



Partners in Flight

LA TANGARA



Newsletter of the International Working Group of Partners in Flight
A Hemisphere-wide bird conservation initiative.

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NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PARTNERS IN FLIGHT AND THE MESOAMERICAN SOCIETY FOR BIOLOGY AND CONSERVATION SIGN LETTER OF COLLABORATION

During the XII Congress of the Mesoamerican Society for Biology and Conservation celebrated from 10-14 November 2008 in San Salvador, El Salvador, Partners in Flight and the Mesoamerican Society for Biology and Conservation (SMBC as initialed in Spanish) signed a letter of cooperation to carry out meetings, publications, exchanges and workshops in Mexico, Central America and other nations in the Caribbean and the Americas. These activities will be coordinated through PIF Mesoamerica which has been working for many years to bring equipment and materials to groups working with birds in the region. The letter of cooperation will be available on-line in PIF's website <http://www.partnersinflight.org/> and the SMBC's website <http://www.sociedadmesoamericana.org/>. During the Congress the PIF-MESO group celebrated its V meeting where national coordinators presented their annual activity reports and future work plans. During

the meeting different activities were proposed for the next SMBC Congress in Belize for 2009. For more information contact: José M. Zolotoff-Pallais, <mailto:zolotoff@ibw.com.ni>, PIF-MESO coordinator.

PARTNERS IN FLIGHT & SMBC BIRD BANDING TRAINING WORKSHOP

Partners in Flight and the Sociedad Mesoamericana para la Biología y la Conservación provided training in banding and bird conservation issues in Central America as the first activity of the newly signed letter of cooperation. A hands on intense bird banding training workshop was held at El Imposible National Park, El Salvador from 5-9 November 2008. This project engaged twenty Mesoamerican ornithologists in a workshop promoting the ethical use of birds in science and advancing the collection of high quality monitoring data. During the workshop, six previously chosen participants from Mesoamerica were provided the opportunity to be evaluated and achieve formal certification as North American Banding Council (NABC) Certified Banders. This was the first time an NABC certification opportunity has been offered in Central America. This workshop was made possible thanks to technical cooperation from SalvaNATURA, North American Banding Council, The Institute for Bird Populations, USDA Forest Service - International Institute of Tropical Forestry, Klamath Bird Observatory, and National Park Service Park Flight Migratory Bird Program, and funding from Missouri Department of Conservation, Centro Científico Tropical, Optics for the Tropics, Audubon North Carolina and SeaWorld/Busch Gardens Conservation Fund. For more information, contact the workshop organizer: Mariamar Gutiérrez, USDA Forest Service, International Institute of Tropical Forestry, <mailto:mariamargutierrez@hotmail.com>

BIRD SYMPOSIA DURING THE XII SMBC CONGRESS

Two bird symposia took place during the XII Congress of the Mesoamerican Society for Biology and Conservation (SMBC) in San Salvador, El Salvador thanks to financial and technical support from US Forest Service International Institute of Tropical Forestry. The symposium "Bird Monitoring in Mesoamerica: Results and Conservation Implications" took place November 13, and consisted of 16 oral presentations representing the work of 47 researchers in 7 countries. The advances and results of various monitoring efforts in the region were presented during this symposium. On November 14, "Bird Declines in Mesoamerican and the Caribbean: Fact or Fiction?" took place with 16 oral contributions, representing the work of 45 researchers from 8 countries in the region. During this symposium changes in bird populations were explored and discussed based on data analysis from medium -to long-term monitoring projects. Nicaraguan researchers contributed 8 presentations of original research to the symposia, their participation in the symposia was ensured thanks to support from the International Institute of Tropical Forestry. For more information on the symposia, contact the organizers Dr. Wayne J. Arendt, <mailto:waynearendt@mac.com> and Mariamar Gutiérrez, <mailto:mariamargutierrez@hotmail.com>

PRESENTATION OF THE "CONSERVATION PLAN FOR PINE-OAK FORESTS IN CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE MIGRATORY BIRD GOLDEN-CHEEKED WARBLER"

The *Alliance for the Conservation of Pine-Oak Forests in Mesoamerica* consists of 11 organizations from 6 countries - El Salvador, United States, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Nicaragua - who are uniting efforts for the conservation and management of Mesoamerican Pine-oak forests where species of global priorities reside, such as the Golden-cheeked Warbler (*Dendroica chrysoparia*). In 2008 the Alliance created the "Conservation Plan for Pine-Oak forests and the migratory species *Dendroica chrysoparia*", which defines strategies for the conservation of these two threatened elements. The document was publically presented and distributed during the XII Congress of the Mesoamerican Society for Biology and Conservation (SMBC) celebrated in San Salvador, El Salvador from 10-14 November 2008. For more information contact Claudia Macias, Alliance Coordinator, <mailto:cmacias@pronatura-sur.org>. The web page for the Alliance will be habilitated soon at: <http://www.pino-encino.org>

