



# Partners in Flight

# LA TANGARA



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

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## NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Friends,

This year we were able to obtain some funds from the US Fish and Wildlife Service to continue to elaborate and distribute La Tangara. In the following weeks we will be updating the database of subscribers of this newsletter.

Last year was also very important for the consolidation of the group Partners in Flight Mesoamerica, which we hope will work as a bridge between North America and Mesoamerica.

Finally, I would like to wish you a successful year in all your activities.

Cheers,  
José Zolotoff-Pallais  
Editor

## NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### IV MEETING OF PARTNERS IN FLIGHT MESOAMERICA IN LA CEIBA, HONDURAS

The IV Meeting of the Partners in Flight Mesoamerica Working Group (PIF MESO) was held on November 21 in the Centro Universitario Regional del Litoral Atlántico in La Ceiba, Honduras. The goals of the meeting were to identify the mechanisms for team work in the region, update and finish the strategic plan of the group, and consolidate a work plan for the future. The meeting had the participation of PIF MESO national coordinators plus a guest per country (from the government and/or ornithological community or NGO). In addition, there was the participation of BirdLife International, U.S. Government agencies, and students. 26 participants assisted to the meeting where the PIF MESO Strategic Plan for the region was finished. Partnerships between the states of the Western Working Group and Central American countries were renewed. At the end of the event, Carol Beidleman of the National Park Service and Co-chair of the Partners in Flight International Working Group handed out donations of binoculars, educational material, and field bird guides to each country to strengthen bird conservation, education and monitoring projects in the region. Funds for the organization of the event and invitation of participants were acquired through USDA and personal donations. For more information contact: Jose M. Zolotoff-Pallais, Regional Coordinator PIF MESO, Fundación Cocibolca, Managua, Nicaragua, Tel: 505- 248-8234/35, <mailto:zolotoff@ibw.com.ni>

### BIRDLIFE INTERNATIONAL LAUNCHES 2006 IBA CAMPAIGN IN CENTRAL AMERICA

On November 23, 2005, in the Centro Universitario Regional del Litoral de Atlántico in La Ceiba, Honduras, in the presence of the PIF MESO group and other guests of different institutions of Central America, BirdLife International launched its 2006 IBA Program (Important Bird Areas) for the region. During the meeting, activities were defined to complete a list of IBAs per country and its respective cartographic information with a deadline for July 2006. Each country is committed to develop the mechanisms of reference and research to fulfill this objective. For more information contact: Rob Clay, Conservation Director, Secretariat BirdLife, Quito, Ecuador, <mailto:rob.clay@birdlife.org.ec>

### REPORTS OF PERUVIAN MARTIN (*Progne murphyi*) IN INSULAR ENVIRONMENTS OF PERU

Between December 2002 and September 2004, a group of biologists from the National University Federico Villarreal visited the Islands of Chao, Corcovado, Santa and Ferrol off of the northern coast of Peru, finding for the first time in these environments, colonies of Peruvian Martin (*Progne murphyi*, Chapman, 1925). Counts of individuals and morfometric records of adults were collected in these areas. This work contributes to broaden the knowledge of the distribution and state of conservation of the species. The martin *Progne murphyi* is a species restricted to the Peruvian coast although few are the sites where it has been collected or observed. It was found that individuals use the interstice of the stone walls built for the retention of guano, as roosting areas. During the observations no reproductive behavior was recorded but, eggshells were found, which suggests that this species is reproducing in these islands. The absence of activities such as guano extraction since 1961 has favored the presence of this and other little studied species like the Wedge-rumped Storm-petrel *Oceanodroma tethys kelsalli*. For more information contact the authors of the study: Mariano Valverde Romero, Área de Aves, Mamíferos y Tortugas Marinas, Instituto del Mar del Perú (IMARPE). Apdo. 22, Callao, Perú, Tel. 511-9360-9614; <mailto:marianovalverde@yahoo.com>, Mary García Guzmán, Área de Aves, Mamíferos y Tortugas Marinas, Instituto del Mar del Perú (IMARPE). Apdo. 22, Callao, Perú, Tel. 511-534-3626; <mailto:maryelbygarcia@yahoo.com>, or José Iannacone O, Laboratorio de Ecofisiología. Facultad de Ciencias Naturales y Matemáticas. Universidad Nacional Federico Villarreal.

