



The Latin American

# BIRD RESERVE NETWORK



STOPPING EXTINCTION IN ITS TRACKS





## AMERICAN BIRD CONSERVANCY (ABC)

was founded in 1994, and is the only not-for-profit organization that works solely to conserve native wild birds and their habitats throughout the Americas. ABC acts to safeguard the rarest birds, conserve habitat for declining species, eliminate threats to bird populations, develop innovative solutions to conservation problems, and to build capacity in the bird conservation movement.

ABC tracks all bird issues, responds rapidly to the highest conservation priorities, and works constructively with stakeholders to seek win-win solutions that will be effective in the long-term. ABC takes a flexible approach to problem solving, and its programs range from land purchase and restoration to advocacy and education.

To help develop the reserve network, ABC identifies priority sites, provides technical support and training, raises funds, monitors and evaluates the progress of conservation action at each site, and provides project management assistance to partners. ABC's goal is to expand the reserve network to conserve all endangered bird species in the Americas, for each reserve to attain ABC's Gold Standard of Operational Excellence, and to achieve long-term financial sustainability.

[www.abcbirds.org](http://www.abcbirds.org)



Jocotoco Antpitta (AZE, EN, 1): Mark Harper

### PHOTOGRAPHIC CAPTIONS

After each bird species' name we state whether it is an Alliance for Zero Extinction (AZE) species (see page 107); we include its IUCN status (CR: critically endangered; EN: endangered; VU: vulnerable; NT: near-threatened; LC: least concern); if it is a country endemic or probable endemic (prob.) the country; and the number of ABC-supported reserves where the species occurs.

# The Latin American Bird Reserve Network

Protecting 35 Reserves, >250,000 Acres, >2,000 Species



STOPPING EXTINCTION IN ITS TRACKS

Marvelous Spatuletail (AZE, EN, Peru, 1): Roger Ahlman













# ANDES VISTA KEY



Chris Vest

## KEY

### BIRDS

1. White-tufted Sunbeam
2. Ash-breasted Tit-tyrant
3. White-browed Tit-spinetail
4. Royal Cinclodes
5. Andean Condor
6. Gray-breasted Seedsnipe
7. Flamingoes (could be Chilean, James's, or Andean)
8. Streaked Tuftedcheek
9. Golden-plumed Parakeet

10. Andean Cock-of-the-Rock
11. Golden-headed Quetzal
12. Flame-faced Tanager
13. Golden Tanager
14. Masked Flowerpiercer
15. Purple-throated Sunangel
16. Barred Antthrush
17. Sword-billed Hummingbird
18. Green Jay
19. Barred Fruiteater
20. Pale-naped Brush-finch

### MAMMALS

1. Vicuña
2. Llama
3. Andean Fox

### HABITAT and PLANTS

1. *Polylepis* woodland
2. Puna grassland (bunchgrass)
3. Cloud forest
4. Bromeliad

### OTHER ITEMS

1. Reforestation
2. Ecolodge
3. Deforestation
4. Parrot nest box
5. Melting glaciers

#### Donated source material:

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This Huichol yarn painting was produced by indigenous Mexican communities in the area of El Carricito. The painting is inspired by the *Peyote* ritual and produced with colored yarn embedded in beeswax. Animals are totemic to the Huichol people, and every young man has a feather or part of a pelt of his spirit animal tied to his traditional hat. The spirit animal comes to him in a dream. This bird represents the spiritual connection that the communities have with the land and biodiversity. Photo: Mike Parr

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**ABC's goal is to expand the reserve network to conserve all endangered bird species in the Americas, for each reserve to attain ABC's Gold Standard of Operational Excellence, and to achieve long-term financial sustainability.**

Blue-naped Chlorophonia (LC, 8): Fundación ProAves, [www.proaves.org](http://www.proaves.org)



## ***Thank You!***

American Bird Conservancy and its partners are deeply grateful to the donors who are helping to build the Latin American Bird Reserve Network. We are especially grateful to the Jeniam Foundation, the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, Alan Weeden, Robert Wilson, Jeff and Connie Woodman, and our partners Conservation International and the World Land Trust. Each of these individuals and organizations have provided very significant support, without which this entire effort would have been greatly diminished.

We would also like to extend our thanks to the Beneficia Foundation, the Regina Bauer Frankenberg Foundation, the Garfield Foundation, and to Joan Hero, for supporting American Bird Conservancy's work on the Alliance for Zero Extinction, which has been the science bedrock behind our reserve selection process.

Thanks also to Josep del Hoyo and Lynx Edicions for allowing us to use the fantastic illustrations from the *Handbook of the Birds of the World* ([www.hbw.com](http://www.hbw.com)) in the Quick Facts boxes, to the many photographers who have allowed us to use their work for this book (see credits on individual images), and to the artist Chris Vest, who created the marvelous vistas of the Andes and Brazilian Atlantic forest.

This book provides a snapshot in time, describing the reserve network as it stands in 2009. We anticipate adding additional reserves and expanding existing ones as we move forward with our conservation work. For example, we have just received stop press news that the first ABC-supported reserve in the Caribbean has been finalized (see p. 88), and we are also currently working on two new reserves in Bolivia. Ultimately, we aim to protect a significant population of every endangered bird species in the Americas as a contribution to the future of biodiversity on Earth.

We look forward to working with you to accomplish this goal.



Dr. George H. Fenwick, President  
American Bird Conservancy







## THE LATIN AMERICAN BIRD RESERVE NETWORK

The creation of the bird reserve network featured in this book was made possible through an extraordinary collaboration between conservation groups, government agencies, and financial supporters. Although American Bird Conservancy (ABC) played a role in conserving each of the 35 featured reserves, the scale of that role varied, but in all cases, the lion's share of the credit must go to the donors and to the implementing partners, without whom none of this would have been possible.

The 35 current reserves span 12 countries, protecting habitat from sea level to above the Andean tree line. From coastal flats to cloud forests, from the seasonally flooded savannas of Bolivia to Brazil's Atlantic Forests and the short-grass prairies of northern Mexico, the network spans some 3,000 miles north to south, and a similar distance east to west. The total land area under conservation management, including reserves, associated easements, and other lands managed for conservation is presently 260,403 acres. Five of the reserves have already gained official endorsement by the respective national governments, adding an additional layer of protection. This status is pending for several more.

In total, 2,025 bird species have so far been recorded from the reserves (some reserves have only been partly surveyed to date). This is nearly half of the bird species

recorded from the entire Americas. Of these species, 14 are considered critically endangered under IUCN-World Conservation Union criteria, 44 are considered to be endangered, 80 vulnerable, and 107 near-threatened. This is more than a quarter of all threatened bird species in the Americas.

One hundred and forty-eight of the birds are endemic to single countries, and many of these are further restricted to tiny areas or unique habitats. Two hundred and thirty-two of the species are neotropical migrants. Seven of the very rarest species are already showing measurable population increases due to management actions. Habitat loss for many others has been halted, and habitat is already being expanded through reforestation at twelve of the reserves.

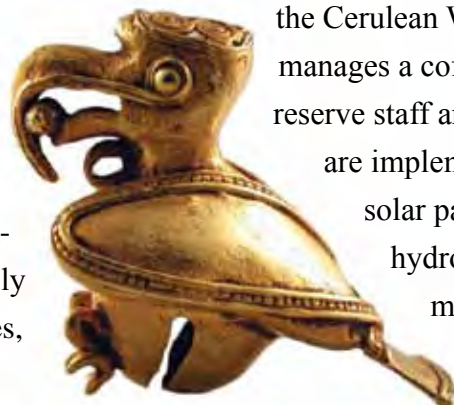
Seventeen of the reserves protect Alliance for Zero Extinction (AZE) sites (see page 107). Each of these AZE sites is selected to protect the last known location for one or more of the world's most endangered species (those classified as either endangered or critically endangered according to IUCN). These 17 AZE reserves protect more than one quarter of all Latin American bird-triggered AZE sites, and provide habitat for 25 of the 78 AZE bird species from the region (several sites have multiple AZE species). Two of the reserves are also home to a combined total of seven AZE frog species. It is estimated that there may be 2,000,000 total animal and plant species represented in the reserves.



Enough clean fresh rainwater falls on the reserves each year to provide for the annual needs of more than one million people. These watershed forests also control erosion and siltation, reduce landslides and flooding, help to regulate local climates, protect downstream fisheries, and ensure a reliable source of irrigation for agriculture and pastures on the slopes below.

Sufficient carbon is stored in the reserves' forests to offset the annual CO<sub>2</sub> footprint of more than 800,000 Americans. A new study by Dr. Frank W. Larsen of Conservation International confirms that AZE sites are not only extremely important as watersheds and carbon stores, but that they also exhibit especially high diversity among rare human languages and wildlife genera, indicating that they are also important for indigenous cultures and potentially for the discovery of new medicines.

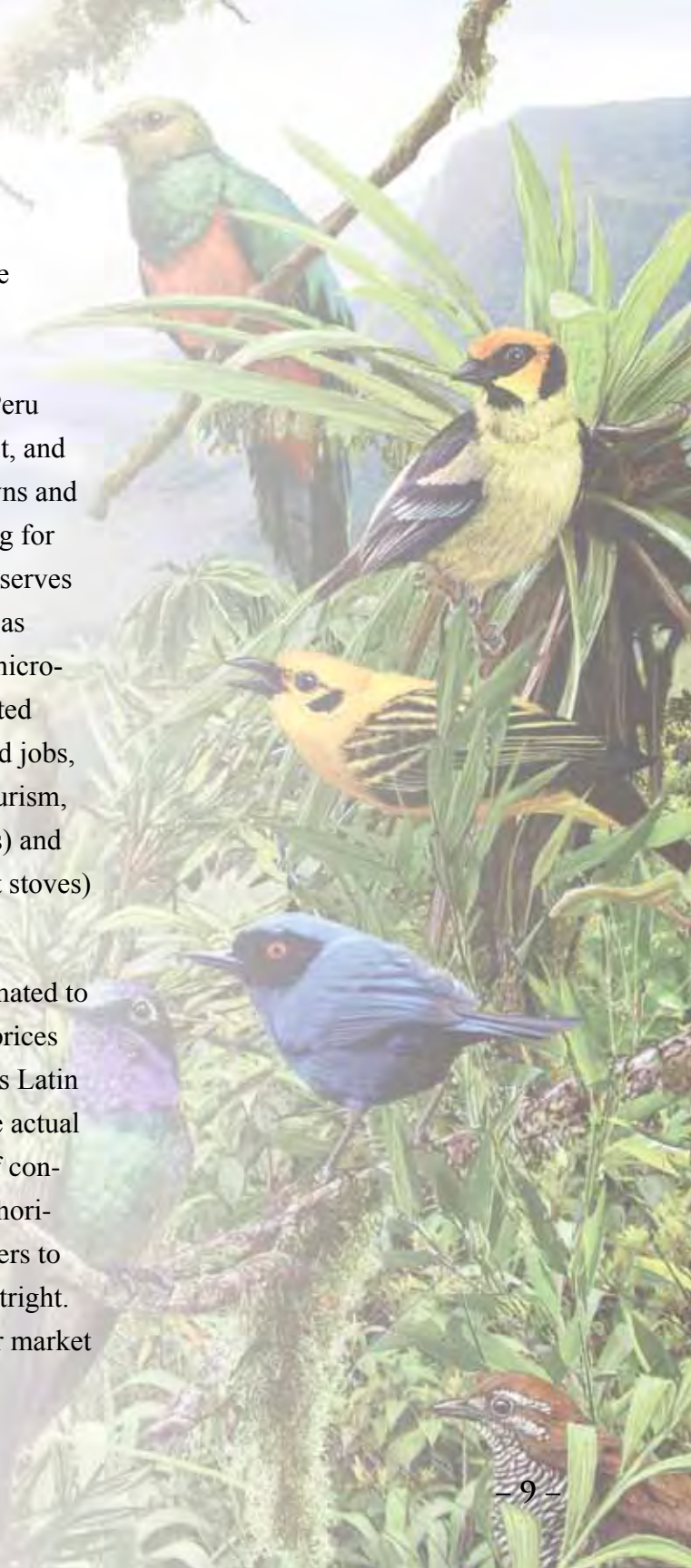
So far, partners have planted 1,022,000 native trees to restore habitat and create reserve buffer zones. Several of the reserves lie adjacent to large public protected areas, helping to create corridors of wildlife habitat across the wider landscape. These reserves also encourage the development of regional ecotourism, and their staff collaborate in the conservation of the public parks (such as through joint guard training programs).



This small golden figurine of a toucan was found near Santa Marta, Colombia. It is likely a bell that would have been attached to the costume of a traditional Tairona dancer whose culture flourished in this area from AD 800 until the Spanish conquest. Photo: Fundación ProAves, [www.proaves.org](http://www.proaves.org)

Several of the reserves are already on their way to financial self-sufficiency, and seventeen have accommodation for birding or nature tourists. The Vilcanota Reserve Network in southern Peru is developing an endowment fund for community conservation projects, Abra Patricia in northern Peru is to be the site for a model carbon finance project, and the Cerulean Warbler Reserve in Colombia owns and manages a coffee plantation with profits paying for reserve staff and maintenance costs. Several reserves are implementing green technologies such as solar panels, fuel-efficient stoves, and micro-hydro projects. We have directly created more than 300 conservation-related jobs, and provided training in ecotourism, reforestation, and handicrafts) and other benefits (such as fuel-efficient stoves) for more than 7,000 local people.

The total land value of the reserve system is estimated to be more than \$25 million, based on comparable prices paid by ABC and its partners for titled land across Latin America (averaging \$110 per acre). However, the actual cost was considerably less, thanks to a number of conservation management agreements with local authorities and communities that have allowed the partners to protect far more land than has been purchased outright. It is the policy of ABC and its partners to pay fair market value for all purchased properties.



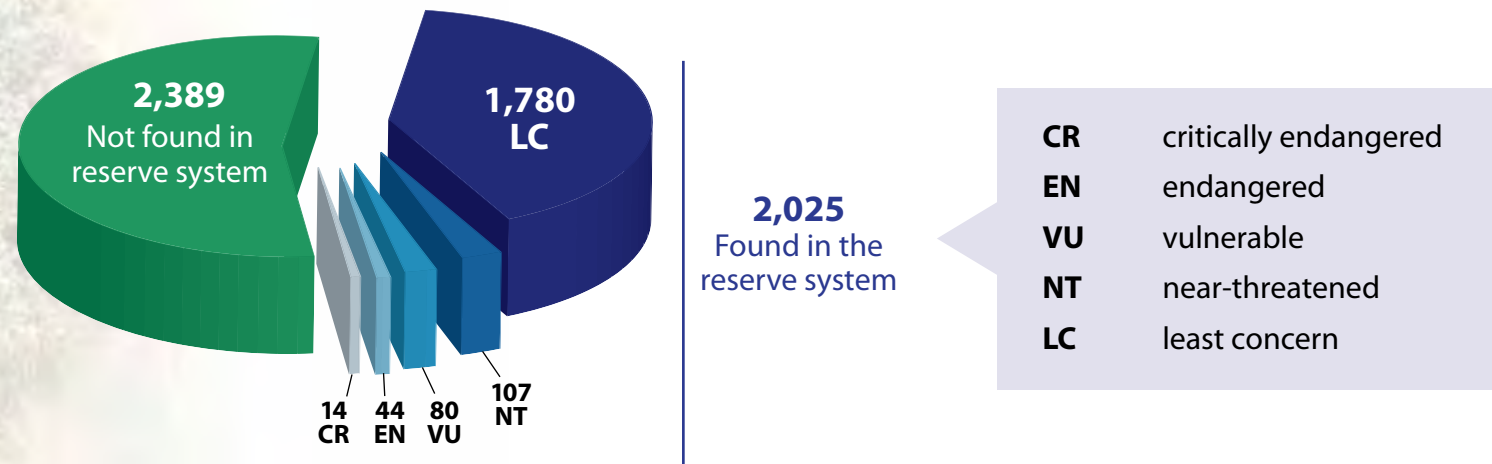


## USING THIS BOOK

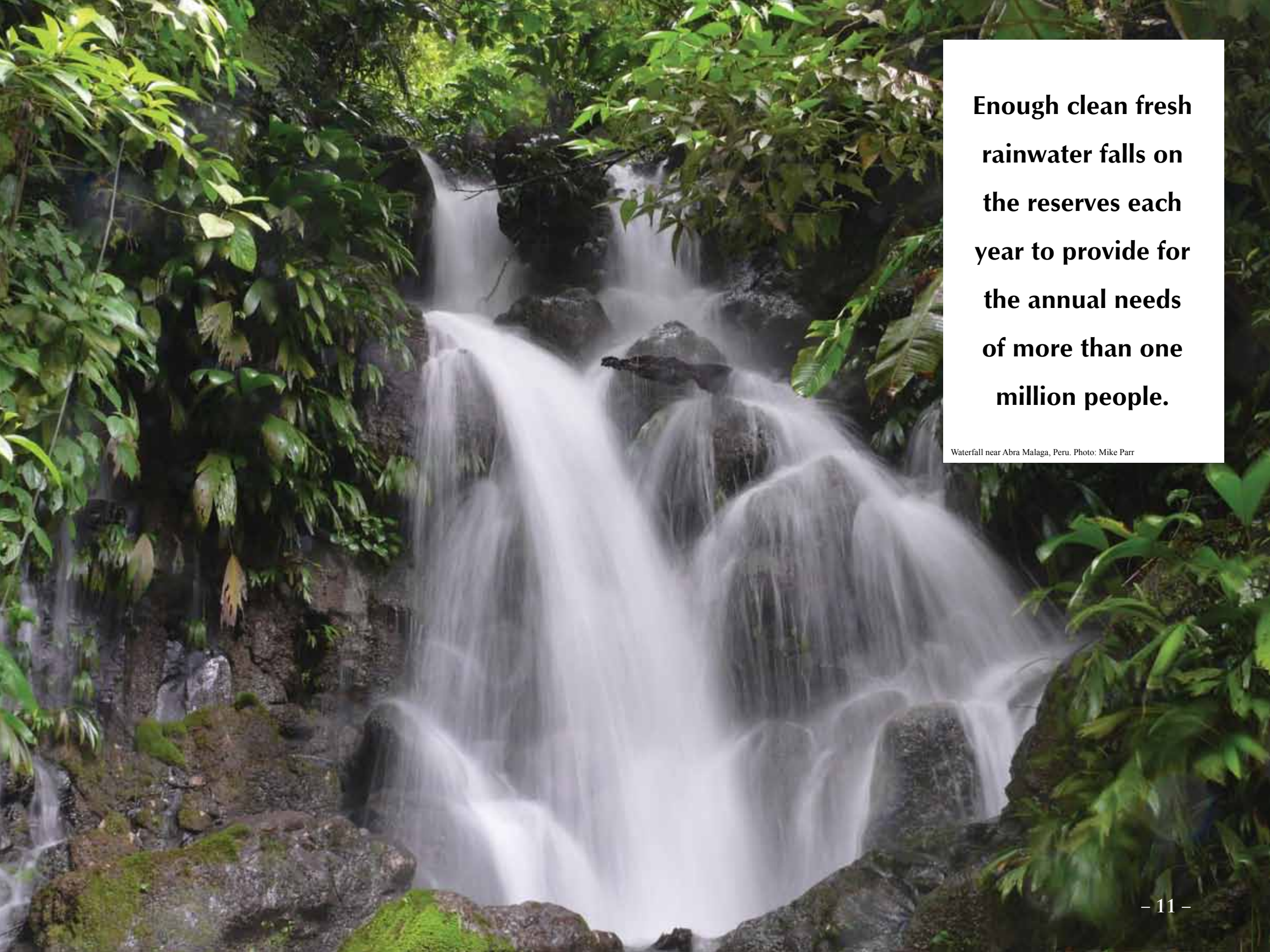
This book provides information on each of the 35 Latin American reserves that ABC has supported. This includes a list of globally threatened birds (and other interesting wildlife where known) per site, a description of visitor facilities, and details on conservation projects underway. Reserves appear alphabetically by country. Each account also includes a descriptive text written by an ABC staff member or close partner, which we hope will capture the flavor of the site for potential visitors.

More details on the sites can be found at ABC's website: [www.abcbirds.org](http://www.abcbirds.org); the *Conservation Birding* website: [www.conservationbirding.org](http://www.conservationbirding.org); or by contacting ABC at 1-888-BIRDMAG. A list of major supporters appears with each reserve, and a list of ABC donors also appears at the back of the book, along with partner details. Bird species included are those recognized by IUCN-World Conservation Union.

## BIRD SPECIES IN THE AMERICAS - 4,415 TOTAL







**Enough clean fresh rainwater falls on the reserves each year to provide for the annual needs of more than one million people.**

Waterfall near Abra Malaga, Peru. Photo: Mike Parr



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## CAN THE RESERVES SAVE THE RARE SPECIES THEY ARE DESIGNED TO PROTECT?

It is widely believed that small populations of rare species frequently reach a “point of no return” where their remaining habitat is too small to support their long-term survival, and that genetic “bottlenecking” will cause problems for any animals that might remain. This is by no means universally true.

Take for example the Aleutian subspecies of the Cackling Goose. After fur trappers introduced foxes to the Aleutian Islands, these once abundant geese became increasingly rare, until by the early 1960s they were feared extinct. After just 800 birds were rediscovered in 1962, an intensive program to remove foxes helped the species recover to the point that today, management measures are being considered to contain the growing population. Species such as the Whooping Crane and Laysan Duck have recovered from even smaller populations—approximately fifteen individuals in the case of the crane, and perhaps fewer than seven in the case of the duck. There are many more examples.

While the ability of species to rebound from reduced populations provides hope for birds such as parrots and curassows that have been trapped or hunted, others, such as many passerine birds protected by the reserves, have never occupied large tracts of habitat. The high Andes for example, are characterized by



Fuertes's Parrot chicks in nest box (AZE, CR, Colombia, 1): Fundación ProAves, [www.proaves.org](http://www.proaves.org)

ecosystems that occupy niches across the altitudinal transect. Unlike Harpy Eagles and other wide-ranging Amazonian species, birds that inhabit these high altitude zones, such as some antpittas, hummingbirds, and tanagers, have evolved in patchworks of forest, páramo, and areas cleared by landslides. Territory sizes for such species can be as small as a few acres, so that a single reserve can support hundreds of pairs.

