

Recent ornithological literature from the Caribbean: 2018

An annual feature of the *Journal of Caribbean Ornithology*, this column alerts readers to recent ornithological literature from the Caribbean basin that has appeared elsewhere. Most of these articles appeared in 2018, although a few that we previously missed may also be summarized. We would also like to include any unpublished theses or other reports that may be difficult to find in more universally available abstract services. We invite readers of the *Journal of Caribbean Ornithology* to alert our compiler, Steven Latta, to other articles that should be highlighted in this section. Our hope is that by providing these summaries we will increase the exchange of knowledge among Caribbean ornithologists and conservationists.

—Steven C. Latta

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Almonte-Espinosa, H. 2018. Composición, riqueza, diversidad y abundancia de aves en cuatro áreas verdes de Santo Domingo (An analysis of the richness, diversity and abundance of birds in four green areas of Santo Domingo). *Novitates Caribaea* 12:14–24. doi.org/10.33800/nc.voi12.80.—E-mail: h.almonte@mnhn.gov.do.

Boal, C.W. 2018. Estimates of abundance and longevity of Bridled Quail-Doves (*Geotrygon mystacea*) on Guana Island, British Virgin Islands. *Wilson Journal of Ornithology* 130:981–987. doi.org/10.1676/1559-4491.130.4.981.—Based on detection probability, density estimates for Guana Island ranged from 1.38 to 1.57 individuals/ha. Of 36 Bridled Quail-Doves captured and marked, the naïve estimate of annual survival was 0.813. This report is the first quantitative estimate of population size and longevity for the species. E-mail: clint.boal@ttu.edu.

Brown Jordan, A., V. Gongora, D. Hartley, and C. Oura. 2018. A review of eight high-priority, economically important viral pathogens of poultry within the Caribbean region. *Veterinary Sciences* 5:14. doi.org/10.3390/vet5010014.—This review highlights the need to strengthen current levels of surveillance and reporting for poultry diseases in domestic and wild bird populations across the Caribbean. E-mail: arianne.brown@my.uwi.edu.

Brown Jordan, A., D. Narang, S.C. Essen, S.M. Brookes, I.H. Brown, and C. Oura. 2018. Serological evidence for influenza A virus exposure in wild birds in Trinidad and Tobago. *Veterinary Sciences* 5:50. doi.org/10.3390/vet5020050.—E-mail: arianne.brown@my.uwi.edu.

Cooper, N.W., D.N. Ewert, K.R. Hall, S.M. Rockwell, D. Currie, J.M. Wunderle, Jr., J.D. White, and P.P. Marra. 2018. Resighting data reveal weak connectivity from wintering to breeding grounds in a range-restricted and endangered long-distance

migratory passerine. *Avian Conservation and Ecology* 13:9. doi.org/10.5751/ACE-01159-130109.—Migratory connectivity of the Kirtland's Warbler (*Setophaga kirtlandii*) between the Bahamian Archipelago and northern Michigan is quantified. Regardless of wintering island, Kirtland's Warblers intermixed heavily on the breeding grounds, having migrated to sites throughout the entire breeding range. Estimates indicate weak connectivity between the wintering and breeding grounds, as might be predicted from a species that uses ephemeral, early successional habitat on both the wintering and breeding grounds. E-mail: nathanwands@gmail.com.

Dalsgaard, B., J.D. Kennedy, B.I. Simmons, A.C. Baquero, A.M. Martín González, A. Timmermann, P.K. Maruyama, J.A. McGuire, J. Ollerton, W.J. Sutherland, and C. Rahbek. 2018. Trait evolution, resource specialization and vulnerability to plant extinctions among Antillean hummingbirds. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B* 285:20172754. doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2017.2754.—Based on studies of hummingbirds and their nectar-food plants on Antillean islands, results show that resource specialization and species vulnerability to extinctions of interaction partners are highly context-dependent. E-mail: bo.dalsgaard@snm.ku.dk.

Estrada Piñero, F.N., A. López Michelena, M. Rodríguez Quiñones, and Y. Ontivero Vasallo. 2018. Actualización de la lista de aves del Paisaje Natural Protegido "Rincón de Guanabo", La Habana, Cuba (Updated checklist of the birds of the Natural Protected Landscape "Rincón de Guanabo," La Habana, Cuba). *Poeyana* 506:48–52.—E-mail: felix@ecologia.cu.

