

Partners in Flight

L A T A N G A R A

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a Hemisphere-wide bird conservation initiative.

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CONTENTS:

Note from the editor

News and Announcements

- Rare's "Promoting Protection Through Pride" program
- IBAS as a baseline for conserving Neotropical migratory species in the tropical Andes
- A partnership for conserving globally threatened birds in the Atlantic forest of Brazil
- BBF fund announces support to conserve birds in the Tumbesian dry forest of Northern Peru
- World wide ornithological literature: A new online bibliographic database for ornithologists
- Efforts to save the White-winged Guan in Peru from extinction
- Recipients of the 2003 E. Alexander Bergstrom research award

Web News

Funding

Training / Job Opportunities

Meetings

Publications Available

Recent Literature

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Readers:

In the future La Tangara will be downloaded from a new La Tangara web site. You will receive a short message with a link to visit the web page to view or download the latest updates on bird conservation from Canada to Tierra del Fuego. This new website will also include a database of bird conservationists subscribing to La Tangara so that you can easily contact your counterpart in a different country thousands of miles away who feels just as passionately as you do about birds.

I hope you find this method more convenient to you as La Tangara keeps working to facilitate communication about bird conservation throughout the Hemisphere.

Cheers,

José M. Zolotoff-Pallais
Editor

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RARE'S "PROMOTING PROTECTION THROUGH PRIDE" PROGRAM

What do puppet shows, rap music videos, and 6 foot tall flamingo costumes have to do with bird conservation? Quite a lot, actually. Rare's "Promoting Protection through Pride" program has a long history of using proven community outreach techniques drawn from the realm of social marketing to conserve important bird species, throughout the Americas (from the Caribbean, to Mexico, Guatemala, coastal Ecuador and Brazil) and now all the way to Sierra Leone, South Africa, and even China. If you are interested in learning more about how Rare's Pride program can help your bird conservation efforts, please write to <mailto:pride@rareconservation.org>, or call Megan Hill at Rare, Tel: 703-522-5070.

IBAS AS A BASELINE FOR CONSERVING NEOTROPICAL MIGRATORY SPECIES IN THE TROPICAL ANDES

BirdLife International will launch the first inventory of IBA sites in the Tropical Andes Region in March 2004 during the World Bird Conference to be held in South Africa. 454 sites have been identified and data on species, habitat coverage, and the conservation status of each site have been collected and compiled. This information is being entered into the World Bird Database; a management tool developed to analyze data on species and sites. This preliminary inventory will serve as a baseline for identifying sites of importance to Neotropical migratory birds. In collaboration with Conservation International, Armonia in Bolivia, the Museum of Natural History in Peru, CECIA in Ecuador, the Alexander von Humboldt Institute and ProAves in Colombia, and SCAV in Venezuela, BirdLife will shortly evaluate the importance of each site for Neotropical migrants and will map those sites of greatest importance. This project, supported by the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act (NMBCA), will result in conservation plans being drawn-up to conserve the highest priority sites for Neotropical migrants. Over the next sixth months, BirdLife will compile information on Neotropical migrants throughout the Andes and welcomes the collaboration of interested individuals, tour companies and/or institutions that have important databases on these migrant species. For more information contact Kerem Ali Boyla, BirdLife International, Ecuador, <mailto:Kerem.boyla@birdlife.org.ec>

A PARTNERSHIP FOR CONSERVING GLOBALLY THREATENED BIRDS IN THE ATLANTIC FORESTS OF BRAZIL

One hundred and four globally threatened birds have been identified in the Atlantic Forest region of eastern Brazil. Less than 8% of the original Atlantic forest now remains, and it occurs mostly in isolated remnants scattered throughout the landscape. In an effort to conserve these species, BirdLife International in conjunction with the Fundacao Zoobotanica do Rio Grande do Sul (FZBRS), identified 161 globally Important Bird Areas that support these globally threatened species. Of these, 15 are considered to be the highest priority with immediate action needed to avoid further bird extinctions in the near future. Working with local partners, BirdLife is already supporting on-the-ground site conservation work at two of these sites: Murici and Serra das Lontras. In partnership and with support from the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF), efforts are now underway to begin site conservation work at Boa Nova (Bahia), Serra da Ouricana, Valenca (Bahia), Fazenda Pindobas IV (Espirito Santo), Restinga de Macambaba/ Cabo Frio (Rio de Janeiro), and Serra das Bocaina/ Paraty/ Angra dos Reis (Rio de Janeiro/ Sao Paulo). Recognizing the need to engage local communities in site conservation, current efforts will assist and empower local "Site Support Groups" in their conservation efforts

through strategic land purchases, support for alternative and sustainable agriculture, training in forest management and monitoring efforts. For more information contact: <mailto:birdlifebrasil@uol.com.br>

