

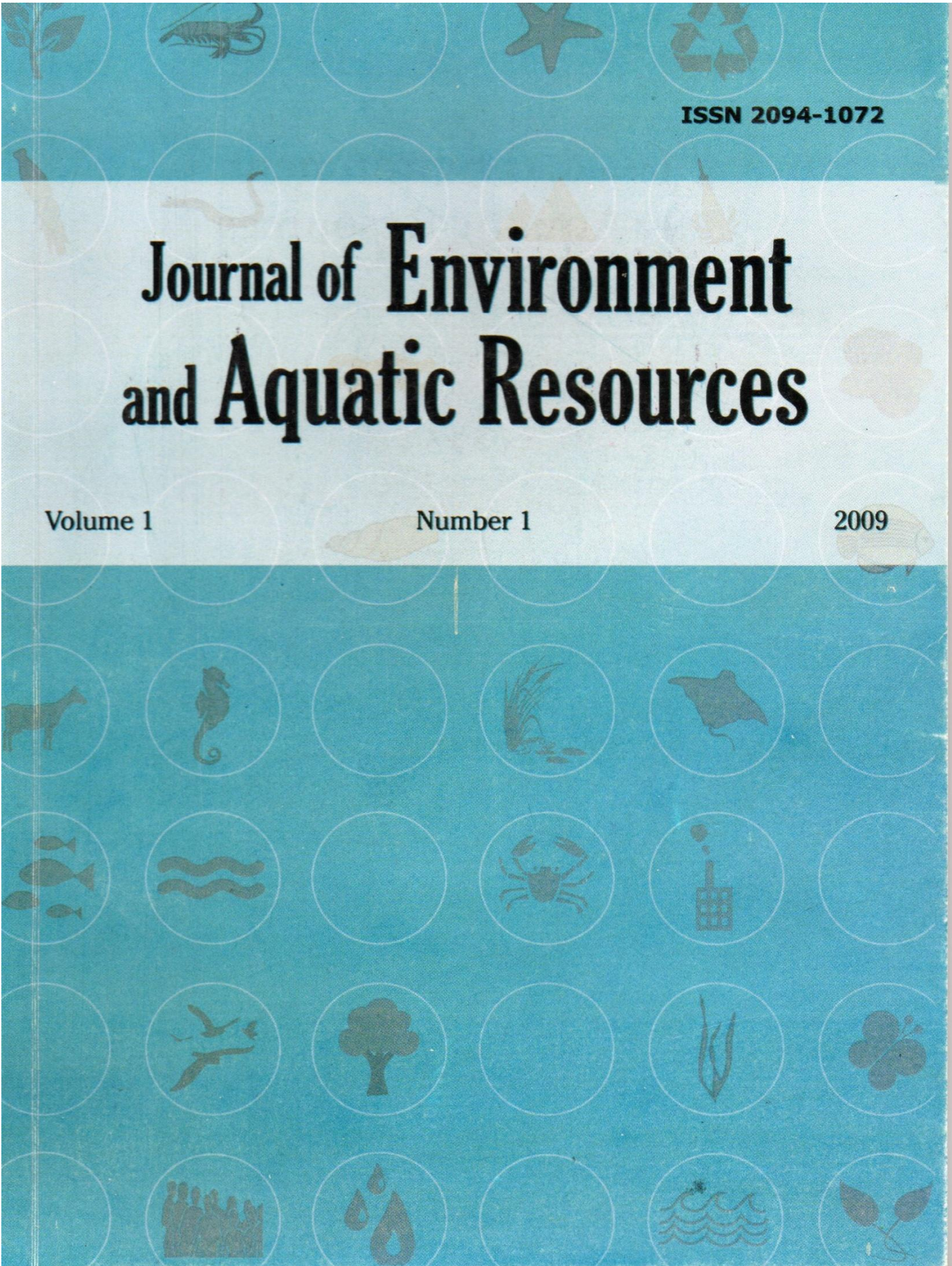
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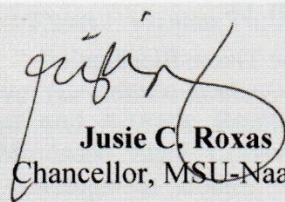
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FOREWORD

The diminishing world resources in the face of unabated population growth, the puzzling environmental phenomena, the growing complexity of the world's political affairs, and other current events are among the present times' enigmas that create an urgent necessity to facilitate better understanding of the world in which we live. To attain this task, there is a need to have a look at the details of our surroundings with "new eyes" and try to come up with ways to either mitigate the situation or enhance the adaptation capabilities of our people. All these are within research's sphere of operation such that government and non-government agencies all over the world are mobilizing enormous amounts of resources for research to achieve these ends. In fact, in many instances in the past, outputs of these endeavors had proven to be useful in the preparedness of various nations against unforeseen catastrophes. It should be emphasized that this became possible because these research outputs were published and made available to the public. This truth makes this maiden issue of JEAR significant. Without this publication, information vital to the welfare and well being of people out of the researches made by MSU Naawan researchers will be marginalized. Moreover, this maiden issue of JEAR is also a milestone in many ways. First, it has broken through the perceived impossibility of coming up with a publication because of budgetary and time constraints. Second, it reinforces MSU-Naawan's relevance as an institution of higher learning. Lastly, it has given the researchers the opportunity to highlight their modest contribution in making this world a better place to live in.



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