



Partners in Flight

LA TANGARA



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A Hemisphere-wide bird conservation initiative.

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2007 PARK FLIGHT INTERNATIONAL INTERNS SELECTED

More than 70 biologists and educators from Latin America applied for 10 international internship positions with the Park Flight Migratory Bird Program, as advertised in Edition 63 of La Tangara. These international interns will assist with migratory bird monitoring and education efforts in U.S. national parks during the 2007 field season, providing an opportunity for the exchange of scientific, cultural, and linguistic knowledge. The following applicants were selected for the 2007 Park Flight international internships: Jorge Jiménez Moreno (El Salvador) and Evaristo Hernández Fernández (Mexico) at New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail Route/New Jersey Audubon Society; Pablo Elizondo Camacho (Costa Rica) at Great Smoky Mountains

National Park; Mauricio Hoyos Gracia (Panama) at Fire Island National Seashore; Marcelo Araya Salas (Costa Rica) at Oregon Caves National Monument/Klamath Bird Observatory; Alexander Acosta Antón (Nicaragua) at Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks; Daniel Tenez Rivas (Guatemala) and Isella Díaz Uribe (Panama) at Bandelier National Monument; and Roselvy Juárez Jovel (El Salvador) and Adrián Gutiérrez Pérez (Mexico) at Point Reyes National Seashore/Golden Gate National Recreation Area/PRBO Conservation Science. The Park Flight Program works to protect shared migratory birds and their habitats in national parks and protected areas in the U.S., Canada, Latin America and the Caribbean. More Park Flight international internship opportunities are anticipated for 2008.

LONG-WHISKERED OWLET SEEN IN THE WILD IN PERU

The extremely rare Long-whiskered Owllet (*Xenoglaux loweryi*), a species that wasn't discovered until 1976, and until now was only known from a few specimens captured in nets after dark, has been seen in the wild for the first time by forest guards monitoring the Abra Patricia - Alto Nieva Nature Reserve, owned by Asociación Ecosistemas Andinos (ECOAN) in Northern Peru. The northeastern section of the Peruvian Yungas, comprises habitat for 317 resident bird species, of which 23 are considered globally threatened, including the endangered Ochre-fronted Antpitta, the endangered Royal Sunangel (a hummingbird), the rare and recently-described Johnson's Tody-Tyrant, and the endangered Ash-throated Antwren. The Long-whiskered Owllet is among the world's smallest owls; it is so distinct that it has been named in its own genus: *Xenoglaux* meaning "strange owl." The owl inhabits the dense undergrowth of mountain forests in a remote part of northern Peru. The Long-whiskered Owllet has previously been captured by researchers on at least three occasions, but until 2002 nothing was known of the bird's natural history. At that point, calls were recorded from a captive bird, but its biology still remained virtually unknown. Last month, ECOAN staff encountered the owllet three times during daylight hours and recorded its calls frequently at night. Several photographs were also taken of a bird captured in a mist-net and later released onto a tree branch where it posed for photographs. These photos are available at: <http://www.abcbirds.org/whiskeredowlpic.htm> and high resolution copies are available upon request. For more information contact: Steve Holmer, American Bird Conservancy, 202/234-7181 ext. 216, <mailto:sholmer@abcbirds.org>, <http://www.abcbirds.org>. Find out more about Long-whiskered Owllet and its habitats: visit BirdLife's Datazone and search the world's birds, Endemic Bird Areas and Important Bird Areas. http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2007/03/long-whiskered_owllet.html

