



Stork, Ibis and Spoonbill Conservation

The publication of the IUCN SSC Stork, Ibis and Spoonbill Specialist Group

Instructions to authors:

All submissions are to be emailed to the Editor-in-chiefs: sis.conservation@gmail.com.

Novel observations on any aspect of ecology, behaviour, and conservation of SIS species, their habitats, and captive care can be submitted. Submission to SISC implies that the information has not been published previously, and will not be submitted for publication elsewhere, in the same form in any language. Submission previously published as Proceedings Abstracts are acceptable only if they are identified as being abstracts previously, and have been modified and expanded substantially. Submissions with content on aspects that are already well documented (e.g. description of a behaviour that is already formally reported) will be accepted only if authors are providing a novel perspective.

Only soft copy submissions in English are accepted. Editors are happy to provide assistance to authors whose first language is not English. Authors requiring help with language, or more generally with the construction of the article, should first send an enquiry to the Editor-in-chief.

All submissions to SISC will be reviewed by a maximum of three reviewers that are selected by the Editorial Board.

We accept submissions for: Cover Photos, Letters to the Editor, Research Articles, Short Communications, Reviews, Book Reviews, News, Field Experiences, Featured SIS Species, and SIS Bibliography.

For **Cover Photos**, we invite high quality photographs or artwork in digital format with priority given to: a poorly-studied species; behaviour; interaction with conspecifics or another species; SIS species in habitat; photographs taken during study published in that issue of the Newsletter. Photographers and artists will be duly acknowledged.

Research Articles (> 1,000 words) and **Short Communications** (< 1,000 words) should contain analyses of original, unpublished qualitative or quantitative data. Submissions of Research Articles and Short Communications should have all the following sections, in the same order: Title; Author names; Contact information of authors; Email address for communication; Abstract; Keywords; Introduction; Study area; Methods; Results; Discussion; Acknowledgements; References; Tables; Figures; and Appendices.

Reviews focusing on specific aspects of SIS ecology and conservation, or comprehensive assessments of individual species by collating published information are welcome, as are **Book Reviews** on recent publications relevant to SIS species. Authors are encouraged to communicate their intent and a brief description of planned reviews, with the estimated number of words, to Editors-in-chief prior to submission.

Brief essays to outline topical issues, recent publications, or to describe new methods and findings of value to SIS-SG membership are invited as **News**. Reflections and experiences



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during field work focusing on SIS species, or in areas with habitat for SIS species, are invited as **Field Experience**. News and Field Experience should not exceed 1,000 words in length (not including references).

The **Featured SIS Species** will celebrate one SIS species in each issue, and submissions can be creative, academic, or a combination of styles.

Submissions of unpublished reports, thesis, dissertations, journal papers, websites and blogs featuring SIS species in any language will be accepted throughout the year. These will be compiled into the **SIS Bibliography** in each issue. Submissions may be emailed to sis.conservation@gmail.com. All contributions will be duly acknowledged.

Format for submissions

Cover letter

Please include a brief cover letter that provides a summary of your submission, and list up to three potential reviewers with their contact information.

Writing style

All submissions should be written with clear and concise language, and adherence to the following conventions will be very helpful. Use the metric system for measurements, example, cm, m, km, and kg. Provide values as 1,10,145 km; dates as 4 April 2016; percentages as 20%; temperature as 15° C; time as 0500 - 0630 h; and locations as N 26° 14' 2.3", E 80° 49' 30.2".

For common statistical symbols use *p* (probability), d.f. (degrees of freedom), SD or SE (standard deviation or standard error), *N* (sample size), *r* or *r*² (sample correlation or regression coefficients), and CV (coefficient of variation). Represent measurements in the text as “average distance = 2,345 km (± 1,160 SD)”.

Species common names should be capitalized as “Oriental White Stork” or “Black-faced Spoonbill”, but general names such as “spoonbills” are not capitalized. Use both common and scientific names the first time a species’ name is mentioned, and write as “White-faced Ibis *Plegadis chihi*” without commas or parenthesis. Subsequently, use only the common name.

Tables

Place all Tables at the end of the document, after the References. Place each table in a separate page starting with the heading that has adequate description for the table to be stand-alone. Number tables continually as Table 1 etc., and refer each table at least once in the text as “Table 1”. Use only horizontal lines in Tables.

Figures

Place all Figures at the end of the document, after Tables, if any. Place each figure in a separate page starting with the heading that has adequate description for each figure to stand on its own. Number figures continually as Figure 1 etc. and refer figures in the text as “Figure 1”. Avoid thin lines in Figures since they will be reduced for reproducing in SISC. For



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graphs, include the excel sheets with the data as separate files so standardized graphs can be prepared. Use Arial or other sans-serif texts in Figures.

