Sociedad de la Ornitología Caribeña

EL PITIRRE

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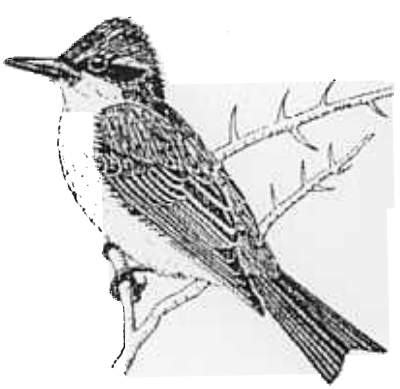
Tyrannus dominicensis



Pitirre, Gray Kingbird, Pestigre, 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 la 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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VAGRANT WHITE STORK *CICONIA CICONIA* (AVES: CICONIIDAE) FOUND IN ANTIGUA: A FIRST RECORD FOR THE WEST INDIES

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At 17:00 hr on 14 August 1993, I was scanning through waders on an open area of mud adjacent to mangroves at Cook's Dump, outside St. John's, Antigua, when I saw an adult White Stork (*Ciconia ciconia*) about 300 m from me. I immediately informed my companions, who also watched the bird. The stork stood close to a much smaller Great Egret (*Casmerodius albus*). I approached and managed to take two photographs of the stork before it flew several meters away. It fed in small rills on the open mud, possibly on crabs. The stork's plumage appeared in good condition and the bird displayed no leg rings or wing tags. It was present when we left 40 minutes later, but it was not there the next morning and subsequently could not be found.

An Old World species, the White Stork occurs widely in the Palearctic region and tropical Africa. A small population breeds in South Africa, but the species summers and primarily breeds in northern continental Europe and central Asia, to where it migrates in long flights. In Africa, it feeds in the sub-Saharan savannah grasslands, often in large numbers, whereas in the breeding region it seeks out meadows and marshes, frequently close to human habitation. The species faces a long-term threat from adverse changes in land-use and agricultural methods, as well as from pest control which kills one of its main prey items, the locust.

Intriguingly, a 'stork' was observed in Barbuda previous to my sighting in Antigua. However, the two observers did not get good views and dismissed it as possibly a Wood Stork (*Mycteria americana*), itself a vagrant in the region.

The White Stork has not been previously recorded in the West Indies, nor other parts of the Americas. It is possible that the individual is a first for the New World. The bird was likely blown off-course during migration, as a ship-assisted passage is most improbable. For all those who saw the bird, it was a stunning discovery!

CORROBORACIÓN DE ALGUNOS REGISTROS DE AVES PARA PUERTO RICO

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Pampero Mayor *Puffinus gravis*.—De acuerdo a Raffaele (1990), hay un informe de Pampero Mayor cerca de Puerto Rico y otro de un individuo varado en la Isla de Culebra. El 22 de junio de 1992, el Sr. Manuel Corbet encontró un Papmero Mayor muerto en las Playa Las Ochenta de Humacao. Las medidas de este espécimen son la siguientes: longitud total, 456 mm; pico expuesto, 44.5 mm, pico desde la parte anterior de los orificios nasales, 31.4 mm; arco del ala, 308 mm; y tarso 57.4 mm. El espécimen, provisto por Corbet, corrobora la presencia del Pampero Mayor en Puerto Rico.

Págalo Pomarino *Stercorarius pomarinus*.—De acuerdo con Raffaele (1990), el Págalo Pomarino es un visitante irregular de las aguas lejanas a las costas de Puerto Rico, aunque se acerca a estas luego de tormentas. Bond (1981) indica que el ave se aventura ocasionalmente al Caribe de octubre a abril. El colega José Colón, me hizo llegar un espécimen en contrado en la Laguna de Piñones el 27 de diciembre de 1990 por Cindy Ginés. El ave tiene las siguientes medidas: largo total, 56.2 cm; pico expuesto, 39.1 mm; pico desde orificios nasales, 16.5 mm; arco del ala, 34.4 cm; y tarso, 54.3 mm. El espécimen mencionado valida los informes hipotéticos de esta especie en Puerto Rico.

Julián Chiví Gargantiamarillo *Vireo flavifrons*.—De acuerdo con Raffaele (1990), hay dos avistamientos del Julián Chiví Gargantiamarillo para Puerto Rico y uno para la Isla de Vieques. El último es posible que se refiera al avistamiento hecho por Williams y Williams (1985) el 18 de diciembre de 1984 en Play Roja, Vieques. El 31 de octubre de 1992, el segundo autor observó y fotografió a una de estas aves en los manglares del Bosque Estatal de Aguirre. Se observó al ave en varias ocasiones ingerir frutas de *Laguncularia racemosa*. De ser válidos los informes anteriores, a este, se infiere entonces que esta ave es un raro visitante otoñal e invernal para Puerto Rico. Bond (1981) considera a la especie como un raro residente invernal de Cuba, Jamaica, San Vincente y Granada desde agosto 31 hasta el 8 de mayo. La presencia de esta ave en Cuba, Jamaica y Puerto Rico permite postular el que el ave haya pasado desapercibida en la Española.

Los especímenes de Pampero Mayor y de Págalo Pomarino, al igual que la fotografía del Julián Chiví Gargantiamarillo mencionada, se encuentran como referencias en la colección ornitológica del Colegio Universitario de Humacao.

Agradecimiento.—Agradecemos a los colegas José Colón y Manuel Corbet, el habernos presentado y donado los especímenes mencionados en este trabajo.

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ABSTRACTS OF PAPERS PRESENTED AT THE 1993 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CARIBBEAN SOCIETY OF ORNITHOLOGY (CONTINUED FROM VOL. 6(3))

HABITAT USE BY NORTH AMERICAN LANDBIRD MIGRANTS ON ST. CROIX, U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

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Forty-seven species of North American landbird migrants were observed on St. Croix from September 1981 to November 1988. Observations were made at random over the entire island throughout the seven years. The occurrence of landbird migrants was recorded for each of the major habitat types on the island. Over 50% of the species were found using no more than 3 types of habitat and more than half of these species were found in only a single habitat type. Species density was highest for mangrove forest, littoral forest, and wetlands, and was lowest for open habitat, urban habitat, and dry forest.

THE PUERTO RICAN PARROT: ITS POTENTIAL AS AN ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION TOOL

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Recently, several education programs in the Lesser Antilles aimed at promoting the conservation of endemic West Indian amazon species (e.g., *Amazona versicolor*) have met with much success. Unfortunately, although the Puerto Rican Parrot (*Amazona vittata*) is the most studied and at present most intensively managed of all Caribbean parrots, little awareness exists among the public in Puerto Rico of its present status and of these restoration efforts. To the environmental community, its use as a symbol for conservation and education has been ignored. We have begun a project employing strategies proven in other Caribbean islands for promoting the conservation of our endemic parrot and, through it, all of Puerto Rico's natural resources. We aim to work intensively with schools from the different communities adjacent to the Caribbean National Forest, an area of montane rainforests in eastern Puerto Rico and home to the last population of parrots. Other strategies will be used to reach the publicat large. We will present preliminary results on the materials and methods used, as well as the response these have generated among the Puerto Rican public.

