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Recent ornithological literature from the Caribbean: 2017

An annual feature of the *Journal of Caribbean Ornithology*, this column alerts readers to recent ornithological literature from the Caribbean basin that has appeared elsewhere. Most of these articles appeared in 2017, although a few that we missed in 2016 are also summarized below. We would also like to include any unpublished theses or other reports that may be difficult to find in more universally available abstract services. We invite readers of the *Journal of Caribbean Ornithology* to alert our compiler, Steven Latta, to other articles that should be highlighted in this section. Our hope is that by providing these summaries we will increase the exchange of knowledge among Caribbean ornithologists and conservationists.

—Steven C. Latta
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Almonte-Espinosa, H. 2017. Caracterización de la comunidad de aves en el Parque Nacional Sierra Martín García, República Dominicana (Characterization of the bird community in the Sierra Martín García National Park, Dominican Republic). Novitates Caribaea 11:79–88.—E-mail: h.almonte@mnhn.gov.do.

Antonides, J., R. Ricklefs, and J.A. DeWoody. 2017. The genome sequence and insights into the immunogenetics of the Bananaquit (Passeriformes: *Coereba flaveola*). Immunogenetics 69:175–186.—E-mail: jantonid@purdue.edu.

Boeken, M. 2016. Breeding success of Red-billed Tropicbirds *Phaethon aethereus* on the Caribbean island of Saba. Ardea 104:263–271.—In 2011 and 2012, the breeding success of Red-billed Tropicbirds at two colonies on the south and south-west side of the island containing 100–300 nests was zero due to predation of newly hatched chicks by feral house cats. In the large colony of Old Booby Hill with ~1000 nests, rates of predation were lower resulting in a breeding success of 65%. E-mail: michiel.boeken@online.nl.

Brown, D.J., C.A. Ribic, D.M. Donner, M.D. Nelson, C.I. Bocetti, and C.M. Deloria-Sheffield. 2017. Using a full annual cycle model to evaluate long-term population viability of the conservation-reliant Kirtland's Warbler after successful recovery. Journal of Applied Ecology 54:439–449.—This study indicates that the Kirtland's Warbler (*Setophaga kirtlandii*) population is stable and that the jack pine plantation and cowbird removal programs are necessary for the long-term persistence of the species. This study represents one of the first attempts to incorporate full annual cycle dynamics into a population viability analysis for a migratory bird. E-mail: donald.brown1@mail.wvu.edu.

Campos-Cerqueira, M., W.J. Arendt, J.M. Wunderle, Jr., and T.M. Aide. 2017. Have bird distributions shifted along an elevational gradient on a tropical mountain? Ecology and Evolution 7:9914–9924.—Given the growing evidence of multiple responses of species distributions due to climate change, the response of a Puerto Rican montane bird community to climate change was evaluated from 1998 and 2015 using occupancy models. E-mail: marconi.campos.cerqueira@gmail.com.

Chatfield-Taylor, W. 2017. Caribbean Audubon's Shearwaters *Puffinus lherminieri* choose nesting locations that improve male and female pre-laying exodus foraging strategies. Marine Ornithology 45:103–106.—E-mail: wchatfieldtaylor@gmail.com.

Cooper, N.W., M.T. Hallworth, and P.P. Marra. 2017. Light-level geolocation reveals wintering distribution, migration routes, and primary stopover locations of an endangered long-distance migratory songbird. Journal of Avian Biology 48:209–219.—Begins to describe the migration routes and timing, and identify locations of stopover sites, for Kirtland's Warbler. E-mail: nathanwands@gmail.com.

Crystal-Ornelas, R., J.L. Lockwood, P. Cassey, and M.E. Hauber. 2017. The establishment threat of the obligate brood-parasitic Pin-tailed Whydah (*Vidua macroura*) in North America and the Antilles. Condor 119:449–458.—Species distribution modeling (MaxEnt) was used to depict the geographic patterns of possible Pin-tailed Whydah establishment. The most important variable characterizing distribution in the preferred model was the presence of a frequent historical host that is also established in the Americas, the Common Waxbill (*Estrilda astrild*), followed by a less frequent historical host, the Bronze Mannikin (*Spermestes cucullata*). E-mail: rob.crystal.ornelas@rutgers.edu.