Ferrer-Sánchez, Y., A.H. Plasencia-Vázquez, N. Verdecia, and I.R. Companioni. 2018. Nesting sites of Snail Kite (*Rostrhamus sociabilis*) in Cuba. *Wilson Journal of Ornithology* 130:814–818. doi.org/10.1676/17-091.1.—E-mail: alexpla@gmail.com.

Frahnert, S., and P. Eckhoff. 2016. Der Beitrag Johann Christoph Gundlachs zur Erforschung der Avifauna Puerto Ricos (Johann Christoph Gundlach's contribution to the exploration of the avifauna of Puerto Rico). *Vogelwarte* 54:414.—E-mail: sylke.frahnert@mfn-berlin.de.

Galañena, Y.I., and A. García-Quintas. 2018. First records of Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*) and American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) in the Jardines de la Reina Archipelago, Cuba. *Florida Field Naturalist* 46:73–75.—E-mail: yigalza@ciec.cu.

Garrod, H.M., and J.B. LaPergola. 2018. Overlap in molt and breeding phenology in the Hispaniolan Woodpecker (*Melanerpes striatus*). *Ornitología Neotropical* 29:S29–S36.—This study provides the first description of the Hispaniolan Woodpecker's molt pattern, and describes the relationship of molt within the breeding phenology. E-mail: hmg20@humboldt.edu.

Irizarry, A.D., J.A. Collazo, K. Pacifici, B.J. Reich, and K.E. Battle. 2018. Avian response to shade-layer restoration in coffee plantations in Puerto Rico. *Restoration Ecology* 26:1212–1220.

doi.org/10.1111/rec.12697.—The responses of 12 resident avian species were quantified using estimates of local occupancy and extinction probabilities based on surveys conducted in 2015–2017 at 65 restored farms grouped according to time-since-initial-restoration and at 40 forest reference sites. Restoring the shade layer has the potential to heighten ecological services derived from forest specialists (e.g., frugivores) without losing the services of many open-habitat specialists (e.g., insectivores). Annual local extinction probability for forest specialists decreased with increasing habitat complexity, strengthening the potential value of shade restoration as a tool to enhance habitat for avifauna that evolved in forested landscapes. E-mail: jcollazo@ncsu.edu.

Johansson, U.S., P.G.P. Ericson, M.P.K. Blom, and M. Irestedt. 2018. The phylogenetic position of the extinct Cuban Macaw *Ara tricolor* based on complete mitochondrial genome sequences. *Ibis* 160:666–672. doi.org/10.1111/ibi.12591.—Results place the Cuban Macaw sister to the two red species (Scarlet Macaw [*A. macao*] and Red-and-green Macaw [*A. chloropterus*]), and the two large green macaws (Military Macaw [*A. militaris*] and the Great Green Macaw [*A. ambiguus*]). Divergence estimates suggest that the Cuban Macaw separated from this group approximately 4 million years ago. E-mail: ulf.johansson@nrm.se.

Kirkconnell Posada, A., A. Kirkconnell, and G.M. Kirwan. 2018. First record of White-faced Ibis *Plegadis chihi* in the West Indies. *Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club* 138:272–274. doi.org/10.25226/bboc.v138i3.2018.a8.—A single adult was photographed c. 1 km south of Yaguaramas, Matanzas province, in western Cuba. E-mail: Arthur.160587@gmail.com.

Kornegay, M.E., A.N.M. Wiewel, J.A. Collazo, J.F. Saracco, and S.J. Dinsmore. 2018. Improving our understanding of demographic monitoring: avian breeding productivity in a tropical dry forest. *Journal of Field Ornithology* 89:258–275. doi.org/10.1111/jofo.12263.—In a tropical dry forest in Puerto Rico, results suggest that indices of breeding productivity from mist-netting data may track temporal changes in productivity, but such data likely do not reflect “true” productivity in most cases unless age-specific differences in capture probability are incorporated into estimates. E-mail: jcollazo@ncsu.edu.

