



Partners in Flight LA TANGARA



Newsletter of the International Working Group of Partners in Flight
A Hemisphere-wide bird conservation initiative.

No 58
September - October 2005

Sponsored by: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Migratory Birds. Produced by: International Working Group of Partners in Flight.

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NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Friends,

I would like to thank the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Migratory Birds Washington Office for funding La Tangara this next phase. During this entire year we have not had any funding, yet we've tried to continue editing this newsletter during all this time. I would also like to mention the support from my assistant Mariamar Gutierrez, and her unconditional work on La Tangara. I am very grateful to George Wallace from the American Bird Conservancy (ABC) for being a part of the reviewing committee of La Tangara during all these years, and in his place, welcome Paul Salaman, Director of International Programs of ABC.

We hope to update our database on the website, especially with new readers; today, La Tangara has more than 1400 readers in the Americas and part of Europe. Finally, I encourage you to continue to contribute with announcements for this newsletter.

Cheers,
 José Zolotoff-Pallais
 Editor

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INFORMATION NEEDED ON GOLDEN-WINGED AND BLUE-WINGED WARBLERS IN LATIN AMERICA

Both Golden-winged (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) and Blue-winged (*V. pinus*) warblers are species of high continental conservation concern (Partners in Flight North American Landbird Conservation Plan, 2004). Golden-wings, in particular, have experienced a population decline on the breeding grounds of over 50% over the past 35 years (Breeding Bird Survey). Major hypotheses for Golden-winged Warbler decline include climate change, habitat loss on the breeding and non-breeding grounds, migration mortality, and hybridization with Blue-winged Warblers. The Golden-winged Warbler Working Group—comprised of over 80 U.S., Canadian, and Latin American ornithologists, conservationists, and managers from academia, federal and state agencies, international non-governmental organizations, and industry—met in August 2005 in Siren, Wisconsin, to develop priorities for research and strategies for conservation action for the species. One of the standing committees of the Working Group organized at the Siren workshop, the **Alianza Alas Doradas** (Golden-winged Alliance), will explore the possibility that the population size of this species may be limited by conditions during its migration and non-breeding residency in the tropics and will forge research and conservation collaborations beneficial to Golden-winged Warblers and the many other species with which it shares habitat in South and Central America.

Alianza Alas Doradas has reviewed existing specimen data and published information on Golden-winged and Blue-winged warbler records from northern South America, Central America, Mexico, and the Caribbean. There is no question, however, that unpublished observations will substantially increase our understanding of the non-breeding distribution of these birds and will help us identify significant densities and appropriate habitat in order to focus meaningful conservation measures. We therefore request interested birders and biologists to send us details on sight observations or station captures for Golden-wings, Blue-wings, and their hybrids outside of the United States and Canada. Please include the following information for each observation: species (or hybrid), observer, date, precise locality (country, province, and as much detailed site data as possible, including lat-long coordinates, if known), habitat description, elevation, number of birds observed (with sex and age, if known), and any other potentially useful comments (e.g., nature of flocks and associated species). Please send records from South America (Colombia, Venezuela, and Ecuador) to Maria Isabel Moreno (Fundación ProAves Colombia, <http://www.proaves.org> or <mailto:mmoreno@proaves.org>) and records from Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean to Mariamar Gutiérrez (ALAS Nicaragua, <http://www.avesnicaragua.org>, mariamar@avesnicaragua.org)

NEW MoSI STATIONS AND BIRD BANDERS NEEDED FOR WINTER 2005-06.

