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*Cover* Synthetic biology is a broad and fast-moving field of innovation involving the design and construction of new biological parts, and the redesign of existing, natural biological systems to address real-world problems. It has many potential applications that may change human relations to the natural world but is virtually unknown to the conservation community. What are the differences between the synthetic biology and conservation communities, and what kinds of opportunities and risks arise? For further details, see pp. 330–336. (Photograph © Roberto Alonso / FFI).





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