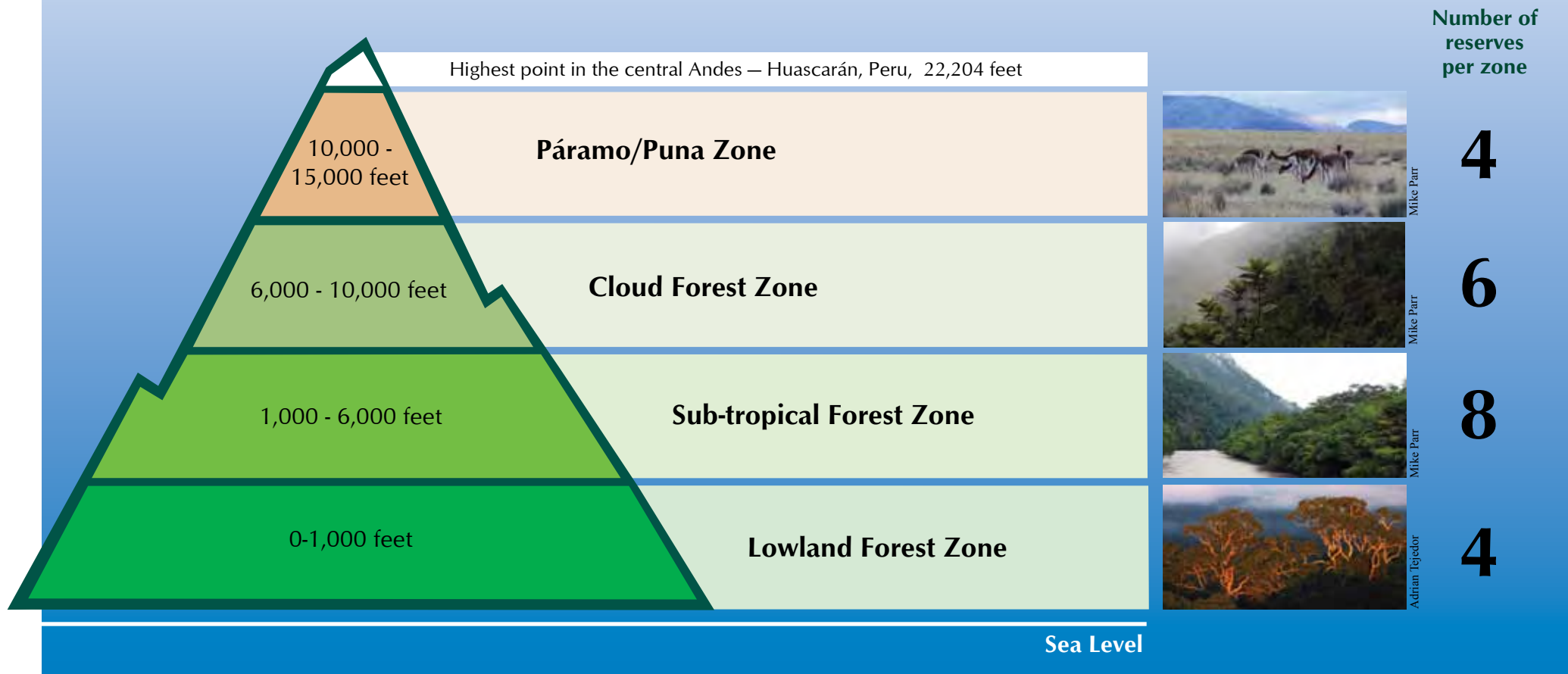
It has also been suggested that small reserves will be more vulnerable to climate change than larger areas. While experts disagree on the precise effects that climate will have on Andean forests, most believe

that the current tree line will eventually move higher. The Andes have experienced a number of cooling and warming events associated with past glaciations, yet pollen core studies show that they have remained forested for millennia. While climate change will likely affect these reserves in the future, it will affect much larger protected areas too. Ultimately, it is not size of the area that is critical, but whether the ecosystem and its species are able to adapt to change. In the case of the Andes, protecting habitat at various altitudes, connecting reserves in corridors, and reforesting critical areas is the key to ensuring maximum survivability for each ecosystem. Habitat loss is a more imminent threat to most species, and if we do not act now to secure habitats, it will make little difference if we are able to stem or mitigate the impacts of climate change in the future, since many species will already have become extinct due to habitat destruction.

Ultimately, we must protect the best and most representative biodiversity currently found on our planet and pass it on to the next generation with all the knowledge, skills, and passion that we can. We must also encourage our children to take responsibility for preserving all life on Earth. This network of reserves will be an important part of our generation's legacy to them.



# ANDEAN RESERVES BY ALTITUDE



Andean reserves are shown as an example due to the wide range of elevations and habitats they represent. The Andean reserves cover the full altitudinal transect of ecosystems, including significant tracts of habitat above the current tree line, providing a measure of resiliency against future climate changes.



# GLOBALLY THREATENED BIRD SPECIES FOUND in the RESERVE SYSTEM

Species are listed taxonomically within threat category, starting from critically endangered (CR) through endangered (EN) to vulnerable (VU).



Black-bellied Puffleg (AZE, CR, Ecuador, 1): Francisco Enriquez

Species Name	AZE Species	Country Endemic	IUCN Status
Blue-billed Curassow	✓	✓	CR
Blue-throated Macaw		✓	CR
Yellow-eared Parrot	✓	✓	CR
Fuertes's Parrot	✓	✓	CR
Chestnut-bellied Hummingbird	✓	✓	CR
Dusky Starfrontlet		✓	CR
Black-breasted Puffleg	✓	✓	CR
Colorful Puffleg	✓	✓	CR
Honduran Emerald	✓	✓	CR
Stresemann's Bristlefront	✓	✓	CR
Royal Cinclodes			CR
Niceforo's Wren	✓	✓	CR
Munchique Wood-wren		✓	CR
Pale-headed Brush-finch	✓	✓	CR
Baudo Guan			EN
Black-fronted Piping-guan			EN
Red-billed Curassow	✓	✓	EN
Helmeted Curassow			EN
Gorgeted Wood-quail	✓	✓	EN
Gray-backed Hawk			EN
Lear's Macaw	✓	✓	EN
Great Green Macaw			EN
Thick-billed Parrot		✓	EN
Santa Marta Parakeet	✓	✓	EN
El Oro Parakeet		✓	EN
Gray-cheeked Parakeet			EN
Brown-backed Parrotlet		✓	EN
Red-browed Amazon		✓	EN
Long-whiskered Owllet	✓	✓	EN
Hook-billed Hermit		✓	EN
Santa Marta Sabrewing	✓	✓	EN
Royal Sunangel			EN
Marvellous Spatuletail	✓	✓	EN
White-mantled Barbet		✓	EN
Yellow-billed Cotinga			EN
Slaty Becard			EN
Banded Cotinga		✓	EN
Chestnut-capped Piha	✓	✓	EN
Ash-breasted Tit-tyrant			EN
Antioquia Bristle-tyrant		✓	EN
Bahia Tyrannulet		✓	EN
Santa Marta Bush-tyrant	✓	✓	EN
Recurve-billed Bushbird			EN
Upper Magdalena Tapaculo		✓	EN
Ecuadorian Tapaculo		✓	EN
Jocotoco Antpitta	✓		EN
Ochre-fronted Antpitta	✓	✓	EN
Brown-banded Antpitta		✓	EN
White-browed Tit-spinetail		✓	EN
Blackish-headed Spinetail			EN
Golden-cheeked Warbler			EN
Mountain Grackle	✓	✓	EN
Red-bellied Grackle		✓	EN
Worthen's Sparrow	✓	✓	EN
Marsh Seedeater			EN
Black-cheeked Ant-tanager	✓	✓	EN
Chestnut-bellied Flowerpiercer	✓	✓	EN
Black Tinamou			VU
Bearded Guan			VU
Highland Guan			VU
Rufous-headed Chachalaca			VU
Black-fronted Wood-quail			VU
Plumbeous Forest-falcon			VU
White-necked Hawk		✓	VU
Brown Wood-rail			VU
Peruvian Pigeon			VU
Ochre-bellied Dove			VU
Military Macaw			VU
Golden-plumed Parakeet			VU
Blue-throated Parakeet		✓	VU



Species Name	AZE Species	Country Endemic	IUCN Status
White-necked Parakeet		✓	VU
Rufous-fronted Parakeet		✓	VU
Golden-tailed Parrotlet		✓	VU
Spot-winged Parrotlet			VU
Rusty-faced Parrot			VU
Vinaceous Amazon			VU
Banded Ground-cuckoo			VU
Cloud-forest Pygmy-owl			VU
Blossomcrown		✓	VU
Black Inca		✓	VU
Little Woodstar			VU
Speckle-chested Piculet		✓	VU
Helmeted Woodpecker			VU
Three-toed Jacamar		✓	VU
Coppery-chested Jacamar			VU
Keel-billed Motmot			VU
Turquoise Cotinga			VU
Three-wattled Bellbird			VU
Chestnut-bellied Cotinga			VU
Black-headed Berryeater		✓	VU
Bare-throated Bellbird			VU
Long-wattled Umbrellabird			VU
Sharp-tailed Tyrant			VU
Fork-tailed Pygmy-tyrant			VU
Lulu's Tody-tyrant			VU
Russet-winged Spadebill			VU
Gray-breasted Flycatcher			VU
White-tailed Shrike-tyrant			VU
Cock-tailed Tyrant			VU
Strange-tailed Tyrant			VU
Ochraceous Attila			VU
White-bearded Antshrike			VU
Plumbeous Antvireo			VU
Bicoloured Antvireo			VU
Salvadori's Antwren			VU

Species Name	AZE Species	Country Endemic	IUCN Status
Band-tailed Antwren		✓	VU
Gray-headed Antbird			VU
Moustached Antpitta			VU
Hooded Antpitta			VU
Santa Marta Antpitta		✓	VU
Bahia Spinetail		✓	VU
Bicoloured Antpitta		✓	VU
Rusty-headed Spinetail		✓	VU
Striated Softtail		✓	VU
Pink-legged Graveteiro		✓	VU
Rufous-necked Foliage-gleaner			VU
Henna-hooded Foliage-gleaner			VU
Santa Marta Wren			VU
Sprague's Pipit			VU
Ochre-breasted Pipit			VU
Saffron Siskin			VU
Cerulean Warbler			VU
Santa Marta Warbler		✓	VU
Pink-headed Warbler			VU
Saffron-cowled Blackbird			VU
Buffy-fronted Seedeater			VU
Temminck's Seedeater			VU
Chestnut Seedeater			VU
Tanager Finch			VU
Black-masked Finch			VU
Black-and-Gold Tanager		✓	VU
Masked Mountain-tanager			VU
Multicolored Tanager		✓	VU
Black-backed Tanager			VU
Turquoise Dacnis		✓	VU
Scarlet-breasted Dacnis			VU
Yellow-green Bush-tanager			VU



Golden-plumed Parakeets (VU, 3): Franco Morocho



Three-toed Jacamar (VU, Brazil, 1): Nick Athanas/Tropical Birding



## BIRD-TRIGGERED AZE SITES in LATIN AMERICA

Countries are arranged alphabetically, and sites are arranged alphabetically within them. **Trigger Species** refers to the Alliance for Zero Extinction (AZE) species for which the site has been selected. **Other ABC Conservation Action** includes both species in ABC-supported reserves, and those which ABC works to conserve at other locations.

- <sup>1</sup> Not recently recorded in the wild.
- <sup>2</sup> Currently exists only in captivity.
- <sup>3</sup> Originally at one site, since found at more.
- <sup>4</sup> Protects two AZE sites.
- <sup>5</sup> Introduced at Guapi Assu.



Junin Rail (AZE, CR, Peru, 1): ECOAN

### Color Key

This is provided as a guide to indicate the status of field conservation efforts per species.

**Red:** Most urgent need for new action

**Orange:** Urgent need for new action

**Green:** Need for expanded conservation

Country	Site Name	Trigger Species	ABC-supported Reserve	Other Protected Area	Other ABC Conservation Action	
<b>BOLIVIA</b>	Cuenca Cotacajes	Bolivian Spinetail	No	No	No	
<b>BRAZIL</b>	Bahía de Ilha Grande	Black-hooded Antwren	No	No	No	
	Boa Nova	Slender Antbird	No	Yes	No	
	Cabo Frio	Restinga Antwren	No	Yes	No	
	Chapado de Araripe	Araripe Manakin	No	Yes	No	
	Curaça	Spix's Macaw <sup>2</sup>	No	No	No	
	Fazenda Jueirana	Stresemann's Bristlefront	Yes	No	Yes	
	Fazenda Pindobas IV	Cherry-throated Tanager	No	No	No	
	Ji-Paraná	Rondonia Bushbird	No	No	No	
	Murici	Alagoas Antwren	No	Yes	No	
	Parque Nacional Chapada da Diamantina	Bahia Tyrannulet	No	Yes	No	
	Reserva Ecológica Raso de Catarina	Lear's Macaw	Yes	Yes	Yes	
	Río Tactu	Hoary-throated Spinetail	No	No	No	
	Serra das Araras	Blue-eyed Ground-dove	No	Yes	No	
	Serra Do Mar	Kinglet Calyptura <sup>1</sup>	No	No	No	
		Rio de Janeiro Antwren	No	No	No	
		Serra do Urubu	Alagoas Foliage-gleaner	No	Yes	No
		Sooretama-Linhares	Red-billed Curassow <sup>5</sup>	No	Yes	No
	Usina Serra Grande	Alagoas Curassow <sup>2</sup>	No	No	No	
	Valença	Bahia Tapaculo	No	No	No	
<b>CHILE</b>	Isla Robinson Crusoe	Juan Fernández Firecrown	No	Yes	Yes	
	Valle de Azapa	Chilean Woodstar	No	No	No	
<b>COLOMBIA</b>	Bosques Secos del Valle de Chicamocha	Chestnut-bellied Hummingbird <sup>3</sup>	Yes	No	Yes	
		Niceforo's Wren	Yes	No	Yes	
	Cuenca de Río Toche	Tolima Dove	No	Yes	No	
	La Forsoza-Santa Gertrudis	Chestnut-capped Piha	Yes	No	Yes	
	Parque Nacional Natural El Tamá	Tachira Antpitta <sup>1</sup>	No	Yes	No	
	Parque Nacional Natural Enseñada de Utría	Baudó Oropendola	No	Yes	No	
	Parque Nacional Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta		Santa Marta Sabrewing	Yes	No	Yes
			Santa Marta Bush-tyrant	Yes	No	Yes
			Santa Marta Parakeet	Yes	No	Yes
	Ciénega Grande Isla de Salamanca	Sapphire-bellied Hummingbird	No	Yes	Yes	
Reserva des Aves Mirabilis-Swarovski		Colorful Puffleg	Yes	No	Yes	
		Chestnut-bellied Flowerpiercer <sup>3</sup>	Yes	No	Yes	
Threatened Parrot Corridor <sup>4</sup>	Fuertes's Parrot	Yes	No	Yes		
Reserva Natural El Pangán	Chocó Vireo	No	Yes	No		
Reserve Natural Reinita Cerulea		Mountain Grackle	Yes	No	Yes	
		Gorgeted Wood-quail	Yes	No	Yes	
Threatened Parrot Corridor <sup>4</sup>		Yellow-eared Parrot	Yes	No	Yes	
		Yellow-headed Brush-finch	Yes	No	Yes	
Reserva Natural El Paujil	Blue-billed Curassow	Yes	No	Yes		



Country	Site Name	Trigger Species	ABC-supported Reserve	Other Protected Area	Other ABC Conservation Action
<b>COSTA RICA</b>	Osa Peninsula	Black-cheeked Ant-tanager	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>ECUADOR</b>	Yanacocha	Black-breasted Puffleg	Yes	No	Yes
	Isabela-Fernandina	Mangrove Finch	No	Yes	Yes
		Flightless Cormorant	No	Yes	No
		Galapagos Penguin	No	Yes	No
	Islotes de Floreana	Floreana Mockingbird	No	Yes	No
	Parque Nacional Machalilla	Esmeraldas Woodstar	No	Yes	Yes
	Reserva Tapichalaca	Jocotoco Antpitta	Yes	No	Yes
	Reserve Yunguilla	Pale-headed Bush-finch	Yes	No	Yes
<b>HONDURAS</b>	Upper Río Aguán Valley	Honduran Emerald	Yes	No	Yes
<b>MEXICO</b>	El Capulín-La Cima	Sierra Madre Sparrow	No	Yes	No
	Isla Cozumel	Cozumel Thrasher <sup>1</sup>	No	Yes	Yes
	Isla Guadalupe	Guadalupe Junco	No	Yes	Yes
		Guadalupe Storm-petrel <sup>1</sup>	No	Yes	No
	Isla Socorro	Socorro Parakeet	No	Yes	No
		Socorro Mockingbird	No	Yes	No
		Socorro Dove	No	Yes	No
		Townsend's Shearwater	No	Yes	No
	Los Tuxtlas	Tuxtla Quail-dove	No	Yes	No
	Saltillo Savanna	Worthen's Sparrow	Yes	No	Yes
	Sierra de Atoyac	Short-crested Coquette	No	No	No
<b>PERU</b>	Alto Mayo	Ochre-fronted Antpitta	Yes	No	Yes
		Long-whiskered Owllet	Yes	No	Yes
	Casma and Huarmey Valleys	Russet-bellied Spinetail	No	No	No
	El Chicche	Gray-bellied Comet	No	No	Yes
	Jesús del Monte	Ash-throated Antwren	No	No	No
	Lago de Junín	Junín Rail	No	Yes	Yes
		Junín Grebe	No	Yes	Yes
	Marcapomacocha	White-bellied Cinclodes	No	No	No
	Pomacochas	Marvelous Spatuletail	Yes	No	Yes
	Reserve Nacional de Paracas	Peruvian Diving-Petrel	No	Yes	No
	Río Abiseo	Yellow-browed Toucanet	No	Yes	No
	Río Mantaro Cordillera Central	Black-spectacled Brush-finch	No	No	No
	Talara	Peruvian Plantcutter	No	Yes	No
	Zona Reservada de Laquipampa	White-winged Guan	No	Yes	Yes
<b>VENEZUELA</b>	Parque Nacional El Tamá	Táchira Antpitta <sup>1</sup>	No	Yes	No
	Parque Nacional Península de Paria	Paria Whitestart	No	Yes	No
	Parque Nacional Perijá	Recurve-billed Bushbird	No	Yes	No



Recurve-billed Bushbird (EN, I):  
Fundación ProAves, www.proaves.org



Juan Fernandez Firecrown (AZE, CR, Chile, I): Peter Hodum



Long-whiskered Owllet (AZE, EN, Peru, I): ECOAN



# RESERVE LOCATIONS - MEXICO AND CENTRAL AMERICA



## MEXICAN RESERVES

1. Thick-billed Parrot Reserve
2. El Cercado **AZE**
3. Mitsubishi Shorebird Reserve
4. El Carricito 



El Carricito, Mexico. Photo: Mike Parr



Cerro Osa, Costa Rica. Photo: R. Stanley

## CENTRAL AMERICAN RESERVES

### Guatemala

1. Sierra de las Minas



### Honduras

1. Honduran Emerald **AZE** Management Area

### El Salvador

1. Río Sapo 

### Costa Rica

1. Osa Peninsula   **AZE**


### Panama

1. Audubon El Chorogo




















# RESERVE LOCATIONS - SOUTH AMERICA




## COLOMBIA

1. El Dorado    **AZE**
2. Arrierito Antiqueño   **AZE**
3. Pauxi Pauxi 
4. Cerulean Warbler    **AZE**
5. Cucarachero de Chicamocha  **AZE**
6. Colibrí del Sol  
7. El Paujil   **AZE**
8. Parrot Corridor   **AZE**
9. Mirabilis-Swarovski  **AZE**



## ECUADOR

1. Río Canande  
2. Río Silanche  
3. Yanacocha   **AZE**
4. Narupa
5. Yunguilla **AZE**
6. Buenaventura   
7. Jorupe
8. Utuana   
9. Tapichalaca    **AZE**

## KEY



Lodge



Canopy Tower



Basic accommodation



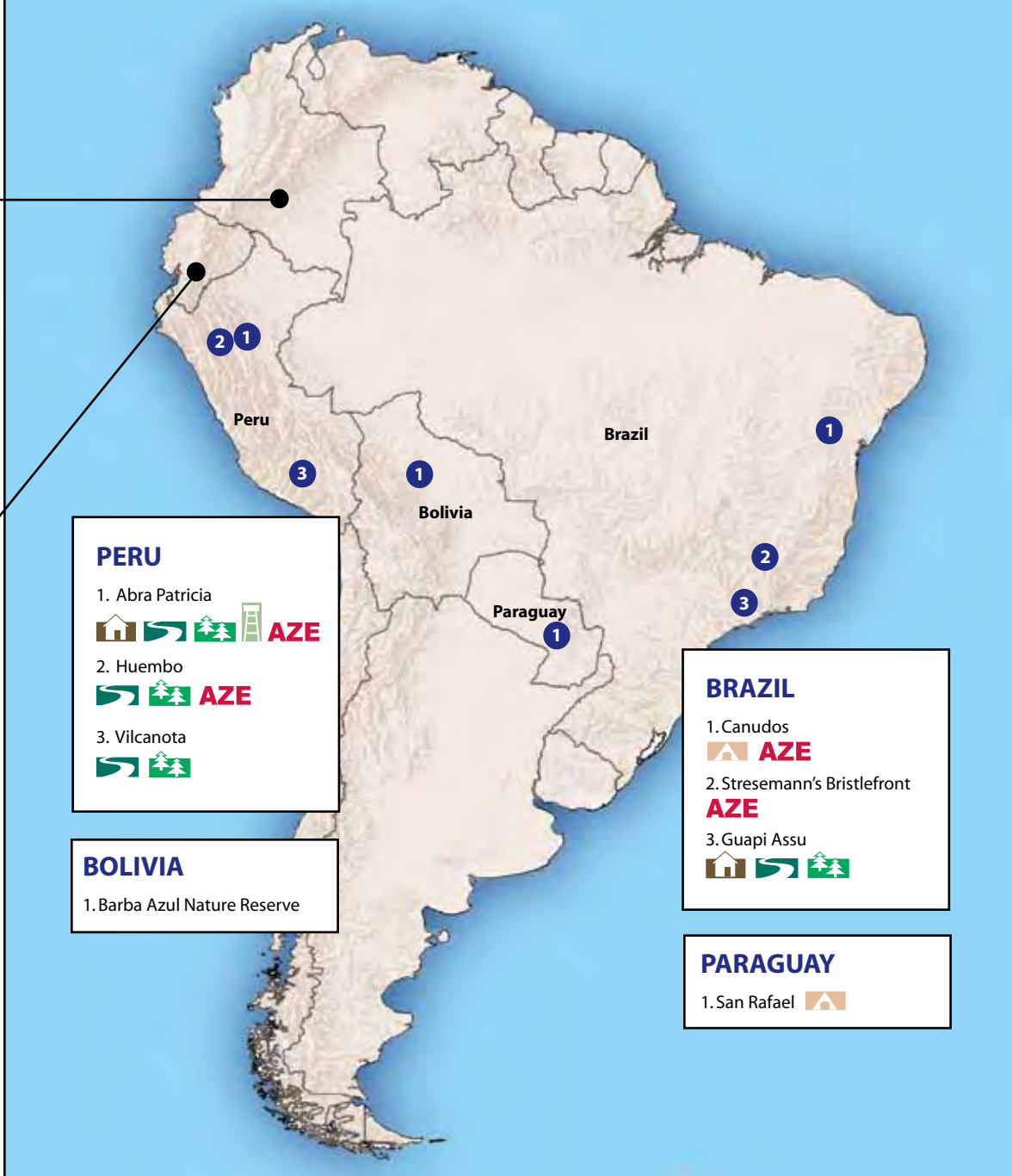
Trails











Tree nursery/  
reforestation



Alliance for Zero  
Extinction site







## PERU

1. Abra Patricia     **AZE**
2. Huembo   **AZE**
3. Vilcanota  


## BOLIVIA

1. Barba Azul Nature Reserve

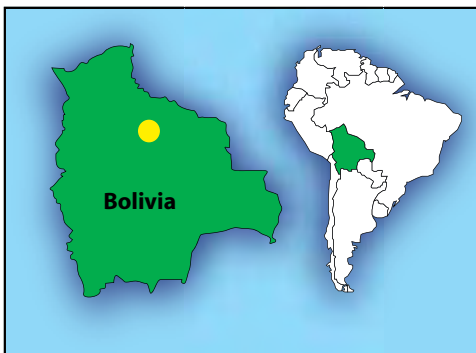
## BRAZIL

1. Canudos  **AZE**
2. Stresemann's Bristlefront **AZE**
3. Guapi Assu   

## PARAGUAY

1. San Rafael 





## QUICK FACTS

**Date established:** 2008

**Location:** Beni Department, Bolivia  
(13° S, 66° W)

**Elevation:** 500 feet

**Flagship species:** Blue-throated Macaw

**Habitat:** Seasonally flooded savanna with palm forest islands

**Partner/owner:** Asociación Armonía

**Current size:**  
8,783 acres

**Target size:**  
15,000 acres

**Bird list:** 222 species

**Threatened:** Four

**Endemic:** One

**Visitor facilities:**  
None so far

**Best time to visit:**  
June to October

**Jobs created:** One so far



Blue-throated Macaw



# BARBA AZUL NATURE RESERVE

Photo: Pete Hosner

**Reserve and biodiversity summary:** This reserve protects a tract of seasonally flooded palm savanna in the lowlands of northeastern Bolivia. It provides nesting and foraging habitat for 20% of the world's critically endangered Blue-throated Macaws (the highest global concentration of the species). Three other globally threatened birds are found here: the Cock-tailed Tyrant, Sharp-tailed Tyrant, and Black-masked Finch. Greater Rheas and Giant Anteaters patrol the grasslands, and Orinoco Geese can be found on small pools and ephemeral wetlands.

