



# Partners in Flight LA TANGARA



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A Hemisphere-wide bird conservation initiative.

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## NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### WELCOME TO MIGRATORY BIRDS IN THE ANDES

The Forth Migratory Bird Festival is a month of events dedicated to increase the support and knowledge of migratory birds that every year moves to the tropical areas of America. Coordinated by Fundacion ProAves - organization that leads conservation actions in Colombia - the festival is locally celebrated by various linked institutions, and since 2006 it has expanded to Ecuador and Peru thanks to the coordination of Fundacion Jocotoco and ECOAN in both countries. The goal of the festival is to increase public awareness on the marvelous phenomenon of migration and how these birds that are part of our ecosystems are associated with our exceptionally rich but endangered avifauna and could be used as flagship species for conservation. Last year the festival brought in more than 30,000 participants. This year's theme will focus on how to make the environment friendlier to birds in the rural landscapes of the Andes, where the natural environment is being

transformed every year. This initiative is part of the International Migratory Bird Day led by Partners in Flight. For more information visit: [http://www.proaves.org/article.php?id\\_article=328](http://www.proaves.org/article.php?id_article=328)

#### CALL FOR NOMINATION FOR 2007 PIF AWARDS

Partners in Flight is now accepting nominations for the 2007 National Awards. The PIF awards program recognizes exceptional contributions to the field of landbird conservation. Nominees who have furthered the goal of protecting migratory and resident landbirds and their habitats will be evaluated for their effective public awareness activities, innovative leadership, insightful ecological investigations, or sound land stewardship. Eligible nominations will be accepted for individuals or groups from the U.S., Canada, Latin America, and the Caribbean. Please see <http://www.partnersinflight.org/awards/> for guidelines and forms. The deadline for submission is 30 October 2007. There are many good candidates for awards that have never been nominated. Please consider submitting a nomination this year for a worthy candidate.

#### EARTH PORTAL LAUNCH

The National Council for Science and the Environment (NCSE) is pleased to announce the formal launch of the Earth Portal (<http://www.EarthPortal.org>). Earth Portal is a comprehensive, free and dynamic resource for timely, objective, science-based information about the environment built by a global community of environmental experts: educators, physical, life, and social scientists, scholars, and professionals who have joined together to communicate to the world. In contrast to information from anonymous sources with no quality control, the Earth Portal is created and governed by individuals and organizations that put their names behind their words and where attribution and expert-review for accuracy are fundamental. The National Council for Science and the Environment (<http://www.NCSEonline.org>) is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to improving the scientific basis for environmental decision-making. The NCSE specializes in programs that foster collaboration among diverse institutions, communities and individuals.

#### BIRDLIFE INTERNATIONAL SEEKING INPUT AND UPDATES FOR THREATENED BIRDS OF THE WORLD 2008

As Red List Authority for birds on the IUCN Red List, BirdLife re-evaluates the status of all the world's birds every four years. The landmark publication *Threatened birds of the world*, published in 2000, was followed by *Threatened birds of the world 2004* which was released as a CD-ROM. We are now embarking on a re-evaluation for 2008, and plan to release another CD-ROM, in addition to continuing to make all the species fact sheets and data available through the BirdLife website (see <http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/species/index.html>). It is important to keep this information up-to-date, and ensure that our evaluation of the extinction risk to each species is based on the best and most up-to-date information. This helps BirdLife and other organizations and governments to set priorities for conservation action, including identifying and conserving Important Bird Areas. Proposals to revise the Red List category for a number of species are under discussion on BirdLife's web-based discussion forums (see <http://www.birdlifeforums.org>), where comments and relevant information can be contributed. They are designed to make the Red Listing process as transparent and open-access as possible. Please visit the site to see which species are actively under review, contribute any relevant information or comments, and suggest other species that may require revision to their classification. This is your chance to influence the global conservation ranking for the world's birds. We will be sending out fact sheet profiles for each threatened species to experts for review, but would welcome any comments, news from the field and updates from anyone, particularly new information relating to population size and trends, threats, and conservation actions underway and needed. Search for any species, family, region or country at <http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/species/index.html> to view the current information we hold. All contributions used to update fact sheets will be explicitly acknowledged. Please send any updates to <mailto:science@birdlife.org>. For further information, contact Stuart Butchart, Global Species Programme Coordinator, BirdLife International, <mailto:stuart.butchart@birdlife.org>