LA COTORRA PUERTORRIQUEÑA: SU POTENCIAL COMO UNA HERRAMIENTA PARA LA EDUCACION AMBIENTAL

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En años recientes, una serie de programas de educación dirigidos a promover la conservación de algunas especies de cotorras del género *Amazona* endémicas a la región del Caribe (e.g., *Amazona versicolor*) han tenido éxito a nivel local. Desafortunadamente, a pesar de que la Cotorra Puertorriqueña (*Amazona vittata*) es la cotorra que más se ha estudiado y que más intensamente se maneja, muy poco conocimiento sobre su estado y esfuerzos de restauración existe entre la público en Puerto Rico. A la comunidad ambientalista, su utilización como un símbolo para la conservación ha pasado mayormente desapercibido. Hemos comenzado un proyecto utilizando estrategias desarrolladas por la organización RARE y comprobadas en otras islas del Caribe para promover la conservación de nuestra cotorra endémica y a través de esta, los recursos naturales de Puerto Rico en general. Esperamos implementar una serie de estrategias que varien según la comunidad y su localización con respecto al bosque de El Yunque, lugar donde se encuentra la última población de cotorras en el estado silvestre. En esta ponencia discutiremos los materiales y métodos utilizados al igual que resultados preliminares sobre la respuesta generado entre el público puertorriqueño.

ROLE-CALL FOR INSULAR AVIAN EXTINCTIONS IN THE WEST INDIES

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Extinctions (e.g., Grand Cayman Thrush *Turdus caymanensis*) or extirpations (e.g., Puerto Rican Screech-Owl *Otus nudipes newtoni* from St. John, Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rican Parrot *Amazona vittata gracilis* from Culebra Island) of forest-dwelling species occurred on small islands of the West Indies primarily as a result of forest fragmentation or habitat loss associated with colonial plantocracies. Other extinctions of insular species in the Lesser Antilles forced by similar processes of unchecked forest depletion and fragmentation are in progress. A review of the literature indicates that the possibility of another 21 species of birds becoming extinct in the Lesser Antilles is very real. The potential causes are 1)

habitat degradation or manipulation, 2) introduced predators, 3) hunting, and/or 4) random climatic events. The case of the Puerto Rican Bullfinch (*Loxigilla portoricensis grandis*) of St. Kitts, last seen in 1929, is used to illustrate extinction pathways. Since the precise cause of the bullfinch extinction it is not clear, possible scenarios may illuminate pathways of equally poorly known forest birds of the region. As more species are erected from complex super-species groups in a region of high endemism, the potential for greater extinction rates is considered. Conservation and restoration of insular habitats will be essential during the latter part of this century if preservation of biological diversity is to be an international goal in the next century.

FEEDING BEHAVIOR OF WHITE-CROWNED PIGEON NESTLINGS IN RELATION TO DIET, HATCHING SEQUENCE, AND HATCHING PATTERN

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Selection for asynchronous hatching in White-crowned Pigeons (*Columba leucocephala*) may occur because of high rates of predation during the incubation period. This hatching pattern leads to nestling size asymmetries that, in the Florida Keys, result in decreased survival of last-hatched nestlings when food is limited, and lower fledgling masses when food is not limited. As nestlings can be readily distinguished by their size differences, parents may respond by selectively feeding the smaller nestling. I observed nestling feeding behavior at 69 natural asynchronous and experimentally-synchronized nests during and after food limitation. Larger chicks from both asynchronous and synchronous broods received more feeds per hour, more pumps per feed, and fed longer than their smaller siblings when food was limited. Feeding behavior did not differ when food was not limited, but larger nestlings continued to receive more food. During food limitation, smaller nestlings begged more than their siblings, but a smaller proportion of those begs resulted in feedings. After food limitation, no difference existed in begging frequency or feedings between large and small nestlings, regardless of hatching pattern. Larger nestlings were closer to the adult prior to 42% of all feedings and were fed first 92% of the time. Small nestlings were rarely close to the adult prior to feedings and were fed first only 8% of the time. When food was not limited, nestling position or feeding sequence did not differ. These data suggest that adult White-crowned Pigeons in the Florida Keys have little potential to counteract the competitive asymmetries between different-sized young and, ultimately, the starvation of smaller nestlings as a result of this competition.

MOVEMENTS AND MORTALITY OF WHITE IBISES (*EUDOCIMUS ALBUS*) AS DERIVED FROM RECOVERIES OF BIRDS BANDED IN THE SOUTHEASTERN UNITED STATES

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From 1957 to 1987, 18,713 White Ibises have been banded with USFWS leg bands and/or color marks at colonies in the southeastern United States. These bandings have resulted in 163 recoveries (0.8% recovery rate), 150 of which have usable information. These returns indicate that ibises, in general, migrate to the south during the winter months, apparently often crossing the straits of Florida to Cuba (16% of recoveries). Few returns were from further south, and it is likely that there is little interchange with Scarlet (*Eudocimus ruber*) and White Ibis populations in the southern Caribbean rim. Juvenile ibises tend to undergo rapid postbreeding dispersal, often towards the north. Although there are several problems with the banding data (too few adults banded, visibility bias for juveniles, inconsistent hunting pressure), the band recoveries suggest that the North American White Ibis population experiences 62% mortality in the first year of life, 33% in the second year, and 26% mortality for adults. With these rates, it is estimated that 2.07 young must be produced on average per breeding pair to maintain a stable population. These figures may, however, be obsolete, since over 50% of the returns were from hunting, a condition which may have been greatly reduced in the past two decades.

EFFECTS OF COLONIZATION PATTERNS, DISPERSAL BARRIERS, AND ISLAND SIZE ON GENETIC VARIATION PATTERNS IN CARIBBEAN YELLOW WARBLERS

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I used a restriction endonuclease analysis of mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) to estimate genetic variation within and among Caribbean populations of the Yellow Warbler (*Dendroica petechia*) sampled from 11 islands and 4 coastal Venezuelan localities. There was no clear-cut pattern of greater among-population genetic variation in the West Indies relative to Venezuela. However, there was a significant effect of island size on within-population variation (lower levels of variation within populations on smaller islands). There was also a "phylogenetic effect" on variation: multiple colonizations of individual islands and of the West Indies as a whole (inferred from a phylogenetic analysis of mtDNA) was correlated with increased genetic variation within populations and among islands.

THE GREATER ANTILLEAN NIGHTJAR: IS IT ONE SPECIES?