**Major supporters:** Warren and Cathy Cooke, David and Patricia Davidson, Cathy and George Ledec, Marybeth Sollins, Lucy Waletzky, Weeden Foundation, Lynn and Stuart White, Robert Wilson, World Land Trust-US.



Photo: Tim Perkins



**W**aiting at dawn as the light mist rises off the savanna, the excitement is beginning to build. You came a long way to this place, and any minute now you will see one of the world's rarest and most spectacular macaws for the first time. You hear a distant indistinct sound, it could be a macaw, or perhaps the groaning of some unseen

and unknown mammal. Then in the still twilight, an unforgettable moment as two long-winged, long-tailed parrots fly from one palm to another right in front of you. The sunrise does the rest as you enjoy amazing close-up views. Soon you'll be able to fly straight to the reserve to see this, one of the world's rarest birds.

—Mike Parr



Blue-throated Macaw (CR, Bolivia, 1): Joe Tobias



Rufous-tailed Jacamar (LC, 8): Greg Lavaty

**This site protects 20%  
of the world's Blue-  
Throated Macaws.**

Cock-tailed Tyrant (VU, 2): Peter Morris







## QUICK FACTS

**Date established:** 1993

**Location:** Interior of northern Bahia State, Brazil (10° S, 39° W)

**Elevation:** 1,300 feet

**Flagship species:** Lear's Macaw

**Habitat:** Arid red sandstone canyons with caatinga and licuri palms

**Partner/owner:** Fundação Biodiversitas

**Current size:** 3,611 acres

**Target size:** 3,611 acres

**Bird list:** 98 species

**Threatened:** One

**Endemic:** Eight

**Visitor facilities:** Basic accommodation

**Best time to visit:** Any time of year

**Jobs created:** Five



Lear's Macaw



# CANUDOS BIOLOGICAL STATION

Photo: David Wiedenfeld/ABC

**Reserve and biodiversity summary:** This is one of the only two nesting sites for the endangered Lear's Macaw (AZE - since the two populations intermingle). Thanks to conservation measures, the known global population of the macaw has increased approximately tenfold to more than 900 since the nesting grounds were discovered and subsequently protected. Conservation measures include patrols to reduce macaw poaching, and the planting of macaw food plants.

**Major supporters:** Anthony Collerton, Malcolm C. Damuth Foundation, David and Patricia Davidson,

John and Judy Day, Disney Worldwide Conservation Fund, Christina Duthie, Judith Hart, Jeniam Foundation, Robert Kleiger, Richard and Pat Laurence, Alan Joyner Parr Fund, Loro Parque Fundación, James Mellon, Robert Wilson.



Photo: Biodiversitas/Eduardo Figueiredo

**R**ed and blue is a great color combination. A flock of a hundred big, deep blue Lear’s Macaws perched on their red sandstone nesting cliffs is an even better combination. The cliffs at Canudos Biological Station, where about half the world’s population of the macaw nests and roosts, are spectacular in their own right. The deep red sandstone canyons are eroded into striking, odd forms, clothed in

caatinga scrub. Add to the scene a band of solid indigo macaws, not quite the world’s largest but near it, and the scene becomes enchanting. The macaws scream from their roosts before dawn, and begin to circle and visit to chat with their friends and family in the early light, their calls beating against the vaulty heaven high over our heads.

—David Wiedenfeld



Lear’s Macaws (EN, Brazil, 1): Ciro Ginez Albano



Canudos staff Tânia Alves (left) and Paula Procópio (right), 2009. Photo: Fundação Biodiversitas

**The Macaw population has grown more than tenfold, and was downlisted from critically endangered to endangered as a result.**

Campo Flicker (LC, 3): Sam Woods/Tropical Birding







## QUICK FACTS

**Date established:** 2001

**Location:** Upper Guapiaçu River basin adjacent to Três Picos State Park, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (22° S 42° W)

**Elevation:** 100-720 feet

**Flagship species:** Red-billed Curassow

**Habitat:** Tropical Atlantic forest

**Partner/owner:** Reserva Ecológica de Guapi Assu

**Current size:** 16,000 acres

**Target size:** 26,000 acres

**Bird list:** 433 species

**Threatened:** 12

**Endemic:** 51

**Visitor facilities:** Lodge, trail system

**Best time to visit:** April to December

**Jobs created:**  
25



Red-billed Curassow



# RESERVA ECOLÓGICA DE GUAPI ASSU

Photo: David Wiedenfeld/ABC

**Reserve and biodiversity summary:** This is a large remnant of Brazilian Atlantic forest. The site hosts twelve globally threatened birds: the Red-billed Curassow (recently reintroduced at this site), Black-fronted Piping-guan, White-necked Hawk, Brown-backed Parrotlet, Golden-tailed Parrotlet, Bare-throated Bellbird, Russet-winged Spadebill, White-bearded Antshrike, Salvadori's Antwren, Buffy-fronted Seedeater, Temminck's Seedeater, and Black-backed Tanager.

**Major supporters:** World Land Trust and World Land Trust-US, Robert Wilson.



Spot-breasted Antwren (NT, 2): Ciro Ginez Albano

So nice to come back from a great day's birding to a meal, warm shower, and maybe even a dip in the pool. The best part, though, is having spent your day in one of the finest remnants of the fast-disappearing Atlantic forest of Brazil, and only a couple of hours from Rio! And the birds are

great, no mistake about it. Yes, Hooded Berryeater (it is a real bird)—that's a good one. How about the Brazilian Ruby? The hiking can be steep, but oh, so worth it. These birds are only from the Atlantic forest, nowhere else. This is a beautiful place to find them.

— David Wiedenfeld



Spot-billed Toucanet (LC, 3): Nick Athanas, Tropical Birding



Hooded Berryeater (NT, Brazil, 1): Nick Athanas/Tropical Birding

**51 endemics – the most for any reserve in the system; most total species of any reserve.**

Black-backed Tanager (VU, prob. Brazil, 1): Elsie Rotenberg, Ubatuba, Brazil







## QUICK FACTS

**Date established:** 2007

**Location:** On the border between the state of Minas Gerais and Bahia, Brazil (15° S, 40° W)

**Elevation:** 2,300-3,000 feet

**Flagship species:** Stresemann's Bristlefront, Yellow-breasted Capuchin monkey

**Habitat:** Tropical Atlantic forest

**Partner/owner:** Fundação Biodiversitas

**Current size:** 1,468 acres

**Target size:** To be determined

**Bird list:** 245 species

**Threatened:** 17

**Endemic:** 37

**Visitor facilities:** None so far

**Best time to visit:** May to September

**Jobs created:** Two



Stresemann's Bristlefront



Photo: Romulo Ribon

**Reserve and biodiversity summary:** This reserve protects a key fragment of northeast Brazilian Atlantic forest. This is the only currently known site for the critically endangered Stresemann's Bristlefront (AZE), and a key site for the Yellow-breasted Capuchin monkey. Sixteen other globally threatened bird species are found here: the White-necked Hawk, Blue-throated Parakeet, Brown-backed Parrotlet, Red-browed Amazon, Hook-billed Hermit, Three-toed Jacamar, Black-headed Berryeater, Banded Cotinga, Bare-throated Bellbird, Bahia Tyrannulet, Fork-tailed Pygmy-tyrant, Plumbeous Antvireo, Band-tailed

Antwren, Bahia Spinetail, Striated Softtail, and Pink-legged Graveteiro. The site has 37 national endemics.

**Major supporters:** Paul Bristow, Warren and Cathy Cooke, David and Patricia Davidson, Jeniam Foundation, Warren King, Loro Parque Fundación, Edward Newbold, Sandy Nisseley, Robert Wilson, Jeff and Connie Woodman, World Land Trust and World Land Trust-US, Mohammed Bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund.



This is a wet place, and the bamboo grows thick and slippery with moss. The trees here are big, some of the last in this area. We're looking for the Stresemann's Bristlefront. That's a tapaculo—a real skulker. It's hard to notice birds, here in the rain, all the leaves shivering under the drips. Don't forget to look up sometimes, though—look, there went a Banded Cotinga! That's nice....but we're here for the

bristlefront, because it can be found only here. Oops, slippery spot in the trail. Drip down my neck doesn't help the concentration. Movement. Was it? Something dark; it could have been. There it goes again – it is! Let's get a better look. Around behind those fallen branches – sneak closer, around the trunk. There it is! Good ID. Now we can find a dry spot....and start looking up again.

—David Wiedenfeld



Three-toed Jacamar (VU, Brazil, 1):  
Nick Athanas/Tropical Birding



Stresemann's Bristlefront female (AZE, CR, Brazil, 1):  
Ciro Ginez Albano



Striated Softtail (VU, Brazil, 1):  
Ciro Ginez Albano

**This site most likely has the most threatened species per acre in the Americas.**

Bahia Spinetail (VU, Brazil, 1):  
Ciro Ginez Albano



Fork-tailed Pygmy-tyrant (VU, Brazil, 1):  
Ciro Ginez Albano







## QUICK FACTS

**Date established:** 2006

**Location:** La Forzosa, northeastern Central Cordillera, Colombia (7° N, 75° W)

**Elevation:** 5,200-6,000 feet

**Flagship species:** Chestnut-capped Piha

**Habitat:** Subtropical Andean forest

**Partner/owner:** Fundación ProAves

**Total size:** 1,284 acres

**Target reserve size:** 5,400 acres

**Bird list:** 221 species

**Threatened:** Seven

**Endemic:** Five

**Visitor facilities:** Lodge, trail system

**Best time to visit:** All year

**Jobs created:**  
Five



Chestnut-capped Piha artwork adapted from *Birds of Colombia*, courtesy of Princeton University Press.



Photo: Fundación ProAves, [www.proaves.org](http://www.proaves.org)

**Reserve and biodiversity summary:** This reserve protects a beautiful patch of subtropical forest in the central Andes. The site hosts seven globally threatened bird species: the Black Tinamou, Chestnut-capped Piha (AZE), White-mantled Barbet, Cerulean Warbler, Red-bellied Grackle, Black and Gold Tanager, and Multicolored Tanager. Conservation measures include a reforestation program.

**Major supporters:** Conservation International, Robert Giles, Nancy Kitzmiller Taylor, Robert Wilson.



Booted Racket-tail (LC, 9): Robert Ridgely



What would it be like to discover a previously undescribed bird species? Not many people know, but some of them were on a 2007 birding tour to one of ProAves' reserves in the Santa Marta mountains. It is a rare event—the birding equivalent of getting two holes in one on the same day, or winning the lottery twice. If it is ever going to happen to you, it will probably be at a

place like the Arrierito Antiqueño Bird Reserve, where the Chestnut-capped Piha hid from ornithologists for more than a century. Parts of Colombia, now safe to visit, are still among the least explored areas for birds on Earth. Even if you don't have months to spend in the field, you could still be part of such a discovery at a reserve like this.

—Mike Parr



Tropical Screech Owl (LC, 8): Fundación ProAves, www.proaves.org



Chestnut-capped Piha (AZE, EN, Colombia, 1):  
Fundación ProAves, www.proaves.org

**The flagship species was only discovered in 2001; what other mysteries remain to be uncovered?**

Fundación ProAves, www.proaves.org



Red-bellied Grackle (EN, Colombia, 2)  
Fundación ProAves, www.proaves.org







## QUICK FACTS

**Date established:** 2005

**Location:** Serranía de las Yariguíes, Rio Chucurí basin of Santander, Colombia (6° N, 73° W)

**Elevation:** 5,250-8,200 feet

**Flagship species:** Cerulean Warbler and Gorgeted Wood-quail

**Habitat:** Subtropical and montane Colombian oak forest

**Partner/owner:** Fundación ProAves

**Total size:** 545 acres with 180 acres of adjacent easements

**Target reserve size:** 2,960 acres

**Bird list:** 386 species

**Threatened:** Ten

**Endemic:** Seven

**Visitor facilities:** Lodge, trail system

**Best time to visit:** November to June

**Jobs created:** 45



Gorgeted Wood-quail



Photo: Fundación ProAves, [www.proaves.org](http://www.proaves.org)

**Reserve and biodiversity summary:** The reserve protects an important piece of oak forest, and also includes a 45-acre coffee plantation with profits paying for reserve management. The site hosts ten globally threatened bird species: the Gorgeted Wood-Quail (AZE), Rusty-faced Parrot, Chestnut-bellied Hummingbird, Black Inca, White-mantled Barbet, Recurve-billed Bushbird, Upper Magdalena Tapaculo, Cerulean Warbler, Mountain Grackle (AZE), and Turquoise Dacnis. Conservation measures include a reforestation program partly funded by ecotourism and coffee production.

**Major supporters:** American Birding Association, Jack Bartley, Dr. Gwenda Brewer and George Jett, Paul Bristow, Shirley Cameron, James Carpenter, Malcolm C. Damuth Foundation, Donald and Jackie Dann, Fort Worth Audubon Society, William Freeman, Robert Fuld, Steve Gast, Robert Giles, Howard County Bird Club, Josep del Hoyo, International Migratory Bird Day, Lannan Foundation, George and Cathy Ledec, Maryland Ornithological Society, National Fish and Wildlife Fdn., Edward Newbold, The Nature Conservancy, Grace Jones Richardson Trust, Peary Stafford, USFWS-NMBCA, USGS, Catherine Walling, Marc Weinberger, Dorothy Welch, Robert Wilson.

**A**lthough you were able to enjoy an in-flight movie and beverage service on your way here, the tiny ball of feathers with which you share this forest enjoyed no such luxury, confronting predators, storms, sea crossings, confusing lights and buildings, and pesticides. It is really remarkable that the Cerulean Warbler made it here at all, but they are

tough little birds for such dainty and beautiful creatures. Imagine as you fly home if you had to fly under your own power the whole way at 40 miles per hour. With our conservation help, Cerulean Warblers will still be doing that when our children’s children come to watch them.

—Sara Lara



Cerulean Warbler (VU, 8): Frode Jacobsen



Black Inca (VU, Colombia, 2): Fundación ProAves, www.proaves.org

**First South American reserve for a neotropical migrant. Reserve operations are paid for by an operating coffee farm.**

Gorgeted Wood-quail (AZE, EN, 1): Fundación ProAves, www.proaves.org







## QUICK FACTS

**Date established:** 2005

**Location:** Páramo de Frontino, northwest Antioquia, Colombia (7°N, 76°W)

**Elevation:** 9,000-12,800 feet

**Flagship species:** Dusky Starfrontlet

**Habitat:** Upper montane cloud forest and páramo

**Partner/owner:** Fundación ProAves

**Total size:** 11,322 acres

**Target reserve size:** 19,760 acres

**Bird list:** 180 species (anticipated, not yet fully surveyed)

**Threatened:** Three

**Endemic:** Two

**Visitor facilities:**  
Lodge, trail system

**Best time to visit:**  
June to September  
and December to March

**Jobs created:** Three



Dusky Starfrontlet



# COLIBRÍ DEL SOL BIRD RESERVE

Photo: Fundación ProAves, www.proaves.org

**Reserve and biodiversity summary:** Lush montane cloud forest, páramo, and upland lakes. The reserve plays host to three globally threatened bird species: the Rusty-faced Parrot, Dusky Starfrontlet, and Chestnut-bellied Flowerpiercer. Two new bird species to science were recently discovered at the reserve and are being described.

**Major supporters:** George and Rita Fenwick, Joan Hero, Jeniam Foundation.



Chestnut-bellied Flowerpiercer (EN, 2): Fundación ProAves, www.proaves.org



**M**ountains have their secrets. Climbing up the 300 steps cut by our guide Luis through dense cloud forest draped with ferns and wet with mist, we emerged onto one, the Páramo of the Sun. This is a fairy land of strange-shaped plants —the woolly espeletia with its rosette patterns, cushion plants, and dwarf bamboos. Scattered along the crest of mountain ridges, páramos often hold unique species, and this site had kept its secret until recently—an iridescent hummingbird called

the Dusky Starfrontlet that lives only here. We search for the bird in this area of discovery and beauty, as well as another secret of these mountains—a rare antpitta, yet to be named, as modestly colored in brown and gray as the hummingbird is brilliant, an inhabitant of the forest floor. In the same way that some Asian cultures offer part of each meal to the mountain spirits, I feel touched by the mountain’s presence, and now privileged to have experienced some of its secrets.

—Byron Swift



Dusky Starfrontlet (CR, Colombia, 2): Fundación ProAves, www.proaves.org



Rusty-faced Parrot (VU, 2): Fundación ProAves, www.proaves.org



Newly-discovered antpitta: Fundación ProAves, www.proaves.org

**The reserve facilities are powered by a micro-hydro plant at the most magnificent volcanic massif in Colombia.**

Fundación ProAves, www.proaves.org







## QUICK FACTS

**Date established:** 2009

**AZE:** Yes

**Location:** Chicamocha valley, Eastern Cordillera of central Colombia (6° N, 73° W)

**Elevation:** 1,000-7,000 feet

**Flagship species:** Niceforo's Wren

**Habitat:** Dry forest

**Partner/owner:** Fundación ProAves

**Total size:** 3,217 acres

**Target reserve size:** 9,800 acres

**Bird list:** 165 species

**Threatened:** Two

**Endemic:** Five

**Visitor facilities:** Lodge

**Best time to visit:** All year

**Jobs created:** Two



Niceforo's Wren



# CUCARACHERO DE CHICAMOCHA BIRD RESERVE

Photo: Fundación ProAves, [www.proaves.org](http://www.proaves.org)

**Reserve and biodiversity summary:** A unique area of dry forest in the eastern Andes of Colombia. The reserve hosts two globally threatened birds: the Chestnut-bellied Hummingbird, and the Niceforo's Wren (AZE). The rare Chicamocha *cavanillesia* tree also occurs here.

**Major supporters:** Robert Wilson, World Land Trust-US.



Chestnut-bellied Hummingbird (CR, Colombia, 3): Fundación ProAves, [www.proaves.org](http://www.proaves.org)



I lost the gold pen and pencil my father gave me before he died. He'd used them every day for the forty years of his career and wanted me to have them. By the time he retired I mostly used a keyboard, so I really didn't need them as much as he did. I put them in a nice wooden box, but when we moved they must have gotten lost in the shuffle. When I came to look for them again they were gone. In a way, the

critically endangered Niceforo's Wren is the human race's version of that pen and pencil. Somewhere along the way we picked up the responsibility to look after it, but we didn't need it all that much, so we didn't really pay much attention. One day we'll remember it though and someone will come looking. Will it still be there? Did anyone care enough to make sure it didn't get lost in the shuffle? You bet they did.

— Mike Parr



Photo: Alonso Quevedo



Niceforo's Wren (AZE, CR, Colombia, 1):  
Fundación ProAves, www.proaves.org

**Like most of the flagship species in this book, the Niceforo's Wren was not found in any protected area until this private reserve was created.**

Fundación ProAves, www.proaves.org







## QUICK FACTS

**Date established:** 2006

**Location:** Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, northern Colombia (10° N, 73° W)

**Altitude:** 3,100-8,500 feet

**Flagship species:** Santa Marta Parakeet

**Habitat:** Montane cloud forest

**Partner/owner:** Fundación ProAves

**Total size:** 1,729 acres

**Target reserve size:** 6,900 acres

**Bird list:** 364 species

**Threatened:** 11

**Endemic:** 17

**Visitor facilities:** Lodge, trail system

**Best time to visit:**

All year

**Jobs created:** 18



Santa Marta Parakeet



# EL DORADO BIRD RESERVE

Photo: Fundación ProAves, www.proaves.org

**Reserve and biodiversity summary:** This reserve protects the key forest tract in the isolated Santa Marta massif known for its threatened endemics. The site hosts eleven globally threatened birds: the Black-fronted Wood-quail, Military Macaw, Santa Marta Parakeet (AZE), Santa Marta Sabrewing (AZE), Blossomcrown, Santa Marta Bush-tyrant (AZE), Santa Marta Antpitta, Rusty-headed Spinetail, Santa Marta Wren, Cerulean Warbler, and Santa Marta Warbler. In 2007, participants on an ABC birding tour discovered a new species of screech-owl here. There are also four species of AZE amphibians found in the reserve. Conservation measures

include a successful artificial nest box program for the parakeet, and a reforestation program.

**Major supporters:** Peter Barnes, Mrs. Walter Brissenden, Conservation International, Constance Campanella, International Conure Association, Warren and Cathy Cooke, Estate of George Wolfgang Domke, Stephen and Magda Eccles, Fundación Loro Parque, Robert Giles, Jeniam Foundation, Warren King, Alexander Power, Jocelyn and William Sladen, USFWS-NMBCA, Lucy Waletzky, Alan Weeden, Lynn and Stuart White, Robert Wilson, World Land Trust-US.



I am standing inside one of those spectacular scenes you see on postcards that you send your friends to make them envious. From my mountain roost, tendrils of cloud swirl around my feet as I gaze from my bedroom porch at the Jeniam Lodge and watch the sun set upon the world-famous Santa Marta beaches and resorts, forming a crescent of lights far below. I am not even a little tempted to leave the cloud forest paradise I find myself in, with its cooler temperatures, no biting insects, and world-class birding and nature viewing opportunities, to play in the surf. In an

hour, I have a date with fellow birders to walk down the wide trail listening, looking and hoping for a glimpse of the newly discovered Santa Marta Screech Owl, or the troop of night monkeys that frequent the trees surrounding the lodge. It is hard to believe that over a four-day weekend I have amassed a list of well over 200 species – old friends (Blackburnian Warblers, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks) and new (Santa Marta Parakeet, Band-tailed Guan). I leave tomorrow and will have to plan another trip to see the other 160 species. Who has time to swim?

—Rita Fenwick



Santa Marta Parakeet (AZE, EN, Colombia, 1): Fundación ProAves, www.proaves.org



Santa Marta Bush-Tyrant (AZE, EN, Colombia, 1): Fundación ProAves, www.proaves.org



Newly-discovered *Megascops* owl: Benjamin Freeman

**The most endemic species  
for any reserve outside of  
Brazil's Atlantic Forest.**

*Eleuchia* longwing butterfly: George Jett







## QUICK FACTS

**Name:** El Paujil Bird Reserve  
**Date established:** 2004  
**Location:** Serranía de las Quinchas, Magdalena Valley, Colombia (6° N, 74° W)  
**Elevation:** 500-2,600 feet  
**Flagship species:** Blue-billed Curassow  
**Habitat:** Lowland tropical forest  
**Partner/owner:** Fundación ProAves  
**Total size:** 12,441 acres  
**Target reserve size:** 51,900 acres  
**Bird list:** 330 species  
**Threatened:** Five  
**Endemic:** Five  
**Visitor facilities:** Lodge, trail system  
**Best time to visit:** All year  
**Jobs created:** 35



Blue-billed Curassow



Photo: Fundación ProAves, www.proaves.org

**Reserve and biodiversity summary:** This is a critically important forest remnant in the now largely deforested Magdalena Valley. The site hosts five globally threatened bird species: the Blue-billed Curassow (AZE), White-mantled Barbet, Antioquia Bristle-tyrant, Cerulean Warbler, and Turquoise Dacnis. Other threatened species include the variegated spider-monkey, South American tapir, spectacled bear, and the Magdalena bocachico fish. Conservation measures include an anti-hunting campaign aimed at protecting the curassow, which has resulted in a 20% annual population increase.

