

Fisheries & Wildlife Scholarly Publications and Valley Library Impacts

One of the present concerns in the field of scholarly communication is the rapidly escalating costs to institutional libraries of professional publications, both electronic and paper. This issue and others, such as institutional repositories and open access to scholarly work, are discussed in more detail at http://osulibrary.oregonstate.edu/scholarly_communication/. The Faculty Senate Library Committee, in conjunction with the Faculty Senate Task Force on Scholarly Communication (hereafter the Task Force), has begun an analysis of OSU Library subscription costs for journals on a department-by-department basis.

For the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, a list of all publications in peer-reviewed journals for the period 2000-2005 was assembled. For the top 50 journals, the Valley Library provided data on institutional subscription costs, the publisher, and the journal impact factor. The cost data apply only to paper subscriptions paid for by OSU Libraries; electronic publishing and access as well as author charges (page and reprint costs) are not included in this analysis.

Of the 242 F&W publications compiled for this report, over 70% were published by professional societies and/or non-profit publishers in 31 different journals. Submissions to 17 journals published by commercial, for profit, companies accounted for 26% of the total. The remaining publications, in *Science* and *Nature*, were analyzed separately.

In 2005, the total cost to OSU Libraries for these journals was \$75,700, with the commercial journals comprising \$57,182, or 75%, of that total. The Library cost per page was significantly greater for commercial journals, which charge an average of \$1.67/page compared to \$0.32/page for professional journals. The comparatively low page costs for *Science* and *Nature* (\$0.17/page) reflect the added revenue these journals generate from advertising.

Science and *Nature* had the highest impact factors (mean 32.02), reflecting their much wider distribution and audiences (see <http://ir.library.oregonstate.edu/dspace/handle/1957/1852> for a discussion of the pros and cons of this measure of journal use). Mean impact factors for non-profit/society publications were not significantly different from the commercial venues (1.92 vs. 1.60). Given the much higher institutional costs and the apparent lack of difference in quality of publication (as measured by journal impact factors), it would behoove Fisheries & Wildlife researchers to consider publication in society and non-profit journals.

The OSU Task Force recommends that faculty and students publish in professional journals rather than commercial ones when they have the choice. Other actions by the scholarly community include consenting to review submissions to professional journals while declining to do so for high-priced commercial publications. Such practices will contribute to sustainable journal pricing for academic libraries and those who depend on them.

Most Frequently Published Journals, Department of Fisheries & Wildlife, 2000 – 2005
Professional Society & Non-Profit Publications