GOLDEN-CHEEKED WARBLER CAPTURED AT BIRD MONITORING STATIONS IN EL SALVADOR

On 12 September 2008, a young male Golden-cheeked Warbler was captured in the net of a bird monitoring station at Montecristo National Park, in northwestern El Salvador. Although this endangered warbler species is regularly observed in its Central American wintering grounds, it had never been captured in a monitoring station there. Biologists working for SalvaNATURA's conservation science program marked the

bird with a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service aluminum leg band (number 241078792). According to the Bird Banding Laboratory, this is the first time that this species has been banded outside of the United States. The warbler was captured in its favored habitat, pine-oak forest, which SalvaNATURA has been monitoring monthly for nearly four years, since November 2004. "We had observed the species in the trees near the nets each winter," said Roselvy Juárez, the biologist who supervised the monitoring station. "We had been hoping to catch this species every year, but it took us 47 visits, more than 18,000 net hours, and we have captured more than 1700 birds of other species before this one flew into a net." The monitoring station at Montecristo National Park run by SalvaNATURA is funded by donors to the annual SalvaNATURA bird-a-thon. For further information, contact: Oliver Komar, Ph.D., Director, Programa de Ciencias para la Conservación, SalvaNATURA, <mailto:okomar@salvanatura.org>.

MESOAMERICAN BIOLOGISTS RECEIVE HUMMINGBIRD TRAINING DURING XII SMBC CONGRESS

A one-day introductory hummingbird banding workshop led by Bill Hilton, Jr. took place on Nov 12, 2008 during the XII SMBC Congress. Nineteen participants from Mesoamerica and the US, including researchers, educators and students, learned correct techniques for extracting hummingbirds from nets and how to properly measure and band them prior to release. Bill Hilton Jr., also participated in the symposium "Bird Monitoring in Mesoamerica: Results and Conservation Implications", presenting his on-going monitoring efforts of Ruby-throated Hummingbirds in Costa Rica and the U.S., with an emphasis on migration, site fidelity, and wintering behavior. These activities were possible thanks to support from: USAID, SalvaNATURA, USDA Forest Service International Institute of Tropical Forestry, Avinet, and the following North Carolina Audubon Society Chapters: Cape Fear, T. Gilbert Pearson, Elisa Mitchell, and High Country. For more information please visit: <http://www.hiltonpond.org/ThisWeek081101.html>, or contact Bill Hilton Jr., Hilton Pond Center for Piedmont Natural History, <mailto:research@hiltonpond.org> or Mariamar Gutiérrez, USDA Forest Service International Institute of Tropical Forestry, <mailto:mariamargutierrez@hotmail.com>

COSTA RICAN BIRD ROUTE CHALLENGE

The Costa Rican Bird Route Challenge is the official opening event of the Costa Rican Bird Route, the first birding trail in Costa Rica. The 13-site birding trail includes 6 new private reserves along with world famous birding areas such as La Selva Biological Station, Selva Verde Lodge, and Laguna Lagarto Lodge. The Challenge, which will be held 21-27 February 2009, is a contest to see which team of bird watchers can observe the most species in the Bird Route over a period of three days. Each team will consist of six people, two of which will be local guides. The remaining four slots are for you and your teammates. There will be a total of six teams racing through the Costa Rican Bird Route in search of the most number of birds possible. Each team will be equipped with either two 4WD vehicles or a single 4WD van. The Challenge itself is being run to raise funds for improving infrastructure at new biological reserves, and to raise awareness about the Costa Rican Bird Route. Each team is required to raise a minimum of \$500 to help support the development of bird tourism at the new private reserves. The winning team will receive a plaque, as well international recognition as the winners of the first Costa Rican Bird Route Challenge. See <http://www.CostaRicanBirdRoute.com> for more details, or contact Raquel Gómez, <mailto:raquel@costaricanbirdroute.com>.

MEXICO SIGNS LAW TO BAN CAPTURE AND EXPORT OF MEXICAN WILD PARROTS

President Felipe Calderón Hinojosa has signed into law a bill to ban the capture and export of Mexican wild parrots. The bill, introduced one year ago by the Environment Commission of the Deputy Chamber, was passed in the Mexican Senate in April 2008. The bill was originally drafted after a presentation of the 2007 report "The Illegal Parrot Trade in Mexico: A Comprehensive Assessment" by Defenders of Wildlife and Teyeliz, A.C. The report revealed for the first time the volume of the illegal trade of parrots within Mexico. An estimated 65,000 -78,500 wild parrots and macaws are captured illegally each year, with more than 75 percent of the birds dying before ever reaching a purchaser. Approximately 50,000 to 60,000 parrots die this way each year in Mexico alone. Mexico is home to 22 species of parrots and macaws, of which six are found nowhere else in the world. Approximately 90 percent of all parrots and macaws found in Mexico are in some category of risk. The latest Mexican classification (yet to be published) lists 11 species

as endangered, five as threatened, four as requiring special protection, and two as unclassified. Defenders of Wildlife and Teyeliz, A.C. are already working on a bi-national education campaign with the U.S. and Mexico, and will continue to address the need to find adequate funding to solve the biological, economic and social challenges of the illegal parrot trade. For more information contact Juan Carlos Cantú Guzmán (Director of Programs, Defenders of Wildlife, México Office), 52-55-55-96-21-08, or María Elena Sanchez Saldana (President, Teyeliz, A.C.), 52-55-52-51-60-96

