

## The ASM Buddy System

A free service from  
the American Society of Mammalogists  
that provides a friendly, professional  
mammalogist who will work with  
international authors to improve the  
quality of their English.

### To Our International Authors:

If English is not your primary language, you may request a “buddy” to help improve the English in your manuscript for the *Journal of Mammalogy* or *Mammalian Species*. Each buddy is a professional mammalogist who volunteers his or her time to help you improve the English in your manuscript. There is no charge for this service.

The word “buddy” translates into friend, colleague, associate, or pal.

This is not a translation service. Your buddy will help you make the English (grammar, word usage) in your manuscript clearer so that reviewers can understand it and are able to judge your manuscript on scientific content and not on your ability to write in English.

If you are interested in getting help through the ASM Buddy System, you must first submit your manuscript.

For the *Journal of Mammalogy*, submit your manuscript to:

<https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jmamm>

To submit a manuscript to *Mammalian Species* use:

<https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/mammsp>

Indicate in your cover letter that you would like to have help from the Buddy System.

The *Journal* Editor or *Mammalian Species* Editor will review the manuscript for overall scientific content and appropriateness for the journal and will identify a fellow mammalogist who is willing to work with you on the language in your manuscript.

Although this service is intended to help you publish manuscripts in English, participation in the ASM buddy system is not a guarantee that your work will be published in the *Journal of Mammalogy* or *Mammalian Species*; after you have worked with a buddy to improve the language in your manuscript, the work must still pass rigorous peer review.