### RAINFOREST ALLIANCE ONLINE DATABASE GROWING

The Eco-Index (<http://www.eco-index.org>), an online database of conservation projects in the Americas created by the Rainforest Alliance, now features more than 1,000 projects in English and Spanish. The site also recently started including projects in the United States and Canada, making it the premiere vehicle for the conservation community to share information about initiatives in the Americas. The Eco-Index has grown steadily since it was launched in January 2001 with 70 projects. Now, the 1,000 plus projects in the database represent the work of more than 700 non-governmental organizations, research institutions, and government ministries in the Americas. Project profiles outline contact information, summaries, objectives, budget, accomplishments, lessons learned, methodology, links and reports. The Eco-Index also offers a variety of other resources to conservation researchers. Users can check out a bimonthly bulletin called the Eco-Exchange about environmental issues and success stories in the Americas and read interviews with conservation leaders and field staff. Users can also subscribe to a monthly e-newsletter in English or Spanish that lists new projects that have been added to the Eco-Index. An average of 20 projects are added or updated on the Eco-Index each month. Project directors can submit descriptions of their projects on questionnaires available on the site or by emailing <mailto:eco-index@ra.org>. Eco-Index staff fact check, edit and translate the questionnaires into English and Spanish. Brazil-based project profiles are also translated into Portuguese. The Eco-Index is also home to the Western Hemisphere Migratory Species Initiative (WHMSI) Pathway (<http://www.eco-index.org/migratory>), a clearinghouse of information about migratory species conservation in the Americas; and the Eco-Index of Sustainable Tourism (<http://www.eco-index.org/tourism>), a searchable database of sustainable tourism operations in Latin America and the Caribbean. The Eco-Index is sponsored by the US Fish and Wildlife Service's International Division and Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act; the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Coral Reef Conservation Fund; the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund; the Inter-American Development Bank; the Spray Foundation; and the Global Environment Facility's Small Grants Program of Costa Rica. For sponsorship information, visit <http://www.eco-index.org/sponsors>.

### SHORE BIRD COUNT IN EL SALVADOR

With the support from students of the University of El Salvador, SalvaNATURA, FUNDARRECIFE, bird watchers and the Ministry of the Environment and Resources (MARN), two shorebird counts were made in EL Salvador in February and May in coastal and continental wetlands. In February 21 species and 2,257 birds were registered, the most abundant were: Semipalmated Plover (*Charadrius semipalmatus*) (311), Willet (*Tringa semipalmata*) (286) and Short-billed Dowitcher (*Limnodromus griseus*) (233). During the May count 25 species and 2,995 birds were registered, the most abundant were: Pectoral Sandpiper (*Calidris melanotos*) (718), Sanderling (*C. alba*) (415) and Black-bellied Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*) (352). The rarest species registered were: American Golden-Plover (*P. dominica*) (15), Upland Sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*) (1), Pectoral Sandpiper (*Calidris melanotos*) (718), Stilt Sandpiper (*Calidris himantopus*) (265), Red Knot (*Calidris canutus*) (5), Wilson's Phalarope (*Phalaropus tricolor*) (1) and Surf-bird (*Aphriza virgata*) (4). For more information contact Ricardo Ibarra Portillo, General Coordinator, <mailto:ribarra@marn.gob.sv>

### INFORMATION NEEDED ON THE GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLERS IN WINTERING GROUNDS

During the next wintering season in Central and South America, members of the Alianza Alas Doradas will investigate the distribution, abundance and habitat use of Golden-winged Warblers in Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Venezuela and Colombia. This conservation initiative is led by the Golden-winged Warbler Technical Group with support from different organizations and is funded by National Fish and Wildlife Foundation - NFWF, and seeks to maintain long term populations of this long distance migratory species that has undergone considerable population declines in the past years. If you belong to an organization or bird monitoring program in areas of this species' distribution, we invite you to form part of this initiative. For more information [www.proaves.org](http://www.proaves.org) or contact Maria Isabel Moreno, Coordinator, <mailto:mmoreno@proaves.org>.

#### LOCATION OF BLACK SWIFT NEST SITES NEEDED

Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, is working on a range-wide listing of confirmed or probable Black Swift nest sites. Only three such sites on the mainland south of the US have been published. The first nest site reported from Mexico was discovered in 1964 on the mountain Cofre de Perote in Veracruz. A second nest site in Mexico was found the following year in Oaxaca near La Cima. In 1997, Black Swifts were found nesting in an upper section of the Río Tiribí in Costa Rica ten miles east of San Jose. The precise locations of these sites remains somewhat vague, and no other sites appear to have been published. If you are aware of any other Black Swift nest sites, or if you have more recent information on any of these three sites, please contact Rich Levad, Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, <mailto:rich.levad@rmbo.org>.

