



Fig. 1. Some of 63 participants of a morning birdwatch in Anguilla.



Fig. 2. First Caribbean Endemic Bird Festival's logo on T-shirt.

FIRST CARIBBEAN ENDEMIC BIRD FESTIVAL

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The Society for the Conservation and Study of Caribbean Birds held its first Caribbean Endemic Bird Festival from 22 April to 22 May 2002 in seven countries. The purpose of this activity was to increase awareness on our unique avifauna. Over 1000 persons, many of them children, participated in 32 activities (see summary in Table 1). These included field trips (Fig. 1), slide shows, photographic exhibitions, talks, a book presentation, and magazine and newspaper articles. Also, a T-shirt was prepared by the coordinating committee in

Guadeloupe (Fig. 2). A web page will be created to post details of the first festival and announce the 2003 event.

Thanks to all coordinators for their effort and enthusiasm, and to Eric Carey, David Wege, and Jim Stevenson for ideas and support. Thanks also to Joni Ellis, from the southeastern group of Partners in Flight, who kindly made arrangements for the donation and distribution of International Migratory Bird Day posters.

Table 1. Summary of first Caribbean Endemic Bird Festival including number of events and participants per island or country. Regional coordinators were Adrienne Tossas, Leo Douglas, and Herlitz Davis.

| Country | Host organization | No. of | | Coordinator |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|--------------|---|
| | | Activities | Participants | |
| Anguilla | Anguilla National Trust | 4 | >80 | Karim Hodge & Jim Stevenson |
| Bahamas | Bahamas National Trust | 1 | 70 | Carolyn Wardle |
| Bermuda | Bermuda Audubon Society | 6 | 200 | Andrew Dobson |
| Dominican Republic | Hispaniola Ornithological Society | 1 | - | Kate Wallace |
| Guadeloupe | AEVA | 2 | 123 | Anthony Levesque |
| Puerto Rico | Puerto Rican Ornithological Society | 14 | 600 | Rafael Rodríguez, José Salguero, Sergio Colón, José G. Rodríguez, Raúl Pérez, and Hilda Morales |
| Saint Lucia | Forestry Department | 4 | 102 | Donald Anthony |

BIRD REPORTS FROM THE CARIBBEAN WANTED

NORTH AMERICAN BIRDS is a quarterly publication of the American Birding Association that includes seasonal reports of birds in the West Indies. These reports are summaries of interesting bird sightings received from resident and visiting birders in the region. They include such items as breeding success, new records, and out of season records. Recently most of the material has come from Bermuda and the Bahamas, and these two countries have received a disproportionate amount of space. Reports from other islands often come from visiting birders who are more concerned with the "lifers" they saw than bird population trends on the island. The compilers of the West Indies Regional Reports urge

resident and visiting birders and ornithologists to submit timely reports on the birdlife of their country. This is a quick way to get your observations "on the record" and available to ornithologists throughout the Americas. All observers are listed by name. Send your report by e-mail to one of the compilers listed below. Thanks.

Robert Norton
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NEW FACT SHEET ON RADIOTELEMETRY AVAILABLE FROM ORNITHOLOGICAL COUNCIL

The Ornithological Council has just published a fact sheet on the use of radio telemetry in ornithology. It can be found at http://www.nmnh.si.edu/BIRDNET/Radio_tracking.html. Copies can also be requested by sending me an e-mail (do not forget to include your regular postal address if you want a hard copy). Anyone who radio tracks, or plans to radio track birds should read this fact sheet. An seemingly simple question from an ornithologist about frequency assignment and coordination led us to realize that this was anything but simple. Ultimately, we hired an expert in FCC radio frequency assignments to write this fact sheet.

What we learned is that there is no current FCC frequency assignments for wildlife telemetry (for non-governmental users) that is both suitable and legal for avian radio tracking. The fact sheet ex-

plains why this is the case, suggests alternatives, and details what the Ornithological Council is doing to correct the situation.

This fact sheet was made possible by virtue of the generous support provided to the Ornithological Council by its 10 member societies and many individual ornithologists, who contributed to the OC when renewing their memberships via the OSNA dues notice. Thanks to all of you for supporting our work!

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