publication. The authors will receive the referee's comments within 4 weeks from the manuscript submission, for Report papers, and within 8 weeks, for Article papers.

Special Features & Forums. Special Features are intended to address a theme of particular contemporary interest and that is likely to be of broad interest to transitional water scientists and managers. A Special Feature should teach a large audience about an unfamiliar topic or an area in which there has been considerable present progress or interests. Special Feature format is more flexible than Reports and Articles, but it generally encourage very concise and effective papers contributing to each Special Feature. Forums can take a number of forma but always includes a series of commentaries solicited from a number of experts. These commentaries represent personal views or responses to papers considered to be of very broad interest or significance within the fields covered by the journal.

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The journal publication begins in 2005.