**Major supporters:** John Baur, Magalen O. Bryant, Anthony Collerton, Warren and Cathy Cooke, Donald and Jackie Dann, Sally Davidson, Robert Giles, Gulf Coast Bird Observatory, Dr. Gwenda Brewer and George Jett, Warren King, Ted Reissing, Steven and Barbara Rockefeller, Ted Rouse, Pradip Sahdev, Tania Schoennagel, Nigel Simpson, Jocelyn Sladen, Susan Snettsinger, Lucy Waletzky, Alan Weeden, Jeff and Connie Woodman, Robert Wilson, World Land Trust, World Land Trust-US.



**B**eing large and tasting good never helps your survival prospects. Like other curassows, the blue-billed has suffered from over-hunting throughout its limited range. These birds are wary, and with good reason. The only survivors are those that have learned to avoid people. Pre-Columbian gold

figurines of the curassow were easier to find than the bird itself, which was virtually unknown until being rediscovered in the reserve in 2003. Read Delacour and Amadon’s classic 1973 cracid monograph before you come to this reserve though.

—Mike Parr



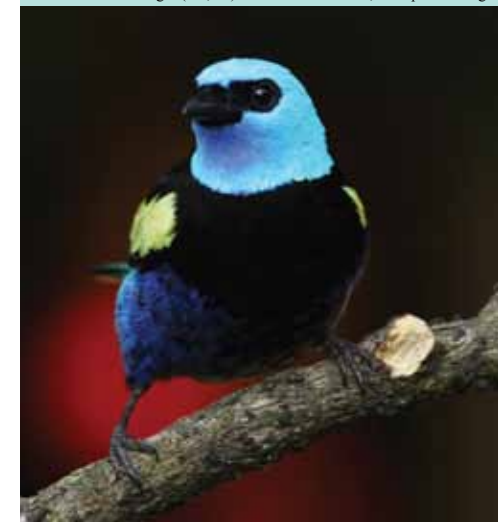
Blue-billed Curassow (AZE, CR, Colombia, 1): Mike Parr



Variegated spider-monkey: George Jett

Since the reserve was established, hunting of the curassow and spider-monkey has stopped, and the curassow population has begun to increase.

Blue-necked Tanager (LC, 12): Fundación ProAves, www.proaves.org







## QUICK FACTS

**Date established:** 2005

**Location:** Near Popayán, Cauca Department, Colombia (2°N, 75°W)

**Altitude:** 5,000-10,000 feet

**Flagship species:** Colorful Puffleg

**Habitat:** Wet montane forest

**Partner/owner:** Fundación ProAves

**Total size:** 4,893 acres

**Target reserve size:** 6,900 acres

**Bird list:** 272 species

**Threatened:** Ten

**Endemic:** Seven

**Visitor facilities:** Basic accommodation

**Best time to visit:** June to September and December to March

**Jobs created:**  
Two



Colorful Puffleg



# MIRABILIS-SWAROVSKI BIRD RESERVE

Photo: Fundación ProAves, [www.proaves.org](http://www.proaves.org)

**Reserve and biodiversity summary:** Critically important tract of Cauca cloud forest. The site hosts ten globally threatened bird species: the Baudo Guan, Plumbeous Forest-falcon, Colorful Puffleg (AZE), Long-wattled Umbrellabird, Bicolored Antvireo, Hooded Antpitta, Munchique Wood-wren, Tanager Finch, Chestnut-bellied Flowerpiercer (AZE), and Multicolored Tanager. The site also provides habitat for three endangered amphibians, for which it is also the AZE site.

**Major supporters:** Swarovski Optik.



Munchique Wood-wren (CR, 1): Fundación ProAves, [www.proaves.org](http://www.proaves.org)



**M**alaria pills \$70, water bottle \$12, anti-venom kit \$500, GPS unit \$150, satellite phone \$1,750, mosquito net \$10. Telling your friends and family that you never needed any of them, but saw Colorful Puffleg anyway: priceless. The reason the Andes have been densely settled for

centuries is that it is nice up here, few bugs, cool days, no malaria. If you take your cell phone you can call your birding friends from the wildest places to gloat. There again, might be best just to leave it at home so you're not busy gloating when the antpitta makes its only brief appearance.

—Mike Parr



Colorful Puffleg (AZE, CR, Colombia, 1): Luis Mazariegos

**Discovered in 1967 and previously known from just a handful of records, the Colorful Puffleg can now be seen at the reserve's feeders!**

Glistening-green Tanager (LC, 2): Fundación ProAves, [www.proaves.org](http://www.proaves.org)



Velvet-purple Coronet (LC, 2): Fundación ProAves, [www.proaves.org](http://www.proaves.org)





## QUICK FACTS

**Date established:** 2007

**Location:** Magdalena Valley, Colombia  
(6° N, 73° W)

**Elevation:** 2,000-5,000 feet

**Flagship species:** Helmeted Curassow

**Habitat:** Lower subtropical/tropical forest

**Partner/owner:** Fundación ProAves

**Total size:** 3,531 acres

**Target reserve size:** 16,000 acres

**Bird list:** 248 species

**Threatened:** Six

**Endemic:** Seven

**Visitor facilities:** Shares a small lodge with Cerulean Warbler reserve

**Best time to visit:** All year

**Jobs created:** Five



Helmeted Curassow



# PAUXI PAUXI BIRD RESERVE

Photo: Fundación ProAves, www.proaves.org

**Reserve and biodiversity summary:** Key piece of lowland subtropical Magdalena Valley forest. The reserve plays host to six globally threatened bird species: the Helmeted Curassow, Chestnut-bellied Hummingbird, Black Inca, White-mantled Barbet, Cerulean Warbler, and Turquoise Dacnis. Conservation measures include an anti-hunting campaign aimed at protecting the curassow, and a reforestation program.

**Major supporters:** American Birding Association, Jack Bartley, Dr. Gwenda Brewer and George Jett, Paul Bristow, Amos W. Butler Audubon Society, Shirley

Cameron, James Carpenter, Malcolm C. Damuth Foundation, Donald and Jackie Dann, Fort Worth Audubon Society, William Freeman, Robert Fuld, Steve Gast, Robert Giles, Howard County Bird Club, Josep del Hoyo, International Migratory Bird Day, Lannan Foundation, George and Cathy Ledec, Maryland Ornithological Society, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Edward Newbold, The Nature Conservancy, Grace Jones Richardson Trust, Peary Stafford, USFWS-NMBCA, USGS, Catherine Walling, Marc Weinberger, Dorothy Welch, Robert Wilson.



If you made a curassow six feet tall and gave it teeth, wouldn't it look a bit like a *Velociraptor*? Actually, most curassows would be more reminiscent of the crested *Lambeosaurus*, or perhaps the shield-headed *Protoceratops*. So did birds originate from dinosaurs? Were crested dinosaurs colorful? Take a look at a Helmeted Curassow and the answer to both questions seems intuitive. The problem is, taking a look at a Helmeted Curassow isn't all that easy, but if you

want to do it, there's no better place than this reserve. This rare, striking species sports a strange bluish shield above its red bill, and smart black and white attire over the rest of its body. Once considered conspecific with the Horned Curassow, which itself is likely two species, the mysterious life of this little-known cracid may soon be revealed in far greater detail than seemed possible just a few years ago, thanks to conservation efforts at this reserve.

—Mike Parr



Helmeted Curassow (EN, 1): © Michael Dick/www.osfimages.com



White-mantled Barbet (EN, Colombia, 3): Joe Tobias

**There is still much to be discovered about the birds of this reserve.**

Chestnut-bellied Hummingbird (CR, Colombia, 3): Fundación ProAves, [www.proaves.org](http://www.proaves.org)







## QUICK FACTS

**Date established:**  
2005

**Location:** Central Cordillera, Quindío and Tolima Departments, Colombia (4° N, 75° W)

**Elevation:** 8,000-13,000 feet

**Flagship species:** Fuertes's Parrot and Yellow-eared Parrot

**Habitat:** Montane forest and páramo

**Partner/owner:** Fundación ProAves

**Current size:** 14,488 acres

**Target size:** 25,000 acres

**Bird list:** 303 species

**Threatened:** Eight

**Endemic:** 12

**Visitor facilities:** Lodge

**Best time to visit:**  
All year

**Jobs created:** 12



Yellow-eared Parrot



Fuertes's Parrot



Photo: Fundación ProAves, www.proaves.org

**Reserve and biodiversity summary:** This reserve protects two AZE sites and encompasses three adjacent protected areas: the Loro Coroniazul Bird Reserve, the El Mirador Municipality Reserve, and the Loros Andinos Bird Reserve. It holds more than 95% of the known Fuertes's Parrot (AZE) population and 70% of the Yellow-eared Parrot (AZE) population. There has been a significant, recent increase in the nesting success of both species thanks to the provision of artificial nest boxes. Other threatened birds include: the Golden-plumed and Rufous-fronted Parakeets, Rusty-faced Parrot, Dusky

Starfrontlet, Blossomcrown, Brown-banded Antpitta, Moustached Antpitta, Masked Mountain-tanager, Tanager Finch, Cerulean Warbler, Chestnut-bellied Flowerpiercer, Chestnut-bellied Cotinga, Mountain Grackle, and Red-bellied Grackle.

**Major supporters:** Michael and Lorna Anderberg, William Belton Small Grants Fund, Conservation International, Disney Worldwide Conservation Fund, Robert Giles, IUCN-NL/SPN sponsored by the Netherlands Postcode Lottery, Frank Kling, Loro Parque Fundación, Robert Wilson, World Land Trust-US.



**A**s our search was about to end, a Colombian who had seen the campaign poster reported a sighting of the parrot. We followed up. Wandering through glades of majestic wax palms on the late afternoon of the 18th of April, 1999, we heard the faint but distinctive raucous screams of parrots. Then, descending from the clouds above a breathtaking alpine-like landscape, two flocks of Yellow-eared

Parrots swooped down in tightly synchronized barrel rolls into palm-studded pasture fields. After almost a year of depressingly unsuccessful searches, we were delirious with ecstasy as a total of 61 Yellow-eared Parrots alighted in the towering wax palms overhead and began clambering down the fronds in chattering masses to gorge on bundles of ripening thumb-sized palm fruits.

—Paul Salaman



Yellow-eared Parrots (AZE, CR, Colombia, 1): Fundación ProAves, www.proaves.org



Fuertes's Parrot (AZE, CR, Colombia, 1):  
Fundación ProAves, www.proaves.org

**Significant increase  
in parrot populations;  
Yellow-eared by tenfold,  
Fuertes's close to double.**

Golden-plumed Parakeet (VU, 3):  
Fundación ProAves, www.proaves.org







## QUICK FACTS

**Date established:** 2008

**Location:** Southern end of the Osa peninsula, Costa Rica (8° N, 83° W)

**Elevation:** Sea level to 2,100 feet

**Flagship species:** Black-cheeked Ant-tanager

**Habitat:** Pacific coastal tropical rainforest

**Partner/owner:** Friends of the Osa

**Total size:** 4,300 acres

**Target reserve size:** 20,000 acres

**Bird list:** 159 so far (incomplete)

**Threatened:** Two

**Endemic:** One

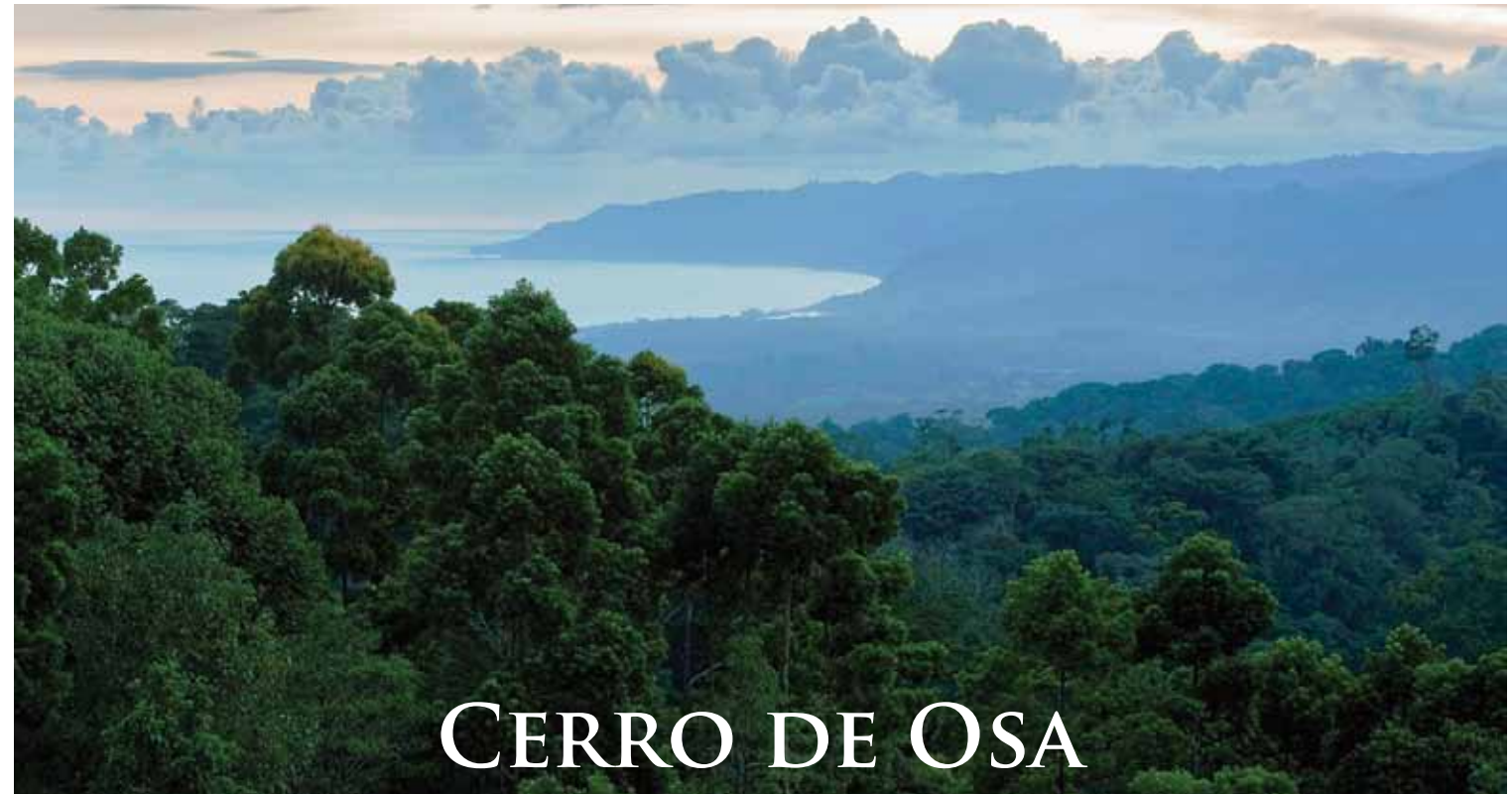
**Visitor facilities:** Basic accommodation, trail system

**Best time to visit:** All year. June to November is the rainy season and sea turtle nesting season.

**Jobs created:** Three



Black-cheeked Ant-tanager



# CERRO DE OSA

View of Cerro Osa: R. Stanley

**Reserve and biodiversity summary:** This reserve is a beautiful example of lowland Pacific rainforest, linked to Corcovado National Park. The site hosts two globally threatened birds: the Black-cheeked Ant Tanager (AZE) and the Turquoise Cotinga. The rare Central American subspecies of Scarlet Macaw is also abundant at this location. The Harpy Eagle is present but rare. Humpback whales calve in offshore bays, and there are globally important sea turtle nesting beaches nearby. Populations of large cats (jaguars, pumas, ocelot) also occur.

Conservation measures include habitat restoration in degraded areas.

**Major supporters:** Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, Conservation International, The Nature Conservancy, Beneficia Foundation, Blue Moon Fund, Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Jeff and Connie Woodman.



**A**n Indo-Pacific sailfish, a pantropical spotted dolphin, a humpback whale, a Three-wattled Bellbird, and a Scarlet Macaw all within a mile of each other? Only at the Osa. Here the Pacific rainforest reaches the cliff edge where waterfalls cascade into bays used by calving humpbacks. Sea turtles

nest along sandy beaches which are patrolled by millions of hermit crabs. American Crocodiles laze in the shallows, and endangered Black-cheeked Ant-tanagers await serious birders. Great accommodation, unspoiled lowland rainforest, and the largest mangrove forest in Mesoamerica. Only at the Osa.

— Mike Parr



Scarlet Macaws (LC, 1): Nick Athanas/Tropical Birding



Black-cheeked Ant-tanager (AZE, EN, Costa Rica, 1): Daniel J. Lebbin

**Best example of intact lowland rainforest in the system; adjacent to Corcovado National Park.**

Turquoise Cotinga (VU, 2): Daniel J. Lebbin







## QUICK FACTS

**Date established:** 1999

**Location:** Near Piñas,  
El Oro province, Ecuador (3° S, 77° W)

**Elevation:** 1,500-3,600 feet

**Flagship species:** El Oro Parakeet

**Habitat:** Lower montane tropical forest

**Partner/owner:** Fundación Jocotoco

**Total size:** 3,700 acres

**Target size:** 10,000 acres

**Bird list:** 336 species

**Threatened:** 14

**Endemic:** Two

**Visitor facilities:** Lodge, trail system

**Best time to visit:**  
All year

**Jobs created:** 28



El Oro Parakeet



# BUENAVENTURA RESERVE

Photo: Mike Parr

**Reserve and biodiversity summary:** Excellent example of lower montane tropical cloud forest. The site hosts fourteen globally threatened birds: the Rufous-headed Chachalaca, Gray-backed Hawk, Ochre-bellied Dove, El Oro Parakeet, Gray-cheeked Parakeet, Cloud-forest Pygmy-owl, Little Woodstar, Long-wattled Umbrellabird, Gray-breasted Flycatcher, Ochraceous Attila, Gray-headed Antbird, Ecuadorian Tapaculo, Rufous-necked Foliage-gleaner, and Saffron Siskin. Mammals include puma, ocelot, mantled howler monkey, and two and three-toed sloths. Conservation measures

include a successful artificial nest box program for the El Oro Parakeet and the planting of more than 200,000 saplings.

**Major supporters:** IUCN-NL/SPN sponsored by the Netherlands Postcode Lottery, Jeniam Foundation, Loro Parque Fundación, Simpson Trust, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service-NMBCA, Robert Wilson, World Land Trust-US. Reforestation at Jocotoco reserves is part of World Land Trust's Carbon Balanced Program.



**W**elcome to one of the greatest hummingbird shows on Earth! Bring your camera and stay all day. We'll feed you while you get the photos of a lifetime. Later, you can search for the Long-wattled Umbrellabird. The male's inflatable, feathered wattle is a foot long, and he dangles it from below his chin to impress the female. If you are quiet he'll keep grunting while you sneak in right below with

your telephoto... he's too enthralled with the lek to bother with you. "Dude, my wattle's more resplendent than yours," "maybe it is, but I'm grunting louder than you are," "the heck you are," etc. The endemic endangered El Oro Parakeet, only discovered in 1980, should be ready to welcome you early the next morning as you head out and on towards Tapichalaca...

—Mike Parr



El Oro Parakeets (EN, Ecuador, 1): Fundación Jocotoco



Long-wattled Umbrellabird (VU, 3): Larry Wan

**Best place on Earth to see the El Oro Parakeet, which is rebounding thanks to a nest box program.**

Gray-backed Hawk (EN, 4): Nick Athanas/Tropical Birding







## QUICK FACTS

**Date established:** 2004

**Location:** Near Macará, Province of Loja, Ecuador (4° S, 79° W)

**Elevation:** 1,700-6,500 feet

**Flagship species:** Henna-hooded Foliage-gleaner

**Habitat:** Tumbesian tropical dry forest

**Partner/owner:** Fundación Jocotoco

**Total size:** 4,073 acres

**Target size:** 10,000 acres

**Bird list:** 193 species

**Threatened:** 12

**Endemic:** One

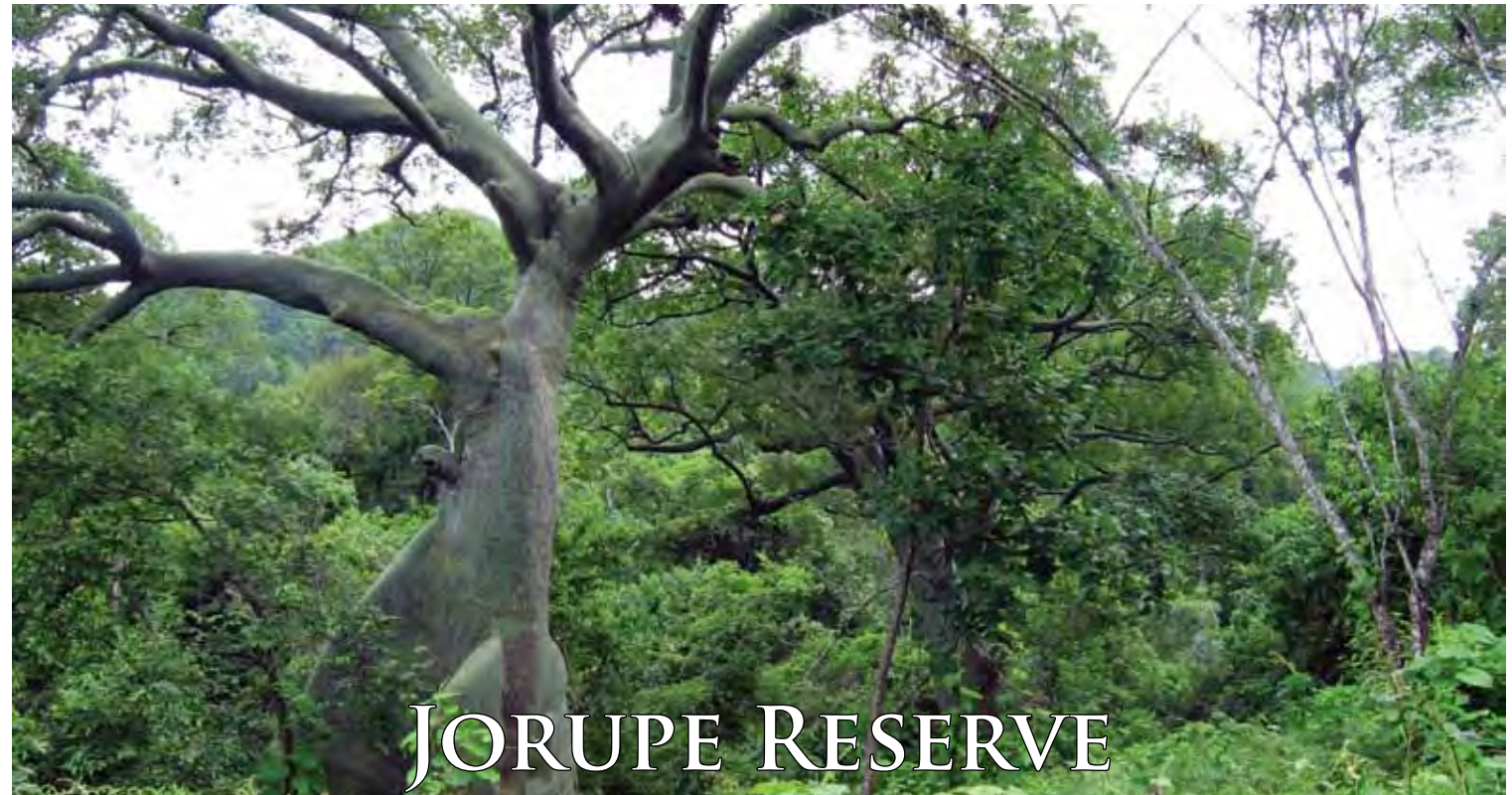
**Visitor facilities:** Lodge, trail system

**Best time to visit:** All year except December and November

**Jobs created:** 15



Henna-hooded Foliage-gleaner



Ceiba tree at Jorupe reserve. Photo: Ivan Samuels

**Reserve and biodiversity summary:** This site includes habitat for a suite of threatened Tumbesian dry forest endemics as well as some wider-ranging threatened species, including: the Rufous-headed Chachalaca, Gray-backed Hawk, Ochre-bellied Dove, Gray-cheeked Parakeet, Little Woodstar, Slaty Becard, Gray-breasted Flycatcher, Gray-headed Antbird, Blackish-headed Spinetail, Rufous-necked Foliage-gleaner, Henna-hooded Foliage-gleaner, and Saffron Siskin. Conservation measures include the planting of more than 40,000 saplings.

