

Cover

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Journal Mission and Scope

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
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- Migration and orientation
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- Genetics and genomics
- Epigenetics, and evolutionary development
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- Morphology and anatomy
- Integrative and cross-disciplinary studies
- Theoretical and methodological advances
- Thematic reviews and opinion pieces

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The American Ornithological Society publishes two peer-reviewed, international journals of ornithology. *The Auk: Ornithological Advances* focuses on basic ornithological science. *The Condor: Ornithological Applications* focuses on applied ornithological study. The redefined, separate missions of the journals in 2014 created an opportunity for them 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.



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On the Cover: Crested Ibis (*Nipponia nippon*) in Yang County, Shaanxi Province, China (see Ye et al. pp. 421–431). Once deemed extinct in the wild decades ago, in 1981, seven Crested Ibises were rediscovered in a remote village in Yang County. Photo credit: Naxun Zhao

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