MoSI (Monitoreo de Supervivencia Invernal) is a cooperative effort among more than 30 organizations, agencies and individual bird banders established in 2002 to assess the quality of Neotropical migratory landbird habitats in Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean. Contributors to the MoSI program operate bird-banding stations during 3-5 monthly pulses (each pulse consisting of 2-3 days of mist-netting) between November and March. With support from the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act (NMBCA), The Institute for Bird Populations will provide limited financial support (\$640 US per station per year) to MoSI stations operating during the winters of 2005-06 and 2006-07. Although new stations are needed in a variety of habitats, they are particularly needed in the Atlantic Lowlands of Mexico and in the Caribbean regions and in tropical dry forest and mangrove habitats. Bird banders interested in establishing MoSI stations for the 2005-06 winter season should contact Claudia Romo de Vivar Alvarez (<mailto:clarovial@birdpop.org> for stations in Mexico), Salvadora Morales (<mailto:smorales@birdpop.org> for

stations in Central America) or James Saracco (<mailto:jsaracco@birdpop.org> for stations in the Caribbean). Banders interested in volunteering at existing MoSI stations should visit the MoSI Bulletin Board at www.birdpop.org/MoSI/MoSIBB.asp. For more information, visit www.birdpop.org/MoSI/MoSI.htm.

SUPPORT TO THE MONITORING OVERWINTER SURVIVAL PROGRAM IN CENTRAL AMERICA

Bruce Peninsula Bird Observatory (Canada) continues supporting the Monitoring Overwinter Survivorship Program (MoSI) in Nicaragua. For a second year, BPBO will support the monitoring stations with one thousand Canadian dollars for the 2005-2006 season; also they have donated 6 binoculars to strengthen observations during the monitoring and increase records of migratory and resident species. The MoSI-Central America Program would like to also thank Fellow-Nongame Migratory Birds (Denver, Colorado) and Eric Horvath for their individual donations of mist nets, pesolas, optivisor and distance meter. Currently there are 24 stations in Central America; any support through material and equipment donations as well as banding volunteers is welcome. Monitoring starts in November and ends in March. For information contact Salvadora Morales, Central America Coordinator, <mailto:smorales@birdpop.org>

CONSERVATION PLAN FOR THE PINE-OAK ECOREGION OF CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE NEOTROPICAL MIGRANT GOLDEN-CHEEKED WARBLER *Dendroica chrysoparia*

Twelve institutions signed an agreement to establish the "Continental Alliance for the conservation of the Pine-Oak Eco-region of Central America and its Birds" during the Congress of the Mesoamerican Society for Biology and Conservation in Chiapas, in November 2003. (For more details visit: <http://www.defensores.org.gt>). Since then we've initiated a process of work, solidarity, exchange of experiences and mutual support among the members of the Alliance, especially in the technical area. In 2004 training workshops were carried out on banding techniques, ecology and standardization of methodologies for the study of Golden-cheeked Warbler in the Neotropics. The workshop sites have been Fort Hood, Texas and Sierra de las Minas, Guatemala. With the objective of guiding the work at a regional level, with support from the The Nature Conservancy (Guatemala) and Travis Audubon Society (Texas), the members of the Alliance will write an Eco-regional Plan that will orient and integrate the actions from Chiapas through Northern Nicaragua. The plan will be done using methodologies from the "Area Conservation Plan" developed by The Nature Conservancy, our partners and donors in this project. (<http://nature.org/event/wpc/references/art10951.html>). We invite conservation organizations in each Central American country and Chiapas, Mexico to join this eco-regional planning effort by contacting the organizations of the promoting group of the Alliance, among them: Pronatura Chiapas (<http://www.pronatura-chiapas.org>), Salva Natura (<http://www.salvanatura.org>), Fundación Educa (Honduras), Alianza para las Áreas Silvestres (<http://www.avesnicaragua.org>) y Fundación Defensores de la Naturaleza (<http://www.defensores.org.gt>). The work plan establishes a regional meeting of integration (October 18-19 in Guatemala City) which will discuss national workshops, mechanisms, and programs which will make possible the Regional Plan of Conservation. For more information contact: Edgar Selvin Pérez, Temporal Coordinator for the "Alliance for the conservation of the Pine-Oak Eco-region of Central America and its Birds" Fundación Defensores de la Naturaleza, dendroica@defensores.org.gt