Davis, J.B., F.J. Vilella, J.D. Lancaster, M. López-Flores, R.M. Kaminski, and J.A. Cruz-Burgos. 2017. White-cheeked Pintail duckling and brood survival across wetland types at Humacao Nature Reserve, Puerto Rico. Condor 119:308–320.—Fates of 92 radio-tagged White-cheeked Pintail (*Anas bahamensis*) ducklings in 31 broods in five wetland habitat types were monitored. In a conservative analysis, the most parsimonious model for duckling survival contained wetland type and a positive influence of daily precipitation. In a liberal analysis, duckling survival also varied among wetlands, was positively influenced by daily precipitation, but was negatively influenced by hatch date. Brood survival was also positively influenced by precipitation and female body mass. E-mail: brian.davis@msstate.edu.

Dinets, V., and S. Kolenov. 2017. An undescribed New World warbler (Aves, Parulidae) in the mountains of Cuba? Neotropical Biology and Conservation 12:235–237.—E-mail: dinets@gmail.com.

Ferrer-Sánchez, Y., A.H. Plasencia Vazquez, F. Abasolo-Pacheco, D.D. Ávila, and I. Ruiz Companioni. 2017. Pertinencia del uso de las características espectrales del hábitat como predictor de la estructura en comunidades de aves de un humedal de Cuba (Pertinence of the use of habitat spectral characteristics as a pre-

dictor of the structure in bird communities in a wetland of Cuba). Huitzil, Revista Mexicana de Ornitología 18:141–156.—E-mail: yferrersanchez@gmail.com.

Ferrer-Sánchez, Y., A.H. Plasencia Vázquez, F. Abasolo-Pacheco, and I. Ruiz Companioni. 2017. Variables del microhábitat que influyen en la grulla cubana (*Grus canadensis nesiotes*) para seleccionar el sitio de anidación en un humedal de Cuba (Microhabitat variables influencing nest-site selection by Cuban Sandhill Crane [*Grus canadensis nesiotes*] in a wetland of Cuba). Huitzil: Revista Mexicana de Ornitología 18:112–117.—E-mail: yferrersanchez@gmail.com.

Gallardo, J.C., and F.J. Vilella. 2017. Conservation status assessment of the Sharp-shinned Hawk, an endangered insular raptor in Puerto Rico. Journal of Field Ornithology 88:349–361.—Distribution of Sharp-shinned Hawk (*Accipiter striatus venator*) is based on a spatial geographic distribution model and predicts greatest probability of occurrence above 900 m with only 56.1 km² of existing habitat. E-mail: jcgallardodelangel@gmail.com.

García-Lau, I., and A. Vives. 2016. Selección de cavidades por la Golondrina Azul Cubana (*Progne cryptoleuca*) en un área urbana (Cavity selection by the Cuban Martin [*Progne cryptoleuca*] in an urban area). Ornitología Neotropical 27: 189–195.—Cavities used by the Cuban Martin were found to be 18–36 m high, oriented toward open areas, exposed to the sun for some duration during the day, contained only one entrance hole, and had minimal accessibility. However, cavity height was the only variable that discriminated between used and unused cavities. E-mail: ianela@fbio.uh.cu.

García-Quintas, A., and A. Parada Isada. 2017. Underlying factors promoting nestedness of bird assemblages in cays of the Jardines de la Reina archipelago, Cuba. Animal Biodiversity and Conservation 40:7–16.—E-mail: antonio@ciec.cu.

Goodman, N.S., J.C. Eitniear, and J.T. Anderson. 2017. Diurnal and nocturnal dive durations and inter-dive intervals of stiff-tailed ducks in Puerto Rico. Waterbirds 40:396–402.—Dive durations and inter-dive intervals are determined for the non-migratory Masked Duck (*Nomonyx dominicus*) and West Indian Ruddy Duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis jamaicensis*), and the migratory Northern Ruddy Duck (*O. j. jamaicensis*) in Laguna Cartagena National Wildlife Refuge, Puerto Rico. E-mail: nsgoodman@mix.wvu.edu.

Goulart, F., A.L. Galán, E. Nelson, and B. Soares-Filho. 2017. Conservation lessons from Cuba: connecting science and policy. Biological Conservation 217:280–288.—A summary of forest and biodiversity protection policies, protected area networks, and agroecological management that has resulted in significant conservation gains for Cuba. Includes considerable data on Cuban birds, as well as comparable data from other Caribbean islands. E-mail: goulart.ff@gmail.com.