### TWO-THIRDS OF ARGENTINA'S IBAS ARE UNPROTECTED

Aves Argentinas (Birdlife partner in Argentina) has launched the country's first national inventory of Important Bird Areas (IBAs) during its 11th Annual Ornithological Meeting held in the Buenos Aires Natural Science Museum. Argentina has a large variety of habitats ranging from the High Andes, to tropical rainforests and glaciers. A team of almost 200 ornithologists and volunteers identified 273 Important Bird Areas covering 12% of this large country and forming a vital network for birds and other biodiversity.

Worryingly however, around two-thirds (64%) of these sites are not included in Argentina's network of protected areas. Among the most threatened habitats is native grassland. Forestation by fast-growing non-native species with little conservation worth (such as *Eucalyptus*) has replaced large areas of both humid and tall grasslands. Between 1995 and 2000, a legislative action aimed at promoting forestry plantations resulted in a 500% increase in these plantations. Among the species most-affected are the globally threatened Saffron-cowled Blackbird (*Xanthopsar flavus*) and Black-and-white Monjita (*Heteroxolmis dominicana*). The IBA Programme in Argentina has the support of Vogelbescherming Nederland, SEO/BirdLife, Alparamis, PanAmerican Energy, Conae, National Park Administration, American Bird Conservancy, Natural Grasslands Conservancy and the Migratory Species Convention. For more information contact: Andres Bosso, Executive Director, Aves Argentinas, <mailto:bosso@avesargentinas.org.ar>

#### KEY ANDEAN WILDLIFE SITES UNDER THREAT

The most comprehensive inventory to date of some of South America's globally important areas for birds and biodiversity reveals that more than half have no legal designation. Important Bird Areas in the Tropical Andes, published by BirdLife International and Conservation International, identifies 455 sites that cover 17% of the region's total land area, of which 250 (55%) are unprotected. An astonishing 2,681 bird species - more than a quarter of the world's total - are found in the five tropical Andean countries of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela. This also includes 180 Neotropical migrant species. Such diversity occurs because of the great contrasts in habitats, which range from snow-capped mountain peaks and the high Andean Puna to rich humid lowland rainforests of the Amazon, dry tropical forests and scrub and marine habitats. An estimated 60,000 plants are also known from the region, as well as 686 mammals (208 of them endemic) and 1,383 amphibians (1,009 of them endemic) - all this in just 3% of the world's landmass. The inventory warns that 201 of these species (13%) are threatened with extinction unless these vital areas are adequately protected and managed. 23 of these are Critically Endangered, requiring immediate conservation action. For more information contact: Ian Davidson, Head BirdLife Secretariat, Ecuador, <mailto:ian.davidson@birdlife.org.ec>

#### MEXICO'S AYUQUILA RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT INITIATIVE RECEIVES RECOGNITION

On 10 November 2005, Mexico's President, Vicente Fox Quesada, gave the "Local Government and Management Award" of the Center for Economic Research and Education (CIDE) and the Ford Foundation to the "Ayuquila River Intermunicipal Integrated Watershed Management Initiative" of southern Jalisco, Mexico. The Ayuquila Intermunicipal Initiative was one of five winners selected from over 450 municipal projects conducted in 350 municipalities nationwide. The six strategic lines of action of the initiative are: Territorial land-use planning; Public participation; Restoration of the Ayuquila River; Local government institutional capacity building; Management of solid wastes; and Protection of the upper sections of the watershed. The initiative began as a response to local social demands for clean, unpolluted water. This demand came mostly from the poor rural communities that live along the margins of the river and depend on its resources to subsist. They thus suffer the most from pollution generated in the upland agricultural valley of Autlán-El Grullo. The initiative benefits around 136,000 inhabitants of a region that encompasses 4,100 square kilometers. The Ayuquila River watershed is considered a priority hydrological region for conservation; it harbors five natural protected areas, a high diversity of endemic and threatened wild species, and three large dams that irrigate some 54,000 hectares of agricultural land in the states of Jalisco and Colima. The Ayuquila River is the northern boundary of the Sierra de Manantlán Biosphere Reserve, which is part of the UNESCO MAB program's international network. For more information visit: <http://www.onlinelearning.unu.edu/> or <http://www.premiomunicipal.org.mx/Premio2004/home.php#>;