FIRST SOUTH AMERICAN RESERVE FOR NORTH AMERICAN SONGBIRD

The Cerulean Warbler is the most endangered North America songbird that winters in South America. Since 1966 it has been vanishing at an alarming rate (70% decline), due to habitat fragmentation and destruction in its breeding and wintering range, having once been a common sight in the forests of the eastern United States. The warbler undertakes a 3000+ mile migration across the Caribbean to the Northern Andes of South America. Although originally assumed to occur at low densities across the Northern Andes, American Bird Conservancy (ABC) Colombian partner - Fundación ProAves - actually found the species at high densities in their favored habitat - subtropical forest in sheltered inter-Andean valleys of northern Colombia. One of their key wintering areas with exceptional population densities of Cerulean Warbler is in the Rio Chucurí basin of Santander department. This fieldwork, funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under a Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act grant, and by the Colombian Environmental Action Fund through Conservation International, discovered that the Cerulean Warbler is much more ecologically specialized and that its habitat has been severely impacted by forest clearance. At

the emergency request of ProAves and ABC, Robert Giles from the U.K. and Dorothy Welch from the U.S. have supported the acquisition of 500 acres of subtropical forest in the Rio Chucurí basin in Santander—one of the last natural remnant forest fragments in the region where the Cerulean Warbler is concentrated. The site also contains three Critically Endangered bird species: the Gorgeted Wood-Quail (the reserve is considered to be the global population stronghold), Colombian Mountain-Grackle, and Chestnut-bellied Hummingbird. There are many other threatened and endemic bird species on the reserve. The reserve also boasts an ancient but pristine indigenous stone path, six feet wide and 30 miles long, that winds through the reserve's subtropical forests. The Cerulean Warbler Bird Reserve represents the first protected area in Latin America designated for a Neotropical songbird migrant, and is the focal point for a continuing regional conservation campaign for the warbler and other bird species. To download a map showing the Cerulean Warbler's winter, migration, and breeding ranges, together with the location of the new reserve go to: http://www.abcbirds.org/media/cerulean_map.htm. For more information contact Paul Salaman, American Bird Conservancy, <mailto:psalaman@abcbirds.org>

CERULEAN WARBLER CONSERVATION IN PERU

The Cerulean Warbler is suffering. There is great habitat loss both in its breeding range as well as the wintering grounds. In fact so little is known about its whereabouts and threats on the wintering grounds that U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Nature Conservancy have started to fund expeditions into the foothill areas throughout the Andean countries south to Bolivia. Asociación Incaspiza has been granted funding to conduct surveys in Central Peru. We are looking for observations from Peru in general and Central Peru in particular. We would be very pleased if you could share such sightings with us. The best would be if you could insert the sighting on the database at <http://www.birdingperu.com/masterperu/>, but you can also email them directly. A quite novel approach will be used, in that we will invite the public to participate in the project and make this a way to popularize bird watching in Peru. The studies will be conducted when Peruvian students have summer holidays (January-March). The project will also be open to foreign volunteers - if they want to participate as students or leaders. The cost for Peruvians and resident experts will be around \$25 per day and \$50 for foreign visitors. If you want to participate in this project and courses, or want to report your sightings, contact Gunnar Engblom, Kolibri Expeditions, <mailto:gunnar@kolibriexpeditions.com> or visit: <http://www.kolibriexpeditions.com>

CALL FOR INFORMATION ON TOUCANS IN ECUADOR

I am seeking basic information on natural history, ecology and reproductive biology Plate-billed Mountain-Toucan (*Andigena laminirostris*) and Toucan Barbet (*Semnornis ramphastinus*). This information is key for starting a research project on these threatened birds in Ecuador. This research will seek strategic nesting sites and confirm or extend its distribution for the conservation of habitat in the country. I will greatly appreciate any information. Please send information and/or articles to: Fernanda Salazar, Universidad Central del Ecuador, <mailto:fernandasalazar@latinmail.com> or <mailto:mefer83600@hotmail.com>

WEB NEWS

"LISTEN TO NATURE" is a new website, featuring 400 audio extracts from the British Library Sound Archive's wildlife collections at: <http://www.bl.uk/listentonature>