NOMINATIONS FOR THE III ANNUAL NABCI/AJVMB CONSERVATION AWARDS

The U.S. Committee of the North American Bird Conservation Initiative (NABCI) and the Association of Joint Venture Management Boards (AJVMB) are now accepting nominations for the third annual NABCI/AJVMB Conservation Awards. The NABCI/AJVMB awards recognize unparalleled accomplishments in bird conservation at the national/international and local/regional scales as contained in the principles of the NABCI and the national/international bird initiatives. These accomplishments should include efforts to fulfill the vision of protecting and restoring the populations and habitats of North American birds. Eligible nominations will be accepted for individuals or groups from the U.S., Canada, and Mexico, in four categories of nominees: A group working at the national or international scale, a group working at the local or regional scale, an individual working at the national or international scale, an individual working at the local or regional scale. For information about last years award recipients please go to <http://www.nabci-us.org/main2.html>. For more information or to submit a nomination please contact Deb Hahn at: <mailto:dhahn@fishwildlife.org>.

NEW RESERVE CREATED FOR THE ORANGE-BREASTED FALCON IN COLOMBIA

With support from the World Land Trust-US and the conservationist Robert Giles, ProAves established the new reserve for Orange-breasted Falcon (*Falco deiroleucus*). The Orange-breasted Falcon is a species with very few reports in Colombia and there is very little information about its' ecology. In the new reserve there are reports of 240 bird species representative of the piedmont forests and the llanos. There are also important mammal reports, including several endangered species such as the Giant Anteater (*Myrmecophaga tridactyla*) and the Ornate Titi (*Callicebus ornatus*) endemic of Colombia. Thanks to previous explorations supported by the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act - US Fish and Wildlife Service, ProAves determined the importance of helping to conserve the piedmont to ensure habitat for the Orange-breasted Falcon and other resident species such as the Gilded Barbet (*Capito auratus*), and to contribute to the conservation of millenary migratory bird routes. For more information visit: <http://www.proaves.org>

CERULEAN/GOLDEN-WINGED SUMMIT INFORMATION NOW AVAILABLE

The third Cerulean Warbler summit and second Golden-winged Warbler summit, led by the Cerulean Warbler Technical Working Group and the Golden-winged Warbler Working Group, ended successfully in Bogotá and San Vicente de Chucuri on October 25 2008. For five days, 86 persons from nine countries met to exchange experiences and define the future for the conservation of both species. Representatives of non-governmental organizations, academia, governmental entities, and the productive sector gathered to establish common points that allow contributions to the conservation of both species under the context of economically productive and socially sustainable landscapes and mitigate the impact on the populations in the range of action. The sessions at the headquarters of the Coffee Growers Federation in Bogotá (21-23 October 2008) were the input for the revision and adjustments of the Conservation Plan for the Cerulean Warbler (*Dendroica cerulea*) and for the elaboration of the first draft of the Conservation Plan for the Golden-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*), which will be available online very soon on the Grupo Ceruleo and Alianza Alas Doradas webpages. Strategic alliances will be created after this event through a distribution list and the web pages of both groups will exchange information to implement the developed conservation plans. For more information visit: <http://www.proaves.org>

NEW DIRECTORY FINDS ALMOST HALF CARIBBEAN IBAS LACK PROTECTION

Of the 770 bird species occurring in the Caribbean, 148 are endemic, with 105 confined to single islands. But only around 10% of the region's original habitat remains, and 54 of the Caribbean's bird species are globally threatened, of which 12 are Critically Endangered. BirdLife's newly-published *Important Bird Areas of the Caribbean: key sites for conservation* is a milestone for the BirdLife Caribbean Programme, which began in 2001. BirdLife International and its Partners, and a range of other organizations, have identified, documented and mapped 283 internationally significant Important Bird Areas (IBAs) in the Caribbean. IBAs are key sites for the conservation of birds and biodiversity, and the building blocks for conservation planning. They are identified nationally, using data gathered locally and applying internationally agreed criteria. But this Caribbean network of key sites faces a large number of diverse threats and among the book's most findings is that 43% are wholly outside formal protected areas. The IBA network can be (and is already being) used as a tool to review existing national protected areas systems, identify gaps in coverage, and identify candidate sites for expansion or designation of protected areas to address these gaps. For more information visit: <http://www.birdlife.org/>

