

probability of obtaining very low rates when food availability is low. This suggests that egrets may be 'risk-sensitive' foragers, switching from 'risk-prone' to 'risk-averse' behavior as mean food availability decreases.

Roost Use by Cattle Egrets (*Bubulcus ibis*) in Barbados. E. Drebs and W. Hunte. Weekly variation in the number of roosting cattle egrets in a permanent non-breeding colony (site A) and in two breeding colonies (sites B and C) was investigated in Barbados. No nesting activity has occurred at site A during six years of continuous occupation, although the population at this site is twice the population at site B and half the population at site C. This suggests that population size at the roost is not the only prerequisite for establishing a breeding colony at a roost site. Roost population sizes at sites B and C greatly exceeded the nesting population at all times, indicating that breeding colonies function both as nesting and roosting sites. The number of egrets declined at sites B and C and increased at site A in non-breeding months, suggesting that some adults relocated to the non-breeding colony after breeding. Numbers at the breeding colonies increased again at the start of the subsequent breeding season. In spite of the apparent movement of birds between roosts, use of space by individual birds at a given roost is predictable. Even in the non-breeding season, individually marked adult birds at site B consistently returned to the same location within the roost on every observation day.

Breeding Biology and Habitat Use Patterns of the Wilson's Plover (*Charadrius wilsonia*) at the Cabo Rojo Salt Flats, Puerto Rico. Gloria Lee, Jaime A. Collazo, and John R. Sweeney. The Wilson's Plover is one of the three resident plovers in Puerto Rico. Baseline data on its breeding biology and habitat use patterns are scarce. Data obtained in this study were used to determine breeding chronology and success, to examine overall activity budgets, and to determine frequency of occurrence on each major habitat type. In addition, cover characteristics of nesting habitat were assessed. Seventeen nests were found at the salt flats, beginning in February 1988. Peak breeding occurred in May and overall nest success was 0.75. Plovers used semipermanently flooded areas more frequently than expected for resting, locomotion, and feeding. Roosting occurred more frequently during the afternoon hours. Maintenance activities were observed in higher frequencies during the morning hours. Agonistic behavior occurred at a higher frequency during the mid-day hours. The immediate vicinity of nests was characterized by live vegetation or rubble, as

compared to randomly selected sites. These data highlight the importance of understanding species' habitat requirements in order to formulate appropriate conservation practices.

Abundance and Distribution of Cattle Egrets in Barbados. D. Riven and W. Hunte. Cattle Egrets (*Bubulcus ibis*) first appeared in Barbados during the 1950's, when range extension was occurring from South America through the Caribbean islands. The first colony was formed on the south coast of the island. Four roosting colonies were present in Barbados at the time of the study (1980-88); three of which were also nesting colonies. The stabilization in the number of birds at the original colony when the three new roosts were being formed suggests that they were formed by birds leaving the first roost. The second colony was formed on the north coast of the island, the third on the east and the fourth (the present non-breeding colony) on the west coast. This sequence suggests that egrets have attempted to maximize inter-colony distances, and may imply that new colonies are formed to reduce competition for food near colony sites. The population size of cattle egrets in Barbados was estimated at 8000 birds in 1988. The island population continues to increase through increases in the number of birds at the three newest colonies.

Announcements

Centro de Documentacion para America Latina. BIODOC es un centro de documentación para América Latina que apoya en la búsqueda de literatura poco conocida o escasa sobre manejo de vida silvestre en la región. BIODOC está preparando un boletín trianual en el cual anunciará adquisiciones recientes a su colección. BIODOC está en constante búsqueda de literatura publicada y no publicada sobre vida silvestre y recursos naturales en Latinoamérica. Si Ud. puede contribuir con títulos o si desea ser incluido en nuestra lista de envío, sírvase enviar su nombre, dirección y afiliación institucional a:

Susana Salas Frazier

BIODOC

P.R.V.S.