THE BBWF FUND ANNOUNCES SUPPORT TO CONSERVE BIRDS IN THE TUMBESIAN DRY FORESTS OF NORTHERN PERU.

Northwestern Peru is a geographically complex area with cold off-shore coastal currents, warmer in-shore currents and a series of disjunct mountain ridges of the Andes. This complexity combines to produce a great diversity of habitats occurring in a small area, including mangroves, desert, three distinct dry forest types, humid montane forest, paramos and sub-tropical forest. The array of habitats, their distribution and the long-term climatic stability of the region has led to the evolution of many endemic species in the region.

Northwestern Peru contains parts of 8 Endemic Bird Areas and supports some 80 endemic bird species and as many as 21 globally threatened species including such spectacular flagship species as the Critically Endangered White-winged Guan (*Penelope albipennis*), the Endangered Marvellous Spatuletail (*Loddigesia mirabilis*) and the near-Endangered Long-whiskered Owlet (*Xenoglaux loweryi*) (only known from mist-net captured birds and not yet seen in the wild). The area also supports Neotropical passerines, especially in the montane forested areas. A consortium called "Forests without Borders – Bosques sin Fronteras" was formed to combine efforts to conserve some of the critical sites in this long neglected but globally important region. In recognition of the area's importance and in support of the consortium's work, BirdLife International has secured over \$1 million USD from the British Bird Watching Fair (BBWF), World Parks Endowment, Nature and Culture International and the Lottery Fund to initiate site based conservation at 6 key IBAs; some of which have now been documented by renowned wildlife artists as part of the Artists for Nature Tour 2003 (<http://www.anf-yb.nl/PROecuad.html>). To raise the profile of this region, a full-colored "coffee-table" book entitled Forgotten Forests including some 100 original paintings and sketches will be published and released this August. For more information contact Ian Davidson, <mailto:ian.davidson@birdlife.org.ec>

WORLDWIDE ORNITHOLOGICAL LITERATURE: A NEW ONLINE BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATABASE FOR ORNITHOLOGISTS

The British Ornithologists' Union (BOU), American Ornithologists' Union (AOU), and Birds Australia (BA) are proud to announce the launch of Worldwide Ornithological Literature (OWL), a new online bibliographic database for ornithologists, which replaces Recent Ornithological Literature (ROL) which has been run by the same organizations for many years. OWL is an indexed bibliographic database of citations from the worldwide scientific literature that pertain to the science of ornithology. OWL deals almost exclusively with serial publications. OWL's scope will be more than just the 'recent' literature of ornithology. Eventually, the aim is to develop an online resource with a database that covers the last 50 years or more of ornithological serial literature. OWL depends upon volunteers around the globe who compile the material. We are constantly seeking more volunteers to help in this effort. Anyone interested in helping should contact Jay Sheppard, Managing Editor, <mailto:JMSheppard@aol.com>, for a list of journals needing abstractors and other information. OWL also asks for citations for all recent doctoral dissertations and those papers published in obscure serials not usually covered in OWL. For more information contact: Jay Sheppard, Managing Editor, OWL <mailto:bourc.chair@bou.org.uk> or Steve Dudley, BOU <mailto:steve.dudley@bou.org.uk>. The new database is accessible free of charge at <http://www.birdlit.org>

