



Partners in Flight LA TANGARA



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CONTENTS

Note from the editor

News and Announcements

- Abduction of two Colombian biologists
- First IBAS for Argentina
- The Golden-Cheeked Warbler on the breeding grounds, training and experience exchange workshop proceedings
- Birders Exchange Request
- BP 2004 program winner in Latin America
- Information needed on the Cerulean Warbler south of the United States border
- Pablo Canevari award 2004

Web News

Funding

Training / Job Opportunities

Meetings

Publications Available

Recent Literature

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Readers:

I hope you approve the new Tangara format. I am requesting a moment of your time to register and update your data. Bit by bit we'll be updating the information you send. We look forward to receiving your comments and suggestions concerning our web page.

On behalf of all Tangara readers I would like to extend my most sincere condolences to the family of Dr Alexander F. Skutch who recently deceased. This is without a doubt a great loss for the Neotropical ornithology but his legacy will be immortalized by his work. I also followed with a lot of concern the abduction of Hermes Cuadros and Diego Calderón in Colombia. In October 2003 I had the opportunity to get to know Diego during the Neotropical Ornithological Congress in Chile. I would like to express my solidarity to their families and our hope for their quick return.

José M Zolotoff-Pallais
Editor

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ABDUCTION OF TWO COLOMBIAN BIOLOGISTS

On April 17, Hermes Cuadros Villalobos, biologist and plant systematist from the Valle University, and Diego Calderon, ornithologist and student of biology from the University of Antioquia, Medellin, were abducted in Serrania de Perijá, Colombia. The scientific work they were performing when abducted has the sole purpose of advancing knowledge of biological diversity in Perijá, in order to accomplish conservation in this important Colombian region. Visit the website <http://www.rnoa.org/> to learn more about the actions being undertaken to liberate these researchers.

FIRST IBAS FOR ARGENTINA

BirdLife International's recent Global Council Meeting, held in Buenos Aires, was the setting for the announcement of the designation of Argentina's first Important Bird Area (IBAs). The six areas were selected after extensive research by BirdLife International's Argentinean Partner, Aves Argentinas, with the financial support of SEO/BirdLife (BirdLife in Spain), Vogelbescherming Nederland (BirdLife in the Netherlands) and Pan American Energy. The IBAs of Comercio Sierra Morena (in Misiones province), Bañados del Saladillo (Córdoba), El Ñandubaysal (Entre Ríos), Cuenca del Aguapey (Corrientes), Reserva Ecológica El Bagual (Formosa) and Reserva Natural Otamendi (Buenos Aires) were announced. All of the sites either lack legal protection or are threatened by land-use changes. Among the globally-threatened species living in the new IBAs are the Black-and-White Monjita (*Xolmis dominicana*), Chestnut Seedeater (*Sporophila cinnamomea*), and the Black-Fronted Piping-Guan *Pipile jacutinga* (all classified as Vulnerable). For more information contact Ian Davidson, <mailto:Ian.davidson@birdlife.org.ec>

THE GOLDEN-CHEEKED WARBLER ON THE BREEDING GROUNDS, TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE EXCHANGE WORKSHOP PROCEEDINGS

The workshop was held from 17-30 April 2004 in central Texas. Rebecca Peak and Raquel Leyva of The Nature Conservancy's Fort Hood Project, Chuck Sexton of Balcones Canyonlands National Wildlife Refuge, and Selvin Pérez of Fundación Defensores de la Naturaleza coordinated this event. The Golden-cheeked Warbler (*Dendroica chrysoparia*) serves as flagship species for the "Continental Alliance for the Conservation of Mesoamerican pine-oak forests and their birds". The workshop was designed to familiarize Latin American researchers studying the Golden-cheeked Warbler on its wintering grounds with the breeding biology of the species as well as to promote an exchange of experiences among people currently working on research and conservation of this species in both North America and Central America. Participants in the workshop included Salvadora Morales with La Alianza Para Las Areas Silvestres (ALAS) in Nicaragua, Francisco Aceituno with Fundación EDUCA in Honduras, Efraín Castillejos Castellanos with Pronatura Chiapas in México, and Andrea Nájera with Fundación Defensores de la Naturaleza in Guatemala. Topics covered included: 1) applying GIS technology to the study of the distribution and abundance of the species; 2) using tape playback for capturing birds in mist-nets; 3) aging and sexing the species; 4) distinguishing it from other closely related species of the genus *Dendroica*; 5) locating and monitoring nests of the species; 6) examining the structure and composition of the breeding habitat; and 7) conserving and maintaining Golden-cheeked Warbler breeding habitat. For more information about the Continental Alliance for the Conservation of Mesoamerican pine-oak forests and their birds contact Claudia Macías, Pronatura Chiapas, A.C., Mexico, Tel: 52 (967) 678-5000, or <mailto:cmacias@pronatura-chiapas.org>

