

tion goals and objectives.

(E) Priority should be given to applicants who raise matching travel funds to attend the annual meeting or raise in-kind contributions on their island.

(F) Applicants must provide a one-page statement on how their participation in the Society's annual

meeting will contribute to their professional development and to the conservation programs on their island.

(G) Repetitive financing of the same individuals, despite meeting most of the above requirements, will be discouraged through a gradual decline in the level of assistance.

**INTEGRATING MONITORING OF RESIDENT AND MIGRATORY BIRDS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: A WORKSHOP HELD BY THE SOCIETY OF CARIBBEAN ORNITHOLOGY (SCO) IN TROIS ISLETS, MARTINIQUE, AUGUST 1994**

FRANK F. RIVERA-MILÁN

*U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of International Affairs,  
4401 N. Fairfax Dr., Suite 860-ARLSQ, Arlington, Virginia 22203*

A morning session was dedicated to the presentation of results of long-term avian population studies in the Caribbean region; an afternoon session was dedicated to discussion of the results of these studies. The results of a workshop in Costa Rica entitled "*Assessment and Integration of Monitoring of Resident and Migratory Birds and Their Habitats with the Conservation Priorities of Latin America and the Caribbean Region: An Interamerican Perspective*" were also discussed. The participants agreed that there is an urgent need to integrate management, monitoring, research, multilevel training and education efforts to promote multidisciplinary initiatives to open a wide front of action for the conservation of resident and migratory birds and their habitats in Latin America and the Caribbean. A resolution was passed and approved by the Society of Caribbean Ornithology supporting the results and resolutions of the Costa Rica workshop. The results of the workshop will also be discussed during the V Congress of Neotropical Ornithology to be held in Asunción, Paraguay, August 5-11, 1995. The results of the workshop can be summarized as follows:

[Monitoring actions are important only if they correspond to specific management needs. Monitoring efforts should be used as a tool to evaluate and refine management actions in the critical habitats of the species of interest; these should be continuous, replicated in space (e.g., habitats, life zones) and time (e.g., months, years), standardized, hierarchical, long-term (>10 years), and should be used in the integration of management and applied research. Multi-level training and education and the development of inter-institutional cooperative agreements ("partnerships") are essential elements to secure the success of our actions at national and international levels. There is an urgent need for a significant increase in the

amount of funds invested by programs such as *Partners in Flight* in the training and education of locals at all levels (e.g., field training for technicians, undergraduate and graduate level training in the universities in cooperation with ongoing management programs and community-based conservation projects, etc.). Only this bottom-up approach will stimulate the development of the full-fledged partners needed to promote the conservation of resident and migratory birds and their habitats in the neotropics. International partnerships must nurture a relationship of equality among partners; we cannot continue pretending that the conservation problems of birds in the neotropics will be solved simply by importing projects from the United States, specifically research-oriented projects that only promote a basic level of training ("para-ornithology") and fall short from addressing the most important conservation issues of the countries. Greater coordination and planning are needed to improve north-south collaboration and to channel donor contributions more effectively to projects in Latin America and the Caribbean region.]

Twenty-nine persons from 16 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean participated in the Costa Rica workshop (held in San José, from January 31 to February 5, 1994). Among the participants were ornithologists, managers, educators, and administrators of natural protected areas throughout the region. The proceedings of the workshop will be published in English and Spanish by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Office of International Affairs in late 1994 or early 1995. It is hoped that the document serves to promote a better integration of management and monitoring actions in Latin America and the Caribbean region.