Universidad Nacional

Apartado 54 - 3000

Heredia, Costa Rica

Telephone: 506-37-6363, anexo 2440

Wildlife Documentation Center for Latin America
BIODOC is a Wildlife Documentation Center for Latin America that helps locate difficult-to-find

Announcements (Continued)

literature for wildlife researchers in the region. BIODOC is planning to produce a quarterly bulletin, announcing recent acquisitions to their collection. The Center is continuously seeking published and unpublished literature on wildlife and natural resources in Latin America. If you can contribute with titles or you are interested in being on their mailing list, send your name, address, institution name, and address to:

Susana Salas Frazier
BIODOC
P.R.V.S.
Universidad Nacional
Apartado 54 - 3000
Heredia, Costa Rica
Telephone: 506-37-6363, ext. 2440

[from *Vida Silvestre Neotropical* 1989, vol. 2(1)]

ICBP's Small Grants Program. The Pan-American Continental Section (PACS) of ICBP provides small grants for worthy conservation projects in Central and South America and the Caribbean. A new set of guidelines for preparing proposals to PACS has been drawn. Project proposals must contain specific conservation objectives and activities. Authors must follow the guidelines for the format of their proposals (incomplete proposals may be returned). Projects must be limited to seven pages of single-spaced text, not including curricula vitae and support materials.

Projects will be reviewed twice per year, in May and December. For more information and for the new set of guidelines, contact:

Pan-American Office, ICBP
Box 1369
Melrose, Florida 32666, U.S.A.

[from *Vida Silvestre Neotropical* 1989, vol. 2(1)]

Kathleen S. Anderson Award. An award of U.S.\$1,000 is offered to promote important ornithological research in the Americas. Studies may include: migration, feeding ecology, habitat fragmentation, population studies, competition, shorebirds, and endangered species. Applications should be in English and the application deadline is December 1, 1989. Send applications to:

Kathleen S. Anderson Award
Manomet Bird Observatory
Box 936
Manomet, Massachusetts 02345, U.S.A.
Telephone: 508-224-6521

Shorebird Research and Conservation. The Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network (WHSRN) has established a small fund to be used for shorebird projects in the Americas. Project proposal guidelines are similar to those for the Pan American Section of

Announcements (Continued)

ICBP. The WHSRN has established a grant-size limit of U.S.\$2,000 per project. Proposals should be sent to the Pan American Office of ICBP. For additional information and deadlines for submission of proposals write:

Charles S. Luthin
Pan American Office, ICBP
P.O. Box 1369
Melrose, Florida 32666, U.S.A.
Telephone: 904-475-1510

Natural Resources Directory for Latin America and the Caribbean. *Natural Resources Directory: Who is Doing What, Where in Latin America and the Caribbean*, 206 pp., 1988 (First Edition), compiled by the Partners of the Americas and sponsored by the Tinker Foundation. The Natural Resources Directory lists over 400 conservation organizations working in Latin America and the Caribbean. The publication is a useful reference for professionals and institutions working on natural resource issues in the region. The directory is broken down by country and contains activities, addresses, and names of contacts for governmental, non-governmental, and educational organizations with a resource management focus. The price for U.S. orders is U.S.\$15 (including postage and handling). For overseas requests, inquire by writing:

Partners of the Americas
Attn: Natural Resources Directory
1424 K Street, NW Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005, U.S.A.

Checklist of Threatened Birds. *Birds to Watch, the ICBP World Check-list of Threatened Birds*, by N. Collar and P. Andrew, Technical Publication #8, ICBP. This is a comprehensive listing of threatened birds of the world, as an abbreviated update to the 1978-79 Bird Red Data Book, and as a condensed preface to the new series of Red Data Book (including the American RDB now being prepared). Over 1,000 (of approximately 9,000 bird species) are listed, accounting for 11% of the world's avifauna. The Americas contain the highest number (358) of threatened species of any region in the world, of which 346 are in Latin America and the Caribbean. The cost is U.S.\$18 and is available from:

ICBP Secretariat
32 Cambridge Road
Girton, Cambridge CB3 0PJ England
Telephone: 0223-277318
Telex: 818794 ICBP G

[from *Vida Silvestre Neotropical* 1989, vol. 2(1)]

Caribbean Islands, Species and Conservation. *Biodiversity and Conservation in the Caribbean*, by T. Johnson, Monograph #1, published by ICBP.

