

Sociedad de Ornitología Caribeña

EL PITIRRE

Society of Caribbean Ornithology

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EL PITIRRE

El Pitirre is the bimonthly newsletter of the Society of Caribbean Ornithology.

El Pittirre es el boletín informativo de la Sociedad de Ornitología Caribeña.

EDITOR: James W. Wiley, 1863 Ciprian Avenue, Camarillo, California 93010.

News, comments or requests should be mailed to the editor for inclusion in the newsletter.

Noticias, comentarios o peticiones deben ser enviadas al editor para inclusión en el boletín.

Tyrannus dominicensis



Pitirre, Gray Kingbird, Pestrige, Petchary

The Society of Caribbean Ornithology is a non-profit organization whose goals are to promote the scientific study and conservation of Caribbean birds and their habitats, to provide a link among island ornithologists and those elsewhere, to provide a written forum for researchers in the region (refereed journal-Ornitología Caribeña, published in conjunction with the Puerto Rico Ornithological Society) and to provide data or technical aid to conservation groups in the Caribbean.

La Sociedad de Ornitología Caribeña es una organización sin fines de lucro cuyas metas son promover el estudio científico y la conservación de la avifauna caribeña, auspiciar un simposio anual sobre la ornitología caribeña, publicar una revista profesional llamada Ornitología Caribeña (publicada en conjunto con la Sociedad Ornitológica de Puerto Rico), ser una fuente de comunicación entre ornitólogos caribeños y en otras áreas y proveer ayuda técnica o datos a grupos de conservación en el caribe.

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First Meeting of the Society of Caribbean Ornithology

The Society of Caribbean Ornithology held its first meeting at Frederiksted, St. Croix, 20-22 May 1988. Eighty participants represented 9 countries, including the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, the U.S. and British Virgin Islands, St. Vincent, England, United States, and Canada. Participants presented 34 papers, 15 posters, and 1 "video paper." The meeting was dedicated to George Seaman in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the knowledge of birds and the cause of conservation in the West Indies.

The Society thanks the local organizing committee for an exceptionally well-organized and productive meeting.

The next meeting of the Society will be held in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, in mid- to late Summer, 1989. A call for papers will appear in the next issue of *El Pitirre*. The Society has tentatively agreed to hold the 1990 meeting to coincide with the Caribbean Foresters' meeting in Trinidad.

Report on the Meeting on "Ecología Integrada en Defensa de la Naturaleza," 14-17 June 1988, La Habana, Cuba

A meeting entitled Ecología Integrada en Defensa de la Naturaleza (Integrated Ecology in Defense of Nature) was held at the Palacio de las Convenciones in La Habana, Cuba, 14-17 June 1988. Two simultaneous symposia were presented: I Simposio de Zoología, and II Simposio de Botánica. Three Sections were presented in the Zoology Symposium: (1) Systematics and Ethology, (2) Zoogeography, and (3) Applied Zoology. Participants made several excursions, including trips to the National Botanical Gardens, the National Zoological Park, Sierra del Rosario Biosphere Reserve, and the Ciénaga de Zapata.

Two sessions (15-16 June) were devoted to topics on ornithology. Eighteen papers were presented, 10 which were on Cuban subjects:

R. Gnam. (USA). "Nesting success and productivity of the Cuban parrot (*Amazona leucocephala bahamensis*) on Abaco Island, Bahamas."

H. Gonzalez, D. Rodriguez, M.E. Garcia, E. Godinez, P. Hernandez y M. Alvarez. (Cuba). "Aspectos de la cría en cautiverio de *Amazona leucocephala* en Cuba."

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Cuba Meeting (Continued)

A. Moreno Bonilla. (Cuba). "Consideraciones acera del Guacamayo cubano."

D. Prado Perrarias (Nicaragua). "Nuevos registros de especies de aves para el noroeste de Nicaragua."

C. Arredondo Antunez. (Cuba). "Estudio del contenido óseo en egagrípulas de *Tyto alba furcata* (Aves: Tytonidae)."

E. Godinez, M. Sierra, H. Gonzalez, J.L. Hernandez y M. Alvarez. (Cuba). "Abundancia relativa y actividad de vuelo de *Cathartes aura* en un aeródromo."