EFFORTS TO SAVE THE WHITE-WINGED GUAN IN PERU FROM EXTINCTION

By Jude Webber, Reuters

Discovered in 1877 by a Polish ornithologist, it was believed extinct for 100 years until its rediscovery in 1977 by Gustavo del Solar, a hunter-turned-conservationist who founded a special breeding project to reintroduce it to the wild. Now, the White-winged Guan remains endangered with only an estimated 300 in the wild unless del Solar can raise cash to keep his project in northern Peru going. On part of his land, some 500 miles north of Lima in Peru's hot coastal desert strip, the breeding sanctuary is now home to 90 White-winged Guan. Del Solar's center is currently funded by a charitable foundation owned by brewer Backus & Johnston, a unit of Colombia's Bavaria, at a cost of about \$55,000 a year. Del Solar said he did not expect the brewer to fund it forever because it supports a range of other activities. Another \$50,000 is needed to be able to reintroduce the

birds into the wild in a vital next step to consolidate the guan's conservation efforts. For more information visit: <http://www.cnn.com>

RECIPIENTS OF THE 2003 E. ALEXANDER BERGSTROM RESEARCH AWARDS

This fund is named to honor the memory of E. Alexander Bergstrom and is intended to further research on birds by the Association of Field Ornithology. The 2003 recipients were: *Beta Diversity and Endemism: Implications for Tropical Reserve Design*, Jill Jankowski, Department of Biological Sciences, Purdue University; *Response of grassland songbirds to management practices in native prairies of the Loess Hills, Iowa*, Tracy Walker, Iowa State University; *Use of stable hydrogen isotopes to identify and assess yearly variation of natal origins among raptors migrating through the Florida Keys*, Sara Ress, University of Arkansas-Fayetteville; *Fluctuating asymmetry in golf course birds: evidence of development stress from pesticides*, Josh LeClerc, College of William & Mary; *Spatial variation in reproductive output of a song sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*) metapopulation*, Scott Wilson, University of British Columbia; *The effects of forest fragmentation on post-fledging survival and dispersal of a forest songbird*, Scott A. Rush, York University, Ontario, Canada; *Educational Bird Banding Station in the Alvarado Wetlands, Veracruz*, Octavio Cruz, Wetland Conservation Program, Pronatura Veracruz; *Research of the population status of *Otis koepckeae* in the Zarate forest of Lima, Peru*, Jean Mattos-Reano, Museo de Historia Natural, Lima, Peru; *Monitoring for conservation of migratory raptors in eastern lowland Bolivia*, Cristian E. Olivo, La Paz, Bolivia.

WEB NEWS

NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION WORKSHOP PROCEEDINGS

The workshop was held prior to the VIIth Neotropical Ornithological Congress, Parque Nacional Puyehue, Chile, October 5-11, 2003. The topics covered on this workshop were: 1) Funding your bird conservation project, *Presenter*: Megan Hill, Rare Center for Tropical Conservation; 2) How to write and publish a scientific article, *Presenter*: Charles D. Duncan; 3) Topics in biostatistics and experimental design, *Presenter*: Juan Carlos Martínez-Sánchez. To download it please visit: <http://www.avesnicaragua.org> under literature.

ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF COSTA RICA at: <http://www.zeledonia.org/>

NEOLIT FROM REVISTA BRASILEIRA DE ZOOLOGIA at: <http://zoo.bio.ufpr.br/sbz>

BIODIVERSITY DICTIONARY, available free at: <http://www.inbio.ac.cr/biodiccionario/>>

ORNITHOLOGY MANUAL AVAILABLE FOR SMBC MEMBERS at:

http://www.socmesoamericana.org/ev.php?URL_ID=2001&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201&reload=1074292105

NEW WEB SITE OF THE WETLANDS CENTER, AUSTRALIA. The website includes participation from a number of organizations involved in shorebird conservation and community education.

<http://www.wetlands.org.au/shorebirds/index.htm>

IMPORTANT BIRD AREAS OF MEXICO, at CONABIO web page: <http://www.conabio.gob.mx>

JOURNAL OF MEXICAN ORNITHOLOGY HUITZIL VOL. 4, available free at: <http://www.huitzil.net>

NEOORN-L is an electronic bulletin board for general discussion about Neotropical ornithology, and for question-and-answer exchanges regarding the study of birds of the Neotropics. The list owner is Dr. Van

Remsen at the Louisiana State University Museum of Natural Science. E-mail contact:
<mailto:najames@unix1.sncc.lsu.edu>

IMPORTANT BIRD SITES

- The Peregrine Fund at http://www.peregrinefund.org/E_news/e-newsletter_january_2004.htm
- New discussion group was launched - "Birds in Russia". <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BirdsinRussia/>
- The rediscovery of the extinct New Zealand Storm Petrel at: <http://www.wrybill-tours.com/idproblems/stormpet.htm>