RARE WOODPECKER'S IDENTITY UNDER SCRUTINY at:

http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2005/07/ivory-billed_woodpecker.html

MORE BIRDS SLIPPING TOWARDS EXTINCTION at:

http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2005/06/red_list_update.html

You can now access vols. 1-13 of ORNITOLOGIA NEOTROPICAL at SORA, thanks to Dr. Blair Wolf's efforts at: <http://elibrary.unm.edu/sora/ON/>

AVIBASE contains hundreds of thousands of synonyms in dozens of languages at: <http://www.bsc-eoc.org/avibase/avibase.jsp>

NEOTROPICAL CONSERVATION BIOLOGY BULLETIN at:
<http://www.conservationbiology.org/SCB/Publications/NeoCons/>

NEW HOPE FOR GREAT GREEN MACAW at:
http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2005/07/great_green_macaw.html

MESOAMERICANA VOL. 9 (1 & 2) may be obtained at: <http://www.socmesoamericana.org/ev.php>.

FESTIVE TIMES FOR CARIBBEAN BIRDS at: <http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2005/08/caribbean.html>

COLOMBIAN ORNITHOLOGICAL LIBRARY and national bird literature on sale at:
<http://www.proaves.org>

ORNITOLOGÍA COLOMBIANA - issue No. 3 now available online at:
<http://www.ornitologiacolombiana.org/revista.htm>

IMPORTANT BIRD SITES

- New edition of the SAO (Sociedad Antioqueña de Ornitología) bulletin at:
<http://www.sao.org.co/publicaciones/boletinsao/Boletin%20sao.htm>
- Birding Peru online data base <http://birdingperu.com/masterperu/>
- Two-thirds of Argentina's IBAs are unprotected at:
<http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2005/09/argentina.html>
- Swarovski Optic E-bulletin at: <http://www.refugenet.org/birding/birding5.html>
- The Global Raptor Information Network ("GRIN") at: <http://www.peregrinefund.org>
- Website for the collection and dissemination of bird vocalizations from all over the Neotropics at:
<http://www.xeno-canto.org/>

FUNDING

NEOTROPICAL MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION ACT GRANT

The Act establishes a matching grants program to fund projects in the United States, Latin America, and the Caribbean that promote the conservation of migratory birds. Funded projects will perpetuate healthy populations of Neotropical migratory birds; assist in the conservation of these birds by supporting conservation initiatives in the United States, Latin America, and the Caribbean, and provide financial resources and foster international cooperation for those initiatives. Conservation under this program is fairly broadly defined and includes: habitat maintenance, management, restoration, enhancement and protection; research and monitoring; law enforcement; and community outreach and education. For every \$1 received in grant funds, the applicant must commit \$3 in partner funds. Projects that link habitat conservation in the United States with conservation in Latin America are encouraged. The next deadline for the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act will be Thursday, December 1, 2005 Web link:
http://www.fws.gov/birdhabitat/Nmbca/eng_neo.htm

FRANCOIS VUILLEUMIER FUND FOR RESEARCH ON NEOTROPICAL BIRDS

The goal of the Neotropical Ornithological Society's Francois Vuilleumier Fund is to award one or more cash grants per year for thesis studies of Neotropical birds to one or several graduate students from any

country in Latin America and the Caribbean . The funds are provided to assist thesis research by students, enrolled in an institution in the Neotropics who have little or no access to funds within their country or at their institution. Awards will be competitive and are expected to be in the range of \$500. Students from Latin America and the Caribbean enrolled in a graduate degree program (Masters or Ph.D.) at an institution in the Neotropical Region are eligible to apply. Application Deadline: 10 December each year. Announcement of Awards: 15 March each year. Fund information and guidelines are available on the Neotropical Ornithological Society website at: <http://www.neotropicalornithology.org>. For additional information contact Dr. Joseph M. Wunderle: <mailto:wunderle@coqui.net>.