Latta, S.C. 2018. On the relationship among birds and *Trema micrantha* in montane forests of Hispaniola. *Novitates Caribaeae* 12:1–13. doi.org/10.33800/nc.voi12.79.—E-mail: steven.latta@aviary.org.

Latta, S.C., N.L. Brouwer, D.A. Mejia, and M.M. Paulino. 2018. Avian community characteristics and demographics reveal conservation value of regenerating tropical dry forest changes with forest age. *PeerJ* 6:e5217. doi.org/10.7717/peerj.5217.—Bird use of a chronosequence of differently-aged abandoned pastures regenerating to dry forest was studied over a 5-yr period to better understand how the value of these habitats to birds changes over time. Included sites were 2, 5, 10, and 20 yr post-abandonment, plus a mature dry forest. The study showed that regenerating forests do not fully compensate for loss of mature dry forest habitat, even after 24 yr of regeneration; natural restoration of complex microhabitats in dry forest sites converted to agriculture may take decades or longer. E-mail: steven.latta@aviary.org.

Liu, I.A., R. López-Ortiz, K. Ramos-Álvarez, and R. Medina-

Miranda. 2018. Using population genetics and demographic reconstruction to predict outcomes of genetic rescue for an endangered songbird. *Conservation Genetics* 19:729–736. doi.org/10.1007/s10592-018-1050-2.—Population genetic analyses and approximate Bayesian computation were used to assess genetic rescue as an option for two populations of the Yellow-shouldered Blackbird (*Agelaius xanthomus*), an endangered Puerto Rican endemic. Nine microsatellite loci were used to measure the genetic diversity of a candidate source population, a subspecies (*A. x. monensis*) on Mona Island, 66 km west of Puerto Rico. A clear population structure and no migration between populations was found; the degree of contemporary genetic and environmental divergence means the Mona population may not be suitable for immediate use as a source population. E-mail: irene.a.liu@gmail.com.

Llanes–Quevedo, A., M. Alfonso González, R. Cárdenas Mena, C. Frankel, and G. Espinosa Lopez. 2018. Microsatellite variability of the Wood Stork *Mycteria americana* (Aves, Ciconiidae) in Cuba: implications for its conservation. *Animal Biodiversity and Conservation* 41:357–364. doi.org/10.32800/abc.2018.41.0357.—Five microsatellite loci were used to characterize 37 individuals from two Cuban colonies located in the Zapata Swamp and the Sabana–Camagüey Archipelago. Low genetic variability and little but significant genetic differentiation between colonies is reported.

Llanes Sosa, A., D. Ventura del Puerto, A. Toledo Sotolongo, and J. Uria. 2018. Tercer registro de la Bijirita de Cabeza Gris, Mourning Warbler (*Geothlypis philadelphia*) para Cuba (Third record of the Mourning Warbler in Cuba). *Poeyana* 507:82–83.—E-mail: alejandro@ecologia.cu.

Luna, Á., P. Romero-Vidal, F. Hiraldo, and J.L. Tella. 2018. Cities favour the recent establishment and current spread of the Eurasian Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto* (Frivaldszky, 1838) in Dominican Republic. *BioInvasions Record* 7:95–99. doi.org/10.3391/bir.2018.7.1.15.—E-mail: alvalufer@gmail.com.

Mallye, J.B., S. Bailon, C. Bochaton, M. Gala, N. Serrand, and A. Lenoble. 2018. Blanchard Cave 2: a historical period Audubon's Shearwater (*Puffinus lherminieri*) nesting site in Marie-Galante (Guadeloupe Islands, FWI). *Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports* 17:250–262. doi.org/10.1016/j.jasrep.2017.11.004.—E-mail: jean-baptiste.mallye@u-bordeaux.fr.

McFarland, K.P., J.D. Lloyd, S.J.K. Frey, P.L. Johnson, R.B. Chandler, and C.C. Rimmer. 2018. Modeling spatial variation in winter abundance to direct conservation actions for a vulnerable migratory songbird, the Bicknell's Thrush (*Catharus bicknelli*). *Condor* 120:517–529. doi.org/10.1650/CONDOR-17-234.1.—As an example of how predictive models of abundance can inform conservation, predicted winter abundance of the Bicknell's Thrush is mapped. Criteria from the abundance model is then applied to a region-wide assessment of available private properties to identify a 400-ha abandoned farm situated between existing protected areas that contained environmental conditions suitable for Bicknell's Thrush. This information is used to identify, purchase, and create the Dominican Republic's first-ever private reserve, the 400-ha Reserva Privada Zorzal for conservation of this species in the region. E-mail: kmcfarland@vtecostudies.org.

