

the sale or leasing are compatible with the purposes of the cooperative plan. In the event that the Department of Defense elects to provide these services through contract, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or the appropriate state (or in this case Commonwealth) fish and wildlife agency should receive priority for award of these contracts.

Will the Navy ever bring itself into full compliance with the Sikes Act at Naval Station Roosevelt Roads? The Navy is at a crossroads in its relationship with the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico in land use and conservation issues. The old saying about taking lemons and turning them into lemonade could be brought to very real fruition at Roosevelt Roads if the Navy acts in a responsible manner.

With proper stewardship of the lands and waters under its authority, Roosevelt Roads could in fact become a conservation showcase, and a major positive influence towards the preservation of some of Puerto Rico's precious few remaining natural areas. Two major issues in conservation and wildlife biology being loss of habitat and direct human exploitation, it should not surprise anyone that, for example, Puerto Rico's last remaining Brown Pelican nesting colony is located adjacent to a bombing range, or that the waters of the Roads have become an important refuge for the West Indian Manatee. Over the long term, active responsible stewardship can only improve the Navy's relations with its neighbors. In the aftermath of Hurricane Hugo, this becomes even more important.

The Navy has done a better than expected job of managing its lands around San Diego, California, and Camp Pendleton is a well-known example of management practices which historically have reduced civilian pressure for acquisition of the land. Given these precedents, it is possible (and relatively inexpensive) for the Navy to become a major voice, and a leader in the conservation movement in the Caribbean Basin. Possible, yes, but will they ever actually do it?

Grupo Jaragua, Inc.

The Grupo Jaragua, Inc., a private, non-profit organization of the Dominican Republic, just signed a cooperative agreement with the National Direction of Parks (Dominican Republic) to work for the development of the Jaragua National Park, in the southwest of the country.

The Jaragua National Park is the largest park in the Dominican Republic and in the Antilles. The Park includes a broad system of coastal lagoons and little- or un-disturbed natural forests, which serve as permanent or temporal residence to thousands of

aquatic and terrestrial birds. The Park encompasses the important Oviedo Lagoon and Beata and Alto Velo islands.

The Grupo Jaragua, Inc., wishes to develop a relationship with members of the Society of Caribbean Ornithology. For more information, please write to:

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Grupo Jaragua, Inc.

El Grupo Jaragua, Inc., grupo privado sin fines de lucro de la República Dominicana, acaba de firmar un convenio de cooperación con la Dirección Nacional de Parques (República Dominicana) para impulsar el desarrollo del Parque Nacional Jaragua, en el suroeste del país.

El Parque Nacional Jaragua es el más grande del país y Las Antillas. Incluye un amplio sistema de lagunas costeras y la Laguna de Oviedo, que sirven de residencia permanente o transitoria a miles de aves acuáticas. Además, el parque incluye bosques naturales poco o no perturbados, con una gran diversidad de aves terrestres e incluye las islas de Beata y Alto Velo, importantes por su ornitofauna.

El Grupo Jaragua, Inc., desea expresar por este medio su deseo de mantener intercambios con la Sociedad de la Ornitología Caribeña. Para más información, se pueden referir a:

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Current Research Projects Joseph M. Wunderle, Jr.

I am currently involved with research projects at the Institute of Tropical Forestry (two year temporary position) and at the University of Puerto Rico (my home position). The projects are summarized by the institutional affiliation:

Institute of Tropical Forestry

1. My primary research focuses on the fate of