Huggins, S. 2016. Seeing Puerto Rico's specialities. [endemics of Puerto Rico] Neotropical Birding 19:59–64.—E-mail: sjhuggins1209@yahoo.com.

Inman, S.E., C.J. Proctor, and J.M. Zeiger. 2017. Juvenile *Tyto alba furcata* (Barn Owl) and remains of *Ascalapha odorata* (black witch moth) found in natural limestone cavity in Hellshire Hills, Jamaica. Caribbean Naturalist 37:1–11.—Abundant lepidopteran prey remains—100 moth wing fragments—suggest more insectivory by this owl than previously thought. E-mail: sei7@cornell.edu.

Kennedy, C.M., E.F. Zipkin, and P.P. Marra. 2017. Differential matrix use by Neotropical birds based on species traits and landscape condition. Ecological Applications 27:619–631.—Multi-species hierarchical occupancy models were used to determine the use of human-modified habitats by Neotropical birds in landscapes that were similar in forest amount and configuration but surrounded by a matrix of agriculture (predominately pasture), bauxite mining (surface mining), or suburban development in central Jamaica. E-mail: ckennedy@tnc.org.

Khimoun, A., W. Peterman, C. Eraud, B. Faivre, N. Navarro, and S. Garnier. 2017. Landscape genetic analyses reveal fine-scale effects of forest fragmentation in an insular tropical bird. Molecular Ecology 26:4906–4919.—Tests the relative role of several landscape features (elevation, roads, land cover) in genetic differentiation of the Plumbeous Warbler (*Setophaga plumbea*) of Dominica and Guadeloupe. E-mail: aurelie.khimoun@gmail.com.

Kirkconnell, A., and J.W. Wiley. 2017. Zapata Peninsula: important breeding sites for Cuban endemic birds are endangered! Cotinga 39:10–23.—E-mail: jwwiley@mail.umes.edu.

Kirkconnell, A., Jr., D. Mitchell, D. Carter, P. López, and A. Kirkconnell Sr. 2017. Ruff *Calidris pugnax*, first record for Cuba. Cotinga 39:78.—E-mail: Arthur.160587@gmail.com.

Knutie, S.A., J.M. Herman, J.P. Owen, and D.H. Clayton. 2017. Tri-trophic ecology of native parasitic nest flies of birds in Tobago. Ecosphere 8:e01670.—The virulence of a native species of *Philornis* (*Philornis trinitensis*) was investigated by manipulating flies in nests of Black-faced Grassquits (*Tiaris bicolor*) and Tropical Mockingbirds (*Mimus gilvus*). E-mail: saknutie@gmail.com.

Landestoy T., M.A. 2017. New observations of two rare rallids (Aves: Gruiformes: Rallidae) on Hispaniola. Novitates Caribaea 11:106–114.—The Yellow-breasted Crake (*Hapalocrex flaviventer*) and the Spotted Rail (*Pardirallus maculatus*) are rarely reported and poorly known birds on Hispaniola. E-mail: mango_land@yahoo.com.

La Sorte, F.A., and D. Fink. 2017. Projected changes in prevailing winds for transatlantic migratory birds under global warming. Journal of Animal Ecology 86:273–284.—eBird data on 10 transatlantic migratory bird species were used to estimate the location and timing of autumn migration within the transatlantic flyway, and how prevailing winds are projected to change within the flyway. Findings suggest that climate change may reduce time and energy requirements and the chance of mortality or vagrancy during a specific but likely critical portion of these species' autumn migration journey. E-mail: fal42@cornell.edu.

Lloyd, J.D., and C.C. Rimmer. 2017. Surveys of forest birds on Puerto Rico, 2015. Biodiversity Data Journal 5:e20745.—E-mail: crimmer@vtecostudies.org.

Manthey, J.D., M. Geiger, and R.G. Moyle. 2017. Relationships of morphological groups in the Northern Flicker superspecies complex (*Colaptes auratus* and *C. chrysoides*). Systematics and Biodiversity 15:183–191.—Analyses include the Cuban Flickers of the Caribbean (*chrysocaulosus* group). E-mail: jdmanthey@gmail.com.

