



# 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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## NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CARIBBEAN BIRDS INITIATIVE LAUNCHED ACROSS THE REGION

Caribbean Birds is now available on-line to capture bird observations recorded throughout the Caribbean. This system is collecting data from both local observers and visiting tourists, with an emphasis on empowering citizen scientists and community monitoring groups. It is also collecting data for conservation work and provides a strong focus for birders and birding groups. Caribbean Birds is part of the Worldbirds Global Programme - a joint initiative by BirdLife, the RSPB and Audubon, linking together existing and new Internet systems to collect and report on bird populations and movements in different countries around the world. This new initiative enables users (in Spanish, French, English or Dutch) to store and manage their own observations, extract reports and view, print or download maps. Log on to <http://www.worldbirds.org/caribbean> and register your personal details and explore different locations; find out what birds have been seen and when/where they were recorded. As well as contributing your own observations, you will be able to view other people's records, which may influence your next birding trip. Use the checklists to keep track of your sightings. Data collected through all Worldbirds systems will contribute significantly to common bird monitoring, through tracking changes in species represented on birders' daylists. Worldbirds data will become a key source of information from which we can develop indicators for common bird species. These will then help indicate changes in the conditions of the wider environment. The Worldbirds team will be enhancing existing functionality, sourcing improved mapping - including links to Google Earth and integration with the World Bird Database (WBDB) enabling users to move

easily between Worldbirds, and BirdLife's species and sites (i.e. IBA) data. For more information contact: David Wege, Caribbean Program Manager, BirdLife International, <mailto:david.wege@birdlife.org>. For further details visit the Caribbean Birds website: <http://www.worldbirds.org/caribbean>

#### REDISCOVERY OF CAATINGA WOODPECKER IN CENTRAL BRAZIL

One of Brazil's most enigmatic birds has reappeared after an absence of 80 years. The news of the rediscovery of Caatinga Woodpecker (*Celeus obrieni*) has delighted conservationists in the region and gives hope for other 'lost' birds feared extinct in South America. Caatinga Woodpecker was found by a Brazilian ornithologist Advaldo do Prado while surveying in the Tocantins region of Central Brazil. This enigmatic species had not been observed since its initial discovery in 1926. The woodpecker was previously known only from a single specimen collected in Brazil and deposited in the American Museum of Natural History, New York. The specimen was traditionally considered a subspecies of Rufous-headed Woodpecker *C. spectabilis* also from South America. It wasn't until a recent review by ornithologists involved with the South American Classification Committee of the American Ornithologists' Union concluded that dramatic differences in the plumage of Caatinga Woodpecker warranted full species status. The new discovery was found approximately 200 miles east of the area where the previous specimen was taken in 1926, suggesting to conservationists that other individuals may lie in similar habitats in the eastern part of Central Brazil. BirdLife International, the official Red List Authority for birds for the IUCN Red List, is to formally propose that Caatinga Woodpecker be listed as Critically Endangered. The new finding comes in the wake of a number of recent bird rediscoveries in Brazil including Golden-crowned Manakin, Rufous-fronted Antthrush, White-winged Potoo, Kaempfer's Tody-tyrant and most recently, Cone-billed Tanager. Data from BirdLife International's Global Species Programme states that Brazil has more globally threatened birds than any other country on earth. Of the 111 species at risk of extinction in Brazil, 98 live in the Atlantic forest, which has been reduced by more than 90% of its original extent. For more information see: [http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2006/12/caatinga\\_woodpecker\\_redisc.html](http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2006/12/caatinga_woodpecker_redisc.html)