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: 2006 BP CONSERVATION PROGRAMME AWARDS

The aim of BP (British Petroleum) Conservation Programme Awards is to contribute to long-term environmental conservation and sustainable development in priority areas by encouraging and engaging potential leaders in biodiversity conservation, and providing opportunities for them to gain practical skills and experience. This initiative, organised by BirdLife International, Conservation International, Fauna & Flora International, the Wildlife Conservation Society and BP, has been helping young conservationists across the world to achieve their goals for the past 15 years. The Programme currently works towards its aims by offering advice, training and awards, primarily targeting university students. Three types of awards will be offered in 2006: 1) Future Conservationist Awards: Approximately 20 awards of up to \$12,500 each, plus training., 2) Conservation Follow-up Awards: Approximately 5 awards of up to \$25,000 each, plus training. Available to previous BPCP award winners only., 3) Conservation Leadership Awards: 2 awards of \$50,000 each, plus training. Available to previous BPCP award winners only. The application deadline is 16th December 2005. All applications and awards will be announced mid-March 2006. Visit: <http://conservation.bp.com/applications/default.asp> to see grant criteria.

TRAINING / JOB OPPORTUNITIES

ADVANCED ORNITHOLOGY COURSE FOR BIRD WATCHERS

The course will take place in the city of Leticia (Amazon) from November 7-20, 2005. The goal of the course is to emphasize the importance of mastering ornithological theory and use of observation methods, monitoring, and analysis and publication of research to contribute to knowledge and conservation of wild bird communities in Neotropical environments. National University of Colombia professors, Dr. Gary Stiles and Dr. Argents Bonilla, and the biologists from Corporación Ecotono, Aquiles Gutierrez and Esteban Carrillo, will teach the course. To apply for the course, send: Resume, maximum 3 pages, emphasize your experience as a bird watcher; cover letter stating why you consider it's important for you to take this course; if possible a letter linking you to a bird watching group, ornithological association or educational entity; and 1 page research proposal including: title, general and specific objectives, field methods and information analysis, and expected results, before October 18th. To apply for the course, or more information regarding the course and available scholarships, contact María Argenis Bonilla Gómez, mailto:aves_amazonia@unal.edu.co

VOLUNTEER FIELD ASSISTANT IN ARGENTINA

Two to four volunteers needed from 15 Oct 2005 to 31 Jan 2006 (a minimum stay of 35 days within the period will be preferred) for a long-term monitoring project at Reserva de la Biosfera "Parque Costero Sur" (MAB-UNESCO), northeast of Buenos Aires, Argentina on Red Crested Cardinal (*Paroaria coronata*). We collect information on reproductive success, foraging behavior, chick growth rates, population trends and behavior ecology. Field work will consist of territory spot mapping, nest monitoring, census, banding, conducting behavioral observations, and vegetation measurements. Volunteers will live at a rustic field camp 25 km from the nearest town. Applicants must get along well with others, be willing to work hard, and be self motivated. Good physical condition, ability to make careful observations, and knowledge of Spanish preferred. I am looking for volunteers who can commit for the entire study. We provide lodging, and required equipment. Volunteers must provide their own airfare to Buenos Aires, Argentina, and transportation from Buenos Aires to La Plata (55 km). Volunteers are required to pay a fee (\$ 60

USD/week) to cover food & lodging and help defray costs to project. To apply, please send a cover letter and resume (including the names, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses of 2 references) to Luciano N. Segura, <mailto:lsegura79@yahoo.com.ar>