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The Greater Antillean Nightjar is found in Cuba, Cayo Coco, Isle of Youth, and Hispaniola. It was described in Cuba as *Antrostomus cubanensis* by Lawrence (1862), in Hispaniola (Haiti) as *A. eckmani* by Lonneberg (1929), and currently is lumped as *Caprimulgus cubanensis* (AOU 6th Check-list 1983). A note there suggests that two species may be present, based on vocalization differences. The song in the Dominican Republic is a 'click,' plus a 2-syllable phrase, fitting the rhythm of the common name there, "*Pitangua.*" In Cuba, the song is a 4-syllable phrase, not 3 syllables, as indicated in the common name "*guabairo.*" It could be paraphrased as "*gua bai ah ro*". In Hispaniola, the song is higher pitched by 250 Hz, longer in duration (1.2 vs. 0.6s), and slower in delivery (at 2 vs. 1.5s intervals). Among plumage differences are (1) the size of the beige underside distal area of the rectrices—length 70mm in Hispaniolan vs. 25mm in Cuban birds, (2) blackish crown and hind neck streaks wider than in Cuba, and (3) coverts in the vent area are not streaked in Hispaniolan specimens as they are in Cuba. Our information supports returning to two species: *Caprimulgus eckmani*, the Hispaniolan Nightjar; and *C. cubanensis*, the Cuban Nightjar. Tape recordings and sonograms will be presented.

PRELIMINARY STATUS OF THE WEST INDIES' ONLY NUTHATCH

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We studied *Sitta pusilla insularis*, the endemic race of the Brown-headed Nuthatch confined to Grand Bahama Island, in both the museum and field, and compared it to south Florida populations of the same species. *The insularis* race was diagnosed largely based on a longer, straighter bill, but we learned that the type's bill had been mismeasured and that specimens from Grand Bahama differed only slightly from those taken in nearby Florida. In life, the Grand Bahama nuthatch is different visually, vocally, and behaviorally compared to south Florida populations. We encountered it with less than 5% the frequency that might be expected from densities and detection coefficients determined by John Emlen on Grand Bahama about 25 years ago. We believe that the West Indies' only nuthatch has recently declined precipitously and may be heading for extinction. We speculate that this may be a consequence of its isolation and ecological requirements compared to the nature of pine forest regeneration following rapid massive clearcutting of its single-island range.

CONSERVATION OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY IN THE NATURAL PINE FORESTS OF THE BAHAMA ISLANDS

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The scientific management of the pine forests of the Bahama Islands significantly contributes to the conservation of biological diversity of flora and fuana. Some notable plant species adapted to varied site conditions include thatch palms (*Sabal palmettos*) and poison wood (*Metopium toxiferum*), among others. Enthusiastic bird watchers have a diversity of bird life to view that rivals the finest elsewhere, and includes Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*), Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*), and Bahama Parrot (*Amazona leucocephala bahamensis*). All wild birds are protected by Bahamian law and numerous national parks and bird reserves have been dedicated to protect and conserve biological diversity. Nevertheless, law enforcement is difficult. The concept of multiple-use forestry, as practiced by the Forestry Section, can be used to achieve a balance for the co-existence of all facets of forest management and the environment. Further, great care and control can be exercised in forest practices, and adjustment made to conserve the genetic resources of both flora and fauna of the pine forests.

HABITAT CONSTRAINTS ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF PASSERINE RESIDENTS AND NEOTROPICAL MIGRANTS IN LATIN AMERICA

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With continuing tropical deforestation, there is increased concern for birds that depend on forest habitats in Latin America. During the past 10 northern winters, we have conducted quantitative studies of habitat use by wintering migrant songbirds and by residents in the Greater Antilles, Mexico, Central America, and northern South America. Many migrants, but few residents, winter in forest fragments and in certain arboreal agricultural habitats (citrus, cacao, shade coffee). Many other agricultural habitats (sun coffee, mango, commercial banana plantations, and heavily grazed pasture) are avoided by most birds. Some species, such as thrushes and ground-feeding warblers, depend on closed-canopy forest. Some, such as Northern Waterthrush (*Seiurus noveboracensis*) and Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*), winter primarily in mangroves or other swamp forests. The majority of neotropical migrant passerines winter in forest fragments and certain agricultural habitats, as well as mature forest; but many resident species, especially suboscines (Furnariidae, Dendrocolaptidae, Formicariidae, Papridae), are heavily impacted by loss and fragmentation of the forest.

COLONIAS DE ANIDACION DE AVES COSTERAS EN SIAN KA'AN, QUINTANA ROO

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Nosotros localizamos los sitios de anidación de aves zancudas y marinas en la Reserva de la Biósfera de Sian Ka'an, en la parte este-centro de la Península de Yucantan. Visitamos 24 sitios de reproducción, 13 de ellos en la Bahía de la Ascensión y 11 en la Bahía del Espíritu Santo. Las aves acuáticas coloniales que se reproducen en la Reserva de la Biósfera de Sian Ka'an incluyen 17 especies, 6 de estas amenazadas. La Bahía de la Ascensión sobresaliópor su extensa área, número de especies, tamaño colonia y diversidad, aunque con una menor homogeneidad. Las colonias estan tipicamente localizadas cerca de humedales continentales de la la región, sin embargo, hasta ahora la relación que guardan los sitios de reproducción y de alimentación es probremente conocida en la reserva. Despues del Delta del Usumacinta, la Reserva de la Biósfera Sian Ka'n mantiene la segunda comunidad de aves acuáticas más grande en México.

BREEDING COLONIES OF WATERBIRDS IN SIAN KA'AN, QUINTANA ROO

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Breeding sites of wading and marine birds were located at Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve, central-east Yucatan Peninsula. We visited 24 breeding sites, 13 in Ascensión bay and 11 in Espíritu Santo bay. The colonial waterbirds that breed in Sian Ka'an include 17 species, 6 of them endangered. Ascensión bay stands out by its area, number of species, size of colonies, and diversity, but lower evenness. Colonies are typically near to inland wetlands in the Reserve. Sian Ka'n Biosphere Reserve contains the second largest community of waterbirds in Mexico.

SITIOS DE ANIDACION DE *PANDION* Y *BUBO* EN SIAN KA'AN, QUINTANA ROO

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Nosotros localizamos por tierra nidos de *Pandion haliaetus* y *Bubo virginianus* en la Reserva de la Biósfera de Sian Ka'an durante 1992 y 1993. Encontramos 25 nidos de *P. haliaetus*, 11 de ellos fueron activos y tan solo 5 de ellos tuvieron éxito, resultando en 8 pollos volantones. Para *B. virginianus* encontramos cuatro nidos, tres de ellos activos y uno tuvo éxito reproductivo con dos pollos volantones. *Pandion haliaetus* contruyó sus propios nidos en sitios sobresalientes, estando esto expuestos a los vientos, mientras que *B. virginianus* empleó nidos usados de otras especies, incluidos los de *P. haliaetus* y puede incluir nidos activos. El viento es un factor que afecta el éxito reproductivo de *P. haliaetus* y *B. virginianus* en Sian Ka'an.