#### JOCOTOCO BIRDATHON IN ECUADOR

The American Bird Conservancy, the Wisconsin Bird Conservation Initiative and the Jocotoco Foundation (an ABC partner in Ecuador) are pleased to sponsor the landmark "Jocotoco Birdathon". This momentous event is designed to raise money to save habitat for Ecuador's rarest birds while helping two Important Bird Areas battle for the title of "Birdiest Reserve". The birdathon will take place at two Jocotoco Foundation Reserves. The Buenaventura Reserve, located in southwestern Ecuador, protects a critically important tract of humid cloud forest in the otherwise arid west-slope foothills of the Andes. The reserve provides habitat

for 300 species of birds, nine classified as globally threatened, including the El Oro Parakeet (*Pyrrhura orcesi*) and El Oro Tapaculo (*Scytalopus robbinsi*). The Tapichalaca Reserve, located in southern Ecuador, protects an area of very wet temperate zone forest on the east slope of the Andes. This is the only known location for the critically endangered Jocotoco Antpitta (*Grallaria ridgelyi*). The reserve also provides habitat for additional feathered rarities including Golden-plumed Parakeet (*Leptosittaca branickii*), Masked Saltator (*Saltator cinctus*) and Bearded Guan (*Penelope barbata*). Both protected areas provide important over-wintering habitat for a variety of neotropical migrants. The Birdathon is scheduled for September 8 - 17, 2006. Cost is \$1,365 (not including airfare) and a \$500 donation to the Jocotoco Foundation. Space is limited to twelve participants. All proceeds will be donated to the Jocotoco Foundation to purchase habitat for endangered birds in Ecuador. For more information contact: Craig Thompson, + 1 608-785-1277, <mailto:Craig.Thompson@dnr.state.wi.us>.

## WEB NEWS

PINPOINTING AND PREVENTING IMMINENT EXTINCTIONS a publication of the American Bird Conservancy and their partners in the Alliance for Zero Extinction in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Science, available at: <http://www.pnas.org/cgi/reprint/0509060102v1>

BASIC INFORMATION AND COORDINATES OF IBA'S at:

<http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/sites/?action=SitHTMDetails.asp&sid=14786&m=0>

THE CARIBBEAN JOURNAL OF SCIENCE is freely available in the internet at: <http://www.caribjsci.org>

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY WEB PAGE where you can find and download the document: "An introduction and user's guide to Wetland Restoration, Creation and Enhancement" at:

<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/habitatconservation/publications/index.htm>

THE ABSTRACTS (IN SPANISH) FROM THE SYMPOSIUM "CONSERVATION OF SHOREBIRDS IN ARGENTINA: CURRENT PROJECTS AND FUTURE NEEDS" OF THE XI REUNIÓN ARGENTINA DE ORNITOLOGÍA available at: [http://www.avesargentinas.org.ar/rao/simposios\\_fr.htm#4](http://www.avesargentinas.org.ar/rao/simposios_fr.htm#4).

IN THIS ISSUE OF THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE SHOREBIRD RESERVE NETWORK:

1. WHSRN Executive Office awarded \$306,000 grant from National Fish & Wildlife Foundation for "Shorebird Conservation in the Western Hemisphere."
2. Date changed for next meeting of the WHSRN Hemispheric Council to Wednesday, 18 January 2006.
3. Information and helpful links about highly pathogenic avian influenza posted at WHSRN website
4. News of Hemispheric Council members: Jack Capp, US Forest Service, retires from Council; Carol Lively takes new position at US Forest Service, leaving Prairie Pothole Joint Venture (USFWS)
5. Posted: Text of remarks by Mrs. Ligia Castro, director of the National Environmental Ministry of Panama, at the recent dedication of the Upper Bay of Panama as a WHSRN Site of Hemispheric Importance