RAPTOR MIGRATION COUNTERS NEEDED IN PANAMA

Volunteers are needed to help conduct raptor watches in Panama this coming migratory season. The Panama Audubon Society, in collaboration with Hawk Mountain Sanctuary and international and local partners including The Peregrine Fund, CEASPA, and the Canopy Tower Hotel, will conduct the second annual "Raptors Ocean to Ocean" hawk watch from October 3 to November 13, 2005. Every year several million raptors, primarily Broad-winged Hawks, Swainson's Hawks, and Turkey Vultures, pass through Panama on their way to and from wintering grounds in South America. In 2005 we plan to conduct counts at 4-5 watch sites stretching across the 50-mile wide Isthmus of Panama from the Pacific to the Atlantic Ocean. Last year's count recorded a total of more than 3.1 million raptors in six weeks, with the highest one-day count totaling more than 450,000 birds. Counts will be conducted by a combination of overseas volunteers and local participants. Watch sites will include Ancon Hill, the Neotropical Raptor Center, the Canopy Tower Hotel, and Escobal on the Atlantic side. Overseas volunteers will be expected to pay their own travel costs to Panama but will receive free room (and at some sites, board) while participating in the count, to the extent that space is available. Preference will be given to participants who can commit to more extended periods of time, preferably 2 weeks or more, and those with previous raptor watch experience. Volunteers will be expected to be at their watch sites during the daily count period of 8 AM to 6 PM except during periods of inclement weather. Spanish language skills are not necessary but would be helpful. For further information, contact: George Angehr, Director for Science, Panama Audubon Society, <mailto:angehrq@si.edu> with copy to Chelina Batista, Field Coordinator, <mailto:batistac@si.edu> or Dr. Mark Watson, The Peregrine Fund-Panama, <mailto:mwatson@fondoperegrino.org>

JOINT MASTERS PROGRAM AT YALE'S ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT CENTER

The Yale School of Management (SOM) and the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies (FES) offer a Joint Masters Program through which students earn both an MBA and an environmental master's degree in three years. The rigorous curriculum at Yale's Environment Management Center provides students the opportunity to work with and learn from world renowned faculty at these two premier graduate schools, as well as leading professionals in business and environmental management. The intersection of business and the environment at the Environment Management Center offers many exciting and dynamic opportunities for creativity in moving towards a sustainable economy. Students in the joint degree program come to Yale from diverse backgrounds and plan to go on to work on multiple environmental issues across a wide range of sectors and industries. Admission requires independent application and acceptance to both SOM and FES. This ensures that students are fully equipped to take advantage of the educational opportunities at both schools, and ensures a high-caliber group of joint degree students who are often among the top performers in both schools. A new grant to Yale University to the Joint Masters Program aims to train 6 highly qualified conservationists from the Andes-Amazon region. The program offers an excellent opportunity to NGO's and Government institutions to train the next generation of conservation directors and CEOs. Prospective students are encouraged to learn more about the joint degree program at: <http://emc.som.yale.edu>

FIELD ASSISTANT NEEDED IN ECUADOR

Seeking 2 volunteer field assistants from 12th November 2005 - 6th April 2006 for research on reproductive success and mating skew of manakins in Tiputini Biological Station, Amazonia Ecuador (for information about TBS see <http://tiputini.usfq.edu.ec>). Research addresses hypotheses about variables that are affecting female mate choice and male mating success of White-crowned Manakin (*Pipra pipra*). Moreover, research will aim to compare difference in mating success of males using direct (microsatellite markers) and indirect (observational data) methods of paternal assignment. Fieldwork involves use of mist nets to mark and bleed individuals, behavioral observations, radio tracking, nest searching and territory mapping. Applicants should have a strong interest in birds, field biology, and be prepared to work long days. You should be able to follow prescribed protocols, be meticulous in collecting and recording data, be in good physical condition, work both independently and closely with others, and possess good communication skills.

Experience with nest searching and behavioral observations is preferred; a basic knowledge of Spanish is necessary. If you have radio tracking experience, great! I am seeking a motivated individual who is able to work a minimum of 3 months. Food, accommodations, travel within Ecuador and international airfare (up to 800\$) will be provided. Deadline for application: October 10, 2005. To apply, please send a letter of interest, resume, and contact information for 3 references (please send in the body of the email; not as an attachment) to: Wendy P. Tori, <mailto:wpt7t8@umsl.edu>