#### PARAGUAYAN IBA RECEIVES PROTECTION

Guyra Paraguay (BirdLife in Paraguay) is celebrating news of the complete protection of over 9,500 hectares of seasonal wetland in the Paraguayan Pantanal, an area which forms part of one of the country's 57 Important Bird Areas (IBAs). The announcement was made at a reception attended by the Vice-President of Paraguay, the Minister of Environment, as well as many representatives from the Diplomatic Corps. The declaration represents years of hard work by Guyra Paraguay and the World Land Trust, which contributed most of the funds required for the purchase of the land through the negotiation of a number of donations from private trusts, as well as the IUCN National Committee for the Netherlands. Five key areas have been purchased and set aside for the Nature Reserve, equating in all to a US \$250,000 investment. The Pantanal is one of South America's key ecosystems, being flooded seasonally by freshwater from the central Brazilian highlands. Situated in the upper watershed of the Paraguay River, to the south of the Amazon basin and east of the Andes, the area represents the most extensive freshwater wetland in the world. In 2005, the Paraguayan Pantanal was designated an Important Bird Area (IBA) by Guyra Paraguay/BirdLife International based on its importance for congregations of waterbirds and regionally endemic bird species. As well as being important for birds, the Pantanal IBA also represents crucial habitat for a number of other species. Over 300 species of fish, 40 amphibians, 55 reptiles, 120 mammals and 2,000 species of plant are known to exist there. All will be protected within the boundaries of the site. The Government of Paraguay has also declared its intention to allow expansion of boundaries around the nearby Rio Negro National Park, to link sites up with other protected areas, including the Pantanal IBA. For full story see: <http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2006/12/pantanal.html>, or for more information visit Conservation International's website: <http://www.conservation.org>

#### REQUEST FOR BIRDS OF PREY REPORTS IN BOGOTA, COLOMBIA

Collaboration is requested with the report of registries (date, exact place, species, and observers) of birds of prey (raptors), diurnal and nocturnal (Falconiformes and Strigiformes) in the city of Bogotá, Colombia. This information will be included in the Guide of Raptors of Bogota, being prepared by Cesar Márquez and Victor Vanegas, investigators of the Institute Alexander von Humboldt, along with the District Secretary of

Environment. All received and compiled data will have their respective credit and acknowledgement. Please send reports to <mailto:diegosaurio@gmail.com>

#### BRAZILIAN STUDY ON ENDANGERED Tanager RECEIVES CONSERVATION AWARD

A study developed by SAVE Brasil (BirdLife in Brazil) on one of the rarest birds in the world, the Critically Endangered Cherry-throated Tanager (*Nemosia rourei*), was awarded first place in the regional prize for environmental advancement, the 'Prêmio Ecologia 2006'. The Prize was organized by the state government of Espírito Santo to recognize and foster environmental studies, projects, activities and works developed by individuals, NGOs and companies, contributing to the social, economic and cultural development of the Espírito Santo state. The awarded study has been important to understand some key aspects of Cherry-throated Tanager ecology, foraging behavior and their association with other bird species within canopy mixed flocks. The researchers are also working on a species population census that will feed into conservation priorities for the region. The Cherry-throated Tanager is one of Brazil's most enigmatic birds. First described at the end of the 19th century from the State of Minas Gerais, it was not seen again until a single sighting in 1941. Since then many researchers considered it extinct when, more than forty years later in 1998, it was rediscovered in small numbers at Fazenda Pindobas IV. In September 2003, small numbers were also discovered in the Caetés region. The species is classified by BirdLife as Critically Endangered. For more information visit: <http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2006/12/tanager.html>

#### EXHIBITION OF WATERCOLOURS IN OXFORD (UK) AIMS TO SUPPORT CONSERVATION PROJECTS IN COLOMBIA

Robin Schiele, Guatemalan artist born in Nicaragua, will be exhibiting 35 watercolors in an exhibition titled "Moments in the lives of neotropical birds" at the Oxford University Museum of Natural History from 1 February to 31 March 2007. A third of total sales will be donated to conservation work by the Bogotá Ornithological Association (ABO) in Colombia. The exhibition is being organized by the ABO, with whom the artist has collaborated on previous occasions. The exhibition focuses on threatened and endemic species from the Colombian Andes and is being supported by the Biological Research Institute "Alexander von Humboldt". The Guatemalan artist, currently residing in Colombia and educated in Oxford, England has dedicated most of his life to the study and portraiture of endangered species of fauna in Central and South American tropical forests. He has been involved with several conservation organizations in the preservation of natural resources in Guatemala. The artist uses a mixed dry-wet brush technique, giving his portraits a very special sharpness that is difficult to achieve with watercolors. He makes a point of painting his subjects life-size, focusing on behavioral aspects as well as appropriate settings for each species portrayed. His work is clearly the result of thousands of hours of painstaking study and examination of the animals he paints, complemented by his experience of watching wildlife in the field. Robin Schiele's publications include the field guide to the birds of the Bogotá area, the red data book on Colombian birds as well as a series of large format reproductions of Colombian toucans. To arrange an interview with Robin Schiele, the event organizers or for further information, please email Christian Devenish, <mailto:chrisdevenish@yahoo.co.uk>.