**Major supporters:** Blue Moon Fund, SeaWorld Busch Gardens Foundation, Western Alliance for Nature, Robert Wilson, World Land Trust.



Lodge at Jorupe. Photo: Ivan Samuels



**I**t's the dry season in the Tumbesian dry forests of Jorupe. Crunch, crunch, crunch. Your feet crush dried leaf litter as you walk along a trail underneath towering green *Ceiba* trees that emerge from the dry forest canopy. They offer little shade, though, as they are leafless at this time of year. You stop and admire their bulbous green trunks that look like giant aliens from Mars landed here in Ecuador and decided

to take root. You hear crunch, crunch, crunch again, but your feet are not moving. Turn around and a Henna-hooded Foliage-Gleaner is tossing leaves on the ground beyond the next bush, searching for its next meal, oblivious to your presence. Soon, you notice a Blackish-headed Spinetail above it. Just like that, two of Jorupe's many endangered birds reveal themselves!

—Dan Lebbin



Rufous-necked Foliage-gleaner (VU, 3): Doug Wechsler/VIREO



Red-masked Parakeets (NT, 4): Fundación Jocotoco

**Dry forest reserve  
with 12 globally  
threatened species.**

Thick-billed Euphonia (LC, 13): Alonso Quevedo



Plain Antvireo (LC, 11): Daniel J. Lebbin







## QUICK FACTS

**Date established:** 2006

**Location:** Between the volcanoes Antisana and Sumaco, Napo Province, Ecuador (0° S, 77° W)

**Elevation:** 3,600-4,800 feet

**Flagship species:** Military Macaw

**Habitat:** Lower montane tropical forest

**Partner/owner:** Fundación Jocotoco

**Total size:** 500 acres

**Target size:**  
5,000 acres

**Bird list:**  
c. 300 species

**Threatened:** Three

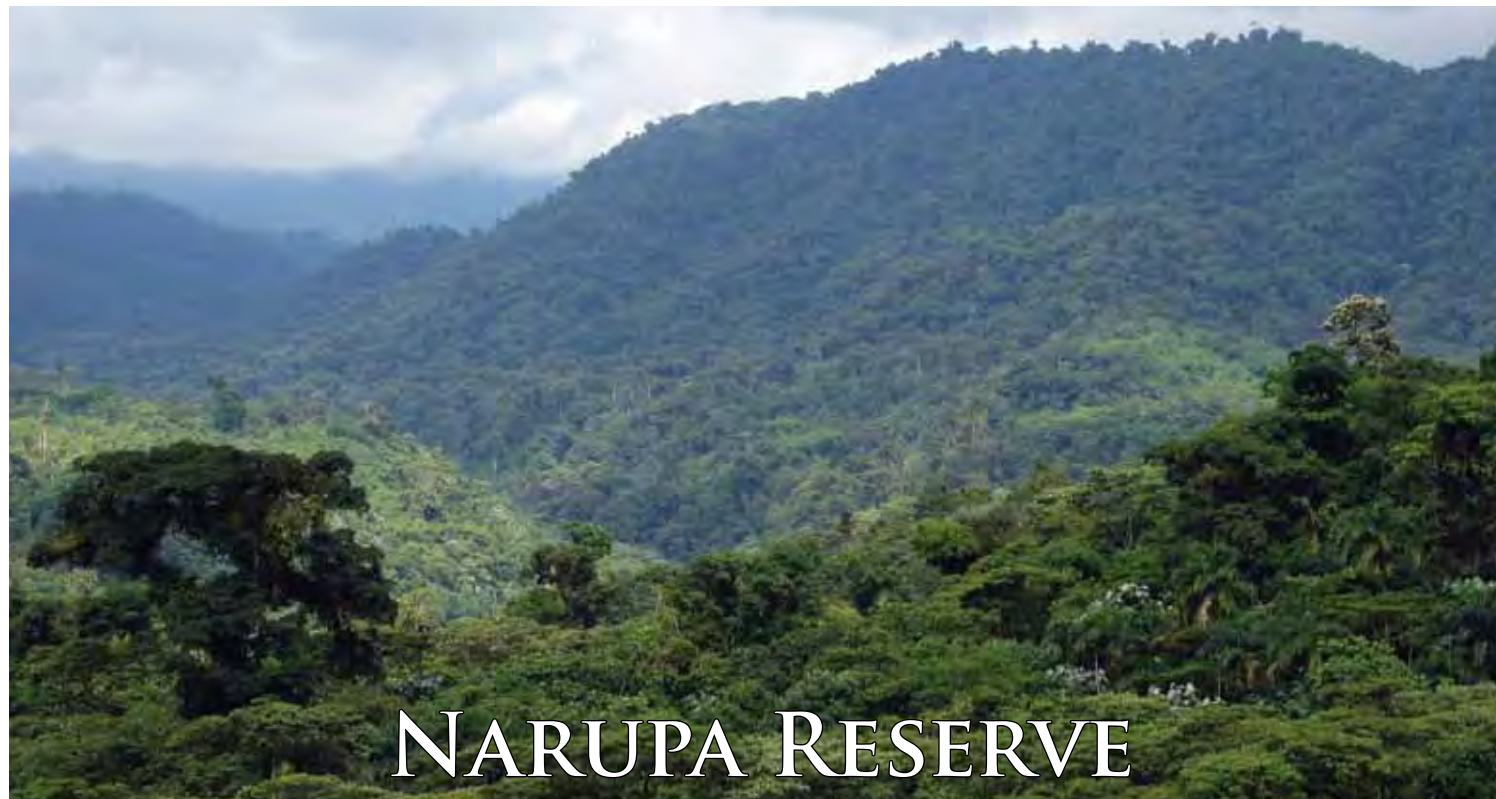
**Visitor facilities:**  
None so far

**Best time to visit:**  
All year

**Jobs created:** One



Military Macaw



# NARUPA RESERVE

Photo: Ivan Samuels

**Reserve and biodiversity summary:** A great example of foothill forest with Amazonian influences. The site supports three globally threatened birds: the Military Macaw, Coppery-chested Jacamar, and Cerulean Warbler.

**Major supporters:** March Foundation.



Zigzag Heron (LC, 1): T. Pederson/VIREO



**E**cuator is a birder’s paradise, and in the mountains, there are a dazzling variety of micro-habitats. To be comprehensive in conservation we have to protect more than just the birds that make for a great two-week birding vacation. So you may visit Narupa, or you may not, but either way, you can rest assured that Military Macaws and Coppery-

chested Jacamars have their place carefully set aside in the conservation hierarchy, along with all the other species. This place may not be at the top of everyone’s birding trip list, but it is still a vital part of the matrix of habitats that makes up a really solid conservation design for Ecuador’s rarest birds.

—Mike Parr



Military Macaws (VU, 2): Peter Morris



Coppery-chested Jacamar (VU, 1): Sam Woods/Tropical Birding

**Important example  
of Ecuadorian  
foothill forest.**

Orange-eared Tanager (LC, 1): C.H. Greenewalt/VIREO







## QUICK FACTS

**Date established:** 2000

**Location:** Chocó region of northwest Ecuador (0° S, 79° W)

**Elevation:** 1,600 feet

**Flagship species:** Great Green Macaw

**Habitat:** Lowland Chocó forest

**Partner:** Fundación Jocotoco

**Total size:**  
3,160 acres

**Target size:**  
10,000 acres

**Bird list:** 354 species

**Threatened:** 12

**Endemic:** One

**Visitor facilities:**  
Lodge, trail system

**Best time to visit:**  
July through February

**Jobs created:** Six



Great Green Macaw



# RÍO CANANDE RESERVE

Photo: Daniel J. Lebbin

**Reserve and biodiversity summary:** Excellent example of wet lowland Chocó forest. The globally threatened birds are: Baudo Guan, Rufous-headed Chachalaca, Plumbeous Forest-falcon, Gray-backed Hawk, Brown Wood-rail, Great Green Macaw, Banded Ground-cuckoo, Long-wattled Umbrellabird, Ochraceous Attila, Cerulean Warbler, Scarlet-breasted Dacnis, and Yellow-green Bush-tanager. Mammals include puma, jaguar, ocelot, margay, peccaries, mantled howler monkey, capuchins, and spider monkeys. Several

plant species new to science have been discovered in the reserve, and four species of globally threatened amphibians have also been found.

**Major supporters:** Barakat Foundation, IUCN-NL/SPN sponsored by the Netherlands Postcode Lottery, Jeniam Foundation, family of Dr. Bernard F. Master, Simpson Trust, Swarovski Optik, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Robert Wilson, World Land Trust-US.



One senses that discovery could be just around the next corner along the trails at Canande. Perhaps a Banded Ground-Cuckoo will emerge, clacking its bill in excitement as it follows a swarm of army ants. Maybe a pair of Yellow-green Bush-tanagers will peek out from understory bushes. Or perhaps a black *Chironius* whipsnake, unnamed and unknown to science, will calmly peer down at

you as you walk by. Today's prize: a trio of Great Green Macaws perched in an emergent tree 150 feet above ground, grooming and drying their feathers after a mid-day rain shower. Celebrate it with your feet up, back at the lodge near the hummingbird feeders, knowing that there is more to find tomorrow.

—Dan Lebbin



Great Green Macaw (EN, 1): A. Morris/VIREO



Rufous-fronted Wood-quail (LC, 4): Daniel J. Lebbin

**The best site for Chocó endemics in Ecuador.**

Swallow Tanager (LC, 8): Fundación ProAves, [www.proaves.org](http://www.proaves.org)



Jaguar: wikipedia.com







## QUICK FACTS

**Date established:** 2005

**Location:** Close to Mindo, further down the western slopes of Volcan Pichincha (0° N, 79° W)

**Elevation:** 1,000 feet

**Flagship species:** Scarlet-breasted Dacnis

**Habitat:** Humid lowland forest

**Partner/owner:** Mindo Cloudforest Foundation

**Total size:** 210 acres

**Bird list:** 279 species

**Threatened:** Seven

**Visitor facilities:** Trail system, canopy tower

**Best time to visit:** All year

**Jobs created:** Three



Scarlet-breasted Dacnis



# RÍO SILANCHE BIRD SANCTUARY

Photo: Gemma J. Radko

**Reserve and biodiversity summary:** A rich mix of Chocó and Tumbesian habitats. Threatened birds are: the Rufous-headed Chachalaca, Plumbeous Forest-falcon, Gray-backed Hawk, Brown Wood-rail, Little Woodstar, Slaty Becard, and Scarlet-breasted Dacnis.

**Major supporters:** Paul and Joan Armer, Nancy Delaney, Henry Doll, Robert Kleiger, Nancy Kitzmiller Taylor, Sharon Lynn.



Rufous-throated Tanager (LC, 2); Daniel J. Lebbin



**A**s we drove west from the Mindo area into the surrounding lowlands, all I could see were farm fields and palm tree plantations. We were on our way to a forest, supposedly, but I couldn't see a trace of one anywhere. We turned off on an unmarked road, passing by more cut-over fields, and even a mining operation in full swing. As we crossed a narrow bridge, I saw forest remnants – getting warmer! Eventually the road rolled up to a scrap of humid low-

land forest, saved from the uncontrolled settlement that has devoured the rest of this region. Only 200 acres, but wow! Birds everywhere: Bronze-winged and Rose-faced Parrots, Scarlet-browed Tanager, Orange-fronted Barbet, Purple-chested Hummingbirds battling White-whiskered Hermits for flower rights, and many more—too many to see in just one visit. This “island” of forest is a key refuge for these birds. I find myself thinking, could we save even more?

—Gemma Radko



Canopy tower at Rio Silanche. Photo: Gemma J. Radko



Rose-faced Parrot (LC, 3): Steve Blain



Orange-fronted Barbet (NT, 2): Doug Wechsler/VIREO

**Key mix of mix of Chocó and Tumbesian habitats with seven threatened bird species.**

Crested Owl (LC, 4): J. Gozansky/VIREO







## QUICK FACTS

**Date established:** 1998

**Location:** East slope of the Andes in Zamora-Chinchipe Province, Ecuador (3° S, 79° W)

**Elevation:** 6,500-11,000 feet

**Flagship species:** Jocotoco Antpitta

**Habitat:** Montane cloud forest

**Partner/owner:** Fundación Jocotoco

**Total size:** 12,350 acres

**Target size:** 15,000 acres

**Bird list:** 385 species

**Threatened:** Ten

**Endemic:** One

**Visitor facilities:**  
Lodge, trail system

**Best time to visit:** All year

**Jobs created:** 18



Jocotoco Antpitta



Photo: Mike Parr

**Reserve and biodiversity summary:** A beautiful tract of montane cloud forest adjacent to Podocarpus National Park. The site hosts ten globally threatened birds: the Bearded Guan, Golden-plumed Parakeet, White-breasted Parakeet, Spot-winged Parrotlet, Little Woodstar, Coppery-chested Jacamar, Bicolored Antvireo, Jocotoco Antpitta (AZE), Cerulean Warbler, and Masked Mountain-tanager. Mammals of note include the woolly mountain tapir and spectacled bear. Two frog and four plant species have recently been discovered at the reserve.

**Major supporters:** Jeniam Foundation, Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, Nature and Culture International, Benjamin Olewine, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service-NMBCA, Simpson Trust, Robert Wilson, World Land Trust, World Land Trust-US.



*Hyla tapichalaca*: Luis A. Coloma



Suddenly, a familiar silhouette appears on a bromeliad. As the wind blows the mist aside for a moment, an almost unbelievably cosmic Gray-breasted Mountain-toucan is revealed for a split second ...just long enough for you to utter an indecipherable noise that is unfortunately untranslatable as “look on the bromeliad right behind the large trunk”

by the birder behind you. The toucan and the tree are again swallowed by the mist, and you move on. Pretty soon it will be just you and the antbird as you point deep into the bamboo clump, hoping that others will glimpse the movement too. Just be careful not to trip over an endangered Jocotoco Antpitta at the feeding station next to the lodge!

—Mike Parr



Jocotoco Antpitta (AZE, EN, 1): Franco Morocho



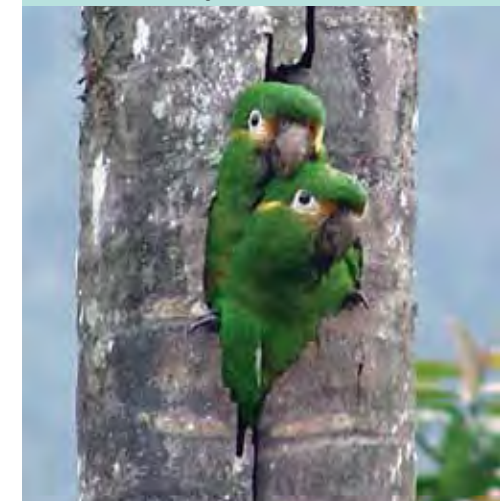
Tree Ferns: Mike Parr



Chestnut-breasted Coronet (LC, 4): Aldo Sormoza

**Jocotoco’s flagship reserve and the home of the famous Jocotoco Antpitta, discovered here in 1997.**

Golden-plumed Parakeets (VU, 3): Franco Morocho







## QUICK FACTS

**Date established:** 2001

**Location:** Close to the Peruvian border in Loja province, Ecuador (4° S, 80° W)

**Elevation:** 8,200 feet

**Flagship species:** Piura Hemispingus

**Habitat:** Hilltop evergreen forest

**Partner/owner:** Fundación Jocotoco

**Total size:** 83 acres

**Target size:** 1,000 acres

**Bird list:** 104 species (incomplete)

**Threatened:** Four

**Endemic:** One

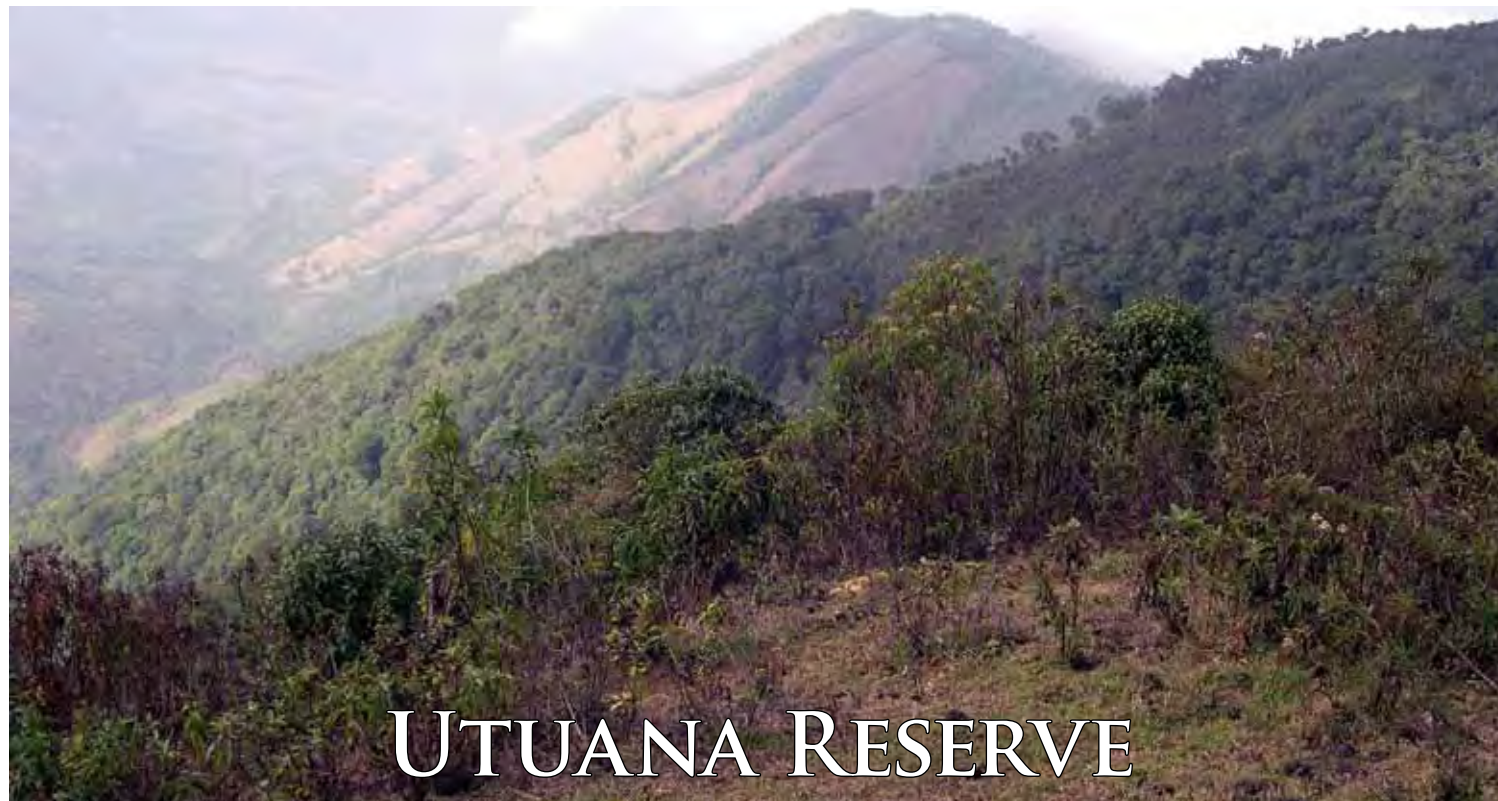
**Visitor facilities:** None so far

**Best time to visit:** All year

**Jobs created:** One



Piura Hemispingus: Reprinted from Robert S. Ridgely and Paul J. Greenfield, *The Birds of Ecuador*, © 2001. Used with the permission of Cornell University Press



# UTUANA RESERVE

Utuana forest: Daniel J. Lebbin

**Reserve and biodiversity summary:** A small but important tract of evergreen hilltop forest. Threatened birds are: the Ochre-bellied Dove, Ochraceous Attila, Gray-headed Antbird, and Rufous-necked Foliage-gleaner.

**Major supporters:** Barakat Foundation, family of Hane Bloch, Danish Bird Club, World Land Trust-US.



Rainbow Starfrontlet (LC, 3): Daniel J. Lebbin



**H**igh in the hills of the Hanne Forest in the Utuana Reserve, a cool mountain breeze blows and a kettle of Swallow-tailed Kites forms in the drier valley below. The first bird to greet you might be a Rainbow Starfrontlet hovering in front of you for just a moment, just long enough to satisfy its curiosity that you are not offering it nectar. Zip, off

it goes. As you venture into the forest of tree trunks cloaked in green moss, a Golden-headed Quetzal flushes. A Gray-headed Antbird calls from a *Chusquea* bamboo thicket in a ravine below — tantalizingly out of view.

—David Wiedenfeld



Purple-throated Sunangel (LC, 1): Nick Athanas/Tropical Birding



Golden-headed Quetzal (LC, 9): Peter Morris



Jelski's Chat-tyrant (LC, 1): Doug Wechsler/VIREO

**Small reserve that protects a key area of a rare habitat and bird community.**

Black-cowled Saltator (LC, 2): José Illánés







## QUICK FACTS

**Date established:** 2001

**Location:** On the northeastern slope of Pichincha Volcano northwest of Quito, Ecuador (0° S, 78° W)

**Elevation:** 10,000-14,700 feet

**Flagship species:** Black-breasted Puffleg

**Habitat:** Upper montane cloud forest and *Polylepis* forest

**Partner:** Fundación Jocotoco

**Total size:** 2,380 acres

**Target size:** 5,000 acres

**Bird list:** 122 species

**Threatened:** One

**Endemic:** One

**Visitor facilities:** Trail system

**Best time to visit:**  
October to July

**Jobs created:** Eight



Black-breasted Puffleg



Photo: Gemma J. Radko

**Reserve and biodiversity summary:** Excellent example of highland *Polylepis* forest and páramo. This is the AZE site for the Black-breasted Puffleg. Conservation measures include the planting of 30,000 saplings.

**Major supporters:** Barakat Foundation, Benjamin Olewine, Simpson Trust, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, NMBCA, World Land Trust-US.



Planting saplings at Yanacocha: Craig Benkman



**A**t 11,000 feet in the Andes, one's first impression is of the labor of slowly walking up the ancient road along the Indian aqueduct. Fortunately the grade is gentle and the footing good. These thoughts are quickly banished by the sight of a Barred Fruiteater, and then a Plate-billed Mountain-toucan. A Sickie-winged Guan is missed by some,

but no one can miss the hummingbirds. More than a dozen species buzz around the feeders, including the incredible Swordbill – and now a Black-breasted Puffleg, here at the only place it is known in the world: incredible! But your eyes keep veering back to the Swordbill. You may have mild altitude sickness, but it doesn't matter right now.