#### BRAZIL'S ATLANTIC FOREST RECEIVES INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT

One of Brazil's most threatened Important Bird Areas (IBAs), Boa Nova IBA, is to benefit from a new project that will develop management plans with local people to promote sustainable use of forest resources. Boa Nova is located in the southwestern part of the Bahia state, and has been famous among ornithologists for decades due to its unique and diverse bird community -359 in all, 10 of them globally threatened- a result of the fact that two biomes overlap: lush montane Atlantic Forest on one side, Caatinga (Brazilian semi-arid vegetation) the other. In this transitional area lies a dry vegetation formation known as *mata-de-cipó*, a well known locality for the threatened Slender Antbird *Rhopornis ardesiacus*, one of the rarest antbirds in Brazil, and the Narrow-billed Antwren *Formicivora iheringi*. The new project comes just in time; a great part of original forest habitat has been destroyed in the region, largely driven by firewood gathering, illegal deforestation, clearance for plantations, slash-and-burn processes, overgrazing, and undeveloped land utilization plans. Over three years the new *Forest Conservation Project in Atlantic Tropical Forest* project, will work to develop sustainable land-use practices under a number of forest conservation management plans; covering aspects including forest resources, business plans for local communities, drawing together best-practice guidelines and investing in ecotourism initiatives in the area. For more information visit: [http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2007/09/ricoh\\_atlantic\\_forest.html](http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2007/09/ricoh_atlantic_forest.html)

#### MORE BIRDS THAN EVER FACE EXTINCTION

The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species reveals that unprecedented numbers of species are now threatened with extinction. For birds, the Red List is maintained by BirdLife International, who report that 1,221 species are considered threatened with extinction. The overall conservation status of the world's birds has deteriorated steadily since 1988, when they were first comprehensively assessed. 189 birds are now listed as Critically Endangered - the highest threat category. For full story visit: [http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2007/09/iucn\\_red\\_list\\_2007.html](http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2007/09/iucn_red_list_2007.html). For more on Red List 2007 announcements visit: <http://www.iucn.org>

#### ALBATROSS AND PETREL PROJECT - URUGUAY

The Albatross and Petrel Project - Uruguay (Proyecto Albatros y Petreles) is dedicated to the research and conservation of seabirds of Uruguay. The goal of the project is to contribute to the conservation of all seabird species that inhabit the Uruguayan seas through research, education and divulging. The Albatross and Petrel Project is working on the recovery of bands with the collaboration of fishermen and on-board observers through the Band Recovery Campaign. To date we have recovered bands from Wandering Albatross originally banded in the breeding colonies of southern Georgia. You can collaborate by contacting the project if you find a banded bird. It is only necessary to report: Band number and series, place and date of capture or observation. If the bird is still alive when taking the data, it is important to not remove the band. For more information or to report bands, the project is located in Centro de Investigación y Conservación Marina CICMAR, Avda. Giannattasio Km. 30, 500. El Pinar. Canelones. Uruguay. Tel: 098 791 917, <mailto:proyectoalbatrosypetreles@montevideo.com.uy>

## WEB NEWS

THIRD ISSUE OF AVIAN CONSERVATION AND ECOLOGY is now available online at: <http://www.ace-eco.org/>

NEW VERSION OF CARIBBEAN BIRDS now available, allowing you to add a new birding location with greater accuracy, plot the distribution of species and find out where people have been birding. <http://www.worldbirds.org/caribbean>

THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY HAS PLACED ALL ITS PAST AND CURRENT RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS ONLINE. THEY CAN BE DOWNLOADED FOR FREE AS PDF FILES at: <http://digitallibrary.amnh.org/dspace/>

AN ON-LINE SUPPLEMENT TO "BIRDS OF THE WORLD: RECOMMENDED ENGLISH NAMES" by Frank Gill and Minturn Wright, a project on behalf of the International Ornithological Congress is now available at: <http://www.worldbirdnames.org>. Recommended English names and a downloadable Excel spreadsheet with a list of bird species of the world are available at this site. The value of standardization of names is explained, and the implementation of this site will help achieve that goal. Feedback and corrections are invited.

VERSION 0 OF THE BIRDLIFE CHECKLIST OF THE BIRDS OF THE WORLD IS NOW AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD FROM THE BIRDLIFE WEBSITE at: [http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/species/downloads/BirdLife\\_Checklist\\_Version\\_0.xls](http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/species/downloads/BirdLife_Checklist_Version_0.xls)

CALL FOR PAPERS FOR CENTZONTLE: The Mexican Society for Ornithology cordially invites all ornithologists interested in publishing their papers in the new number of Centzontle to visit the web page <http://www.cch.unam.mx/SMO> where they will receive all necessary information for publishing and divulging their work.