SPECTACULAR COURTSHIP DISPLAY OF RARE HUMMINGBIRD FILMED FOR FIRST TIME

American Bird Conservancy (ABC) released the first ever film of the spectacular courtship display of the Marvelous Spatuletail, a highly endangered hummingbird that lives in the mountains of northern Peru. The video was shot by wildlife filmmaker Greg Homel of Natural Elements Productions. The Marvelous Spatuletail is unique among hummingbirds in that it has only four tail feathers. The tail of the adult male is more than twice as long as its body and ends in two great spoon-shaped 'spatules' that radiate a metallic purplish gloss. The males compete for females by whirling their long tails around their bodies in an amazing courtship display, which had previously only been witnessed by a few ornithologists, and had never been filmed. This display is considered to be one of the most bizarre in the bird world - the males repeatedly attack each other in the air, contorting their bodies and tails into strange shapes at incredible speed. ABC is working with its Peruvian partner group Asociación Ecosistemas Andinos (ECOAN, <http://www.ecoan-peru.org>) to protect the spatuletail, which is considered to be one of the world's most endangered hummingbirds. The groups have set up a new protected area under a conservation easement, are developing a nature tourism program to benefit local communities, and conducting reforestation programs in the area. To support the conservation of the spatuletail, visit: https://www.abcbirds.org/membership/donate_spt.cfm. To view a segment of this extremely rare footage, visit: <http://www.abcbirds.org>

NEW NORTH AMERICAN SHOREBIRD NUMBERS

An article found in the current Bulletin of the International Wader Study Group (IWSG) revisited some fascinating population estimates for 52 shorebird species in North America. The piece, prepared by Guy Morrison of the Canadian Wildlife Service and seven co-authors, updates previous population estimates

(made in 2001 and 2002). Twenty-four species have their estimated populations at higher numbers than was previously thought, while 15 are thought to have lower populations. Species thought to have higher population numbers include Mountain Plover, American Oystercatcher, Long-billed Curlew, White-rumped Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, Stilt Sandpiper, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, and Red Phalarope. Among the species with lower estimates are Bar-tailed Godwit, Red Knot, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Short-billed Dowitcher, and American Woodcock. These numbers do not necessarily mean that populations themselves have risen or dropped since 2001 and 2002, although that may be the case, but more likely that the current population numbers simply represent revised estimates, sometimes due to better survey data, more detailed information, and new sources of data. For a look at the IWSG and its work, see: <http://web.uct.ac.za/depts/stats/adu/wsg/>. (Source: Birding Community E-Bulletin)

REQUEST FOR FEATHER SAMPLES FROM ORNITHOLOGISTS AND BIRD BANDERS ACROSS MEXICO.

We are requesting assistance from ornithologists and bird banders throughout Mexico to help us in developing a stable-hydrogen isotope base map for the country. This map will be created using feather samples from several resident species in Mexico. Feather samples from House Sparrows, Inca, Common or Ruddy Ground Doves are requested from ornithologists and bird banders throughout Mexico. We welcome feather samples from any birds captured, residents or migrants. In addition, water samples taken from wells or springs are encouraged to be collected at or near feather sampling localities. A protocol, feather envelopes, water vials, and mailing materials will be provided to contributors. We will acknowledge all contributors in future publications. If you are interested in participating in this project, please contact Eduardo Martínez, <mailto:bichodemonte@gmail.com> at Pronatura Veracruz.

FRANCOIS VUILLEUMIER FUND 2007 AWARD ANNOUNCEMENT

The Committee for the Francois Vuilleumier Fund for Research on Neotropical Birds has awarded funding to two Latin American graduate students for their research on Neotropical birds. The committee offers congratulations to the two Francois Vuilleumier Fund awardees for 2007: Yimen Araya Ajoy from the University of Costa Rica for the project entitled: "Individual variation in the songs of an ant-following bird and implications for its conservation"; and Daniel Honorato Firme from the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro and National Museum of Rio de Janeiro for the project entitled: "Taxonomy and geographic variation in the species *Formicivora serrana* and *Formicivora littoralis*." The Francois Vuilleumier Fund endowment is growing and we expect to offer more student support in the future. We therefore encourage more students to apply to the fund, which has an application deadline on 10 December of each year. Fund information and guidelines are available on the Neotropical Ornithological Society website <http://www.neotropicalornithology.org>

