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## Frontiers of Biogeography

### Title

Introducing Research Articles

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## Introducing Research Articles

As *Frontiers of Biogeography* has begun to flourish, increasing submissions have made authors' predilections more clear, and our view of the journal's role has matured. Last issue we announced that *Frontiers* will meet the previously unfulfilled need for Monographs in biogeography (Lomolino and Field 2014). This issue, we publish our first full-length Research Articles (Pompe et al. 2014, Schweiger and Beierkuhnlein 2014). This means *Frontiers* now has a full range of article types reporting original research, having earlier provided the community with a venue for Correspondence on matters arising in biogeography, and Research Letters for original scientific research that is of particular note and most effectively communicated quickly. We have published updated Information for Authors<sup>1</sup>, which reflects these new additions and clarifies some issues related to common problems, so please check these guidelines when preparing a contribution to the journal.

Research Articles are full-length articles, similar to the majority of papers regularly published in *Diversity & Distributions*, *Ecography*, *Global Ecology & Biogeography*, and *Journal of Biogeography*. Our goal is not to compete with these 'big four' biogeography journals, or other established titles that regularly publish biogeography, but rather to provide a versatile alternative for good science by authors who would like a little extra helping hand and/or to join our non-profit, society-based, open-access community (see Dawson et al. 2014). You might view our Research Articles as a stepping stone to the big four (a place to cut your teeth). Or they might be an option if your good research didn't strike lucky at your first-choice venue—in which case send your prior editorial decision, reviews, and responses to the editor-in-chief to request expedited handling at *Frontiers*. You may desire the freedom to write in a

more engaging way than some journals allow (we encourage clear, lively writing styles). Increasingly, perhaps, it will be your first choice; if you're considering 'gold' open access, we hope you'll find *Frontiers* more and more difficult to beat.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://escholarship.org/uc/search?entity=fb;view=authorinformation>, last accessed 23/09/2014

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