PANDION AND *BUBO* BREEDING RECORDS IN SIAN KA'AN, QUINTANA ROO

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Using ground searches, we found Osprey *Pandion haliaetus* and Horned Owl *Bubo virginianus* nests at the biosphere reserve of Sian Ka'an in 1992 and 1993. We recorded 25 Osprey nests, 11 of which were active and 5 were successful with 8 fledglings. On the other hand, we recorded four Horned Owl nests, three of which were active and one of them was successful with two fledglings. Ospreys built their own nests on isolated sites and they were exposed to the wind, whereas Horned Owls used nests built by other bird species, including Osprey, and may use active nests. We suggests that the wind played a major role in the breeding success of Ospreys and Horned Owls in Sian Ka'an.

ASSESSING THE EFFECT OF HABITAT CHANGES ON THE WATERBIRD POPULATIONS OF HELLSHIRE, ST. CATHERINE, JAMAICA

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Waterbirds are valuable as indicators of habitat change. This has been well documented in temperate wetlands, but no studies have been conducted in such habitats in the Caribbean. Studies were conducted in St. Catherine, Jamaica, on a natural and a man-made wetland; the latter was a recently-constructed natural sewage treatment plant. These studies were made to determine the effect of the second habitat on the waterbirds of Hellshire, St. Catherine. Numbers of adults and juveniles were counted in populations in the natural wetland during an 18-month period, and in the man-made wetland during a 12-month period. The results were compared to assess the effects of the man-made system. These results showed that changes in extent and quality of the available wetland habitat influenced the composition of the waterbird population.

RAPTOR MIGRATION IN THE CARIBBEAN: THE JAMAICAN PERSPECTIVE

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There is a general consensus among the birding community in Jamaica that the migrant birds of prey observed on the island are largely vagrants. To test this hypothesis, a 13-year (1980-1993) record of data available from the Gosse Bird Club (Jamaica) was analysed. A total of 8 species of raptors were recorded during this period. Of these, the American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) and the Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) are resident. The data support the hypothesis, although there may be some degree of under-reporting due to the inexperience of bird watchers with some species, and the generally low numbers of migrating individuals. An assessment is made of the suitability of Jamaica as a habitat for birds of prey in terms of vegetation type and food availability, taking into account the status of the species in their breeding range.

THE BIODIVERSITY MONITORING PROJECT FOR ANTIGUA

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A Biodiversity Monitoring Project was recently initiated in Antigua under the auspecies of the Environmental Awareness Group. One of the most important components of the project is the assessment and cataloguing of native species of plants and animals, targeting the remnant moist forest environments and wetlands on Antigua. We hope this will lead to a better system of classification and management for parks and protected areas in Antigua and Barbuda.

RECENT PROGRESS IN THE MANAGEMENT OF THE CAPTIVE PUERTO RICAN PARROT POPULATION

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Captive efforts for the Puerto Rican Parrot (*Amazona vittata*) have been ongoing since 1972. Progress in this part of the parrot project has been particularly slow and expensive. At present, 57 Puerto Rican Parrots and 34 Hispaniolan Parrots (*Amazona ventralis*) are housed in the Luquillo aviary. In February 1992, a series of modifications on the physical plant of the Luquillo Aviary, as well as on the management and health care of the captive parrots, was initiated. All captive breeding pairs have been supplied with a PVC nest prototype with a palm tree entrance to mimic natural cavities. These nests are reusable, and are proving to keep nesting females in a drier, more sterile environment. All captive breeding units (cage with breeding pair and nest structure) are being remotely monitored by a closed-circuit TV camera system. At present, we have successfully pair-bonded 11 genetically compatible pairs and placed these birds in breeding units. Microbiology studies were conducted.

PROGRESOS RECIENTES EN EL MANEJO DE LA POBLACION CAUTIVA DE LA COTORRA PUERTORRIQUEÑA

PABLO TORRES-BÁEZ, ANA B. ARNIZAUT AND FRANCISCO J. VILELLA
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Puerto Rican Parrot Field Office
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Esfuerzos en cautiverio para la propagación de la Cotorra Puertorriqueña (*Amazona vittata*) se están llevando a cabo desde 1972. Progresos en esta parte del proyecto de la cotorra han sido lentos y costosos. Al presente, existen un total de 57 Cotorras Puertorriqueñas y 34 Cotorras Dominicanas (*Amazona ventralis*) en el aviario de Luquillo. Desde Febrero de 1992, se han realizado una serie de modificaciones en la planta física del aviario de Luquillo, asi como en el manejo y cuidado de las cotorras cautivas. Todas las parejas reproductoras han sido suplidas con un prototipo de nido de tubo de PVC con una entrada hecha de palma. Estos nidos son reusables, y proveen un ambiente más seco y estéril para el anidaje. Todas las unidades de anidaje (jaula con una pareja reproductora y estructura de anidaje) son monitoriadas a través de un sistema de ciruito cerrado de camaras. Al presente contamos con 11 parejas reproductoras exitosas, gen_ticamente compatibles y localizadas en unidades de anidajes. Pruebas microbiológicas se están realizando tanto a los individuos como a los nidos.

THE TOBAGO STRIPED OWL (*RHINOPTYNX CLAMATOR OBERI*): WHAT DO WE KNOW?

HOWARD NELSON
Wildlife Section—Forestry Division
Farm Road, St. Joseph, Trinidad

This presentation examines all available literature on this Red Data Book endemic owl, and discusses the various conflicting accounts of habitat use by this species and alarming lack of behavioral and ecological data available for conservation of this owl. The attendant habitat and species management concerns which arise because of this lack of data are also addressed. I discuss present habitat availability on the island of Tobago and possible threats posed to the species there. I close with the outline of the Trinidad Wildlife Section's proposal to study this species and the response of the NGO community to this work.

SOME IMPLICATIONS OF SMALL POPULATION SIZE FOR MANAGEMENT OF WATERBIRDS IN JAMAICA

PETER R. BACON AND ANNE C. E. MORGAN
Zoology Department, University of the West Indies, Mona, Kingston, Jamaica

Relatively little scientific work has been done on waterbird populations and habitats in Jamaica. Consequently, the data base for rational management is poor. Records from wetland and coastal sites over the past 15 years contain little more than a list of species present during a single observation period and little consecutive monthly or seasonal data are available. These and recent studies at north and south coast wetlands show a high species diversity at some sites, but low numbers at all sites. No site had more than 1000 birds of all species recorded at any one time and passage migrants increased in numbers only slightly; so small populations of waterbirds appear to be characteristic of Jamaica. Research is needed to determine whether habitat quality is restricting resident species and the extent to which Jamaica is used as a shorebird flyway; but small size has implications for waterbird management. Few sites in Jamaica meet international criteria of importance for waterfowl conservation, can support sport hunting, or have potential for birdwatching or ecotourism. Consequently, funding for ecological research, waterbird protection, or possible population enhancement activity may not be readily available. These and other management problems are discussed.