The eleven islands featured in this book were selected according to two criteria: at least one endemic bird species and smaller than 20,000 square kilometers. Each "profile" contains seven major sections, including: biodiversity and conservation summary, general information (describing the island), important fauna and flora (covering mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fishes, invertebrates, and plants), important ecosystems, conservation infrastructure, conservation action, and references. The sections on conservation action describe ongoing projects, educational and research needs, and recommendations for the island wildlife and habitats. The cost is U.S.\$15 and is available from:

ICBP Secretariat
32 Cambridge Road
Girton, Cambridge CB3 OPJ England
Telephone: 0223-277318
Telex: 818794 ICBP G

[from *Vida Silvestre Neotropical 1989, vol. 2(1)*]

Pan American Office Discontinued. The Pan American Office of ICBP, first established in 1985, is unfortunately being discontinued due to lack of funding. The Secretariat of ICBP is actively seeking funding to continue the Office, as this is an important asset to the conservation program of ICBP in the Americas. When additional funding is found to continue the Pan American Office, the Secretariat will be seeking applicants for the position of Pan American Officer. Those interested should send an updated curriculum vitae to the ICBP Headquarters in Cambridge.

All correspondence regarding the Pan American Section of ICBP should now be addressed to Dr. Mercedes Foster (Chairman, ICBP - PACS, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Museum of Natural History, Rm. 378, 10th and Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20560, U.S.A.). Project correspondence should be sent directly to Dr. Michael Rands (Program Director, International Council for Bird Preservation, 32 Cambridge Road, Girton, Cambridge CB3 OPJ, England).

ICBP/FFPS Conservation Expedition Competition. ICBP and the Fauna and Flora Preservation Society are offering expedition grants to ambitious university students undertaking field research which involves wildlife conservation. Four grants will be awarded in two categories, including birds (ca. U.S.\$1,700 and ca. \$1,350) and other wildlife and plants (ca. \$1,700 and ca. \$1,350) to proposals which are pertinent to ICBP/FFPS conservation priorities. Follow guidelines established in the "ICBP/FFPS Conservation Expedition Guide," available from the ICBP Secretariat:

ICBP/FFPS Conservation Expedition Guide
ICBP
32 Cambridge Road
Girton, Cambridge CB3 OPJ England
Telephone: 0223-277318

Private Grants for Field Research. In 1990, EARTHWATCH will award grants of U.S.\$10,000 to \$100,000 for 110 projects addressing significant questions in the sciences and humanities. The Center for Field Research invites scholars engaged in ornithological field research to apply for awards of funds and volunteer staff. Proposals will be considered from scholars of any nationality, covering any geographical region. All funds are derived from the contributions of participating volunteers selected from the EARTHWATCH membership; therefore non-specialist volunteers must be integrated into the research design. Preliminary proposals can be made by telephone or by a detailed letter to the Center. Upon favorable review, full proposals will be invited to be submitted 12 months before the proposed fielding date of the project. For information:

The Center for Field Research
P.O. Box 403
Watertown, Massachusetts 02272, U.S.A.

FAO Publications for Latin America.

- *Flora, Fauna, y Areas Silvestres*, tri-annual bulletin about wildlife and protected areas in Latin America.
- *Sistemas nacionales de areas silvestres protegidas en America Latina..*
- *Manual de planificacion de sistemas nacionales de areas silvestres protegidas en America Latina..*
- *Manejo de fauna silvestre y desarrollo rural. Informe sobre siete especies de America Latina y el Caribe.*
- *Informe de taller internacional sobre planificacion de sistemas nacionales de areas silvestres protegidas.*
- *Informe de taller sobre manejo de areas protegidas costeras tropicales.*
- *Informe de curso-taller sobre manejo de recursos naturales en areas silvestres protegidas.*

All publications are distributed free of charge to interested persons or institutions working on the subject. Requests should be sent to:

FAO Regional Office for Latin America and
the Caribbean
Casilla 10095
Santiago, Chile

News from the Caribbean

Dominica -- In October 1988, ICBP signed an historic Memorandum of Agreement with the Dominican

Dominican Government for long-term continuity of the ICBP program for research on and conservation of the island's two endemic Amazon parrot species, the Imperial Parrot (*Amazona imperialis*) and the Red-necked Parrot (*A. arausiaca*). Funds have been raised for ICBP's Dominica project by the National Federation of Zoos in England, as well as by private aviculturists interested in the conservation of these species.