FUNDING

PABLO CANEVARI AWARD FOR SHOREBIRD RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION

Each year, the Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences grants a US\$1,000 award to a nominee or organization from Latin America that demonstrates an outstanding commitment to shorebird conservation – much the way Pablo Canevari did before he died in 2000. An individual or organization may be nominated for this award that recognizes and supports exemplary work in the field of shorebird conservation. For submissions, fill out a simple nomination form and send it by e-mail, fax or regular mail. Deadline for nominations is March 15, 2004. The Award will be announced in mid April. The nomination form and mailing information can be found at: <http://www.manomet.org/WHSRN/pablocanevariaward.htm>.

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS FROM BANCO BILBAO VIZCAYA ARGENTARIA FOUNDATION

The 2004 Research Grants on Conservation Biology will award 12 research projects with up to 200.000 Euros. Research Project Teams may be multinational but must have a Spanish leader, study areas may be worldwide but studies in South America will be preferred. Application deadline is February 27, 2004. To download the guidelines visit http://w3.grupobbva.com/TLFB/tlfb/TLFBindex_pub.jsp. For more information visit: <http://www.fbbva.es>

SCHOLARSHIPS AND TRAVEL AWARDS FOR SCIENTISTS FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

To Obtain Modern Systematic Training in the US - SSB is pleased to announce the availability of four scholarships for scholars from developing countries to attend workshops and courses in systematics, or to visit a molecular lab for training. The emphasis of this program is the transfer of knowledge to the scholar's home country. This means that the student should currently be in his or her home country, or have definite plans to return in the near future. Courses such as the Molecular Evolution Workshop at Woods Hole, the applied Systematics Course at Bodega Bay, the Systematic Workshop at the Alan Wilson Center, Massey University, New Zealand, are examples of courses that are appropriate for this funding, in addition to other equivalent opportunities. Support for attending a course will be contingent on admission to the course through the normal admissions process. A letter expressing interest in support and a curriculum vitae should be sent to Dr. Keith Crandall, 675 Widtsoe Building, Department of Integrative Biology, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT 84602-5181USA; mailto:keith_crandall@byu.edu. The letter should include a discussion of how the knowledge acquired will be transferred to the country of the scholar's origin, and a justification of the course itself as providing appropriate training. Applications will be evaluated as they are received.

TRAINING / JOB OPPORTUNITIES

PRBO CONSERVATION SCIENCE SEEKS POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCHER

PRBO Conservation Science (PRBO) seeks a motivated researcher who can contribute technically and conceptually to our Riparian Program. The position involves working with PRBO staff to develop and validate statistical predictive models relating various metrics of riparian bird communities to habitat, landscape features, hydrology and management and restoration activities. Applicants should have a strong background in quantitative methods for ecological analysis and possess a Ph.D. (or M.S. with significant experience) in ecology, natural resource management, biometrics, or similar field. To apply send letter of interest, curriculum vitae, two writing samples, and list of three references. For more information or to apply contact Geoffrey R Geupel, Director, Terrestrial Ecology Division, PRBO, 4990 Shoreline Hwy, Stinson Beach, CA 94970. <mailto:ggeupel@prbo.org>

ECOLOGY AND CONSERVATION OF BIRDS IN THE SOUTHERN CONE

This is a post-graduate theoretical-practical course directed to the study of the ecology and conservation of birds in three regions of great ornithological value, shared between Argentina, Chile, Bolivia, Paraguay and Brazil. The objective of the course is to train young professionals and post-graduate students of the field of biological sciences in the study of avian communities. The course emphasizes theoretical and practical aspects of the sampling and data analysis methodology, taking advantage of the environmental heterogeneity of the region. We will work in three important areas for bird endemism, passing through the Puna plateau, the subtropical jungles of the mountains to the grasslands and forests of Chaco, covering an altitudinal range of 3000 m inhabited by more than 700 bird species. The course will be directed by Dr. John Blake (University of Missouri-St Louis) and will include the participation of local ornithologists with wide experience in the environments that will be visited. The course will take place during the first half of July 2004 with space for 15 participants. The cost of the course is US\$500, partial scholarships are available. Registration dates for the course are March 11 through April 30. For more information contact Pedro Blendinger, <mailto:liey@tucbbs.com.ar>

