Special Topic on Conservation Biology of Endangered Wildlife pushes conservation studies

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In recent years *Chinese Science Bulletin* has published some work focused on environment, biodiversity and sustainability, etc. [1–10]. This has promoted the follow-up and in-depth research efforts, and to some extent, has accelerated the development of conservation studies on endangered animals and plants.

The 12 papers [11–22], published in the Special Topic on Conservation Biology of Endangered Wildlife of *Chinese Science Bulletin* on August 20, 2011, give some good examples. The genotyping methods of He et al. [11] have been applied in identifying paternity and social relationships of the golden snub-nosed monkey in the Qinling Mountains of central China. The conservation studies of Xiang et al. [15] have drawn the attention of the scientific and technological management bureaus and thus obtained financial assistance to start the genome sequencing project of the golden snub-nosed monkey. On the basis of paternity testing techniques developed by Li et al. [16], the China Research and Conservation Center for the Giant Panda (Wolong) is carrying out the pedigree construction of captive giant pandas. Finally, the Chinese alligator's cell line built by Zeng et al. [19] has been successfully applied in chromosome assignment of the gender-related genes using fluorescence *in situ* hybridization (FISH). These genes were identified from the Chinese alligator genome sequencing project, which was initiated by Fang ShengGuo's team in cooperation with the Beijing Genomics Institute (BGI-Shenzhen).

As a result, the special focus of *Chinese Science Bulletin* will attract more prominent scientists' papers in the future and gradually boost different disciplines. If things continue this way, as one of flagship journals in China, *Chinese Science Bulletin* will greatly push forward in-depth development of China's science and technology studies.

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- 4 Wang J, Metzner W, Zhu X, et al. Response to seasonal change of insect resources in Changbai Mountain temperate forests by Greater Horseshoe bats. *Chin Sci Bull*, 2010, 55: 2410–2415
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- 6 Wang X P, Jin W, Yu L, et al. Molecular evolution of stress-response gene *Leptin* in high-altitude Chinese snub-nosed monkeys (*Rhinopithecus* genus). *Chin Sci Bull*, 2010, 55: 4132–4135
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- 13 Pan H J, Shi F L, Chang Z F, et al. Mitochondrial DNA variation analysis suggests extreme low genetic diversity in Guizhou snub-nosed monkeys (*Rhinopithecus brelichi*). *Chin Sci Bull*, 2011, 56: 2541–2544
- 14 Shi L, Wang R W, Zhu L X, et al. Varying coefficient analysis for indeterminate species interactions with non-parametric estimation, exemplifying with a fig-fig wasp system. *Chin Sci Bull*, 2011, 56: 2545–2552

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- 16 Li D S, Cui H M, Wang C D, et al. A fast and effective method to perform paternity testing for Wolong giant pandas. Chin Sci Bull, 2011, 56: 2559–2564
- 17 Zhao S S, Chen X, Wan Q H. Assessment of genetic diversity in the forest musk deer (*Moschus berezovskii*) using microsatellite and AFLP markers. Chin Sci Bull, 2011, 56: 2565–2569
- 18 Zhao Y P, Gong H D, Lu W Q, et al. Growth, photosynthesis and podophyllotoxin accumulation of *Dysosma versipellis* in response to a light gradient and conservation implications. Chin Sci Bull, 2011, 56: 2570–2575
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