

Table S1 - Species examined in the present study.

Order	Family	Species	Accession no.	References	
Ciconiiformes	Threskiornithidae	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>	NC_012772	Unpublished data ^a	
		<i>Platalea minor</i>	NC_010962	Unpublished data ^b	
		<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>	NC_013146	Unpublished data ^a	
	Ardeidae	<i>Nipponia nippon</i>	NC_008132	Unpublished data ^c	
		<i>Ardea novaehollandiae</i>	NC_008551	Published data ^d	
		<i>Egretta eulophotes</i>	NC_009736	Published data ^c	
		<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	NC_023981	This study	
		<i>Ixobrychus cinnamomeus</i>	NC_015077	Published data ^f	
		<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	NC_015807	Unpublished data ^g	
		<i>Ciconia boyciana</i>	NC_002196	Published data ^h	
	Ciconiidae	<i>Ciconia ciconia</i>	NC_002197	Published data ^h	
		Anseriformes	Anatidae	<i>Branta canadensis</i>	NC_007011
	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>			EU009397	Unpublished data ^j

Unpublished data: ^aCheng YY, Chang HW, Yao CT, *et al.*; ^bLee YI, Tsai CL, Fang SY, *et al.*; ^cKodama Y, Kawasaki D, Segawa RD, *et al.*; ^dGibb *et al.* (2007); ^eZhou *et al.* (2008); ^fZhang *et al.* (2012); ^gZhang LQ, Kan XZ;

^hYamamoto *et al.* (2000); ⁱSnyder JC, Snider AR, Senedal AJ, *et al.*; ^jTu JF, Huang YH and Li N.

The blast sequences of this study are available in DRYAD (doi:10.5061/dryad.3g604).