PRBO INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

PRBO Conservation Science has many exciting internship opportunities for summer 2004. We will train interns in widely used avian monitoring techniques; point counting, mist netting, and nest searching. Our projects span many habitat types. PRBO Conservation Science, (founded as Point Reyes Bird Observatory, in 1965), is dedicated to conserving birds, other wildlife and ecosystems through innovative scientific research and outreach. For project details, job descriptions, and how to apply visit: <http://www.prbo.org/cms/index.php?mid=53&module=browse>

MEETINGS

VI CONGRESS FOR THE STUDY AND CONSERVATION OF BIRDS IN MEXICO, Culiacán, Sinaloa, Mexico, March 3-5, 2004. The congress is entitled: "Monitoring: joint efforts in research and conservation of the birds of Mexico." During the congress, there will be presentations and discussions on relevant and present day subjects and works for scientists and decision-makers, with the purpose of learning, evaluating, and disseminating the state of the research on the biological patrimony of Mexico. For more information contact: Yamel Rubio, <mailto:yamel@uas.uasnet.mx> or visit: <http://www.geocities.com/cecam6/index.htm>

74TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COOPER ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY at La Crosse, Wisconsin, 5-9 May 2004. A full scientific program is planned for Thursday through Saturday including 4 symposia: avian

diseases, hierarchical modeling, migration stopover ecology, and ecological physiology/endocrinology. Morning birding field trips are planned as well as several field trips on Sunday. Online registration is available or you can download a registration form. The Cooper Ornithological Society actively promotes student participation. Many student travel awards are available. We also offer 2 research awards, and awards for excellence in presentations and posters. Visit the web site to find out how to apply for awards and how to qualify for presentation awards. Instructions for submitting abstracts for the symposia or contributed sessions can be found on the web site. Abstracts must be submitted by March 1st. Scientific Program Chair is Todd Arnold, Dept. of Fisheries Wildlife and Conservation Biology 1980 Folwell Ave University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN 55108, <mailto:arol065@umn.edu>. The meeting web site is <http://www.umesc.usgs.gov/copper>

122nd STATED MEETING OF THE AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION and ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY OF CANADIAN ORNITHOLOGISTS (SOCIÉTÉ DES ORNITHOLOGISTES DU CANADA) at Université Laval, Québec, P.Q., CANADA, Aug 16-21 2004. The conference will consist of symposia, workshops and roundtables, contributed oral presentations, and poster sessions. For submissions for symposia and workshops contact the Scientific Program Committee, ANDRÉ DESROCHERS <mailto:andre.desrochers@sbf.ulaval.ca>, or JEAN-PIERRE SAVARD <mailto:jean-pierre.savard@ec.gc.ca>. General announcement, including the call for papers, details of the plenary talks, registration forms, pre/post-conference trips, social events, etc., will be mailed with *The Auk* early in 2004. All information regarding the meeting will be posted on the conference home page at <http://www.sbf.ulaval.ca/aou-soc-2004/>. For more information concerning the conference, please contact ANDRÉ DESROCHERS <mailto:andre.desrochers@sbf.ulaval.ca>

VI INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT IN AMAZONIA AND LATIN AMERICA. Iquitos, capital of the Peruvian Amazon, September 5th-10th, 2004. The conference is organized by The National University of the Peruvian Amazon (UNAP), the Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology (DICE) and the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS). Participation by students, professionals, local communities, NGOs, government representatives, and the general public is welcome. Special emphasis during this conference will be on wildlife conservation and management in Amazonia and Latin America. Discussions and presentations will look at the advances made for conservation, and the design, development, implementation, methods, and management plans for wildlife in Amazonia and Latin America. For further information about the conference; submission of abstracts, workshops, and courses; and information on registration and hotels, visit the conference website at: <http://www.vicongreso.com.pe/>. If you have any questions contact the organizers at: <mailto:congresofauna@amauta.rcp.net.pe>

