

Cover

Source: The Auk, 134(2)

Published By: American Ornithological Society

URL: <https://doi.org/10.1642/AUK-2016.134.2.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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- Genetics and genomics
- Epigenetics, and evolutionary development
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- 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.



The Auk Ornithological Advances

Volume 134 Number 2 April 2017



The Auk: Ornithological Advances

Volume 134, Number 2, Pages 281-484

April 2017

Editor-in-Chief: Mark E. Hauber



The Auk Ornithological Advances

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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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Abstracting and indexing: Articles appearing in *The Auk: Ornithological Advances* are abstracted and indexed in the databases listed online at www.AmericanOrnithologyPubs.org.



The Auk: Ornithological Advances (ISSN 0004-8038, e-ISSN 1938-4254) is published online weekly by the American Ornithological Society at www.AmericanOrnithologyPubs.org. Periodicals postage paid at Chicago, IL, and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *The Auk: Ornithological Advances*, OSNA Business Office, American Ornithological Society, 1400 S Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, IL 60605, OSNAMembers@gmail.com, phone 312-883-4670. Printed quarterly by Allen Press on Forest Stewardship Council® certified paper.



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