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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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Structure Articles should generally follow the Introduction, Study Area (where appropriate), Methods, Results and Discussion format. Minimize use of other subheadings.

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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 (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* With an estimated 60,000–100,000 species, trees dominate vast swathes of the landscape and in many cultures provide the necessities of daily life, including food, medicine and raw materials. Their ubiquity, however, makes it easy to take trees for granted, and they are under threat almost everywhere. The first regional Red List assessment of the upper montane forests of the Tropical Andes (seen here) has identified the occurrence of 3,750 tree species in the region, but these forests are threatened by fragmentation and degradation as a result of human activities. This issue of *Oryx* includes eight articles that examine diverse approaches to saving trees—our charismatic megaflora—and to raising awareness about their conservation. For further details, see pp. 377–378 and 397–460. (Photograph © Luiz Claudio Marigo/Naturepl.com)