

We would like to hear your thoughts

AOS is evaluating its role in public activities that promote the science of ornithology, including helping scientists perform their research (ethical and regulatory dimensions), advocating for conservation and environmental sustainability, and promoting our community and early career scientists to the public and government decision-makers. To better understand the thoughts of AOS membership on these topics, we will be holding a “listening session” at the AOS conference in Anchorage (Wednesday, June 26, 12-2 pm Summit 1 at the Egan Center). Please stop by and let us know your thoughts on the following topics and other areas that affect our science and our interactions with the public.

1. ***Ethics of ornithological research.*** AOS has produced the “***Guidelines to the Use of Wild Birds in Research***” since 1997, and it is now in a third edition (2011) hosted on the Ornithological Council website ([link](#)). Should we be doing more?
2. ***Permit and regulatory information.*** The Ornithological Council provides information about permits for conducting research in the Canada and the U.S., as well as information about transporting wildlife and importing specimens (skins, blood, and DNA) into the US ([link](#)). Does this service serve our needs, or should we be doing more?
3. ***Environmental sustainability for the Society.*** What should AOS do to act on climate change and to reduce our carbon footprint, both individually and at meetings?
4. ***Advocacy in collaboration with partner groups.*** AOS collaborates opportunistically with other scientific societies to advocate on legislative and policy matters through letters that are approved by the AOS Council. Should AOS build more of its own capacity to advocate for birds or focus more on collaborations with partner groups? If the latter, which partner groups?
5. ***What else should AOS be doing to promote ornithology?***