Attached as a pdf file, and available on the web at <http://www.manomet.org/WHSRN/latest-news.html>

## WEB SITES OF INTEREST

- This fact sheet, along with other information about avian influenza, can be found at

<http://www.nmnh.si.edu/BIRDNET/OC/avianinfluenza.html>

- Role of Wild Birds in Avian Flu Spread Questioned at: <http://www.enn.com/today.html?id=9424>

- Empty Skies: World's Birds at Risk available at: <http://www.earth-policy.org/Updates/2005/Update50.htm>
- SAO Bulletin at: <http://www.sao.org.co/publicaciones/boletinsao/Boletin%20sao.htm>
- Bosque de Zarate is now an IBA in Peru. For more information visit: <http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/sites/?action=SitHTMDetails.asp&sid=14786&m=0>

## FUNDING

### 4TH ANNUAL NORTH STAR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSMITTER GRANT PROGRAM

North Star Science and Technology, LLC and American Bird Conservancy announce the 4th annual North Star Science and Technology Transmitter Grant Program. Continuing two major changes instituted last year: 1) The program will award a total of eight satellite transmitters (Argos Platform Transmitter Terminals (PTTs)), to one or two recipients (8 PTTs to one project or 4 PTTs to each of two projects); and 2) The program is open to projects throughout the world. PTTs are powerful, cutting-edge tools for the study of bird migration that greatly extend the range over which individual birds can be tracked. Studies using PTTs can teach us much about avian biology and contribute invaluable data for bird conservation. North Star is providing the PTTs in the spirit of giving back to the research community that they serve, with the condition that the resulting data are available for use in an Earthspan's (<http://www.earthspan.org>) educational program entitled, "Eye of the Falcon," which uses satellite tracking data to teach young people about bird migration and conservation. American Bird Conservancy (<http://www.abcbirds.org>) will handle the proposal submission process, review proposals, and select the winning projects. Please see <http://www.northstarst.com> for more information and proposal guidelines. Deadline for proposals is February 3, 2006. Any further questions about the program can be directed to George E. Wallace, American Bird Conservancy, Tel: +1 540-253-5780, <mailto:gwallace@abcbirds.org>

### JOURNALS AVAILABLE FOR DONATION

Ornithological journals are available for donation to one or more non-profit organizations or institutions. Packing and shipping costs at the recipient's expense:

Back issues (1998-present) of Ecology, Evolution, The Condor, and Journal of Field Ornithology. I'm especially interested in donating these to institutions or organizations outside of the United States and Canada without access to academic libraries. For more information contact JOHN LLOYD <mailto:jlloyd@masonbruce.com>.

The Auk, volumes 103-107 complete, vol. 108 No.1-3, vol. 109 No. 3-4; The Condor, volumes 2-97 (1900-1995) complete (most are bound). Packing and shipping at the recipient's expense. Contact KURT LEUSCHNER, Desert Cities Bird Club, Tel: +1 760-349-3515, <mailto:kleuschner@collegeofthedesert.edu>.

We welcome advertising journals for donation to non-profit organizations or institutions.

## TRAINING / JOB OPPORTUNITIES

### PARK FLIGHT INTERNATIONAL INTERNSHIPS IN U.S. NATIONAL PARKS

The Park Flight Program works to protect shared migratory bird species and their habitats in both U.S. and Latin American national parks and protected areas through developing bird conservation and education projects and creating opportunities for technical exchange and cooperation. Park Flight is a partnership between the U.S. National Park Service (NPS), the National Park Foundation (NPF), American Airlines, the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and the University of Arizona. The program includes internships for Latin-American professionals from Central America and Mexico. Working through the NPS "Volunteers in Parks" Program, biologists and educators from Latin America help with Park Flight efforts in U.S. national parks. These international internships are opportunities for the exchange of knowledge and experience including science, culture and language. The internships start between May and August and