## WEB NEWS

ASOCIACIÓN COLOMBIANA DE ORNITOLOGÍA en: <http://www.ornitologiacolombiana.org/>

CARIBBEAN BIRDPWATCHERS URGED TO SUBMIT THEIR SIGHTINGS at:  
[http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2007/01/caribbean\\_worldbirds.html](http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2007/01/caribbean_worldbirds.html)

THE DUCKS UNLIMITED LAC WATERBIRD DATABASE is now on-line: <http://www.ducks.org/lac/gateway>

WATERBIRD INVENTORY AND MONITORING TECHNIQUES. Includes presentations and materials prepared for a workshop during October 2 - 3, along with the IV North American Ornithological Conference, in Veracruz, Mexico. The web site is available only in Spanish at:

<http://www.fws.gov/birds/waterbirds/Monitoring/NAOCtaller.html>, or at  
<http://www.waterbirdconservation.org>, click "monitoring"

LOST AND FOUND: A GAP ANALYSIS FOR THE NEOTROPICAL AVIFAUNA (Neotropical Birding 2006),  
<http://arruda.rits.org.br/notitia/servlet/newstorm.ns.presentation.NavigationServlet?publicationCode=6&pageCode=67&textCode=19739&date=currentDate&contentType=html>

'TERROR BIRD' Arrived In North America Before Land Bridge, Study Finds. Full article at:  
<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2007/01/070123111040.htm>

AN ISLAND OF NATURE RISING ABOVE A VAST GREEN OCEAN OF SUGAR CANE AND CATTLE PASTURE, THE MURICI FOREST IN NORTH-EAST BRAZIL COULD LAY CLAIM TO BE THE MOST IMPORTANT PATCH OF FOREST IN THE WORLD. Full story:  
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/3703704.stm>

MYSTERY AS THOUSANDS OF BIRDS FALL FROM SKY IN AUSTRALIA, full story at:  
<http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,20867,21036489-30417,00.html>

EUROPE BANS THE WILD BIRD TRADE at: <http://www.araproject.nl/2007/01/11/eu-to-ban-imports-of-wild-birds/>. Or article in Spanish: <http://www.lorolibre.org/2007/01/11/loro-libre-la-ue-restablecera-la-importacion-de-aves-silvestres/>

WCPFC makes seabird mitigation measures obligatory at:  
<http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2006/12/wcpfc.html>

ALBATROSSES FEEL THE HEAT, article at: <http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2006/12/data-logging.html>

WINDFARM PERMIT "SERIOUSLY CONTRADICTS" ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT IN PUERTO RICO, full article at: [http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2007/01/puerto\\_rico\\_windfarms.html](http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2007/01/puerto_rico_windfarms.html)

## IMPORTANT BIRD SITES

- PHOTO ESSAY about the hummingbird skull and skeleton at:  
<http://www.hiltonpond.org/ThisWeek070115.html>
- XENO-CANTO UPDATED: community website on neotropical bird song now holds over 9000 recordings of 2500 species, found at: <http://www.xeno-canto.org>.
- FURNARIDAE UPDATED ON WEBSITE (including Schizoeaca, Synallaxis, Gyalophylax, Hellmayrea and Certhiaxis cinnamomeus) at: <http://worldbirdinfo.net>
- AVIAN CONSERVATION AND ECOLOGY - December 2006 Issue, available at <http://www.ace-eco.org/>
- GRUPO FALCO. Group of South American birdwatchers and ornithologists at:  
<http://www.grupofalco.com.ar>