THE IMPACT OF THE LANDSCAPE ON AVIAN COLONIZATION OF ISOLATED PATCHES OF HABITAT

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The placement of a habitat patch within its local landscape can strongly affect the ability of organisms to find and colonize that patch. A habitat patch that is relatively isolated from potential sources of dispersers may be less likely to support a population than is a similar patch that is close to such sources. We demonstrate that this landscape effect can be seen even with relatively vagile organisms such as birds, which are not generally considered dispersal-limited. We have studied the distribution of Bachman's Sparrow (*Aimophila aestivalis*) in the managed pine woodlands of the Savannah River Ecology Laboratory in the coastal plain of South Carolina. In 1991 and 1992, we followed the sparrow's ability to colonize two "linear landscapes," which were sets of clearcuts that began near a source of dispersing birds, and extended in one direction through a landscape matrix of unsuitable habitat. Thus, the clearcuts differed from one another primarily in their isolation from potential sources. Surveys of singing male sparrows during the breeding season showed that densities of the sparrow decreased with increasing distance from potential sources. The effect of patch isolation within the landscape could provide an explanation for this species' population decline during the last 50 years, and may suggest management strategies for halting the sparrow's decline.

COLLECTING INFORMATION FOR AN ISLAND DATABASE OF BIRD RECORDS *or* WHO IS THE FINAL AUTHORITY?

CATHERINE LEVY
2 Starlight Avenue, Kingston 6, Jamaica

Using illustrations from recent unusual observations in Jamaica, this paper sets out what type of information can be collected from regularly kept records of bird species. Ideas are presented on the application and importance of this information to programs for conservation of avifauna or of natural areas. The compilation of records can be useful in providing a basis for further study and research of a species and its habitat, for producing an atlas and checklists, and for involving groups and individual volunteers in bird observation and nature conservation. Finally, suggestions on types of databases and headings will be presented. Examples of acceptable records and standards will be discussed.

ESTABLECIMIENTO DE UN SISTEMA DE MONITOREO DE AVES EN EL LAGO ENRIQUILLO

CRISTÓBAL MARTÍNEZ MERCEDES
Secretaría de Estado de Agricultura, Departamento de Vida Silvestre, Centro de Los Héroes (Feria), Santo Domingo, D.N., República Dominicana

Se establece un sistema de monitoreo de aves en el Lago Enriquillo. Durante el primer año se ha dado prioridad a la determinación de la riqueza de especies, a la identificación de hábitats críticos y al censo de las poblaciones de flamencos (*Phoenicopterus ruber ruber*), garzas (*Egretta* sp.) y especies migratorias. En una franja de 325.4 km^2 alrededor del lago se han identificado unos nueve hábitats críticos utilizados por las aves para el forrageo y la nidificación; estos son: zona de playa y áreas pantanosas (17%), manglares (15%), cultivos mixtos, entre los que se encuentran arrozales (14%), pastizales inundados estacionalmente (14%), y bosque seco circundante e islas Cabritos, La Islita y Barbarita (38%); otros (2%). La superficie del espejo de agua es de unos 238.0 km^2. Se han identificado tres hábitats críticos de forrageo para las

poblaciones de flamencos: Boca de Cachón, con un promedio de 466 individuos durante los meses de marzo, abril y mayo, y Villa Jaragua y Bahía de los Ríos con 216 y 115 individuos respectivamente.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A SYSTEM OF MONITORING OF BIRDS IN LAGO ENRIQUILLO

CHRISTÓBAL MARTÍNEZ MERCEDES
Secretaría de Estado de Agricultura, Departamento de Vida Silvestre Centro de Los Héroes (Feria), Santo Domingo, D.N., República Dominicana

A system of monitoring of birds has been established in Lago Enriquillo. During the first year, the main interest has been the determination of species richness and the identification of critical habitats, as well as the census of the populations of the Greater Flamingo (*Phoenicopterus ruber ruber*), herons (*Egretta* sp.), and migratory species. In a fringe of 325.4 km^2 around the lake, 9 critical habitats used by birds for foraging and breeding activities were detrmined; these are: the shore and swampy areas (17%), mangroves (15%), mixed crops (e.g., rice) (14%), temporarily inundated pastures (14%), and dry forests around the lake and on the islets of Cabritos, La Islita, and Barbarita (38%); others (2%). The water surface of the lake is 238.0 km^2. Three critical habitats are used by the flamingo for foraging: Boca de Cachón, with a monthly average of 466 individuals during the period from March to May 1993, and Villa Jaragua and Bahía de Los Ríos with averages of 216 and 115 individuals, respectively.

VOCAL BEHAVIOR OF THE ST. ANDREW VIREO (*VIREO CARIBAEUS*)

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Vireo caribaeus, of the southeastern Caribbean Isla San Andrés, is vocally unique among species of the subgenus *Vireo* because it: (a) utters monosyllabic "chatter" song, bisyllabic songs, and general polysyllabic song of three or more kinds of syllables; (b) has incorporated repetitive congested song into its song types repertoire; and (c) does all of the above with only six different syllables and their variants. Some of the six syllables are shared with other western Caribbean insular and continental species of the *V. griseus* superspecies complex. Isolation of a small founder population on tiny San Andrés (34 km^2), which experienced cultural drift or evolution, may explain in *V. caribaeus* the origin of such complex song from such a simple syllable repertoire.

PARAMETROS ECOLOGICOS DE UNA COMUNIDAD ORNITICA EN EL PARQUE NACIONAL DEL ESTE, REPUBLICA DOMINICANA

CARLOS CANO
'Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional" (AECI), Pedro Henríque Ureña 171 Esq. Abraham Lincoln, Santo Domingo, República Dominicana

En éste trabajo se exponen los primeros resultados obtenidos acerca de la abundancia, diversidad, riqueza y equitabilidad de una comunidad ornítica siguiendo el método de transecto lineal, realizado por tres guardaparques del "Parque Nacional del Este" a lo largo de 14 recorridos de un Kilometro cada uno. Este trabajo es parte del proyecto de "Uso público, protección y recuperación de vida silvestre del Parque Nacional del Este," que ejecuta la "Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional" (AECI) junto con la "Dirección Nacional de Parques" (DNP) en la República Dominicana. La identificación se hizo según el canto y de visu, durante los meses de marzo a junio. También se compara estadísticamente las posibles desviaciones en el muestreo al ser realizado por tres personas distintas a lo largo del mis mo recorrido. La importancia de este trabajo reside no sólo en el valor científico de los resultados, sino también en la integración del personal encargado del Parque a las labores de investigación.