NEW SCIENTIFIC JOURNAL FROM COLOMBIA

Conservación Colombiana is a new scientific journal published by Fundación ProAves. The main topic of the journal is the ecology and status of threatened bird species in Colombia. Fundación ProAves has supported numerous conservation initiatives in the past and is encouraging its own researchers and others to convert informal reports and other publications into a more formal setting and make such materials available to a wider audience. Articles are published in Spanish with an English abstract. The first edition, published late last year, deals with work on threatened Parrots. The second edition, published March 2007, contains 9 articles about the critically-endangered Yellow-eared Parrot *Ognorhynchus icterotis*. A special supplement to the second edition is a new Checklist of the Birds of Colombia. The third edition is almost finished and will contain a series of articles about the Blue-billed Curassow *Crax alberti*. Although a majority of the articles in the editions to date are by researchers who have been supported by, or who work with, ProAves, the editors welcome pieces from researchers at other institutions. The two editions of Conservación Colombiana published to date are available from Fundación ProAves, Cra. 20 # 36 - 61, Barrio La Soledad, Bogotá - Colombia or phone or email <mailto:kalbarracin@proaves.org>. The journal is sold at cost (\$15.000 pesos / U.S.\$6 per issue plus any postage costs). For further information or free download of the Checklist visit: <http://www.proaves.org>

FESTIVAL CELEBRATES CARIBBEAN'S UNIQUE BIRDS

The 6th Annual Caribbean Endemic Bird Festival is one month of events dedicated to raising support and awareness of the region's 208 bird species found nowhere else on Earth. Coordinated by the Society for the Conservation and Study of Caribbean Birds (SCSCB) -the largest regional organization devoted to bird conservation in the Caribbean, the festival is taken up locally by many Caribbean islands. The aim of the festival is to increase public awareness of the region's exceptionally rich but threatened bird life, using the Caribbean's celebrated endemic birds as flagships for conservation. The annual event last year attracted over 20,000 participants. This year's Festival theme will focus on the threat of climate change to the region's biological diversity. For more information, http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2007/04/caribbean_birds_festival.html

CONSERVATIONISTS JOIN ECUADOR PRESIDENT'S CALL TO SAVE GALAPAGOS

Two conservation organizations have supported Ecuador's President Correa in calling that the Galapagos Islands become a national priority for action. Mr Correa spoke publicly about the growing threats from a rapidly increasing population, and increased incidence of invasive species, many of them predators of nesting birds. Located some 1,000km off Ecuador's mainland the Galapagos Islands are home to a number of threatened endemic species, many of them birds including: Galapagos Petrel *Pterodroma phaeopygia* (Critically Endangered), Galapagos Cormorant *Phalacrocorax harrisi* (Endangered), Galapagos Hawk *Buteo galapagensis* (Vulnerable), Galapagos Penguin *Spheniscus mendiculus* (Endangered), Waved Albatross *Phoebastria irrorata* (Vulnerable) and Floreana Mockingbird *Nesomimus trifasciatus* (Endangered). For full article visit: http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2007/04/ecuador_president_galapagos.html

WORLD MIGRATORY BIRD DAY 2007

World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD) is a global initiative devoted to celebrating migratory birds and for promoting their conservation worldwide. This year WMBD will take place on the weekend of 12-13 May and its central theme will be "Migratory birds in a changing climate." The goal of WMBD 2007 is to try to focus world attention on the plight of migratory birds and to highlight that migratory birds are affected by global warming in the same way as all living things. The WMBD website is the central information hub for the global campaign and a tool through which we can highlight individual WMBD activities taking place in different countries around the world. For more information please visit: <http://www.worldmigratorybirdday.org>

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON ANDEAN HUMMINGBIRDS

I am after accurate locality data (georeferenced) for a set of Andean hummingbird species for a study on the effect of global warming in species distributions in any country. All the info provided will be fully acknowledged either on a table or in the acknowledgments section in any future publication. Species of interest are: *Colibri coruscans*, *Doryfera ludovicae*, *Ancestrura mulsant*, *Aglaiocercus kingi*, *Heliangelus amethysticollis*, *Aglaeactis cupripennis*, *Aglaeactis castelnaudii*, *Lesbia nuna*, *Coeligena violifer*, *Metallura tyrianthina*, *Phaethornis guy*, *Patagona gigas*, *Heliodoxa leadbeateri*, *Oreotrochilus estella*, *Klais guimeti*, and *Oreonympha nobilis*. Send information to Jaime Chaves at: mailto:ch_aves@hotmail.com

