# Caribbean Conservation Trust ABA II

***Cuba's Western Mountains, Guanahacabibes Peninsula, Zapata Swamp,***

****and Birds of Cayo Coco extension*** **CUBA BIRD SURVEY November 3-15, 2012**

Compiled, written and photo's by Michael J. Good, MS (info@downeastnaturetours.com)

**Eastern Phoebe (Sayornis phoebe) Guanahacabibes**

## Trip Summary

A total of **162 species** of birds were seen or heard during this November's trip. We tallied **18,394 individual birds** including **24 endemics** at a total of 74 locations surveyed during the November 3-15, 2012 Cuban Bird Survey. After removing 2362 Cattle Egret and 2952 Turkey Vultures, there were **13,080 individual birds recorded** and we traveled over 1300 miles of Cuban countryside. A total of 19 species of Parulidae were found including Tennessee Warbler (**Oreothlypis peregrina**). The survey group tallied a total of **867** Warblers seen during our November trip compared to 829 during November 2011. Clearly, Cuba is vital to these migratory species and supports a large population of migratory and wintering Neotropical birds.

We found Blue-headed, Ruddy, Key West and Gray-fronted Quail Doves after several short periods of searching. A good list of water birds, terns and shorebirds were found along the Las Salinas road and excellent observations of **Zapata Sparrow, Stygian Owl** and **Cuban Nighthawk** in the Playa Larga region. **Zapata Wren** gave us the best views and photos I have ever taken. Cayo Coco and the northern cays rounded out our list with **Cuban Gnatcatcher**, **Thick-billed Vireo**, **Oriente Warbler** and a host of excellent Neotropical migrants. **Eastern Phoebe** was a new bird on Cuba for both trip leaders. Everyone left Cuba with a deeper understanding of the zoogeographical movements of birds and the remarkable fall migration.

The Caribbean Conservation Trust, Inc. (CCT) offers an exclusive, U.S. led and managed birding program to Cuba. The program is coordinated under U.S. government authorization by the CCT, which is based in Connecticut. CCT staff has an 18 year history of managing bird conservation programs in Cuba. Along with CCT ornithologist **Michael J. Good, MS** and our team also included **Dr. Arturo Kirkconnell,** Curator of Ornithology at the National Museum of Natural History, a bilingual Cuban tour guide Gustavo and our driver Modesto. We were joined by regionally located Cuban naturalists and birding guides Caesar in San Diego de los Banos and Angel in Playa Larga. The team helped guide you through a variety of natural areas in Cuba, the Caribbean's largest and most ecologically diverse island nation.

**About this report:**

The Cuba Bird Survey report covers each day of the program from November 3-15, 2012. Each section has a description of the location, some highlights or interesting facts followed by the Ebird list for the location surveyed and total birds seen. All birds found in Cuba have been entered into Ebird, a real-time, online checklist program launched in 2002 by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and National Audubon Society which provides rich data sources for basic information on bird abundance and distribution at a variety of spatial and temporal scales. Each Ebird list is followed by a specific location marker (ex. CU-01) www.ebird.org

At the end of this report are five Appendixes. The first is an account of Eastern Phoebe. The second is a total species summary for the entire

trip. The third appendix contains recent changes to the Parulidae Family and other species of interest. Fourth is a recent editorial entitled "Birding in the Land of Fidel" by MJ Good. The fifth is a map of Cuba showing locations surveyed. This report was compiled, written and photography by Michael J. Good, MS (info@downeastnaturetours.com) Thank you to Gary Markowski and the Caribbean Conservation Trust and the Cuban community for this opportunity.

## Western and Central Cuba

Cuba is an archipelago consisting of the island of Cuba, the Isla De La Juventud and 4195 other Cays and islets. The Island lies at the entrance to the Gulf of Mexico, 48 miles from Haiti, 87 miles from the Bahamas, 90 miles from Jamaica, 112 miles from Florida and 130 miles from Cancun. This strategic location places Cube directly in the path of migratory Neotropical species making their way to Central and South America and the West Indies. Cuba is 42,827 square miles (110,922 square kilometers) and is the largest island in the Caribbean. It is 744 miles long with a population of 11 million people of Cuban, many of Spanish, African and Asian descent. More than 2 million people live in Havana, the Capital city. Our field trips allow participants to see the "real and wild Cuba" with walks in the countryside, forests and shorelines of this pelagic island. There are no poisonous plants or animals in Cuba and an amazing 4 percent of the world's plant species are represented here; 6,370 plants species with 52% endemics. There are 284 designated protected areas accounting for 11% of Cuba's total 11 million hectares. The climate is moderate subtropical moderated by the trade winds, a wet season (May through October "estacion de las lluvias") and dry season (November through April "estacion de la seca"). We experienced a couple of tropical rain downpours but basically there was no rain during the 13 day trip.

### Cuba's Birds

According to BirdLife International, which has designated 28 Important Bird Areas (IBAs) in Cuba, "Over 370 bird species have been recorded in Cuba, including 28 which are endemic to the island and 29 considered globally threatened". Due to its large land area and geographical position within the Caribbean, Cuba represents one of the most important countries for Neotropical migratory birds – both birds passing through on their way south (75 species) or north and those spending the winter associated with the island (86 species). There are many avian mysteries to be uncovered in Cuba.

Our itinerary provides opportunities to see many of Cuba's endemic species and subspecies, as listed below. This trip also focuses on the all Neotropical migrant species that migrate south to Cuba in the fall. (Endemic and endemic subspecies in italics below)

*Bare-legged Owl, Cuban Oriole, Bee Hummingbird, Blue-headed Quail-Dove, Gray-fronted Quail-Dove, Cuban Black-Hawk, Cuban Blackbird, Cuban Grassquit, Cuban Green Woodpecker, Cuban Parakeet, Cuban Parrot, Cuban Pewee, Cuban Pygmy-Owl, Cuban Solitaire, Cuban Tody, Cuban Trogon, Cuban Vireo, Fernandina's Flicker, Giant Kingbird, Gundlach's Hawk, Cuban Meadowlark, Cuban Nightjar, Red-shouldered Blackbird, Tawny-shouldered Blackbird, Yellow-headed Warbler, Zapata Wren, Zapata Sparrow,* Cuban Crow, Cuban Emerald, Cuban Bullfinch, Plain Pigeon.
**Other species of interest include**:
**Eastern Phoebe**, La Sagra's Flycatcher, Loggerhead Kingbird, **Olive-capped Warbler**, **Key West Quail-Dove**, Ruddy Quail Dove, Zenaida Dove, **Stygian Owl**, Greater Flamingo, **Wood Stork**, Roseate Spoonbill, and a great variety of wading birds, and numerous other migratory and resident species. Many taxonomic names have recently changed so I will attempt to add any new taxonomic name changes in this report. (See appendix 3)

Caribbean Conservation Trust Cuba Bird Survey team

**Participants**: All participants were American citizens with varying degrees of birding experience and each had the enthusiasm needed to travel and bird in Cuba for twelve days. The November 3-15, 2012 survey team was engaged and involved with the importance and focus of the survey. They were all gracious and understanding about the schedule of events for each day, the need to be prompt and the research goals of the Cuba Bird Survey. We were never late for an early morning bird, like the Zapata Wren in La Turba, the Blue-headed Quail Dove and Cuban Parrots in Bermejas. Their patience was rewarded with collectively long observations of the Blue-headed Quail Dove and many of the difficult to find Cuban endemics. I enjoyed getting to know everyone and appreciated the opportunity to bird with all of you in Cuba.

**Notable comments about Cuba Bird Survey**

1) Hurricane Sandy's after-effects: The amount of water in the Zapata region required hip boots for exploration. I am now sorry we did not include hip-boots as they would have been important for finding any tree cavity dwelling species.
2) Large numbers and assemblages of North American migrants are especially evident along river and stream watersheds where high numbers of Warblers were consistently seen.

## Arrival Day Havana November 3, 2012

**Garrido's House and Havana** Nov 3 2012, CU-03
Nov 3, 2012 1:15 PM - 4:30 PM
Protocol: Stationary
Comments: This list represents the birds we first found as we entered Havana, Cuba. The first impressions of Cuba are the most vivid with images of old stucco buildings and cars from the 5o's. We made our way to lunch and finally for a short lecture by Orlando Garrido, the author of the Birds of Cuba, at his home. Orlando gave us a short overview of the Cuban endemics that our group would find over the next two weeks and the details that make each endemic unique. The collection of birds was Garrido's as he studied the flora and fauna of the Cuban Island over the last 7 decades. Orlando was a friend of ornithologist James Bond and we have been prodding him to write is memories of this very important relationship. My colleagues at the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences are very interested in a dialogue on this subject and I have encouraged Orlando to write about this unique historical relationship. James Bond spent many years exploring Mount Desert Island, Maine and is another connection I have with him.
12 species

Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 15
Eurasian Collared-Dove (Streptopelia decaocto) 14
Mourning Dove (Zenaida macroura) 7
Common Ground-Dove (Columbina passerina) 3
**Great Lizard-Cuckoo** (Coccyzus merlini) 1
Smooth-billed Ani (Crotophaga ani) 7
Cuban Emerald (Chlorostilbon ricordii) 3
**Red-legged Thrush** (Turdus plumbeus) 5
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 5
Yellow Warbler (Setophaga petechia) 1
**Cuban Blackbird** (Dives atroviolaceus) 7
House Sparrow (Passer domesticus) 10
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12129418

Cuban Blackbird our first endemic

**La Habana Viejo Day 1** 11/3/2012, CU-03
Nov 4, 2012 1:15 AM - 3:15 AM
Protocol: Traveling
2.5 mile(s)
Comments: The afternoon was spent in the old city of Havana where our group learned about the great history of the city, an opportunity to see the Malecon along the historic coastal edge Havana. The great architecture of the city is evident as we walk along the busy streets of Havana.
11 species (+1 other taxa)

**Magnificent Frigatebird** (Fregata magnificens) 2
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 90
Laughing Gull (Leucophaeus atricilla) 8
**Royal Tern** (Thalasseus maximus) 7
Rock Pigeon (Columba livia) 700 Large flocks in the city
Eurasian Collared-Dove (Streptopelia decaocto) 17
Common Ground-Dove (Columbina passerina) 1
swallow sp. (Hirundinidae sp.) 2 in the distance over the city
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 1
Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 3
**Cuban Blackbird** (Dives atroviolaceus) 5
House Sparrow (Passer domesticus) 85
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12129555

El Morro protecting the Harbor and City since the 1500's

## Day 1 Havana, Cuba November 4, 2012

**Occidental Miramar Day 1** Nov 4 2012, CU-03
Nov 4, 2012 6:30 AM - 7:30 AM
Protocol: Traveling
0.5 mile(s)
Comments: This morning's walk was the first of the trip as a group and our first trip report from the Occidental Miramar grounds. The rather large green space for the city of Havana has many trees and fields that offer an opportunity to sample the Warblers and other birds frequenting the grounds.
19 species

Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 4
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 15
**Killdeer** (Charadrius vociferus) 5
Rock Pigeon (Columba livia) 7
Eurasian Collared-Dove (Streptopelia decaocto) 3
Mourning Dove (Zenaida macroura) 5
Antillean Palm-Swift (Tachornis phoenicobia) 14
Cuban Emerald (Chlorostilbon ricordii) 3
Red-legged Thrush (Turdus plumbeus) 9
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 4
**American Redstart (Setophaga ruticilla) 1**
**Northern Parula (Setophaga americana) 2**
**Yellow Warbler (Setophaga petechia) 1**
**Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 8**
**Prairie Warbler (Setophaga discolor) 2**
**Red-legged Honeycreeper (Cyanerpes cyaneus) 4**
Cuban Blackbird (Dives atroviolaceus) 31
Greater Antillean Grackle (Quiscalus niger) 1
House Sparrow (Passer domesticus) 18
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12129431

**Travel to National Botanical Garden Day 1**
11/4/2012, CU-03
Nov 4, 2012 9:15 AM - 9:45 AM
Protocol: Traveling
8.5 mile(s)
Comments: This is our first group travel taking us to the National Botanical Gardens south of the city. We travel through the outskirts of Havana where the group gets its first real look

at how the city operates daily, the people, cars, trucks and their first impressions of the amazing city of 2 million Cubans. The sun was bright and warming as we made our way to our first birding destination.
8 species

Great Egret (Ardea alba) 2
Snowy Egret (Egretta thula) 7
Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 25
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 115
**Black-bellied Plover** (Pluvialis squatarola) 1 flying along the road
Killdeer (Charadrius vociferus) 3 seen in a field
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 1
House Sparrow (Passer domesticus) 6
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12129451

American Kestrel

Red and White Morph

**National Botanical Garden Day 1** 11/4/2012, CU-03
Nov 4, 2012 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Protocol: Traveling
3.5 mile(s)
Comments: The National Botanical Garden is an excellent place to start any field trip of Cuba. As soon as you exit the bus the trees are alive with avian calls. We start off walking through one of my personal favorite places, the Cactus and Succulent green houses, home to an amazing diversity of plants found on this Island in the Sea. Birding as we go, the list is amplified as we walk out onto the botanical grounds and the participants begin to see the diversity of bird life in Cuba and the importance of the native forests to the birds.
24 species

**Northern Bobwhite** (Colinus virginianus) 18 flushed up by a dog which attached to our group.
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 25
Red-tailed Hawk (Buteo jamaicensis) 2
Common Ground-Dove (Columbina passerina) 2
Great Lizard-Cuckoo (Coccyzus merlini) 1
**Smooth-billed Ani (Crotophaga ani) 24**
Antillean Palm-Swift (Tachornis phoenicobia) 12
Cuban Emerald (Chlorostilbon ricordii) 3
West Indian Woodpecker (Melanerpes superciliaris) 1
**American Kestrel (Falco sparverius) 2** 1 RED MORPH female and 1 WHITE MORPH male on the same tree limb for an excellent comparison of these unique Cuban subspecies. Throughout the trip we tallied White and Red morphologies, white being the dominate color and Red about 10 percent of the time.
Cuban Pewee (Contopus caribaeus) 2
Red-legged Thrush (Turdus plumbeus) 21
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 7
**Ovenbird (Seiurus aurocapilla) 1**
**Black-and-white Warbler (Mniotilta varia) 6**
**American Redstart (Setophaga ruticilla) 10**
**Northern Parula (Setophaga americana) 3**
**Black-throated Blue Warbler (Setophaga caerulescens) 1**
**Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 39**
**Yellow-throated Warbler (Setophaga dominica) 3**
**Prairie Warbler (Setophaga discolor) 1**
Red-legged Honeycreeper (Cyanerpes cyaneus) 2
**Eastern Meadowlark (Sturnella magna) 19**
Cuban Blackbird (Dives atroviolaceus) 27
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12129508

National Botanical Garden Cacti greenhouse

## Day 2 November 5, 2012 San Diego de los Banos

**Travel to San Diego de los Banos Day 2**
11/5/2012, CU-02
Nov 4, 2012 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM
Protocol: Traveling
40.0 mile(s)
Comments: Arturo Kirkconnell, Arturo Kirkconnell, co-author of The Field Guide to the Birds of Cuba, joined our group and began his leg of the Cuban Bird Survey. We travel west to San Diego de los Banos for our first stop along the way t the western peninsula and Hotel Maria la Gorda. This list represents birds seen in the province of Artemisa along the Autopista.
15 species

Great Egret (Ardea alba) 2
Snowy Egret (Egretta thula) 15
Little Blue Heron (Egretta caerulea) 4
Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 46
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 136
**Snail Kite (Rostrhamus sociabilis)** 1 This bird was seen flying over a fish aquaculture pond
**American Coot** (Fulica americana) 3
Eurasian Collared-Dove (Streptopelia decaocto) 3
Mourning Dove (Zenaida macroura) 3
Smooth-billed Ani (Crotophaga ani) 4
West Indian Woodpecker (Melanerpes superciliaris) 1
**American Kestrel** (Falco sparverius) 3 white morph
Loggerhead Kingbird (Tyrannus caudifasciatus) 1
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 3
Cuban Blackbird (Dives atroviolaceus) 4
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12129648

**Travel day to San Diego de los Banos Day 2**
11/5/2012, CU-01
Nov 4, 2012 9:00 AM - 9:35 AM
Protocol: Traveling
40.0 mile(s)
Comments: Pinar del Rio Province as we make our way to San Diego de los Banos for Cuban and Yellow-faced Grassquit, our target species for the morning. After finding these birds we will make our way to the western tip of Cuba and the Guanahacabibes peninsula.
13 species

Helmeted Guineafowl (Numida meleagris) 4
Great Egret (Ardea alba) 1
Snowy Egret (Egretta thula) 7
Little Blue Heron (Egretta caerulea) 3
Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 450
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 80
Common Gallinule (Gallinula galeata) 1
Zenaida Dove (Zenaida aurita) 2
Mourning Dove (Zenaida macroura) 1
Belted Kingfisher (Megaceryle alcyon) 2
American Kestrel (Falco sparverius) 1 white morph
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 4
**Cuban Blackbird (Dives atroviolaceus) 7** These birds are becoming more common in this province and these were seen along the road
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12129705

Cuban Emerald female Hacienda Cortina

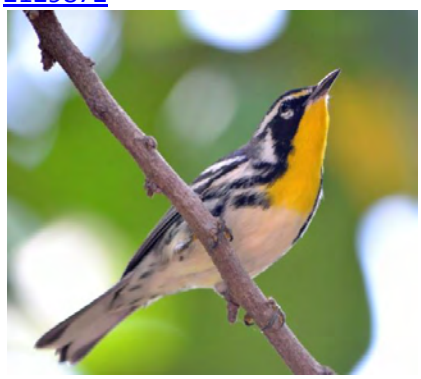
**Hotel Mirador Day 2** 11/5/2012, CU-01
Nov 5, 2012 9:10 AM - 9:25 AM
Protocol: Stationary
Comments: This was a quick stop for a road break before we search for Cuban Grassquit. We met our local guide who was not feeling good so we ventured off without him knowing where to find our first target species.
13 species

Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 7
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 18
**Broad-winged Hawk (Buteo platypterus)** 1

flying and seen by several members of the group
**Red-tailed Hawk** (Buteo jamaicensis) 2 two migratory birds moving over the village
**Eurasian Collared-Dove** (Streptopelia decaocto) 5 located in the town of San Diego de los Banos
Mourning Dove (Zenaida macroura) 2
Antillean Palm-Swift (Tachornis phoenicobia) 35
Cuban Emerald (Chlorostilbon ricordii) 1
Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 4
**Tawny-shouldered Blackbird** (Agelaius humeralis) 6 seen flying into the trees near the Banos
Cuban Blackbird (Dives atroviolaceus) 2 Clearly seen and heard by the group.
Greater Antillean Grackle (Quiscalus niger) 2
House Sparrow (Passer domesticus) 2
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12129775

**San Diego de los Banos C. Grassquit hotspot Day 2** 11/5/2012, CU-01
Nov 5, 2012 10:30 AM - 11:20 AM
Protocol: Traveling
0.4 mile(s)
Comments: Target species Cuban Grassquit in the old fields just out of town. We located both species in record time, allowing us to continue our drive to Guanahacabibes.
19 species

Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 25
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 75
**Red-tailed Hawk** (Buteo jamaicensis) 1 great looks at close range
Common Ground-Dove (Columbina passerina) 9
**Great Lizard-Cuckoo** (Coccyzus merlini) 2
Smooth-billed Ani (Crotophaga ani) 3
Antillean Palm-Swift (Tachornis phoenicobia) 5
American Kestrel (Falco sparverius) 1 white morph
**Cuban Pewee** (Contopus caribaeus) 1
Loggerhead Kingbird (Tyrannus caudifasciatus) 2
Red-legged Thrush (Turdus plumbeus) 1
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 4
Northern Parula (Setophaga americana) 1
Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 7
**Cuban Grassquit (Tiaris canorus) 8** The group had excellent observations of the males and females of this endemic target bird.
**Yellow-faced Grassquit (Tiaris olivaceus) 21** many birds in this group
**Indigo Bunting** (Passerina cyanea) 1 seen by Arturo and most of the group
Cuban Blackbird (Dives atroviolaceus) 20 seen and heard clearly
Greater Antillean Grackle (Quiscalus niger) 5
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12129872