—George Fenwick



Black-breasted Puffleg (AZE, CR, Ecuador, 1): Steve Blain



Rufous Antpitta (LC, 7): Doug Wechsler/VIREO



Ocellated Tapaculo (LC, 3): Fundación ProAves, www.proaves.org

**Currently the best place on Earth to see the Black-breasted Puffleg.**

Sword-billed Hummingbird (LC, 6): B. Gozansky/VIREO







## QUICK FACTS

**Date established:** 1999

**Location:** Yunguilla Valley in Azuay province, Southern Ecuador (3° S, 79° W)

**Elevation:** 5,100-6,000 feet

**Flagship species:** Pale-headed Brush-finch

**Habitat:** Deciduous and semi-evergreen scrub

**Partner/owner:** Fundación Jocotoco

**Total size:** 395 acres

**Target size:** 1,000 acres

**Bird list:** 148 species

**Threatened:** Three

**Endemic:** Two

**Visitor facilities:** Closed to protect site

**Jobs created:** One



Pale-headed Brush-finch



Photo: Ivan Samuels

**Reserve and biodiversity summary:** Critical tract of scrub forest that is still facing serious threats. Threatened birds are: the Rufous-headed Chachalaca, Little Woodstar, and Pale-headed Brush-finch (AZE). The brush-finch has a tiny population, but conservation efforts, including fencing and cowbird control, have increased numbers ten-fold to more than 200 individuals since the reserve was established.

**Major supporters:** Barakat Foundation, John V. Moore, Robert Wilson, World Land Trust-US.



Pale-headed Brush-finch (AZE, CR, Ecuador, 1): Fundación Jocotoco



**T**he last and only spot on Earth to find the Pale-headed Brush-finch is the Yunguilla Reserve. The prime area to search is a small patch, about the size of a soccer field when viewed from a dusty overlook above. It is an oasis of somewhat lush vegetation in a stream valley surrounded by open and

arid lands that offer the brush-finch little cover. Entering the trail with its dense walls of vegetation is a bit like entering an Iowa corn maze. Wander around, and you might catch a glimpse of this most rare bird.

—Dan Lebbin



Mery Juiña and Marco Galvez at Yunguilla, 2009. Photo: Ivan Samuels



Line-cheeked Spinetail (LC, 4): Doug Wechsler/VIREO

**The only place on earth to see the Pale-headed Brush-finch; numbers have increased ten-fold since the reserve was established.**

Guira Tanager (LC, 7): Roger Ahlman







## QUICK FACTS

**Date established:** 2004

**Location:** Río Sapo watershed in eastern El Salvador, department of Morazán (13° N, 88° W)

**Elevation:** 2,150 feet

**Flagship species:** Golden-cheeked Warbler

**Habitat:** Oak forest

**Partner/owner:** SalvaNatura

**Total size:** 50 acres

**Target size:** 500 acres

**Bird list:** 120 species (incomplete)

**Visitor facilities:** Interpretive trail

**Best time to visit:** October to February



Golden-cheeked Warbler: National Geographic Society



Golden-cheeked Warbler (EN, 2): G. Lasley/VIREO

**Reserve and biodiversity summary:** The two reserves profiled on this and the opposite page are flagship sites that protect small areas of non-breeding habitat for the Golden-cheeked Warbler. Río Sapo is part of an extensive private natural area of several thousand acres. Sierra de Las Minas is now part of the Guatemalan System of Protected Areas, and is also included in the National Association of Private Natural Reserves of Guatemala.

**Major supporters:** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service-NMBCA.



Reserve entrance: Jason Seagle





## QUICK FACTS

**Date established:** 2003

**Type:** Private reserve and easement

**Location:** East central Guatemala  
(15° N, 89° W)

**Elevation:** 2,000 feet

**Flagship species:** Golden-cheeked Warbler

**Habitat:** Pine-oak forest

**Partner/owner:** Defensores de la Naturaleza

**Total size:** 741 acres

**Target size:** 1,000 acres

**Bird list:** More than 100 species  
(still incomplete)

**Visitor facilities:** None so far

**Best time to visit:** November to April



Golden-cheeked Warbler: National Geographic Society



# SIERRA DE LAS MINAS

Photo: David Younkman/ABC

**S**ilence and stillness in the forest canopy overhead, punctuated by the dry crackling of leaves underfoot. The first ten minutes of your hike have been uneventful. But then a soft “chip” up ahead—and another. Hurry! But it’s “just” a Townsend’s Warbler. There’s another one. You also see a Black-throated Green Warbler, and below that in the smaller pine is a Hermit Warbler. Wait—you might have one! In that tall tree below the main canopy—moving through the foliage in the outermost branches.

You see the bold eye-line on the yellow face, a black throat and all-white belly, plus streaks on the bird’s side. Another winter record of the Golden-cheeked Warbler on its Central American wintering grounds.

—Bob Altman



Pink-headed Warbler (VU, 1):  
Nick Athanas, Tropical Birding





## QUICK FACTS

**Date established:** 2005

**Location:** Upper Aguán River valley, north-central Honduras (15° N, 86° W)

**Elevation:** 800–2,700 ft.

**Flagship species:** Honduran Emerald

**Habitat:** Dry forest

**Partners:** Honduran Air Force, Honduran Ministry of Transportation

**Current size:** 3,000 acres

**Target size:** 7,500 acres

**Bird list:** 85 species

**Threatened:** One

**Endemic:** One

**Visitor facilities:** Education center

**Best time to visit:** June to October

**Jobs created:** One



Honduran Emerald



Dry forest: David Wiedenfeld

**Reserve and Biodiversity Summary:** This federally-protected reserve protects a key tract of dry tropical forest in the Aguán Valley. Within this reserve is a small, but significant, population of the Honduran Emerald (AZE) of which fewer than 1,000 individuals remain. Also present is the critically endangered Honduran paleate spiny-tailed iguana and 11 plant species endemic to the dry forest.

**Major supporters:** Fuerza Aerea de Honduras, Conservation International, Instituto de Conservación y Áreas Protegidas, Municipalities of Olanchito and Arenal, Proyecto Bosques y Productividad Rural, Secretaría de Agricultura y Ganadería, Secretaría de Obras Públicas, The State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Transporte y Vivienda, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service-NMBCA, World Bank.



The “Poligono”, as this site is also known, is a former Honduran Air Force bombing range where the military still maintains a presence and assists in the patrolling of the reserve. Arising from the need to offset potential impacts from a road project planned for the Aguán Valley, the decree establishing this reserve represents a cooperative effort between several Honduran government agencies and local NGOs to protect a fragment of Honduras’ rapidly dwindling dry forest. Search the forest of towering Honduran

*Opuntia* cactus for a good patch of pie de niño, one of the Honduran Emerald’s favorite food plants, try your best Ferruginous Pygmy-owl imitation, and you are sure to attract Honduras’ only endemic bird. Other dry forest specialties include a disjunct population of White-bellied Wren which is possibly a separate species, White-lored Gnatcatcher, and the skulking, although sometimes strangely confiding Lesser Ground-cuckoo.

— George Wallace



Honduran Emerald (AZE, CR, Honduras, 1): Robert Hyman



Honduran Emerald (AZE, CR, Honduras, 1): Robert Hyman

**The only protected  
area for the  
Honduran Emerald.**

Lesser Ground-cuckoo (LC, 1): David Wiedenfeld







## QUICK FACTS

**Date established:** 1998

**Location:** Near Bolaños, Northern Jalisco, Mexico (21°N, 103° W)

**Elevation:** 6,000-8,000 feet

**Flagship species:** Eared Quetzal

**Habitat:** Upland pine-oak forest

**Partner:** Bosque Antiguo

**Total size:** 1,000 acres with an additional 24,000 adjacent acres protected under a community agreement

**Bird list:** 162 species

**Threatened:** Two

**Endemic:** Nine

**Visitor facilities:** Trail

**Best time to visit:** May to September



Eared Quetzal

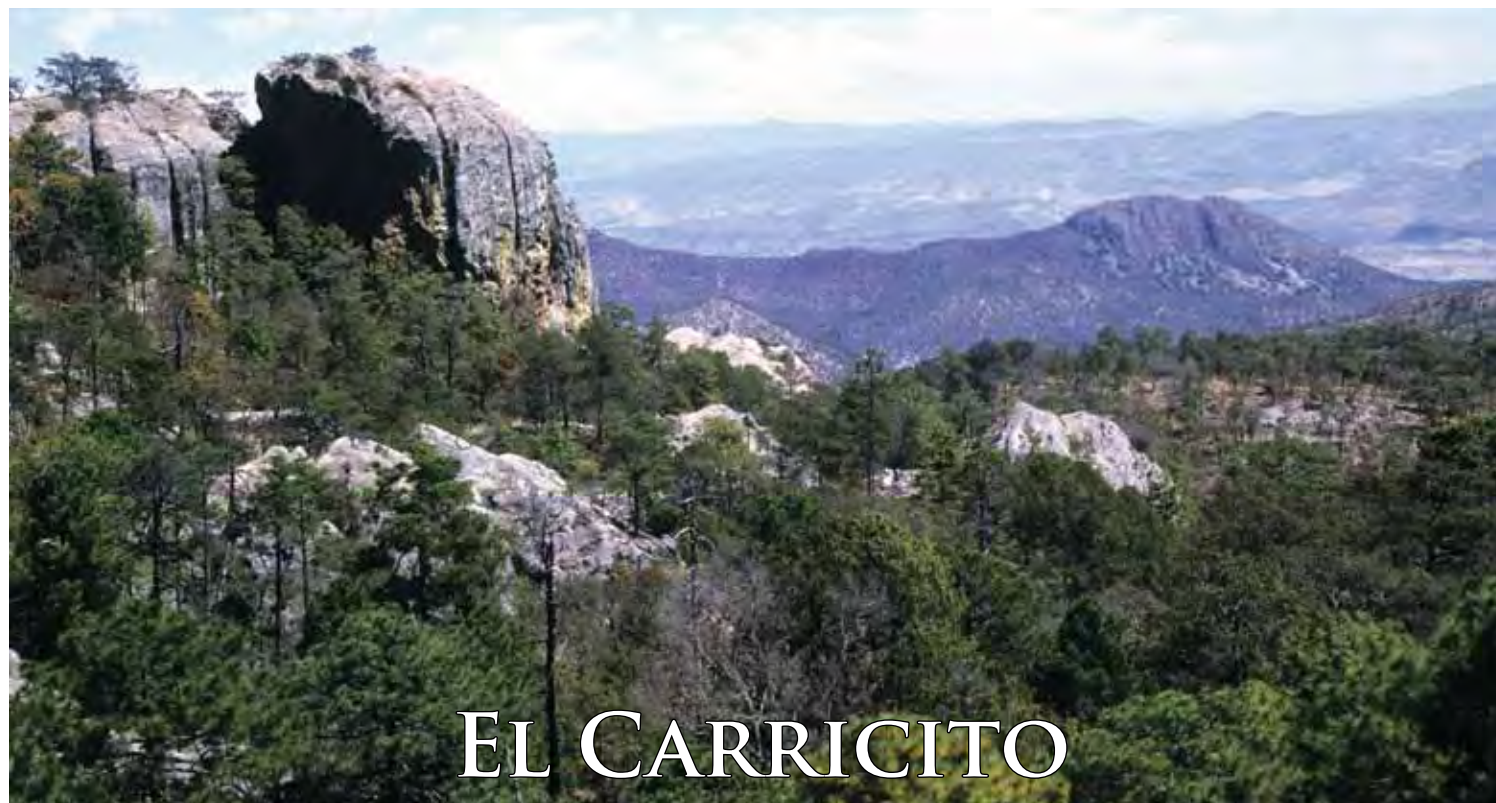


Photo: Mike Parr

**Reserve and biodiversity summary:** One of the last unlogged examples of mesa oak and pine forest in western Mexico. The site has records for two threatened birds: the Thick-billed Parrot and the Military Macaw.

**Major supporters:** Biodiversity Support Program, CONAFOR, Disney Worldwide Conservation Fund, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Northern Virginia Bird Club, Universidad Iberoamericana, World Land Trust-US.



Acorn Woodpecker (LC, 6): Tom Grey



**W**ith its vast castles of rock deeply riven by water-hewn canyons, El Carricito rises out of the Mexican sierra like an image from an Ansel Adams poster. The trees here were already grown when the architect of the old colonial church in nearby Bolaños first set foot on the cobbled streets some two centuries ago. Access is by a single-track road cut into the edge of a steep cliff. From here, a

seven-hour hike leads to the old-growth forest—60 hours from Washington, DC, by the fastest available route. Fortunately, despite the threat of logging that affects even this remote natural outpost and its birds, the indigenous Huichol people share a close connection with nature, and have made a commitment to conserve large areas of this “sky island’s” most important habitat.

— Mike Parr



Eared Quetzal (NT, 2): Michael Retter, Flickr.com



Red-faced Warbler (LC, 2): Greg Lavaty

**With 69 species, this has more recorded neotropical migrants than any of the other reserves.**

Photo: Mike Parr







## QUICK FACTS

**Date established:** 2007

**Location:** Near Saltillo, State of Coahuila, Northern Mexico (25°N, 100° W)

**Elevation:** 7,300 feet

**Flagship species:** Worthen's Sparrow

**Habitat:** Open grassland and scrub

**Partner/owner:** Pronatura Noreste

**Total size:** 585 acres with nearby easements of approximately 57,000 acres

**Target Size:** 5,000 acres with easements of 60,000 acres

**Bird list:** c. 130 species (incomplete)

**Threatened:** Two

**Endemic:** One

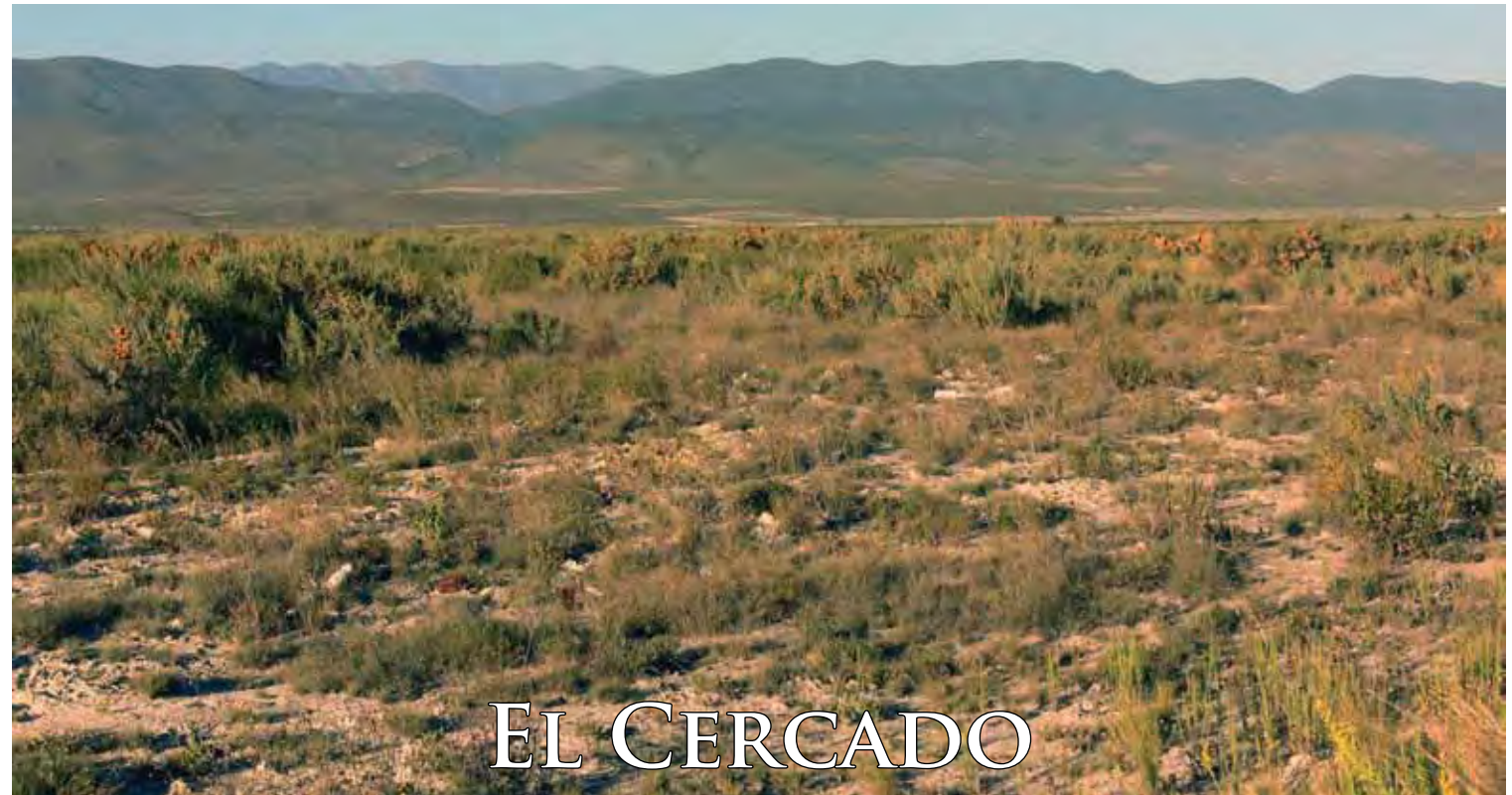
**Visitor facilities:** None so far

**Best time to visit:** November to February

**Jobs created:** Two



Worthen's Sparrow



# EL CERCADO

Photo: Pronatura Noreste

**Reserve and biodiversity summary:** A starkly beautiful short-grass prairie surrounded by scrubby hills. The area hosts approximately 15% of the world's Long-billed Curlews during the winter. Two globally threatened species occur at the site: Sprague's Pipit and Worthen's Sparrow (AZE). Other species of interest include the Mountain Plover, and the endangered Mexican prairie dog.

**Major supporters:** American Birding Association, Los Angeles Audubon Society, Mrs. Walter Brissenden, Paul Bristow, Craig Damuth, Malcolm C. Damuth Foundation, David Harrison, Audubon Society of Kalamazoo,

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Heidi Nitze, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, Tom Wooten.



Long-billed Curlew (LC, 2): Greg Lavaty



Some see deserts as wastelands, others love the arid lands of the world. One thing about these dry places: you can see far without all those trees to block the view! In the Saltillo grasslands, there aren't many trees. Worthen's Sparrows don't seem to need them though, just low shrubs for nesting and roosting. They like the prairie-dog mowed short grasses, too, and big red-tinged barrel cacti, and

creosote bush, and Spanish daggers. In winter it's cold here with the altitude, but the sparrows are joined by visitors from the north, the Long-billed Curlews and Mountain Plovers, shorebirds that walk in the desert. But it's year-round home for the sparrow. He hopes for a little green in the spring; green that will bring good bugs for the nestlings, and the promise of seeds for the long winter.

—David Wiedenfeld



Worthen's Sparrow (AZE, EN, Mexico, 1): Antonio Hidalgo



Long-billed Curlews (LC, 2) in flight: Pronatura Noreste



Mountain Plover (NT, 1): Glen Tepke

**Spectacular desert grassland with 15% of the world's Long-billed Curlews in winter; the key site for the Worthen's Sparrow.**

Mexican prairie dog: Pronatura Noreste







## QUICK FACTS

**Date established:** 2007

**Location:** Bahía Santa María Wetlands on the Gulf of California, northwest of Culiacan, Sinaloa, Mexico (25°N, 108° W)

**Elevation:** 0-10 feet

**Flagship species:** Western Sandpiper

**Habitat:** Coastal flats

**Partner/owner:** Pronatura Noroeste

**Total size:** 872 acres, with management actions extending to an additional adjacent 7,410 acres

**Target Size:** 10,000 acres

**Bird list:** c. 100 species

**Endemic:** One

**Visitor facilities:** None so far

**Best time to visit:** October through March

**Jobs created:** Ten



Western Sandpiper: National Geographic Society



## MITSUBISHI SHOREBIRD RESERVE

Royal Tern (LC, 1) colony: Pronatura Noroeste

**Reserve and biodiversity summary:** Bahía Santa María is among the most important wetlands in western North America for wintering and staging shorebirds and waterfowl. One quarter of the world's population of Western Sandpipers winters, along with thousands of other shorebirds, and up to 200,000 ducks and geese.

**Major supporters:** Mitsubishi Corporation Foundation for the Americas, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service–North American Wetlands Conservation Act.



Marbled Godwit (LC, 1): Tom Grey



**D**ense cattail marshes laced by narrow water-passes give way to vast flats of deep mud coated by a thin slick of water stretching to the horizon.

Impassable except by airboat – ungodly loud contraptions – what at first sight seems abiotic, actually teems with life. Each square meter of the flats appears to

have a Western Sandpiper, and flocks of these little shorebirds peel away in front of us like an avian bow wake. They are innumerable, perhaps a quarter of the world’s population in one place. Later, in slightly deeper water, we observe the same effect, but this time with Marbled Godwits, teal and shovelers, in numbers beyond counting.

—George Fenwick



Mixed flock of Marbled Godwits and Willets (both LC, 1); Pronatura Noroeste



Western Sandpiper (LC, 1) flock: Stuart MacKay

**The reserve protects one-quarter of the world’s Western Sandpipers.**

Western Sandpiper (LC, 1); Stuart MacKay



Long-billed Curlew (LC, 2); Glen Tepke







## QUICK FACTS

**Date established:** 2008

**Location:** Mesa de las Guacamayas, Sierra Madre Occidental, Chihuahua, Mexico (29°N, 106° W)

**Elevation:** 7,700 feet

**Flagship species:** Thick-billed Parrot

**Habitat:** Upland pine-oak forest

**Partner/owner:** Pronatura Noreste

**Total size:** 2,470 acres

**Target Size:** 7,400 acres

**Bird list:** c. 200 species (incomplete)

**Threatened:** One

**Endemic:** One

**Visitor**

**facilities:**

None so far

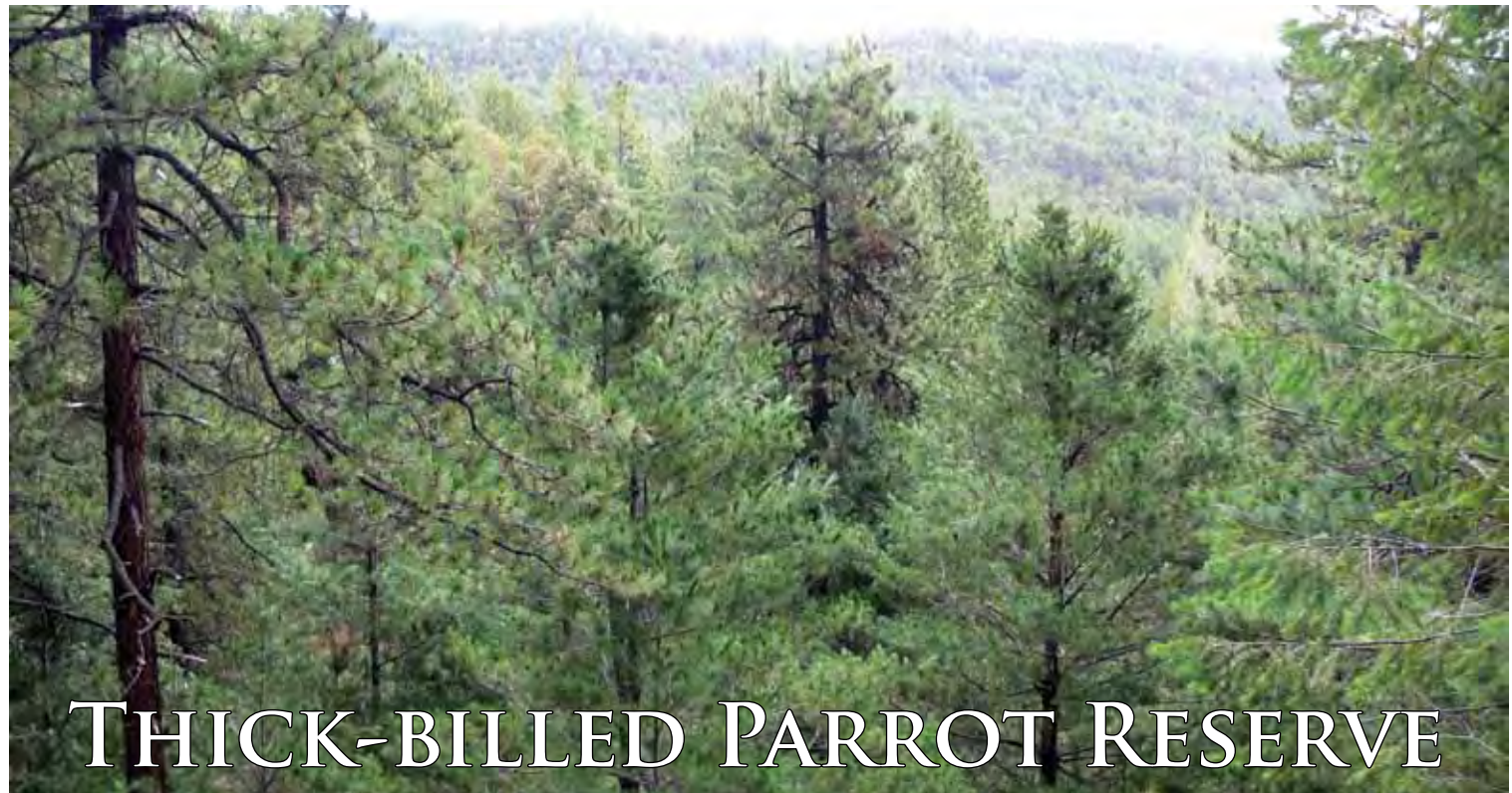
**Best time to visit:**

April to October

**Jobs created:** Two



Thick-billed Parrot



# THICK-BILLED PARROT RESERVE

Photo: Mike Parr

**Reserve and biodiversity summary:** Quintessential upland pine-oak forest. One of the few key strongholds for the globally threatened Thick-billed Parrot. The area is also in a corridor that serves as the route of dispersal to Arizona for the jaguar.