Núñez, M.A. 2018. Estructura y composición de la vegetación

de dos pinares de *Pinus caribaea* Morelet y su relación con la diversidad de las aves asociadas (Structure and composition of the vegetation of two pine forests of *Pinus caribaea* Morelet and their relationship with the diversity of associated birds). *Ciencias Forestales y Ambientales* 3:193–206.—E-mail: meiely.arteaaga@estudiantes.upr.edu.cu.

Oswald, J.A., and D.W. Steadman. 2018. The late Quaternary bird community of New Providence, Bahamas. *Auk* 135:359–377. doi.org/10.1642/AUK-17-185.1.—From ~500 bird fossils recovered from Banana Hole, New Providence Island, specimens represent 49 species (45 resident and 4 migratory species), including 4 extinct species and 17 others now extirpated from New Providence. E-mail: oswaldj3@gmail.com.

Pérez Hernández, A., J.M. de la Cruz Mora, R. Varela Montero, M. Puente, and E. Pérez Rodríguez. 2018. Caracterización del ensamblaje de aves acuáticas asociadas a lagunas litorales del sur de la Península de Guanahacabibes, Cuba (Characterization of the waterbird assemblage associated with water bodies in the southern Guanahacabibes Peninsula, Cuba). *Poeyana* 507:1–7.—E-mail: aperez@vega.inf.cu.

Pérez-Rodríguez, A., A. Khimoun, A. Ollivier, C. Eraud, B. Faivre, and S. Garnier. 2018. Habitat fragmentation, not habitat loss, drives the prevalence of blood parasites in a Caribbean passerine. *Ecography* 41:1835–1849. doi.org/10.1111/ecog.03189.—Mechanisms by which habitat destruction might influence the prevalence of vector-transmitted haemosporidian blood parasites of the genera *Plasmodium* and *Haemoproteus* infecting the Lesser Antillean Bullfinch (*Loxigilla noctis*) were studied on the Caribbean islands of Guadeloupe and Martinique. Results showed that variables related to forest fragmentation were much more influential than habitat loss on blood parasite prevalence. E-mail: anton.perez.rodriguez@gmail.com.

Quinard, A., F. Cézilly, S. Motreuil, J.M. Rossi, and C. Biard. 2017. Reduced sexual dichromatism, mutual ornamentation, and individual quality in the monogamous Zenaida Dove *Zenaida aurita*. *Journal of Avian Biology* 48:489–501. doi.org/10.1111/jav.00902.—Results suggest that plumage color might be a reliable signal of quality in individuals of both sexes in this species, but further studies are needed to test the potential implication of plumage coloration in mate choice and mating patterns in the Zenaida Dove. E-mail: clotilde.biard@upmc.fr.

Rivera-Milán, F.F., F. Simal, P. Bertuol, and G.S. Boomer. 2018. Population monitoring and modelling of Yellow-shouldered Parrot on Bonaire, Caribbean Netherlands. *Wildlife Biology* 2018:wlb.00384. doi.org/10.2981/wlb.00384.—Bonaire's population of Yellow-shouldered Parrot (*Amazona barbadensis rothschildi*) was monitored using systematic distance sampling surveys in 2009–2017. A Bayesian state-space logistic model was developed to predict changes in abundance resulting from increased human-induced mortality in 2018–2066. E-mail: frank_rivera@fws.gov.

Sablón, L., E. Jairo, A. Rodríguez-Ochoa, and R. González Gómez. 2018. Dinámica de la estructura y composición de la comunidad de aves acuáticas de Ensenada del Jato, Cayo Sabinal, Cuba (Dynamics of the structure and composition of the waterfowl community of Ensenada del Jato, Cayo Sabinal, Cuba). *Huitzil* 19:14–21. doi.org/10.28947/hrmo.2018.19.1.302.—E-mail: arodriguez@fbio.uh.cu.