Yellow-throated Warbler

**Travel to Los Barrigonas Day 2** Nov 5 2012, CU-01
Nov 5, 2012 11:45 AM - 12:10 PM
Protocol: Traveling
10.4 mile(s)
Comments: The target species was found and it's time to move on down the road to our lunch stop at Los Barrigonas. The list is growing as we move west to Guanahacabibes Peninsula.
9 species

Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 11
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 50
Antillean Palm-Swift (Tachornis phoenicobia) 40
Cuban Emerald (Chlorostilbon ricordii) 1
**Peregrine Falcon** (Falco peregrinus) 1 found by Nora as we left the Resturante for Guanahacabibes
Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 3
Cuban Blackbird (Dives atroviolaceus) 6 We have been documenting Cuban Blackbirds along the Autopista and locations where these are now seen regularly.
Greater Antillean Grackle (Quiscalus niger) 5
House Sparrow (Passer domesticus) 28

http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12134188

**Travel to Guanahacabibes Day 2** Nov 5 2012, CU-01
Nov 5, 2012 12:39 PM - 1:19 PM
Protocol: Traveling
36.8 mile(s)
Comments: Lunch at Los Barrigonas was quick so that we could continue to our final destination for Day 2 at Hotel Maria la Gorda. Farmland, sugar cane and forested lands found along the way.
14 species

Great Egret (Ardea alba) 1
Little Blue Heron (Egretta caerulea) 1
Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 200
**Green Heron** (Butorides virescens) 1
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 205
**Black-necked Stilt** (Himantopus mexicanus) 5
Eurasian Collared-Dove (Streptopelia decaocto) 7 Seen in small towns or farms
Common Ground-Dove (Columbina passerina) 2
Smooth-billed Ani (Crotophaga ani) 14
**American Kestrel** (Falco sparverius) 8 White Morph (no reds seen on this leg)
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 11
Eastern Meadowlark (Sturnella magna) 1
**Cuban Blackbird** (Dives atroviolaceus) 3
House Sparrow (Passer domesticus) 13
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12134287

Am Kestrel Red and White morph National Botanical Garden

**Travel to Maria la Gorda Day 2** Sandino Province Nov 5 2012, CU-01
Nov 5, 2012 1:40 PM - 3:40 PM
Protocol: Traveling
32.8 mile(s)
Comments: This list was tallied during the last leg of travel to Hotel Maria la Gorda located on the Guanahacabibes Peninsula.
13 species (+1 other taxa)

Great Egret (Ardea alba) 2
Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 85
**Green Heron** (Butorides virescens) 1
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 53
American Coot (Fulica americana) 1
Semipalmated Plover (Charadrius semipalmatus) 10
**Black-necked Stilt** (Himantopus mexicanus) 30
Smooth-billed Ani (Crotophaga ani) 1
**American Kestrel (Falco sparverius) 19**
**11 white morph and 7 Red morph**
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 2
**Warbler sp.** (Parulinae sp.) 3 Not clearly seen but certainly Warbler
**Cuban Blackbird** (Dives atroviolaceus) 15
Greater Antillean Grackle (Quiscalus niger) 30
House Sparrow (Passer domesticus) 15 found at the army base and gas station
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12134405

Loggerhead Kingbird with a message

**Maria la Gorda Hotel Day 2** Nov 5 2012, CU-01
Nov 5, 2012 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM
Protocol: Traveling
0.5 mile(s)
Comments: Finally made it to Maria la Gorda and the amazing beauty of Bahia Corrientes. My sunset pictures of this day set the tone for the rest of the tour. Sunshine is the norm and the birds are always excellent anywhere on the

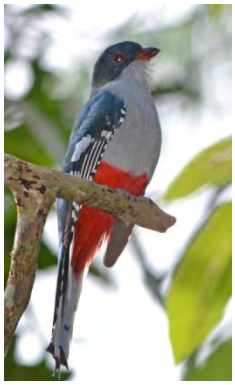
Guanahacabibes peninsula.
17 species

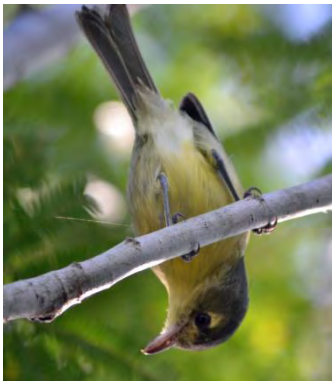
Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 10
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 8
Laughing Gull (Leucophaeus atricilla) 2
Royal Tern (Thalasseus maximus) 4
**White-crowned Pigeon** (Patagioenas leucocephala) 1
More will be seen tomorrow but we found one just as we came to MLG.
Zenaida Dove (Zenaida aurita) 1
**Antillean Palm-Swift** (Tachornis phoenicobia) 25
Cuban Emerald (Chlorostilbon ricordii) 4
Belted Kingfisher (Megaceryle alcyon) 1
West Indian Woodpecker (Melanerpes superciliaris) 1
American Kestrel (Falco sparverius) 1
**Cape May Warbler** (Setophaga tigrina) 1
**Northern Parula** (Setophaga americana) 1
**Palm Warbler** (Setophaga palmarum) 10
**Yellow-throated Warbler** (Setophaga dominica) 1
Cuban Blackbird (Dives atroviolaceus) 10 found at MLG
Cuban Oriole (Icterus melanopsis) 4
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12134464

Zenaida Dove Maria la Gorda

**Maria la Gorda Hotel Day 2** Nov 5 2012 PM walk, CU-01
Nov 5, 2012 5:39 PM - 6:14 PM
Protocol: Traveling
0.5 mile(s)
Comments: Sunset walks at MLG end with a time to reflect on the first few days of our trip. We ran out of light but that was the time for Arturo to find a STYGIAN OWL, an important bird for the trip. Accompanying use along the way were high numbers of House Bats, a nocturnal mammal flying about everywhere.
12 species

**Brown Pelican** (Pelecanus occidentalis) 1
Royal Tern (Thalasseus maximus) 4
Mourning Dove (Zenaida macroura) 2
Common Ground-Dove (Columbina passerina) 2
Great Lizard-Cuckoo (Coccyzus merlini) 1 great looks as it flew from Palm tree to Palm tree. Excellent bird for our group
**Stygian Owl** (Asio stygius) 1 A male was found directly behind our hotel room hooting. Potentially a new bird for MLG
**Cuban Emerald** (Chlorostilbon ricordii) 7
West Indian Woodpecker (Melanerpes superciliaris) 3
Cuban Crow (Corvus nasicus) 2
Western Spindalis (Spindalis zena) 1
Cuban Blackbird (Dives atroviolaceus) 7 These are now permanent members of the avian community at MLG
**Cuban Oriole** (Icterus melanopsis) 2
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12134544





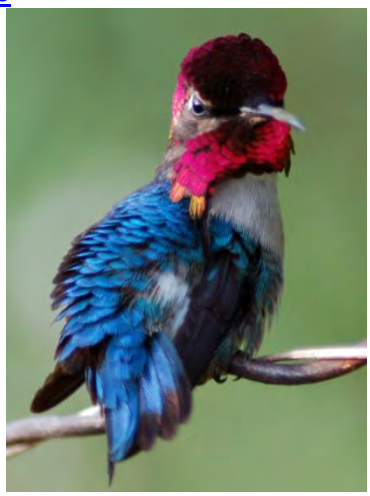
Tocororo Juan Chivi'

## DAY 3 November 6, 2012 Guanahacabibes

**Maria la Gorda Day 3** Nov 6 2012 AM walk, CU-01
Nov 6, 2012 6:30 AM - 7:00 AM
Protocol: Traveling
0.7 mile(s)
Comments: Our morning walk reiterated the importance of Cabo Corrientes in the lives of so

many species of birds as a stop-over or a secure place to over-winter. Maria la Gorda's large attributes and her relationship with pirates of her day have made her a legend here on Cabo Corrientes.
18 species
Great Egret (Ardea alba) 1
**Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** (Nyctanassa violacea) 2 On the beach across from the office at MLG
Spotted Sandpiper (Actitis macularius) 1
**White-crowned Pigeon** (Patagioenas leucocephala) 2 near the cabins
**Plain Pigeon** (Patagioenas inornata) 3 At the cabins with picture
Zenaida Dove (Zenaida aurita) 1
Merlin (Falco columbarius) 1
**Cuban Vireo** (Vireo gundlachii) 3
Cuban Crow (Corvus nasicus) 2 first bird of the day
Red-legged Thrush (Turdus plumbeus) 1
Gray Catbird (Dumetella carolinensis) 3
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 1
Common Yellowthroat (Geothlypis trichas) 1
Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 12
**Yellow-throated Warbler** (Setophaga dominica) 1
Cuban Bullfinch (Melopyrrha nigra) 2
Western Spindalis (Spindalis zena) 1
Cuban Blackbird (Dives atroviolaceus) 7 Year-round residents at MLG
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12135072

**Travel to Cabo San Antonio** Day 3 Nov 6 201, CU-01
Nov 6, 2012 8:00 AM - 8:45 AM
Protocol: Traveling
11.0 mile(s)
Comments: Cabo San Antonio is the western most point in Cuba and our destination this morning for target specie, Bee Hummingbird, and other important species. This list represents species seen along the way to our first Bee Hummingbird location. 1987 marks the beginning of the Guanahacabibes Bio Reserve which is 105,000 hectares, over 100 species of birds, with 10 different forest types.
13 species
Double-crested Cormorant (Phalacrocorax auritus) 1
Snowy Egret (Egretta thula) 1
Little Blue Heron (Egretta caerulea) 1
Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 2
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 17
**Cuban Black-Hawk** (Buteogallus gundlachii) 1
Zenaida Dove (Zenaida aurita) 1
Common Ground-Dove (Columbina passerina) 6
Belted Kingfisher (Megaceryle alcyon) 1
Merlin (Falco columbarius) 2
Red-legged Thrush (Turdus plumbeus) 2
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 3
Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 30
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12152673


Bee Hummingbird Bermejas 2012

**El Berraco Zunzuncito** Day 3 Nov 6 2012, CU-01
Nov 6, 2012 8:45 AM - 9:30 AM
Protocol: Traveling
0.5 mile(s)
Comments: This list was generated during our first stop for Bee Hummingbird. A beautiful sunny day but a little wind in this location perhaps was the reason we did not find the Bee here.
21 species

Great Egret (Ardea alba) 1
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 8
Cuban Black-Hawk (Buteogallus gundlachii) 1
**Wilson's Snipe** (Gallinago delicata) 1

White-crowned Pigeon (Patagioenas leucocephala) 2 two females seen clearly
**Plain Pigeon** (Patagioenas inornata) 1 flying and seen well
Smooth-billed Ani (Crotophaga ani) 4
**Cuban Emerald** (Chlorostilbon ricordii) 1
**Cuban Trogon** (Priotelus temnurus) 2
**Cuban Tody** (Todus multicolor) 1
West Indian Woodpecker (Melanerpes superciliaris) 3
Cuban Pewee (Contopus caribaeus) 1
La Sagra's Flycatcher (Myiarchus sagrae) 1
**White-eyed Vireo** (Vireo griseus) 2 Seen and heard by the group.
Cuban Vireo (Vireo gundlachii) 2
Red-legged Thrush (Turdus plumbeus) 3
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 2
**Magnolia Warbler** (Setophaga magnolia) 1 seen by many in the group
Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 9
Cuban Bullfinch (Melopyrrha nigra) 5
Western Spindalis (Spindalis zena) 2
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12152770

**Travel to Zunzuncito 2** Day 3 Nov 6 2012, CU-01
Nov 6, 2012 9:30 AM - 10:08 AM
Protocol: Traveling
19.7 mile(s)
Comments: Moving through Cabo San Antonio where we discussed Geological history of this uplifted peninsula creating a "Cienaga" on the northern side of this long peninsula. This list represents birds seen as we travel to find Bee Hummingbird. The difficulty today was a little wind but also the Bee needs flowers for food and these we found in great numbers along this stretch of road.
10 species

Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 3
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 9
Cuban Black-Hawk (Buteogallus gundlachii) 2
American Kestrel (Falco sparverius) 7 4 white morph, 2 Red Morph,
**Merlin** (Falco columbarius) 1
Loggerhead Kingbird (Tyrannus caudifasciatus) 1
Cuban Crow (Corvus nasicus) 17 We will discover more Cuban Crows soon
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 7
Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 5
Indigo Bunting (Passerina cyanea) 2
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12152899

Bee Hummingbird Nov 2012 male fall plumage

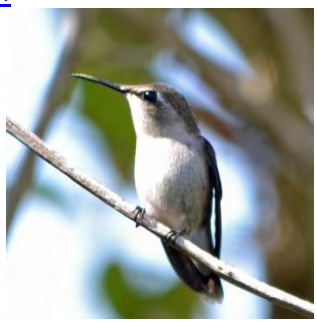
**Los Cajuelos Zunzuncito 2** Day 3 Nov 6 2012, CU-01
Nov 6, 2012 10:09 AM - 10:44 AM
Protocol: Traveling
0.5 mile(s)
Comments: Bee Hummingbird was our target species which we found foraging on Ponace flowers which are red and a specialty food this time of year because they are flowering.
8 species

Magnificent Frigatebird (Fregata magnificens) 1
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 5
Great Lizard-Cuckoo (Coccyzus merlini) 1
**Bee Hummingbird (Mellisuga helenae) 2** These birds gave everyone an opportunity to see the detail of this diminutive species and the smallest in the world. The male is 2.19 inches in length.
American Kestrel (Falco sparverius) 1
**Tree Swallow** (Tachycineta bicolor) 2 There were many tree swallow moving through the region. (see Caleta del Piojo).
Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 2
Western Spindalis (Spindalis zena) 3
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12152954

Eastern Phoebe (Sayornis phoebe)

**Caleta del Piojo, Guanahacabibes, Cuba Day 3**, CU-01 Nov 6, 2012 11:15 AM - 12:05 PM
Protocol: Stationary
Comments: **Eastern Phoebe** (Sayornis phoebe) found here for the first time and a first for Arturo Kirkconnell and me on Cuba. Many Photos were shot and recorded on Flicker at http://www.flickr.com/photos/58781382@N02/8197867413/in/photostream/lightbox/
26 species (+1 other taxa)

Blue-winged Teal (Anas discors) 58
Northern Shoveler (Anas clypeata) 4
**Least Grebe (Tachybaptus dominicus)** 1 Swimming with the Pied-billed Grebe
Pied-billed Grebe (Podilymbus podiceps) 1 Swimming with the Least Grebe
Great Egret (Ardea alba) 1
Snowy Egret (Egretta thula) 5
**Tricolored Heron** (Egretta tricolor) 3
Green Heron (Butorides virescens) 3
White Ibis (Eudocimus albus) 7
American Coot (Fulica americana) 46 in the Lagoon and on the salt water when we exited the trail
peep sp. (Calidris sp. (peep sp.)) 5 could not get a clear look
Laughing Gull (Leucophaeus atricilla) 2
Zenaida Dove (Zenaida aurita) 2
**Bee Hummingbird (Mellisuga helenae)** 1 As we were leaving a male was found and photographed.
http://www.flickr.com/photos/58781382@N02/8197867413/in/photostream/lightbox/
American Kestrel (Falco sparverius) 1
**Eastern Phoebe (Sayornis phoebe)** 2 First we found one bird near us on the southern side of Caleta del Piojo. Photos were taken and recorded. As Arturo and I were shooting I heard another bird which was later observed in the scope. Both birds were emitting quiet call notes. This was a familiar bird for a New Englander, but a new species on Cuba for Arturo. This report is the 6th and 7th Eastern Phoebe recorded on Cuba. (See Appendix 1)
**La Sagra's Flycatcher** (Myiarchus sagrae) 1
Loggerhead Kingbird (Tyrannus caudifasciatus) 2
**Cuban Crow (Corvus nasicus) 33** this was the largest congregation of Cuban Crows I had ever seen or heard...the amount of calling was exceptional.
**Northern Rough-winged Swallow (Stelgidopteryx serripennis) 20 Flying in a large mixed flock of swallows.**
Tree Swallow (Tachycineta bicolor) 16 Many among a larger group
**Barn Swallow (Hirundo rustica) 1** one was seen darting about
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 3
**Northern Waterthrush** (Parkesia noveboracensis) 1
Common Yellowthroat (Geothlypis trichas) 1
Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 25
**Indigo Bunting** (Passerina cyanea) 1 seen by the group
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12072924



Bee Hummingbird male fall plumage

**Maria la Gorda** Day 3 Nov 6 2012 PM walk, CU-01
Nov 6, 2012 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM
Protocol: Traveling
0.5 mile(s)

Comments: This list represents birds seen around the cabins and grounds of Maria la Gorda during the afternoon siesta.
10 species (+1 other taxa)

Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 5
**Green Heron** (Butorides virescens) 1
Killdeer (Charadrius vociferus) 2
**Hummingbird sp**. (Trochilidae sp.) 1 Jim Moore reported a purple-ish hummingbird (possibly broad-tailed) not a local species?
American Kestrel (Falco sparverius) 1 white morph
Cuban Pewee (Contopus caribaeus) 2
Loggerhead Kingbird (Tyrannus caudifasciatus) 2
Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 1
**Yellow-throated Warbler** (Setophaga dominica) 1
Yellow-faced Grassquit (Tiaris olivaceus) 3
**Western Spindalis** (Spindalis zena) 2
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12153096

**La Bajada Lagoon 1** Day 3 Nov 6 2012, CU-01
3:40 PM - 4:40 PM
Protocol: Stationary
Comments: This lagoon has been an excellent spot for many species of water birds and passerines. Today was no exception with a nice list of birds seen and heard.
21 species

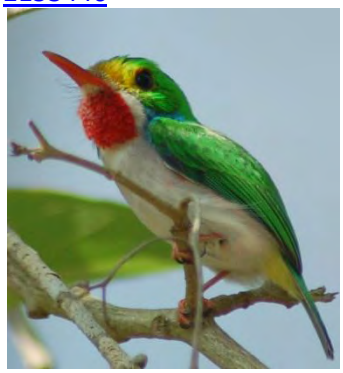
**Northern Shoveler** (Anas clypeata) 3
**Green-winged Teal** (Anas crecca) 2
**Least Grebe** (Tachybaptus dominicus) 1
Great Blue Heron (Ardea herodias) 2
Little Blue Heron (Egretta caerulea) 1
**Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** (Nyctanassa violacea) 1
Dark bill green legs
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 15
**Common Gallinule** (Gallinula galeata) 2
American Coot (Fulica americana) 16
Black-necked Stilt (Himantopus mexicanus) 27
**American Avocet** (Recurvirostra americana) 1
one bird with many Black-necked Stilts
**Spotted Sandpiper** (Actitis macularius) 1
**Greater Yellowlegs** (Tringa melanoleuca) 1
**Lesser Yellowlegs** (Tringa flavipes) 3
**Short-billed Dowitcher (**Limnodromus griseus) 1
Laughing Gull (Leucophaeus atricilla) 1
American Kestrel (Falco sparverius) 1 Migratory, black spotted
**Northern Waterthrush** (Parkesia noveboracensis) 2
Yellow Warbler (Setophaga petechia) 1
migratory northern race
Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 3
Prairie Warbler (Setophaga discolor) 1
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12153178

Guanahacabibes Cuba

**Walk along Bahia de Corrientes Road** Day 3, CU-01 Nov 6, 2012 4:50 PM - 5:40 PM
Protocol: Traveling
0.8 mile(s)
Comments: This walk gave us an opportunity to relax and enjoy the later part of the day with a gorgeous sunset and a fabulous walk along this amazingly beautiful and birdy stretch of road. A wonderful collection of birds were seen here and a great way to finish up our day at Maria la Gorda.
20 species