M. Acosta Cruz y L. Mujica V. (Cuba). "Ecología reproductiva del Sinsonte (*Mimus polyglottos*) en la manigua costera del Jardín Botánico Nacional."

C. Juarez Lopez y E.J. Jimenez. (Mexico). "Estudio del Teozante *Quiscalus mexicanus* en el Valle de México."

E.J. Jimenez Fernandez y C. Juarez Lopez. (Mexico). "Aspectos comparativos de la Garza Chapulinera (*Bubulcus ibis*) del altiplano mexicano y la llanura costera del estado de Veracruz."

R. Waide. (Puerto Rico). "Habitat use by landbirds at El Verde, Puerto Rico."

E. Santana C. (Mexico). "Ecología del Guaraguao Colirrojo (*Buteo jamaicensis*) en Puerto Rico."

B. Sanchez y D. Rodriguez. (Cuba). "Ecología de las palomas terrestres (*Geotrygon y Starnoenas*) en Cuba."

D. Rodriguez y B. Sanchez. (Cuba). "Distribución y relaciones faunísticas de Columbiformes en el Mediterráneo americano."

B. Stanley, B. Carrillo y P. Davila. (Mexico). "Avifauna asociada a tres habitats diferentes del municipio de Texcalyacac, estado de México, México."

L. Mujica y M. Acosta. (Cuba). "Evaluación dinámica de la comunidad de aves que habitan la manigua costera del Jardín Botánico Nacional."

N. Garcia Sarmiento y D.A. Elisier. (Cuba). "Estructura del complejo ornitológico del matorral xeromorfo costero de Baconao."

F. Arazoza Rodriguez. (Cuba). "Variaciones estacionales de la avifauna de Cayo Cantiles."

G. Gomez Alvarez y P. Arias. (Mexico). "Avances en el estudio comparativo de la avifauna del eje neovolcanico en Mexico."

Society to Compile List of Researchers and Their Activities in the Caribbean

The Society of Caribbean Ornithology is compiling a list of researchers with interests in the Caribbean Basin. Governments and individuals throughout the Caribbean concerned with conservation of their island resources often have difficulty gaining access to the results of studies that may support their activities. The Society's list of researchers and their areas of expertise will be available to individuals and governments in the Caribbean as a reference guide to support local conservation efforts. If you are currently working or are interested in conducting research in the Caribbean Basin, please send a description of your research activities and areas of expertise to Reed Bowman, National Audubon Society, Research Department, 115 Indian Mound Trail, Tavernier, Florida 33070, USA.

New Versions of Herbert Raffaele's "A Guide to the Birds of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands"

Herbert A. Raffaele has announced that he is working on two new editions of his "A Guide to the Birds of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands" (1983, Fondo Educativo Interamericano, San Juan). Spanish and English versions of the second edition will be published by Princeton University Press. Dr. Raffaele will be sending the updated manuscripts to the publishers this fall. If Society members have corrections, suggestions, updates, or additional information to the first edition that they would be willing to contribute, please contact Herb before the end of October 1988 at:

5232 Cherokee Ave.
Alexandria, Virginia 22312
USA

A New International Bird Society for the Neotropics

During the Third Neotropical Ornithology Congress, held in Cali, Colombia, from 30 November to 4 December 1987, the participants made a formal step toward establishing an International Neotropical Bird Society. The Society will produce its own scientific journal under the name *Ornitología Neotropical*. The first issue is

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New International Society (continued)

expected to appear at the end of 1989. A call for papers in Spanish, English, and Portuguese will be published in international ornithological periodicals by the end of 1988. The membership fee will include the subscription to the journal. The following editors have been appointed: Humberto Alvarez-López (Colombia), David C. Oren (Brazil), Mario Ramos (Mexico), F. Gary Stiles (Costa Rica), Raymond McNeil (Canada), Francois Vuilleumier (USA), Alexander Cruz (Caribbean Region), and Karl-L. Schuchmann (Germany).

All persons interested in Neotropical ornithology are welcome to join the Society. For further information, please contact Alexander Cruz, Environmental, Population, and Organismic Biology Department, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado 80309-0334, U.S.A.