THE RELEASE PROGRAM FOR THE PUERTO RICAN PLAIN PIGEON

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Department of Natural Resources, San Juan, Puerto Rico, 00906

Eight Puerto Rican Plain Pigeons (*Columba inornata wetmorei*) were released to the wild in April 1993. All pigeons were raised by their own parents representing six different families. Birds were moved from the Humacao Aviary to a releasing cage (3 x 3 x 10m) at Cidra. We provided daily pellets, natural food, and water. A total of 22 plant species were provided and most of them tried and accepted. Preferred fruits were *Roystonea borinquena*, *Scheflera morototoni*, *Lantana camara*, *Psychotria berteriana*, and *Nectandra membranacea*. The birds were acclimatized for five weeks in the releasing cage. During the last two weeks a radio transmitter was installed to each pigeon to study their behavior with this device. All pigeons were released and monitored with the radiotelemetry equipment. Three pigeons were lost, one illegally shot and two killed by Red-tailed Hawks (*Buteo jamaicensis*). Most of the birds integrated into the wild population of plain pigeons and at the end of the study two released pigeons started to breed in two different areas. Dispersion of pigeons varied from 0.2 km to over 7.0 km (maximum range of the receiver). All pigeons were monitored for three months, the life of the transmitters' batteries.

ORLANDO H. GARRIDO RECEIVES SCO AWARD AS OUTSTANDING ORNITHOLOGIST

ARTURO KIRKCONNELL

During the 1993 annual meeting of the SCO, Orlando Garrido was presented with the Society's Outstanding Ornithologist Award in recognition for his valuable contributions to the fields of systematics, ecology, and conservation of Cuban birds. Below is the text of the presentation made at the banquet.

Members of the Society of Caribbean Ornithology
Guests: Ladies and Gentlemen,

Today I have the pleasure and great satisfaction to render honor to the person I consider the most outstanding systematist of Cuban vertebrates: Orlando H. Garrido.

His serious study of biology began when he was just 15 years old, when he dedicated most of his time to collecting insects, mainly butterflies and beetles. His interest in ornithology was stimulated in 1952 when he met his professor, Oscar Owre, at the University of Miami. Orlando stayed at the University for 4 years, taking courses in biology and business administration, but did not finish his studies there because the funds from his tennis scholarship ran out. Rather, he completed his education through self-teaching .

For 7 years he traveled the world with a tennis racket, playing the European, African, Asian, and American circuits, for a total of 54 countries visited. In 1961 he returned to Cuba and began to study the country's birds in close collaboration with James Bond.

As relevant as is his work in ornithology, so is his work with other groups of Cuban vertebrates. His broad knowledge, experience, and field skill made him the prominent authority, not only of birds, but also of reptiles and coral reef fishes. Orlando's knowledge of mammals and invertebrates, in particular the systematics of the tenebrionid beetles, is also remarkable.

Everyone who knows him has a favorite anecdote about Orlando. Each is unique; for example when he discovered a new species of hutia in a cay after he found only a fecal pellet, or when he captured with his bare hands a Black-and-white Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*) a few seconds after telling his field assistant he was going to do it. On one occasion when I wanted to test his field skills, I asked Orlando to guess a new bird I had seen in my last field trip. He only asked about the exact date of my observation. When I replied, Orlando told me not only the correct species, but also the sex.

Orlando Garrido is an untiring investigator of our biodiversity, as demonstrated by his many discoveries: of 9 species of Cuban hutia known to science, 5 were discovered by Orlando; 91 taxa of reptiles, 13 taxa of birds, 30 new records of fishes, and 3 new to science are attributed to Orlando Garrido. He has found more than 50 new species of invertebrates, 15 of which have been dedicated to him.

His publication record is also prolific, containing 181 titles, including several books, such as "The Catalogue of Cuban Birds" and "Ecological Segregation in Cuban Avifauna."

Recently I asked him what was his greatest satisfaction in his long career. I was not surprised to hear that everything has been a great satisfaction to him: every discovery, each description, the rediscovery of the many *Anolis* species, of the Snowy Plover in Cuba, and on and on.

His greatest wish is to see the Zapata Rail (*Cyanolimnas cerverai*), the only bird in Cuba that he has not observed. He has never lost the hope to find it someday, but I feel sorry for the rail that has the misfortune or disgrace of this long-wished meeting.

Among the many international honors or charges bestowed on him are an American Ornithologists' Union Fellowship, membership on the International Council for Bird Protection, Honorary Membership in the Polish Journal, *The Ring*, and Scientific Advisor for the RARE Center.

For the human point of view, there are three adjectives that can not be missed when we talk about Orlando. They are giving, modest and last, but not least, that which forms much of his personality — his sense of humor.

"The Field Marshall," he is called by all of us who love, praise, and respect his work. I feel lucky to be working with him in this period of his life. I want to thank the Organizers of this meeting for conferring to me the great honor of contributing this short, but honest, homage to Orlando.

On behalf of all the persons present here, our most sincere respect and admiration. We thank you, Orlando, for your enduring contributions to Cuban natural history.

We wish you good health to continue your prolific work which you have so freely shared with all of us.

Congratulations, Orlando!

UNIECO '93

La Universidad de Cara a la Naturaleza Primer Simposio de Ecologia ("UNIECO '93"), was held at the University of La Habana, 6-11 December 1993. About 120 delegates, including large delegations from Mexico and Venezuela, attended the symposium. Scientific papers were presented in several concurrent sessions, including Environmental Education; Applied Ecology; Populations, Communities, and Ecosystems; as well as video and computer sessions. Several plenary sessions were also presented, including "Interaccion Biologo-Sociedad en la Conservacion de la Biodiversidad" and "Biodiversity," which were chaired by SCO members Orlando Torres Fundora and Vincente Berovides, respectively. Attendees were treated to several organized excursions to historic old Habana, museums, and a diverse array of field

sites, including coral reefs on the northern coast in Pinar del Río province and at Rincon de Guanabo in La Habana province, and two terrestrial trips to the Sierra del Rosario and the Cienaga de Zapata. Three post-congress courses were offered: "Flora y Fauna de Arrecifes Coralinos," "Ecologia del Suelo" (5 days), and "Aspectos de Ecologia Cuantitativa" (3 days).

Several papers on birds were presented during the symposium. Abstracts of some of these are presented below.

ESTUDIO HISTORICO-BIOLOGICO DE LA INTRODUCCION DE VERTEBRADOS EXOTICOS EN LA ISLA DE LA JUVENTUD

TOMAS ESCOBAR HERRERA
ISP, Isla de la Juventud

Este trabajo constituye una sintesis de como se ha desarrollado la introduccion de especies de vertebrados exoticos en la Isla de la Juventud, asi como del impacto que ellos han causado en los ecosistemas de dicha isla, especialmente la introduccion deliberada. Se consideran en esta categoria de fauna introducida alrededor de 30 especies de vertebrados, incluyendo peces, y se recomienda la medidas de conservacion adecuadas para su eliminacion o disminucion de sus daños, especialmente a la fauna autoctona.

