sites, including coral reefs on the northern coast in Pinar del Río province and at Rincon de Guanabo in La Habana province, and two terrestrial trips to the Sierra del Rosario and the Cienaga de Zapata. Three post-congress courses were offered: "Flora y Fauna de Arrecifes Coralinos," "Ecologia del Suelo" (5 days), and "Aspectos de Ecologia Cuantitativa" (3 days).

Several papers on birds were presented during the symposium. Abstracts of some of these are presented below.

ESTUDIO HISTORICO-BIOLOGICO DE LA INTRODUCCION DE VERTEBRADOS EXOTICOS EN LA ISLA DE LA JUVENTUD

TOMAS ESCOBAR HERRERA
ISP, Isla de la Juventud

Este trabajo constituye una sintesis de como se ha desarrollado la introduccion de especies de vertebrados exoticos en la Isla de la Juventud, asi como del impacto que ellos han causado en los ecosistemas de dicha isla, especialmente la introduccion deliberada. Se consideran en esta categoria de fauna introducida alrededor de 30 especies de vertebrados, incluyendo peces, y se recomienda la medidas de conservacion adecuadas para su eliminacion o disminucion de sus daños, especialmente a la fauna autoctona.

REPRODUCCIÓN DE LA COTORRA CUBANA (*AMAZONA LEUCOCEPHALA*) EN EL AREA PROTEGIDA LOS INDIOS, DURANTE 1992

XIOMARA GALVES AQUILERA[1] Y VINCENTE BEROVIDES A.[2]
[1]*Empresa de la Proteccion de la Flora y la Fauna, Cuba;*
[2]*Facultad de Biologia, Universidad de La Habana, Cuba*

En el presente estudio se analiza el comportamiento reproducido de la Cotorrra Cubana (*Amazona leucocephala*), durante la temporada de 1992, en el area protegida Los Indios, Isla de la Juventud. Esta area es de sabanas arenosas con pinos y palmas barrigonas, anidando las cotorras en esta ultima. Para el trabajo, el area total se dividio en 15 zonas, las que fueron evaluadas para cantidad total de cavidades y otras especies y el numero de huevos y pichones (para la cotorra). La productividad de cada zona se midio como volantones/ha. De las 707 cavidades a utilizar las cotorras usaron 89 (6.2%), los murcielagos 52 (7.4%) y otras 5 especies 44 (6.2%). El 4.7% de los nidos fueron usados y el 3.8% fueron bajas. Las zonas mas productivas produjeron de 5.2 a 1.2 volantones/ha. Esta productividad dependio mas de la densidad de nidos que del numero de pichones por nidos.

PARTICION DE LOS RECURSOS TROPICOS ENTRE EL COCO BLANCO (*EUDOCIMUS ALBUS*) Y EL COCO PRIETO (*PLEGADIS FALCINELLUS*) EN LA ARROCERA DEL JIBARO

MARTIN ACOSTA Y LOURDES MUJICA
Facultad de Biologia, Universidad de La Habana, Cuba

Se realizaron muestreos durante los meses de mayo, julio, agosto, octubre, noviembre y diciembre de 1992 en las arroceras del Jibaro, Sancti Spiritus, donde se colectaron 63 Cocos Blancos y 59 Cocos Prietos. Las medidas morfometricas mostraron resultados superiores para el Coco Blanco, al igual que el peso, lo que provoca mayores demandas energeticas en el mismo; el consumo de alimento en esta especie alcanzo el 9% de su peso corporal mientras que en el Coco Prieto solo el 14%. Los componentes principales de la dieta en el Coco Blanco fueron los camarones y peces, mientras que el Coco Prieto consumio fundamentalmente el arroz. Ambas especies monstraron al principio su accion principal al principio y al final del cultivo.

ASSOCIATION FOR PARROT CONSERVATION

We wish to announce the formation of a conservation group, the Association for Parrot Conservation (APC). Concerned scientists met in Washington, D.C., in October 1993 to discuss the present status, threats, and conservation of the world's parrot populations. As a result, it was decided that there was an urgent need to form an organization that provides a forum for parrot specialists to address critical research, management, and conservation needs.

The mission of the organization is to promote the conservation of wild parrot populations and their habitat through scientific research, policy recommendations, and education. Initial emphasis will be placed on New World parrots. APC was founded to (1) scientifically evaluate conservation alternatives for maintaining wild populations and their habitats (e.g., field research and recovery, habitat preservation, ecosystem management, conservation education, ecotourism, captive breeding, reintroduction, sustainable use, and trade recommendations) as well as their application on a case-by-case basis to parrots, (2) educate scientists, decision-makers, and the public about the potentials and limitations of conservation alternatives, (3) create a communications network for those concerned with the conservation of wild parrot populations, and (4) facilitate local and regional conservation projects. The guiding principle of the association is to promote techniques and strategies that maximize the conservation of biological diversity.

