INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS

Submission and editorial policy
Submissions should be made online at the African Journal of Marine Science ScholarOne manuscripts site (http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/tams). New users should first create an account. Once a user is logged onto the site, submissions should be made via the Author Centre. Should you have difficulty submitting material online, please notify the Editor-in-Chief, Sheldon Dudley, at sheddond@daf.gov.za.

In a cover letter, the author is encouraged to suggest the names and contact addresses (including e-mail addresses) of three appropriate referees who have not been associated with the research being submitted, although the Editors will not be bound by such suggestions. Furthermore, the author must confirm in the letter that the work is original and is not currently under consideration for publication elsewhere. Contributions must conform to the principles outlined in the document titled Ethical Considerations in Research Publication available from the Journal’s Instructions for Authors webpage.* Submission of a manuscript implies the transfer of the copyright for the accepted article to the publisher and all those media that the publisher considers suitable for the dissemination of the work. However, the author retains the right to disseminate his/her own work.

Maximum lengths of contributions should be 2 500 words for a Short Communication and 7 500 words for a full Research Paper, although a Review Paper of up to 12 000 words will be considered. Word counts include references but exclude tables. Short Communications are used to describe smaller pieces of completed work and should have a combined maximum of four figures and tables. Supplementary Information, such as questionnaires and ancillary data, can be included but will be published online only.

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Text
1. The entire manuscript should be double-spaced—though greater spacing may be used where helpful (particularly around equations and formulas).
2. Lines should be numbered continuously.
3. All pages should be numbered with Arabic numbers.
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   (a) title (informative but brief), authors’ names and affiliations (with city and country), and e-mail address of the corresponding author;
   (b) abstract, followed by 5 to 8 keywords or phrases that do not appear in the title and that are obtained from the whole article;
   (c) main text;
   (d) references list;
   (e) tables;
   (f) legends for figures;
   (g) appendices (which will appear at the end of the article); Supplementary Information (which will appear online only), should be provided as a separate document.
5. The main text should follow the order: Introduction, Materials and methods, Results, Discussion, Acknowledgements and References. Review Papers would typically exclude the sections Materials and methods and Results, and might include Conclusions.
6. Headings and subheadings should not be numbered. Three levels of headings should be sufficient and distinguished as follows: main heading — bold; level 2 — bold italics; level 3 — italics.
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1. Each manuscript must have an abstract, the length of which should not exceed 200 words or 3% of the paper, whichever is the lesser.
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Acknowledgements
This section is to be kept brief and only special help acknowledged, as well as funders of the research.

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