

# Launching a Cross-Disciplinary Open Access eJournal

**Creating discourse community**

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Conservation International

**CENTER  
FOR APPLIED  
BIODIVERSITY  
SCIENCE**  
AT CONSERVATION  
INTERNATIONAL



SAVING THE LAST GREAT PLACES ON EARTH



CONSERVATION  
INTERNATIONAL

**CENTER  
FOR APPLIED  
BIODIVERSITY  
SCIENCE**

AT CONSERVATION  
INTERNATIONAL

9 May 2005

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# Open Access 2005

- **PLoS has forced the issue into play**
- **Open Access is not free access**
- **One (financial) solution does not fit all**
- **Small society publishers are, perhaps, most at risk**

# *Aspects of Scholarly Publishing*

*We do it to...*

- **Create Knowledge**
- **Create Community**
- **Create Money**

A case study

# ***Sustainability: Science, Practice, & Policy***

(henceforth *Sustainability*)

Launched 2005

9 May 2005

An open access e-Journal for sustainable solutions

## Sustainability: Science, Practice, & Policy

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Volume 1 | Issue 1  
Spring 2005

### Editorial

[Editorial on \*Sustainability\* e-Journal](#)  
E.O. Wilson  
Pellegrino University Research Professor, Harvard University

### Articles

**The role of local ecological knowledge in sustainable urban planning: perspectives from Finland**  
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**Integrated water resources management: evolution, prospects and future challenges**  
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# Background

The National Biological Information Infrastructure (NBII) developed a need for a cross-disciplinary literature database because researchers needed access to social, economic, and cultural as well as biological and geological information to properly study changes in natural systems.

9 May 2005

NBII Home

The NBII: Your Home for Biological Information on the Web

About NBII

Current Biological Issues

Biological Disciplines

Geographic Perspectives

Teacher Resources

Data & Information Resources

Search

Contact Us

Biodiversity

Bird Conservation

Coral Reefs

FrogWeb: Amphibian Declines & Malformations

Invasive Species

Pollinator Declines

West Nile Virus

Wildlife Disease

**Customers:** The NBII Web site will be unavailable to users between Friday, 13 May, 10 a.m. MDT and Sunday, 15 May at 5 p.m. due to electric power station upgrades at the central power station. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Partner, [CSA](#), are pleased to announce the launch of *Sustainability: Science, Practice & Policy*, a peer-reviewed, open-access eJournal that provides a platform for the dissemination of new research and dialogue emerging out of the field of sustainability. The eJournal fills a gap in the literature by establishing a forum for cross-disciplinary discussion of empirical and social sciences, practices, and policies related to sustainability. View the [Inaugural Issue](#), featuring an editorial by Dr. E.O. Wilson.

- The NBII's [Pacific Northwest Information Node](#) has partnered with multiple federal and academic agencies in the region to develop [The Northwest Fire Research Clearinghouse \(FIREHouse\)](#), a web-based project providing data and documentation on fire science and technology relevant to Washington, Oregon & Idaho. FIREHouse's goal is to provide "one-stop shopping" for resource managers, decision makers, scientists, students, and communities who want access to the results of efforts to understand and manage fire and fuels on public lands in the region.
- The [Mountain Prairie Information Node](#) now curates the [Children's Butterfly Site](#), featuring the stunning photographs of renowned lepidopterist Dr. Paul Opler, and his wife, Evi Buckner-Opler. The site also offers information on the life cycle of butterflies and moths, as well as frequently asked questions, activities, teacher resources, and coloring pages.

**NBII Partner in the Spotlight**

[BirdLife International](#) is an international global alliance of conservation organizations whose goals are to maintain or improve the conservation status of all bird species; preserve and protect bird habitat; conserve biodiversity; and integrate bird conservation into sustaining people's livelihoods.

**Hot Topic Site**

The [Chronic Wasting Disease Alliance](#) is a coalition of non-profit wildlife and hunting groups committed to providing timely, scientifically accurate information regarding chronic wasting disease, its impacts on wildlife and humans, and recommendations for its control. In addition to news, occurrence maps, print-ready resources, and guidance for hunters, the Web site also tracks federal, state, and provincial legislation and policy related to CWD.