Martínez, O., L. Cotayo, A. Kirkconnell, and J.W. Wiley. 2016. First record of Lapland Longspur *Calcarius lapponicus*

in the Caribbean. Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club 136:295–299.—E-mail: jwwiley@mail.umes.edu.

McClure, C.J.W., B.W. Rolek, T.I. Hayes, C.D. Hayes, R. Thorstrom, M. Curti, and D.L. Anderson. 2017. Successful enhancement of Ridgway's Hawk populations through recruitment of translocated birds. Condor 119:855–864.—Since 2009, juveniles of the critically endangered Ridgway's Hawk (*Buteo ridgwayi*) have been translocated from Los Haitises National Park to Punta Cana, Dominican Republic. Multistate capture-recapture models were used to show that survival was relatively high for breeders, non-breeders, and juveniles, and did not differ by translocation status or sex. Translocated juveniles were recruited into the breeding population at Punta Cana at more than double the rate of wild-reared juveniles in Los Haitises. Results show that translocation does not reduce survival, but does increase recruitment, of Ridgway's Hawks when territories are available in suitable habitat. E-mail: cmcclure@peregrinefund.org.

Mejías, M.A., Y.F. Wiersma, D.B. Wingate, and J.L. Madeiros. 2017. Distribution and at-sea behavior of Bermudan White-tailed Tropicbirds (*Phaethon lepturus catesbyi*) during the non-breeding season. Journal of Field Ornithology 88:184–197.—Light-based geolocators were used to identify the ranges and pelagic activities of White-tailed Tropicbirds from Bermuda during the non-breeding periods in 2014–2015 (*n* = 25) and 2015–2016 (*n* = 16). E-mail: mmejias@mun.ca.

Pérez-Rivera, R.A. 2017. Changes in the breeding habits and season of the Cave Swallow (*Petrochelidon fulva*) in Puerto Rico. Revista Umbral (Etapa IV-Colección completa) 1:160–168.—E-mail: raperezrivera@yahoo.com.

Perlut, N.G., T.C. Klak, and E. Rakhimberdiev. 2017. Geolocator data reveal the migration route and wintering location of a Caribbean Martin (*Progne dominicensis*). Wilson Journal of Ornithology 129:605–611.—E-mail: nperlut@une.edu.

Poli, C.L., A.-L. Harrison, A. Vallarino, P.D. Gerard, and P.G. Jodice. 2017. Dynamic oceanography determines fine scale foraging behavior of Masked Boobies in the Gulf of Mexico. PloS ONE 12:e0178318.—GPS units were used to track 135 individual Masked Boobies (*Sula dactylatra*) in the understudied Caribbean province. E-mail: cpoli@ufl.edu.

Powell, L.L., K.L. Jones, J.H. Carpenter, and T.N. Tully, Jr. 2017. Captive Hispaniolan Parrots (*Amazona ventralis*) can discriminate between experimental foods with sodium concentrations found in Amazonian mineral licks. Wilson Journal of Ornithology 129:181–185.—E-mail: Luke.L.Powell@gmail.com.

Rimmer, C.C., P.L. Johnson, and J.D. Lloyd. 2017. Home range size and nocturnal roost locations of Western Chat-Tanagers (*Calyptophilus tertius*). Wilson Journal of Ornithology 129:611–615.—E-mail: crimmer@vtecostudies.org.

Rockwell, S.M., J.M. Wunderle, Jr., T.S. Sillett, C.I. Bocetti, D.N. Ewert, D. Currie, J.D. White, and P.P. Marra. 2017. Seasonal survival estimation for a long-distance migratory bird and the influence of winter precipitation. Oecologia 183:715–726.—Patterns and environmental correlates of annual, over-summer, over-winter, and migratory survival were investigated for adult male Kirtland's Warblers, an endangered, long-distance migratory songbird. Cormack–Jolly–Seber models were used to analyze two mark–recapture datasets: 2006–2011 on Michigan breeding grounds, and 2003–2010 on Bahamian wintering grounds. Results suggest that increased drought during the non-breeding season, which is predicted to occur under multiple climate change scenarios, could have important consequences on the annual survival and population growth rate of Kirtland's Warbler and other migratory species. E-mail: smr@klamathbird.org.

