

TRAINING ACTIVITY

A training programme was conducted for forest officers to identify migratory and local bird species. Two training sites were used, Boriel's pond in the south and WASA water treatment ponds in the north. A rotational programme was in place for the officers to visit the sites on a weekly basis from January to April.

MIGRANT SPECIES SURVEY

From January to April three wetland areas were visited; i.e., WASA Sewage treatment ponds at Bella Rosa in Gros-Islet in the north, Boreil's pond in the south, and Bois D'orange swamp, also in the north of St. Lucia. The survey was carried out either early morning from 07:00-09:00 hr or 15:00-17:00 hr. Surveys were conducted twice a week and times were alternated for each site.

A total of 10 species were recorded, including:

- Green Heron
- Solitary Sandpiper*
- Common Moorhen
- Lesser Yellowlegs*

- Little Blue Heron
- Snowy Egret*
- Great Blue Heron
- Tri-colored Heron
- Belted Kingfisher*
- Little Egret*

* = migrant

The most common among the migrants were the Lesser Yellowlegs and Great Blue Heron

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- Many local and visiting groups were taken on educational tours to nature reserves and wildlife sanctuaries around St. Lucia.
- Six agoutis were born in the Mini Zoo this year.
- Responded to requests to remove several wild bee swarms from homes near the Castries.
- Assisted Dr. Ethan J. Temeless from Amherst College, USA, in research on hummingbirds and flowers in St. Lucia entitled "evolution of bill and flower curvature: a test of hypothesis."



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