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CSA Illumina

CSA Illumina is designed to provide a simple, more user-friendly approach to searching for novice users while maintaining powerful options for users who require them. The interface provides access to more than 100 databases published by CSA and its publishing partners.

Hot Topics

Over 50 free guides to current issues in Arts & Humanities, Natural Sciences, Social Sciences, and Technology.

[Complete Listing of Hot Topics](#)

New Hot Topic

**[Tsunamis and the International Response: Economic, Social and Environmental Dimensions](#)**

An interdisciplinary overview of the on-going recovery, examining links between environmental, economic and technical issues. Discusses how ecosystem disruption hinders recovery and how future devastation may be alleviated by coordinating relief operations and integrating international satellite, global information, and communication networks.

Databases & Collections

CSA Illumina provides access to more than 100 full-text and bibliographic databases published by CSA and its publishing partners.

All Databases

- Arts & Humanities
- Natural Sciences
- Social Sciences
- Technology

News Features

*Sustainability: Science, Practice, & Policy*, a new peer-reviewed, open access journal, has launched publication. Accessible at <http://ejournal.nbio.org/>, the e-journal provides a platform for the dissemination of new practices and for dialogue emerging out of the field of sustainability.

*Sustainability: Science, Practice, & Policy* includes peer-reviewed full-text articles, guest editorials, and community essays. The guest editorial in the premier issue is

NBII knew of CSA through its reputation of building focused databases in multiple disciplines



# CSA specializes in providing research services

→ **Illumina interface**  
Designed for experts & novice users

→ **Select databases**  
Not the whole (Google) world

→ **Hot Topics**  
Written by in-house experts

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All Publication Types 1769

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Conferences 187

Web Sites 88

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1. [Avoiding Mass Extinction: Basic and Applied Challenges](#)  
[Rosenzweig, ML](#), *American Midland Naturalist [Am. Midl. Nat.]*. Vol. 153, no. 2, pp. 195-208. Apr 2005.  
 Preserving the earth's diversity of species requires that conservation biology turn much of its attention to reconciliation ecology, which is the science of sharing our habitats with wild things. Although many reconciliation projects are already ...  
[View Record](#) | [References](#) | [Full-Text Linking](#) | [Links to Holdings](#) | [InterLibrary Loan](#) | [Document Delivery](#)

**Database:**  
 BioOne Abstracts and Indexes

2. [Science Priorities for Reducing the Threat of Invasive Species to Sustainable Forestry](#)  
[Chornesky, EA](#); [Bartuska, AM](#); [Aplet, GH](#); [Britton, KO](#); [Cummings-carlson, J](#); [Davis, FW](#); [Eskow, J](#); [Gordon, DR](#); [Gottschalk, KW](#); [Haack, RA](#); [Hansen, AJ](#); [Mack, RN](#); [Rahel, FJ](#); [Shannon, MA](#); [Wainger, LA](#); [Wigley, TB](#), *Bioscience [Bioscience]*. Vol. 55, no. 4, pp. 335-348. Apr 2005.  
 Invasive species pose a major, yet poorly addressed, threat to sustainable forestry. Here we set forth an interdisciplinary science strategy of research, development, and applications to reduce this threat. To spur action by public and private ...  
[View Record](#) | [References](#) | [Full-Text Linking](#) | [Links to Holdings](#) | [InterLibrary Loan](#) | [Document Delivery](#)

**Database:**  
 BioOne Abstracts and Indexes

3. [DNA barcoding is no substitute for taxonomy.](#)  
[Ebach, MC](#); [Holdrege, C](#), *Nature*, 2005 Apr 7, 434(7034):697  
[View Record](#) | [Links to Holdings](#) | [InterLibrary Loan](#) | [Document Delivery](#)

**Database:**  
 MEDLINE  
**Descriptors:**  
[Animals](#) | [Automatic Data Processing: economics](#) | [Automatic Data Processing: methods](#) | [\\*Automatic Data Processing: trends](#) | [\\*Biodiversity](#) | [\\*Classification: method](#) | [More...](#)

## Services included

- Sorted finding
- Search & sort tools
- Full text linking
- Source identification
- Linked thesaurus terms

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New Jersey Institute of Technology, USA