REQUEST FOR NEOTROPICAL WATERBIRD INFORMATION

Due to the worldwide concern about avian influenza, *Wetlands International* started their Project "Mapping waterbird distribution and migratory routes in the Neotropics" to contribute with the "Wild Bird Global Avian Influenza Network for Surveillance (GAINS)." We started a survey of the information available and aim to compile the largest amount of data about some key neotropical aquatic species from all South American countries. All data will be presented as distributional and migratory maps. We will use all the information (published or unpublished) that is available to us. The information provided by researchers and birdwatchers can be also critical for this kind of study. We are gathering information, and we would be thankful to receive any details of the following species: *Cygnus melancorypha* (Black-necked Swan), *Anas platalea* (Red Shoveler), *Limosa haemastica* (Hudsonian Godwit), *Tringa flavipes* (Lesser Yellowlegs) and *Chroicocephalus [Larus] cirrocephalus* (Grey-hooded Gull). Information requested: date, locality (best if you could provide the coordinates), Numbers (could be both quantitative and qualitative estimations), Comments

of interest (e.g. abnormal concentrations, unusual places, migratory flocks, etc.). Send information to Ignacio Roesler at: <mailto:kiniroesler@yahoo.com>

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD

I am seeking information about autumn arrival dates of Ruby-throated Hummingbirds (RTHU), *Archilochus colubris* in Mexico and each of the Central American countries. If you have first-hand observations about fall dates (September through December) for RTHU anywhere in the tropics--or if you are aware of any published accounts--I would appreciate your sending that information to me. I am especially interested in fall observation dates for Costa Rica (Guanacaste Province) and for Nicaragua (particularly along the Pacific Coast west of Lake Nicaragua). Send information to: Bill Hilton Jr., Executive Director, Hilton Pond Center for Piedmont Natural History, <mailto:research@hiltonpond.org>. Please visit our website "Operation RubyThroat: The Hummingbird Project" at: <http://www.rubythroat.org>

KEY MIGRATORY SHOREBIRD WETLANDS PROTECTED IN BAHIA SANTA MARIA, MEXICO

Bahia Santa Maria, located on the shores of the Gulf of California, is part of a complex of coastal bays and estuaries notable for a number of wintering wetland-dependent birds, including 25% of all Western Sandpipers. Blue-footed Booby, Laughing Gull, Heermann's Gull, Royal and Least Terns, Marbled Godwits, Long-billed Curlew, and Stilt Sandpipers are also found in the area which is regarded as one of the six most important areas for bird conservation in Mexico. The western Mexican coast is under intense land-conversion pressure. Much of the coastal wetland complex has been converted to shrimp farms, and many other areas have been harmed by water diversion projects that deteriorate bird habitat. A generous donation from the Mitsubishi International Corporation Foundation in 2007 has enabled American Bird Conservancy and ProNatura Noroeste to secure the purchase of 865 acres of coastal wetlands to conserve key bird habitat in Bahia Santa Maria. For further information contact Steve Holmer, ABC, <mailto:sholmer@abcbirds.org>

REQUEST FOR HELP FOR CUBAN VETERINARIAN

My name is Juan Carlos Ortiz Rodriguez, Dr in Veterinarian Medicine, researcher and ornithologist and I have the subject for my Doctoral thesis regarding the health parameters of three endemic bird species in Cuba. My intention is to go on an internship outside of Cuba because this subject has not been worked on due to the little participation veterinarians have in conservation issues and much less in wildlife health; my intention is to start my path and develop my thesis. I must find people who work in this subject and Universities that can help me with this. I ask if you have any doubts about this, please ask me, and if you know anyone that can help. For more information contact: <mailto:juancarlos@citmasc.ciges.inf.cu>

WEB NEWS

NATURE REPORTS AVIAN FLU - APRIL 2007. Nature Reports Avian Flu is an extensive archive of news and research articles to keep you up to date with the most significant developments on avian flu at: <http://ealerts.nature.com/cgi-bin24/DM/y/edNAOSp65r0H6mOBPILOEK>