EAGLE CONSERVATION ALLIANCE IS NOW ONLINE at: <http://www.eagleconservationalliance.org>

THE COAHUILA CHAPTER FOR THE BOOK AVIFAUNA OF THE STATES OF MEXICO IS AVAILABLE ONLINE at: <http://www.huitzil.net/aeindice.htm>

LA CHIRICOCA NUMBER 3 IS ONLINE at: <http://www.aveschile.cl/publicaciones.htm#chir>

ARGENTINA IMPORTANT BIRD AREAS INVENTORY at: <http://avesargentinas.org.ar/cs/conservacion/aicas.php>

7 CD SET OF BIRDSONGS OF THE COLOMBIAN ANDES has just been released and is available now. For more information visit: <http://www.humboldt.org.co/guiasonora/>

## IMPORTANT BIRD SITES

- Seabirds make agenda at U.N. Fisheries Meeting: [http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2007/03/seabird\\_fisheries\\_meeting.html](http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2007/03/seabird_fisheries_meeting.html)
- First New World Little Egrets under threat on Barbados [http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2007/07/barbados\\_little\\_egret.html](http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2007/07/barbados_little_egret.html)
- Online ornithological glossary at: <http://biologyglossary.pbwiki.com>

## FUNDING

### NEOTROPICAL MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION ACT

In 2000, the Congress of the United States passed the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act. The Act establishes a matching grants program to fund projects in the United States, Latin America, and the Caribbean that promote the conservation of migratory birds. Funded projects will perpetuate healthy populations of Neotropical migratory birds; assist in the conservation of these birds by supporting conservation initiatives in the United States, Latin America, and the Caribbean, and provide financial resources and foster international cooperation for those initiatives. Conservation under this program is fairly broadly defined and includes: habitat maintenance, management, restoration, enhancement and protection; research and monitoring; law enforcement; and community outreach and education. For every \$1 received in grant funds, the applicant must commit \$3 in partner funds. Project proposals must be sent no later than November 15, 2007. For more information contact: Division of Bird Habitat Conservation U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, <mailto:neotropical@fws.gov>, Telephone: 703-358-1784, Fax: 703-358-2282. Visit: <http://www.fws.gov/birdhabitat/Grants/NMBCA/InstructionsENG.shtm>

### PB FUNDING

The Conservation Leadership Programme (formerly the BP Conservation Programme) is pleased to announce the call for applications for 2008 CLP Team Awards. We are accepting applications from the following countries: Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bolivia, Brazil, China, Colombia, Egypt, Georgia, India, Indonesia, Libya, Malaysia, Mexico, Pakistan, Russia, Trinidad & Tobago, Turkey and Venezuela. For details, eligibility criteria, guidelines and an application visit: <http://www.conservationleadershipprogramme.org/>. CLP awards aim to contribute to long-term conservation in priority areas by encouraging and engaging potential leaders in biodiversity conservation. It also provides individuals with practical skills and experience to work in the conservation field. This partnership initiative, which includes BirdLife International, Conservation International, Fauna & Flora International, the Wildlife Conservation Society and BP, has been helping young conservationists across the world to achieve their goals for more than 17 years. The programme offers awards, training and advisory services. The deadline for all applications is 23 November 2007, and awards will be announced in March 2008. More information at: <mailto:clp@birdlife.org>

## TRAINING / JOB OPPORTUNITIES

### OPPORTUNITY FOR MEXICAN, CENTRAL, AND SOUTH AMERICAN WILDLIFE BIOLOGISTS

The Willamette National Forest's Neotropical Migratory Bird Program will host an International Exchange Visitor - Latin American biologist from April through September of 2008. As during the past ten years, the program will link our Forest's program with a work experience through the Institute for Bird Populations in Pt. Reyes, California. In April, the visiting biologist will work on district projects, then in May through early August, they will participate in the Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship program and be part of a two-person team operating mist-netting stations on the Willamette National Forest in Oregon. Once that work is completed, the visiting biologist will again work on district wildlife projects and conduct natural resource education activities for schools and other community organizations. A good comprehension of English, knowledge and some experience with birds, experience with and a strong interest in natural resource education, public speaking, and the ability to work outdoors are required. Roundtrip airfare, housing, a per diem allowance to cover food expenses, and emergency medical insurance will be covered. Application deadline is December 31, 2007. The complete application information can be found at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/willamette/admin/volunteer/migratorybird/index.html>

For further questions, contact Ruby Seitz, McKenzie River Ranger District, phone: (541)822-7256, <mailto:ruseitz@fs.fed.us>.