WANTED: INFORMATION ON BIRD COLLISIONS WITH SHEET GLASS OR PLASTIC

We are looking for data on bird collisions with sheet glass or plastic. The Acopian Center for Ornithology, Muhlenberg College, Allentown, Pennsylvania, USA, has been studying birds striking sheet glass and plastic for over 30 years. One of the goals is to compile a comprehensive list of all species known to have collided with sheet glass or plastic world-wide, country by country if possible. We lack records from most of South and Central American countries and would greatly appreciate any records available. It would be best to have dates and location data for strikes, but simple lists of species will be appreciated if that is all that are available. These can be sent via e-mail, spread sheets, via our forms on-line at our web site (<http://www.muhenberg.edu/depts/biology/faculty/klem/ACO/aco.htm>), or regular mail if necessary. Please contact: Peter G. Saenger, Acopian Center for Ornithology, Department of Biology, Muhlenberg College, 2400 Chew Street, Allentown, Pa. 18104-5586, U.S.A. <mailto:aco@muhenberg.edu>

WEB NEWS

"THE RITUAL OF THE CUVIVIES": Photos from small Andean lakes in the central Ecuadorian highlands where locals collect Upland Sandpipers washed up on the beach each September and October at: <http://tariknunez.blogspot.com/2005/11/ozogoche.html>

NEOORN (Neotropical Ornithology) and the Neotropical Bird Club have established Facebook groups at: <http://www.facebook.com>

AMERICAN BIRD CONSERVANCY HAS JUST RELEASED ITS LATEST BIRD NEWS NETWORK (BNN) VIDEOCAST, *Successes in Conserving the Thick-billed Parrot*, which contains footage of these rare birds in the wild, as well as interviews with key individuals involved in their conservation. You can view this and other videos at: <http://www.youtube.com/abcbirds>

JOURNAL ZELEDONIA at: <http://www.avesdecostarica.org> (click on Zeledonia) you can also download pdf copies of the articles. Zeledonia is the journal of the Costa Rican Ornithological Association (AOCR).

MIGRATORY SONGBIRD PROJECT CALLED AMIGOS ALADOS LINKS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS AT ROSS SCHOOL IN MARIN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, WITH STUDENTS AT PRIMARIA CUAUHTEMOC IN TAPALPA, JALISCO, MEXICO. Amigos Alados has just launched a website for the project at: <http://web.mac.com/amigosalados/iWeb/Site/Welcome%21%20%20Bienvenidos%21.html>

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE BIRD EDUCATION ALLIANCE FOR CONSERVATION (BEAC), visit our new website at: <http://www.birdedalliance.org>

IMPORTANT BIRD SITES

- Blue-winged Warbler (*Vermivora pinus*) photo essay at: <http://www.hiltonpond.org/ThisWeek080815.html>
- Flying Wild: Bird Conservation through Education, sign up for the Flying Wild newsletter at: <http://www.flyingwild.org>

FUNDING

THE PEREGRINE FUND TRAVEL AWARDS FOR THE III NEOTROPICAL RAPTOR CONFERENCE

The Peregrine Fund is offering a limited number of travel awards to participants from Latin America and the Caribbean, who will be presenting papers or posters during the III Neotropical Raptor Conference. The closing date for applications is 30 April 2009. For more information, and an application form, please visit http://www.neotropicalraptors.org/2009NRC.Travel_Awards.i.htm

NEOTROPICAL BIRD CLUB CONSERVATION AWARDS

Research grants of \$500 to \$1500 are available subject to certain conditions. Grants are available for conservation work or research which may be of conservation benefit. There are no formal deadlines. Applications are assessed on a rolling basis by a conservation sub-committee and successful applications then have to be approved by the Council of the Neotropical Bird Club. You will be informed of the outcome of your application as soon as possible thereafter. For more information, visit <http://www.neotropicalbirdclub.org> ('Conservation Fund'), write to: <mailto:awards@neotropicalbirdclub.org> or: Neotropical Bird Club, Conservation Awards Fund, c/o The Lodge, Sandy, Bedfordshire, SG19 2DL, United Kingdom.

TRAINING / JOB OPPORTUNITIES

2009 PARK FLIGHT INTERNATIONAL INTERNSHIPS IN U.S. NATIONAL PARKS

The National Park Service (NPS) 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. 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. For 2009, the Park Flight international internships will be open to qualified candidates from Latin America (Mexico, Central and South America) and the Caribbean. The internships will begin from April to August 2009, 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 \$750.00 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. In 2009, there will be up to eleven internships available including at the following

U.S. national parks: Point Reyes National Seashore, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, and Sequoia/Kings Canyon National Parks in California; North Cascades National Park in Washington; Oregon Caves National Monument in Oregon; Bandelier National Monument in New Mexico; New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail Route in New Jersey; Great Smoky Mountains in Tennessee/North Carolina; and Fire Island National Seashore in New York. 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 31, 2009, to the program coordinator, Carol Beidleman, mailto:Carol_Beidleman@nps.gov. Both documents should be in Word, no photos or pdfs please.