MEXICAN SOCIETY OF ORNITHOLOGY WEBSITE at: <http://www.cch.unam.mx/SMO>

CONSERVATION AND GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE WEBSITE: Dedicated to collecting, compiling, presenting, and disseminating information about Global Climate Change (GCC) / Global Warming and how it relates to and affects the conservation of biodiversity at: <http://www.climateandconservation.org>

FAUNA PARAGUAY WEBSITE: Over 500 pages dedicated to the Paraguayan fauna, with images and videos of 350 birds, 20 reptiles, 10 amphibians and 35 mammals at: <http://www.fauparaguay.com/images.html>

THE NATURAL RESOURCE MONITORING PARTNERSHIP (NRMP) is pleased to announce the release of the new Monitoring Protocol Library and the Monitoring Locator. The NRMP is a collaborative effort by the natural resource management community to improve the accessibility of monitoring efforts in order to support effective evaluation and decision-making. Visit the NRMP at: <http://nrmp.nbii.gov>

THE EDITORS OF AVIAN CONSERVATION AND ECOLOGY ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE PUBLICATION OF THE JOURNAL'S THIRD ISSUE at: <http://www.ace-eco.org/>

BIRDING COMMUNITY E-BULLETIN. You can access an archive of our past E-bulletins on the website of the National Wildlife Refuge Association (NWRA): <http://www.refugenet.org/birding/birding5.html> and on the birding pages for Steiner Binoculars at: <http://www.steiner-birding.com/bulletin.html>

THE NEOTROPICAL RAPTOR NETWORK'S THIRD NEWSLETTER IS AVAILABLE at: <http://www.neotropicalraptors.org/>

THE NEW COSTA RICAN BIRD LIST (bilingual), by the Scientific Committee of the Ornithological Association of Costa Rica is available in PDF at: <http://www.zeledonia.org>

AOU MEMBERS: You can now access "Birds of North America Online" through the AOU website free of charge at: <http://www.aou.org/publications/online/php3>

IMPORTANT BIRD SITES

- Bird 'flu follows trade, not migration routes
http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2007/03/avian_flu_report.html
- Seabirds make agenda at U.N. Fisheries Meeting
http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2007/03/seabird_fisheries_meeting.html
- Overseas Territories: Birds left Stranded
http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2007/03/EU_overseas_territories.html
- Festival celebrates Caribbean's unique birds
http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2007/04/caribbean_birds_festival.html

FUNDING

BIRDFAIR/RSPB SMALL RESEARCH GRANTS

The British Birdwatching Fair and the RSPB are pleased to announce the opening of the 2007 round of applications to the Birdfair/RSPB Research Fund for Endangered Birds. This fund provides grants of up to US\$2,000 for researchers working on birds classified by IUCN as Endangered or Critically Endangered. The fund is open to all, though priority is given to those working with or for BirdLife Partners where they exist. Priority is also given to researchers working in their own country, and we do not fund travel from developed to developing countries. Further details and an application form are available at <http://www.rspb.org.uk/ourwork/science/international/smallgrants/angeredbirdgrants.asp>. A generous private donation means we are able to fund more projects this year than ever before. The closing date is 30 September 2007. Grants will be awarded in December 2007.

TRAINING / JOB OPPORTUNITIES

INTERNSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR BIRD MONITORING IN COSTA RICA

We have openings for Volunteer Bird Banding Interns at a bird monitoring station in the coastal Caribbean town of Tortuguero, Costa Rica. Positions are available throughout the year with the minimum length of stay around 2 months. Participants are expected to have experience in identifying birds, and they usually have removed from mist nets and processed at least 200 landbirds. The Primary Bander will have extensive experience operating a capture station and can be awarded up to half their airfare to and from San Jose, Costa Rica. Latin American Volunteers are especially encouraged and may be eligible for other reimbursements. All volunteers receive their room and board while they are staying at the well-appointed station of the Caribbean Conservation Corporation, Estación Biológica, in Tortuguero (URL: <http://cccturtle.org/ccc-costarica.htm>). We and our collaborators in Costa Rica have been operating five monitoring stations near the village for over a decade. We operate mist nets for resident and migrant species and conduct migration censuses of the millions of diurnal migrants moving along the coast. For more information see (URL: <http://www.fs.fed.us/psw/topics/wildlife/birdmon/landbird/tortuguero/>) Positions will be open until filled. Please send (email preferred) a resume highlighting your bird banding experience, ability with Spanish, dates available, three references and any questions to Pablo A. Herrera, <mailto:paherrera@fs.fed.us>, and Dr. C. John Ralph, <mailto:cjr2@humboldt.edu>, PH: 707- 825-2994, FX: 707 825-2901, U.S. Forest Service, Redwood Sciences Laboratory, 1700 Bayview Drive, Arcata, California 95521.