**Major supporters:** David and Patricia Davidson, Comisión Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas, Comisión Nacional Forestal, Tecnológico de Monterrey, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service–NMBCA, Robert Wilson, Jeff and Connie Woodman.



Photo: Mike Parr



**M**any people think of Mexico for its deserts or its southern jungles, but the Sierra Madre Occidental is clothed in a conifer forest. The trees here were huge ponderosas, firs and aspens. They grew tall, and with their age, strong and broad. These forests up in the mountains were the summer home, the nesting ground for Thick-billed Parrots, a species that once knew Arizona and New

Mexico too. Logging has taken its toll, and now few of the old giants remain. Those old trees are important for the parrots because they house cavities, which provide homes and nest sites for the birds. Mesa de las Guacamayas is one place where some of the old and big trees remain. It's close to Arizona; if the parrots do well and their population grows, maybe some will wander back to their old lands.

—David Wiedenfeld



Thick-billed Parrot (EN, Mexico, 2): Richard C. Hoyer, WINGS Birding Tours



Elegant Trogon (LC, 1): Peter LaTourrette, www.birdphotography.com



Thick-billed Parrot (EN, Mexico, 2): Javier Cruz

**One of the very few remaining strongholds for the Thick-billed Parrot.**

Arizona Woodpecker (LC, 2): Peter LaTourrette







## QUICK FACTS

**Date established:** 2003

**Location:** Southwestern Panama  
(8°N, 83° W)

**Elevation:** 500-2,000 feet

**Flagship species:** Baird's Trogon

**Habitat:** Pacific lowland tropical forest

**Partner:** Panama Audubon Society

**Total size:** 700 acres

**Target Size:** 2,500 acres

**Bird list:** 200 species

**Threatened:** Three

**Visitor facilities:**  
None so far

**Best time to visit:**  
February and March

**Jobs created:** One



Baird's Trogon



Photo: William J. Adsett

**Reserve and biodiversity summary:** Important Panamanian tract of Pacific lowland tropical forest. The site hosts three globally threatened species: the Yellow-billed Cotinga, Turquoise Cotinga, and Three-wattled Bellbird. It also contains important populations of other restricted-range fauna, most notably the globally endangered red-backed squirrel monkey.

**Major supporters:** Amos W. Butler Audubon Society.



Yellow-billed Cotinga (EN, 2): Clay Taylor



The Three-wattled Bellbird is one of the strangest of the world's birds. Not only is the song one of the loudest for the bird's size, it keeps on singing and singing and singing, all day long, nine months a year (and its "song" could be more easily likened to a synthesizer malfunction than to a bird vocalization). But that's not even what's so strange about it: what's up with those wattles? It almost looks

like an angler fish, dangling a worm to attract passing prey. The wattles are also prehensile and extendible, and can even get knotted if the bird isn't careful! These bellbirds are tricky to protect, since reserves are needed at each critical point in their annual cycle. El Chorogo is one of these reserves, and if you come here you may just be treated to a sighting of one of nature's strangest and coolest birds.

—Mike Parr



Three-wattled Bellbird (VU, 1): Peter Morris



Red-capped Manakin (LC, 5): Glen Tepke

**Key tract of lowland Panamanian Pacific rainforest.**

Baird's Trogon (NT, 2): Osa Conservation







## QUICK FACTS

**Date established:** 2002

**Location:** Itapua Province, southeastern Paraguay (26°S, 55° W)

**Elevation:** 700 feet

**Flagship species:** Black-fronted Piping-guan

**Habitat:** Lowland Atlantic tropical forest

**Partner:** Guyra Paraguay

**Total size:** 16,556 acres

**Target Size:** 29,653 acres

**Bird list:** 420 species

**Threatened:** 12

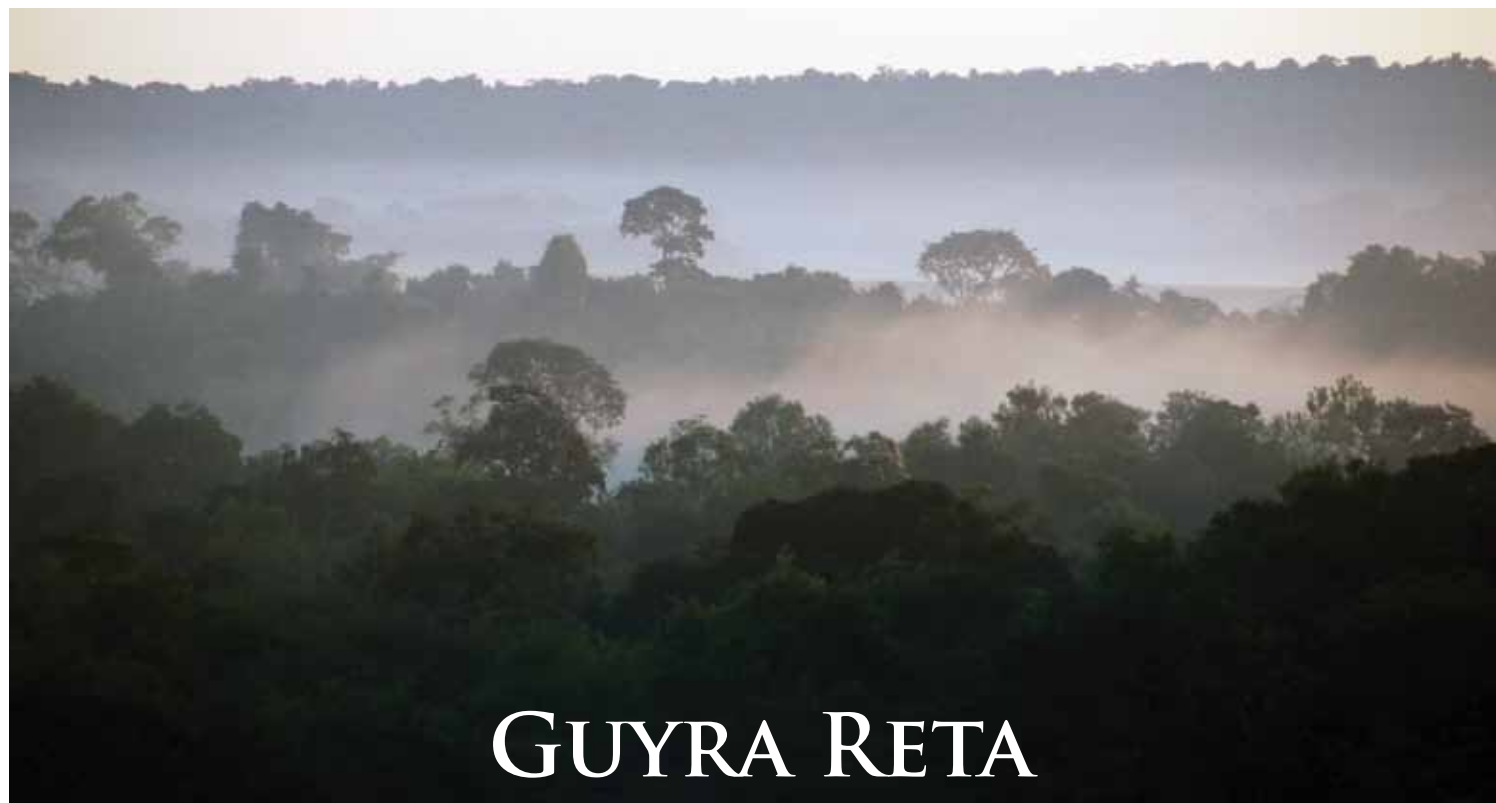
**Visitor facilities:** Basic accommodation

**Best time to visit:** May to November

**Jobs created:** 42



Black-fronted Piping-guan



# GUYRA RETA

Photo: Emily Y. Horton

**Reserve and biodiversity summary:** Critical in-holding in the large public San Rafael Resource Management Reserve. The site is a key tract of Paraguayan Atlantic forest and plays host to 12 globally threatened birds: the Black-fronted Piping-guan, Vinaceous Amazon, Helmeted Woodpecker, Bare-throated Bellbird, Russet-winged Spadebill, Cock-tailed Tyrant, Sharp-tailed Tyrant, Strange-tailed Tyrant, Ochre-breasted Pipit, Saffron-cowled Blackbird, Marsh Seedeater, and Chestnut Seedeater. At least 40 species of larger mammals have also been recorded including jaguar, lowland tapir, and bushdog.

**Major supporters:** BirdLife International, Canadian International Development Agency, Garfield Foundation, Conservation International, Nature Canada, Netherlands Government, RARE, Stichting DOEN, Taiwan CoA, The Nature Conservancy, USAID, Robert Wilson, World Land Trust, World Land Trust-US, World Wildlife Fund.



One of the jewels of the Americas lies a hot, dusty drive, seven hours south of Asuncion, Paraguay's capital. Here the soy fields give way abruptly to a wall of green, which protects within the myriad species of an Atlantic rainforest. As soon as we arrive we start seeing birds around the orchards of the Guyra/Procosara headquarters; brilliant cardinals and elegant woodpeckers. Within the deep forest we find even more: aracarís, toucans, and others—secretive

inhabitants of the understory. The area's natural savannas adjacent to the forest add another rich mosaic of life, with their tinamous and flycatchers, including the superb Streamer-tailed Tyrant. What I remember most was returning to camp one evening from a hike, and hearing a South American Snipe displaying above the savannas as the setting sun turned the sky into colors. It is good to know that a piece of this paradise is protected forever.

—Byron Swift



Black-fronted Piping-guan (EN, 1): © Fabio Colombini / Animals Animals



Bare-throated Bellbird (VU, 3): Doris Duarte

**Important Atlantic forest site that helps to consolidate a 173,000 acre park.**

White-eared Puffbird (LC, 3): Ronald Hoff







## QUICK FACTS

**Date established:** 2005

**Location:** On the border of Amazonas and San Martín, northern Peru (5° S, 77° W)

**Elevation:** 5,700-8,200 feet

**Flagship species:** Long-whiskered Owlet

**Habitat:** Mid-montane cloud forest

**Partner/owner:** ECOAN

**Total size:** 7,900 acre reserve; 18,000 acre concession in final stages of completion

**Target Size:** 10,000 acres plus 18,000 acre concession

**Bird list:** 212 species

**Threatened:** Four

**Endemic:** Six

**Visitor facilities:** Lodge, trail system, canopy tower

**Best time to visit:**  
March to September

**Jobs created:** 11



Long-whiskered Owlet



Photo: Mike Parr

**Reserve and biodiversity summary:** A vital tract of montane cloud forest adjacent to a 450,000-acre protected area, that provides a key watershed for downstream communities. It plays host to four globally threatened birds: the Long-whiskered Owlet (AZE), Royal Sunangel, Lulu's Tody-tyrant, and Ochre-fronted Antpitta (AZE). The site also has a population of the critically endangered yellow-tailed woolly monkey. The spectacled bear also occurs here. Conservation measures include the planting of more than 100,000 saplings.

**Major supporters:** Michael and Lorna Anderberg, Blue Moon Fund, ConocoPhillips, Paul Durrant, Gulf Coast Bird Observatory-Tropical Forests Forever Fund, IUCN-NL/SPN sponsored by the Netherlands Postcode Lottery, Jeniam Foundation, Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, Margot Marsh Biodiversity Foundation, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, The Nature Conservancy-U.S. Forest Service International Programs, Heidi Nitze, Jeff and Connie Woodman, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service-NMBCA, Robert Wilson.



Picture yourself, many years from now, in a museum bird collection. Thousands of trays of specimens represent the last examples of species that no longer exist in the wild. Suddenly you hear a sound... a call, a song... the trays open up and the birds start to fly around, the giant cabinets sprout branches and twigs, and the hard corridor floor turns

to a mushy peat-like trail. Mist begins to drift across the path, and the flocks of birds vanish deep into the forest, calling as they go. You are now standing in the heart of the cloud forest of Abra Patricia; a living museum that many years from now will still be a haven for the world's rarest birds, and remain one of the best, if not the only place, to see some of them.

—Mike Parr



Long-whiskered Owlet (AZE, EN, Peru, 1): ECOAN



Royal Sunangel (EN, 1): Hugo Arnal



Yellow-scarfed Tanager (LC, Peru, 2): ECOAN

**Incredible birding at one of the most important sites for bird conservation in northern Peru; the owlet is easier to hear than to see.**

Lulu's Tody-tyrant (VU, Peru, 1): Heinz Plenge







## QUICK FACTS

**Date established:** 2006

**Location:** Near Pomacochas, Amazonas department, northern Peru (5°S, 77°W)

**Elevation:** 4,700-6,500 feet

**Flagship species:** Marvelous Spatuletail

**Habitat:** Scrub and small area of ravine forest

**Partner:** ECOAN

**Total size:** 100 acres

**Target Size:** 500 acres

**Bird list:** 99 species (incomplete)

**Threatened:** Four

**Endemic:** Three

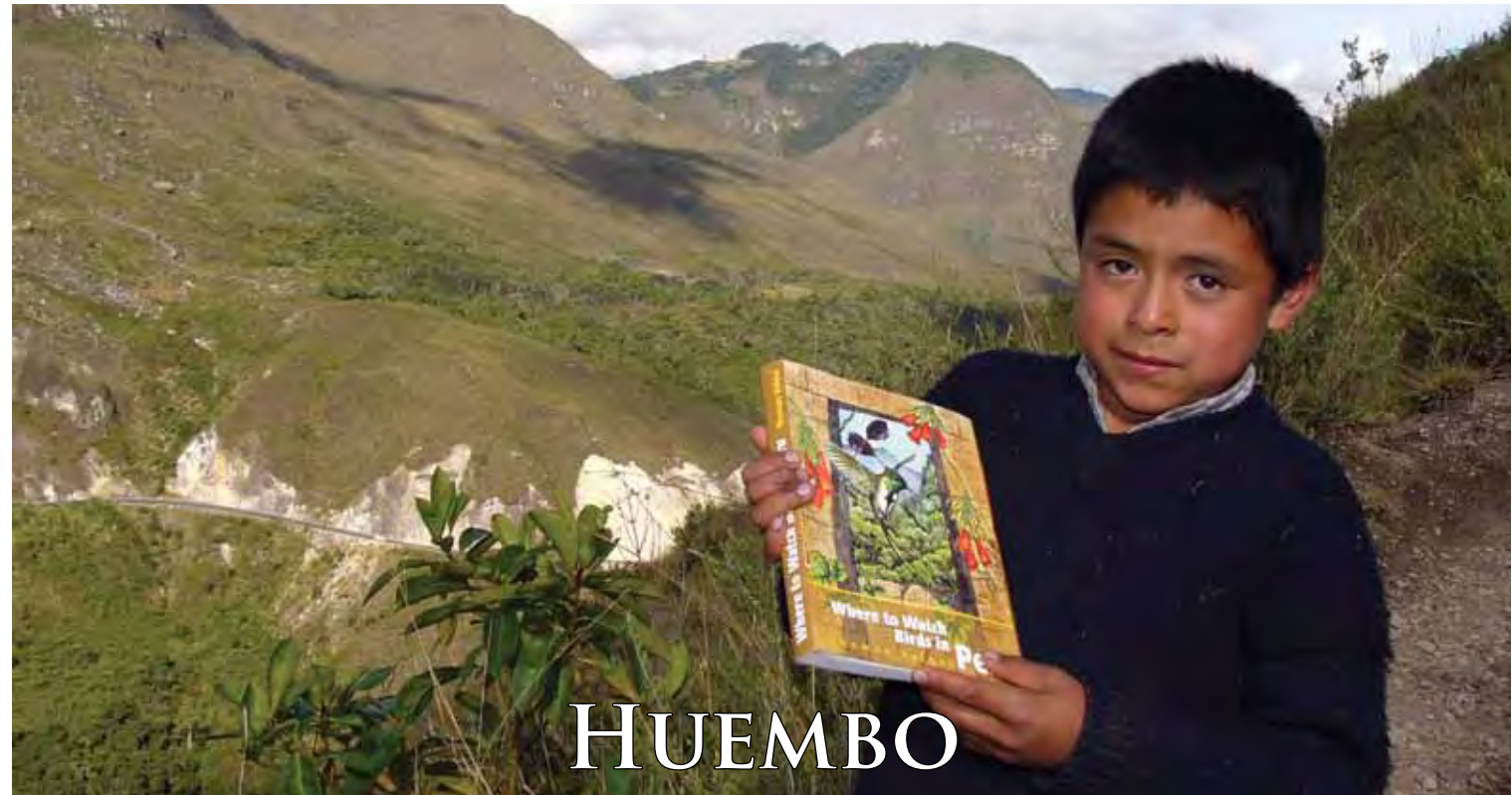
**Visitor facilities:** Small visitor center

**Best time to visit:** March to December

**Jobs created:**  
Four



Marvelous Spatuletail



Solomen Ortiz-Perez, 2005. Photo: Mike Parr

**Reserve and biodiversity summary:** This flagship reserve aims to interest local people and birding tourists in the conservation of the Marvelous Spatuletail. The site hosts four globally threatened birds: the Peruvian Pigeon, Marvelous Spatuletail (AZE), Little Woodstar, and Speckle-chested Piculet. The area has been restored with 30,000 saplings (trees and bushes) including the native food plant of the spatuletail.

**Major supporters:** Michael and Lorna Anderberg, BirdLife International, Rainforest Concern, Team Bristlehead, Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation,

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service–NMBCA, Jeff and Connie Woodman.



A mural at the tree nursery at Huembo. Photo: Mike Parr



**T**he chupacabra, the chimera, bigfoot, the Loch Ness monster, and the Marvelous Spatuletail. Which is the odd one out? The spatuletail, of course—nobody would have believed you after you described it to them. Fortunately, now we have photos and film, and as strange as it is, it is undeniable. There are three main reasons that the spatuletail is one of the

most sought-after bird species in South America. It is endangered, only found well off the beaten path, and is as spectacular as all get-out—the ultimate bling bird. Probability of success: high. Live shows daily. What are you waiting for? Don't make your life list mad at you.

—Mike Parr



Marvelous Spatuletail (AZE, EN, Peru, 1): Roger Ahlman



Seedlings at Huembo tree nursery. Photo: Mike Parr

**First conservation easement with a Peruvian community to protect an endangered species.**

Constantino Aucua, President of ECOAN, at reforestation site in Huembo, 2007. Photo: Mike Parr







## QUICK FACTS

**Date established:** 2009

**Location:** Cusco region of southeastern Peru (13°S, 72° W)

**Elevation:** 14,500 feet

**Flagship species:** Royal Cinclodes

**Habitat:** *Polylepis* forest

**Partner:** ECOAN

**Total size:** 5,655 acres

**Target Size:** 10,000 acres

**Bird list:** 88 species

**Threatened:** Four

**Endemic:** Five

**Visitor facilities:** None so far

**Best time to visit:** March to December

**Jobs created:** Four



Royal Cinclodes



Photo: Mike Parr

**Reserve and biodiversity summary:** This network of community reserves protects critical fragments of remaining *Polylepis* forest in the high Andes of Cusco. These include the well-known birding site at Abra Malaga. The reserves host four globally threatened birds: the Ash-breasted Tit-tyrant, White-tailed Shrike-tyrant, Royal Cinclodes, and White-browed Tit-spinetail. Conservation measures include the planting of more than 400,000 saplings, the distribution of fuel-efficient stoves, and the provision of alternative fuel-wood plantations.

**Major supporters:** Jane Alexander, Michael and Lorna Anderberg, Christina Duthie, W. Alton Jones Foundation, Blue Moon Fund, Chase Wildlife Foundation, Critical Ecosystems Partnership Fund, Inter-American Foundation, Conservation International, Joan Hardie, Milt Levy, Marshall Reynolds Foundation, PROFONANPE, Rainforest Concern, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service-Wildlife Without Borders, Dorothy Welch, Jeff and Connie Woodman.



The people of the Vilcanota gaze down on the Sacred Valley of the Incas like condors from their high perches. They share the rarefied air with an elfin moss forest of *Polylepis* trees that cloak the slopes like giant bonsais. The few bird species that eke out a living here are among the rarest on Earth, and as

the forests dwindle, so do their hopes for survival. For the first time since colonization, these forests are now expanding thanks to a reforestation campaign that provides a new chance for the birds, and for the children of Vilcanota, the last descendants of the Incas.

—Mike Parr



Royal Cinclodes (CR, 1): Valère Claverie



Walberto Huaman Llancay, Mayor of Tastayoc, with saplings planted at Abra Malaga. 2008. Photo: Mike Parr



White-Browed Tit-Spintail (EN, Peru, 1): Birding Peru

**Largest indigenous people’s reforestation campaign in Peru — first government-recognized private conservation area on community lands in the high Andes of Peru.**

Ash-breasted Tit-tyrant (EN, 1): Joe Tobias







## QUICK FACTS

**Date established:** 2009

**Location:** Northwestern Sierra de Bahoruco, southern Dominican Republic (18° N, 71° W)

**Elevation:** 1,500-2,500 feet

**Flagship species:** Bay-breasted Cuckoo

**Habitat:** Semi-deciduous, dry forest

**Partner/owner:** Grupo Jaragua

**Current size:** 43,025 acres

**Target size:** 43,025 acres

**Bird list:** 80 species (estimated)

**Threatened:** Four

**Endemic to Hispaniola:** Seven

**Best time to visit:** All year

**Jobs created:** Two expected



Bay-breasted Cuckoo



# LOMA CHARCO AZUL RESERVE

Photo: Julie Hart

**Reserve and biodiversity summary:** This public protected area conserves an important tract of dry forest habitat adjacent to Sierra de Bahoruco National Park in the Dominican Republic. The threatened birds are: Bay-breasted Cuckoo (AZE), Hispaniolan Parrot, Hispaniolan Parakeet, and White-necked Crow. Additional endemics include Least Pauraque, Narrow-billed Tody, and Flat-billed Vireo. With the reserve just established, the highest priorities now are to initiate protection measures through the hiring and training of guards, construction of

a guard station, and working with local communities and farmers to reduce impacts to the forest.