BIRDERS EXCHANGE REQUEST

American Birding Association's (ABA) Birders' Exchange (BEX) has begun a major project - the translation of John Kricher's book. *A Neotropical Companion*, a guide to the plants, animals and ecosystems of the new world tropics, from English to a Spanish-language version. Once the translation is complete the book will be published by ABA, and BEX will distribute it free of charge to our colleagues throughout the Neotropics. This is an all-volunteer project, and BEX is seeking your help. We need additional volunteer translators to join our translation team. BEX will provide each translator with a copy of the book, and portions of the book will be assigned for translation. Everyone who participates will be acknowledged in the book. If you are interested in being part of this important education project please contact: Betty Petersen, BEX Program Director, <mailto:bex@aba.org>.

BP 2004 CONSERVATION PROGRAM WINNER IN LATIN AMERICAN: THREATENED BIRDS OF BOLIVIA PROJECT

The BP Conservation program, a partnership between BP, BirdLife International, Fauna & Flora International, Conservation International and the Wildlife Conservation Society, recently judged their 2004 awards. These aim to address global conservation priorities at a local level by assisting and encouraging student-led teams of young people from around the world to undertake conservation research projects. A \$75,000 award is being given to a team working towards protecting the threatened birds of Bolivia. The project's goal is to help in the conservation of all 29 of Bolivia's globally threatened bird species and the habitats they live in. The project team will use a series of species specific conservation measures in different habitats aimed to improve the conservation status of two critically endangered (Royal Cinclodes - *Cinclodes aricomae* & Blue-throated Macaw - *Ara glaucogularis*), three endangered (Bolivian Spinetail - *Cranioleuca henricae*, Ash-breasted Tit-Tyrant - *Anairetes alpinus* & Cochabamba Mountain-Finch - *Poospiza garleppi*) and one vulnerable bird species (Southern Horned Curassow - *Pauxi unicornis*). In parallel with this, the team will organize a program of biodiversity inventories across the country that will help determine the distributional status of two endangered, 17 vulnerable and three newly discovered endemic bird species. As part of this survey effort the team will collect data to determine the status of Bolivia's 21 recently identified potential Important Bird Areas (IBAs) which are believed to be among the countries most important international priorities for conservation. This project aims to assist these and future conservation projects in two ways: first, with a series of training initiatives targeted at providing new personnel with the skills and experience to work on these projects; second, by developing a national Ornithology Conservation Center that will provide the infrastructure support needed to develop these initiatives into projects that will permanently conserve the species. For more information contact: Ross MacLeod <mailto:r.macleod@bio.gla.ac.uk>, Aidan McCormick, <mailto:a.mccormick@bio.gla.ac.uk>