BIOACOUSTICS WORKSHOP: TECHNIQUES FOR THE RECORDINGS OF SOUNDS AND ITS APPLICATIONS

The Instituto de Ecología, A.C. and the Center for Biological Conservation of the University of California, Riverside, join forces to offer a bioacoustics workshop that seeks to introduce the participants to the most modern techniques for recording, digitalizing and analysis of animal and environmental sounds, and at the same time, its application for scientific studies. The workshop will be offered in Spanish; however, almost all the instructors speak and understand English. The course will take place from November 5 - 10th, 2007 in the buildings of Instituto de Ecología, A.C. (<http://www.ecologia.edu.mx>), Xalapa, Veracruz, Mexico. The cost of the workshop is MEX\$ 2, 250.00 or its equivalent in U.S. dollars. Students must cover their expenses for transportation, lodging and food in Xalapa, Veracruz. For more information contact the coordinators Fernando González-García, <mailto:gonzalezf@ecologia.edu.mx> and Antonio Celis Murillo <mailto:acelis@comcast.net>, <mailto:acelis@ucr.edu>.

ASSISTANT TO THE INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS DIRECTOR OF THE PEREGRINE FUND

Established in 1970, The Peregrine Fund (TPF) works nationally and internationally, to conserve birds of prey in nature. TPF seeks a highly organized individual for 25-30 hours per week, capable of multi-tasking and managing a variety of both clerical and program planning responsibilities. The individual will assist the International Programs Director with daily and ongoing tasks related to the management of The Peregrine Fund's roughly 15-20 international raptor research and conservation projects in Asia, Africa, and Latin America, and on occasion, domestic programs. Visit <http://peregrinefund.org/employment.asp> for the full job description and application instructions. Open until filled.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED IN ECUADOR

Volunteers are needed to work on projects involving endangered birds in southern Ecuador with the Jocotoco Conservation Foundation. Successful applicants will work on one or more of the following four projects: (1) radio telemetry of the endangered Jocotoco Antpitta (*Grallaria ridgelyi*) in the temperate cloud forest of Tapichalaca Biological Reserve in southeastern Ecuador, (2) monitoring artificial nests of the endangered El Oro Parakeet (*Pyrrhura orcesi*) in Buenaventura Reserve in humid subtropical forest of southwestern Ecuador, (3) nest searching/monitoring of the critically endangered Pale-headed Brush-Finch (*Atlapetes palidiceps*) in moist subtropical scrub in Azuay province, or (4) a future project involving monitoring the Esmeraldas Woodstar (*Chaetocercus berlepschi*) in Ayampe, coastal Guayas. See <http://www.fjocotoco.org> and <http://www.birdlife.org> for more information. All positions provide

experience with tropical field work in extremely diverse and sometimes remote areas, the opportunity to contribute to the conservation of endangered species, and experience with the Spanish language. Applicants must have a record of being dedicated field workers and be in very good physical condition as all positions require lots of walking and some sites are at high elevations. Some knowledge of Spanish and experience with mist netting and/or nest-searching experience preferred. Food, lodging, and transportation in the country provided but applicant must cover cost of flight to Quito (about \$500 from the United States). Applicants must dedicate at least four weeks to the project and may spend up to three months depending on their performance. We are seeking volunteers as soon as 1 Apr but start times flexible up until fall 2007. Send cover letter, CV, and contact information of three references to Bert Harris, <mailto:bertdichrozona@hotmail.com> and to Mery Juiña, mailto:meryj_bio@yahoo.com

DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH FOR CHARLES DARWIN FOUNDATION IN ECUADOR

This is an exciting and rewarding position at a time of substantial change within Galapagos and within the Charles Darwin Foundation (CDF). The CDF is building an integrated ecosystem based research program to help managers address the issues in Galapagos. The Director of Research will be responsible for redefining the scientific team at the CDF and working with this team to efficiently determine research priorities and allocate resources accordingly. The Director of Research will be responsible for the day to day management of the science staff of the CDF. This team consists of 50 persons and an annual budget of US\$ 2,000,000. The work requires a broad and thorough knowledge of the application of research to conservation and natural resource management. Qualifications for this position include a post-graduate technical degree and over ten years of experience in research and research administration or equivalent. The candidate will have demonstrated skills and experience in the supervision of staff and in project planning, co-ordination and scheduling, as well as the ability to deal with and maintain the confidence of senior management and the CDF stakeholders. Applicants should also have experience in dealing with national and international institutions. Applicants should also have strategic vision, senior management experience, have excellent interpersonal skills and fulfill the diverse technical and managerial requirements of the position. Work experience in a cross-disciplinary, multicultural environment is also beneficial. Good command of both Spanish and English are essential. Applicants should send a resume, a letter explaining their interest and qualifications for the position. Names and contacts of three references (e-mail address), until May 7th, 2007, by e-mail to: <mailto:papico@deloitte.com>. We will check those applications arrived after this date until the position is filled. Please place in subject line: (DRES - and last name)

FIELD ASSISTANT NEEDED IN COSTA RICA

Field assistant needed to work on behavioral field study of a neotropical bird in Costa Rica. Assistant will help collect data on song, social behavior and reproduction in the cooperatively breeding, group-singing Stripe-headed Sparrow (*Aimophila ruficauda*). Daily field work will include resighting birds by color-combination, mist-netting and banding, conducting focal observations while recording vocalizations, assisting playback experiments and nest-searching and monitoring. Some data entry and sound data processing work each day, but emphasis will be on intensive field work. Some experience in at least some of the above field activities preferred, but not all required. Absolutely required: good general birding skills but especially a good ear for identifying birds by song; an enthusiasm for study of bird behavior; ability to work both in dense, thorny forest and in open areas with TOTAL exposure to very hot tropical sun; tolerance for working in proximity to stinging ants, wasps and poisonous snakes. Study site is Santa Rosa National Park, Guanacaste, Costa Rica, about 40 min from small city of Liberia. Travel, food and housing provided. If already in Costa Rica, small stipend may be possible. Housing will be in Santa Rosa dorms, probably in shared rooms. Start date: ASAP, or by mid-Jun. End date: until late August or early September. Contact: Anya Illes, Graduate student, University of Washington, <mailto:ailles@u.washington.edu>. Phone interviews will be made via Costa Rican public phone, or Skype or other internet service by appointment.

MEETINGS

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

21ST ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY FOR CONSERVATION BIOLOGY. Port Elizabeth, South Africa, July 1 - 5, 2007. For more information visit: <http://www.conbio.org/2007>

16th Meeting of the SOCIETY FOR THE CONSERVATION AND STUDY OF CARIBBEAN BIRDS (SCSCB), July 19th to 23rd, 2007. Centro de Estudios Avanzados de Puerto Rico y el Caribe (CEAPRC), Old San Juan, Puerto Rico. The theme of this meeting is SHARED SPACES: The Right of Humans and Birds to Share the Earth. As such, the conference will feature thematic discussions of inter-island conservation issues related to this theme through workshops, symposia, round-table discussions and working group meetings. The meeting will include oral presentations and a poster session. For more information visit: <http://www.scscb.org/>

II COLOMBIAN ORNITHOLOGY CONFERENCE. Bogotá, Colombia, 8 - 10, August 2007. Submissions for the conference are open. Deadline for submission of symposia, workshops, and round tables will close on 16 February. Deadline for submission of abstracts for oral and poster presentations is 31 May 2007. <http://www.ornitologiacolombiana.org/>