## FUNDING

### RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

The Research Fellowship Program (RFP), administered by the Wildlife Conservation Society-International Conservation's Training & Capacity Building Program, is now receiving some support from the BP Conservation Programme. It is a small grants program designed to build capacity for the next generation of conservationists through supporting individual field research projects that have a clear application to the conservation of threatened wildlife and wildlife habitat. RFP seeks projects that are based on sound and

innovative conservation science and that encourage practices in conservation that can contribute to sustainable development in their home country. Most of the grantees are professional conservationists from the country of research and/or post-graduates pursuing a higher degree. RFP supports field research in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Grants are for up to \$25,000 dollars, and are for no longer than one year. The average grant is \$11,000. Proposals are submitted in a standard format for two annual cycles with deadlines on March 15 and September 15. Visit <http://www.wcs.org/international/rfp> for further information and application guidelines and procedures

#### THE 2007 CANON NATIONAL PARKS SCIENCE SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The Canon National Parks Science Scholars Program is pleased to announce its 2007 competition. The program is collaboration among Canon, the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the US National Park Service. Thanks to a generous commitment by Canon, the program will be awarding eight US\$80,000 scholarships to Ph.D. students throughout the Americas to conduct research critical to conserving the national parks of the region. Research projects in the biological, physical, social and cultural sciences are eligible, as well as projects in technology innovation in support of conservation science. Applications must be received by 3 May 2007. For more information visit: <http://www.nature.nps.gov/canonscholarships/>

## TRAINING / JOB OPPORTUNITIES

#### SPRING MIGRATION BANDING FIELD ASSISTANTS

Two field assistants needed for Idaho Bird Observatory study of spring landbird migration in southeastern Idaho (April 15 - June 17, 2007; 2 months). Also, we have funding to pay travel for at least 1 Latin American Intern, especially someone living within the wintering range of western passerine migrants. Duties will consist mainly of landbird mist-netting/banding, data entry, and public outreach; some count surveys also possible. The study site, Camas NWR, is a very exciting place for songbird migration and among the best birding sites in the state. Qualifications of applicants should include: 1) proficiency with safe netting and banding procedures, 2) ability to identify Western birds by sight and sound, and 3) willingness to give your all. People with mist-net extraction/banding experience preferred. However, enthusiasm, care for birds, quick learning, and an ability to work well with and get along with others are the most important criteria. Hands that stay warm in cold weather are a plus. New assistants will be given a stipend of \$600/month; we may need 1 experienced assistant crew leader at ~\$1000-\$1200/month, depending on experience. Remote housing/tenting provided. Songbird assistants needed from April 15 (some flexibility in start date possible) thru about June 17. Please send a resume, cover letter, and at least three references (with phone # and e-mail if possible). If sending applications as attachments via e-mail, please send to <mailto:jaycarlisle@boisestate.edu>. Otherwise, send to: Jay Carlisle, 6105 Kirkwood Rd, Boise, ID 83709. Positions will be filled as suitable applicants are found.

#### BIRD BANDING INTERNSHIP POSITIONS

The Klamath Bird Observatory (<http://www.KlamathBird.org>) is seeking highly motivated individuals to participate in our long-term landbird monitoring program in the Klamath Bioregion of southern Oregon and northern California during the breeding and fall migration seasons, from 1 May to 31 October 2007. Duties and instruction will include mist netting, bird census, data entry and management, public and school group outreach, and other duties as required. Applicants should have a strong interest in birds, natural history and field biology, and be prepared to work long days in the field under adverse conditions (heat, cold, biting insects), camp out on a regular basis, follow prescribed protocols, be meticulous in collecting and recording data, be in good physical condition, work well both independently and closely with others, possess good communication skills, and have a valid Driver's License (non-US citizens must possess a valid International Driver's License; candidates may be asked to provide DMV driving record). Additional preferred qualifications include good bird identification skills, passerine mist-net/banding experience, camping and orienteering experience, Spanish language skills, experience driving on rough mountain roads. Training will

follow North American Banding Council (NABC) standards and be provided by NABC Certified Bander Trainers through workshops, seminars, and field training. Focus will be on safe, ethical mist netting and banding and advanced ageing/sexing techniques. Housing and transportation between study sites are provided. A stipend of \$500 per month is available depending on qualifications and by mutual agreement. Per-mile transportation costs will be reimbursed for personal vehicle use. A minimum of three month commitment required with longer periods preferred. To apply, send cover letter, resume, and contact information for three references to Bob Frey, <mailto:kbo@KlamathBird.org>, Klamath Bird Observatory, P.O. Box 758, Ashland, OR 97520; (PH: 541-201-0866).