INFORMATION NEEDED ON CERULEAN WARBLERS SOUTH OF THE UNITED STATES BORDER

Cerulean Warbler (*Dendroica cerulea*) populations have declined substantially in the past 35 years. Stimulated in part by consideration of listing the Cerulean Warbler as threatened in the United States under the Endangered Species Act, a group of ornithologists from South and North America has begun exploring the possibility that the population size of this species may be partially or largely limited by conditions in its wintering range or during migration. This consideration will hopefully lead to conservation measures beneficial to the Cerulean Warbler and the many other species with which it shares habitat in South and Central America. Convinced that unpublished observations can significantly increase our understanding of the non-breeding distribution of this bird, and thus opportunities to undertake conservation measures, we request interested people to send us details on Cerulean Warbler sightings outside of the United States and Canada. Please include the following information for each observation: observer, date, precise locality (country, province, and as much detailed information on locality as possible, including lat-long coordinates if known), elevation, time of day, conditions or quality of observation, number of Cerulean Warblers observed (with age and sex if possible), habitat description, and any other potentially useful comments (nature of flocks and associated species with which the Cerulean Warblers co-occur, etc.). Please submit your records to: Paul Hamel, Center for Bottomland Hardwoods Research, P.O. Box 227, 432 Stoneville Road, Stoneville, MS 38776 USA. Tel: 662-686-3167; Fax: 662-686-3195; <mailto:phamel@fs.fed.us>

VEGA DECLARED WINNER OF THE 2004 PABLO CANEVARI AWARD

The Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences is pleased to announce that the winner of the Pablo Canevari Memorial Award for 2004 is Xicoténcatl Vega Picos, Director of Conservation in Sinaloa, México, for Pronatura Noroeste Mar de Cortés, and Associate Professor of Ecology and Sustainable Development at ITESM Campus Sinaloa. Pablo Canevari was the first Director of the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network (WHSRN), a scientist, a skilled illustrator, a colleague, and a dear friend to those who knew him before his death in March of 2000. The annual Award recognizes and supports with a cash prize a Latin American individual or organization that demonstrates an outstanding commitment to shorebird conservation – as did Pablo Canevari. Xicoténcatl Vega is recognized for his work in conserving shorebirds in Northwest Mexico. He has been instrumental in promoting both conservation and research interest in shorebirds in Mexico, and has been the moving force behind the nomination and designation of two WHSRN sites in Sinaloa state (Playa Ceuta and Bahía Santa María). He has delivered of 5 training workshops in Sinaloa and Baja California, including 4 for WHSRN, and one for the Prairie Pothole Joint Venture (PPJV) of the United States. Working with the PPJV, Xico has participated in a trinational project to identify the wintering grounds of Marbled Godwits (*Limosa fedoa*). Through sophisticated techniques, including stable-isotope analysis, the project seeks to link for the first time the breeding and wintering grounds of these large shorebirds. The award was presented to Xico on April 5, 2004 at the Wetlands International "Global Flyways" Conference in Edinburgh, United Kingdom, by the Director of WHSRN's Coordinating Office, Charles Duncan. For more information about Xicoténcatl Vega and Pablo Canevari, as well as previous winners of the Canevari Award, visit the WHSRN website, <http://www.manomet.org/WHSRN>.

WEB NEWS

THE PEREGRINE FUND RESEARCH LIBRARY. The library and reprint collection catalogs (containing >14,000 and >16,000 titles, respectively) and an inventory of journal holdings are posted on the website in searchable form (URL: <http://www.peregrinefund.org>). The library maintains a standing offer to supply free pdf copies of any articles in the collection to any researcher or student upon request.

CUBAN TROGON T-SHIRT SPONSORED BY OPTICS FOR THE TROPICS. Optics for the Tropics is a non-profit organization that provides binoculars to ornithologists in the Caribbean and Latin America, where equipment is lacking. We also provide an opportunity to develop partnerships between projects, programs and people throughout a bird's range. Building capacity throughout the Western Hemisphere provides better protection for birds and their habitats. Support this effort with a donation of \$25 or more and receive this quality t-shirt with a Cuban Trogon. For more information visit: <http://www.opticsforthetropics.org/>

BirdLife International has the complete book "State of the World's Birds" (2004) downloadable for free as pdf files at: <http://www.birdlife.org.uk/action/science/species/sowb/pdfs.html>

UNIVERSITY OF PANAMA VERTEBRATE MUSEUM at: <http://www.up.ac.pa/UnidadesAcademicas/facultad/FCNET/ciencias.htm>