VIII CONGRESS OF THE MESOAMERICAN SOCIETY FOR BIOLOGY AND CONSERVATION, Managua, Nicaragua, Centro de Convenciones Plaza Inter. November 15-19, 2004. The academic program includes oral presentation sessions, poster sessions, magisterial conferences, symposiums, workshops and courses. For more information contact: Fabio Buitrago, <mailto:fabio.buitrago@fundar.org.ni> or <mailto:direccion@fundar.org.ni>

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

COLLINS ILLUSTRATED CHECKLIST: BIRDS OF MEXICO AND CENTRAL AMERICA

An essential guide to the avian fauna of Mexico and Central America, it illustrates and describes every species of bird that may be seen in Central America, from Mexico to Panama, including Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Costa Rica. Over 1500 species are covered and the informative text provides information on key identification features, habitat, and songs and calls. All plumages for each species are illustrated by Ber van Perlo, including males, females and juveniles. Distribution maps are also included,

showing where each species can be found and how common it is, to further aid identification. 336 pages, 98 color plates. To order on-line visit: <http://www.nhbs.com/xbscripts/bkfsrch?search=128718>

ESTIMATING NUMBERS OF TERRESTRIAL BIRDS, edited by C. John Ralph and J. Michael Scott, 2003. The Blackburn Press. Hardcover, ISBN 1-930665-77-6, 630 pages, \$64.95

This book was originally published in 1981 as a publication of the Cooper Ornithological Society and was based on the proceedings of a meeting of biologists and statisticians in Asilomar who gathered to examine the methods and assumptions used in estimating bird numbers. Counting birds has a long tradition. Interest in estimating bird numbers remains high today, but is often plagued by unasked or unanswered questions regarding sampling methods and treatment of the results. It led to better understanding of what can and cannot be done with datasets. To order visit: <http://www.blackburnpress.com/esnuoftebi.html>

RECENT LITERATURE

Altshuler, D. L. 2003. Flower color, hummingbird pollination, and habitat irradiance in four Neotropical forests. **Biotrópica 35(3):344-355.**

Briskie, J. V. and M. Mackintosh. 2004. Hatching failure increases with severity of population bottlenecks in birds. **Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 101: 558-561.**

Graves, G. R. 2003. Diagnoses of hybrid hummingbirds (Aves: Trochilidae). *Amazilia bangsi* Ridgway is an intrageneric hybrid, *Amazilia tzacatl* X *Amazilia rutila*. **Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington 116: 847-852.**

Horlent, N., M.C. Juárez and M. Arturi. 2003. Incidencia de la estructura del paisaje sobre la composición de especies de aves de los talares del noreste de la provincia de Buenos Aires. **Ecología Austral 13:173-182.**

Lasso, E. and M. E. Naranjo. 2003. Effect of pollinators and nectar robbers on nectar production and pollen deposition in *Hamelia patens* (Rubiaceae). **Biotrópica 35(1):57-66.**

Schondube, J. E., E. Santana, C. & I. Ruán-Tejeda. 2003. Biannual cycles of the Cinnamon-bellied Flowerpiercer. **Biotrópica 35(2):250-261.**

LA TANGARA is the bimonthly newsletter of the International Working Group of Partners in Flight. Contributions to the next issue are welcome (preferably by Email). Send materials and comments to: José Manuel Zolotoff, Editor, Fundación Cocibolca, Apartado C-212, Managua, Nicaragua.
<mailto:zolotoff@ibw.com.ni>

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LA TANGARA is edited by: Jose Manuel Zolotoff P., Fundación Cocibolca: P.O Box C-212, Managua, Nicaragua, Tel: (505) 248-8235, Fax: (505) 249-4144, <mailto:zolotoff@ibw.com.ni>. Reviewed by George E. Wallace, Vice-President for International Programs, American Bird Conservancy, P.O. Box 249, 4249 Loudoun Avenue, The Plains, VA 20198 USA, Tel: 540-253-5780, Fax: 540-253-5782, <mailto:gwallace@abcbirds.org>;

Megan Hill; RARE, 1840 Wilson Blvd, Suite 204, Arlington, VA 22207, Tel: (703)522-5070; Fax: 703-522-5027, <mailto:mhill@rareconservation.org>; Borja Milá, Organismic Biology, Ecology and Evolution, University of California - Los Angeles, 621 Charles E. Young Dr. South, P.O. Box 951606, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1606, USA, Tel: (310) 825-5014, <mailto:bmila@ucla.edu>

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