Non-Profit & Society Publications	# Pubs 2000-2005	OSU Library Price	Impact Factor	2005 Pages Published	Cost per Page	Publisher
Amer. Nat.	2	\$514.32	4.48	1519	\$0.34	U Chicago Press
Auk	2	\$128.44	1.67	1310	\$0.10	OSNA
BioScience	3	\$323.66	3.04	1098	\$0.29	AIBS
Can J Fish Aquat Sci	18	\$980.24	1.97	2900	\$0.34	NRC, Canada
Can J Zool	5	\$1,364.52	n/a	1648	\$0.83	NRC, Canada
Condor	10	\$184.95	1.43	953	\$0.19	OSNA
Conserv Biol	7	\$653.49	3.67	2065	\$0.32	SCB/Blackwell
Ecol Appl	9	\$275.00	3.29	2210	\$0.12	ESA\Allen Press
Ecology	4	\$690.00	4.10	3429	\$0.20	ESA\Allen Press
Environ Health Perspec	2	\$368.00	3.93	1840	\$0.20	Superintendent of Docs
Environ Toxicol Chem	6	\$1,116.17	2.12	3182	\$0.35	SETAC\Allen Press
Fisheries	10	\$112.00	1.58	600	\$0.19	AFS
J Aquat Anim Health	2	\$263.00	0.84	386	\$0.68	AFS
J Biol Chem	2	\$2,291.33	6.36	43280	\$0.05	ASBMB
J Cetacean Res Mgmt	2	\$367.00	n/a	n/a	n/a	Intl Whaling Comm
J Fish Biol	3	\$2,848.23	1.20	1796	\$1.59	FSBI\Blackwell
J Mammal	3	\$213.39	1.27	1260	\$0.17	ASM\Allen Press
J Parasitol	3	\$235.28	1.44	1512	\$0.16	Allen Press
J Raptor Res	6	\$66.79	0.46	n/a	n/a	OSNA
J Am Water Res Assn	6	\$210.64	0.62	1494	\$0.14	AWRA
J N Am Benthol Socty	10	\$136.70	1.79	1011	\$0.14	NABS\Allen Press
J Wildlife Mgmt	10	\$300.00	1.48	1754	\$0.17	Alliance Comm Grp
Marine Mammal Sci	2	\$131.00	1.18	900	\$0.15	SMM/Blackwell
Nordic J FW Res	2	\$350.00	n/a	n/a	n/a	Inst Freshwater Res
North Am J Fish Mgmt	6	\$263.00	0.91	1596	\$0.16	AFS
Northwest Science	7	\$83.00	0.38	n/a	n/a	WSU Press
Trans Am Fish Socty	18	\$1,044.00	1.28	1605	\$0.65	AFS
Waterbirds	3	\$88.00	0.38	531	\$0.17	OSNA
Western North Am Nat	3	\$65.00	0.22	n/a	n/a	BYU
Wildlife Socty Bull	4	\$380.00	0.71	1353	\$0.28	TWS
Yamashina Inst Ornithol	2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	not available
Totals	172	\$16,047.15				
Means		\$534.91	1.92		\$0.32	

Most Frequently Published Journals, Department of Fisheries & Wildlife, 2000 – 2005
Commercial Journals

Commercial Publishers	# Pubs 2000- 2005	OSU Library Price	Impact Factor	2005 Pages Published	Cost per Page	Publisher
Aquaculture	7	\$3,946.00	1.63	1391	\$2.84	Elsevier Limited
Biol Cons	2	\$2,624.00	2.17	3530	\$0.74	Elsevier Limited
Ecol Indicators	2	\$445.00	n/a	374	\$1.19	Elsevier Limited
Ecol Model	2	\$4,093.00	1.65	3120	\$1.31	Elsevier Limited
Environ Mgmt	4	\$1,095.00	0.91	1755	\$0.62	Springer Verlag
Environ Monitor Assess	5	\$3,298.00	0.61	3674	\$0.90	Springer Verlag GmbH
Fish Physiol Biochem	2	\$455.00	0.40	299	\$1.52	Springer Verlag GmbH
Forest Ecol Mgmt	10	\$3,773.00	1.52	4433	\$0.85	Elsevier Limited
Freshwater Biol	8	\$4,011.36	2.21	2168	\$1.85	Blackwell Publishing
Gen Comp Endocrinol	4	\$2,430.00	1.75	1509	\$1.61	Elsevier Limited
Hydrol Processes	2	\$3,455.00	1.46	4209	\$0.82	John Wiley & Sons
J Exp Marine Biol Ecol	2	\$4,729.00	1.59	3013	\$1.57	Elsevier Limited
Marine Ecol Prog Ser	2	\$5,398.00	n/a	n/a	n/a	Inter Research
Mol Ecol Notes	3	\$6,145.00	1.18	976	\$6.30	Blackwell Publishing
Oecologia	4	\$4,748.00	2.90	3188	\$1.49	Springer Verlag
Reviews Fisheries Sci	3	\$626.00	2.12	320	\$1.96	Taylor & Francis
Sci Total Environ	2	\$5,911.00	1.93	5188	\$1.14	Elsevier Science
Totals	64	\$57,182.36				
Means		\$3,363.67	1.60		\$1.67	
Nature & Science						
Nature	2	\$1,803.00	32.18	7148	\$0.25	Nature Publishing Group
Science	4	\$668.00	31.85	8428	\$0.08	AAAS
Totals	6	\$2,471.00				
Means		\$1,235.50	32.02		\$0.17	