Two New Journals

Vida Silvestre Neotropical is a technical journal for publication of high quality papers on wildlife research and management in the Neotropics. The first volume of *Vida Silvestre Neotropical* was issued in 1987. The first two issues (volume 1) were distributed free of charge to individuals and institutions interested in receiving the publication. Starting with volume 2, the annual subscription price will be US\$6 for developing countries in the Americas; US\$12 (US\$18 for institutions) for the United States, Canada, and the rest of the world. Subscriptions and inquiries should be addressed to *Vida Silvestre Neotropical*, Subscriptions, World Wildlife Fund, 1250 24th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037, USA

Conservation Biology is a quarterly publication of the Society for Conservation Biology in association with Blackwell Scientific Publications, Inc. A major goal of the journal is to accelerate and intensify the dissemination of conservation technology throughout the world, and to be a forum for examining issues and problems of international concern such as: protection of biological diversity and genetic resources, interdependence of biological diversity and human cultural diversity, protection of threatened habitats and species, sustainable resource use and development, and integration of the social and biological sciences.

The first issue of *Conservation Biology* was published in May 1987. While the journal is currently edited in English only, feature articles have abstracts in Spanish. Other sections include international conservation news, notes, and book

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reviews. Future issues will also welcome letters from the readers.

Subscription to *Conservation Biology* is free with membership to the Society for Conservation Biology (annual fee is US\$27 within the United States; US\$37 for Canada and overseas). Subscription rates for nonmembers and institutions are US\$85 within the United States and US\$95 for Canada and overseas. Society membership applications and subscriptions should be addressed to:

Blackwell Scientific Publications, Inc.
52 Beacon Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108
USA

Announcements

Version Española de Wildlife Management Techniques Manual

Se encuentra a la venta la versión española de la cuarta edición de *Wildlife Management Techniques Manual* (1980), originalmente publicada en inglés por The Wildlife Society y de amplio uso en los países neotropicales.

El *Manual de Técnicas de Gestión de Vida Silvestre* (1987, 681 pp.) llena un gran vacío en la literatura técnica sobre administración y manejo de los recursos de vida silvestre en Latinoamérica y el Caribe. El libro está dividido en 32 capítulos y los temas tratados incluyen: Técnicas básicas de investigación, trabajo de campo con animales silvestres, estudio de poblaciones silvestres, estudio de hábitat, manejo, administración y política, y técnicas especializadas.

La traducción fue realizada por Braulio Orejas Miranda y Alfredo Fontes Riganti. La edición estuvo a cargo de Rubén Rodríguez Tarrés y la revisión final de Angela M. Mast.

(de *Vida Silvestre Neotropical*)

Manual para Metodologías de Investigación y Tesis

Se encuentra a la venta el manual *Iniciación Práctica a la Investigación Científica* (104 pp.) por Pedro José Salinas y Mirma Pérez de Gabaldón. Publicado en 1985 por el Consejo de Publicaciones de la Universidad de Los Andes, Mérida, Venezuela, este manual presenta información práctica para los estudiantes de ciencias. Se indica la importancia de la ciencia y la tecnología en el desarrollo social y los criterios de selección de investigaciones. Se hace un

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esquema de la planificación, política, planes, programas y proyectos de investigación científica. Los anexos incluyen modelos de fichas bibliográficas, un ejemplo práctico de investigación, un modelo de artículo para revistas, un modelo de Curriculum Vitae, como dictar una charla y modelos de protocolo de proyectos.

Para mayor información sobre precio y envío dirigirse al primer autor a:

Centro de Estudios de Post-Grado
Facultad de Ciencias Forestales
Universidad de Los Andes
Mérida 5101-A, Venezuela

(de *Vida Silvestre Neotropical*)

Boletín de Flora, Fauna y Áreas Silvestres

El boletín *Flora, Fauna y Áreas Silvestres* se publica en español cada cuatro meses, como parte del proyecto FAO/PNUMA sobre manejo de áreas silvestres, áreas protegidas y vida silvestre en América Latina y el Caribe. Esta publicación se realiza en colaboración con la Red Latinoamericana de Cooperación Técnica en Parques Nacionales, Otras Áreas Protegidas, Flora y Fauna Silvestres y está dedicada al intercambio de ideas e información relacionadas con el manejo de áreas protegidas y vida silvestre en el Neotrópico. La primera edición fue publicada en agosto de 1986, y la segunda en diciembre del mismo año.

