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Source: The Auk, 132(2)

Published By: American Ornithological Society

URL: https://doi.org/10.1642/auk.2014.132.2.cover

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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
- Behavioral ecology
- Foraging strategies and tactics
- Population biology and ecology
- Molecular ecology
- Community and landscape ecology
- Migration and orientation
- Spacing patterns and habitat use
- 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

Joint Publishing Venture

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.

The Auk: **Ornithological Advances**

Volume

32,

Number

Pages

321

-53 **1**





April 2015

AmericanOrnithology.org

Volume 132 Number 2 April 2015

Editor-in-Chief: Mark E. Hauber

Jointly published by the American Ornithologists' Union and the Cooper Ornithological Society



EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Mark E. Hauber

Hunter College and the Graduate Center, The City University of New York, mark.hauber@hunter.cuny.edu

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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.aoucospubs.org/page/mission.



The Auk: Ornithological Advances (ISSN 0004-8038, e-ISSN 1938-4254) is published online weekly by the American Ornithologists' Union and the Cooper Ornithological Society at www.aoucospubs.org. Periodicals postage paid at Waco, TX and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Auk: Ornithological Advances, OSNA Business Office, 5400 Bosque Blvd., Suite 680, Waco, TX 76710; business@osnabirds.org. Printed quarterly by Allen Press on Forest Stewardship Council® certified paper.

The Auk: Ornithological Advances, Volume 132, Number 2, April 2015. ©2015 American Ornithologists' Union. All rights reserved.



AND EDITORS

Springfield, IL 62702, james.herkert@illinois.gov

Editor-in-Chief of The Auk: Ornithological Advances: Mark E. Hauber, Department of Psychology, Hunter College, City University of New York, 628C Hunter North, 695 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10021, mark.hauber@hunter.cuny.edu

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