OPPORTUNITY FOR WILDLIFE BIOLOGISTS

The Willamette National Forest's Neotropical Migratory Bird Program will host an International Exchange Visitor - wildlife biologist from late February through September of 2009. As during the past eleven years, the program will link our Forest's program with a work experience through the Institute for Bird Populations in Pt. Reyes, California. From February through April, the visiting biologist will work on district projects as well as natural resource education programs, 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 natural resource education activities for schools and other community organizations. Requirements: 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. A scholarship for full or partial funding may be available that can cover roundtrip airfare, housing, a per diem allowance to cover food expenses, and emergency medical insurance. Application deadline is January 10, 2009. 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, email: <mailto:ruseitz@fs.fed.us>.

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR BIRD MONITORING WORKSHOP IN TRINIDAD

A bird-monitoring workshop is being planned for the first two weeks of May 2009 to be held in the field at the Simla Research Station of the Asa Wright Nature Reserve in the Arima Valley of Trinidad. The workshop will feature training in mist netting, banding, bird identification, aging and sexing birds, use of point counts for monitoring populations as well as techniques for data analyses. The workshop will provide "hands-on" training to enable participants to initiate monitoring programs for their respective organizations. Once participants are trained they will be asked to initiate monitoring programs for their home organizations and serve as leaders for advancing bird conservation in their areas of responsibility. The workshop organizers invite enquires and applications from persons with an interest in participating from Cuba, Jamaica, Guyana, Surinam, and the Dominican Republic as well as Trinidad and Tobago. English will be the language of instruction so at least a moderate level of English comprehension will be required. Participants are expected to have basic bird watching skills, as well as some previous field experience relating to conservation or ecological studies. Travel funds will be provided for those participants residing outside of Trinidad & Tobago. The workshop will be sponsored by the Asa Wright Nature Center along with other partners from Trinidad & Tobago, as well as International Programs of the U.S. Forest Service, the Klamath Bird Observatory, and the North American Banding Council. Those with an interest in participating in the workshop should submit a resume summarizing relevant wildlife-related experiences and training, a letter of interest stating why they wish to participate in the workshop as well as a statement of their interests in initiating and maintaining a bird monitoring program in their home territory, and a list of three references and their e-mail addresses. Applications and queries should be submitted to Dr. Joseph M. Wunderle at: <mailto:jmwunderle@gmail.com>

VOLUNTEER FIELD ASSISTANTS NEEDED IN JAMAICA

We are looking for 5-7 volunteer field assistants for research studying migratory (primarily American Redstarts) and resident birds in Jamaica. Project begins mid-Jan and continues until early to mid 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 some 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 early to mid-Jan, 2009. Send cover letter, CV, and contact info for 3 references to PETER MARRA, Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center, National Zoological Park, Washington, DC 20008 or email: <mailto:marrap@i.edu>.

VOLUNTEER POSITION AND BANDING COORDINATOR IN TALAMANCA, COSTA RICA

The Kèkoldi Wak Bird Conservation and Monitoring Program at the Kèkoldi Indigenous Reserve in Talamanca, Costa Rica is seeking volunteers field assistants to work in the tropical humid forest. As a field volunteer assistant you will help with constant effort bird banding and monitoring (resident and migratory) in 7 different habitats, white-collared Manakin research, conservation and environmental education, and working with the local bribri indigenous people. The Kèkoldi Indigenous Reserve is a 5000 hectare reserve with protected humid primary forest and other different types of habitat like abandoned cacao plantations, second growth and organic fields, where we preserve over 330 bird species including 17 hummingbird species. The Kèkoldi Wak bird conservation and monitoring program as a long-term program could be a great alternative and opportunity for those students who want to build their resume. For those who are biologists, bird watchers or bird banders it will make a difference in regards to bird conservation through science. Contribute with your time and volunteer fee of \$1800 per 2 months which covers: meals, lodging at the scientific center and bird banding and monitoring training. For full details please contact DANIEL MARTÍNEZ A. Programa de Monitoreo y Conservación de Aves, Kèkoldi Wak ka koneke, Territorio Indígena Kèkoldi, Talamanca, Costa Rica, <mailto:daniel@kekoldi.org> or <mailto:jacamerops@yahoo.com>