Para mayor información y suscripciones dirigirse a:

Kyran D. Thelen
Oficina Regional F.A.O.
Casilla 10095
Santiago, Chile

(de *Vida Silvestre Neotropical*)

New Publication on Caribbean Biodiversity and Conservation

"Biodiversity and Conservation in the Caribbean: profiles of selected islands," by Timothy H. Johnson. ICBP Monograph No. 1. 162 pp. £7.80 including p&p. This publication is the first of ICBP's new monographs, a series of specialist publications documenting, on a regional basis, conservation of relevance to birds. As the first publication resulting from ICBP's island database, this volume describes the biological diversity of the eleven Caribbean islands with single-island endemic bird species. Data are provided on endemic and

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threatened birds, mammals, herpetofauna, invertebrates, and plants. The profiles for each island include information on important ecosystems, environmental legislation, protected areas, conservation education programs, and ongoing conservation projects. The monograph is an excellent reference for those concerned with environmental issues in the Caribbean. Available from:

ICBP
32 Cambridge Road
Girton
Cambridge CB3 OPJ
United Kingdom

MEETINGS OF INTEREST

4 October 1988 - "New Directions and Professional Standards," a symposium on natural history museums, Kansas City. (Paisley S. Cato, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843-2258, U.S.A. Telephone: 409/845-5777).

6-10 October 1988 - Second International Conference on Behavioral Ecology, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. (Conference Services, Continuing Studies, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada V5A 1S6. 604/291-3649).

13-16 October 1988 - Joint meeting of the Colonial Waterbird Society and Pacific Seabird Group, Washington, D.C., U.S.A. (Jeff Spendlow, Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Laurel, Maryland 20708, USA [telephone 301-498-0373], or R. Michael Erwin, same address [301-498-0380]).

13-19 October 1988 - Second International Meeting of the Parrot Specialist Group of ICBP/IUCN, Curitiba, Parana, Brazil. A section entitled, "The Caribbean Parrots and Their Problems," is scheduled. (Pedro Scherer Neto, Divisao de Museu de Historia Natural, Secretaria Municipal de Meio Ambiente, Rua Benedito Conceicao 407, 82500 Curitiba, Parana, Brazil).

26-29 October 1988 - Raptor Research Foundation Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, Minnesota. The meeting will be preceded by a 2-day symposium on raptor medicine and surgery. (James D. Fraser,

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Secy., Raptor Research Foundation, Dept. Fisheries & Wildlife Sci., 106C Cheatham Hall, VPI & State Univ., Blacksburg, Virginia 24061-0321, USA, or Patrick T. Redig, Dept. Veterinary Biology, Coll. Veterinary Medicine, 1988 Fitch Ave., St. Paul, Minnesota 55108, USA).

6-9 November 1988 - 42nd Annual Conference of the Southeastern Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies [includes the Caribbean], Hyatt Regency, Hilton Head Island, South Carolina. (Robert J. Warren, School of Forest Resources, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602, U.S.A.).

27-30 December 1988 - Meeting of the American Society of Zoologists, Society of Systematic Zoology, and Animal Behavior Society, San Francisco Hilton & Towers, San Francisco, California, USA. Includes workshops/symposia on "Recent developments in the study of animal migration," and "Parasites and sexual selection." (Mary Adams-Wiley, American Society of Zoologists, 104 Sirius Circle, Thousand Oaks, California 91360, USA [telephone: 805-492-3585]).

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).

22-26 May 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).

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, Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico 00928-2500).

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]).

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Meetings of Interest (Continued)

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

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

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

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

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).

TRAINING PROGRAMS AND COURSES

Captive Breeding of Endangered Species, The Wildlife Preservation Trust, Isle of Jersey, Channel Islands, England, Great Britain. Programs are available for persons with practical experience with animals, institutions with captive breeding programs, and students with interest in conservation. Those interested in the programs should send a proposal before 1 June 1988 for participation in the subsequent year. Selections are made in August. For information or to submit a proposal, contact: Training Program, Wildlife Preservation Trust International, 34th Street & Girard Ave., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104, U.S.A.

