Acknowledgement to referees 2017

Sven Thatje¹

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It is the time of year again to thank all peers who helped in assessing scholarly works submitted to the journal in 2017. All articles published in the *The Science of Nature* have been subjected to rigorous peer review. Peer review is a tedious and often time consuming process, but essential for maintaining and further developing scientific standards. In 2017, 510 peers from 50 countries volunteered their time to support the journal, and many have assisted in more than one case. Average time from submission to first decision was only 23 days in 2017. Peer review is not always an enjoyable process, neither for authors nor reviewers, but it does undoubtedly increase the quality of scientific publishing. On average, I seek the views of three independent referees and in many cases the journal's Associate Editors provide additional reports on manuscripts. Often, referees are willing to again assess revised work, and this adds to the overall commitment to this process.

Below is a list of the names of all colleagues who delivered a review in 2017. The information is derived from our online submission system; peers themselves mostly provide the information. Although this information should be correct, I would already like to apologize in case I may have missed to recognize the name of any colleague involved in last year's peer-review process. I would also like to take the opportunity to thank my board of Associate Editors for their professional support in the assessment of hundreds of manuscripts we receive each year.

This article is made citable by its digital object identifier (DOI). Reviewers are encouraged to quote their contribution to the journal in applications for tenure and grants or other forms of research assessment.

Sven Thatje
(Editor-in-Chief, The Science of Nature)

List of Referees

(Number of reviews in brackets if more than one)

Acosta Hospitaleche C, ARGENTINA	Alonso Lopez JC, SPAIN	Armitage S, GERMANY
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Allsopp M, SOUTH AFRICA	Aria C, CHINA	

✉ Sven Thatje
svth@noc.soton.ac.uk

¹ Ocean and Earth Science, University of Southampton, National Oceanography Centre Southampton, SO143ZH, Southampton, UK

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