VOLUNTEER WORK WITH FRIGATEBIRDS IN ISLA ISABEL, NAYARIT, MEXICO

Volunteer work through the project "Influence of body condition on the reproduction of female Magnificent Frigatebird (*Fregata magnificens*)". Through previous observations we know male Frigatebirds reproduce each year, while females can successfully reproduce every two years. We will study biological and ethological factors that control the behavior of female Frigatebirds during their reproductive cycle, courtship and egg hatching to abandonment of the nest by the chick or desertion by the female. We will investigate movement patterns associated with the search of food and the body condition of females during the reproductive cycle. During courtship (October to December 2005) we will search for marked Frigatebirds from previous seasons, we will continue with marking and banding of birds and will obtain a sample to establish the base line of body condition of females until nest abandonment and will continue with observations of marked birds. These measures will help establish up to what point female's condition determines their capacity of reproduction. The stay on the island is from October 1 to December 22, 2005 and from January 9 to April 30, 2006. Food and transportation from cities within Mexico to Isla Isabel will be covered for volunteers. For more information contact Monica Gonzalez Jaramillo, <mailto:mogonzal@cicese.mx>

FIELD ASSISTANT NEEDED IN AMAZONIA 2006-2007

I am searching for an ornithologist with experience in bird banding for a project on songs and speciation in birds in Amazonia. The duration of field work is for at least 4 months from September 2006. Although there is no salary, all expenses are covered. The volunteer will train students in capture and bird banding techniques, radio telemetry and recording bird songs. Board will be in the Biological Station Los Amigos near Puerto Maldonado, South East Peru. If you are interested send a cover letter and C.V. to: Dr. Nathalie Seddon, Department of Zoology, University of Cambridge, England. <mailto:nathalietobias@hotmail.com>

MEETINGS

VI NATIONAL CONGRESS OF ORNITHOLOGY, CHICLAYO - PERU, October 9-12, 2005. This event's objectives are to share results and experience on Peruvian ornithology and bird conservation, to strengthen links between ornithologists, and to raise awareness and interest in developing ornithological and scientific activities in Peru. Detailed information will be posted at <http://www.darwinnet.org/VICNO/principal.htm> on presentation formats, inscription and costs, and other necessary information. Direct queries to <mailto:vicno@darwinnet.org> or contact: Fernando Angulo, Asociación Crácidae Perú, Organizing Committee, <mailto:chamaepetes@gmail.com>, Telephone: 51 - 74 238748; or Jeremy Flanagan, NCI - Peru, Organizing Committee, <mailto:proaves@mail.udep.edu.pe>, Telephone: 51 - 73 502431

13th BRAZILIAN ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS, Belém, Amazonian Brazil, October 30 - November 4, 2005. For further inquiries, please send a message to: <mailto:cbo@museu-goeldi.br>. For more information visit the Congress website at: <http://www.museu-goeldi.br/hpcongresso/espanhol/index.html>
<http://www.museu-goeldi.br/hpcongresso/english/index.html>

MODELING THE SOUTH AMERICAN RANGE OF THE CERULEAN WARBLER CONFERENCE, Universidad San Francisco de Quito, Quito, Ecuador, November 1-3, 2005. This conference will bring together conservationists, ornithologists, and planners to develop models of the distribution of the Cerulean Warbler (*Dendroica cerulea*) in its non-breeding range in order to chart a future course for its range-wide

conservation. The conference will consist of a series of workshops on the following topics: integrating existing GIS coverage of land use, conservation areas, climate and terrain in the Andes of Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia; summarizing the specific criteria for determining the localities in which Cerulean Warblers are likely to occur in Northern South America; identifying priority localities for searching for Cerulean Warblers; organizing a range-wide monitoring survey or atlas of Cerulean Warbler occurrence in South America, and integrating the conservation of resident South American and other migratory North species with the conservation of Cerulean Warbler habitats in Northern South America. Conference sponsors include El Grupo Ceruleo, a part of the Cerulean Warbler Technical Group; United States Forest Service; Office of International Programs; National Fish and Wildlife Foundation; The Nature Conservancy; Migratory Bird Program; and National Council for Air and Stream Improvement (NCASI). For more information, please contact Paul Hamel, <mailto:phamel@fs.fed.us>, or Dave Mehlman, <mailto:dmehlman@tnc.org>