REPRODUCCIÓN DE LA COTORRA CUBANA (*AMAZONA LEUCOCEPHALA*) EN EL AREA PROTEGIDA LOS INDIOS, DURANTE 1992

XIOMARA GALVES AQUILERA[1] Y VINCENTE BEROVIDES A.[2]
[1]*Empresa de la Proteccion de la Flora y la Fauna, Cuba;*
[2]*Facultad de Biologia, Universidad de La Habana, Cuba*

En el presente estudio se analiza el comportamiento reproducido de la Cotorra Cubana (*Amazona leucocephala*), durante la temporada de 1992, en el area protegida Los Indios, Isla de la Juventud. Esta area es de sabanas arenosas con pinos y palmas barrigonas, anidando las cotorras en esta ultima. Para el trabajo, el area total se dividio en 15 zonas, las que fueron evaluadas para cantidad total de cavidades y otras especies y el numero de huevos y pichones (para la cotorra). La productividad de cada zona se midio como volantones/ha. De las 707 cavidades a utilizar las cotorras usaron 89 (6.2%), los murcielagos 52 (7.4%) y otras 5 especies 44 (6.2%). El 4.7% de los nidos fueron usados y el 3.8% fueron bajas. Las zonas mas productivas produjeron de 5.2 a 1.2 volantones/ha. Esta productividad dependio mas de la densidad de nidos que del numero de pichones por nidos.

PARTICION DE LOS RECURSOS TROPICOS ENTRE EL COCO BLANCO (*EUDOCIMUS ALBUS*) Y EL COCO PRIETO (*PLEGADIS FALCINELLUS*) EN LA ARROCERA DEL JIBARO

MARTIN ACOSTA Y LOURDES MUJICA
Facultad de Biologia, Universidad de La Habana, Cuba

Se realizaron muestreos durante los meses de mayo, julio, agosto, octubre, noviembre y diciembre de 1992 en las arroceras del Jibaro, Sancti Spiritus, donde se colectaron 63 Cocos Blancos y 59 Cocos Prietos. Las medidas morfometricas mostraron resultados superiores para el Coco Blanco, al igual que el peso, lo que provoca mayores demandas energeticas en el mismo; el consumo de alimento en esta especie alcanzo el 9% de su peso corporal mientras que en el Coco Prieto solo el 14%. Los componentes principales de la dieta en el Coco Blanco fueron los camarones y peces, mientras que el Coco Prieto consumio fundamentalmente el arroz. Ambas especies monstraron al principio su accion principal al principio y al final del cultivo.

ASSOCIATION FOR PARROT CONSERVATION

We wish to announce the formation of a conservation group, the Association for Parrot Conservation (APC). Concerned scientists met in Washington, D.C., in October 1993 to discuss the present status, threats, and conservation of the world's parrot populations. As a result, it was decided that there was an urgent need to form an organization that provides a forum for parrot specialists to address critical research, management, and conservation needs.

The mission of the organization is to promote the conservation of wild parrot populations and their habitat through scientific research, policy recommendations, and education. Initial emphasis will be placed on New World parrots. APC was founded to (1) scientifically evaluate conservation alternatives for maintaining wild populations and their habitats (e.g., field research and recovery, habitat preservation, ecosystem management, conservation education, ecotourism, captive breeding, reintroduction, sustainable use, and trade recommendations) as well as their application on a case-by-case basis to parrots, (2) educate scientists, decision-makers, and the public about the potentials and limitations of conservation alternatives, (3) create a communications network for those concerned with the conservation of wild parrot populations, and (4) facilitate local and regional conservation projects. The guiding principle of the association is to promote techniques and strategies that maximize the conservation of biological diversity.

An Executive Council of 17 members was elected. The President will be Dr. Enrique Bucher from Argentina, who is well-known for his studies of New World parrots and the sustainable use of biological resources. Dr. Bucher hopes that

"by initiating and facilitating effective parrot conservation actions, the association will make a substantial contribution to conserve the parrots of the New World, of which 30% of the species are at present threatened."

For further information, please contact Dr. Rosemarie S. Gnam, Executive Director, 13 East Rosemont Ave., Alexandria, Virginia 22301, U.S.A.; telephone: 703-739-9803.

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

BAHAMA WHITE-CHEEKED PINTAIL INFORMATION NEEDED.—We are compiling information on the distribution, status, and conservation needs of the Bahama race of the White-cheeked Pintail (*Anas b. bahamensis*) throughout the West Indies. We especially need information from Hispaniola (Haiti and the Dominican Republic), the U. S. Virgin Islands, Netherlands Antilles (especially St. Martin), St. Barthelemy, St. Kitts, Nevis, Montserrat, and Guadeloupe, but would also welcome contributions from other islands. Please contact Dr. Frank McKinney and Bethany L. Woodworth, James Ford Bell Museum of Natural History, University of Minnesota, 100 Ecology Building, 1987 Upper Buford Circle, St. Paul, Minnesota 55455, U.S.A. We request that contributors fill out a simple two-page questionnaire, but unpublished data would also be appreciated. All contributors will be acknowledged and properly cited, and contributors will be provided with a copy of the report.

INFORMATION REQUESTED ON GRASSHOPPER SPARROWS.—I hope that some members of the Society of Caribbean Ornithology might be able to provide information regarding the biology of Grasshopper Sparrows (*Ammodramus savannarum*) from the Caribbean region. I am responsible for the American Ornithologists' Union Grasshopper Sparrow account for the Birds of North America series. Other than field guides and older references, such as Wetmore and Swales' The birds of Haiti and the Dominican Republic, I am not aware of any published data or information for Grasshopper Sparrow from the Caribbean. Inclusion of such information, if it exists, would be a meaningful addition to this account. If members are aware of any references (Spanish is fine), data, or colleagues working in grassland habitats, I would be most appreciative if you would let me know. I am especially interested in breeding seasonality and behavior, population status, and taxonomy. Any help will be greatly appreciated and full acknowledged.

Peter Vickery
Avian Ecologist
Massachusetts Audubon Society
P.O. Box 127
Richmond, Maine 04357
U.S.A.

CARIBBEAN ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION CENTER

The Caribbean Environmental Information Center, a collaborative program between the Metropolitan University, Puerto Rico, and the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, has recently opened. The Center provides information on environmental issues of the Wider Caribbean Region. Contact Maritza Alvarez Machin, Centro de Información Ambiental del Caribe (CIAC), Universidad Metropolitana, Apartado 21150, Río Piedras, Puerto Rico 00928. Telephone: 809-766-1717.

MEETINGS OF INTEREST

28 February–3 March 1994 – **Sixteenth Vertebrate Pest Conference**, Westin Hotel, Santa Clara, California. (Dr. Terrell Salmon, Business Manager c/o DANR – North Region Research Park Facility, University of California, Davis, California 95616, U.S.A. Telephone: 916-757-8621; FAX: 916-757-8866).

20–27 March 1994 – **Fifth International Migration Festival**, International Birding Center, Eiliat, Israel. (Dr. Reuven Yosef, Director, IBCE, Attn: Spring Festival '94, P.O. Box 774, Eilat 88000, Israel).

11–14 April 1994 – **Wetlands: Nature Conservation and Archaeology: Principles, Problems & Practice**, University of Bristol, United Kingdom. (Rosalind Ladd, Conference Administrator, Gifford & Partners, Carlton House, Ringwood Road, Woodlands, Southampton, SO4 2HT, England. Telephone: 0703-813461; FAX: 0703-813462).