#### FIELD VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED IN THE CARIBBEAN ISLAND OF BONAIRE

Field assistants are required to assist with research into the ecology and behavior of the Yellow-shouldered Amazon parrot on the Caribbean island of Bonaire. Assistants are required for two different roles within the project: 1) Long term field assistants are needed to help with two field projects running from late Mar to late Aug 2007. These projects examine the reproductive behavior of Amazon parrots and the factors limiting the population on Bonaire. Assistants would be involved in both projects and responsibilities would include trapping, ringing, collecting biometric data on parrots; finding and inspecting nests (this involves a lot of rope work as they mostly nest in cavities in cliffs), habitat surveys, long behavioral observations and possibly radio-telemetry. These positions would suit graduates with a strong interest in field ecology and conservation. Experience with handling birds and any of the above field skills is preferable but not essential. A driver's license and the ability to work hard and independently but also within a small team are essential. 2) Short term field assistants are needed to assist a nesting bird survey running for 2-3 weeks from late Apr to early May. The aim of this work is to get a good estimate of the number of breeding birds on the island. Work will involve visiting known nesting areas and waiting for parrots to visit nests to identify nest cavities in trees and cliffs. These positions would suit anyone with an interest in parrots and conservation who would like to visit Bonaire while contributing to valuable conservation work. While the field sites are not particularly remote (we are rarely more than 20 minutes drive from the nearest settlement) conditions can be arduous. The habitat is inhospitable dry, dense, thorny scrub. The days are hot and at times there are plenty of biting insects. The working day begins before dawn and often will not end until sunset. Applicants should be prepared to tolerate these conditions. Accommodation and a monthly allowance for food will be provided but volunteers will need to fund the costs of their own travel to Bonaire. We hope to be able to contribute some of the flight costs for long-term assistants. To apply, send a CV and short cover letter with the names of two people acting as referees to either Rowan Martin, <mailto:r.o.martin@sheffield.ac.uk> or Sam Williams, <mailto:sam.williams@sheffield.ac.uk>. For more information about the positions and the project check the parrot group website <http://www.parrot.group.shef.ac.uk>

#### VOLUNTEER FIELD RESEARCH ASSISTANTS IN TROPICAL MEXICO

Two to three assistants needed for each of two crews (Crew One: 1 Apr-15 Jun 2007; Crew Two: 1 Jun-mid/late Aug 2007) -- for research on plumage signaling and territorial behavior of Streak-backed Oriole in tropical Mexico (Sierra de Huautla). Successful applicants will primarily assist with capturing, marking, and conducting behavioral observations. Additional duties will include: establishing territorial boundaries, GPS mapping, monitoring reproductive progress, behavioral observations of caged orioles, and data entry. Assistants must be confident in distinguishing colored leg bands at a distance in the field, self-motivated, able to think and work independently, able to work well with others, and must be comfortable living in a small town in a third-world country. Assistant must also be willing to partake in manipulative research with animals. Spanish language experience preferred but not required. Room and board provided (transportation costs to and from field site are paid by assistants). Study site is located in the charming pueblo of Huautla, Morelos, Mexico tucked in the heart of the Sierra de Huautla. This project offers great biological training and experience, and also rich cultural emersion. Contact Troy Murphy, <mailto:tgm3@cornell.edu>, or write: TROY MURPHY, Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Biology, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario K7L 3N6, Canada. Please include a summary of your background and interests, your reasons for applying, and the names and email addresses of 3 people who can fairly evaluate your qualifications. Review of applications begins immediately.