**Major supporters:** Bay and Paul Foundations, BirdLife International, Consorcio Ambiental Dominicano, John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, Secretaría de Estado de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service–NMBCA.



**H**eading south from Duverge and the huge, saline lake, Lago Enriquillo, we arrive in Puerto Escondido, the last village before we head up into the new biological reserve and then Sierra de Bahoruco. The village gives way to avocado farms and clearings, some inside the new protected area. The road follows a dry stream bed in places, and we snake our way among piles of stones. Stopping to listen in the dry forest, we are lucky to hear a distant

u-ak-u-ak-ak-ak-ak-ak ak-ak. It's a Bay-breasted Cuckoo, or *Cua*, as it is known in Spanish. We would be even luckier to see it, a huge cuckoo, nearly two feet in length; but not today. Instead, we hear the chopping of axes and machetes in the distance, and soon a truck rolls by laden with wood destined to be turned into charcoal. It is clear that this important *Cua* population will not persist without a dedicated effort to enforce its protection.

—George Wallace



Narrow-billed Tody (LC, 1): Leo J.R. Boon, www.cursorius.com



Hispaniolan Parakeet (VU, Hispaniola, 1): Doug Wechler/VIREO



Bay-breasted Cuckoo (AZE, EN, 1): Miguel Angel Landestoy

**Protects a critical population of the Bay-breasted Cuckoo.**

Bay-breasted Cuckoo chicks (AZE, EN, 1): J. Sinclair





# THE PARTNERS



## AMERICAN BIRD CONSERVANCY

**Mission:** To conserve native wild birds and their habitats throughout the Americas.

**Web site:** [www.abcbirds.org](http://www.abcbirds.org)



## ASOCIACIÓN ARMONÍA

**Mission:** A not-for-profit Bolivian organization dedicated to the conservation of birds and their natural habitats, whose principal objective is to prevent the extinction of any bird species in Bolivian territory.

**Web site:** [www.birdlife.org/worldwide/national/bolivia](http://www.birdlife.org/worldwide/national/bolivia)



## ASOCIACIÓN ECOSISTEMAS ANDINOS

**Mission:** To involve local communities in the preservation of biodiversity by promoting the sustainable use of natural resources, thus conserving flora, fauna, and natural ecosystems in Peru.

**Web site:** [www.ecoanperu.org](http://www.ecoanperu.org)



## BOSQUE ANTIGUO

**Mission:** The conservation of El Carricito, Mexico.

**Web site:** In development.



## DEFENSORES DE LA NATURALEZA

**Mission:** Dedicated to the conservation and sustainable management of nature in Guatemala.

**Web site:** [www.defensores.org.gt](http://www.defensores.org.gt)



## FRIENDS OF THE OSA

**Mission:** To preserve the globally significant biodiversity of Costa Rica's Osa peninsula.

**Web site:** [www.osaconservation.org](http://www.osaconservation.org)



## FUNDAÇÃO BIODIVERSITAS

**Mission:** To promote the conservation of biodiversity in Brazil.

**Web site:** [www.biodiversitas.org.br](http://www.biodiversitas.org.br)



## FUNDACIÓN JOCOTOCO

**Mission:** To protect the habitat of globally threatened species of birds in the Andes of Ecuador, together with all associated biodiversity.

**Web site:** [www.fjocotoco.org](http://www.fjocotoco.org)



## FUNDACIÓN PROAVES

**Mission:** To protect birds and their habitats in Colombia, through research, conservation actions and community outreach.

**Web site:** [www.proaves.org](http://www.proaves.org)



## GRUPO JARAGUA

**Mission:** To conserve the biodiversity of the Dominican Republic through the development of projects to resolve conservation problems.

**Web site:** [www.grupojaragua.org.do/index.html](http://www.grupojaragua.org.do/index.html)



## GUYRA PARAGUAY

**Mission:** To work for the defense and protection of the biological diversity of Paraguay, organizing community action with the goal of securing representative samples of the natural richness of Paraguay, so that future generations may benefit and appreciate them.

**Web site:** [www.guyra.org.py](http://www.guyra.org.py)





**MINDO CLOUD FOREST FOUNDATION**

**Mission:** Innovative, community-based conservation in Ecuador.

**Web site:** [www.mindocloudforest.org](http://www.mindocloudforest.org)



**PANAMA AUDUBON SOCIETY**

**Mission:** Conserving bird diversity in Panama.

**Web site:** [www.panamaaudubon.org](http://www.panamaaudubon.org)



**PRONATURA NORESTE**

**Mission:** The conservation of flora, fauna, and priority ecosystems in northeastern Mexico, to promote the development of society in harmony with nature.

**Web site:** [www.pronaturane.org](http://www.pronaturane.org)



**PRONATURA NOROESTE**

**Mission:** The conservation of flora, fauna, and priority ecosystems in northwestern Mexico, to promote the development of society in harmony with nature.

**Web site:** [www.pronatura-noroeste.org](http://www.pronatura-noroeste.org)



**RESERVA ECOLÓGICA DE GUAPIASSU**

**Mission:** To protect one of the last stands of tropical rainforest left in the severely depleted Atlantic rainforest, or Mata Atlântica, in Brazil.

**Web site:** [www.regua.co.uk/index.html](http://www.regua.co.uk/index.html)



**SALVANATURA**

**Mission:** Nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation of natural parks in El Salvador.

**Web site:** [www.salvanatura.org](http://www.salvanatura.org)



This Golden-winged Warbler costume helps educate Colombian schoolchildren about bird conservation. Photo: Fundación ProAves, [www.proaves.org](http://www.proaves.org), 2008.



Javier Robayo holding *Podocarpus* saplings, Ecuador, 2005. Photo: Mike Parr



David Caro, Executive Director of Fundación ProAves, holding a Band-tailed Guan. 2008. Photo: Fundación ProAves, [www.proaves.org](http://www.proaves.org)



A Colombian woman makes handcrafts to support Community Conservation Programs. Photo: Fundación ProAves, [www.proaves.org](http://www.proaves.org), 2008



# THE WRITERS



**Bob Altman**, American Bird Conservancy's Northern Pacific Rainforest Bird Conservation Region Coordinator, has a degree in wildlife biology from Eastern Kentucky University with graduate course work at Oregon State University. He

has been active in Partners in Flight since its inception, and before joining American Bird Conservancy, worked for seven years as an independent ornithologist. He is author of the Olive-sided Flycatcher species account for *Birds of North America*, and lead author on a book chapter on wildlife-habitat relationships in western Oregon and Washington.



**Rita G. Fenwick**, American Bird Conservancy's Vice President of Development, received a B.A. from the University of Virginia where she was a Latin American Studies Major. From 1986 to 1992, Rita worked for the Virginia Chapter of The Nature

Conservancy where she filled many roles including Director of Development and Communications.



**George H. Fenwick**, President of American Bird Conservancy, received a Ph.D. from the Department of Pathobiology at Johns Hopkins University, studying the effects of alien species on native avifauna. He founded American Bird Conservancy

in early 1994. He previously worked in a variety of capacities during 15 years with The Nature Conservancy including Vice President and Director of Ecosystem Conservation, Acting Director of Science, and Chair of the Steering Committee for the Last Great Places Campaign. Prior to that, he worked for the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Earthsatellite Corporation, and was an instructor at the University of Virginia.



**Sara Lara**, American Bird Conservancy's Director of International programs, graduated in 1997 from the University of Cauca in Colombia with a degree in civil engineering. She worked in the engineering field in Colombia and the UK before

joining Fundación ProAves in 2004 as Executive Director. For more than five years she oversaw the transformation of ProAves from an amateur group of bird conservationists with few projects to an effective professional conservation organization. Important accomplishments include the establishment of a reserve trust fund, receiving the Partners in Flight Award in 2006, and the National Energy Award in 2009 for the LoroBus.



**Daniel J. Lebbin**, Conservation Biologist with American Bird Conservancy, received a B.A. degree in Biology and Environmental Science and Policy from Duke University, and a Ph.D. in Ecology and Evolutionary

Biology from Cornell University. His dissertation research investigated habitat specialization among Amazonian birds in Peru, where he spent a year as a Fulbright Scholar. A birder since childhood, he also enjoys bird illustration and photography, and his images appear in a variety of publications and exhibits.



**Michael J. Parr**, American Bird Conservancy's Vice President, graduated from the University of East Anglia, U.K., in 1986. He worked at BirdLife International as Development Officer before joining American Bird Conservancy in 1996. His first book, *Parrots—A Guide to the Parrots of the World* was published by Yale University Press in April 1998. He is a member of the Advisory Committee of ProAves Colombia, and acts as Chair to the Alliance for Zero Extinction.



**Gemma Radko**, American Bird Conservancy's Communications and Media Manager, graduated from Allegheny College in 1985 with a degree in Art and Biology. At ABC, she is a graphic designer and writer, but is also an avid birder, and member of the Maryland Ornithological Society, where she often leads field trips for members. She has operated a MAPS banding station, and has begun to teach classes on birding.





**Paul Salaman**, World Land Trust-US's Director of Conservation, led a series of undergraduate expeditions across Colombia, spending more than three years in the field that culminated in a new national park and four private protected areas being formed. In 1992, Paul won the first BP Conservation Award. He has described four bird species new to science, including the Chocó Vireo, and has helped rediscover several other species. In 1998, Paul assisted the establishment of Fundación ProAves, and after receiving his Ph.D. from the University of Oxford in 2001, he joined Conservation International based in Quito and Bogota. In 2005, Paul joined American Bird Conservancy as the Director of International Programs, and since 2008 has been working for the World Land Trust-US.



**Byron Swift** has dedicated much of his career over more than 20 years to help establish and support private reserves in Latin America, and to strengthen the institutions responsible for managing them. Internationally, he has worked in

over 15 countries on environmental and natural resources policy, and has published widely on issues involving biodiversity and natural resources management, climate change and industrial pollution. Currently he directs World Land Trust-US and Nature and Culture International. Formerly he headed the Energy and Innovation Center at the Environmental Law Institute in Washington, D.C., focused on improving environmental law, policy, and management.



**George E. Wallace**, American Bird Conservancy's Vice President for Oceans and Islands, has been active in bird research and conservation for 20 years. Most recently, George served as Executive Director of the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, a close and long-standing ABC partner. Prior to that, he worked for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission first as a Nongame Wildlife Biologist, and then as Florida's state Bird Conservation Coordinator. He has also worked for Bird Studies Canada, The Nature Conservancy, Point Reyes Bird Observatory, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. George received his M.S. in

Zoology from the University of Guelph in Ontario, Canada, and his Ph.D. in Biology from the University of Missouri, where he focused on the wintering ecology of neotropical migrant and Cuban resident birds.



**David A. Wiedenfeld**, American Bird Conservancy's Assistant Director of International Programs, received a Ph.D. from Florida State University, and an M.S. from Louisiana State University. His work has focused on bird population ecology and conservation biology. He served

for five years as Director of Research at the Sutton Avian Research Center, working primarily on prairie-chickens. Returning to the neotropics, he served for more than three years as Head of the Department of Vertebrate Ecology at the Charles Darwin Research Station in the Galapagos Islands.

The famous Nazca hummingbird is one of several images created by the Nazca people by clearing away small stones to reveal the lighter colored earth beneath. The lines were created some 2,000 years ago. It is tempting to think that this may be a representation of the Sword-billed Hummingbird, that some members of the Nazca community may have encountered if they had crossed the Andes.





**The White-bellied  
Woodstar is one  
of 165 species  
of hummingbird  
found in the reserve  
network.**

White-bellied Woodstar (LC, 11) : Fundación ProAves, [www.proaves.org](http://www.proaves.org)






Birding in Podocarpus National Park, near Tapichalaca, Ecuador, 2005. Photo: Mike Parr

## VISIT A RESERVE!

ABC has launched a new web site, **Conservation Birding** ([www.conservationbirding.org](http://www.conservationbirding.org)) that has been designed to help you navigate around the reserve network in cyberspace, and to preview birding routes that might be of interest to you. Each route is designed to ensure that your birding travel contributes to bird conservation by including ABC-supported reserves and lodges, or sites where we are aiming to develop projects in the future. The routes are also presented on Google Earth, with visitor information provided for each site, links to trip reports and other useful websites for birders, and to tour companies that include these reserves and routes in their regular itineraries. Further sites will be added in the future. For more information you can also call ABC at 1-888-BIRDMAG.







**We have directly created more than 300 jobs, and provided training and other benefits (such as fuel-efficient stoves) for more than 7,000 local people.**

Photo: Hugo Arnal, 2005



## BECOME A RESERVE PATRON!

ABC and its partners depend on the financial support of people like you to ensure the success of the reserve network. Please consider helping with a donation (tax deductible for U.S. tax payers) to support a reserve or a conservation project at a reserve.

- **Reserve Patron \$100,000** (provides core funding to establish a new reserve)
- **Lodge Patron \$25,000** (provides core funding to establish an ecolodge)
- **Community Patron \$10,000** (provides annual funding to a community reforestation program)
- **Project Patron \$5,000** (supports annual conservation work at a reserve e.g. a nest box or education campaign)
- **Trail Patron \$1,000** (provides annual support to maintain a trail system); have a trail named in your honor!

Please contact Dr. George H. Fenwick, President, ABC at: [gfenwick@abcbirds.org](mailto:gfenwick@abcbirds.org), or call 1-888-BIRDMAG to help.



Robert Wilson. Photo: The Nature Conservancy

**Robert Wilson** is one of the leading philanthropists and conservationists in the U.S., whose support for ABC has come in the form of two extremely important challenge grants for land acquisition, primarily designed to support the conservation of Alliance for Zero Extinction and other sites with extremely high biodiversity value. Robert's support has helped to leverage significant additional resources that have enabled us to greatly expand the reserve network. ABC is deeply appreciative of all that Robert is doing to help us move forward with this vitally important work.



Connie and Jeff Woodman, 2008. Photo: Mike Parr

**Jeff and Connie Woodman** are two of ABC's most active supporters, having visited several ABC projects in recent years. They have helped to finance a number of land purchase projects and community conservation and reforestation efforts in Peru and elsewhere. Jeff currently serves on the ABC Board of Directors, is a keen birder, and is helping ABC develop its first carbon project at Abra Patricia in northern Peru. We are extremely grateful to Jeff and Connie for their fantastic support and energy.





**It is estimated that  
2,000,000 species  
of animals and plants  
may be found in the  
reserve network.**

*Hyla picturata*. Photo: Fundación ProAves, [www.proaves.org](http://www.proaves.org)



# THE SUPPORTERS

American Bird Conservancy (ABC) is extremely grateful to all those who have contributed to the reserve network. Listed below are those who have made gifts of \$1,000 or more to specific reserves and those with whom ABC has worked closely to obtain grants for partners. Thank you also to the many others who donated to the reserves. Finally, we are deeply appreciative of ABC's Falcon Club members and foundations whose unrestricted gifts provide crucial ongoing support. The reserve network would not be possible without their generosity.



Emerald Toucanet (LC, 9): Fundación ProAves, [www.proaves.org](http://www.proaves.org)

## **\$1,000,000+**

Anonymous  
Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service/Neotropical Migratory  
Bird Conservation Act Fund (NMBCA)  
Robert Wilson  
World Land Trust

## **\$500,000+**

Robert Giles  
Jeff and Connie Woodman

## **\$100,000+**

Amos W. Butler Audubon Society  
Beneficia Foundation  
Blue Moon Fund  
ConocoPhillips  
Conservation International  
Warren and Cathy Cooke  
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National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

Benjamin Olewine IV  
Steven C. and Barbara Rockefeller  
Nancy Kitzmiller Taylor  
Swarovski Optik  
Lucy Waletzky  
Weeden Foundation  
Western Alliance for Nature  
Lynn and Stuart White  
World Parks Endowment

## **\$1,000-\$100,000**

Robert L. Ake and Joyce L. Neff  
Alan Joyner Parr Fund  
Jane Alexander  
American Birding Association  
American Zoo & Aquarium Association  
Michael and Lorna Anderberg  
Arkansas Forestry Commission  
Paul and Joan Armer  
Audubon Society of Kalamazoo  
Terry Baltimore  
Barackat, Inc.  
Peter Barnes  
Jack Bartley  
The Bay and Paul Foundations  
Beltway Kingfishers  
Kenneth and Sue Ann Berlin  
BirdLife International  
Emmerson and Sheila Bowes  
Roger Boyd  
Phyllis Brissenden  
Paul Bristow



# SUPPORTERS

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## \$1,000-\$100,000

Shirley Cameron  
Constance Campanella  
James Carpenter  
Donald A. Carr  
Charles Blake Fund  
Charles Schwab Corporation Foundation  
Chase Wildlife Foundation  
Bihua Chen  
Herbert and Olga Clarke  
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Coulee Region Audubon Society, Inc.  
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Inter-American Foundation  
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The Marshall-Reynolds Foundation  
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James R. Mellon II  
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The Mohamed Bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund  
Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin  
NatureViewing.com  
Edward K. Newbold  
Sandy Nissley  
Heidi Nitze  
Northern Virginia Bird Club  
Ellen Paul  
Cary R. Paynter  
The Philanthropic Collaborative  
Alexander M. Power



White-tipped Quetzal (LC, 2) : Fundación ProAves, [www.proaves.org](http://www.proaves.org)





Golden-breasted Fruiteater (LC, 3) : Fundación ProAves, www.proaves.org

**\$1,000-\$100,000**

Ted Reissing  
 Beverly S. Ridgely  
 April and Mark Sapsford  
 Tania Schoennagel  
 SeaWorld and Busch Gardens Conservation Fund  
 Nigel Simpson  
 The Simpson Trust  
 Jocelyn and William Sladen  
 Marybeth Sollins  
 Tatnall Starr  
 State of Wisconsin  
 James and Ellen Strauss  
 Team Bristlehead  
 Texas Parks & Wildlife Department  
 The Nature Conservancy  
 Craig and Mary Thompson  
 Guy Tudor  
 USDA Forest Service  
 USGS PWRC  
 Victor Emanuel Nature Tours  
 Catherine Walling  
 W. Alton Jones Foundation  
 Alan Weeden  
 Marc Weinberger  
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 World Wildlife Fund  
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 Wolf Creek Foundation



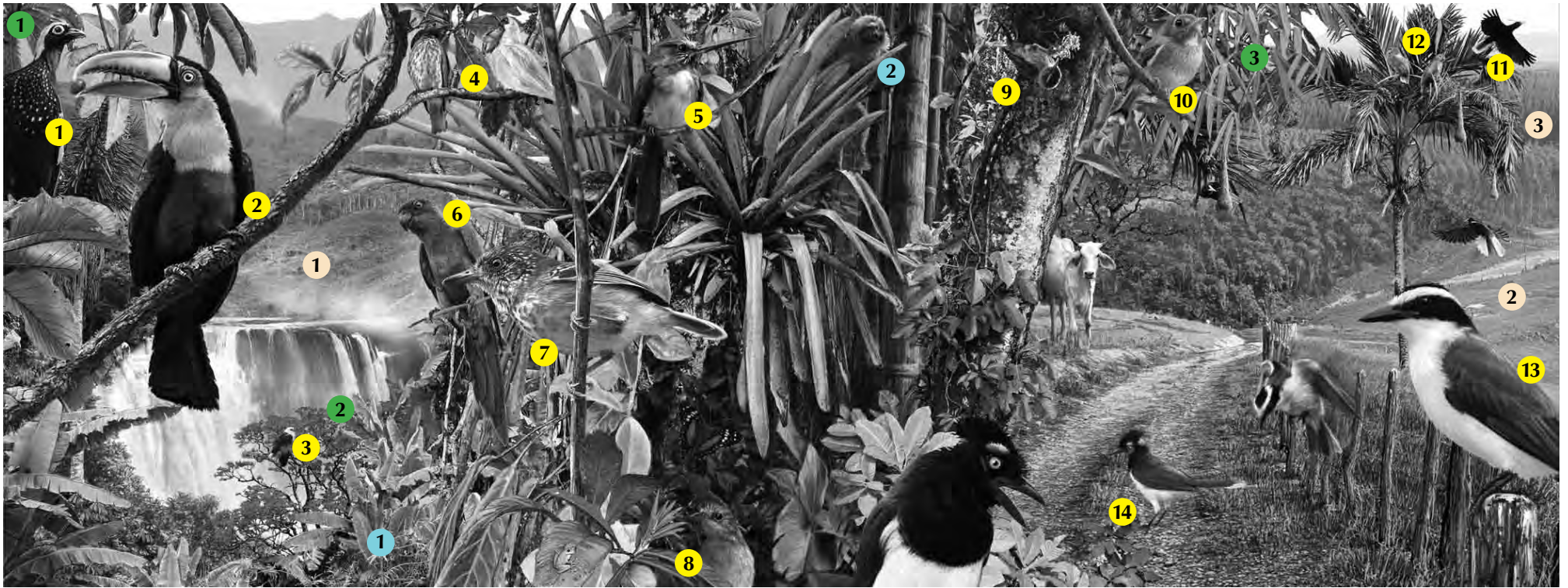








# ATLANTIC FOREST VISTA KEY



Chris Vest

## KEY

### BIRDS

1. Black-fronted Piping-guan
2. Red-breasted Toucan
3. Mantled Hawk
4. Bare-necked Bellbird (pair)
5. Three-toed Jacamar
6. Blue-chested Parakeet
7. Spot-breasted Antvireo
8. Stresemann's Bristlefront (female)
9. Pink-legged Graveteiro
10. Fork-tailed Pygmy-tyrant

11. Crested Oropendola

12. Red-browed Parrot
13. Great Kiskadee
14. Plush-crested Jay

### MAMMALS

1. Jaguar
2. Golden Lion Tamarin

### HABITAT and PLANTS

1. *Cecropia*
2. *Erythrina*
3. *Guadua* bamboo

### OTHER ITEMS

1. Habitat loss to slash and burn
2. Habitat loss to grazing
3. Habitat loss to plantations

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Yellow-eared Parrot (AZE, CR, Colombia, 1): Fundación ProAves, [www.proaves.org](http://www.proaves.org)



## ALLIANCE FOR **Zero Extinction**

### THE ALLIANCE FOR ZERO EXTINCTION (AZE)

is the science bedrock of the reserve system. American Bird Conservancy (ABC) and its partners use priorities established by AZE to help identify key sites for conservation action. ABC was one of the pioneers of AZE, and currently acts as its Chair.

AZE is a joint initiative of 67 biodiversity conservation organizations that aims to prevent species extinctions by identifying and safeguarding key sites, each of which is the last remaining refuge for one or more endangered or critically endangered species. AZE's goal is to create a front line of defense against extinction by protecting as many of these sites as possible. Because time is running out, our science must be iterative: it must begin with the crises we know about, and expand its focus as new information emerges on the status of species and their habitats.

AZE scientists, working in collaboration with an international network of experts, have so far identified 595 such sites that must be effectively protected to prevent the extinction of 794 of the world's most endangered species of mammals, birds, some reptiles (crocodilians, iguanas, turtles, and tortoises), amphibians, and conifers. Other taxa will be added as data become available. Of the sites identified so far, 60% are found in Latin America with the majority of these in tropical moist, montane forests. Approximately half of the AZE sites identified globally are so far unprotected.

Now that we have begun a systematic effort to conserve these sites, ABC and its partners are expanding their focus to identify and protect "Strongholds" for wider-ranging, highly threatened species, as well as other Key Biodiversity Areas. In addition to the AZE sites, ABC also focuses on reserves for neotropical migrants, and for some wider-ranging threatened birds.

[www.zeroextinction.org](http://www.zeroextinction.org)





Dusky Starfrontlet (CR, Colombia, 2): Fundación ProAves, [www.proaves.org](http://www.proaves.org)

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