



## Online Oryx

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Fauna & Flora International acts to conserve threatened species and ecosystems worldwide, choosing solutions that are sustainable, based on sound science and take account of human needs



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## Instructions for Contributors

*Oryx*—The International Journal of Conservation, published quarterly on behalf of Fauna & Flora International, is a journal of biodiversity conservation, conservation policy and sustainable use, and the interactions of these with social, economic and political issues. The journal has a particular interest in material with the potential to improve conservation management and practice. *Oryx* also supports the publishing and communication aspirations of conservation practitioners and researchers worldwide, and helps build capacity for conservation.

*Articles* (2,000–7,000 words), *Reviews* (<7,000 words), *Forum* papers (<4,000 words) and *Short Communications* (<2,000 words) are invited on topics relevant to the journal's focus, including:

- The nature and results of conservation initiatives, including case studies
- Research on the sustainable use of wild species
- Research on the status of threatened species, taxonomic groups or habitats
- Reviews of conservation policy, strategy and legislation in practice
- Planning for species and biodiversity conservation
- The working of international conservation conventions
- The history of conservation, including the role of key people, organizations and initiatives
- The causes and consequences of biodiversity loss
- Case studies of conservation projects and programmes
- The social, economic and political dimensions of conservation

Note that word counts are all inclusive except for Tables and Figure and Plate captions.

*Reviews* provide comprehensive overviews of a particular conservation topic. *Forum* papers promote debate about current and controversial issues, usually with critical responses commissioned from one or more authors. *Articles* on the status of threatened species, taxonomic groups or habitats should generally be <4,500 words and have, where relevant, a context beyond that of the subject studied.

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*Age of data* Where relevant, dates of any fieldwork must be provided. *Oryx* publishes research with the potential to have an impact on conservation outcomes. This requires conclusions to be based upon the best available and up-to-date information and analysis and we therefore look carefully at all manuscripts in which conclusions are based on field data collected some time ago (generally >4 years). We recognize, however, the value of historical field or collection records but require evidence that these studies are directly relevant to effective conservation. Bear this policy in mind when submitting your manuscript and, if the data and/or associated analyses are not recent, justify, both in your cover letter and in the manuscript, the use of these data in terms of the conservation relevance of your findings.

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*Title* A succinct description of the work (≤20 words) preferably embodying either the aim or the overall conclusion.

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*Biographical sketches* The research interests of all authors (<150 words total), over and above what is obvious from the subject of the manuscript and the authors' affiliations.

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*Proofs* Sent to authors as a PDF file. Corrected proofs must be returned to the Editor within 3 days of receipt; minor corrections can be communicated by e-mail.

The Editor welcomes contributions to the other sections of the journal (deadlines for the January, April, July and October issues are 1 October, 1 January, 1 April and 1 July, respectively), by e-mail to [oryx@fauna-flora.org](mailto:oryx@fauna-flora.org) (see <http://www.oryxthejournal.org> for further advice).

*Letters* Substantial and informative contributions (<700 words) in response to material published in the journal.

*Briefly* News (<6 months old) of general conservation interest based on authoritative published sources (<150 words), including reputable web sites.

*Conservation news* Major recent developments (<6 months old) in conservation or important announcements (<700 words), other than from published sources.

*Grants & Opportunities and Publications* Availability of grants or funding opportunities and book reviews, respectively. Authors and publishers are invited to send publications to the Editor for potential review.

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- Cover* The so-called caterpillar fungus occurs on the grasslands of the Himalayan region and Tibetan plateau. Its unique morphology is the result of a fungus parasitizing ghost moth larvae. The fungus is collected extensively in Tibet for use as a tonic for a wide range of ailments and, most famously, as an aphrodisiac. The use of this resource is an example of a provisioning ecosystem service forming an integral part of the rural economy. A study of the relationships of households with this and two other provisioning services (firewood and matsutake mushrooms) on the Eastern Tibetan plateau examined how these services contribute to wealth and livelihoods, what determines household access to the services, and how local use has changed over time. For further details, see pp. 30–38. (Photograph © Xu Xiaolin/Corbis).