#### FIELD ASSISTANTSHIP IN PUERTO RICO

A PhD research assistantship will be available summer/fall 2007 to study the movements, reproductive success, and survival of White-cheeked Pintails in Puerto Rico. This study will expand on the long-term commitment of the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources to conserve the White-cheeked Pintail and associated wetland habitats in Puerto Rico by providing new and more extensive data on population demographics as well as data on intra-and inter-wetland movements. The project will involve traditional radio-marking of 150 female White-cheeked Pintails per year for 3 years, as well as marking 10 birds per year with satellite radio-transmitters. The general objectives of the study are to determine movements, habitat use, nest success, hen success, and survival of female White-cheeked Pintails breeding in Puerto Rico, and determine inter-island movements. Completion of M.S. in wildlife management, conservation biology, or a related field; upper percentile undergraduate and graduate GPA as well as GRE scores necessary. Experience with waterfowl and radio-telemetry preferred but not mandatory. Ability to speak Spanish preferred. Salary: \$22,000 plus health benefits and full tuition waiver. Send resume and contact email to Dr. Guy Baldassarre, <mailto:gabaldas@esf.edu>

#### CONSERVATION SPECIALIST WHSRN EXECUTIVE OFFICE

The Conservation Specialist contributes to the work of WHSRN with technical and biological information. S/he works closely with staff at WHSRN's expanding number of sites (currently 64 in 8 countries) to evaluate the state, pressures and responses at the sites that affect shorebirds and their habitats, to manage the data that come from this process, and to assist in the design of conservation projects that reduce the threat levels. The Conservation Specialist also collaborates with biologists and conservationists to develop and refine conservation plans for the species of shorebirds most at risk, the places crucial to the health and recovery of these species, and the strategies for their protection. The Conservation Specialist maintains, updates and improves WHSRN's database about member sites and potential new sites and contributes content to and technical support of WHSRN's English and Spanish-language mirror websites and electronic newsletter. To accomplish these tasks the Conservation Specialist is in regular contact with biologists and conservation planners at the member sites. She/he must understand the life history requirements of migratory and resident shorebirds in North and South America, the variety and ecological characteristics of the habitats found in these places, and must be familiar with the complex variety of sources of data required to complete the tasks outlined. Fluency in English is required; abilities in Spanish and/or Portuguese are highly desirable, as are skills in the use of technological tools for data management and cartography. The Conservation Specialist works semi-independently on a variety of conservation science tasks as developed with the Executive Office director. Travel, including internationally, may be required in pursuit of the Network's goals. The position is based at the Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences in Manomet, Massachusetts. Reduced-cost housing on-site is an option. Qualified applicants should send a cover letter, C.V., and the names and contact information for three references, preferably by e-mail to WHSRN CS position, [mailto:whsrn\\_cs@manomet.org](mailto:whsrn_cs@manomet.org), Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences, PO Box 1770 Manomet, MA 02245 USA. See <http://www.whsrn.org/about/careers.html> for full job description.

#### ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, WHSRN EXECUTIVE OFFICE

The Assistant Director strengthens the Network and implements its mission by working strategically with the Director, WHSRN Hemispheric Council, partners, and other stakeholders. The Assistant Director has responsibilities for management and oversight of projects undertaken with site and network partners, encouraging and supporting the current and potential WHSRN member sites. The Assistant Director must be skilled in building support for conservation goals through partnerships, in project development and in fundraising. To do accomplish these tasks the Assistant Director is in regular contact with policy makers, agency and community leaders at sites, and Network partners including BirdLife and its IBA programs, the Ramsar Convention and national wildlife services. The Assistant Director works semi-independently on a variety of conservation tasks as developed collaboratively with the Director. The successful candidate will have at least a master's degree in a relevant field of biology, science or conservation, or be able to demonstrate equivalent experience. S/he must understand the life history requirements of migratory and resident shorebirds in North and South America, as well as the ecological characteristics of the habitats found in these places. Fluency in English is requisite and fluency in Spanish and/or Portuguese is highly

desirable. Travel, including internationally, may be required in pursuit of the Network's goals. The position is based at the Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences in Manomet, Massachusetts. Reduced-cost housing on-site is an option. Qualified applicants should send a cover letter, c.v., and the names and contact information for three references, preferably by e-mail to WHSRN Asst Director position, [mailto:whsrn\\_asst@manomet.org](mailto:whsrn_asst@manomet.org), Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences, PO Box 1770, Manomet, MA 02245 USA. See <http://www.whsrn.org/about/careers.html> for full job description.

