

## Reviewer Report

**Title: A Near-Chromosome Scale Genome Assembly of the Gemsbok (*Oryx gazella*): An Iconic Antelope of the Kalahari Desert**

**Version: Original Submission**    **Date: 11/5/2018**

**Reviewer name: Aaron Shafer**

### Reviewer Comments to Author:

The paper presents a genome assembly of the Gemsbok. The methodology is standard and the genome is of reasonably good quality. I do not have any concerns other than to say the article presents common analyses that many groups, my group included, regularly conduct and do not publish as it is common to mix technologies and assembly strategies. Moreover, there were "problematic" scaffolds which in normal, but as per Data Notes guidelines, I do not consider this to be an exceptional data set rather a now commonplace non-model organism genome. The chromosome level highlighted in the title is presumably based off of some reference genome (never mentioned but required for RACA?), thus the chromosome order is based off a distant relative, compared to something identified with long-reads, where the latter would truly be an "exceptional" data set as per GigaScience guidelines.

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