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## Second Meeting of the Parrot Specialist Group, Curitiba, Brazil

The International Council for Bird Preservation (ICBP) held its Second Meeting of the Parrot Specialist Group at Curitiba, Brazil, from 13-18 October 1988. Several papers on West Indian parrots were presented, including:

- "Status and conservation of Lesser Antillean parrots," Paul Butler and Peter Evans.
- "Status and conservation of Greater Antillean parrots," James W. Wiley.
- "Breeding biology and conservation of the Bahama Parrot, *Amazona leucocephala bahamensis*," Rosemarie Gnam.
- "Recent conservation efforts for the Puerto Rican Parrot, *Amazona vittata*," Marcia H. Wilson
- "Status and conservation of the Yellow-billed Parrot (*Amazona collaria*) and Black-billed Parrot (*A. agilis*) in Jamaica," Yvette Strong

Nigel Collar and Jorgen Thomsen summarized the conservation needs for the region and presented recommendations for conservation of West Indian parrots. These recommendations and papers presented at the meeting will be published by ICBP in their proceedings of the meeting.

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### Request for Assistance

Help needed for Bahama Parrot - As part of an ongoing conservation project on the endangered Bahama Parrot (*Amazona leucocephala bahamensis*) on Abaco Island, Bahamas, information is needed on feral cat control programs on islands. Bahama Parrots are extremely vulnerable to nest predation by feral cats because of their subterranean nesting habit. In 1988, 53% of the parrot nests in our study area suffered from feral cat predation. The Bahamas National Trust chapter on Abaco is hoping to begin a feral cat control program in 1989 and seeks logistical advice. Please send information to:

Rosemarie Gnam  
Department of Ornithology  
American Museum of Natural History  
Central Park West @ 79th St.  
New York, NY 10024

Piping Plover Sightings Requested - A Piping Plover winter distribution survey was conducted along the Atlantic (Dec.-Mar. 1986-87) and Gulf (Dec.-Mar. 1987-88) coasts of the United States. We believe that most of the Atlantic coast breeding population is overwintering outside of the

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### Request for Assistance (Continued)

United States. Any residents or birders visiting the Caribbean this winter (Oct.-Mar.) are requested to report Piping Plover sightings (date, location, numbers seen, bands) to:

Janice Nicholls  
Department of Zoology-Wildlife  
331 Funchess Hall  
Auburn University  
Auburn, AL 36849-5414 U.S.A.,

or

Craig Faanes  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
2604 St. Patrick, Suite 7  
Grand Island, Nebraska 68803  
U.S.A.

This information would be greatly appreciated.

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### Funding Source

The Pan American Continental Section of ICBP offers small grants for avian conservation projects in Mexico, Central and South America, and the Caribbean. Proposals for research, habitat protection and management, and public education will be considered; all projects must have a clear conservation component. Write for details on applications. Pan American Office, ICBP, P.O. Box 1369, Melrose, FL 32666, U.S.A., or Brian Harrington, Manomet Bird Observatory, P.O. Box 958, Manomet, MA 02345-0958. Deadline for application is 1 Feb. 1989.

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### Meetings of Interest

17-22 March 1989 - 54th North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference, Omni Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D.C., USA. (L.L. Williamson, Wildlife Management Institute, Suite 725, 1101 Fourteenth St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005, USA).

24-26 May 1989 - Institute of Tropical Forestry Golden Anniversary Symposium, A Century of Research at the Institute of Tropical Forestry: Results from the First Half, Themes for the Second, Condado Beach Hotel, San Juan, Puerto Rico. A session on wildlife research will be presented by John Terborgh, Princeton University. Registration fee - U.S.\$50.00. (Julio C. Figueroa, Institute of Tropical Forestry, Call Box 25000, Río Piedras, Puerto Rico 00928-2500).

Meetings of Interest (Continued)

25-28 May 1989 - Wilson Ornithological Society, St. Mary's College, Notre Dame, Indiana. (Doris J. Watt, Department of Biology, Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, Indiana 46556 [telephone - 219-284-4668], and Richard C. Banks, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C. 20560 [202-357-1970]).

5-8 June 1989 - International Symposium on Vertebrate Biogeography and Systematics in the Tropics, Bonn, West Germany. (Gustav Peters, Vertebrate Symposium '89, Zoologisches Forschungsinstitut und Museum Alexander Koenig, Adenauerallee 150-164, D-5300 Bonn 1, West Germany).

11-17 June 1989 - American Behavior Society, Northern Kentucky University.

14-16 June 1989 - Association of Field Ornithologists, Pinkham Notch, New Hampshire. Housing and meals will be at the Appalachian Mountain Club's Pinkham Notch Camp at the foot of Mt. Washinton. (Carol Foss, New Hampshire Audubon, P.O. Box 528b, Concord, NH 03301 U.S.A.). For information about the scientific program (including inquiries about paper/poster/workshop submission), contact Peter F. Cannell, Division of Birds (NHB mail stop 116), Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. 20560 U.S.A.

22-26 June 1989 - 59th Annual Meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Society, University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho. (Dr. J. Michael Scott, USFWS, Department of Fish & Wildlife, College of Forestry, Wildlife & Range Sciences, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID 83843, USA).

7-10 August 1989 - American Ornithologists' Union, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. (Kenneth C. Parkes and Robert Raikow, co-chairs of Local Committee).

9-17 August 1989 - XXI International Ethological Conference, Utrecht, Netherlands. (XXI International Ethological Conference, c/o QLT Convention Services, Keizersgracht 792, 1017 EC Amsterdam, Netherlands).

8-14 October 1989 - Joint meeting of the Raptor Research Foundation, Inc., and the ICBP World Working Group of Birds of Prey, Hotel Mocambo, Veracruz City, Veracruz, Mexico. Major theme will be Biology and Conservation of Tropical Raptors.

Meetings of Interest (Continued)

Approximate costs will be US\$420 for single and US\$300 for double occupancy, including breakfast and dinner. (Romeo Dominguez Barradas, Local Arrangements Committee, RRF/WWGBP Meeting, P.O. Box 63, Xalapa, Veracruz, 91000 Mexico).

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).

16-21 March 1990 - 55th North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference, Denver, Colorado, USA.

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

June 1990 - Wilson Ornithological Society and the Association of Field Ornithologists will meet jointly at Weaton College, Norton, Massachusetts.

2-9 December 1990 - XX Ornithological Congress, Christchurch, New Zealand. (Dr. Ben D. Bell, Secretary-General, XX Congressus Internationalis Ornithologicus, Department of Zoology, Victoria University, Private Bag, Wellington, New Zealand).

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Opportunities

Field assistants needed for an ongoing study of coloniality in the Carib Grackle in Venezuela for 4-5 mo. starting May/June. Work will include nest observation and monitoring, trapping and banding, blood sampling, and collecting various behavioral data. Prior field work with birds and banding experience desirable, but not necessary; enthusiasm for hot, humid field conditions is important. Expenses in Venezuela will be covered. Please write (incl. CV and phone number) to David Lemonn, Dept. Biology, SUNY Albany, Albany, NY 12222 U.S.A.

Field assistants needed to help with studies examining wading bird foraging ecology, distribution of wading birds in the Everglades, and White-crowned Pigeon reproductive and feeding ecology.