**White-crowned Pigeon** (Patagioenas leucocephala) 4
seen sitting and flying
Zenaida Dove (Zenaida aurita) 1
Great Lizard-Cuckoo (Coccyzus merlini) 3

Cuban Pygmy-Owl (Glaucidium siju) 1 calling
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (Sphyrapicus varius) 2
Cuban Pewee (Contopus caribaeus) 1
La Sagra's Flycatcher (Myiarchus sagrae) 2
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (Polioptila caerulea) 1
Red-legged Thrush (Turdus plumbeus) 3
**Gray Catbird (Dumetella carolinensis) 1**
**American Redstart (Setophaga ruticilla) 4**
**Northern Parula (Setophaga americana) 4**
**Magnolia Warbler (Setophaga magnolia) 2**
**Black-throated Blue Warbler (Setophaga caerulescens) 1**
**Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 10**
**Black-throated Green Warbler (Setophaga virens) 1**
Yellow-headed Warbler (Teretistris fernandinae) 5
Cuban Bullfinch (Melopyrrha nigra) 4
Western Spindalis (Spindalis zena) 1 Photos taken of this male
**Summer Tanager** (Piranga rubra) 1 This female gave many an opportunity to see the sexual dimorphism in the species
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12153446


Cuban Tody

## DAY 4 November 7, 2012 Guanahacabibes

### Cabo Corrientes Trail DAY 4 Maria la Groda

Guanahacabibes Cuba, CU-01
Nov 7, 2012 8:00 AM - 9:50 AM
Protocol: Traveling
1.5 mile(s)
Comments: A stormy morning greeted us for our last birding trip on Guanahacabibes Peninsula. The western peninsula is called Cabo de San Antonio is twice as long as Cabo Corrientes and is an excellent example of multiple habitat types including uplifted limestone flats home to Cuban Iguanas and mimicking a Moon scape.
29 species

Osprey (Pandion haliaetus) 1
Killdeer (Charadrius vociferus) 2
Royal Tern (Thalasseus maximus) 5
White-crowned Pigeon (Patagioenas leucocephala) 1 several were seen in the area.
Plain Pigeon (Patagioenas inornata) 7 flying and sitting among the trees
Zenaida Dove (Zenaida aurita) 4
Great Lizard-Cuckoo (Coccyzus merlini) 1
**Cuban Pygmy-Owl** (Glaucidium siju) 2 Male on the left (south) and female on the north side of the trail calling
Cuban Emerald (Chlorostilbon ricordii) 1
**Cuban Tody** (Todus multicolor) 1
West Indian Woodpecker (Melanerpes superciliaris) 3
American Kestrel (Falco sparverius) 3 White morph
**Eastern Wood-Pewee (Contopus virens) 3 This is a high density location for EWPW**
Cuban Pewee (Contopus caribaeus) 2
Loggerhead Kingbird (Tyrannus caudifasciatus) 5
Cuban Vireo (Vireo gundlachii) 2
**Yellow-throated Vireo** (Vireo flavifrons) 1 clearly seen by Arturo Kirkconnell and the group
Red-legged Thrush (Turdus plumbeus) 5
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 13
**Ovenbird (Seiurus aurocapilla) 1**
**American Redstart (Setophaga ruticilla) 3**
**Black-throated Blue Warbler (Setophaga caerulescens) 1**
**Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 3**
**Black-throated Green Warbler (Setophaga virens) 3**
**Yellow-headed Warbler (Teretistris fernandinae) 16**
Yellow-faced Grassquit (Tiaris olivaceus) 3
Cuban Bullfinch (Melopyrrha nigra) 3
Cuban Blackbird (Dives atroviolaceus) 14 This species is a permanent resident bird here at MLG
Cuban Oriole (Icterus melanopsis) 3
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12154693

**Travel to San Diego de los Banos** Day 4 Nov 7 2012 #119, CU-01
Nov 7, 2012 11:00 AM - 2:30 PM
Protocol: Traveling
105.0 mile(s)
Comments: Arturo and I are happy with our current list of birds and are excited for our Cuban Bird Survey team of skilled field workers. Our Havana tour bus is heading to San Diego de los Banos where we have several target species including Giant Kingbird, Gundlach's Hawk, and an assortment of other species. This section of the drive takes us through rich and productive tobacco fields and farmland producing a plethora of vegetables and farm animals. A watchful eye in this region produces avian specialty birds like Black-necked Stilts and other water birds.
15 species

Great Egret (Ardea alba) 4
Snowy Egret (Egretta thula) 2
Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 356
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 100
American Coot (Fulica americana) 2
Killdeer (Charadrius vociferus) 1
Black-necked Stilt (Himantopus mexicanus) 20
Mourning Dove (Zenaida macroura) 5
Common Ground-Dove (Columbina passerina) 1
Smooth-billed Ani (Crotophaga ani) 3
Antillean Palm-Swift (Tachornis phoenicobia) 8
American Kestrel (Falco sparverius) 21 19 white morph and 2 red Morph birds seen along the way. Thanks to the avian team of counters.
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 2
**Tawny-shouldered Blackbird** (Agelaius humeralis) 25 seen flying in front of the bus easily id'ed
House Sparrow (Passer domesticus) 2
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12155960

Zenaida Dove

**Cueva Portales Che's Cave** Day 4 Nov 7 2012, CU-01
Nov 7, 2012 3:48 PM - 4:48 PM
Protocol: Traveling
0.7 mile(s)
Comments: Target species were the focus of the afternoon birding location specifically Cuban Solitaire and the musical phenomenon of the Thrush family specialty bird.
25 species

Great Egret (Ardea alba) 3
Little Blue Heron (Egretta caerulea) 2
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 50
Red-tailed Hawk (Buteo jamaicensis) 2
Mourning Dove (Zenaida macroura) 6
**Gray-fronted Quail-Dove** (Geotrygon caniceps) 1 Arturo while on a thrush call.
Cuban Emerald (Chlorostilbon ricordii) 3
Cuban Trogon (Priotelus temnurus) 2
Belted Kingfisher (Megaceryle alcyon) 1
West Indian Woodpecker (Melanerpes superciliaris) 4
**Cuban Green Woodpecker** (Xiphidiopicus percussus) 2
Northern Flicker (Colaptes auratus) 2 seen and heard
American Kestrel (Falco sparverius) 5 2 White morph and 3 Red morph
**La Sagra's Flycatcher** (Myiarchus sagrae) 1
Loggerhead Kingbird (Tyrannus caudifasciatus) 5
**Cuban Solitaire** (Myadestes elisabeth) 4 good photos and beautiful calling
Red-legged Thrush (Turdus plumbeus) 4
Gray Catbird (Dumetella carolinensis) 2

Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 14
**Common Yellowthroat** (Geothlypis trichas) 1
Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 2
**Olive-capped Warbler** (Setophaga pityophila) 3 easily observed by most of the group
Cuban Bullfinch (Melopyrrha nigra) 4
Cuban Blackbird (Dives atroviolaceus) 35
Greater Antillean Grackle (Quiscalus niger) 3
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12156143

## DAY 5 November 8, 2012 San Diego de los Banos

**Hotel Mirador** Day 5 AM walk Nov 8 2012, CU-01
Nov 8, 2012 7:00 AM - 7:20 AM
Protocol: Traveling
0.4 mile(s)
Comments: With time constraints, we spent a little time searching for birds before heading off to Hacienda Cortina on the southern side of La Guira National Park.
6 species

Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 32
Merlin (Falco columbarius) 1
Cuban Pewee (Contopus caribaeus) 1
La Sagra's Flycatcher (Myiarchus sagrae) 2
Loggerhead Kingbird (Tyrannus caudifasciatus) 3
Tawny-shouldered Blackbird (Agelaius humeralis) 5 Males in a tall tree and scoped out by the group. It was the first time that some members of our team had an opportunity to see the Tawny shoulder patch.
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12160009

Cuban Emerald female Hacienda Cortina

**Hacienda Cortina** Day 5 Nov 8 2012, CU-01
Nov 8, 2012 8:10 AM - 10:45 AM
Protocol: Traveling
1.8 mile(s)
Comments: Giant Kingbird was one of several target species we were looking for during our time here in La Guira National Park. Jose Manuel Cortina was a prosperous landowner prior to the Revolution. Today his extensive land holdings are included in of the most important National parks in the Cuban system.
# 121 and 122
**42** species (+1 other taxa)

**Least Grebe** (Tachybaptus dominicus) 2
Green Heron (Butorides virescens) 3
**Broad-winged Hawk** (Buteo platypterus) 1 This is at least the second year we have seen this species here.
Purple Gallinule (Porphyrio martinicus) 1
Common Gallinule (Gallinula galeata) 3
Mourning Dove (Zenaida macroura) 6
Common Ground-Dove (Columbina passerina) 1
Smooth-billed Ani (Crotophaga ani) 7
Antillean Palm-Swift (Tachornis phoenicobia) 5
**Cuban Emerald** (Chlorostilbon ricordii) 2 one female on a NEST with photo above
**Cuban Tody** (Todus multicolor) 2
Belted Kingfisher (Megaceryle alcyon) 1
West Indian Woodpecker (Melanerpes superciliaris) 6
Cuban Green Woodpecker (Xiphidiopicus percussus) 2 good images for the group
**American Kestrel** (Falco sparverius) 5 three Red morph and two white morph
Cuban Pewee (Contopus caribaeus) 4
La Sagra's Flycatcher (Myiarchus sagrae) 2
Loggerhead Kingbird (Tyrannus caudifasciatus) 4
**Giant Kingbird (Tyrannus cubensis) 2** Photos and great looks in the scope
Cuban Vireo (Vireo gundlachii) 3
**Yellow-throated Vireo** (Vireo flavifrons) 2 Good looks in the scope and binoculars.
swallow sp. (Hirundinidae sp.) 2 in the distance
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (Polioptila caerulea) 1
Red-legged Thrush (Turdus plumbeus) 5
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 10
**Black-and-white Warbler (Mniotilta varia) 1**
**Common Yellowthroat (Geothlypis trichas) 2**

**American Redstart (Setophaga ruticilla) 3**
**Cape May Warbler (Setophaga tigrina) 2**
**Northern Parula (Setophaga americana) 1**
**Black-throated Blue Warbler (Setophaga caerulescens) 3**
**Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 16**
**Olive-capped Warbler (Setophaga pityophila) 3**
**Black-throated Green Warbler (Setophaga virens) 1**
**Red-legged Honeycreeper (Cyanerpes cyaneus) 13 foraging in a Flame Tree (Tulipan Africana)**
Yellow-faced Grassquit (Tiaris olivaceus) 15
Western Spindalis (Spindalis zena) 17
**Indigo Bunting** (Passerina cyanea) 1
Tawny-shouldered Blackbird (Agelaius humeralis) 7
Cuban Blackbird (Dives atroviolaceus) 4 On the grounds of Hacienda Cortina
Greater Antillean Grackle (Quiscalus niger) 5
House Sparrow (Passer domesticus) 15
**Nutmeg Mannikin** (Lonchura punctulata) 2 seen in the scope by many in the group in a tree near the hacienda. New bird for the group
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12160220

**Giant Kingbird** Hacienda Cortina

**Travel to Playa Larga** Day 5 Pinar del Rio Nov 8 2012, CU-01
Nov 8, 2012 12:30 PM - 1:10 PM
Protocol: Traveling
15.0 mile(s)
Comments: The beginning of our travel day to Playa Larga and the Zapata region.
3 species

Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 8
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 41
American Kestrel (Falco sparverius) 1 white morph
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12160306

**Travel day to Playa Larga** Day 5 Artemisa Province Nov 8 2012, CU-02
Nov 8, 2012 1:15 AM - 2:15 AM
Protocol: Traveling
29.5 mile(s)
Comments: Many large leaf teak trees along the road and a few birds to observe along the way.
10 species

Great Egret (Ardea alba) 1
Snowy Egret (Egretta thula) 24
**Little Blue Heron** (Egretta caerulea) 2
Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 106
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 133
Mourning Dove (Zenaida macroura) 2
Smooth-billed Ani (Crotophaga ani) 2
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 1
**Cuban Blackbird** (Dives atroviolaceus) 3
Greater Antillean Grackle (Quiscalus niger) 2
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12160377

**Travel to Playa Larga** Day 5 La Habana Province Nov 8 2012, CU-02
Nov 8, 2012 2:22 PM - 3:07 PM
Protocol: Traveling
18.0 mile(s)
Comments: Traveling through the province of La Habana with a stop at “6 vias” and a reservoir for water birds. These numbers represent estimations agreed upon by the leaders

17 species

**Ring-necked Duck** (Aythya collaris) 45 Among a mixed flock of water birds
**Lesser Scaup** (Aythya affinis) **1400** Very large group of Lesser Scaup

**Ruddy Duck** (Oxyura jamaicensis) 69 Perhaps a under count
**Pied-billed Grebe** (Podilymbus podiceps) 37 Good counts on these birds
Double-crested Cormorant (Phalacrocorax auritus) 2
Great Egret (Ardea alba) 18+ this is a typical number here
Snowy Egret (Egretta thula) 1
Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 3
Green Heron (Butorides virescens) 4
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 33
**Red-tailed Hawk** (Buteo jamaicensis) 1
Common Gallinule (Gallinula galeata) 3
American Coot (Fulica americana) 125 another under count
**Gull-billed Tern** (Gelochelidon nilotica) 2 seen flying over the pond than very close looks for perfect ID a good bird for the trip list.
Rock Pigeon (Columba livia) 10
Eurasian Collared-Dove (Streptopelia decaocto) 1
Mourning Dove (Zenaida macroura) 1
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12160527

**Travel to Playa Larga** Day 5 Mayabeque Province Nov 8 2012, CU-02
Nov 8, 2012 3:58 PM - 4:58 PM
Protocol: Traveling
25.0 mile(s)
Comments: This province is farmland and Orange groves as we make our way to Playa Larga. Cloudy and a little rain along the way.
8 species

Great Egret (Ardea alba) 1
Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 22
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 32
Killdeer (Charadrius vociferus) 2 Heard at a stop along the road
Mourning Dove (Zenaida macroura) 2
Smooth-billed Ani (Crotophaga ani) 1
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 2
Greater Antillean Grackle (Quiscalus niger) 4
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12160569

Vegeuro for drying Tobacco

**Travel to Play Larga** Day 5 Matanzas Province Nov 8 2012, CU-04
Nov 8, 2012 4:59 PM - 5:59 PM
Protocol: Traveling
35.0 mile(s)
Comments: The last leg of a long travel day we are now in Matanzas province, home to the Zapata Swamp and our final destination for this part of the trip. At Playa Larga we can unpack for a few days.
6 species

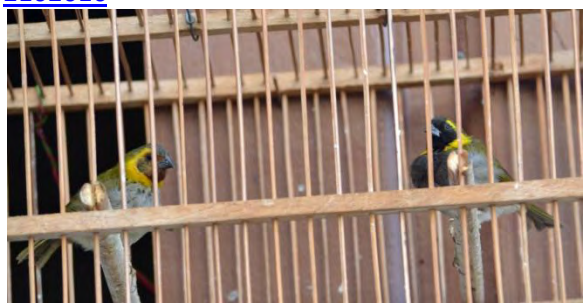
Black-crowned Night-Heron (Nycticorax nycticorax) 1 flying at dusk
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 15
Mourning Dove (Zenaida macroura) 2
Common Ground-Dove (Columbina passerina) 3
Crested Caracara (Caracara cheriway) 1 seen flying along the road and our first of the trip.
Greater Antillean Grackle (Quiscalus niger) 17
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12160632

## DAY 6 November 9, 2012 Playa Larga

**Travel Playa Larga to Bermejas Day 6** Nov 9 2012, CU-04
Nov 9, 2012 6:00 AM - 6:40 AM
Protocol: Traveling
25.0 mile(s)
Comments: The sun has not yet risen and we are working our way to Bermejas where we hope to find Blue-headed Quail Dove and others like Tocororo, Limpkin, Warblers and Flycatchers. We were not disappointed. The only problem we ran into here was the High

Water level we discovered in the wake of Hurricane Sandy. I personally have never seen the water so high and it was sort of a treat. I only wish we had boots or a boat!
13 species

Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 4
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 21
**Killdeer** (Charadrius vociferus) 3
Zenaida Dove (Zenaida aurita) 5
Mourning Dove (Zenaida macroura) 21
**Great Lizard-Cuckoo** (Coccyzus merlini) 2
Smooth-billed Ani (Crotophaga ani) 10
American Kestrel (Falco sparverius) 9 five White and four Red Morph
**Cuban Parrot** (Amazona leucocephala) 3 This Rose-throated Parrot subspecies was the first of the trip and seen on Arturo's side of the bus towards the Bahia de Cochinos Photos taken
**Eastern Wood-Pewee** (Contopus virens) 1 heard with a mix of forest birds
**Cuban Crow** (Corvus nasicus) 2
Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 10
Cuban Blackbird (Dives atroviolaceus) 18
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12162616



Cuban Grassquit Cuban Caged Bird Trade

**Bermejas Refugio de Fauna** Day 6 Nov 9 2012 AM walk, CU-04
Nov 9, 2012 7:05 AM - 9:25 AM
Protocol: Traveling
0.7 mile(s)
Comments: Bermejas is one of the homes for potentially 4 species of Quail Dove including our target species Blue-headed and Gray-fronted (Paloma Perdiz and Camao). Persistence is the name of the game for the morning with some luck and a few good birds. The birding in this semi-deciduous forest is by far one of the most diverse species assemblages in Cuba with many of the endemic species all around our field team. Bermejas is one of the most important locations in Cuba for Cuban Endemics. Poachers pose the largest problem for the birds in this region due to the **CUBAN CAGED BIRD TRADE** which **must be stopped**. Some of these birds include migratory breeding birds like Painted Bunting, Blue Bunting, Endemic Cuban Grassquit and resident Cuban Bullfinch are the primary victims.
34 species
Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 5
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 25
Limpkin (Aramus guarauna) 1 incredible photos and very close up
Zenaida Dove (Zenaida aurita) 5
Common Ground-Dove (Columbina passerina) 15
Gray-fronted Quail-Dove (Geotrygon caniceps) 1 Photos and easily seen in the scope
Ruddy Quail-Dove (Geotrygon montana) 1 Arturo on a look see
Great Lizard-Cuckoo (Coccyzus merlini) 1
Smooth-billed Ani (Crotophaga ani) 9
**Cuban Emerald (Chlorostilbon ricordii) 4**
**Cuban Trogon (Priotelus temnurus) 1**
**Cuban Tody (Todus multicolor) 1**
**Cuban Green Woodpecker** (Xiphidiopicus percussus) 1
American Kestrel (Falco sparverius) 3 White Morph
Merlin (Falco columbarius) 1
Cuban Parakeet (Aratinga euops) 22 this flock is a local flock that fluctuates depending on predator activity and forage.
Cuban Parrot (Amazona leucocephala) 2
Cuban Pewee (Contopus caribaeus) 2
**La Sagra's Flycatcher** (Myiarchus sagrae) 3
Loggerhead Kingbird (Tyrannus caudifasciatus) 3
**Cuban Vireo** (Vireo gundlachii) 3
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (Polioptila caerulea) 1
Red-legged Thrush (Turdus plumbeus) 6
**Gray Catbird** (Dumetella carolinensis) 3
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 7
**Ovenbird** (Seiurus aurocapilla) 2
**Northern Waterthrush** (Parkesia noveboracensis) 3
**Black-and-white Warbler** (Mniotilta varia) 1

American Redstart (Setophaga ruticilla) 2
**Black-throated Blue Warbler** (Setophaga caerulescens) 3
Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 10
**Yellow-headed Warbler** (Teretistris fernandinae) 10
Yellow-faced Grassquit (Tiaris olivaceus) 4
Cuban Blackbird (Dives atroviolaceus) 2
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12162885

**La Cuchilla Ciénaga de Zapata** Day 6 Nov 9 2012, CU-04
Nov 9, 2012 9:45 AM - 10:45 AM
Protocol: Traveling
0.6 mile(s)
Comments: La Cuchilla in the Ciénaga de Zapata is one location we spend some time looking for Red-shouldered Blackbird (Mayito de Cienaga) and a close relative of the North American Red-winged Blackbird. This sub-species or race of RWBB is the mornings target along an interesting stretch of the eastern section of the Zapata. This location offers a glimpse of the avian community like Crested Caracara (Caraira) and water birds.
21 species