The National Zoological Park, Washington, D.C., offers Summer Courses in **Wildlife Management and Conservation**. The principal objective of the Wildlife Conservation and Management Training Program is the scientific preparation of persons from tropical countries. Courses are also organized in these countries. The institutions interested in conducting

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Training Programs & Courses (Continued)

such a course in their country should select the candidates for the course, identify the sites for field work and determine needed logistics. The National Zoological Park will attempt to obtain funds for implementing the course and travel funding. For field courses in the National Zoo's Conservation and Research Center for foreign students in universities in the United States or persons living in tropical countries and who want to continue with advanced courses in management of wildlife, write: R. Rudran (Program Coordinator), Department of Zoological Research, National Zoological Park, Washington, D.C. 20008, U.S.A.

Course on the Management of Viable Populations

- The Center for Conservation Biology, Stanford University, offers a 3-day course on population viability for wildlife professionals and graduate-level students. The fundamentals of biogeography, ecology, population dynamics, and population dynamics will be taught as they relate to protection, recovery, and maintenance of populations of rare, threatened, and endangered species. The course will also cover case studies, computer simulation models, and the legal and policy aspects of population viability analysis and planning. For information, write Center for Conservation Biology, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305, U.S.A.

OPPORTUNITIES

Field Assistants needed from January through June of August 1989 for project on avian evolutionary ecology in Panama's Pearl Islands and Darien Province. Some field experience is mandatory; familiarity with mist-netting, banding, and Spanish helpful. Approx. 20 days/month in field (tent camping). Room & board provided; transportation funds pending. Independent research possible. Send cover letter outlining pertinent interest and background, and Curriculum Vitae with names and phone numbers of 2 or more references to Jeffrey D. Brawn, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, APO Miami, 34002-0011 (phone - 217-356-3845, Sept.-Nov. 1988 only).

Funding for Wildlife Biology - The Foundation for Field Research is accepting proposals from qualified researchers that need funding to undertake wildlife research in the field. Funding is available anywhere in the world and to researchers of any nationality. Proposals must be received at least 12 months before

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Schedule of Publication of *El Pitirre*

Society members are encouraged to submit news items and announcements for publication in *El Pitirre*. The schedule of publication of the Society's bulletin will depend on membership participation. If sufficient items are received by the editor, the bulletin will be published every other month. A less frequent publication schedule will result from fewer submissions. Support your Society through such contributions for publication.

THE SOCIETY OF CARIBBEAN ORNITHOLOGY

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Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands 00850

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Piedras, Puerto Rico 00931

Paul Butler, P.O. Box 1277, Kingstown, St.
Vincent, West Indies

Opportunities (continued)

the field work is to start. Write or call for guidelines for field research funding and application. Foundation for Field Research, 787 South Grade Rd., Alpine, California 92001, USA (telephone 619-445-9264).

RECENT LITERATURE

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Recent Literature (Continued)

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Godínez, E., et al. 1987. [Reproductive characteristics of *Columba leucocephala* on the Guanahacabibes Peninsula, Cuba.] *Poeyana* 340:8pp.

Kirkconnell, A., and R.M. Posada. 1987. [Observations of the feeding behavior of *Tyrannus caudifasciatus* (Aves: Passeriformes: Tyrannidae).] *Misc. Zool. Acad. Cienc. Cuba* 31:4.

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Llanes Sosa, A., et al. 1987. [New reports of bird migration dates for Cuba.] *Misc. Zool. Acad. Cienc. Cuba* 36:1-2.

MacPherson, S.L. 1987. History and status of the endangered Puerto Rican parrot. *Endang. Sp. Tech. Bull.* 12(7):6-7.

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Sutton, R., and A. Sutton. 1987. Wood duck recovered in Black River [Jamaica]. *Gosse Bird Club Broadsheet* 49:9.

Wiley, J.W. 1988. Host selection by the shiny cowbird. *Condor* 90:289-303.

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