#### 2008 PARK FLIGHT INTERNATIONAL INTERNSHIPS IN U.S. NATIONAL PARKS

The Park Flight Migratory Bird Program works to protect migratory birds that share their habitat between national parks and protected areas in the U.S., Canada, Latin America and the Caribbean through bird monitoring, education and outreach programs, and opportunities for technical assistance and cooperation. The Park Flight Program is a partnership between the National Park Service (NPS), National Park Foundation, American Airlines, and the University of Arizona. Working through the NPS International Volunteers in Parks Program, biologists and educators from other Western Hemisphere countries assist with Park Flight efforts in U.S. national parks. These international internships give the opportunity for an exchange of knowledge and experience including science, culture and language. In past years, the Park Flight Program has offered internships at national parks around the U.S. for Latin American professionals from Central America and Mexico. For 2008, the Park Flight international internships will be open to qualified candidates from ALL COUNTRIES IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN. The internships will begin from April to August 2008, and will last from two to six months. To apply the required skills are: experience with bird banding (the majority of positions) or other bird monitoring, experience with education and outreach related to birds or other conservation topics, and at least an intermediate level of English (reading, writing, understanding and speaking). Applicants must be able to understand safety and radio communications and give presentations in English. Many positions will require a valid driver license from the intern's home country. Some training is provided, and interns are asked to give presentations about bird conservation in their countries. Candidates must be able to apply the skills gained in the U.S. to bird conservation efforts in national parks and protected areas or Important Bird Areas in their home countries. Interns will receive US \$700.00 a month for food and miscellaneous expenses, and the program will cover the expenses of airfare, housing, and the required J -1 visa. Potential applicants must be in their home country the 3 months prior to the internship for visa reasons. Park Flight will make all the necessary arrangements. Top candidates will be able to review specific park position descriptions and will be required to have phone interviews in English. Interested and qualified candidates should send a CV (Spanish is okay; include two professional references), with a cover letter in English, by January 15, 2008, to the program coordinator, Carol Beidleman, at [Carol\\_Beidleman@partner.nps.gov](mailto:Carol_Beidleman@partner.nps.gov).

#### RESEARCH FIELD ASSISTANT/VOLUNTEER IN MEXICO

Two (2) Volunteer research field assistants needed from November 2007 to April 2008 for winter ecology study of Surf Scoters in Baja Mexico (Bahia San Quintin and Laguna Ojo de Liebre). Work will include mist net captures of Surf Scoters, locating radio-marked individuals, monitoring foraging behavior, and age- and sex-specific surveys. Most of the work will be done in motorized boats on the ocean and will occasionally involve camping and night work. The ideal candidate will have competence in handling motorized boats, radio-telemetry experience, and Spanish-speaking skills. We provide accommodation, meals, and transportation to the study site. Please send a letter of interest, resume or CV, and three references to Kathy Brodhead at <mailto:brodhead@sfu.ca>

#### VOLUNTEER FIELD ASSISTANTS NEEDED IN MEXICO

Four volunteers needed from December 2007 to late March 2008 (a minimum stay of 45 days within the period will be preferred) for a monitoring project at El Cielo Biosphere Reserve in Northeastern Mexico (Tamaulipas) on Neotropical Migrant and resident birds. I am seeking highly motivated individuals to help on a bird monitoring project on this magnificent Biosphere Reserve in northeastern Mexico (5 hours south from Brownsville, TX). Excellent data collection skills necessary, experience conducting field work highly desirable. Some knowledge of Spanish would be helpful. Primary responsibilities involve set up mist-nest, taking birds out of the nets, banding, measuring and weighting the birds, collecting tail feathers from the birds, possible to help with point counts (depending on experience), and sharing all the basic responsibilities of camping (cooking,

cleaning, etc). Field work is intensive and will often require long working hours. Additional duties include performing vegetation surveys. Participants will gain experience working in four different major habitats within the Reserve, become familiar with a highly diverse Neotropical Avifauna. Volunteers will be responsible for their own airfare from wherever they live to Brownsville, TX. Transportation from Brownsville, TX to El Cielo Biosphere reserve will be provided. Housing (some camping involved) and food will be provided. Send curriculum vitae or resume, letter of interest (describing background, experience, and future goals), and names and email addresses of two references to Rafael Brito-Aguilar, Avian Ecology Lab, University of Missouri-Columbia, <mailto:rbyq9@mizzou.edu>, no later than November 12 2007.

#### EDITOR FOR ORNITOLOGIA NEOTROPICAL NEEDED

The Neotropical Ornithological Society is in search of a new editor for its journal *Ornitología Neotropical*. The new editor will replace the current editor who plans to retire from his editorial duties in 2009. Potential candidates should be capable of editing manuscripts in both English and Spanish. An ability to read Portuguese is also useful. The journal is published four times a year with approximately 660 pages per volume based on receipt of 4 to 5 manuscripts per week. The editor is responsible for identifying and communicating with reviewers as well as making final decision on manuscripts and providing editorial comments. The editorial board may be enlisted to assist with the review process or suggest appropriate reviewers. The society is presently exploring the possibility of making the journal available online to its membership. Those interested in the position of editor or those who wish to suggest names as candidates for a new editor should contact Joseph M. Wunderle, <mailto:jmwunderle@gmail.com>

#### VOLUNTEER FIELD ASSISTANTS NEEDED IN BRAZIL

Volunteers needed for October/November 2007 for research on frugivore-plant systems in successional and mature Amazonian rainforests in Pará, Brazil. Duties include conducting animal and plant surveys and observation of frugivore activity on fruiting plants. Housing may include hotel rooms, rooms in houses with families, and tents. Applicants must be responsible, self-disciplined, tolerant to extreme weather and insects, willing to work in group and share living space, and to travel between sites. This region of Amazonia is rich in culture and wildlife. Applicants with previous experience with wildlife identification and Portuguese will be given preference. Volunteers must arrange their transportation to Belém, Brazil. Room and board will be provided. Please send a current resume with 2 references in electronic form to: <mailto:jesserlasky@mail.utexas.edu>.