Great Blue Heron (Ardea herodias) 1
Great Egret (Ardea alba) 4
Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 5
Green Heron (Butorides virescens) 1
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 56
**Red-tailed Hawk** (Buteo jamaicensis) 2
Mourning Dove (Zenaida macroura) 1
Common Ground-Dove (Columbina passerina) 8
Great Lizard-Cuckoo (Coccyzus merlini) 1
West Indian Woodpecker (Melanerpes superciliaris) 4
**Crested Caracara** (Caracara cheriway) 1
American Kestrel (Falco sparverius) 5 4 White and 1 Red morph
**Tree Swallow** (Tachycineta bicolor) 2
**Barn Swallow** (Hirundo rustica) 1
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 3
Common Yellowthroat (Geothlypis trichas) 7
American Redstart (Setophaga ruticilla) 2
**Eastern Meadowlark** (Sturnella magna) 1
Cuban Blackbird (Dives atroviolaceus) 6
Greater Antillean Grackle (Quiscalus niger) 1
**Chestnut Mannikin 7** were seen not on eBird list.
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12163113

**Caleta Buena/Playa Giron** Day 6 Nov 9 2012, CU-04
Nov 9, 2012 11:55 ARE - 3:25 PM
Protocol: Traveling
1.0 mile(s)
Comments: Finally a break in the program and an opportunity to relax around the beautiful setting of Caleta Buena. There were forays around this beautiful place in the world but mostly it is a time meant to enjoy Cuba, Lunch, a mojito and a few good birds. There were hundreds of thousands Green Dragonfly along this stretch of the coastal edge habitat. Many birds were seen eating this prey item.
19 species

**Brown Pelican** (Pelecanus occidentalis) 1
Little Blue Heron (Egretta caerulea) 2
Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 10
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 19
Red-tailed Hawk (Buteo jamaicensis) 1
**Cuban Pygmy-Owl** (Glaucidium siju) 1 female heard calling close by
Cuban Pewee (Contopus caribaeus) 1
Loggerhead Kingbird (Tyrannus caudifasciatus) 1
**Northern Rough-winged Swallow** (Stelgidopteryx serripennis) 1 on the wing easily ID-ed
Tree Swallow (Tachycineta bicolor) 3
**Black-and-white Warbler (Mniotilta varia) 1**
**Northern Parula (Setophaga americana) 3**
**Black-throated Blue Warbler (Setophaga caerulescens) 1**
**Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 9**
**Yellow-throated Warbler (Setophaga dominica) 1**
**Prairie Warbler (Setophaga discolor) 2**
**Black-throated Green Warbler (Setophaga virens) 3**
Cuban Blackbird (Dives atroviolaceus) 18
Greater Antillean Grackle (Quiscalus niger) 15

http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12163214

**Bermejas Refugio de Fauna** Day 6 Cuba, CU-04
Nov 9, 2012 4:00 PM - 4:30 PM
Protocol: Stationary
Comments: Blue-headed Quail Dove was recorded. Two birds showed up at our blind and allowed everyone an opportunity to observe these beautiful game birds. We also recorded and photographed **Swainson's Thrush** (Catharus ustulatus) foraging on the path with Blue-headed Quail Dove. This is a first on Cuba for me and an excellent bird for Bermejas. Once again we see the importance of Cuban forests to migratory species across the taxonomic spectrum. I am amazed in some ways at the similarity between my forests on Mount Desert Island and the semi-Deciduous and wetland edge habitat. It is cold now in the north and the numbers of Warblers are approaching zero. What impressed me on this trip was the assemblages of birds seen which were somewhat vocal.
15 species

Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 3
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 15
Rock Pigeon (Columba livia) 11 These birds were found in the village
Zenaida Dove (Zenaida aurita) 3
Common Ground-Dove (Columbina passerina) 8
**Blue-headed Quail-Dove (Starnoenas cyanocephala) 2**
Great Lizard-Cuckoo (Coccyzus merlini) 1
Cuban Pewee (Contopus caribaeus) 1
Cuban Vireo (Vireo gundlachii) 1
**Swainson's Thrush (Catharus ustulatus)** 1
Identified by buffy cheeks and lores, Uniform dark back and tail. PHOTOS taken
Red-legged Thrush (Turdus plumbeus) 4
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 2
**Black-and-white Warbler** (Mniotilta varia) 1
Black-throated Blue Warbler (Setophaga caerulescens) 1
Greater Antillean Grackle (Quiscalus niger) 7

http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12110734

Cuban Nightjar Soplillar

**Cuban Nightjar hotspot Day 6** Nov 9 2012, CU-04
Nov 9, 2012 6:00 PM - 6:40 PM
Protocol: Traveling
0.3 mile(s)
Comments: The mosquitoes rule tonight and we are after the allusive and cryptic nocturnal foraging the Cuban Nightjar, which we found in a secret location. Other good finds were Cuban Pygmy Owl and flying West Indian Whistling Duck (Yaguasa) calling "Cuba libre" in the dark sky.
11 species

**West Indian Whistling-Duck (Dendrocygna arborea) 3 calling as they flew**
Black-crowned Night-Heron (Nycticorax nycticorax) 2
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (Nyctanassa violacea) 1
Cuban Pygmy-Owl (Glaucidium siju) 2 calling
**Greater Antillean Nightjar** (Antrostomus cubanensis) 1 seen clearly in a beam of light. It is now called the CUBAN NIGHTJAR (Caprimulgus cubanensis) Guabairo
American Kestrel (Falco sparverius) 1
**Cuban Parrot (Amazona leucocephala) 35** roosting for the night and gathering together Photos
Loggerhead Kingbird (Tyrannus caudifasciatus) 1
Cuban Crow (Corvus nasicus) 1
American Redstart (Setophaga ruticilla) 1
Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 2
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12163350

Zapata Wren Fermina

## DAY 7 November 10, 2012 Zapata Birds

**La Turba Zapata endemics** Day 7 Nov 10 2012, CU-04
Nov 10, 2012 6:00 AM - 9:30 AM
Protocol: Traveling
12.0 mile(s)
Comments: La Turba (The Peat) is a location for **Zapata Wren and Zapata Sparrow** which has been fruitful over the years... if you know where to find them. Today we had one of the most vocal males which displayed openly for an amazing series of photographs. There are some exceptional shots of this bird in fall plumage. With minimal calling the bird circled as usual but then sat high on an open branch not more than 8-10 feet from our team and sang his little heart out..
41 species

Neotropic Cormorant (Phalacrocorax brasilianus) 3
Black-crowned Night-Heron (Nycticorax nycticorax) 1
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 65
Red-tailed Hawk (Buteo jamaicensis) 1
**Sora** (Porzana carolina) 1 calling
**Spotted Rail** (Pardirallus maculatus) 1 calling and heard by myself and Arturo Kirkconnell
Purple Gallinule (Porphyrio martinicus) 1
**Limpkin** (Aramus guarauna) 1 flying and good looks in the air!
Killdeer (Charadrius vociferus) 1
Greater Yellowlegs (Tringa melanoleuca) 1
**White-crowned Pigeon** (Patagioenas leucocephala) 1
Mourning Dove (Zenaida macroura) 13
Common Ground-Dove (Columbina passerina) 5
Ruddy Quail-Dove (Geotrygon montana) 2 crossing the road
**Great Lizard-Cuckoo** (Coccyzus merlini) 3
Cuban Emerald (Chlorostilbon ricordii) 3
**Belted Kingfisher** (Megaceryle alcyon) 2
West Indian Woodpecker (Melanerpes superciliaris) 2
Crested Caracara (Caracara cheriway) 2
American Kestrel (Falco sparverius) 3 2 white and 1 red morph Red morph photo
Cuban Pewee (Contopus caribaeus) 3
**Loggerhead Kingbird** (Tyrannus caudifasciatus) 1
Cuban Vireo (Vireo gundlachii) 1 Photos
Barn Swallow (Hirundo rustica) 1
**Zapata Wren** (Ferminia cerverai) 1 Great photos and an amazing display for the team. This is the most interesting behavior I have ever seen from a Zapata Wren. Wren in general are typically very secretive and difficult to observe. Our Wren sat openly in view, calling , turning and displaying long downwardly pointing barred tail and distinctive supercillium.
**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** (Polioptila caerulea) 1
Gray Catbird (Dumetella carolinensis) 12
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 6
**Ovenbird** (Seiurus aurocapilla) 1
**Northern Waterthrush** (Parkesia noveboracensis) 10
**Black-and-white Warbler** (Mniotilta varia) 6
**Common Yellowthroat** (Geothlypis trichas) 55 Very large number of COTH around the Zapata
**American Redstart** (Setophaga ruticilla) 8
**Northern Parula** (Setophaga americana) 5
**Palm Warbler** (Setophaga palmarum) 11
**Prairie Warbler** (Setophaga discolor) 3
**Yellow-headed Warbler** (Teretistris fernandinae) 15
Yellow-faced Grassquit (Tiaris olivaceus) 13
**Red-shouldered Blackbird (Agelaius assimilis) 10** many were seen in the distance
Greater Antillean Grackle (Quiscalus niger) 4
**Cuban Oriole** (Icterus melanopsis) 1
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12165803

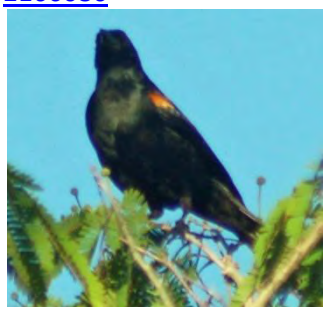
Zapata Wren

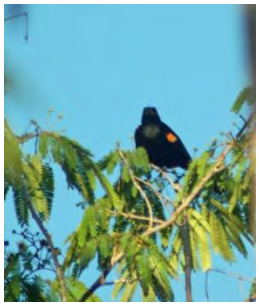
**La Turba side road** Day 7 Nov 10 2012, CU-04
Nov 10, 2012 10:05 AM - 11:05 AM
Protocol: Traveling
0.8 mile(s)
Comments: This walk took us down side road looking for birds we had missed. Some good birds for La Turba
15 species

**Limpkin** (Aramus guarauna) 1
Great Lizard-Cuckoo (Coccyzus merlini) 1
Antillean Palm-Swift (Tachornis phoenicobia) 5
**Cuban Trogon** (Priotelus temnurus) 1 photos
**Cuban Tody** (Todus multicolor) 1
**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** (Sphyrapicus varius) 1
American Kestrel (Falco sparverius) 1
Loggerhead Kingbird (Tyrannus caudifasciatus) 1
Cuban Vireo (Vireo gundlachii) 1
Cuban Crow (Corvus nasicus) 2
**Black-and-white Warbler** (Mniotilta varia) 2
**American Redstart** (Setophaga ruticilla) 1
**Black-throated Blue Warbler** (Setophaga caerulescens) 3
**Yellow-headed Warbler** (Teretistris fernandinae) 8
Western Spindalis (Spindalis zena) 3
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12165870

**La Boca Cocodrillo Farm** Day 7 Nov 10 2012, CU-04
Nov 10, 2012 10:35 AM - 12:00 PM
Protocol: Traveling
0.6 mile(s)
Comments: This stop allows us to refuel and take a pit stop where there are traditionally some excellent birds.
31 species

Neotropic Cormorant (Phalacrocorax brasilianus) 1
**Anhinga** (Anhinga anhinga) 1
Great Blue Heron (Ardea herodias) 1
Great Egret (Ardea alba) 1
Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 7
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 30
**Purple Gallinule** (Porphyrio martinicus) 1
Common Gallinule (Gallinula galeata) 2
Killdeer (Charadrius vociferus) 2
Antillean Palm-Swift (Tachornis phoenicobia) 7
Cuban Emerald (Chlorostilbon ricordii) 3
**West Indian Woodpecker** (Melanerpes superciliaris) 2
American Kestrel (Falco sparverius) 3
Cuban Pewee (Contopus caribaeus) 2
**Cuban Crow** (Corvus nasicus) 3
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (Polioptila caerulea) 1
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 5
**Northern Waterthrush** (Parkesia noveboracensis) 2
**Black-and-white Warbler (Mniotilta varia) 3**
**Common Yellowthroat (Geothlypis trichas) 3**
**American Redstart (Setophaga ruticilla) 3**
**Cape May Warbler (Setophaga tigrina) 1**
**Northern Parula (Setophaga americana) 4**
**Black-throated Blue Warbler (Setophaga caerulescens) 8**
**Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 15**
**Yellow-throated Warbler (Setophaga dominica) 2**
**Black-throated Green Warbler (Setophaga virens) 1**
Tawny-shouldered Blackbird (Agelaius humeralis) 35
Cuban Blackbird (Dives atroviolaceus) 14
Greater Antillean Grackle (Quiscalus niger) 17
Cuban Oriole (Icterus melanopsis) 8
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12166086


Red-shouldered Black Bird


Ciénaga de Zapata

**Red-Shouldered Blackbird Hotspot** Day 7 Nov 10 2012, CU-04
Nov 10, 2012 12:03 PM - 12:28 PM

Protocol: Stationary
Comments: **250 Red-shouldered Blackbird** The largest flock Arturo has ever seen with males and females everywhere, some singing.
2 species

Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 15
**Red-shouldered Blackbird** (Agelaius assimilis) **250**. This very large flock was seen by Michael as we traveled north on the highway from La Boca
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12165979

Female Red-shouldered Blackbird Nov 2012

**Las Salinas Parque Nacional Ciénaga de Zapata** Day 7 Nov 10 2012, CU-04
Nov 10, 2012 3:00 PM - 4:45 PM
Protocol: Traveling
8.5 mile(s)
Comments: Always a treat to spend time in La Salinas and today was a classic experience. A male and female Peregrine Falcon was working over a very large flock of 550 American Coots and 3000 Blue-winged Teal. They put on quite a show. This trip was shortened because we had other target species to find.
31 species

**Blue-winged Teal (Anas discors) 3000** at least and probably more. There were two Peregrine Falcons working over this flock. At one point the whole flock went into the air...spectacular.
**American Flamingo** (Phoenicopterus ruber) 150
Neotropic Cormorant (Phalacrocorax brasilianus) 15
Great Egret (Ardea alba) 8
Snowy Egret (Egretta thula) 12
**Little Blue Heron** (Egretta caerulea) 6
Tricolored Heron (Egretta tricolor) 6
**Reddish Egret** (Egretta rufescens) 1 white morph
Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 5
**Green Heron** (Butorides virescens) 2
White Ibis (Eudocimus albus) 1
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 35
**Northern Harrier** (Circus cyaneus) 2
American Coot (Fulica americana) 550 In front of the BWTL with Peregrine Falcon diving at them repeatedly
Royal Tern (Thalasseus maximus) 3
Zenaida Dove (Zenaida aurita) 5
Belted Kingfisher (Megaceryle alcyon) 3
**Cuban Green Woodpecker** (Xiphidiopicus percussus) 1
Crested Caracara (Caracara cheriway) 1
American Kestrel (Falco sparverius) 1
**Peregrine Falcon** (Falco peregrinus) 2 working a large flock of Ducks and Coot
Cuban Pewee (Contopus caribaeus) 2
**Barn Swallow** (Hirundo rustica) 2
Red-legged Thrush (Turdus plumbeus) 4
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 3
**Northern Waterthrush** (Parkesia noveboracensis) 2
**Common Yellowthroat** (Geothlypis trichas) 1
**American Redstart** (Setophaga ruticilla) 1
**Yellow Warbler** (Setophaga petechia) 3
**Palm Warbler** (Setophaga palmarum) 5
**Prairie Warbler** (Setophaga discolor) 1
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12166321

**Soplillar** Day 7 Nov 10 2012, CU-04
Nov 10, 2012 4:45 PM - 5:45 PM
Protocol: Traveling
0.7 mile(s)
Comments: Water everywhere and no place for humans to walk !! This is the scene as we search for target species Cuban Pygmy Owl and Fernandina's Flicker. The water in the forest has once again limited our work plan.
16 species

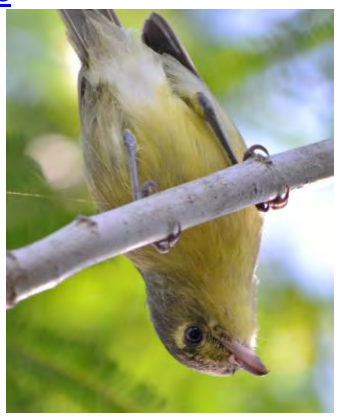
Great Egret (Ardea alba) 1
**Little Blue Heron** (Egretta caerulea) 1
Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 3

Green Heron (Butorides virescens) 2
**Limpkin** (Aramus guarauna) 2
Killdeer (Charadrius vociferus) 2
**Northern Jacana** (Jacana spinosa) 2
Rock Pigeon (Columba livia) 14 I Soplillar
Great Lizard-Cuckoo (Coccyzus merlini) 1
American Kestrel (Falco sparverius) 1
Red-legged Thrush (Turdus plumbeus) 2
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 1
**Northern Waterthrush** (Parkesia noveboracensis) 2
Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 15
Cuban Blackbird (Dives atroviolaceus) 2
Greater Antillean Grackle (Quiscalus niger) 8
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12166375

## DAY 8 November 11, 2012 Zapata Birds

**Hotel Playa Larga Day 8** Nov 11 2012, CU-04
Nov 11, 2012 6:00 AM - 8:00 AM
Protocol: Traveling
0.5 mile(s)
Comments: The emergence of Green Dragonfly's has become an important food source for the plethora of migratory birds either stopping over of wintering on Cuba. I have never seen so many dragonfly's, suggesting an amazingly healthy local ecology. The Birds on this list are some of the species seen on the hotel grounds. We have had so little time outside of field work to fully explore the hotel grounds. These should be added to the long list of species seen here over the years. Today is a travel day to Cayo Coco and a day to say farewell to four of our colleagues
18 species

Great Egret (Ardea alba) 1
Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 5
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 46
Killdeer (Charadrius vociferus) 2
Rock Pigeon (Columba livia) 35
**Cuban Pygmy-Owl** (Glaucidium siju) 1
American Kestrel (Falco sparverius) 2
Cuban Parrot (Amazona leucocephala) 10
Cuban Pewee (Contopus caribaeus) 1
Cuban Crow (Corvus nasicus) 2
Tree Swallow (Tachycineta bicolor) 35
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 5
**Black-throated Blue Warbler** (Setophaga caerulescens) 1
Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 10
Tawny-shouldered Blackbird (Agelaius humeralis) 22
**Cuban Blackbird** (Dives atroviolaceus) 8
Greater Antillean Grackle (Quiscalus niger) 15
House Sparrow (Passer domesticus) 2
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12167368


Cuban Vireo Juan Chivi'

**Travel to Cayo Coco** Day 8 Nov 11 2012, CU-04
Nov 11, 2012 8:15 AM - 9:15 AM
Protocol: Traveling
35.0 mile(s)
Comments: The group is smaller as 4 people have returned to Havana to make the trip back home. For the rest of the group today is the beginning of our tour to the northern Cays and the region of Cayo Coco in the Ciega de Avila province. Most of the trip today will be birding from a moving vehicle so the lists generated will be for the entire province traversed. This list represents birds seen in Matanzas province.
15 species

Great Blue Heron (Ardea herodias) 2
Great Egret (Ardea alba) 3
Snowy Egret (Egretta thula) 6
Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 43
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 15
Red-tailed Hawk (Buteo jamaicensis) 2
**Stilt Sandpiper** (Calidris himantopus) 1 flying and observed during a stop along the road
Smooth-billed Ani (Crotophaga ani) 11
**West Indian Woodpecker** (Melanerpes

superciliaris) 1
Crested Caracara (Caracara cheriway) 1
American Kestrel (Falco sparverius) 8 3 white morph and 5 unknown
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 4
Common Yellowthroat (Geothlypis trichas) 8
**Tawny-shouldered Blackbird** (Agelaius humeralis) 55 3 different flocks of birds
Cuban Blackbird (Dives atroviolaceus) 10
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12167487