An Executive Council of 17 members was elected. The President will be Dr. Enrique Bucher from Argentina, who is well-known for his studies of New World parrots and the sustainable use of biological resources. Dr. Bucher hopes that

Association for Parrot Conservation (continued)

"by initiating and facilitating effective parrot conservation actions, the association will make a substantial contribution to conserve the parrots of the New World, of which 30% of the species are at present threatened."

For further information, please contact Dr. Rosemarie S. Gnam, Executive Director, 13 East Rosemont Ave., Alexandria, Virginia 22301, U.S.A.; telephone: 703-739-9803.

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

BAHAMA WHITE-CHEEKED PINTAIL INFORMATION NEEDED.—We are compiling information on the distribution, status, and conservation needs of the Bahama race of the White-cheeked Pintail (*Anas b. bahamensis*) throughout the West Indies. We especially need information from Hispaniola (Haiti and the Dominican Republic), the U. S. Virgin Islands, Netherlands Antilles (especially St. Martin), St. Barthelemy, St. Kitts, Nevis, Montserrat, and Guadeloupe, but would also welcome contributions from other islands. Please contact Dr. Frank McKinney and Bethany L. Woodworth, James Ford Bell Museum of Natural History, University of Minnesota, 100 Ecology Building, 1987 Upper Buford Circle, St. Paul, Minnesota 55455, U.S.A. We request that contributors fill out a simple two-page questionnaire, but unpublished data would also be appreciated. All contributors will be acknowledged and properly cited, and contributors will be provided with a copy of the report.

INFORMATION REQUESTED ON GRASSHOPPER SPARROWS.—I hope that some members of the Society of Caribbean Ornithology might be able to provide information regarding the biology of Grasshopper Sparrows (*Ammodramus savannarum*) from the Caribbean region. I am responsible for the American Ornithologists' Union Grasshopper Sparrow account for the Birds of North America series. Other than field guides and older references, such as Wetmore and Swales' The birds of Haiti and the Dominican Republic, I am not aware of any published data or information for Grasshopper Sparrow from the Caribbean. Inclusion of such information, if it exists, would be a meaningful addition to this account. If members are aware of any references (Spanish is fine), data, or colleagues working in grassland habitats, I would be most appreciative if you would let me know. I am especially interested in breeding seasonality and behavior, population status, and taxonomy. Any help will be greatly appreciated and full acknowledged.

Peter Vickery
Avian Ecologist
Massachusetts Audubon Society
P.O. Box 127
Richmond, Maine 04357
U.S.A.

CARIBBEAN ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION CENTER

The Caribbean Environmental Information Center, a collaborative program between the Metropolitan University, Puerto Rico, and the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, has recently opened. The Center provides information on environmental issues of the Wider Caribbean Region. Contact Maritza Alvarez Machin, Centro de Información Ambiental del Caribe (CIAC), Universidad Metropolitana, Apartado 21150, Río Piedras, Puerto Rico 00928. Telephone: 809-766-1717.

MEETINGS OF INTEREST

28 February–3 March 1994 – **Sixteenth Vertebrate Pest Conference**, Westin Hotel, Santa Clara, California. (Dr. Terrell Salmon, Business Manager c/o DANR – North Region Research Park Facility, University of California, Davis, California 95616, U.S.A. Telephone: 916-757-8621; FAX: 916-757-8866).

20–27 March 1994 – **Fifth International Migration Festival**, International Birding Center, Eiliat, Israel. (Dr. Reuven Yosef, Director, IBCE, Attn: Spring Festival '94, P.O. Box 774, Eilat 88000, Israel).

11–14 April 1994 – **Wetlands: Nature Conservation and Archaeology: Principles, Problems & Practice**, University of Bristol, United Kingdom. (Rosalind Ladd, Conference Administrator, Gifford & Partners, Carlton House, Ringwood Road, Woodlands, Southampton, SO4 2HT, England. Telephone: 0703-813461; FAX: 0703-813462).

11–15 May 1994 – Joint meeting of **The Association of Systematics Collections** and **the Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections**, Missouri Botanical Garden. (ASC, 730 11th Street, N.W., Second Floor, Washington, D.C. 20001, U.S.A. Telephone: 202-347-2850).

7–12 June 1994 – Joint annual meeting of the **Society for Conservation Biology** and **The Association for Tropical Biology**, University of Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico. (Eduardo Santana, Department of Wildlife Biology, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin 53706, U.S.A. FAX: 608-262-6099; or Laboratorio Natural Las Joyas, Universidad de Guadalajara, Apdo. Postal 1-3933, Guadalajara, Jalisco, C.P. 44100, Mexico. FAX: 52-338-7-27-49).

mid-June 1994 – **Second Mesoamerican Workshop on the Conservation and Management of Macaws**, Costa Rica. (Center for the Study of Tropical Birds, Inc., 218 Conway Dr., San Antonio, Texas 78209-1716, U.S.A.. FAX: 512-828-5911).