Sass, E.M., J.L. Mortensen, and J.M. Reed. 2017. Habitat suitability models indicate the White-breasted Thrasher *Ramphocinclus brachyurus* occupies all suitable habitat in Saint Lucia. Bird Conservation International 27:96–110.—E-mail: mortejen@gmail.com.

Schaffner, F.C., I. Rodríguez-Colón, E.E. Font, and W. Vázquez-Carrero. 2017. Initial deployment of archival light-level geolocators on Northern Waterthrushes (*Parkesia noveboracensis*) at Jobos Bay, Puerto Rico. Ambientis 2017:59–76.—E-mail: fschaffner@suagm.edu.

Schaffner, F.C., I. Rodríguez-Colón, W. Vázquez-Carrero, and E.E. Font-Nicole. 2017. Feather hydrogen stable isotopes reveal migratory and interhabitat connectivity of North American wintering songbirds in coastal secondary dry forest on the south coast of Puerto Rico. Ambientis 2017:39–58.—E-mail: fschaffner@suagm.edu.

Soares, L., S.C. Latta, and R.E. Ricklefs. 2017. The dynamics of avian haemosporidian assemblages through millennial timescales inferred from insular biotas of the West Indies. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences 114:6635–6640.—E-mail: leticiassoares@gmail.com.

Soares, L., P. Marra, L. Gray, and R.E. Ricklefs. 2017. The malaria parasite *Plasmodium relictum* in the endemic avifauna of eastern Cuba. Conservation Biology 31:1477–1482.—E-mail: leticiassoares@gmail.com.

Steadman, D.W., and J. Franklin. 2017. Origin, paleoecology, and extirpation of bluebirds and crossbills in the Bahamas across the last glacial–interglacial transition. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences 114:9924–9929.—Examines the paleoecology of two species of songbirds recorded as Late Pleistocene fossils on the Bahamian island of Abaco—the Eastern Bluebird (*Sialia sialis*) and Hispaniolan Crossbill (*Loxia megaplaga*). Each species lives today only outside of the Bahamian Archipelago, with the Eastern Bluebird occurring in North and Central America and the Hispaniolan Crossbill endemic to Hispaniola. Email: janet.franklin@ucr.edu.

Temeles, E.J., A.R. Mazzotta, and A. Williamson. 2017. Resource partitioning by color in a tropical hummingbird. Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology 71:129.—Examines whether sexes of the Purple-throated Carib hummingbird (*Anthracothorax jugularis*) partition artificial nectar sources (feeders) by color (red or yellow) or position (left or right), and whether such partitioning changes in response to changes in nectar reward. E-mail: ejtemeles@amherst.edu.

Trefry, S.A., and A.W. Diamond. 2017. Exploring hypotheses for sexual size dimorphism in frigatebirds. Evolutionary Ecology Research 18:225–252.—In Barbuda, Lesser Antilles, this study tests the hypotheses that female Magnificent Frigatebirds (*Fregata magnificens*) are larger than males because size differences are a result of selection for reduced foraging competition between the sexes, or a result of selection for increased aerial agility in males. E-mail: sarah.hudson@canada.ca.

White, J., L.M. Kennedy, and M.E. Christie. 2017. Do perceptions of the Red-tailed Hawk indicate a human-wildlife conflict on the island of La Gonave, Haiti? Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography 38:258–268.—According to 121 local respondents from 10 villages, La Gonavans do not hunt, kill, or consume Red-tailed Hawks. While intense hawk depredation of domestic chickens may lead outside observers to consider the human-hawk relationship on La Gonave as representative of a human-wildlife conflict, interview data do not support that conception. Findings reflect an important conversation in related contemporary scientific literature about what constitutes human-wildlife conflicts across various cultures. E-mail: justin7@vt.edu.

Wunderle, J., Jr., and W. Arendt. 2017. The plight of migrant birds wintering in the Caribbean: rainfall effects in the annual cycle. Forests 8:115.—The fate of migratory birds has been a concern in response to population declines in Puerto Rico's Guánica dry forest. Various studies indicate that in addition to forest loss or fragmentation, some migrant declines may be due to rainfall variation, the consequences of which may carry over from one stage of a migrant's annual cycle to another.

Zonfrillo, B. 2016. A further specimen of the extinct Jamaica Petrel *Pterodroma caribbaea* (Carte, 1866). Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club 136:209–213.—E-mail: bernard.zonfrillo@glasgow.ac.uk.