**Travel to Cayo Coco** Day 8 Nov 11 2012
Cienfuegos Province, CU-06
Nov 11, 2012 10:54 AM - 11:29 AM
Protocol: Traveling
45.0 mile(s)
Comments: Road birding is never as much fun as the real McCoy as we work through Cienfuegos province with our driver Modesto. So far so good and the miles keep clicking away closer to Cayo Coco. We see plenty of rice drying on the roads and American soldier Harry Reeve's Memorial from the 1870's.
12 species

Anhinga (Anhinga anhinga) 1
Great Egret (Ardea alba) 6
Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 67
**Northern Harrier** (Circus cyaneus) 1 seen along the way over a field Gavilan Sabanero
Mourning Dove (Zenaida macroura) 5
Common Ground-Dove (Columbina passerina) 3
Smooth-billed Ani (Crotophaga ani) 3
**Antillean Palm-Swift** (Tachornis phoenicobia) 45
**Crested Caracara (Caracara cheriway) 2**
American Kestrel (Falco sparverius) 6 5 White Morph and 1 Red Morph
Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 1
Eastern Meadowlark (Sturnella magna) 1
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12167627

**Travel to Cayo Coco** Day 8 Nov 11 2012 Villa Clara province, CU-05
Nov 11, 2012 11:40 AM - 12:40 PM
Protocol: Traveling
48.0 mile(s)
Comments: Travel to Cayo Coco through Villa Clara and the resting grounds for Che' Guevara.
13 species

Great Blue Heron (Ardea herodias) 1
Great Egret (Ardea alba) 7
Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 75
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 320
Rock Pigeon (Columba livia) 31
**Zenaida Dove** (Zenaida aurita) 1
Mourning Dove (Zenaida macroura) 5
Great Lizard-Cuckoo (Coccyzus merlini) 1
Smooth-billed Ani (Crotophaga ani) 2
**American Kestrel (**Falco sparverius) 3 2 White morph and 1 Red Morph
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 1
Cuban Blackbird (Dives atroviolaceus) 1
Greater Antillean Grackle (Quiscalus niger) 1
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12167766

**Travel to Cayo Coco** Day 8 Nov 11 2012 Ciega de Avila Province, CU-08
Nov 11, 2012 1:25 PM - 2:55 PM
Protocol: Traveling
45.0 mile(s)
Comments: Ciega de Avila province is home to Cayo Coco so we do not have far to travel and we will soon stop for a food break at Rio Azul, a well known road stop with excellent food.
13 species

**Anhinga (**Anhinga anhinga) 1
Great Egret (Ardea alba) 2
**Tricolored Heron** (Egretta tricolor) 1
Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 52
Green Heron (Butorides virescens) 1
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 260
**Northern Harrier** (Circus cyaneus) 1 flying near the road
Killdeer (Charadrius vociferus) 6
Common Ground-Dove (Columbina passerina) 20
Smooth-billed Ani (Crotophaga ani) 1
Belted Kingfisher (Megaceryle alcyon) 1
American Kestrel (Falco sparverius) 4 white morph
Greater Antillean Grackle (Quiscalus niger) 5

http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12167840

**Rio Azul Paladare** Day 8 Nov 11 2012, CU-07
Nov 11, 2012 1:53 PM - 3:03 PM
Protocol: Stationary
Comments: A Paladare is a road side stop for your taste buds but also allows us to sample the birds along this small stream.
13 species

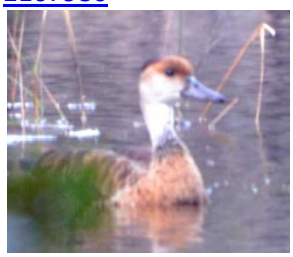
Cuban Emerald (Chlorostilbon ricordii) 2
La Sagra's Flycatcher (Myiarchus sagrae) 1
**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** (Polioptila caerulea) 2
Red-legged Thrush (Turdus plumbeus) 1
Gray Catbird (Dumetella carolinensis) 1
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 1
**Louisiana Waterthrush** (Parkesia motacilla) 1
American Redstart (Setophaga ruticilla) 1
**Cape May Warbler** (Setophaga tigrina) 1
Northern Parula (Setophaga americana) 2
**Black-throated Blue Warbler** (Setophaga caerulescens) 2
Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 3
Greater Antillean Grackle (Quiscalus niger) 2
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12167907

Cuban Green Woodpecker

West Indian Woodpecker

**Causeway to Cayo Coco** Day 8 Nov 11 2012, CU-08
Nov 11, 2012 4:06 PM - 4:31 PM
Protocol: Traveling
13.6 mile(s)
Comments: This is always an exciting time of the tour as we reach the Atlantic Ocean and the end of the long road from Playa Larga. The first bird seen here by Jim Moore was a Mangrove Cuckoo.
12 species

**Magnificent Frigatebird** (Fregata magnificens) 3
Double-crested Cormorant (Phalacrocorax auritus) 11
Brown Pelican (Pelecanus occidentalis) 5
Great Blue Heron (Ardea herodias) 1
**Wurdemann's Heron seen by Arturo and myself.**
Reddish Egret (Egretta rufescens) 1
Roseate Spoonbill (Platalea ajaja) 1
Ruddy Turnstone (Arenaria interpres) 1
Laughing Gull (Leucophaeus atricilla) 40
Royal Tern (Thalasseus maximus) 52 counted along the causeway
**Mangrove Cuckoo** (Coccyzus minor) 1 seen by Jim Moore and a few others from the bus
**Great Lizard-Cuckoo** (Coccyzus merlini) 1
Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 3
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12167986


West Indian Whistling Duck

Cayo Coco

**Cayo Coco 1st stop** Day 8 Nov 11 2012, CU-08
Nov 11, 2012 4:40 PM - 5:20 PM
Protocol: Traveling
0.5 mile(s)
Comments: This list marks our first stop and a good one as we located and saw West Indian Whistling Duck before the sun set.
9 species

**West Indian Whistling-Duck** (Dendrocygna arborea) 3 seen and photos
Blue-winged Teal (Anas discors) 5
Great Blue Heron (Ardea herodias) 1
**Cuban Black-Hawk** (Buteogallus gundlachii) 1
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 1
Prairie Warbler (Setophaga discolor) 1
**Oriente Warbler** (Teretistris fornsi) 3 the first of many but the first for all of our field workers who were happy to get their first look at this

Cuban endemic species and a Cayo Coco specialty bird
Cuban Bullfinch (Melopyrrha nigra) 5
**Zapata Sparrow** (Torreornis inexpectata varonai) 2 two birds were seen briefly at the end of this day but we nailed our first target bird for Cayo Coco.
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12168086

Cabrerito de la Cienaga (Torreornis inexpectata varonai)

## DAY 9 November 12, 2012 Cayo Coco Birds

**Sol Cayo Coco** Day 9 #147 Nov 12 2012, CU-08
Nov 12, 2012 6:45 AM - 7:30 AM
Protocol: Traveling
1.2 mile(s)
Comments: The water fountain at Sol Cayo Coco greets us every morning here at the Sol Cayo Coco and so does sunrise, albeit around 6:30.... So we started the day with a short walk around the deciduous shrub edge habitat the hotel and a first glimpse of the avian assemblages of the northern Cays. First impression is that there are a large number of migratory birds, especially North American breeding warblers and shorebirds.
31 species

Magnificent Frigatebird (Fregata magnificens) 7
**Brown Pelican** (Pelecanus occidentalis) 1
Little Blue Heron (Egretta caerulea) 5
Tricolored Heron (Egretta tricolor) 2
**Reddish Egret** (Egretta rufescens) 3
Green Heron (Butorides virescens) 1
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 75
**Black-necked Stilt** (Himantopus mexicanus) 6
Sanderling (Calidris alba) 20 flying over the beach to the west
Laughing Gull (Leucophaeus atricilla) 26
West Indian Woodpecker (Melanerpes superciliaris) 2
**Crested Caracara** (Caracara cheriway) 2
American Kestrel (Falco sparverius) 3
Cuban Pewee (Contopus caribaeus) 1
**Cuban Vireo** (Vireo gundlachii) 1
Red-legged Thrush (Turdus plumbeus) 2
Gray Catbird (Dumetella carolinensis) 1
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 4
**Ovenbird (Seiurus aurocapilla) 1**
**Northern Waterthrush (Parkesia noveboracensis) 8**
**Common Yellowthroat (Geothlypis trichas) 12**
**Cape May Warbler (Setophaga tigrina) 4**
**Northern Parula (Setophaga americana) 3**
**Magnolia Warbler (Setophaga magnolia) 1 mix in with many species along the water's edge**
**Yellow Warbler (Setophaga petechia) 5 all Caribbean race**
**Black-throated Blue Warbler (Setophaga caerulescens) 1**
**Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 30**
**Yellow-throated Warbler (Setophaga dominica) 3**
Cuban Bullfinch (Melopyrrha nigra) 2
Western Spindalis (Spindalis zena) 2
Greater Antillean Grackle (Quiscalus niger) 55 one on every chair according to Jim and Debbie.
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12170074

Cuban Green Woodpecker Carpintero Verde

**Travel to Cayo Paradon Grande** Day 9 Nov 12 2012 #148, CU-08
Nov 12, 2012 9:15 AM - 9:40 AM
Protocol: Traveling
9.4 mile(s)
Comments: Cayo Paradon Grande is an VITALLY IMPORTANT BIRD AREA in the Cayo Coco archipelago and one I hope the Cuban authorities deem important to conserve. One target species today is Thick-billed Vireo (Vireo crassirostris), which can only be found in this small location in all of the Cuban Islands. This habitat is too vital to destroy with development and frivolous human activity. We made a couple of stops along the way. This is reflected in the species list especially **Zapata Sparrow** (Torreornis inexpectata varonai) the Cayo Coco race. The other Cuban endemic bird we found was Oriente Warbler (Teretistris fornsi)
24 species

Magnificent Frigatebird (Fregata magnificens) 6
Double-crested Cormorant (Phalacrocorax auritus) 1
Brown Pelican (Pelecanus occidentalis) 2
Little Blue Heron (Egretta caerulea) 2
**Tricolored Heron** (Egretta tricolor) 7
Reddish Egret (Egretta rufescens) 1
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 50
**Cuban Black-Hawk** (Buteogallus gundlachii) 1
**Black-necked Stilt** (Himantopus mexicanus) 3
Laughing Gull (Leucophaeus atricilla) 5
Royal Tern (Thalasseus maximus) 2
**Eurasian Collared-Dove** (Streptopelia decaocto) 3
Common Ground-Dove (Columbina passerina) 5
Great Lizard-Cuckoo (Coccyzus merlini) 1
**Cuban Tody** (Todus multicolor) 2
Crested Caracara (Caracara cheriway) 1
**Peregrine Falcon** (Falco peregrinus) 1 seen in the distance and scoped out
Cuban Pewee (Contopus caribaeus) 1
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 5
**Magnolia Warbler** (Setophaga magnolia) 1 mixed in with many warblers and seen by Arturo and myself
Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 5
**Oriente Warbler** (Teretistris fornsi) 8
Cuban Bullfinch (Melopyrrha nigra) 3
**Zapata Sparrow** (Torreornis inexpectata) 4
Another good location marked good looks at the Cayo Coco race
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12170202

Thick-billed Vireo Vireo de las Bahama

**Cayo Romano** Travel to CPG Day 9 Nov 12 2012 #149, CU-08
Nov 12, 2012 9:37 AM - 9:47 AM
Protocol: Traveling
6.9 mile(s)
Comments: This is a hard place to drive through because one always wants to stop....but we have a clear goal in mind for Cayo Paradon Grande. This is the heart of the cayo habitat where we find high water here as well.
13 species

**Blue-winged Teal** (Anas discors) 115 three flocks of 20,80 and 15
Double-crested Cormorant (Phalacrocorax auritus) 15

Great Blue Heron (Ardea herodias) 2
Great Egret (Ardea alba) 5
**Little Blue Heron (Egretta caerulea) 42** two white morph
Tricolored Heron (Egretta tricolor) 15
Reddish Egret (Egretta rufescens) 10 two white morph
**White Ibis** (Eudocimus albus) 19
**Cuban Black-Hawk** (Buteogallus gundlachii) 2
American Coot (Fulica americana) 60 flocks of 50 and 10
Belted Kingfisher (Megaceryle alcyon) 1
**Crested Caracara** (Caracara cheriway) 1
Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 2
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12170274

Cuban Gnatcatcher Sinsontillo

**Cayo Paradon Grande** Day 9 Nov 12 2012
#150, CU-08
Nov 12, 2012 9:51 AM - 11:11 AM
Protocol: Traveling
3.2 mile(s)
Comments: Thick-billed Vireo and Cuban Gnatcatcher are the target birds
16 species (+1 other taxa)

**Magnificent Frigatebird** (Fregata magnificens) 3
Double-crested Cormorant (Phalacrocorax auritus) 2
Brown Pelican (Pelecanus occidentalis) 2
Great Egret (Ardea alba) 1
**Reddish Egret (Egretta rufescens) 1**
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 75
**Black-bellied Plover** (Pluvialis squatarola) 3
Royal Tern (Thalasseus maximus) 9
Cuban Emerald (Chlorostilbon ricordii) 2
small falcon sp. (Falco sp. (small falcon sp.)) 1
not enough information for ID
Cuban Pewee (Contopus caribaeus) 2
**Thick-billed Vireo** (Vireo crassirostris) 4
excellent photos taken
**Cuban Gnatcatcher** (Polioptila lembeyei) 9
another success story with birds coming right up to us.
Yellow Warbler (Setophaga petechia) 1
Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 2
Cuban Bullfinch (Melopyrrha nigra) 5
Western Spindalis (Spindalis zena) 5
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12170365

Monarch Butterfly Cayo Paradon Grande

**Cayo Romano Bridge** Day 9 Nov 12 2012
#152, CU-08
Nov 12, 2012 11:10 AM - 11:55 AM
Protocol: Stationary
Comments: Lesser Black-backed Gull is still present after almost 10 years living here at the Cayo Romano Bridge. Today there is a boat rusting near the water's edge opposite a small stretch of mangrove east of the bridge where we see the Lesser Black-backed Gull sitting on the ground. We also witnessed a Great Blue Heron thermal regulating by displaying its wings forward and extending its chest outward making the bird look oddly out of place.
13 species

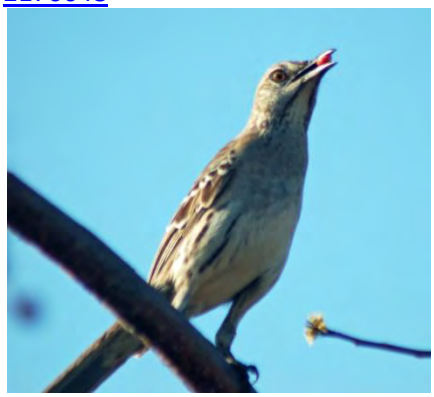
Double-crested Cormorant (Phalacrocorax auritus) 5
Great Blue Heron (Ardea herodias) 1
White Ibis (Eudocimus albus) 1
**Osprey** (Pandion haliaetus) 1
Ruddy Turnstone (Arenaria interpres) 4

Laughing Gull (Leucophaeus atricilla) 35
**Lesser Black-backed Gull** (Larus fuscus) 1 This bird has been a feature here for many years and it was once again a pleasure to see this dark mandible bird and make the ID with Arturo KirkConnell.
Royal Tern (Thalasseus maximus) 40
Smooth-billed Ani (Crotophaga ani) 11
**Yellow Warbler** (Setophaga petechia) 3
Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 7
**Prairie Warbler** (Setophaga discolor) 1
Greater Antillean Grackle (Quiscalus niger) 2
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12170475

Oriente Warbler Pechero

**Cayo Guillermo** Day 9 Nov 12 2012 #153, CU-07
Nov 12, 2012 3:44 PM - 4:55 PM
Protocol: Traveling
3.6 mile(s)
Comments: The target this afternoon was Bahama Mockingbird so we made a bee line for known spots. This is a THREATENED STATUS species. Over the years we have noted a growing population of Northern Mockingbirds and a noticeably greater impact by humans in this area. Today we did not find Bahama Mockingbird and will make another attempt tomorrow morning.
29 species

Blue-winged Teal (Anas discors) 18
American Flamingo (Phoenicopterus ruber) 125
Great Blue Heron (Ardea herodias) 2
Great Egret (Ardea alba) 9
Little Blue Heron (Egretta caerulea) 2
Tricolored Heron (Egretta tricolor) 4
Reddish Egret (Egretta rufescens) 1 white morph
Roseate Spoonbill (Platalea ajaja) 3 excellent photos by Arturo KirkConnell
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 40
Black-necked Stilt (Himantopus mexicanus) 105 Good numbers in the Hotel lagoons
**American Avocet** (Recurvirostra americana) 6 we were excited about these birds and some good photos were taken
**Short-billed Dowitcher** (Limnodromus griseus) 1
Laughing Gull (Leucophaeus atricilla) 25
Royal Tern (Thalasseus maximus) 3
Cuban Emerald (Chlorostilbon ricordii) 7
Belted Kingfisher (Megaceryle alcyon) 1
Crested Caracara (Caracara cheriway) 2
American Kestrel (Falco sparverius) 4
Cuban Pewee (Contopus caribaeus) 1
**Cuban Vireo** (Vireo gundlachii) 2
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 12
**Bahama Mockingbird** (Mimus gundlachii) 1 GPS location #154 was the first where the bird was heard but not seen. A difficulty with finding this bird has prompted us to return tomorrow.
**Northern Waterthrush** (Parkesia noveboracensis) 7
Common Yellowthroat (Geothlypis trichas) 2
American Redstart (Setophaga ruticilla) 1
Black-throated Blue Warbler (Setophaga caerulescens) 1
Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 15
Prairie Warbler (Setophaga discolor) 6
Greater Antillean Grackle (Quiscalus niger) 2
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12170648



Bahama Mockingbird Sinsonte Prieto

## DAY 10 November 13, 2012 Cayo Coco Birds

**Cayo Guillermo Day10** Nov 13 2012 Stop one # 157, CU-08
Nov 13, 2012 7:00 AM - 8:04 AM
Protocol: Traveling
1.2 mile(s)
Comments: While walking the scrub forest of CG I learned from our Cuban co-workers that there are approximately 4000 island in this archipelago .