#### COSTA RICA DIRECTOR AND VICE PRESIDENT OF ACADEMIC PROGRAMS FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF TROPICAL STUDIES

The Costa Rica Director and Vice President for Academic Programs is responsible for setting and administering the strategic direction for OTS programs and operations in Costa Rica. This is a supervisory position that includes, among other responsibilities, the oversight of all aspects of the organization related to science and education programs, administration, and logistics in Costa Rica. The successful candidate will be actively involved in fostering collaborative initiatives in emerging areas of tropical science and writing grant proposals with scientists from member institutions and strategic allies. He or she will be expected to increase the number and scope and maintain the quality of scientific programs at OTS field stations. This individual will represent OTS at national and international scientific meetings. The position is located in the San José office in Costa Rica. In-country and international travel is required. Applicants should hold a Ph.D. in a field relevant to the mission of OTS, to provide leadership in education, research, and the responsible use of natural resources in the tropics, and have at least ten years demonstrated management experience in a complex scientific, academic, and/or natural resource organization. The candidate should have a demonstrated record of excellence in tropical science as well as a strong record of success in obtaining external research support. Good interpersonal skills, strong communication skills both verbal and written, and demonstrated supervisory skills in a bi-cultural organization are prerequisites. Other requirements include fluency in Spanish and English and a strong knowledge of international organizations. Salary is commensurate with experience. Additional

information on OTS is available at <http://www.ots.ac.cr>. To apply, please send: (1) letter of application with details of programmatic and administrative experience, (2) curriculum vitae, and (3) names and contact information of three references to: <mailto:cr.director@ots.ac.cr>. Or mail to: Search Committee, OTS, Box 90630, Durham NC 27708-0630. Position will remain open until filled. OTS values diversity within its staff and encourages individuals from underrepresented groups to apply.

#### COSTA RICAN BIRD ROUTE VOLUNTEER POSITIONS

The Rainforest Biodiversity Group is looking for people with an interest in volunteering in the Sarapiquí region of Costa Rica from October to the end of December 2007. Volunteers will help build infrastructure within 6 newly established nature reserves to prepare them to be a part of Costa Rica's newest nature tourism venture, the Costa Rican Bird Route. Work will entail creating and/or maintaining trails, constructing benches and cabins, posting signs, assisting with the implementation of specific Action Plans written for each site, helping gather information for the creation of brochures including wildlife observations, and other various tasks. There is also the possibility of getting involved with local environmental education efforts. Detailed site profiles are currently being created. Free board can be provided by all of the sites, but only three of the six sites are able to cover food costs for the volunteers. At these locations, volunteers should expect to pay a small amount to their host for food costs. All other expenses are the responsibility of the volunteer. A stipend will not be able to be provided. We are looking for individuals who are able to commit to a minimum of four weeks to a given site. Our goal is to place two volunteers at each site, but 2 of the sites only have living accommodations for one volunteer. Couples are welcome to apply. Accommodations will be rustic. There may or may not be electricity, and hot water at the site. The site may be difficult to access and may be over 2 hours away from civilization. Volunteers are encouraged to have health insurance as Rainforest Biodiversity Group will not be responsible or cover any injuries or health needs. We are looking for people with Spanish speaking skills, construction experience, a spirit of adventure and a serious interest in having an effect on rainforest conservation and sustainable tourism development. If you would like to be a part of this exciting project that will preserve important rainforest habitat, please send a cover letter and resume to Holly Robertson of the Rainforest Biodiversity Group [mailto:holly\\_robertson1@yahoo.com](mailto:holly_robertson1@yahoo.com). You can also check out the website for the group <http://www.greatgreenmacaw.org>; and the website being developed for the route: <http://www.costaricanbirdroute.com>.

#### FIELD ASSISTANT NEEDED IN COSTA RICA

A field assistant is needed from 1 February through 15 April 2008 for a study of bird habitat use and survival in an agricultural/cloud forest interface in Costa Rica (10 km from Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve). Duties will include extensive mistnetting, taking down and moving net arrays, radio telemetry, recording behavioral observations, and data entry. Work will at times involve navigation in remote locations over difficult terrain in inclement weather, as well as potential exposure to snakes and biting insects. Applicants must have extensive mist-netting and radio telemetry experience, be in good physical condition, have an excellent work ethic, and be able to tolerate living and working in close quarters with others. Preference will be given to Spanish speaking applicants able to visually identify Costa Rican birds. Airfare, housing, and stipend of approximately \$400/month will be provided. Send a cover letter, resume, and the phone numbers and e-mail addresses of 3 professional references (all in one file) to Richard Chandler, <mailto:rchandler@nrc.umass.edu>. Applications will be accepted until 1 January 2008 or until the position is filled.

#### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR PROJECT IN ECUADOR

Volunteers needed to work on projects involving endangered birds in southern Ecuador with the Jocotoco Conservation Foundation. Successful applicants will work on one or more of the following three projects: (1) radio telemetry of the endangered Jocotoco Antpitta (*Grallaria ridgelyi*) in the temperate cloud forest of Tapichalaca Biological Reserve in southeastern Ecuador, (2) monitoring artificial nest boxes of the endangered El Oro Parakeet (*Pyrrhura orcesi*) in Buenaventura Reserve in humid subtropical forest of southwestern

Ecuador, or (3) surveys and habitat characterization of the Esmeraldas Woodstar (*Chaetocercus berlepschi*) on the west coast. See <http://www.fjocotoco.org> and <http://www.birdlife.org>. All positions provide experience with tropical field work in extremely diverse and sometimes remote areas, the opportunity to contribute to the conservation of endangered species, and experience with the Spanish language. Applicants must have a record of being dedicated field workers and be in very good physical condition as all positions require lots of walking and some sites are at high elevations. Some knowledge of Spanish and experience with mist netting and/or nest-searching experience preferred. Room and board once at the field site is provided but applicant must cover cost of flight to Quito (about \$600 from the United States). Applicants must dedicate at least four weeks to the project and may spend up to three months depending on their performance. Start time is flexible up until spring of 2008. Send cover letter, CV, and contact information of three references to Bert Harris, <mailto:bertdichrozona@hotmail.com> and Mery Juiña, [mailto:meryj\\_bio@yahoo.com](mailto:meryj_bio@yahoo.com)

#### VOLUNTEER FIELD ASSISTANTS NEEDED IN ARGENTINA

Four to five volunteers needed from 3 Nov 2007 to middle Feb 2008 (a minimum stay of 35 days within the period will be preferred) for a long-term monitoring project at Reserva de la Biosfera "Parque Costero Sur" (MAB-UNESCO), northeast of Buenos Aires, Argentina on Red Crested Cardinal (*Paroaria coronata*). We collect information on reproductive success, foraging behavior, chick growth rates, population trends and behavior ecology. Field work will consist of territory spot mapping, nest monitoring, census, banding, conducting behavioral observations, and vegetation measurements. Volunteers will live at a rustic field camp 25 km from the nearest town. Applicants must get along well with others, be willing to work hard, and be self motivated. Good physical condition, ability to make careful observations, and knowledge of Spanish preferred. We provide lodging and required equipment. Volunteers must provide their own airfare to Buenos Aires, Argentina, and transportation from Buenos Aires to La Plata (55 km). To apply please send a cover letter, time available and resume to Luciano N. Segura, [paroaria@fcnym.unlp.edu.ar](mailto:paroaria@fcnym.unlp.edu.ar). More information in <http://paroaria.blogspot.com>

#### FIELD ASSISTANT IN JAMAICA

Field assistants needed for research studying migratory birds (primarily American redstarts) in Jamaica. Project begins mid-January and continues until early May. Assistants can expect long hours in the field, six days per week, wading in mangrove swamp and maneuvering through dense second growth scrub. Competitive applicants will have experience in netting, banding, and bleeding birds. Ability to re-sight small active color-banded birds is also preferred. These positions are voluntary but travel to and from Jamaica as well as food and lodging is provided. Start date is approximately mid-January 2008. Send cover letter, CV, and contact info for 3 references to Peter Marra, Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center, National Zoological Park, PO Box 37012 MRC 5503 Washington, DC 20013-7012 or email (preferred) <mailto:mailto:marrap@si.edu>

## MEETINGS

31<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WATERBIRD SOCIETY, October 30 - November 3, 2007. Barcelona, Spain. The Waterbird Society annual meeting is the major event for members to present findings and hear what scientists from around the world have found out about waterbirds. Our meetings typically draw about 200 participants who report the results of research and management of waterbirds. For more information: <http://www.wbs2007.org>

VII INTERNATIONAL ZOOLOGY SYMPOSIUM. Topes de Collantes, Sancti Spiritus, Cuba. November 12 -17, 2007. For more information contact Dra. Daysi Rodríguez Batista, E-mail: <mailto:daysitarb@ecologia.cu>

VII INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, Hotel Villa del Rio, Valdivia, Chile, November 13-16, 2007. For more information visit: <http://www.ceachile.cl/congreso/>

XI CONFERENCE OF THE MESOAMERICAN SOCIETY FOR BIOLOGY AND CONSERVATION, Cocoyoc, Morelos, Mexico, 26-30 November 2007. For more information visit: <http://www.socmesoamericana.org>, <http://www.cib.uaem.mx/smbcmex/>

III MESOAMERICAN SYMPOSIUM ON PARROT CONSERVATION, Oaxtepec, Morelos, Mexico, November 26 - 30, 2007, during the XI Conference of the Mesoamerican Society for Biology and Conservation. We are accepting proposals for oral presentations for the symposium. For more information: <http://www.lorosmesoamericanos.net>.