Sánchez, J., A. Alba, E. García, J. Cantillo, R. Castro, and A.A. Vázquez. 2018. Detected trematodes inside Blue-winged Teals (*Spatula discors*) give insights on north-south flow of parasites through Cuba during migration. *Veterinary Parasitology: Regional Studies and Reports* 13:124–129. doi.org/10.1016/j.vprsr.2018.05.007.—The diversity of trematodes that 65 migratory Blue-winged Teal may be introducing to—or exporting from—Cuba was investigated. A total of 15 digenean parasites were identified, with overall prevalence very high (96.9%). This study constitutes the first major attempt to explore trematode infection from Blue-winged Teals in Cuba under the view of parasite flow via bird migration. E-mail: antonivp@ipk.sld.cu.

Steadman, D.W., N.A. Albury, J.I. Mead, J.A. Soto-Centeno, and J. Franklin. 2018. Holocene vertebrates from a dry cave on Eleuthera Island, Commonwealth of The Bahamas. *Holocene* 28:806–813. doi.org/10.1177/0959683617744270.—A total of 2,450 fossils representing 26 animal species were recovered, including a parrot (*Amazona leucocephala*) and a crow (*Corvus nasicus*). E-mail: dws@flmnh.ufl.edu.

Torrens, Y.A., F.R.H. Martínez, and H.B. Medel. 2018. Diversidad de aves residentes permanentes asociadas a un pinar natural de *Pinus tropicalis* y su relación con la estructura vertical de la vegetación (Diversity of permanent resident birds associated with a natural pine forest of *Pinus tropicalis* and its relationship with the vertical structure of vegetation). *Revista Cubana de Ciencias Forestales: CFORES* 6:31–44.—E-mail: yatsunaris@upr.edu.cu.

Townsend, J.M., C.C. Rimmer, S.C. Latta, D.A. Mejia, E.G. Garrido, and K.P. McFarland. 2018. Nesting ecology and nesting success of resident and endemic tropical birds in the Dominican Republic. *Wilson Journal of Ornithology* 130:849–858. doi.org/10.1676/17-078.—A total of 643 nests of 14 resident species (3 endemics) are used to describe the nesting ecology and nesting success in four major habitat types. Nesting success was generally lower than in temperate areas, but comparable to other studies of nesting success in the Neotropics, with a mean cumulative survival probability for all open-cup nesting species of 33.6%. Nest failure due to predation was primarily attributable to non-native mammals introduced via European colonization. E-mail: townsend.jason.m@gmail.com.

Tryjanowski, P., and F. Morelli. 2018. Effects of habitat and time of day on flock size of Turkey Vultures in Cuba (*Cathartes aura*). *ZooKeys* 726:79–86. doi.org/10.3897/zookeys.726.14581.—Data on 214 flocks of Turkey Vultures were collected in a survey of 2,384 km of roads in Cuba. E-mail: piotr.tryjanowski@gmail.com.

Wiley, J.W. 2018. Gerald H. Thayer's ornithological work in St Vincent and the Grenadines, Lesser Antilles. *Archives of Natural History* 45:21–39. doi.org/10.3366/anh.2018.0480.—Thayer observed and collected birds throughout much of St Vincent and on many of the Grenadines from January 1924 through December 1925. Although never published, some 413 bird and egg specimens have survived and are now housed in the American Museum of Natural History (New York City) and the Museum of Comparative Zoology (Cambridge, Massachusetts).

Wolcott, D.M., D.M. Donner, D.J. Brown, and C.A. Ribic. 2018. Kirtland's Warbler winter habitat changes across the Bahamian Archipelago in response to future climate-condition scenarios. *Caribbean Naturalist* 49:1–20.—E-mail: wolcott@ucmo.edu.

Wolff, P.J., B.A. DeGregorio, V. Rodriguez-Cruz, E. Mule-ro-Oliveras, and J.H. Sperry. 2018. Bird community assemblage and distribution in a tropical, urban ecosystem of Puerto Rico. *Tropical Conservation Science* 11:1–10. doi.org/

10.1177/1940082918754777.—The bird community assemblage and distribution is investigated at an urban military installation, Fort Buchanan, located within the San Juan Metropolitan Area of Puerto Rico. E-mail: patrick.j.wolff@usace.army.mil.