The Marsh Babbler (Pellorneum palustre) is an endemic species of grassland bird found in the river floodplains of North-East India and Bangladesh. Much remains unknown about the Marsh Babbler due to its elusive behaviour and the difficult habitat that it occupies (which also remains inaccessible during monsoons). Destruction and conversion of the unique tall grassland habitats have, however, decimated its already low population, escalating the species to ‘globally threatened’. A new paper by Anand Krishnan and colleagues quantifies the composition, signal space and phylogenetic diversity of these bird acoustic communities. Enhanced understanding of the species’ natural history and its association with its habitat will go a long way in ensuring its long-term conservation. Image credit: Siva R. Image licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International license.

RESEARCH ARTICLES

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bio058553

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FIRST PERSON

First person – Sutirtha Lahiri
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