BIRDING AND NATURAL HISTORY GUIDE IN COSTA RICA

Our small Eco-lodge on the Peninsula de Osa in Costa Rica needs an extra guide for the 2009 high season, late Dec 2008-mid Mar or early Apr 2009. Jan, Feb and Mar are the most important months and the other months are negotiable. We are located in the National Forest surrounding Corcovado National Park on the Peninsula de Osa. We are also involved in a study and monitoring project of 4 of the local bird species: Yellow-billed Cotinga, Black-cheeked Ant-tanager, Mangrove Hummingbird and Turquoise Cotinga, which we could use help with as well. We are a service-oriented lodge and guiding is personal and customized. Our maximum capacity is 10 guests. Our birding guests can fall into any category from beginner, casual, lister to target birders with lots of tropical experience. Our non-birder guests usually have some background knowledge and are interested in all forms of Natural history. Qualifications: Strong birding/ornithology background with experience in tropical biology and birding particularly in Costa Rica, ability to learn bird calls quickly. The guide should have the ability to study and absorb knowledge quickly, enthusiasm, pleasant personality, patience, flexible, some Spanish language, good physical condition and interest, and some knowledge of all tropical natural history. A University Degree is not necessary but helpful. Must accept responsibility for guest's safety while guiding. Wilderness first aid and CPR training are helpful. A willingness to accept the challenge of attempting to find specific target species, as well as catering to the diverse personalities and physical capacities of all our guests. Capable of spending the whole season with us. Since we are a small lodge, all personnel need to be able to work as a team to achieve our goal of providing the best possible atmosphere and service to our guests. For more info about the area and our lodge, please view our web page: <http://www.bosquedelriotigre.com>. For more info on the job opportunity, write to: <mailto:info@bosquedelriotigre.com>

VOLUNTEER FIELD ASSISTANTS NEEDED IN PANAMA

Three positions are available 15 Feb to 25 Jun 2009 for an ongoing behavioral study of female mate choice in Lance-tailed Manakins (*Chiroxiphia lanceolata*) in Panama. Assistants' responsibilities include daily maintenance of an automated telemetry system tracking, conducting many hour-long behavioral observations at display sites, nest-searching through dense secondary-growth forest, and mist-netting birds for banding and blood sampling, as well as data entry and organizational tasks. Experience in one or more of these areas are strongly preferred. Applicants should have a very strong interest in birds, animal behavior, and field biology. The field crew will live and work on a remote island off of Panama's Pacific coast and share one-

room housing, and can expect to have no internet or phone access for up to two weeks at a time: experience working in isolated field settings and/or living in close quarters is highly desirable. Applicants should be enthusiastic and physically fit: the terrain is steep, the weather is very hot and humid, and there's an abundance of biting insects and a healthy population of snakes. Round-trip airfare to Panama (max of \$1000), food, housing, and required transportation within Panama will be provided, as well as a one-time \$500 bonus to help defray any additional personal expenses (e.g. health insurance coverage or independent travel costs). For more information on the research, see <http://www.bio.fsu.edu/faculty-duval.php>. To apply, send: 1) cover letter explaining your motivation to work on this project, 2) resume, 3) email and phone numbers of three references to: DR. EMILY DUVAL, Florida State University Department of Biological Science, <mailto:ehduval@bio.fsu.edu>. Review of applications will continue until positions are filled. Please note that because assistants receive extensive on-site training, only applications for the entire field season can be considered.

VOLUNTEER FIELD ASSISTANTS NEEDED IN COSTA RICA

Two to three (2-3) volunteer field assistants are needed for study of White-ruffed Manakins on the Atlantic Slope of Costa Rica. This study examines the carry-over effects of altitudinal migration using physiological techniques, stable isotopes, and behavioral observations. Conditions are always wet, trails are very muddy, bugs can be bad, the day starts early, and accommodations are rustic. Work will begin mid Feb 2009 and continue until the end of Apr 2009. Assistants must be willing to commit to the full field season. Applicants should have excellent personal and physical skills and mist-netting/banding experience. Prior experience bleeding birds, resighting very small and fast-moving color-banded birds, working in the tropics, Spanish, are pluses. I will cover all in-country expenses (travel, food, and accommodation). Please send a letter stating why you are interested in this position, a current CV, and the names, emails and phone numbers of three references to both ALICE BOYLE, <mailto:aboyle7@uwo.ca> and MEGAN JONES, <mailto:mtns4meg@gmail.com>.

MEETINGS

III MEETING OF THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE SHOREBIRD GROUP (WHS6), 9-13 March 2009, Mazatlan, Sinaloa, Mexico. The scientific agenda includes two workshops. Demographic Modeling Workshop by Dr. Brett Sadercock (March 7-8) and an International Course on Avian Movements and Migration sponsored by MIGRATE (March 16-19). Travel funds will be available for graduate students from North, Central and South America to attend the meetings and workshops. Additional details about the meetings, logistics, abstracts, and scientific program will be made available on the US Shorebird Conservation Plan website <http://www.fws.gov/shorebirdplan/>. The General Coordinator for this meeting is Rick Lanctot (mailto:Richard_lanctot@fws.gov, 907-786-3609), the Scientific Coordinator is Stephen Brown (<mailto:sbrown@manomet.org>, 508-224-6521) and the Local Organizers are Xico Vega (<mailto:xicovega@manomet.org>, 52-667-7166456) and Guillermo Fernández (<mailto:gfernandez@ola.icmyl.unam.mx>, 52-669-985-2845).