IX CONGRESS OF THE MESOAMERICAN SOCIETY FOR BIOLOGY AND CONSERVATION, La Ceiba, Honduras, November 21-25, 2005. During the Congress, and with participation of the Mesoamerican community, current and relevant issues will be presented and discussed. The work presented and discussed during this event will be relevant for scientists, indigenous communities, decision makers and community representatives. The academic program will include oral presentation sessions, poster sessions, conferences and symposia, courses and workshops. For more information visit the Society's website at: <http://www.socmesoamericana.org>

SYMPOSIUM ON WATERBIRD CONSERVATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA. La Ceiba, Honduras, during the IX Congress of the Mesoamerican Society for Biology and Conservation, from November 20 - 25, 2005. During 2005, BirdLife International and the Waterbird Conservation Council organized a regional evaluation of the state of conservation of all Waterbird species in Central America, the Caribbean, and South America. This process involves all experts on birds in more than 25 countries, and for the first time generates population estimates for these species in the Neotropics. These and other data will permit a regional planning process to improve conservation for this important bird group. Since June to October 2005, ornithologists of every country of Central America have been involved in the diagnosis process at national levels. This symposium will offer the opportunity to the biology and conservation community of the region to participate in this process: after hearing the results of the national evaluations, the participants will have the opportunity of contributing ideas and comments before advancing in the preparation of a regional strategy for the conservation of waterbirds in Central America and the Neotropical region in general. For more information contact Oliver Komar, <mailto:okomar@salvanatura.org>

FIRST MESOAMERICAN SYMPOSIUM ON PSITTACIFORMES. La Ceiba, Honduras, November 22-23, 2005 during the IX Congress of the Mesoamerican Society for Biology and Conservation. This event responds to the need to reunite the scientific community to share and systemize the advancements in knowledge on management, research and conservation on parrots to promote planning priority actions for parrot conservation in Mesoamerica. Also, this symposium seeks to establish alliances for parrot conservation, and to develop and maintain a network of specialists on parrots at a Mesoamerican level, allowing the recommendations of the symposium to be evaluated in future meetings. In this occasion, we would like to encourage oral presentations and written contributions, with the objective of publishing the symposium act, of which each participant will receive a hard copy. For more information contact: Guisselle Monge & Olivier Chassot <mailto:lapa@cct.or.cr>

II CONGRESS OF NEOTROPICAL RAPTORS AND SYMPOSIUM ON RAPTORS OF THE SOUTH CONE, Iguazu, Argentina, June 11-14, 2006. Deadline for submission of presentations and abstracts is February 1, 2006. Abstracts must be written in Spanish, English or Portuguese and must be no greater than 250 words. Oral or poster presentations may be in any of these languages. There will be simultaneous translation during the oral presentations. Reception of proposals for workshops is still open. Deadline for travel grants is February 1, 2006. The Peregrine Fund will concede a limited number of travel grants to Latin-American and Caribbean participants that will present lectures or posters in the conference, and that demonstrate a

special need for financial support. Hawk Mountain Sanctuary will support travel grants for participants who present work on migration. For more information on RRN, the II Congress on Neotropical Raptors, the submission of abstracts and detailed instructions for your preparation, inscription to the event, travel grants, information on Iguazu and Argentina, accommodations, food, visa and transportation, visit the Neotropical Raptor Network's website at: <http://www.neotropicalraptors.org>

IV NAOC: THE 4TH NORTH AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGICAL CONFERENCE. October 3-7, 2006, Veracruz, Mexico. The conference will feature a rich scientific program, symposia, plenary lectures, business meetings of societies and social activities. Pre-and post-conference activities will include training workshops, and birding, culture, and nature tours. For updates and more information, visit: <http://www.naoc2006.org>

24TH INTERNATIONAL ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS, Hamburg 2006. See the 2nd Circular for details at <http://www.i-o-c.org>. If you should have problems in visiting the website, you can get the 2nd Circular by e-mail from <mailto:info@i-o-c.org>

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