#### VOLUNTEERS TO ASSIST IN FOREST-FALCON TELEMETRY PROJECT IN PERUVIAN AMAZONIA

Volunteers are needed to assist a PhD student in her project with Forest-falcons (*Micrastur* spp.) between March and September 2007. Volunteers will join a telemetry monitoring team of five species of Forest-falcons in the Biological Station in Los Amigos River; in Madre de Dios, Peru (see <http://www.amazonconservation.org>). Depending on the project requirements in the moment of their participation, volunteers may receive training in capture methods, tree-climbing, bleeding techniques, nest-searching, behavioral observations, habitat analysis, among others. Preference will be given to those volunteers with previous field experience and telemetry studies. Volunteers are required to be enthusiastic and have a serious interest in avian ecology and tropical ecology; must be in good physical shape and not be afraid of heights (work involves staying on platforms above the canopy for hours). Please note that the position is 100% volunteer and costs of travels and stay will be entirely the responsibility of interested volunteers. However, volunteers will have available time for their own biological explorations or to participate in other activities in the biological station. Interested people should send a cover letter, CV and names and email addresses of two references that can speak of your capabilities/potential as a researcher. Send information to Ursula Valdez, <mailto:uvaldez@u.washington.edu>.

#### TROPICAL ECOLOGY AND CONSERVATION COURSE IN PANAMA

The course is geared for Latin Americans (graduate students and advanced undergraduates) and taught in Spanish by a tri-lingual professor (English, Spanish, Portuguese) with more than 20 years experience in Tropical America. The course will take place from July 9 - 31, 2007 on the island of Colon, Bocas del Toro, Panama. Bocas del Toro is an interesting location, with a wide variety of tropical birds for study, as well as local issues to consider for conservation. All Latin Americans accepted in the course receive a scholarship; the value is US\$900. Thus, the cost of the course for students from Central and South America is US\$600. For people from other countries, the price is the same as other course taught by ITEC (US \$1500). This course is intended for Spanish-speaking Latin American students that can read English and assist Latin American universities. For more information write to: <mailto:ITEC@ITEC-edu.org> or <mailto:itec@montanhaviva.org>. Visit: <http://www.itec-edu.org/spanishbird.html>

## MEETINGS

VIIIITH NEOTROPICAL ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS, Maturín, Venezuela, May 13 - 19, 2007. The Neotropical Ornithological Society and the Venezuelan Ornithologists' Union are pleased to announce the VIIIth Neotropical Ornithological Congress. The Congress will honor the memory of William H. Phelps and William H. Phelps Jr, pioneers of Venezuelan Ornithology. On-line abstract submission, as well as other information about the conference, is available on the conference web site at: <http://www.nocvenezuela.org>.

XV BRAZILIAN ORNITHOLOGICAL CONFERENCE, Porto Alegre, RS, July 1 - 6, 2007. For more information visit: [www.ararajuba.org.br/cbo2007](http://www.ararajuba.org.br/cbo2007).

II COLOMBIAN ORNITHOLOGY CONFERENCE. 8 - 10, August 2007, Bogotá, Colombia. Submissions for the conference are open. Deadline for submission of abstracts for oral and poster presentations is 31 May 2007. <http://www.ornitologiacolombiana.org/>



16TH REGIONAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE CONSERVATION AND STUDY OF CARIBBEAN BIRDS, July 19-23, San Juan, Puerto Rico. For more information visit: <http://www.scscb.org/>

XII ARGENTINEAN MEETING ON ORNITHOLOGY, 5-8 March 2008, in San Martin de los Andes, province of Neuquen, Argentina. Information is available at the official site for the meeting at <http://www.rao.org.ar>. Contact information <mailto:info@rao.org.ar>

## PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

THE BIRDS WITHOUT BORDERS - AVES SIN FRONTERAS: RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LANDOWNERS: HOW TO MANAGE YOUR LAND TO HELP BIRDS

The Birds Without Borders - Aves Sin Fronteras staff is proud to announce the completion of our manual for Belize and Mesoamerican landowners: The Birds Without Borders - Aves Sin Fronteras.