IV INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS IN FLIGHT CONFERENCE. McAllen, Texas, 13-16 February 2008. The Conference theme will be "Tundra to Tropics: Connecting Birds, Habitats and People". The focus of the conference will be international connections of all sorts that further bird and habitat conservation throughout the Western Hemisphere. For more information visit <http://www.partnersinflight.org/events/mcallen> or contact Terry Rich, [mailto:terry\\_rich@fws.gov](mailto:terry_rich@fws.gov)

III WORKSHOP "BIRD BANDING INITIATIVE IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE: COORDINATING EFFORTS IN THE REGION", McAllen, Texas, February 13, 2008. To take place during the IV International Partners in Flight Conference, in the McAllen Convention Center, Texas. If you are part of a banding program in the western hemisphere we invite you to form part of the Bird Banding Network of the Americas. For more information visit <http://www.sna.org.co> or contact María Isabel Moreno, Coordinator, <mailto:mmoreno@proaves.org>.

XII ARGENTINEAN MEETING ON ORNITHOLOGY, San Martin de los Andes, province of Neuquen, Argentina, 5-8 March 2008. Information is available at the official site for the meeting at: <http://www.rao.org.ar>. Contact information: <mailto:info@rao.org.ar>

THE WILSON ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY AND THE ASSOCIATION OF FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS ANNUAL MEETINGS. April 17 - 20, 2008. Hattiesburg, Mississippi, USA at the University of Southern Mississippi. Meetings consist of a plenary lecture, a symposium on a topic of current ornithological interest, as well as sessions in which scientific papers are presented and discussed. Papers deal with current research on all aspects of bird biology, conservation, and systematics, and often a workshop is given on undergraduate instruction of ornithology. In addition to this, a great deal of ornithological information is exchanged informally among the participants. For more information visit: <http://www.ummz.umich.edu/birds/wos/meetings/meetings.html>

25<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS. August 22-28, 2010. Campos de Jordao, San Paolo, Brazil. For more information visit the congress webpage at: <http://www.ib.usp.br/25ioc/>

## PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

### SPANISH TRANSLATION OF NABC SHOREBIRD BANDING MANUAL AVAILABLE

The North American Banding Council (NABC) and the Ornithological Council have collaborated on a project to make the banding manuals produced by the NABC available in Spanish. The shorebird manual is now available from NABC; contact Linda L. Long, Wildlife Biologist (U.S.F.S. Redwood Sciences Laboratory, 1700 Bayview Dr., Arcata, CA 95521; by phone to 707-825-2947; by fax: 707-825-2901; by e-mail: <mailto:llong@fs.fed.us>). This project was made possible with funding from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of International

Conservation. Other translated manuals - including the Study Guide, Trainer's Manual, Passerines and Near-passerines, Raptors, and Hummingbirds - are also available.

#### PETERSON REFERENCE GUIDES: GULLS OF THE AMERICAS

By: Steve NG Howell and Jon Dunn. Covering the thirty-six species of gulls that occur in North and South America, 528 pp, photos. For full details/to order online: <http://www.nhbs.com/title.php?tefno=153572> ISBN: 0618726411. Price: 22.95. 2007, hardcover.

#### THE COMMON BIRDS OF MEXICO CITY / AVES COMUNES DE LA CIUDAD DE MEXICO

By Gerardo del Olmo and Emilio Roldan. This field guide was made possible thanks to the Publishing Project Bruja de Monte and to the financial support from the World Wildlife Fund (WWF-Mexico). Its purpose is to awaken curiosity and interest for this beautiful group of wild animals -the birds- very numerous and varied in Mexico. The guide presents color images of the 82 most common and easily observed species of birds found in many different environments of Mexico City. With every image there is a brief but precise description of the bird's general behavior and a suggestion of the some of the places where they can be observed. A map of each species' national distribution is also included so that you will know where else can they be found in the country and their migratory route. For more information visit <http://www.brujademonte.com>

#### WATERFOWL OF THE NEOTROPICAL REGION

Ducks Unlimited has published a new book for the identification of waterfowl, including the description of all species found in the Caribbean, Central America and South America:"Waterfowl of the Neotropical Region". Printed copies will be available and distributed, but you can access and download it from: <http://www.ducks.org/anatneotrop>

## RECENT LITERATURE

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