Citing literature

Please minimize the use of grey literature as references, except where they are the only source of previous information. Use “pers. comm.” for personal communications, “pers. obs” for personal and unpublished observations, and “in litt. 2016” for information received in letters and emails. An example for use is “(H. S. Sangha, pers. comm. 2016)”.

Citations in the text should be chronological and have the following formats for publications by one, two or more authors respectively: (Kahl 1970; 1972a,b; Meghanathan and Urfi 2009; Iqbal *et al.* 2012).

In the References section, list authors using their last names, first alphabetically and then chronologically. For example, the correct order of the following citations would be: Fei 1989, Fei 1991, Fei, Ping, Wu, Wu and Xiu 1991, and Fei, Wu, Ping, Wu and Xu 1983.

Non-english references can be listed with an English translation in parenthesis. Use the following formats in the References section:

Proceeding, newsletter and journal articles:

Brouwer, G. A. and M. C. Coulter. 1990. Letters from the co-chairs. *Specialist Group Storks, Ibises, Spoonbills Newsletter* 3(1&2): 1-2.

Erwin, R. M., J. A. Spendelow, P. H. Geissler and B. K. Williams. 1987. Relationships between nesting populations of wading birds and habitat features along the Atlantic Coast. Pp. 56-67. In: Whitman, W. R. and W. H. Meredith (eds.). *Waterfowl and Wetlands Symposium: Proceedings of a Symposium on Waterfowl and Wetlands Management in the Coastal Zone of the Atlantic Flyway*. Delaware Coastal Management Program, Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environment Control, Dover, Delaware, United States of America, 522 pp.

Frederick, P., D. E. Gawlik, J. C. Ogden, M. I. Cook and M. Lusk. 2009. The White Ibis and the Wood Stork as indicators for restoration of the everglades ecosystem. *Ecological Indicators* 9S: S83-S95.

Nachuha, S. and J. L. Quinn. 2012. The distribution of colonial waterbirds in relation to a Ugandan rice scheme. *Waterbirds* 35: 590-598.

Book chapters and books:

Hancock, J. A., J. A. Kushlan and M. P. Kahl. 1992. *Storks, Ibises and Spoonbills of the World*. Academic Press Limited, London, United Kingdom.

Rozdina, O. I., E. I. Sotnikova and E. N. Skakunova. 1991. Notes on Oriental White Stork, *Ciconia boyciana*, in the Moscow Zoo, 1985-88. Pp. 203-206. In: Coulter, M. C., Q. Wang and C. S. Luthin (eds.) *Biology and conservation of the Oriental White Stork (Ciconia*

boyciana). Savannah River Ecology Laboratory, Aiken, South Carolina, Unites States of America.

Reports and theses:

Armesto, M. J. J., C. Boehm and C. Bowden (Compilers). 2006. International single species action plan for the conservation of the Northern Bald Ibis *Geronticus eremita*. Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA) Technical Series No. 10. Bonn, Germany.

Azevedo, F. P. 2015. Quantas galinholas *Bostrychia bocagei* existem em São Tomé? Uso do *Distance Sampling* e do *Plot Sampling* para estimar a população de uma ave endémica criticamente ameaçada. [How many dwarf olive ibises *Bostrychia bocagei* are there in São Tomé? Use of distance sampling and plot sampling to estimate the population of a critically endangered endemic bird.] Unpublished Dissertation, Masters in Conservation Biology, School of Sciences and Technology, University of Évora, Évora, Portugal. 51pp.

Paudel, D., K. Adhikari, S. Baskota, S. Ranabhat, D. S. Pujara, S. Bhattarai, A. Shakaya, S. Gautam and P. Yadav. 2013. Environmental impact assessment of industrial development around Lumbini, the birthplace of Lord Buddha, World Heritage Property. Document code: KAT/2013/PI/H/1. IUCN – Nepal, UNESCO – Kathmandu, and Oriental Cultural Heritage Sites Protection Alliance, Nepal.

Online sources:

R Development Core Team. 2015. R: A language and environment for statistical computing, v. 3.2.3. R Foundation for Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria. <https://www.R-project.org/>, accessed 2 March 2016.

Formatting text

All text should be left-justified and double-spaced throughout. Major headings should be in bold; e.g. “**Introduction**”, and sub-headings in italics.

SISC does not charge authors for publishing accepted manuscripts, but donations to help allay costs of maintaining the journal and the website are welcome. Please contact sis.conservation@gmail.com for details.