

Nomenclatural acts must be published according to the rules outlined in the current Code (Article X). Electronic-only (e-only) publication is currently not permitted under the ICZN. The proposed amendment on accepting e-only publication has not yet gone to vote and when it does, if the proposed amendment passes, it will not take effect immediately. The vote is being delayed to allow major changes to be implemented in ZooBank and to permit further community input.

In the interim, what can you do if you want to publish taxonomic work in an (essentially) e-only journal? The journals published by PLoS (Public Library of Science) intend to have an e-only production model. However, the editors at PLoS have worked with the ICZN to find an interim solution so they may accept nomenclatural acts and still comply with the publication requirements of the Code.

We repeat here the **PLoS explanation and author guidelines** for papers in which a new taxon is described (also available at <http://www.plosone.org/static/guidelines.action#requirements>). These were drafted in consultation with the Commission.

When publishing papers which describe a new zoological taxon name, PLoS aims to comply with the requirements of the [International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature \(ICZN\)](#) <http://www.iczn.org/iczn/index.jsp>. However, the ICZN does not yet recognise online-only journals and so unless PLoS adapts its publication process for taxonomic papers (which it does, as detailed below), any scientific animal name published by us would not be considered 'available' under the rules of the Code ('available' is the formal term for legally published under the Code, and is equivalent to the term 'nomenclaturally valid' in botanical literature). There is a **proposal to amend the Code to accommodate electronic-only publication** http://www.iczn.org/electronic_publication.html, which is currently under consideration and will be sent to vote by the Commission in due course.

Until acceptance of this amendment, the ICZN has proposed an interim solution for authors publishing in PLoS Journals that allows us to comply with the Code by providing a limited hardcopy print-run of the article and making it publicly obtainable. Therefore, for all papers that include the naming of a new zoological taxon, PLoS will make a printed version available for outside parties (at a cost of \$10, to cover postage and printing) at the same time as the publication of the online-only article (which remains freely available). This additional printed version of the article will contain the text noted below in the footer of the first page. This text will be added by PLoS staff, and apart from this new footer, the printed version will be identical to the PDF of the online version:

Footer text: *"This printed document was produced by a method that assures numerous identical and durable copies, and those copies were simultaneously obtainable for the purpose of providing a public and permanent scientific record, in accordance with Article 8.1 of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature. Date of publication: XXXXXXXX. This document is otherwise identical to DOI: XXXXX*

In addition, we ask that authors add the following information about archiving and ZooBank registration to the online version of the article before it is finally accepted, as follows:

1. Digital Archiving. Please include the names of the digital archives where PLoS articles are deposited (currently, PubMedCentral <http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/> and LOCKSS <http://www.lockss.org/>). If your institute (or those of your co-authors) has its own repository, we recommend that you also deposit the published online article there and also include the name of these repositories in your article.
2. ZooBank Registration. We recommend that you get in touch now with a body called [ZooBank](#) <http://zoobank.org/> about the registration of the new species name and request a unique digital identifier (an LSID). The LSID also needs to be included in the published paper. [Richard Pyle](#)

<mailto:deepreef@bishopmuseum.org> , runs ZooBank and is an ICZN commissioner. Please note that ZooBank has not yet been officially recognized by the ICZN but it is still important to register there as the ICZN are likely to request mandatory registration of new names in ZooBank for all electronic-only journals.

The following paragraphs provide an example of the type of wording that we recommend for a new taxon description in a PLoS Journal. Please note that the first paragraph below is required for the online only version but is over-ruled by the footer note above, added to the print-only edition. Please add the names of the libraries and your institutional repositories, as appropriate.

Please insert the following text into the Methods section, in a sub-section to be called "Nomenclatural Acts":

The electronic version of this document does not represent a published work according to the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN), and hence the nomenclatural acts contained in the electronic version are not available under that Code from the electronic edition. Therefore, a separate edition of this document was produced by a method that assures numerous identical and durable copies, and those copies were simultaneously obtainable (from the publication date noted on the first page of this article) for the purpose of providing a public and permanent scientific record, in accordance with Article 8.1 of the Code. The separate print-only edition is available on request from PLoS by sending a request to PLoS ONE, 1160 Battery Street Suite 100, San Francisco, CA 94111, USA along with a check for \$10 (to cover printing and postage) payable to "Public Library of Science".

In addition, this published work and the nomenclatural acts it contains have been registered in ZooBank <http://zoobank.org/> , the proposed online registration system for the ICZN. The ZooBank LSIDs (Life Science Identifiers) can be resolved and the associated information viewed through any standard web browser by appending the LSID to the prefix "<http://zoobank.org/>". The LSID for this publication is: (insert here)

In the results section, the LSID number should be listed under the new species name, for example:

Anochetus boltoni Fisher **sp. nov.**

urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:B6C072CF-1CA6-40C7-8396-534E91EF7FBB

PLoS aims to comply with the requirements of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN) and should your manuscript be accepted for publication in *PLoS ONE*, we will ask you to make the changes outlined above.

To save time later on, you could incorporate these changes into your manuscript at the revision stage, if the Academic Editor asks for any revisions. We also recommend that you contact Richard Pyle at Zoobank now to obtain the actual LSID number(s) to insert into your manuscript; this will avoid delays during the production process, should your manuscript be accepted for publication. His email is: deepreef@bishopmuseum.org.