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## *Sustainability* Launched 2005

→ by CSA

→ with the support of NBII and

→ a growing community of scholars supporting the idea of open access and the need for cross-disciplinary research

9 May 2005



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- American Museum of Natural History
- Brazilian National Water Agency
- Beijing Forestry University
- Carnegie Mellon University
- Centre for Social and Economic Research on the Global Environment
- Chinese Academy of Meteorological Sciences
- Eco Tourism International
- Florida A&M University
- Harvard University
- Mälardalen University, Sweden
- NASA Goddard Space Flight Center
- Nat. Center for Atmospheric Research
- Nat. Center For Environmental Research, USEPA
- New Mexico EPSCoR Program
- Oregon State University
- Pennsylvania State University
- Tufts University
- Politics and the Life Sciences
- Public Policy Research Institute
- University of East Anglia, UK
- University of Miami
- University of Michigan
- University of North Carolina at Wilmington
- University of Tennessee
- University of North Carolina
- USGS Ft Collins Science Center
- URS Australia Pty Ltd
- World Bank, Brazil
- World Bank, US
- World Conservation Union (IUCN)

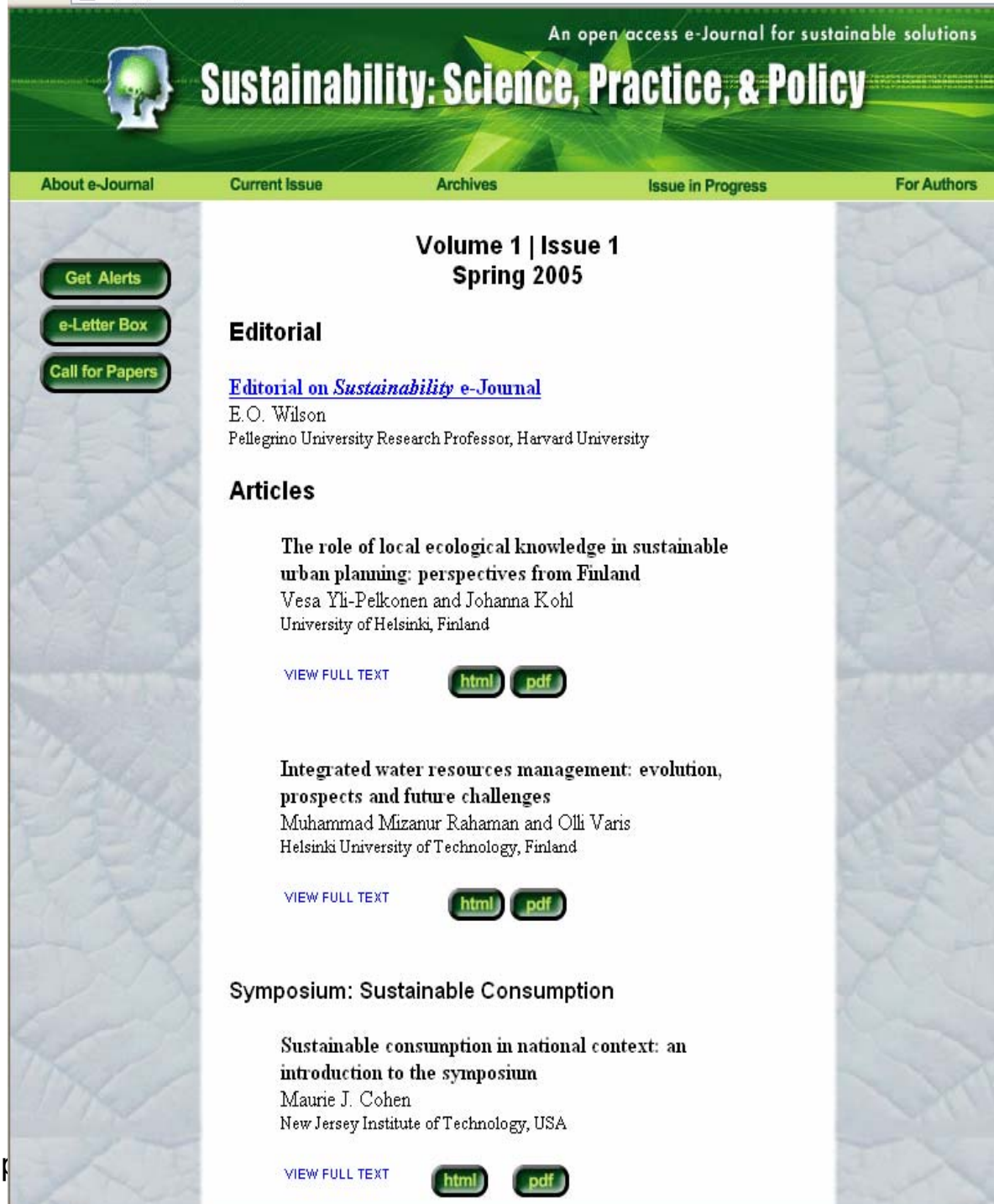
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## *Advantages?*