Recommendations for Landowners: How to Manage Your Land to Help Birds (Belize and Mesoamerica edition).

Our manual is the result of more than seven years of field research in Belize by Birds without Borders - Aves Sin Fronteras. It provides information on habitats and plants that we have found to be important to birds. It also includes other information on how to help birds. The manual is written in English, Belize's official language, but a Spanish summary can be found on pages 7-11. When the printing is completed, we will be distributing the manual free-of-charge in Belize and have a limited number of copies that can be mailed to those who will use the manual for conservation in other Mesoamerican countries. Please contact Vicki Piaskowski, <mailto:vickip@zoosociety.org>, if you need a copy of the manual or the Spanish summary mailed to you. A PDF is available for free download at: <http://www.zoosociety.org/bzlandowner>.

CONSERVING CRACIDS: THE MOST THREATENED FAMILY OF BIRDS IN THE AMERICAS

Daniel Brooks, Ph.D., curator of vertebrate zoology at the Houston Museum of Natural Science and chair of the Cracid Specialist Group, has outlined a conservation plan in the new book *Conserving Cracids: The Most Threatened Family of Birds in the Americas*. This book represents the work of over 40 authors from more than a dozen countries, compiling the most recent status updates and action priorities for threatened and regional populations of cracids, based on field data and on-the-ground expertise. A generous grant from the Chicago Zoological Society will permit printing and distribution of hard copies of the book throughout Latin America, insuring that the biologists, conservation officers, government officials and educators who need it most will receive it. It is available for free online at [http://www.cracids.org/AP\\_Engl\\_ebook.pdf](http://www.cracids.org/AP_Engl_ebook.pdf). Also available in Spanish and Portuguese at [http://www.cracids.org/AP\\_Span\\_ebook.pdf](http://www.cracids.org/AP_Span_ebook.pdf) and [http://www.cracids.org/AP\\_Port\\_ebook.pdf](http://www.cracids.org/AP_Port_ebook.pdf)

COMPILATION ON AVIAN DIVERSITY IN GUATEMALA

A compilation on avian diversity in Guatemala was recently published as a chapter in a book on biodiversity of Guatemala (Eisermann, K. & C. Avendaño. 2006. *Diversidad de aves en Guatemala, con una lista bibliográfica*. Pp. 525-623 In: E. Cano (ed.) *Biodiversidad de Guatemala*, Vol. 1. Universidad del Valle de Guatemala, Guatemala. ISBN 99922-2-272-7). The paper contains an updated list of bird species reliably reported in Guatemala, updated distributional information for more than 130 species, an evaluation of vulnerability on a national level using IUCN criteria, a bibliography of more than 1200 publications on Guatemalan birds from 1577 to 2004, and a list of international museums with holdings of Guatemalan bird specimens. A PDF of the bird chapter is available from the authors (<mailto:knut.eisermann@proeva-raxmu.org>), and the book with 36 chapters (see announcement on p.40 in PATO-POC 3 at <http://www.avesdeguatemala.org/boletin/patopoc3.pdf>) is available at Universidad del Valle, contact Enio Cano at <mailto:ecano@uvg.edu.gt>.

PHOTO GUIDE TO NESTS, EGGS AND NESTLING OF ARGENTINEAN BIRDS

By Martin R. de la Pena, Honorary Professor of Universidad Nacional del Litoral (UNL). The guide is a result of many years of field study. The guide includes 934 photos of nests, nests with eggs and nestlings. In

addition to photographs of nests and eggs, it also includes photos of environments studied and field work. 221 pages. Contact: <mailto:pamenei@adinet.com.uy>

#### BIRDS OF THE BAHAMAS AND THE TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS

By: Bruce Hallett. A comprehensive ornithological guide introducing both visitors and residents to the bird life of the Bahamas Archipelago and the neighboring Turks and Caicos Islands. Caribbean Pocket Natural History Series. 256 pp, color photos. ISBN: 0333937449.

BIRD FLU: A Virus of Our Own Hatching. Lantern Books, New York. Available at: <http://www.BirdFluBook.org>

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