Bahama Islands - A new chapter of the Bahamas National Trust has been established on Abaco Island. For information:

Mr. Franklin Russell
Abaco Chapter, The Bahamas National Trust
P.O. Box 407
Marsh Harbor, Abaco, The Bahamas

St. Lucia - The St. Lucia Naturalists' Society celebrates its 10 year anniversary in 1989. The Society produces a newsletter, "News and Views."

Membership and general information:
St. Lucia Naturalists' Society
P.O. Box 783
Castries, St. Lucia
West Indies

Meetings of Interest

25-29 October 1989 - The Colonial Waterbird Society, Key Largo, Florida. (John Ogden, Local Chairman, South Florida Research Center, Everglades National Park, P.O. Box 279, Homestead, FL 33030, U.S.A. Herbert W. Kale, Program Chairman, Florida Audubon Society, 1101 Audubon Way, Maitland, FL 32751, U.S.A.).

7-9 December 1989 - Ecology and Conservation of Neotropical Migrant Landbirds, Massachusetts. The symposium will focus on breeding, wintering, and migration ecology and population trends in North American migrant landbirds. The purpose is to update knowledge since the 1977 Smithsonian symposium. Invited and contributed papers will be presented. Abstracts are due 1 Feb. 1989. (John M. Hagan, Manomet Bird Observatory, P.O. Box 936, Manomet, MA 02345, U.S.A. Telephone: 508-224-6521).

10-17 December 1989 - Primero Congreso Latino Americano de Ecología, Montevideo, Uruguay. (Sr. Eduardo Gudynas, Ier CLAE Coordinator, Grupo Ambiente y Desarrollo, CIPFE, Casilla Correo 13125, Montevideo, Uruguay).

17-21 December 1989 - World Climate Conference, Cairo, Egypt. (Climate Institute, Suite 403, 316 Pennsylvania Ave. S.E., Washington, D.C. 20003, U.S.A. 202-547-0104).

15-18 March 1990 - National Wildlife Federation Annual Meeting, Denver, Colorado, U.S.A.

16-20 March 1990 - The Wildlife Society Annual Meeting, Sheraton Denver Tech Center Hotel, Denver, Colorado, U.S.A. (Harry E. Hodgdon, Executive Director, TWS, 5410 Grosvenor Lane, Bethesda, Maryland 20814, U.S.A. 301-897-9770)

16-21 March 1990 - 55th North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference, Sheraton Denver Tech Center Hotel, Denver, Colorado, U.S.A. (L.L. Williamson, Wildlife Management Institute, Suite 725, 1101 14th St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005, U.S.A. 202-371-1808)

31 May-3 June 1990 - The Wilson Ornithological Society and The Association of Field Ornithologists, joint meeting, Wheaton College, Norton, Massachusetts, U.S.A.

10-15 June 1990 - Animal Behavior Society, State University of New York, Binghamton, New York, U.S.A.

12-16 June 1990 - Malaysia International Conference on Conservation of Tropical Biodiversity, "In Harmony with Nature," Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. (Ministry of Science, Technology & Environment, 50662 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia).

25 June-1 July 1990 - Joint meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union and the Cooper Ornithological Society, Los Angeles, California, U.S.A.

1-7 July 1990 - ICSEB-IV, International Congress on Systematics and Evolutionary Biology, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland, U.S.A. Theme: "The unity of evolutionary biology." (Congress Secretary, ICSEB-IV, Dept. of Microbiology, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742, U.S.A.).

15-17 August 1990 - Managing Predation to Increase Production of Wetland Birds Symposium, Jamestown, North Dakota, U.S.A. (Alan B. Sargeant, Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center, P.O. Box 2096, Jamestown, North Dakota 58402, U.S.A. 701-252-5363).