13 species

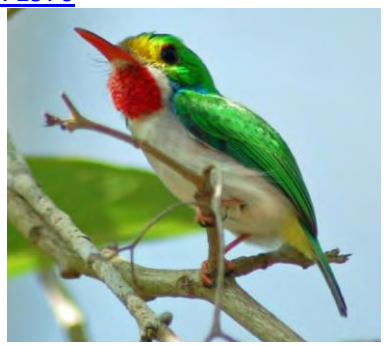
Great Egret (Ardea alba) 2
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 15
Osprey (Pandion haliaetus) 1
**Cuban Black-Hawk** (Buteogallus gundlachii) 2
Cuban Emerald (Chlorostilbon ricordii) 3
Cuban Vireo (Vireo gundlachii) 2 Photos
Gray Catbird (Dumetella carolinensis) 2
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 11
**Black-throated Blue Warbler (Setophaga caerulescens) 2**
**Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 16**
**Prairie Warbler (Setophaga discolor) 1**
Cuban Bullfinch (Melopyrrha nigra) 3
Greater Antillean Grackle (Quiscalus niger) 2
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12171882

Reddish Egret Cayo Coco 2012

**Cayo Guillermo** Day 10 Nov 13 2012 Stop 2, CU-08
Nov 12, 2012 8:04 AM - 9:38 AM
Protocol: Traveling
1.2 mile(s)

Comments: This location was taped and phished with no sign of Northern Mockingbird. It was heard 2 times clearly by several people in our group. Silver Palm, Cacti and Century Plants are dominant plant life in this scrub and nearly impenetrable habitat. Mangrove Cuckoo have been located in this region on past trips
17 species

Magnificent Frigatebird (Fregata magnificens) 4
Brown Pelican (Pelecanus occidentalis) 1
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 25
Osprey (Pandion haliaetus) 3
Royal Tern (Thalasseus maximus) 1
Smooth-billed Ani (Crotophaga ani) 6
Cuban Emerald (Chlorostilbon ricordii) 2
Cuban Vireo (Vireo gundlachii) 3
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 2
**Bahama Mockingbird (Mimus gundlachii) 2**
Heard and one seen briefly. No displays as in recent trips. Arturo Kirkconnell and I heard the first bird clearly calling about 125 yards from the road.
**Common Yellowthroat (Geothlypis trichas) 1**
**Cape May Warbler (Setophaga tigrina) 1**
**Northern Parula (Setophaga americana) 2**
**Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 9**
**Prairie Warbler (Setophaga discolor) 1**
Cuban Bullfinch (Melopyrrha nigra) 2
Greater Antillean Grackle (Quiscalus niger) 3
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12171970

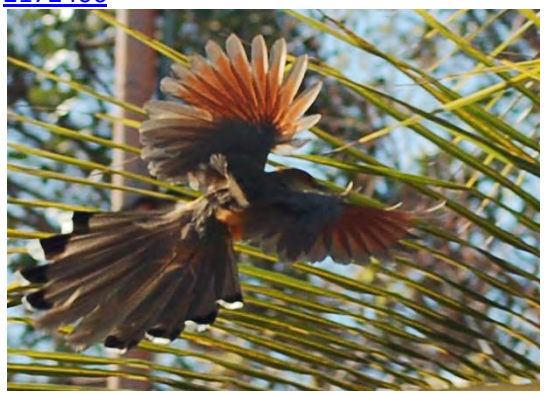


Cuban Tody Cartacuba

**Cueva Jabali' Cayo Coco** Day 10 Nov 13 2012 #159, CU-08
Nov 13, 2012 9:38 AM - 10:50 AM
Protocol: Traveling
1.3 mile(s)

Comments: Warm and sunny with some clouds this stop produced a good observation of Key West Quail Dove, Scaly-naped Pigeon and Oriente Warbler. Because today is a travel day we are moving quickly through the species list and places we need to check before we set out for Havana.
15 species

Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 5
Royal Tern (Thalasseus maximus) 1
Scaly-naped Pigeon (Patagioenas squamosa) 1 fly-by
Zenaida Dove (Zenaida aurita) 2
**Key West Quail-Dove** (Geotrygon chrysia) 1 well seen by everyone in the scope
Cuban Emerald (Chlorostilbon ricordii) 2
**Cuban Tody** (Todus multicolor) 1 seen well after leaving the Quail dove
Cuban Pewee (Contopus caribaeus) 3
**Cuban Vireo** (Vireo gundlachii) 2
Red-legged Thrush (Turdus plumbeus) 2
**Gray Catbird** (Dumetella carolinensis) 1
Black-throated Blue Warbler (Setophaga caerulescens) 1
**Oriente Warbler** (Teretistris fornsi) 8
Cuban Bullfinch (Melopyrrha nigra) 20
Western Spindalis (Spindalis zena) 1
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12172406



Great Lizard Cuckoo (Cayo coco Race) Arriero

**Cayo Coco Sewage Lagoon** Day10 Nov 13 2012 #161, CU-08
Nov 13, 2012 10:50 AM - 11:10 AM
Protocol: Traveling
0.3 mile(s)
Comments: Our last stop of the day before traveling to Santa Maria and the way back to Havana. This is typically a productive stop. A few Sandpipers were seen and some good looks at Ducks.
21 species

Blue-winged Teal (Anas discors) 18
**Northern Shoveler** (Anas clypeata) 4
Magnificent Frigatebird (Fregata magnificens) 1
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 12
Killdeer (Charadrius vociferus) 3
Black-necked Stilt (Himantopus mexicanus) 25
**American Avocet** (Recurvirostra americana) 10 At times sitting on the water before flying off
**Spotted Sandpiper (Actitis macularius) 3**
**Greater Yellowlegs (Tringa melanoleuca) 2**
**Lesser Yellowlegs (Tringa flavipes) 1**
**Least Sandpiper (Calidris minutilla) 6**
Great Lizard-Cuckoo (Coccyzus merlini) 1 flying in front of the bus
Smooth-billed Ani (Crotophaga ani) 4
Cuban Pewee (Contopus caribaeus) 1
**La Sagra's Flycatcher** (Myiarchus sagrae) 1
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 1
Common Yellowthroat (Geothlypis trichas) 1
Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 3
Prairie Warbler (Setophaga discolor) 1
**Yellow-faced Grassquit** (Tiaris olivaceus) 3
Greater Antillean Grackle (Quiscalus niger) 5
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12172514

American Avocet and Black-necked Stilt Cayo Guillermo

**Travel to Santa Clara** Day 10 Nov 13 2012, CU-08
Nov 13, 2012 1:40 PM - 3:20 PM
Protocol: Traveling
30.0 mile(s)
Comments: Starting our trip back to Santa Clara and leaving Sol Cayo Coco is never a festive occasion because we are leaving one of the

most **IMPORTANT BIRD AREAS** in Cuba. We are happy because we have found most of the birds we set out to observe but we are longing for more....more images we can take home, more bird interactions and observable relationships and more vistas of sandy beaches and lagoons with florescent Flamingos. In Cayo Coco, there is an abundance of northern breeding birds seeking the solace of these shimmering shorelines, lagoons and forest of Cuba's northern cays. Mimicking the coastal shoreline of Maine in so many ways, the Cuban coastal zone welcomes waves of the migratory energy of the avian masses. Back home in Maine, after a long winter, the birds are a welcome relief from the quiet and sleeping frozen land. This time in Cuba, we were greeted with high water, a good many mosquitoes and a variety of other insects important to the long term health and welfare of millions of migratory and over-wintering migrants. The environmental health of Cuba is absolutely strategic to the future health of the eastern migratory pathway.
7 species

**Great Egret** (Ardea alba) 14 an aquaculture pond produced many of these birds.
Snowy Egret (Egretta thula) 1
**Little Blue Heron** (Egretta caerulea) 2
Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 248 one field had over 200 individuals
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 125 large flocks near the coastal edge towns and fields
Royal Tern (Thalasseus maximus) 40
Rock Pigeon (Columba livia) 60 Moron and the surrounding cityscape.
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12174855

Cuban Pewee

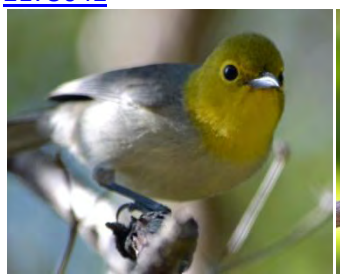
White-eyed Vireo Vireo de Ojo Blanco

## CALVARIO Hotspot Day 10 Nov 13 2012

#164, CU-08
Nov 13, 2012 4:59 PM - 5:39 PM
Protocol: Stationary
Comments: "EVERY PICTURE TELLS A STORY..... DON'T IT"… and this story includes a broken Bus and a 2 hour wait. Some interesting encounters with the local population of Calvario which probably will be talked about in town for some time to come. So what does any trip leader worth his or her salt do when the chips are down.... we go birding!
This story ends with so many wonderful stories including a new bus and driver, a bottle of Cuban rum for the weary birders, and the realization that this location could become another important stop along the way for warblers. If every river and stream has the same quantity of warblers, then Cuba is the warbler Mecca of the West Indies. Here we found so many birds in this rural community that we will make this a brief stop every trip I am a part of. If you ever need help along the road...this small rural and struggling community is the place to come because the people are special and the place is worth stopping by. The bridge over the river is loaded with warblers, gnatcatchers and flycatchers. Calvario is an amazing place and amazing community of caring people. Next time you stop in make sure you say that Tio (uncle) Michael sent you there! The road parallel to the river has many avian gifts to offer.
22 species

Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 60
Smooth-billed Ani (Crotophaga ani) 6

Cuban Emerald (Chlorostilbon ricordii) 3
**White-eyed Vireo** (Vireo griseus) 1 in a large mix of Warblers. Arturo found it first and relocated it in a tree totally filled with birds
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (Polioptila caerulea) 2
Red-legged Thrush (Turdus plumbeus) 5
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 2
**Ovenbird (Seiurus aurocapilla) 1**
**Louisiana Waterthrush (Parkesia motacilla) 4**
**Northern Waterthrush (Parkesia noveboracensis) 2**
**Black-and-white Warbler (Mniotilta varia) 4**
**Tennessee Warbler (Oreothlypis peregrina) 1**
**Our first confirmed Tennessee**
**Common Yellowthroat (Geothlypis trichas) 7**
**American Redstart (Setophaga ruticilla) 4**
**Northern Parula (Setophaga americana) 5**
**Yellow Warbler (Setophaga petechia) 3**
**Black-throated Blue Warbler (Setophaga caerulescens) 6**
**Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 5**
**Prairie Warbler (Setophaga discolor) 2**
Yellow-faced Grassquit (Tiaris olivaceus) 3
Cuban Blackbird (Dives atroviolaceus) 2
Greater Antillean Grackle (Quiscalus niger) 5
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12175042


Yellow-headed Warbler

Black-throated Blue Warbler

**CALVARIO hotspot** Day 10 Nov 13 2012 # 166, CU-08
Nov 13, 2012 5:15 PM - 5:45 PM
Protocol: Traveling
0.6 mile(s)
Comments: As we walked along this road we began to see so many birds responding to my phishing that we were forced to stop and look at each individual who made an approach to us. The response to Arturo and I was incredible and allowed us a small snapshot into the importance of these rural river communities to the breeding birds of North American eastern flyway, as most of these birds were eastern migrants. Thanks to the people of Calvario for their hospitality and understanding in wake of our broken bus. We were greatly indebted to them and looking forward to dropping off some care packages in the spring!
**23 species**

Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 11
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 18
**Greater Yellowlegs** (Tringa melanoleuca) 1
Flyby and calling clearly and pensively
Mourning Dove (Zenaida macroura) 5
Smooth-billed Ani (Crotophaga ani) 4
Cuban Emerald (Chlorostilbon ricordii) 1
**Cuban Tody** (Todus multicolor) 1 great looks for the group with us. (not many seen our trip)
West Indian Woodpecker (Melanerpes superciliaris) 1
American Kestrel (Falco sparverius) 1
Cuban Pewee (Contopus caribaeus) 1
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (Polioptila caerulea) 2
Gray Catbird (Dumetella carolinensis) 1
**Ovenbird (Seiurus aurocapilla) 1**
**Black-and-white Warbler (Mniotilta varia) 6**
**Common Yellowthroat (Geothlypis trichas) 7**
**American Redstart (Setophaga ruticilla) 5**
**Northern Parula (Setophaga americana) 13**
**Phished in and all around us.**
**Black-throated Blue Warbler (Setophaga caerulescens) 11**
**Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 23**
**Prairie Warbler (Setophaga discolor) 1**
**Black-throated Green Warbler (Setophaga virens) 3**
Cuban Blackbird (Dives atroviolaceus) 14
Greater Antillean Grackle (Quiscalus niger) 2
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12175125

**San Jose del Lago** Day 10 Nov 13 2012 #168, CU-07
Nov 13, 2012 6:44 PM - 6:59 PM
Protocol: Stationary
Comments: Making our way to Santa Clara we stopped by for a pit stop and found 250 Cattle Egret and a Barn Owl responding to a tape. A great bird for the trip and a good pit stop before Santa Clara. We are behind schedule because of mechanical problems but no one seems to care.
2 species

Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 250
**Barn Owl (Tyto alba) 1** responded to our tape and was flushed by a rush of Cattle Egret.
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12175182

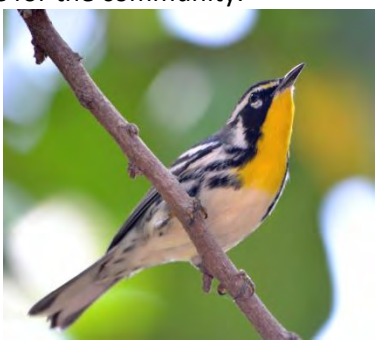
As of today, we have traveled 982 miles and that was the limit for our Havanatur bus which had a broken suspension issue in the rear wheel. Our bus problem and breaking down in the small village of Calvario was an opportunity to really witness the intense diversity of avian communities along the waterway that meanders through the village we chanced to stop in. As the event unfolded, we first arranged for transportation and found that Havanatur had responded immediately to our needs and sent another bus and driver to pick us up and continue the program.

To the people of this small town, the river is a vital water source for the animals that work their fields, and for the small farms and gardens that produce the food that nourishes this fairly self-sufficient community. To the migratory birds we are researching on our trip, the watersheds are stop-over and wintering grounds for untold numbers of birds, perhaps millions along the Cuban landmass.

The diversity and numbers of birds in Cuba is astounding during this time of year, based on what we saw along this river. What an educational moment on so many levels because Arturo has never been here to bird and I suspect that we are the first birders to EVER bird along this stretch of road and record that information scientifically.

In the short time we spent searching the community we found thirty species of birds, thirteen were wood warblers mixed with vireos, gnatcatchers, and others. As we walked along a small country road, which eventually lead to large fields of sugar cane and other agricultural fields devoid of the avian diversity seen in the tropical and semi-deciduous forests, we phished in large numbers of Northern Parula, Northern and Louisiana Waterthrush and Black-throated Blue Warblers. The terrain here was mostly flat but the river bed was deeply cut through the landscape forested on the banks and perfect habitat for insectivorous birds. Along this .8 mile stretch of road we called in over 150 warblers, at times filling the trees around us.

Fortuitously, we stopped in front of a house which served as the public phone for the community and it was the lifeline for our current plight. The house was not much more than a chicken coop but the cement floor was immaculately clean. The owner was a woman who served on the town council and welcomed us in to make phone calls and to get out of a small rain shower that passed just as we were trying to understand the damage to the bus. Before we knew it, the people in the community were inviting us onto their porches and into their homes to escape the temporary downpour. Through it all, the experience proved to be a positive one with a couple of laughs as we re-started our journey to Santa Clara. The hotel had been alerted to our plight and they would still be serving dinner on our arrival. You never know what the journey will bring you but we will always remember Calvario as a birding hotspot and potentially a new resource for the community.


Yellow-throated Warbler

## DAY 11 November 14, 2012 Santa Clara Birds

**Hotel Los Caneyes** Day 11 Nov 14 2012 #170, CU-05
Nov 14, 2012 6:30 AM - 6:50 AM
Protocol: Traveling
0.2 mile(s)

Comments: After a long day yesterday we woke out to the beautiful and picturesque campus of Hotel los Caneyes. A caneye was the Taino or traditional family house with thatched roofs and a compact living arrangement you typically find in Cuban homes. I discovered and photographed a local boa constrictor, Maja Bobo.
13 species

Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 1
Mourning Dove (Zenaida macroura) 2
Antillean Palm-Swift (Tachornis phoenicobia) 300
**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** (Sphyrapicus varius) 1 sitting nicely for our morning wake up
**Peregrine Falcon** (Falco peregrinus) 1 we were looking for Gundlach and found this large female Peregrine Falcon instead,
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (Polioptila caerulea) 2
Red-legged Thrush (Turdus plumbeus) 1
Gray Catbird (Dumetella carolinensis) 1
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 3
Ovenbird (Seiurus aurocapilla) 1
**Tawny-shouldered Blackbird** (Agelaius humeralis) 55 this flock flew into a large pine on the hotel grounds. In the scope for good looks at the epilates.
Cuban Blackbird (Dives atroviolaceus) 35
House Sparrow (Passer domesticus) 27
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12176641

Fernandina's Flicker Carpintero Churroso

**Hotel La Granita** Day 11 Nov 14 2012, CU-05
Nov 14, 2012 7:00 AM - 8:00 AM
Protocol: Traveling
0.8 mile(s)

Comments: Hotel La Granita is our focus today for **Fernandina's Flicker**. We were very fortunate to find a male and female foraging under a tree.
16 species

Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 50
Limpkin (Aramus guarauna) 1 calling
Mourning Dove (Zenaida macroura) 2
Antillean Palm-Swift (Tachornis phoenicobia) 150
West Indian Woodpecker (Melanerpes superciliaris) 2
**Fernandina's Flicker** (Colaptes fernandinae) 2 Good photos of male and female foraging together. These data are currently being added to the academic record by Arturo KirkConnell. The pair were our first of the trip...thankfully
**American Kestrel** (Falco sparverius) 1
Gray Catbird (Dumetella carolinensis) 1
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 2
Louisiana Waterthrush (Parkesia motacilla) 1
Black-and-white Warbler (Mniotilta varia) 1
Common Yellowthroat (Geothlypis trichas) 2
**Cape May Warbler** (Setophaga tigrina) 1
Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 8
Tawny-shouldered Blackbird (Agelaius humeralis) 45
**Shiny Cowbird** (Molothrus bonariensis) 8
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12176694

Yellow-bellied Woodpecker Cuban Bullfinch

**Travel to Havana** Day 11 Nov 14 2012
Cienfuegos Province, CU-06
Nov 14, 2012 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM
Protocol: Traveling
75.0 mile(s)
Comments: Nos Fuemos!! We are off for Havana and our last days of the trip. This is a time to reflect and contemplate Cuba.
12 species

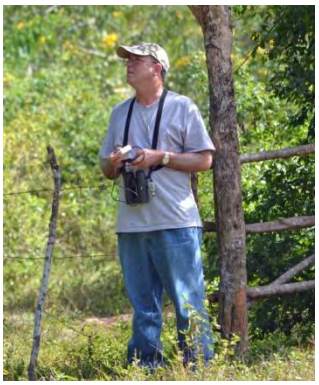
Great Egret (Ardea alba) 1
Little Blue Heron (Egretta caerulea) 2
Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 100
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 50
Mourning Dove (Zenaida macroura) 2
Antillean Palm-Swift (Tachornis phoenicobia) 80
several flocks along the way.
**Crested Caracara** (Caracara cheriway) 1
Black-and-white Warbler (Mniotilta varia) 1
**Common Yellowthroat** (Geothlypis trichas) 20
We stopped for Cuban Pygmy Owl and found a field full of Common Yellowthroat.
**American Redstart** (Setophaga ruticilla) 1
Black-throated Blue Warbler (Setophaga caerulescens) 1
House Sparrow (Passer domesticus) 15
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12176750

Cuban Pygmy Owl Siju Platanero

Boa constrictor Maja Bobo

**Hato de Jicarita** Day 11 Nov 14 2012 # 176, CU-04
Nov 14, 2012 11:15 AM - 11:45 AM
Protocol: Traveling
0.5 mile(s)
Comments: **Cuban Pygmy Owl** was the ultimate goal as we had not yet had an excellent observation of this diminutive owl. Finally we found one and everyone had a chance to see it in the scope... Hasta Victoria Siempre! and a great bird to add to the list.
8 species

Smooth-billed Ani (Crotophaga ani) 7
**Cuban Pygmy-Owl** (Glaucidium siju) 1 finally seen by everyone
Antillean Palm-Swift (Tachornis phoenicobia) 10
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 4
**Black-and-white Warbler** (Mniotilta varia) 1
Common Yellowthroat (Geothlypis trichas) 1
Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 3
Cuban Bullfinch (Melopyrrha nigra) 5
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12176810



Arturo KirkConnell The Pygmy Owl Whisperer

**Travel to Havana** Day 11 Nov 14 2012 Havana Province, CU-03
Nov 14, 2012 12:30 AM - 1:00 AM
Protocol: Traveling
20.0 mile(s)
Comments: The last leg of the program takes us through Havana province and the outskirts of this city of 2 million people. What an amazing trip it has been and happy to be thinking about home. Oxen carts with hard working men and women, agricultural lifestyles in rural communities cut off from the modern world. Sugar cane, orange groves, palm trees and boa constrictors. Cuba leaves its mark on us all as the images go rolling by. The question is, "What lies ahead for Cuba and the people of this Caribbean Island, the shimmering gem of the West Indies and the wintering grounds for millions of birds. We have traversed 1000 miles and seen eighteen thousands of Birds. The group has visited several national parks, UNESCO Biosphere Reserves and World Heritage sites, driven through six provinces, walked the beaches on three sides of the Island and had sunshine the entire trip. My life is brighter for the time spent with our Cuban Bird Survey team.
9 species

Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 40
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 55
Mourning Dove (Zenaida macroura) 1
Smooth-billed Ani (Crotophaga ani) 5
Antillean Palm-Swift (Tachornis phoenicobia) 15
American Kestrel (Falco sparverius) 3
Loggerhead Kingbird (Tyrannus caudifasciatus) 1
Cuban Blackbird (Dives atroviolaceus) 10
Greater Antillean Grackle (Quiscalus niger) 2
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12176854

**Hotel National de Cuba** Day 11 Nov 14 2012 Last Day, CU-03
Nov 14, 2012 4:11 PM - 4:51 PM
Protocol: Traveling
0.5 mile(s)
Comments: This is my last check around the Hotel for birds in the edge habitat. Sea Grape and deciduous trees offer habitat for the list below. No anomalies on this trip. I want to stay for another two weeks but sadly it is time to go.
20 species

**Magnificent Frigatebird** (Fregata magnificens) 5
Brown Pelican (Pelecanus occidentalis) 5
Cattle Egret (Bubulcus ibis) 10
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura) 50
Laughing Gull (Leucophaeus atricilla) 15
Royal Tern (Thalasseus maximus) 25
**Sandwich Tern (Thalasseus sandvicensis)** 1 seen by the group along the Malecon
Rock Pigeon (Columba livia) 35
Eurasian Collared-Dove (Streptopelia decaocto) 3
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (Polioptila caerulea) 1
Red-legged Thrush (Turdus plumbeus) 2
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) 3
**American Redstart (Setophaga ruticilla) 3**
**Northern Parula (Setophaga americana) 1**
**Yellow Warbler (Setophaga petechia) 1**
**Black-throated Blue Warbler** (Setophaga caerulescens) **2**
**Palm Warbler (Setophaga palmarum) 14**
**Indigo Bunting** (Passerina cyanea) 1 photos
Cuban Blackbird (Dives atroviolaceus) 23
House Sparrow (Passer domesticus) 85
http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S12176952

Michael J. Good, MS Hacienda Cortina, Cuba

**APPENDIX 1**

## Eastern Phoebe (Sayornis phoebe) Caleta del Piojo

Eastern Phoebe is somewhat of a shy loner bird, rarely coming in contact with other phoebes. That is why Arturo KirkConnell and I were totally amazed to hear a second Eastern Phoebe to our right on the other side of the lagoon. They are very vocal on their breeding territory and typically easy to see because of their penchant for building nest sites on human out-buildings. Two birds were calling but only briefly and quietly. Both birds we found at Caleta del Piojo were scoped out and ID-ed with photographs taken by myself and Arturo. Winter pair bonding and the care of young-of-the-year are not well understood because of the difficulty of the habitat they dwell in during the migratory period. Even members of a mated pair do not spend much time together. They may roost together early in pair formation, but even during egg laying the female frequently chases the male out of her territory. The Eastern Phoebe is a fairly common breeding flycatcher in the eastern half of North America. In addition, it winters in the southeastern United States (as far west as the 103rd meridian) and in Mexico. Here is proof that that they use Cuba as a stop-over or wintering grounds. Many more observational hours must be put into certain locations in Cuba as well as other locations like Texas, where Eastern Phoebe are both a wintering bird as well as a breeding one. It was wonderful to hear its distinctive "fi-bee" call and observe its tail-wagging habit.

This was a new species for Arturo KirkConnell and me on Cuba, so the two of us were off with our cameras shooting a species we both know well but have never recorded on Cuba. What an exhilarating feeling knowing that every shot counts, with a lens that is never long enough! The Phoebe and Swainson's Thrush bring my current total number of birds seen and heard on Cuba to 195 species for season 2012. Thank you to Gary Markowski, Arturo KirkConnell and all members of our Cuba Bird Survey teams for helping to make this possible.

*Eastern Phoebe (Sayornis phoebe) MJ Good 2012*

***Appendix 1***

## Caribbean Conservation Trust: Species Totals November 3-15, 2012

Report Details

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Date range: | Nov 3-15, 2012 | **Total # of Species:** | **162** |
| | | **Total # of Checklists:** | **74** |

Location(s): Bermejas Refugio de Fauna Day 6 Nov 9 2012 Cuba; Bermejas Refugio de Fauna Day 6 Nov 9 2012 AM walk; CALVARIO Hotspot Day 10 Nov 13 2012 #164; CALVARIO hotspot Day 10 Nov 13 2012 # 166; Cabo Corrientes Trail DAY 4 Maria la Groda Guanahacabibes Cuba; Caleta Buena/Playa Giron Day 6 Nov 9 2012; Caleta del Piojo Guanahacabibes Cuba Nov 6 2012; Causeway to Cayo Coco Day 8 Nov 11 2012; Cayo Coco 1st stop Day 8 Nov 11 2012; Cayo Coco Sewage Lagoon Day10 Nov 13 2012 #161; Cayo Guillermo Day 10 Nov 13 2012 Stop 2; Cayo Guillermo Day 9 Nov 12 2012 #153; Cayo Guillermo Day10 Nov 13 2012 #157; Cayo Paradon Grande Day 9 Nov 12 2012 #150; Cayo Romano Bridge Day 9 Nov 12 2012 #152; Cayo Romano Travel to CPG Day 9 Nov 12 2012 #149; Cuave Jabali' Cayo Coco Day 10 Nov 13 2012 #159; Cuban Nightjar hotspot Day 6 Nov 9 2012; Cueva Portales Che's Cave Day 4 Nov 7 2012; Garrido's House and Havana Nov 3 2012; Hacienda Cortina Day 5 Nov 8 2012; Hato de Jicarita Day 11 Nov 14 2012 # 176; Hotel La Granita Day 11 Nov 14 2012; Hotel Los Caneyes Day 11 Nov 14 2012 #170; Hotel Mirador Day 2 11/5/2012; Hotel Mirador Day 5 AM walk Nov 8 2012; Hotel National de Cuba Day 11 Nov 14 2012 Last Day; Hotel Playa Larga Day 8 Nov 11 2012; La Bajada Lagoon 1 Day 3 Nov 6 2012; La Berraco Zunzuncito Day 3 Nov 6 2012; La Boca Cocodrillo Farm Day 7 Nov 10 2012; La Cuchilla Ciénaga de Zapata Day 6 Nov 9 2012; La Habana Viejo Day 1 11/4/2012; La Turba Zapata endemics Day 7 Nov 10 2012; La Turba side road Day 7 Nov 10 2012; Las Salinas Parque Nacional Ciénaga de Zapata Day 7 Nov 10 2012; Los Cajuelos Zunzuncito 2 Day 3 Nov 6 2012; Maria la Gorda Day 3 Nov 6 2012 AM walk; Maria la Gorda Day 3 Nov 6 2012 PM; Maria la Gorda Hotel Day 2 Nov 5 2012 PM walk; Maria la Gorda Hotel Day 2 Nov 5 2012; National Botanical Garden Day 1 11/4/2012; Occidental Miramar Day 1 Nov 4 2012; Red-Shouldered Blackbird Hotspot Day 7 Nov 10 2012; Rio Azul Peladar Day 8 Nov 11 2012; San Diego de los Banos C. Grassquit hotspot Day 2 11/5/2012; San Jose del Lago Day 10 Nov 13 2012 #168; Sol Cayo Coco Day 9 #147 Nov 12 2012; Soplillar Day 7 Nov 10 2012; Travel Playa Larga to Bermejas Day 6 Nov 9 2012; Travel day to Playa Larga Day 5 Artemisa Province Nov 8 2012; Travel day to San Diego de los Banos Day 2 11/5/2012; Travel to Cabo San Antonio Day 3 Nov 6 201; Travel to Cayo Coco Day 8 Nov 11 2012 Cienfuegos Province; Travel to Cayo Coco Day 8 Nov 11 2012; Travel to Cayo Coco Day 8 Nov 11 2012 Ciega de Avila Province; Travel to Cayo Coco Day 8 Nov 11 2012 Villa Clara province; Travel to Cayo Guillermo Day 10 Nov 13 2012; Travel to Cayo Paradon Grande Day 9 Nov 12 2012 #148; Travel to Guanahacabibes Day 2 Nov 5 2012; Travel to Havana Day 11 Nov 14 2012 Cienfuegos Province; Travel to Havana Day 11 Nov 14 2012 Havana Province; Travel to Los Barrigonas Day 2 Nov 5 2012; Travel to Maria la Gorda Day 2 Sandino Province Nov 5 2012; Travel to National Botanical Garden Day 1

11/4/2012; Travel to Play Larga Day 5 Matanzas Province Nov 8 2012; Travel to Playa Larga Day 5 La Habana Province Nov 8 2012; Travel to Playa Larga Day 5 Mayabeque Province Nov 8 2012; Travel to Playa Larga Day 5 Pinar del Rio Nov 8 2012; Travel to San Diego de los Banos Day 2 11/5/2012; Travel to San Diego de los Banos Day 4 Nov 7 2012 #119; Travel to Santa Clara Day 10 Nov 13 2012; Travel to Zunzuncito 2 Day 3 Nov 6 2012; Walk along Bahia de Corrientes Road Day 3 Nov 6 2012

## Summary

| | Nov 1-5 | Nov 6-10 | Nov 11-15 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Number of Species | **64** | **133** | **107** | | |
| Number of Individuals | **3,601** | **9,142** | **5,651** | | |
| Number of Checklists | **14** | **31** | **29** | | |

Total Number of Birds (sample size)

| **Species Name** | Nov 1-5 | Nov 6-10 | Nov 11-15 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| West Indian Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna arborea*) | -- | 3 (1) | 3 (1) | | |
| Blue-winged Teal (*Anas discors*) | -- | 3,058 (2) | 156 (4) | | |
| Northern Shoveler (*Anas clypeata*) | -- | 7 (2) | 4 (1) | | |
| Green-winged Teal (*Anas crecca*) | -- | 2 (1) | -- | | |
| Ring-necked Duck (*Aythya collaris*) | -- | 45 (1) | -- | | |
| Lesser Scaup (*Aythya affinis*) | -- | 1,400 (1) | -- | | |
| Ruddy Duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) | -- | 69 (1) | -- | | |
| Helmeted Guineafowl (*Numida meleagris*) | 4 (1) | -- | -- | | |
| Northern Bobwhite (*Colinus virginianus*) | 18 (1) | -- | -- | | |
| Least Grebe (*Tachybaptus dominicus*) | -- | 4 (3) | -- | | |
| Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*) | -- | 38 | -- | | |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | (2) | |
| American Flamingo (*Phoenicopterus ruber*) | -- | 150 (1) | 125 (1) |
| Magnificent Frigatebird (*Fregata magnificens*) | 2 (1) | 1 (1) | 29 (7) |
| Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*) | -- | 19 (3) | -- |
| Double-crested Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) | -- | 3 (2) | 34 (5) |
| Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*) | -- | 1 (1) | 2 (2) |
| Brown Pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis*) | 1 (1) | 1 (1) | 16 (6) |
| Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*) | -- | 4 (3) | 11 (8) |
| Great Egret (*Ardea alba*) | 8 (5) | 44 (12) | 69 (12) |
| Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*) | 29 (3) | 45 (6) | 19 (3) |
| Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*) | 8 (3) | 15 (7) | 56 (7) |
| Tricolored Heron (*Egretta tricolor*) | -- | 9 (2) | 35 (6) |
| Reddish Egret (*Egretta rufescens*) | -- | 1 (1) | 17 (6) |
| Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*) | 863 (10) | 547 (16) | 952 (13) |
| Green Heron (*Butorides virescens*) | 2 (2) | 16 (7) | 2 (2) |
| Black-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) | -- | 4 (3) | -- |
| Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*) | -- | 4 (3) | -- |
| White Ibis (*Eudocimus albus*) | -- | 8 (2) | 25 (3) |
| Roseate Spoonbill (*Platalea ajaja*) | -- | -- | 4 (2) |
| Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*) | 885 (13) | 771 (22) | 1,296 (18) |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) | -- | 1 (1) | 6 (4) |
| Snail Kite (*Rostrhamus sociabilis*) | 1 (1) | -- | -- |
| Northern Harrier (*Circus cyaneus*) | -- | 2 (1) | 2 (2) |
| Cuban Black-Hawk (*Buteogallus gundlachii*) | -- | 4 (3) | 10 (5) |
| Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus*) | 1 (1) | 1 (1) | -- |
| Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) | 5 (3) | 7 (5) | 2 (1) |
| Sora (*Porzana carolina*) | -- | 1 (1) | -- |
| Spotted Rail (*Pardirallus maculatus*) | -- | 1 (1) | -- |
| Purple Gallinule (*Porphyrio martinicus*) | -- | 3 (3) | -- |
| Common Gallinule (*Gallinula galeata*) | 1 (1) | 10 (4) | -- |
| American Coot (*Fulica americana*) | 4 (2) | 739 (5) | 90 (2) |
| Limpkin (*Aramus guarauna*) | -- | 5 (4) | 1 (1) |
| Black-bellied Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*) | 1 (1) | -- | 3 (1) |
| Semipalmated Plover (*Charadrius semipalmatus*) | 10 (1) | -- | -- |
| Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*) | 8 (2) | 15 (8) | 11 (3) |
| Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*) | 35 (2) | 47 (2) | 139 (4) |
| American Avocet (*Recurvirostra americana*) | -- | 1 (1) | 16 (2) |
| Northern Jacana (*Jacana spinosa*) | -- | 2 (1) | -- |
| Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularius*) | -- | 2 (2) | 3 (1) |
| Greater Yellowlegs (*Tringa melanoleuca*) | -- | 2 (2) | 3 (2) |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Lesser Yellowlegs (*Tringa flavipes*) | -- | 3 (1) | 1 (1) |
| Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*) | -- | -- | 5 (2) |
| Sanderling (*Calidris alba*) | -- | -- | 20 (1) |
| Least Sandpiper (*Calidris minutilla*) | -- | -- | 6 (1) |
| peep sp. (*Calidris sp. (peep sp.)*) | -- | 5 (1) | -- |
| Stilt Sandpiper (*Calidris himantopus*) | -- | -- | 1 (1) |
| Short-billed Dowitcher (*Limnodromus griseus*) | -- | 1 (1) | 5 (2) |
| Wilson's Snipe (*Gallinago delicata*) | -- | 1 (1) | -- |
| Laughing Gull (*Leucophaeus atricilla*) | 10 (2) | 3 (2) | 146 (6) |
| Lesser Black-backed Gull (*Larus fuscus*) | -- | -- | 1 (1) |
| Gull-billed Tern (*Gelochelidon nilotica*) | -- | 2 (1) | -- |
| Royal Tern (*Thalasseus maximus*) | 15 (3) | 8 (2) | 173 (9) |
| Sandwich Tern (*Thalasseus sandvicensis*) | -- | -- | 1 (1) |
| Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*) | 707 (2) | 35 (3) | 161 (4) |
| Scaly-naped Pigeon (*Patagioenas squamosa*) | -- | -- | 1 (1) |
| White-crowned Pigeon (*Patagioenas leucocephala*) | 1 (1) | 10 (5) | -- |
| Plain Pigeon (*Patagioenas inornata*) | -- | 11 (3) | -- |
| Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*) | 49 (6) | 1 (1) | 6 (2) |
| Zenaida Dove (*Zenaida aurita*) | 3 (2) | 27 (9) | 4 (3) |
| Mourning Dove (*Zenaida macroura*) | 20 (6) | 59 (10) | 24 (8) |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Common Ground-Dove (*Columbina passerina*) | 19 (6) | 47 (8) | 31 (4) |
| Key West Quail-Dove (*Geotrygon chrysia*) | -- | -- | 1 (1) |
| Gray-fronted Quail-Dove (*Geotrygon caniceps*) | -- | 2 (2) | -- |
| Ruddy Quail-Dove (*Geotrygon montana*) | -- | 3 (2) | -- |
| Blue-headed Quail-Dove (*Starnoenas cyanocephala*) | -- | 2 (1) | -- |
| Mangrove Cuckoo (*Coccyzus minor*) | -- | -- | 1 (1) |
| Great Lizard-Cuckoo (*Coccyzus merlini*) | 5 (4) | 15 (10) | 4 (4) |
| Smooth-billed Ani (*Crotophaga ani*) | 53 (6) | 36 (7) | 60 (11) |
| Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*) | -- | -- | 1 (1) |
| Cuban Pygmy-Owl (*Glaucidium siju*) | -- | 6 (4) | 2 (2) |
| Stygian Owl (*Asio stygius*) | 1 (1) | -- | -- |
| Greater Antillean Nightjar (*Antrostomus cubanensis*) | -- | 1 (1) | -- |
| Antillean Palm-Swift (*Tachornis phoenicobia*) | 131 (6) | 25 (4) | 600 (6) |
| Bee Hummingbird (*Mellisuga helenae*) | -- | 3 (2) | -- |
| Cuban Emerald (*Chlorostilbon ricordii*) | 22 (7) | 17 (7) | 22 (8) |
| Hummingbird sp. (*Trochilidae sp.*) | -- | 1 (1) | -- |
| Cuban Trogon (*Priotelus temnurus*) | -- | 6 (4) | -- |
| Cuban Tody (*Todus multicolor*) | -- | 6 (5) | 4 (3) |
| Belted Kingfisher (*Megaceryle alcyon*) | 3 (2) | 8 (5) | 4 (4) |
| West Indian Woodpecker (*Melanerpes superciliaris*) | 6 (4) | 24 (7) | 6 (4) |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*) | -- | 3 (2) | 1 (1) |
| Cuban Green Woodpecker (*Xiphidiopicus percussus*) | -- | 6 (4) | -- |
| Northern Flicker (*Colaptes auratus*) | -- | 2 (1) | -- |
| Fernandina's Flicker (*Colaptes fernandinae*) | -- | -- | 2 (1) |
| Crested Caracara (*Caracara cheriway*) | -- | 5 (4) | 15 (8) |
| American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) | 35 (7) | 73 (19) | 38 (11) |
| Merlin (*Falco columbarius*) | -- | 6 (5) | -- |
| Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) | 1 (1) | 2 (1) | 2 (2) |
| Small falcon sp. (*Falco sp. (small falcon sp.)*) | -- | -- | 1 (1) |
| Cuban Parakeet (*Aratinga euops*) | -- | 22 (1) | -- |
| Cuban Parrot (*Amazona leucocephala*) | -- | 40 (3) | 10 (1) |
| Eastern Wood-Pewee (*Contopus virens*) | -- | 4 (2) | -- |
| Cuban Pewee (*Contopus caribaeus*) | 3 (2) | 22 (12) | 11 (8) |
| Eastern Phoebe (*Sayornis phoebe*) | -- | 2 (1) | -- |
| La Sagra's Flycatcher (*Myiarchus sagrae*) | -- | 12 (7) | 3 (3) |
| Loggerhead Kingbird (*Tyrannus caudifasciatus*) | 3 (2) | 29 (12) | 1 (1) |
| Giant Kingbird (*Tyrannus cubensis*) | -- | 2 (1) | -- |
| White-eyed Vireo (*Vireo griseus*) | -- | 2 (1) | 1 (1) |
| Thick-billed Vireo (*Vireo crassirostris*) | -- | -- | 4 (1) |
| Cuban Vireo (*Vireo gundlachii*) | -- | 16 (8) | 10 (5) |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Yellow-throated Vireo (*Vireo flavifrons*) | -- | 3 (2) | -- |
| Cuban Crow (*Corvus nasicus*) | 2 (1) | 60 (7) | 2 (1) |
| Northern Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) | -- | 21 (2) | -- |
| Tree Swallow (*Tachycineta bicolor*) | -- | 23 (4) | 35 (1) |
| Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*) | -- | 5 (4) | -- |
| Swallow sp. (*Hirundinidae sp.*) | 2 (1) | 2 (1) | -- |
| Zapata Wren (*Ferminia cerverai*) | -- | 1 (1) | -- |
| Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila caerulea*) | -- | 5 (5) | 9 (5) |
| Cuban Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila lembeyei*) | -- | -- | 9 (1) |
| Cuban Solitaire (*Myadestes elisabeth*) | -- | 4 (1) | -- |
| Swainson's Thrush (*Catharus ustulatus*) | -- | 1 (1) | -- |
| Red-legged Thrush (*Turdus plumbeus*) | 36 (4) | 39 (11) | 13 (6) |
| Gray Catbird (*Dumetella carolinensis*) | -- | 21 (5) | 8 (7) |
| Northern Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*) | 42 (10) | 85 (18) | 61 (16) |
| Bahama Mockingbird (*Mimus gundlachii*) | -- | -- | 3 (2) |
| Ovenbird (*Seiurus aurocapilla*) | 1 (1) | 4 (3) | 4 (4) |
| Louisiana Waterthrush (*Parkesia motacilla*) | -- | -- | 6 (3) |
| Northern Waterthrush (*Parkesia noveboracensis*) | -- | 22 (7) | 17 (3) |
| Black-and-white Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*) | 6 (1) | 15 (7) | 13 (5) |
| Tennessee Warbler (*Oreothlypis peregrina*) | -- | -- | 1 (1) |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Common Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*) | -- | 71 (8) | 61 (10) |
| American Redstart (*Setophaga ruticilla*) | 11 (2) | 28 (10) | 15 (6) |
| Cape May Warbler (*Setophaga tigrina*) | 1 (1) | 3 (2) | 7 (4) |
| Northern Parula (*Setophaga americana*) | 7 (4) | 17 (5) | 26 (6) |
| Magnolia Warbler (*Setophaga magnolia*) | -- | 3 (2) | 2 (2) |
| Yellow Warbler (*Setophaga petechia*) | 2 (2) | 4 (2) | 13 (5) |
| Black-throated Blue Warbler (*Setophaga caerulescens*) | 1 (1) | 21 (8) | 28 (10) |
| Palm Warbler (*Setophaga palmarum*) | 74 (7) | 195 (20) | 159 (18) |
| Olive-capped Warbler (*Setophaga pityophila*) | -- | 6 (2) | -- |
| Yellow-throated Warbler (*Setophaga dominica*) | 4 (2) | 5 (4) | 3 (1) |
| Prairie Warbler (*Setophaga discolor*) | 3 (2) | 7 (4) | 14 (8) |
| Black-throated Green Warbler (*Setophaga virens*) | -- | 9 (5) | 3 (1) |
| Yellow-headed Warbler (*Teretistris fernandinae*) | -- | 54 (5) | -- |
| Oriente Warbler (*Teretistris fornsi*) | -- | -- | 19 (3) |
| Warbler sp. (*Parulinae sp.*) | 3 (1) | -- | -- |
| Red-legged Honeycreeper (*Cyanerpes cyaneus*) | 6 (2) | 13 (1) | -- |
| Cuban Grassquit (*Tiaris canorus*) | 8 (1) | -- | -- |
| Yellow-faced Grassquit (*Tiaris olivaceus*) | 21 (1) | 38 (5) | 6 (2) |
| Cuban Bullfinch (*Melopyrrha nigra*) | -- | 18 (5) | 45 (8) |
| Western Spindalis (*Spindalis zena*) | 1 (1) | 29 (7) | 8 (3) |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Zapata Sparrow (*Torreornis inexpectata*) | -- | -- | 6 (2) |
| Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*) | -- | 1 (1) | -- |
| Indigo Bunting (*Passerina cyanea*) | 1 (1) | 4 (3) | 1 (1) |
| Red-shouldered Blackbird (*Agelaius assimilis*) | -- | 260 (2) | -- |
| Tawny-shouldered Blackbird (*Agelaius humeralis*) | 6 (1) | 72 (4) | 177 (4) |
| Eastern Meadowlark (*Sturnella magna*) | 20 (2) | 1 (1) | 1 (1) |
| Cuban Blackbird (*Dives atroviolaceus*) | 144 (13) | 123 (11) | 103 (8) |
| Greater Antillean Grackle (*Quiscalus niger*) | 43 (5) | 83 (11) | 105 (14) |
| Shiny Cowbird (*Molothrus bonariensis*) | -- | -- | 8 (1) |
| Cuban Oriole (*Icterus melanopsis*) | 6 (2) | 12 (3) | -- |
| House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) | 177 (8) | 17 (2) | 129 (4) |
| Nutmeg Mannikin (*Lonchura punctulata*) | -- | 9 (2) | -- |