"LISTADO BIBLIOGRAFICO SOBRE LAS AVES DEL ECUADOR: 1834-2001" (BIBLIOGRAPHY OF ECUADORIAN BIRDS). It is comprised of 4 files (zipped): one with introductory chapters (introduction, historical review and bibliographic analysis), a second with the list of bibliography, a third with an addenda list, and a fourth file with indexes on-line at: <http://www.numashir.org/espanol/aves.htm>

WHSRN Strategic Plan for 2004-2008, available in English and Spanish at: http://www.manomet.org/WHSRN/strategic_plan.htm

PAINTED BUNTING PROPOSED FOR CITES APPENDIX II, more information at:

http://www.cites.org/common/cop/13/raw_props/US-Passerina%20ciris.pdf

IMPORTANT BIRD SITES

- Sibley's sequence based on DNA hybridization comparisons by Charles G. Sibley - Burt L. Monroe, Jr. at: <http://www.scricciolo.com/classificazione/cover.html>
- Summary on evidence for cooperative breeding in all the wrens: <http://www.tc.umn.edu/~barke042/Wren.behavior.html>
- Curassows and related birds at <http://www.hbw.com/phtml/curassows.phtml>
- Latest updates of the Expedition Birding tables can now be found under files at <http://www.birdingperu.com/forums/expeditionbirding>
- New law is bad news for Dominican Protected Areas at: http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2004/04/dominican_pa.html
- Mexican forum for discussion at: <http://www.mexautos.com/forum/viewforum.php?f=1>
- New Ave mania at: <http://www.ecoturismoeduca.com>

FUNDING

ABC'S WILLIAM BELTON SMALL GRANTS FUND

In partnership with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, ABC provides support for projects to conserve Endangered and Critically Endangered bird species in Latin America and the Caribbean. Conservation projects at sites identified by the Alliance for Zero Extinction (URL: <http://www.zeroextinction.org>) as essential for the conservation of Endangered and Critically Endangered bird species will be given highest priority for support. Grant requests can include funding requests for the development and implementation of conservation plans, the development of new protected areas, community development projects to protect key habitats, and other locally-based efforts to protect the sites identified. Expeditions to search for "Lost Species" will also be considered. For consideration, please submit letter of inquiry by e-mail to Dr. Robert Chipley (<mailto:rchipley@abcbirds.org>) prior to 15 July 2004. The project description should include the total cost of the project and the amount requested from American Bird Conservancy. Work must be carried out by nationals of Latin American and Caribbean countries, either wholly or in partnership. A full proposal will be requested from those groups whose inquiries fit the program's priorities most closely. Grants average \$5,000, but larger grants may be considered. Final decisions will be made in December 2004.

Please go to

http://www.abcbirds.org/international/small_grants_2004.htm for more details.

LINCOLN PARK ZOO NEOTROPIC FUND

The emphasis of the funds is to support new conservation initiatives focused on projects that have: direct impact on wildlife conservation and/or conservation biology; direct participation by graduate students, undergraduate students, or wildlife managers that enhance their educational experience and improve their opportunities for careers in wildlife management, conservation biology, or conservation policy involvement by students and/or local field assistants from Latin America, Africa, or Asia at levels that engender appreciation for wildlife conservation; and links to either the Lincoln Park Zoo animal collection or conservation activities of the zoo staff. Projects should make direct contributions to conservation of individual species or habitats, conservation education, applied conservation biology or conservation policy. Key factors in the review process include consideration of research design, feasibility, breadth of significance to the discipline of conservation biology, and potential for application of results to wildlife conservation. Evaluation of each proposal is based on its merit and quality relative to that of all other proposals under consideration. Funding requests should center on support for Latin American, African, or Asian researchers, students and field assistants, as well as logistical support for Western students. While

field costs will be supported at reasonable levels, the funds do not usually support their salaries or the purchase of permanent equipment. The funds cannot support institutional overhead or tuition to undergraduate, graduate, or professional schools. Pre-proposals are due by October 1 of each year. Project awards are announced annually in March. To apply or for more information: Lincoln Park Zoo Field Conservation Funds, Department of Conservation and Science, Lincoln Park Zoo, 2001 North Clark Street, Chicago, IL 60614, or visit: <http://www.lpzoo.com/conservation/funds.html>