IV INTERNATIONAL HORNED GUAN SYMPOSIUM, 30-31 March 2009, Tuxtla Gutiérrez, Chiapas, Mexico. The sessions will be organized in the following subjects: Habitat Conservation, Environmental Education, Research: population density, habitat use, behavior, etc., Ex-situ conservation. For registry and further information contact: <mailto:jcastro@conanp.gob.mx>; <mailto:esecaira@tnc.org>; <mailto:jcornejo@africansafari.com.mx>

LANDSCAPE ECOLOGY IN LATIN AMERICA: CHALLENGES AND PERSPECTIVES, 4-7 October 2009, Campos do Jordão, Brazil. This conference will be held 4-7 October 2009 in Campos do Jordão, Brazil. In the last IALE meeting in Wageningen (July 2007) we decided to organize the first Latin American IALE meeting in Brazil. This meeting will be an important step for the consolidation of the Landscape Ecology science in the continent, and for a more widespread application of this science in the solution of the severe environmental problems of the region. You can see more information in the site

<http://www.eventus.com.br/ialebr2009> or you can also access a PDF file at the US-IALE webpage <http://www.usiale.org>

III NEOTROPICAL RAPTORS CONGRESS, 28-30 October 2009, Bogota, Colombia. The III Neotropical Raptor Congress is organized by the members of the Neotropical Raptors Network (RRN), with support from The Peregrine Fund, Biological Resources Research Institute Alexander von Humboldt, Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, and other important organizations. We are accepting abstracts until May 1, 2009. For guidelines and application information in Spanish, please visit: http://www.neotropicalraptors.org/2009NRC.Papers_Posters.e.htm. For information in English: http://www.neotropicalraptors.org/2009NRC.Papers_Posters.i.htm. For more information contact Diego Soler (<mailto:dsolert@gmail.com>) and César Márquez (<mailto:cmarquez@humboldt.org>)

25th INTERNATIONAL ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS. August 22-28, 2010. Campos de Jordao, San Paolo, Brazil. The 25th International Ornithological Congress will be held in Campos do Jordão, Brazil, 22-28 August 2010. The Scientific Program Committee (SPC) has been formed and a web page is in place (<http://www.i-o-c.org> or <http://www.ib.usp.br/25ioc>). The SPC invites you to submit symposium proposals for the next IOC. Symposia are to focus on the general ornithologist and provide up-to-date coverage of current ornithological research. Similar to the last IOC meeting, each symposium will include two keynote addresses that should summarize the global progress of ornithological science in the field over the last four years and address priorities for future research. The call for contributed papers will come in early 2009. Inquires may be made to the General for the Congress at: <mailto:ioc2010@ib.usp.br> or to Carol Vleck, <mailto:ioc2010@iastate.edu>

CRACID SYMPOSIUM, 2011, Peru. We are planning to hold the next CSG Symposium during the upcoming Neotropical Ornithology Congress to be held in Cuzco, Peru, in 2011. It is very preliminary, but we are planning on having a two-day symposium. Start planning your Cracid papers! For more information, please contact Mr. Fernando Angulo (<mailto:chamaepetes@gmail.com>) or Laura Cancino <mailto:laurarosacancino@gmail.com>

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

THE BIRDS OF NORTHWEST ECUADOR, VOLUME I: THE UPPER FOOTHILLS AND SUBTROPICS, REVISED AND EXPANDED EDITION

By: Olaf Jahn, John V. Moore, Niels Krabbe, Patricio M. Valenzuela, Paul Coopmans, Mitch Lysinger, Lelis Navarette, Jonas Nilsson, and Robert S. Ridgely. Presented are 1128 separately announced recordings of 213 species including the sounds of nearly all the birds predominantly inhabiting the humid life zones of the upper foothills and lower subtropics on the northwestern Andean slope of Ecuador. 2008; 1 data DVD and 1 MP3 CD. \$22.95. Available at: John V. Moore Nature Recordings, <http://www.johnvmoorenaturerecordings.com>

BIRDS SONGS OF FRENCH GUYANA AND SURINAME

New 3 CD set, presenting 230 species (560 recordings, almost 4 hours of listening) from French Guyana (and Suriname). The recordings are of high quality. An English and French booklet accompanies the box. For each species, different calls and songs of the most characteristic and common Guyana land birds were brought together. A few rare or unknown species were added as well. This work will be useful in Amazonia, especially in Bolivar and Amazonas in Venezuela, Para and Amapa in Brazil, and the Guyanas. Available at: <https://www.birdsounds.nl/?pg=productsitem&gr=0&id=932> <=en, or <http://www.oreillevente.com/www/>

BIRD SONGS OF MEXICO: VERACRUZ VOLUME 1,

Produced by Fernando González-García and Antonio Celis-Murillo. This first CD of the BIRD SONGS OF MEXICO series of audio field guides contains recordings of 70 species of migratory and permanent resident

birds including endemics, as well as recording of environmental sounds from Veracruz. A booklet is included in Spanish and English containing photographs of each bird species, as well as information on locality, geographic coordinates, sex, type of vocalization, and background species. Each species is mentioned by its Spanish common name, English name, and scientific name. All the sounds included on the CD were recorded within the limits of the state of Veracruz. Visit: <http://www.birdsongsofmexico.com> and <http://www.ecologia.edu.mx>, <http://www.aveoptica.com> for more information.

