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The Auk: Ornithological Advances is an international, peer-reviewed journal that publishes original research and scholarship advancing the fundamental scientific knowledge of bird species and broad biological concepts (e.g., ecology, evolution, behavior, physiology, genetics) through studies of bird species. Articles often introduce or employ innovative empirical and theoretical approaches and analyses.

Topics covered in the journal include:

- Evolutionary history and paleontology
- Systematics and nomenclature
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- Molecular ecology
- Community and landscape ecology
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- Genetics and genomics
- Epigenetics, and evolutionary development
- Physiology and biochemistry
- Morphology and anatomy
- Integrative and cross-disciplinary studies
- Theoretical and methodological advances
- Thematic reviews and opinion pieces

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The American Ornithologists' Union and the Cooper Ornithological Society have redefined and are jointly publishing their peer-reviewed, international journals of ornithology beginning in 2014. *The Auk* has become *The Auk: Ornithological Advances* and focuses on basic ornithological science. *The Condor* has become *The Condor: Ornithological Applications* and focuses on applied ornithological study. The redefined missions create an opportunity for the journals to work together to publish the best science in basic and applied ornithology and to build on their long histories as top journals in the field of avian biology.

The Auk: Ornithological Advances and *The Condor: Ornithological Applications* are managed by the Central Ornithology Publication Office (COPO), the joint publication management office of the American Ornithologists' Union and the Cooper Ornithological Society.



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The Auk Ornithological Advances

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On the Cover: Common Pochard (*Aythya farina*; adult male). One of three benthivorous diving duck species that Marchowski et al. studied (in this issue pp. 31–40) and their complex food interaction with Herring (*Larus argentatus*) and Mew gulls (*L. canus*). Photo credit: Miłosz Kowalewski

Journal Information: *The Auk: Ornithological Advances* publishes original research and scholarship advancing the fundamental scientific knowledge of bird species and broad biological concepts (e.g., ecology, evolution, behavior, physiology, genetics) through studies of bird species. Appropriate topics include documentation, analysis, and interpretation of laboratory and field studies; theoretical or methodological developments; and reviews of information or ideas. Authors are encouraged to write papers from the perspective of general concepts and theories and to consider the relevance of their findings to taxa in addition to birds. Contributions are welcomed from around the world but must be written in English. *The articles in this journal reflect the research and opinions of the individual authors. As such, the articles do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editors or any official policy of the American Ornithologists' Union or the Cooper Ornithological Society.*

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