SYMPOSIUM: HUMMINGBIRD MONITORING AND CONSERVATION OF THREATENED SPECIES IN COLOMBIA. Under the setting of the II Colombian Ornithology Conference, to be held in Bogotá from August 8 - 10th, 2007, the Hummingbird Conservancy - Fundación Colibrí, would like to extend an invitation to participate in the symposium. Reception of papers is open until May 31st, 2007. For more information visit <http://www.ornitologiacolombiana.org> or contact Luis Mazariegos, The Hummingbird Conservancy - Fundación Colibrí, Cali - Colombia, <mailto:lamh@thc-fc.org>, <http://www.thc-fc.org>

125TH STATED MEETING OF THE AOU. 8-11 August 2007. University of Wyoming, Laramie, Wyoming. For more information or to download the program visit: <http://www.aou.org/meetings/2007/index.php3>

RAPTOR RESEARCH FOUNDATION 2007 ANNUAL MEETING: Kettling on the Kittatinny. 12-16 September. Held in conjunction with The Hawk Migration Association of North America. Hosted by Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association. The conference dates, September 12-16th are timed to enjoy the peak migration of broad-winged hawks, osprey, and other raptors through eastern Pennsylvania with daily counts of over 1,000 birds possible at several nearby lookouts. The meeting will be held at the Fogelsville Holiday Inn Conference Center (<http://www.hilehighvalley.com>). For further details on all conference events check the Conference web page at: <http://www.hawkmountain.org>, or contact local organizing committee chair Laurie Goodrich (<mailto:Goodrich@hawkmtn.org>). Registration information will be mailed to all members in March and on-line registration links will be available at the conference webpage at: <http://www.hawkmountain.org>.

II LATIN AMERICAN CONFERENCE ON PROTECTED AREAS. Bariloche, Argentina, September 30 to October 6, 2007. Deadline for presentation of proposals for workshops and symposiums is April 15, 2007. For more information contact <mailto:rlc-congresoparques2007@fao.org> or visit: <http://congresolatinoparques2007.org/>

VII INTERNATIONAL ZOOLOGY SYMPOSIUM. Topes de Collantes, Sancti Spiritus, Cuba. November 12 - 17, 2007. Deadline for submission of papers is June 30th. For more information contact Dra. Daysi Rodríguez Batista, E-mail: <mailto:daysitarb@ecologia.cu>

VII INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, Hotel Villa del Rio, Valdivia, Chile, November 13-16, 2007. For more information visit: <http://www.ceachile.cl/congreso/>

XI CONFERENCE OF THE MESOAMERICAN SOCIETY FOR BIOLOGY AND CONSERVATION, Cocoyoc, Morelos, Mexico, 26-30 November 2007. For more information visit: <http://www.socmesoamericana.org>, <http://www.cib.uaem.mx/smbcmex/>

XII ARGENTINEAN MEETING ON ORNITHOLOGY, San Martin de los Andes, province of Neuquen, Argentina, 5-8 March 2008. 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

BIODIVERSITY AND CONSERVATION IN TUMBESIAN ECUADOR AND PERU

The document by Best & Kessler (1995) is now available free for download at BirdLife International's website at: http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2007/05/tumbesian_online_launch.html

NEW BIRD-FRIENDLY GUIDELINES BOOKLET FROM FATAL LIGHT AWARENESS PROGRAM.

A 40-page manual aimed at developers and architects on how to design bird-friendly buildings at: <http://www.toronto.ca/lightout/guidelines.htm>

THE ILLEGAL PARROT TRADE IN MEXICO: A COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT

Defenders of Wildlife's report "The Illegal Parrot Trade in Mexico: A Comprehensive Assessment", January 2007, Written by: Juan Carlos Cantú Guzmán is available as a PDF (10 MB) at: <http://www.defenders.org/mexicanparrot/2008-parrot-report-english.pdf>

BIRDS OF PERU

By Thomas S. Schulenberg, Douglas F. Stotz, Daniel F. Lane, John P. O`neill, Theodore A., III Parker. Princeton Field Guides, Hardcover. Price: \$49.50 US. Due October 2007.

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