TRAINING / JOB OPPORTUNITIES

OPPORTUNITY FOR A MASTER'S DEGREE IN ORNITHOLOGY IN COSTA RICA

The TEAM Transecto Barva project and the Volcanic Mountain Range Conservation Area are promoting a research project on the distribution and population density of the mountain jilgero (*Myadestes melanops*) throughout the montane cloud forest of the Braulio Carillo National Park (PNBC). Such project was designed based on the research objectives proposed by the TEAM project, which promotes the conservation of vulnerable species with the logistic support of the ACCVC. To apply for the Master of Science in Biology degree, the students must be enrolled in the last semester of Biology, Ecology, Wildlife Management Majors or similar careers; must have basic ornithology knowledge (preferably taken ornithology courses as part of their academic training). The students must be willing to do field work during extended periods. If you are interested in applying you may send your CV to: <mailto:alexa@sloth.ots.ac.cr>. Write down as subject "Jilguero de Montaña"

MEETINGS

VI INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT IN AMAZONIA AND LATIN AMERICA. Iquitos, capital of the Peruvian Amazon. 5th-10th September 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, NGO's, 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 examine 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 conference organizers at: <mailto:congresofauna@amauta.rcp.net.pe>

31ST ANNUAL NATURAL AREAS CONFERENCE, Chicago, Illinois, USA, October 10 - 16, 2004. Our 2004 annual conference, entitled "Emerging Issues: Possibilities and Perils," will be held near the Great Lakes of the American Midwest. We invite scientists, land managers, academics and others involved in natural land management to attend and present a paper or poster about their work. This year's theme acknowledges the changing nature of the protection and management needs facing Natural Areas in the 21st century. The strategies we employ now evolved from the vision of NAA founders 31 years ago. In 2004, we continue an open and important discussion with increasing emphasis on what we must do to sustain Natural Areas in ever changing landscapes. Presentations, workshops, field trips and social events will help us refine and inspire our collective tasks for the future. The conference will feature presentations on natural areas inventory, monitoring and management, species reintroduction, restoration techniques, invasive species, rare species conservation, prescribed fire, compatible use, effective communication and partnerships. It will also include special forums on: Impacts of emerging disease and the impacts of diseases on natural areas, preserve system design and implementation, maintaining wild areas in expanding urban areas, communicating and educating the public about natural areas issues. For more information about the Natural Areas Association, visit <http://www.naturalarea.org/>

VI SYMPOSIUM OF ZOOLOGY, Topes de Collantes, Sancti Spiritus, Cuba, November 15-20, 2004. The symposium is celebrated by the Institute of Ecology and Systematics jointly with the Cuban Zoological Society and other entities involved in the study and preservation of biodiversity. The event will include plenary lectures, Round Tables, Workshops, Oral Presentations, and Posters Exhibitions assessing aspects of Systematics, Ecology, Behavior, Evolution, Monitoring, Conservation, Environmental Education and other areas covered by Zoological Studies. For more information visit:

<http://www.geocities.com/zoologiacubana/simposio> and

<http://www.geocities.com/zoologiacubana/meeting.htm> or write to <mailto:zoologia.ies@ama.cu> or direccion.ies@ama.cu

VIII CONGRESS OF THE MESOAMERICAN SOCIETY FOR BIOLOGY AND CONSERVATION, Crowne Plaza Convention Center, Managua, Nicaragua, November 15-19, 2004. "Science and Technology for Conservation and Sustainable Development." The academic program will include oral presentation sessions, poster sessions, key-note conferences and symposia, courses and workshops. Reception for proposals of oral presentation will begin June 1 and end August 30, 2004. For more information contact the Organizing Committee at: <mailto:congresosmbc@fundar.org.ni> or visit the Society's website at:

<http://www.socmesoamericana.org/ev.php>

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

BUTEO BOOKS now distributes the *PETERS' CHECK-LIST OF BIRDS OF THE WORLD* and the *ORNITHOLOGICAL GAZETTEERS* published by the Museum of Comparative Zoology of Harvard University. *The Check-list*, published between 1934 and 1979, is complete in 16 volumes. *The Ornithological Gazetteers* for South America list collecting localities, names of collectors, and dates of their visits gleaned from the literature and museum collections. An invaluable reference both for museum scientists and field workers, the series includes: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, the Guianas, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela. Complete details may be found at: <http://www.buteobooks.com>, or by contacting Buteo Books, 3130 Laurel Road, Shipman, VA 22971. Tel: 800-722-2460; 434-263-8671; Fax: 434-263-4842; <mailto:allen@buteobooks.com>

CHILE'S BIRDS OF PREY, Edited by Jaime Rau, José Yanez, 2004. 387 pp. Includes more than 200 laminated plates plus scientific drawings and photographs. More than 25 specialists participated in this book with information on natural history, ecology and management of birds of prey. For more information contact Claudia Gil Cordero, Tel-Fax: 56-63-215846, <mailto:editorial@ceachile.cl>

RECENT LITERATURE

Córdoba, G., Dario E. Victor H. Tejera N. y Ricardo J. Perez A. 2003. Aves migratorias en la zona costera del distrito de Aguadulce, Cocle, Panama. **Mesoamericana (Chiapas, México)**. **7(1):26-27**.

Pyle, P., McAndrews, A., P. Veléz., R. L. Wilkerson., R. B. Siegel, and D. F. DeSante. 2004. Molt patterns and age and sex determination of selected southeastern Cuban landbirds. **Journal of Field Ornithology** **2004: 75(2):136-145**.

Sharpe, C. J. 2003 ("2001"). Shiny Cowbird *Molothrus bonariensis venezuelensis* Stone 1891 as a successful brood parasite of Fulvous-headed Tanager *Thlypopsis fulviceps fulviceps* Cabanis 1851. **Memoria de la Sociedad de Ciencias Naturales La Salle** **61 (155):139-141**.

Tejera, N. Victor H., Ricardo J. Perez A. y Ana Maria Jimenez M. 2003. Biología reproductiva del perico piquiblanco, *Brotogeris jugularis* (Müller, 1776) y la casanga cabeciazul, *Pionus menstruus* (Linnaeus, 1766) en un area de la ciudad de Panama. **Mesoamericana (Chiapas, México) 7(1):131.**

Tejera, N. Victor H., y Sandra L. Campines A. 2004. Aves migratorias, sus actividades y distribución en un árbol de corotu, *Enterolobium cyclocarpum* (Jacq.) Griseb., en la Universidad de Panama. **Tecnociencia (Panamá) 6(1):15-26.**

Tejera, N. Victor H.; Ana Maria Jimenez M. y Ricardo J. Perez A. 2003. Nidos y huevos del sangretoro, *Ramphocelus dimidiatus* Lafresnaye, 1837 en la Universidad de Panama, 2000. **Libro de Resúmenes del 22 Congreso Científico Nacional. Vicerrectoría de Investigación y Postgrado, Universidad de Panamá, Panamá. pag. 46.**

Tejera, N. Victor H.; Ricardo J. Perez A. y Ana Maria Jimenez M. 2003. Anidación del espatulilla comun, *Todirostrum cinereum* (Linnaeus, 1766), Campus Universitario, Panama, 2000. **Libro de Resúmenes del 22 Congreso Científico Nacional. Vicerrectoría de Investigación y Postgrado, Universidad de Panamá, Panamá. pag. 49.**

Trivedi, Mandar R., Fernando H. Cornejo, and Andrew R. Watkinson. 2004. Seed predation on Brazil nuts (*Bertholletia excelsa*) by macaws (Psittacidae) in Madre de Dios, Peru. **Biotrópica 36:118-122.**


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<http://www.partnersinflight.org>

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-Pallais., Editor, Fundación Cocibolca, Apartado Postal C-212, Managua, Nicaragua, Tel: (505) 248-8235, Fax: (505) 249-4144, Email: <mailto:zolotoff@ibw.com.ni>