11–15 May 1994 – Joint meeting of **The Association of Systematics Collections** and **the Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections**, Missouri Botanical Garden. (ASC, 730 11th Street, N.W., Second Floor, Washington, D.C. 20001, U.S.A. Telephone: 202-347-2850).

7–12 June 1994 – Joint annual meeting of the **Society for Conservation Biology** and **The Association for Tropical Biology**, University of Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico. (Eduardo Santana, Department of Wildlife Biology, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin 53706, U.S.A. FAX: 608-262-6099; or Laboratorio Natural Las Joyas, Universidad de Guadalajara, Apdo. Postal 1-3933, Guadalajara, Jalisco, C.P. 44100, Mexico. FAX: 52-338-7-27-49).

mid-June 1994 – **Second Mesoamerican Workshop on the Conservation and Management of Macaws**, Costa Rica. (Center for the Study of Tropical Birds, Inc., 218 Conway Dr., San Antonio, Texas 78209-1716, U.S.A.. FAX: 512-828-5911).

Meetings (continued)

21–26 June 1994 – **The American Ornithologists' Union, The Cooper Ornithological Society,** and **The Wilson Ornithological Society**, joint meeting, University of Montana, Missoula, Montana, U.S.A.

24–30 July 1994 – **Animal Behavior Society**, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, U.S.A. (James C. Ha, Regional Primate Research Center, University of Washington, 1-421 Health Sciences Building, Seattle, Washington 98195, U.S.A.).

12–18 August 1994 – **21st World Conference of the International Council for Bird Preservation**, "Global partnership for bird conservation," Rosenheim, Germany. (Bayerische Akademie für Naturschutz und Landschaftspflege (ANL), ICBP World Conference, Postfach 1261, D-8229 Laufen/Salzach, Germany).

21–27 August 1994 – **XXI International Ornithological Congress**, Hofburg, Vienna, Austria. (Interconvention, Friedrichstrasse 7, A-1450 Vienna, Austria. Telephone: +43-1-586-7260).

5–11 August 1995 – **V Neotropical Ornithological Congress**, Asuncion, Paraguay. (Nancy Lopez de Kochalka, c/o Comité Organizador Local del V CON, Museo Nacional de Historia Natural del Paraguay, Sucursal 19, Campus, Central XI, Paraguay, South America. Telephone: 595-21-505075).

NEW PUBLICATION

CUMULATIVE INDEX BY AUTHOR, SPECIES & SUBJECT TO THE GOSSE BIRD CLUB BROADSHEET.—Catherine Levy. Gosse Bird Club, Kingston, Jamaica. 1993. 24 pages. ISSN 1017-348X. The Gosse Bird Club of Jamaica was formed over 30 years ago. Soon after, the publication of their journal, *The Broadsheet*, began in August 1963 and has been produced continuously since then. This index covers issues 1–60 (1963-1993), and includes sections on authors, species, and subjects. Ms. Levy also provides a history of the Editors of the journal. The Index is a valuable tool providing access to the extensive information available in *The Broadsheet*.

PUBLICATION AVAILABLE

SITUACIÓN DE LAS POBLACIONES DE *COLUMBA LEUCOCEPHALA* (AVES: COLUMBIDAE) EN CUBA ENTRE 1979 Y 1987

[STATUS OF WHITE-CROWNED PIGEON (AVES: COLUMBIDAE) POPULATIONS IN CUBA BETWEEN 1979 AND 1987]

by

ESTEBAN GODINEZ

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Available for $10.00 (including postage from Jim Wiley, 2201 Ashland St., Ruston, Louisiana 71270, USA

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ORNITHOLOGY IN THE AMERICAS: **A special event to enhance cooperation among ornithologists from North America, Latin America, and the Caribbean.**—The Committee for Pan American Affairs of the American Ornithologists' Union (AOU) is proposing to invite several selected Latin American representatives to the Missoula '94 joint AOU, Cooper Ornithological Society, and Wilson Ornithological Society meeting. A special poster session will show recent ornithological advances in their countries (like the upcoming Neotropical Ornithology meeting in Paraguay 1994), and will provide a forum to highlight issues and actions that can increase contacts between North American ornithologists with their colleagues to the south. Interested ornithologists should contact Alejandro Grajal, Chairman, Pan American Affairs Committee c/o International Conservation, NYZS The Wildlife Conservation Society, 185th Street and Southern Blvd., Bronx, New York 10460, U.S.A. (telephone: 718-220-7158; Fax: 718-364-4275).

TRAVEL GRANTS FOR LATIN AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS.—*La Unión Americana de Ornitólogos* anuncia la disponibilidad de fondos para que ornitólogos de América Latina y El Caribe puedan asistir a la reunión anual en Missoula, Montana, EEUU. Los fondos disponibles cubren costos de viaje aéreo, comida y alojamiento durante la reunión. Tanto estudiantes universitarios como profesionales pueden acceder a dichos fondos. Las personas interesadas deben mandar un curriculum vitae, un resumen (en inglés) de 2-3 páginas sobre su presentación, y un presupuesto detallado anticipando los costos del viaje a: Alejandro Grajal, Chairman, Pan American Affairs Committee c/o International Conservation, NYZS The Wildlife Conservation Society, 185th Street and Southern Blvd., Bronx, New York 10460, U.S.A. (telephone: 718-220-7158; Fax: 718-364-4275) **antes de 1 Marzo 1994.**

The America Ornithologists' Union announces the availability of funds to support the attendance of Latin American and Caribbean ornithologists at its June 1994 meeting in Missoula, Montana. The grants will cover air fare, room, and board during the meeting. Both students and professions may apply. Interested persons should send a curriculum vitae, a 2-3 page summary of their presentation, and a detailed budget indicating anticipated expenses for the trip, to Alejandro Grajal, Chairman, Pan American Affairs Committee c/o International Conservation, NYZS The Wildlife Conservation Society, 185th Street and Southern Blvd., Bronx, New York 10460, U.S.A. (telephone: 718-220-7158; Fax: 718-364-4275) **before 1 March 1994**.

THE SOCIETY OF CARIBBEAN ORNITHOLOGY

President: Catherine Levy, 2 Starlight Ave., Kingston 6, Jamaica

Vice President: Dr. Joseph Wunderle, Jr., Institute of Tropical Forestry, P.O. Box B Palmer, Puerto Rico 00721

Secretary: Ms. Patricia F. Bradley, 25 Springfield, Bradford-on Avon, Wiltshire, BA15 1BA, England

Treasurer: Dr. Rosemarie Gnam, 13 East Rosemont Ave., Alexandria, Virginia 22301, U.S.A.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Annual dues for membership in the Society of Caribbean Ornithology should be sent to Treasurer Rosemarie Gnam. Members are reminded that an election for Board Members will be held in 1994. To vote for Members, one must have paid their annual membership dues.

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