usually last between two to three months. The required abilities to apply are: experience with bird banding and/or environmental education, and at least an intermediate level of English (reading, writing, comprehension and speaking). Some internships can accept applicants with a basic to intermediate level of English, but must be capable of understanding security and radio communications and give presentations in English. Some training is provided, and interns are asked to give oral presentations about bird conservation efforts in their country. Candidates must be able to apply the knowledge gained in the U.S. to conservation efforts in national parks or protected areas in their countries of origin. The program covers: airfare, housing and necessary equipment, J1 Visa procedures, and medical insurance during the internship. Park Flight makes the necessary arrangements. Interns receive US \$700.00 a month for food and other expenses. Applicants must be in their country of origin for 3 months prior to the internship for visa purposes. In 2006, there will be eight available internships, including the following national parks in the United States: Point Reyes National Seashore, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, and Sequoia/Kings Canyon National Parks in California; Bandelier National Monument in New Mexico; Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve in Alaska; Pinelands/New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail Route in New Jersey; and North Cascades National Park in Washington. Outstanding candidates must be able to review descriptions of specific positions and submit to a telephone interview in English. Interested and qualified candidates in Central America and Mexico must send their CV (in Spanish is fine), with a cover letter in English, before January 31, 2006 to: Carol Beidleman, Program Coordinator, <mailto:BeidlemanC@aol.com>

#### INTERNSHIP FOR MEXICAN, CENTRAL, AND SOUTH AMERICAN BIOLOGISTS

The Willamette National Forest's Neotropical Migratory Bird Program will host a Latin American biologist from May through October of 2006. As during the past eight years, the program will link our Forest's internship program with an internship work experience through the Institute for Bird Populations in Pt. Reyes, California. From May through early August, the selected intern will participate in the Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship program and be part of a two-person team operating mist-netting stations on the Willamette National Forest in Oregon. Once that work is completed, the Willamette National Forest will provide an additional month of training and work experience, based on the interest and needs of the individual. In 2006, the intern may stay an additional 2 months through the end of October to organize and implement natural resource education activities for schools and local organizations. A good comprehension of English, knowledge and some experience with birds, experience with and a strong interest in natural resource education, public speaking, and the ability to work outdoors are required. Roundtrip airfare, housing, a per diem allowance and emergency medical insurance will be covered. Application deadline is January 31, 2006. For more information contact: Ruby Seitz, Wildlife Biologist, McKenzie River Ranger District, Willamette National Forest, Phone (desk) 541-822-7256, Phone (front office) 541-822-3317, fax 541-822-7254, <mailto:ruseitz@fs.fed.us>

#### TROPICAL SONGBIRD BANDING TRAINING AND ADVENTURE, Tabasco State, Mexico

1-10 April 2006. Course will cover basic banding and mist-net set-up, bird identification, determining age using molt limits, taking blood samples and other skills. There should be a great variety of species caught—from migrant warblers to trogons (even bats!). All banding skill levels welcome. Certificates will be issued. Course price of \$950 USD includes transport from Villahermosa, Tabasco, 3 meals per day, and rustic lodging and banding equipment supplied. Participants are responsible for travel to Villahermosa, pre-trip vaccinations and personal field gear. Maximum of 10 students accepted. For more info contact MANUEL GROSSELET Email: <mailto:birdninet@yahoo.com.mx> and visit <http://www.tierradeaves.com>

#### EXPERIENCED BIRDERS NEEDED IN LA TIGRA NATIONAL PARK, HONDURAS

Experienced bird bander (1), Avian Surveyor (1), and Mist-net Intern (1) needed to conduct an inventory of the avifauna of the beautiful cloud forest, La Tigra National Park, Honduras from February 15 - April 30, 2006. BANDER must have experience banding large volumes of birds, including tropical resident species, and be familiar with the aging and sexing of migratory eastern North American breeding species. AVIAN SURVEYOR must be able to identify birds by both sight and sound; preference will be given to those with experience surveying cloud forest species. MISTNET INTERN will extract birds from mistnets and record

data. Knowledge of both Spanish and English is preferred but not required. All positions will assist with data entry and additional research activities as needed. All individuals are required to work 7 days per week, be capable of hiking long distances in a physically challenging environment, and have the ability to work well with others. The BANDER will receive the equivalent of \$1500 USD, the SURVEYOR will receive the equivalent of \$1500 USD, and the MISTNET INTERN will receive the equivalent of \$625 USD for the entire season. Stipends will be paid in the local currency, lempira. Shared housing will be provided as well as a portion of the cost of food. Email letter of interest, resume, and names, phone numbers, and emails of 3 references to Sheri Glowinski Matamoros: [mailto:sheri\\_glowinski@yahoo.com](mailto:sheri_glowinski@yahoo.com). Hiring decisions will be made as soon as possible.

#### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED IN ISLA MARGARITA, VENEZUELA

Provita, a Venezuelan NGO, seeks volunteers to help with research and field conservation activities in the project for the conservation of the Yellow-shouldered Amazon (*Amazona barbadensis*) in Isla Margarita, Venezuela. Volunteers will be housed in rustic camping conditions and will participate in the monitoring of parrot nests in shifts for 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, during the nesting season of this species, which extends from March 1 to August 30 (volunteers may chose to be present during the entire season or part of it). Provita will provide housing and local transportation, however it will not cover travel expenses to Isla Margarita or cover cost of food. Interested people should contact: José Manuel Briceño, BioInsula Program, Provita, <mailto:bioinsula2@provitaonline.org> or <mailto:josemanuel.bricenolinares@gmail.com>

#### VOLUNTEER FIELD WORK WITH HUMMINGBIRDS IN COLOMBIA

Field work for the taxonomic evaluation of the Sapphire-bellied Hummingbird (*Lepidopyga lilliae*) will start during January and February 2006. This species is critically threatened with extinction and is endemic to Colombia. Volunteer help is needed, preferably students that are willing to travel for a minimum of a week to various parts of the Colombian coast and help with field work. The call for volunteers and other projects we are conducting can be seen at: <http://www.sentidonatural.org>. For more information or to apply, contact: Juan Carlos de Las Casas, Biologist - Researcher, Sentido Natural, Tel: +57-1-3763071, Cell: +57-300-5567826, Fax: +57-1-6483662, Cr 48 80-46, Bogota, Colombia, <mailto:JC@sentidonatural.org> or <mailto:JCdelascasas@gmail.com>

#### NEW COURSE OF CARIBBEAN BIRD ART IN CUBA

The course "Painting Cuban Nature in Watercolor - Capturing Maximum details, life and colors" will be held from March 23-April 5 and again from July 16 - 30. During the course you will have a unique opportunity to learn watercolor techniques and share during two weeks a wonderful experience in the Cuban Natural Park "La Mensura" in Pinares de Mayari Plateau, with unique biodiversity and a mountain landscape where you will obtain fabulous reference for your current and future artwork. Part of the profits will benefit the Society for the Conservation and Study of Caribbean Birds (SCSCB). For more information about workshop tour packages and schedules contact: Nils Navarro, Caribbean Wildlife Art Working Group, Society for the Conservation and Study of Caribbean Birds Project Coordinator, Tel: +53 02442-2037, <mailto:nils@cristal.hlg.sld.cu>

## MEETINGS

HEMISPHERIC COUNCIL MEETING of the Western Hemisphere Migratory Species Initiative will be held in San José, Costa Rica, January 16, 2006. For more information visit: <http://www.fws.gov/international/pdf/update4English.pdf>

2<sup>nd</sup> INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF MIGRATORY BIRDS. San Blas, Nayarit, Mexico from January 23-29, 2006. For more information: <http://www.semarnat.gob.mx/nayarit/festival2006/>.

1<sup>ST</sup> WESTERN HEMISPHERE SHOREBIRD GROUP MEETING at the University of Colorado campus, Boulder, Colorado, February 27 to March 2, 2006. The purpose of the meeting is to bring together biologists studying breeding, staging and wintering shorebirds throughout the Western Hemisphere in one location; promote information sharing on methodologies and study design among biologists working on different shorebird species; to promote range-wide studies of shorebirds by fostering collaborations among biologists interested in particular species; integrate science into the implementation of various shorebird conservation plans; and to generate enthusiasm among the shorebird community to conduct additional studies of shorebirds in the future. Details of the meeting, including logistics, call for abstracts, science program, and international travel, will be posted on the US Shorebird Conservation Plan website at:

<http://www.fws.gov/shorebirdplan/>

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 2<sup>nd</sup> Circular by e-mail from <mailto:info@i-o-c.org>

BIODIVERSITY SYMPOSIUM: CONSERVING BIRDS IN HUMAN-DOMINATED LANDSCAPES, Thursday and Friday, April 27 and 28, 2006, American Museum of Natural History, New York City, <http://cbc.amnh.org>. The American Museum of Natural History's Center for Biodiversity and Conservation (CBC) will focus its eleventh annual symposium on conserving bird diversity in the areas most heavily impacted by human activities. While there have been many opportunities for scientists and managers to discuss the conservation of rare birds in the wild, this conference will examine new approaches for managing bird diversity in urban, suburban, agricultural, and industrial areas; and explore possibilities for conservation in the face of an increasingly developed and industrialized world. Poster abstracts will be considered for inclusion in the symposium's poster session. Abstract submissions will be accepted until March 1. For detailed information about the symposium, poster session, and lecture, please email <mailto:biodiversity@amnh.org> or visit the CBC website at <http://cbc.amnh.org>.

## PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

BIOMETRICS OF BIRDS THROUGHOUT THE GREATER CARIBBEAN BASIN, by Wayne J Arendt, John Faaborg, George E Wallace and Orlando H Garrido. Proceedings of the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology 8. 33 pp, incl CD. Price:GBP21.95 2004 softcover and CD set. Published in USA.

### IMPORTANT BIRD AREAS OF ARGENTINA

Aves Argentinas (BirdLife in Argentina) has launched the inventory "Áreas importantes para la conservación de las aves en la Argentina", which consists of 524 pages, including many photos, tables and maps. The text is in Spanish. The book was published thanks to the support of Fundación BBVA. The IBA Programme in Argentina has the support of Vogelbescherming Nederland, SEO/BirdLife, Alparamis, PanAmerican Energy, Conae, National Park Administration, American Bird Conservancy, Natural Grasslands Conservancy and the Migratory Species Convention. For more information contact: Andres Bosso, Executive Director, Aves Argentinas, <mailto:bosso@avesargentinas.org.ar>

### IMPORTANT BIRD AREAS IN THE TROPICAL ANDES

"Important Bird Areas in the Tropical Andes" is published by BirdLife International and Conservation International. This book has been a major scientific undertaking. Over the last eight years, around 600 ornithologists and volunteers have been involved in gathering data from the five countries. The end result is a network of Important Bird Areas (IBAs) that covers 17% of the land area including all the region's major biomes. Ian Davidson, Head of BirdLife's Americas Division says of the book: "We believe that the Tropical Andes IBA inventory provides a sound basis for the development of national conservation strategies and protected areas planning. Experience in other regions has highlighted the vital role that IBAs play in both conserving a wealth of other plants and animals as well as providing sustainable resources for local



communities." For more information contact: Ian Davidson, Head BirdLife Secretariat, Ecuador, <mailto:ian.davidson@birdlife.org.ec>

HAWKS FROM EVERY ANGLE : HOW TO IDENTIFY RAPTORS IN FLIGHT (Paperback) by David A. Sibley (Foreword), Jerry Liguori. \$13.57. Featuring 339 striking color photos on 68 color plates and 32 black & white photos. Covers in detail 19 species common to migration sites throughout the North America. For more information visit [amazon.com](http://amazon.com).

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC COMPLETE BIRDS OF NORTH AMERICA (Hardcover) by Jonathan Alderfer. \$23.10. Each of the 82 bird families, 962 species, found on the continent north of Mexico, plus islands within 200 miles of the coast with the exception of Greenland, opens with a photograph of a bird representing the family and a general essay about the family. Topics covered include the family's general behavior and distribution, among other details. For more information visit [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

## RECENT LITERATURE

Herrera N. 2005. First record of Spotted Rail *Pardirallus maculatus* in Guatemala. **Cotinga**, no. 24: 108.

Hunt, P. D., L. Reitsma., S. L. Burson and B. B. Steele. 2005. Spatial and temporal distribution of Northern Waterthrushes among nonbreeding habitats in southwestern Puerto Rico. **Biotropica** 37:697-701.

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