A FIELD GUIDE TO THE BIRDS OF SOUTH AMERICA: NON-PASSERINES

By: Rodriguez Mata, Jr. The only guide that describes and illustrates in one book all the non-passerine species of South America. All plumages are illustrated, including males, females, and juveniles. It describes 1273 species, and includes 156 color plates and distribution maps. Harper Collins, Collins Field Guides, 384 pages, 2006 edition. Available at: <mailto:info@pabloameneiros.com> or visit: <http://www.pabloameneiros.com>

IMPORTANT BIRD AREAS IN THE CARIBBEAN

BirdLife's newly-published *Important Bird Areas of the Caribbean: key sites for conservation* is a milestone for the BirdLife Caribbean Programme, which began in 2001. BirdLife International and its Partners, and a range of other organisations, have identified, documented and mapped 283 internationally significant Important Bird Areas (IBAs) in the Caribbean. IBAs are key sites for the conservation of birds and biodiversity, and the building blocks for conservation planning. They are identified nationally, using data gathered locally and applying internationally agreed criteria. Available at: <http://www.nhbs.com/title.php?tefno=160918>.

BIRDS OF THE US-MEXICO BORDERLANDS: DISTRIBUTION, ECOLOGY, AND CONSERVATION

We are pleased to announce the publication of *Studies in Avian Biology* Volume No. 37 entitled "Birds of the US-Mexico Borderlands: Distribution, Ecology, and Conservation". It includes a preface and 12 chapters about various avian subjects. The concept for this *Studies in Avian Biology* (SAB) began as a scientific symposium at the North American Ornithological Conference (NAOC) in Veracruz, Mexico in October 2006. Information about how to order the complete volume can be found on the following Cooper Ornithological Society web page (<http://www.cooper.org/publications/sab.htm>).

BIRD COMMUNITY OF A MEDITERRANEAN LITORAL WETLAND: STRUCTURE, DYNAMIC AND CONSERVATION / LA COMUNIDAD DE AVES DE UN HUMEDAL LITORAL MEDITERRÁNEO. ESTRUCTURA, DINÁMICA Y CONSERVACIÓN.

The book summarizes the results of the bird population monitoring program from Marjal de Almenara (Valencia-Castellon, Spain), covering 26 years of bird observation in this wetland, with the last 20 years of intensive following. It describes the area, habitats, bird communities, problems and management and conservation proposals. Format: 24x17 cm., 288 pages, 317 species and 369 taxon, 319 maps, 218 figures and graphs, 74 tables, 58 B/W photographs. For more information visit: http://www.tundraediciones.es/index.php?option=com_content&view=section&layout=blog&id=2&Itemid=5

RECENT LITERATURE

El Hornero v.22 n.1

at: http://www.scielo.org.ar/scielo.php/script_sci_serial/pid_0073-3407/Ing_en/nrm_iso

Articles

Variaciones temporales de los ensambles de aves de la Reserva Natural de Fauna Laguna La Felipa (Córdoba, Argentina). Brandolin, Pablo; Martori, Ricardo; Ávalos, Miguel.

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Distribución latitudinal y altitudinal de tres especies del género *Basileuterus* en el noroeste argentino. Capllonch, Patricia.

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Alimentación del Cabecitanegra Austral (*Carduelis barbata*) durante el otoño. Archuby, Diego I.; Marti, Lucas J.; Montalti, Diego; Soave, Guillermo E.; Camperi, Anibal R.; Arambarri, Ana M.; Darrieu, Carlos A.

Book review

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Biogeografía y especiación en aves. Areta, Juan Ignacio

Sistemas de información geográfica en ecología y conservación de rapaces. Carbajo, Aníbal E.

Áreas importantes para la conservación de las aves. Sapoznikow, Alexandra

Uso de arrozceras por chorlos y playeros migratorios. Isacch, Juan Pablo

LA TANGARA is edited by: José Manuel Zolotoff, Fundación Cocibolca, Apdo. Postal C-212, Managua, Nicaragua, Tel: (505) 248-8235, Fax: (505) 249-4144, <mailto:zolotoff@ibw.com.ni> and assisted by Mariamar Gutiérrez, Fundación Cocibolca/Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Nicaragua, <mailto:mailto:mariamargutierrez@hotmail.com>

Reviewed by:

Paul Salaman, Director of 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:psalaman@abcbirds.org>

Megan Hill; RARE Center, 1840 Wilson Blvd, Suite 204, Arlington, VA 22207, Tel: (703)522-5070; Fax: 703-522-5027, <mailto:mhill@rareconservation.org>

Borja Milá, Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales, CSIC, José Gutiérrez Abascal 2, Madrid 28006, Spain, Tel: +34 914111328, <mailto:borjamila@gmail.com>

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