- **No print!**
- **Authors can be easily identified through database searches**
- **Marketing can be done through library connections**
- **Service feature of CSA could be incorporated**
- **CSA already links librarians and authors (users)**

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# Challenges ?

- No print!
- Long term funding not secure
- Experience of staff
- Content, Content, Content
- No existent/coherent community of readers

**Sustainability is  
CREATING a community  
of readers**

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## For Authors

*Sustainability: Science, Practice, & Policy* invites contributions that address social, economic, political, and biological/environmental interactions that can lead to solutions to sustainability problems. The works should be grounded in specific research and be presented in language that is understandable across disciplines.

## Journal Sections

The *e-Journal* welcomes submissions to the following sections:

- **Guest Editorials**

The *e-Journal* will invite prominent people involved in developing research, practice, and/or policy to write editorials.

- **Articles** examining nature-society interactions, focused on sustainable solutions for practitioners and policymakers.

The *e-Journal* publishes original research, case studies, and policy analyses intended for scientists and practitioners interested in solving sustainability problems. Articles will address sustainable or unsustainable human practices. They should emphasize new knowledge that their analyses reveal and discuss potential solutions or innovative practices. These articles should be timely, informative, and written in a clear, accessible style.

Articles normally are no longer than 6,500 words, excluding notes. Each article must be accompanied by an abstract of no more than 200 words and should provide the core message of the article in language that is understandable to readers from a broad range of disciplines. Authors are strongly encouraged to use good quality color photos and graphics to enhance the text, break up the pages, and attract the readers' attention. All graphics must be accompanied by informative captions, and photographs must have appropriate copyright information.

## *Fostering discourse*

- **Readers identified as scientists, practitioners, policy makers**
- **Authors required to define problems and discuss potential solutions or innovative practices**
- **Authors requested (and helped) to use language that is understandable across disciplines.**

# Advancing Scholarly Publishing

## Creating New Discourse Communities

- Move slowly, share language
- Focus not just on finances but also on **health of discourse community** in moving into open access
- Support scholarly communities by actively sharing solutions
- Figuring out how to fund Open Access publications is a cake walk compared to figuring out how to publish sound basic and applied research across disciplines

# Aspects of Scholarly Publishing: On **Creating Knowledge**

From: Editorial by **Drummond Rennie**, MD on the 4th International Peer Review Congress, *JAMA*, Vol. 287, No 21. June 5. 2002

<http://jama.ama-assn.org/cgi/content/full/287/21/2759#ACK>

In the 1986 editorial announcing the first peer review Congress, I noted the appalling standards then prevalent despite the existence of peer review<sup>3</sup>:

*One trouble is that despite this system, anyone who reads journals widely and critically is forced to realize that there are scarcely any bars to eventual publication. There seems to be no study too fragmented, no hypothesis too trivial, no literature citation too biased or too egotistical, no design too warped, no methodology too bungled, no presentation of results too inaccurate, too obscure, and too contradictory, no analysis too self-serving, no argument too circular, no conclusions too trifling or too unjustified, and no grammar and syntax too offensive for a paper to end up in print.*

In the last 16 years, efforts to systematize reviews and improve the reporting of trials and meta-analyses have borne considerable fruit. But an unbiased reader, roaming at random through a medical library, would find in abundance all the problems I described in 1986.....

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GOOD LUCK!***

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