November 3-15, 2012

## Appendix 2

### Sibley Guide to the Birds of North America

### New bird names in the 52nd AOU Checklist supplement

The North American Checklist Committee of the AOU has published the 52nd supplement to the AOU Checklist of North American Birds. This supplement includes a lot of changes "under the hood" which will hardly be noticed by the average birder. Several splits result in new names but none have an immediate impact on the North American species count. Some scientific name changes (mostly from the reshuffling of Wood-Warblers – see my post here), and a few other changes in genus and family assignments. Below is a summary of the changes to English and Scientific names of species in the Sibley Guide. To read more about the changes as well as

the changes in sequence of species, check out the pdf of the 52nd supplement. When combined with a previous post about name changes from 2000 to 2009 and name changes in 2010, this updates all species and names in the Sibley Guide to Birds.

**Changes to species names:**

- **Mourning Warbler** *Geothlypis philadelphia*

formerly Oporornis *philadelphia*

- **MacGillivray's Warbler** *Geothlypis tolmiei*

formerly *Oporornis tolmiei*

- **Kentucky Warbler** *Geothlypis formosa*

formerly *Oporornis formosus [note change in spelling of species name]*

- **Hooded Warbler** *Setophaga citrina*

formerly *Wilsonia citrina*

- **Kirtland's Warbler** *Setophaga kirtlandii*

formerly *Dendroica kirtlandii*

- **Cape May Warbler** *Setophaga tigrina*

formerly *Dendroica tigrina*

- **Cerulean Warbler** *Setophaga cerulea*

formerly *Dendroica cerulea*

- **Northern Parula** *Setophaga americana*

formerly *Parula americana*

- **Tropical Parula** *Setophaga pitiayumi*

formerly *Parula pitiayumi*

- **Magnolia Warbler** *Setophaga magnolia*

formerly *Dendroica magnolia*

- **Bay-breasted Warbler** *Setophaga castanea*

formerly *Dendroica castanea*

- **Blackburnian Warbler** *Setophaga fusca*

formerly *Dendroica fusca*

- **Yellow Warbler** *Setophaga petechia*

formerly *Dendroica petechia*

- **Chestnut-sided Warbler** *Setophaga pensylvanica*

formerly *Dendroica pensylvanica*

- **Blackpoll Warbler** *Setophaga striata*

formerly *Dendroica striata*

- **Black-throated Blue Warbler** *Setophaga caerulescens*

formerly *Dendroica caerulescens*

- **Palm Warbler** *Setophaga palmarum*

formerly *Dendroica palmarum*

- **Pine Warbler** *Setophaga pinus*

formerly *Dendroica pinus*

- **Yellow-rumped Warbler** *Setophaga coronata*

formerly *Dendroica coronata*

- **Yellow-throated Warbler** *Setophaga dominica*

formerly *Dendroica dominica*

- **Prairie Warbler** *Setophaga discolor*

formerly *Dendroica discolor*

- **Grace's Warbler** *Setophaga graciae*

formerly *Dendroica graciae*

- **Black-throated Gray Warbler** *Setophaga nigrescens*

formerly *Dendroica nigrescens*

- **Townsend's Warbler** *Setophaga townsendi*

formerly *Dendroica townsendi*

- **Hermit Warbler** *Setophaga occidentalis*

formerly *Dendroica occidentalis*

- **Golden-cheeked Warbler** *Setophaga chrysoparia*

formerly *Dendroica chrysoparia*

- **Black-throated Green Warbler** *Setophaga virens*

formerly *Dendroica virens*

- **Fan-tailed Warbler** *Basileuterus lachrymosus*

formerly *Euthlypis lachrymosa* [note change in spelling of species name]

- **Canada Warbler** *Cardellina canadensis*

formerly *Wilsonia canadensis*

- **Wilson's Warbler** *Cardellina pusilla*

formerly *Wilsonia pusilla*

## New bird names in the 51st AOU Checklist supplement

The North American Checklist Committee of the AOU has published the 51st supplement to the AOU Checklist of North American Birds, which includes two major splits, some name changes (mostly from the creation of new genera), and some big changes in higher-level taxonomy. Below is a summary of the changes to English and Scientific names of species in the Sibley Guide. Major changes were also made to the sequence of species, with a few new families and orders being created and moved around in the list. While these changes and the studies behind them are always enlightening, this post is confined to species-level changes of names and taxonomic status. When combined with a previous post about name changes since 2000, this updates all species and names in the Sibley Guide.

### Splits (no lumps) affecting species counts:

- **Eastern Whip-poor-will** ***Caprimulgus vociferus***
- **Mexican Whip-poor-will** ***Caprimulgus arizonae***

Formerly considered a single species – Whip-poor-will *C. vociferus* – these are now split based on differences in vocalizations, DNA, etc. Identification is fully covered in the Sibley Guide.

- **Winter Wren** ***Troglodytes hiemalis***
- **Pacific Wren** ***Troglodytes pacificus***

Formerly considered a single species – Winter Wren *T. hiemalis* – and now two species based on differences in songs and calls, plumage, and lack of hybridization. Identification is covered in the Sibley Guide. I think continuing to use the name "Winter Wren" with a new meaning will lead to confusion, and would encourage birders to use "Eastern Winter Wren" and "Pacific/Western Winter Wren" for clarity.

### Changes to species names:

- **Black Scoter** ***Melanitta americana***

Formerly *Melanitta nigra*. This is now considered a separate species from Common Scoter (*M. nigra*) of Europe, which has not yet been recorded in North America. The published 51st supplement shows the English name of the North American species changed to American Scoter, but this is apparently in error. The English name remains Black Scoter.

- **Great Shearwater** ***Puffinus gravis***

Formerly Greater Shearwater

- **Brown Jay** ***Psilorhinus morio***

Formerly *Cyanocorax morio*

- **Blue-winged Warbler** ***Vermivora cyanoptera***

Formerly *Vermivora pinus*

- **Tennessee Warbler** ***Oreothlypis peregrina***

Formerly *Vermivora peregrina*

- **Orange-crowned Warbler** ***Oreothlypis celata***

Formerly *Vermivora celata*

- **Nashville Warbler** ***Oreothlypis ruficapilla***

Formerly *Vermivora ruficapilla*

- **Virginia's Warbler** ***Oreothlypis virginiae***

Formerly *Vermivora virginiae*

- **Colima Warbler** ***Oreothlypis crissalis***

Formerly *Vermivora crissalis*

- **Lucy's Warbler** ***Oreothlypis luciae***

Formerly *Vermivora luciae*

- **Northern Waterthrush** ***Parkesia noveboracensis***

Formerly *Seiurus noveboracensis*

- **Louisiana Waterthrush** ***Parkesia motacilla***

Formerly *Seiurus motacilla*

- **Canyon Towhee** ***Melozone fusca***

Formerly *Pipilo fusca*

- **California Towhee** ***Melozone crissalis***

Formerly *Pipilo crissalis*

- **Abert's Towhee** ***Melozone aberti***

Formerly *Pipilo aberti*

- **Rufous-winged Sparrow** ***Peucaea carpalis***

Formerly *Aimophila carpalis*

- **Botteri's Sparrow** ***Peucaea botterii***

Formerly *Aimophila botterii*

- **Cassin's Sparrow *Peucaea cassinii***

Formerly *Aimophila cassinii*

- **Bachman's Sparrow *Peucaea aestivalis***

Formerly *Aimophila aestivalis*

- **Five-striped Sparrow *Amphispiza quinquestriata***

Formerly *Aimophila quinquestriata*

- **McCown's Longspur *Rhynchophanes mccownii***

Formerly *Calcarius mccownii*

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## Appendix 3

Bar Harbor Times February 8, 2012
http://mdi.villagesoup.com/column/columnpost/birding-in-the-land-of-fidel/483429#

# Birding in the Land of Fidel by Michael J. Good, MS

I have recently returned from another ornithology trip in Cuba. On January 22, 2012 I woke up in room 676 of the Havana, Cuba Hotel Nacional , my mind quickly flashes back to the James Bond movie "*Die Another Day*" when (Peirce Brosnan) than James Bond, is flipping through "Birds of the West Indies" written by ornithologists James Bond, curator of Birds of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia. I open up my copy and try to envision the types of experiences that ornithologists James Bond had in the Zapata Swamp and birding the countryside of Cuba. I was elated by the opportunity to once again run around the Cuban countryside birding my brains out with binoculars, a camera and my greatest asset, Arturo KirkConnell, author of the "*Birds of Cuba*". Arturo knows everything about birds in Cuba basing some of his knowledge on the great works of James Bond (the ornithologist).

The ornithologist James Bond was first smitten by birds in his Pennsylvania home called Spring House in Montgomery County near Philadelphia. Here he learned about a great variety of common birds and his ornithological career, eventually taking him to the American Academy of Natural Sciences, began to take shape. Spring House, his childhood home, was located on the great Minsi trail, a major trading and communication conduit in the 1700's among Mohawk, Iroquois and Lenape villages. The trail wound southward out of the Pocono Mountains eventually passing through Spring House and was a major crossroad in its day. Surprising to me is that Spring House looks exactly like the house I grew up in Bucks County where my early passion for birds began. James Bonds book "Birds of West Indies "is still used extensively in Cuba and other Caribbean Islands as a reference book when thinking about the historical avian constructs of the West Indies.

Here on Mount Desert Island, James Bond also began a book entitled the "Birds of Mount Desert Island and where to find them" of which I have a first edition in mint condition. These books have great historical context but the landscapes of the fifties and sixties have change so drastically in 2012, almost as much as the political landscape and current fiasco playing out between Cuba and the US. James Bonds work is in the same historical importance as Ernst Mayr, the vanguard of Island Biogeography and a Bond contemporary along with Alexander Skutch. Using James Bonds book as a guide to the avian communities of the Caribbean and the conceptual framework of Ernst Myar, one has the platform for a deeper understanding of Caribbean and pelagic island ornithology. Understanding how change has affected the populations we live with today will help us all better understand the avian complexities of the post-Bond era.

For example, the Great Fire of 1947 decisively changed the eastern half of the Mount Desert Island turning it to dust during the ten days it roared out of control pushed by strong winds. Land use and forestry have finished the work to make both the Caribbean, by sugar cane plantations and Mount Desert Island a much altered landscape since James Bonds' day, perhaps even making some of his observations and descriptions useless.

Despite James Bonds history of exploration and study, Cuba, where I am working today, is still young ornithologically in comparison to North America. James Bond added greatly to our understanding of distribution but the details of the breeding biology of birds in the Caribbean and many resident species remain unknown and quantitative data on the distribution and abundance of migrant species are scarce. This can be said for the birds of Mount Desert Island as well.

Over the last twenty years a small group of people have been adding to the greater understanding of MDI birds realizing that James Bonds work was limited and can only speak to the past avian populations. Recently, MDI has come into ornithological vogue again since James Bonds days of living here. I find it most fascinating that so many eyes are now intensely looking for that "One Dovekie in Southwest Harbor" of whatever bird is on the hot list. Twenty years ago the local birding on MDI was almost non-existent and it was sometimes hard to even find enough birders to cover the entire Christmas Bird Count.

As I have mention, I recently returned from a bird survey in Cuba and James Bonds name comes up sometimes. Mostly in Cuba it is Jean Gundlach and Orlando Garrido and today, Arturo KirkConnell and William Suaraz, who have contributed the most to our current understanding of the avian communities in Cuba. James Bond was able concentrated his work on the Zapata Swamp but in the 50's ran into some historical political problems which limited his in depth study of the Cuban countryside due to political disputes of his time (Bay of Pigs and Cuban Missile Crisis). It is my understanding the Rodger Tory Petersen was also unable to secure travel documents or a license to travel in Cuba and that the Cuban government may have blocked him from entering the country. Today, Garrido & KirkConnell , "Aves de Cuba" or "Birds of Cuba" Field Guide is the source of insight and current field research, and with the backing and involvement of Havana Natural History Museum and field work of the Cuban Bird

Survey program. James Bond was pivotal in laying down the groundwork of understanding of the avian distribution in the Caribbean.

I enjoy reading James Bonds first edition "Birds of Mount Desert Island and where to find them" because it gives the reader a reference point for the birds of the Down East Maine. Today, there are a great variety of Guide books for Maine. Birding Guides and new birding trail maps like the ***"Downeast and Acadia Birding Trail Map"*** for Hancock and Washington Counties and the more general "***Maine Birding Trail***", both of which are beginning to dissect the locations for birds of interest to the modern Birding community and provide a deeper perspective on where to find specific species. It is only through field experience and working with living flocks of birds that one can truly understand density, distribution and makeup of the Birds of Maine and that is what fascinates on a daily basis. Arturo and I greatly enjoy the opportunity of showing interested birders the immense diversity and assemblage of birds in Cuba.

In Cuba, the native avian guilds of birds interact with the northern migratory breeding birds from Maine. For example, if you find a flock of Yellow-headed Warblers, endemic to Cuban forests, you inevitably find many immature and adult northern warblers like Black and White, Black-throated Blue, Ovenbirds or Blue-gray Gnatcatchers mixed in with Cuban Trogon, Cuban Vireo, the radiant Cuban Tody and Cuban Green Woodpecker. A similar assemblage of birds can be found in Maine consisting of Black-capped or Boreal Chickadee, Downy Woodpecker and Brown Creepers all moving about with the migratory warblers foraging like they were in Cuba! Almost a mirror image in many respects.

My personal goals in Cuba are to recapitulate some of ornithologist James Bonds adventures in the Caribbean as he sought out and asked meaningful questions about the eastern breeding Neotropical Migrants. The flocks of birds in the Cuban forests are rich and numerous because Cuba is at the cross roads of migration to Central and South America. Just like in Cuba, we in Maine are beginning to dissect the locations for birds of interest to the modern Birding community. With trail maps like the "*Downeast and Acadia Birding Trail Map*" *for Hancock and Washington Counties* and the more general "*Maine Birding Trail*" we are well on our way to carrying the torch handed down by James Bond (the ornithologist). That is the reason why I have recently released the 1st **edition Field Guide to the Birds of Mount Desert Island and Hancock County.**

James Bonds bird list for Mount Desert Island was about 260 species. I personally have found all of these on MDI and added one making my current list for MDI about 261 species. This list of birds can be found on the Acadia Birding Festival website www.AcadiaBirdingFestival.com . It seems there might be a group of birders around that could start adding birds to that list so I look forward to seeing what we can all collectively find. Of course, the mythical number of about 350 species on Mount Desert Island is interestingly similar to the same number of species on Cuba, 355 plus 26 Endemics. Our two regions are vitally important to the long term health of migratory Neotropical birds and I am happy to report that so far the Cuban government is being exceedingly responsible with the environment and conservation needs of an amazing number of birds.

Mount Desert Island and the Gulf of Maine archipelago are the pivotal point and conduit for migration into the Northern and Boreal Forest and Canadian Maritime. The migratory birds arrive at the coastline of Maine in spring with the energetic force of a sledgehammer emanating that avian energy through the rivers, streams and associated wetlands of the Northern Forest of New England and Maine. The largest mass of the bird migration splits into the Boreal Forest and the tundra north of Canada and a smaller group up the eastern maritime coast.

Along the way Insects are consumed at almost exponential rates in Cuba, Maine and Canada keeping forests healthy and productive. Similar foraging habits and flock assemblages seen here in Maine are recapitulated in the southern cays and West Indies Islands throughout the winter months, albeit with different local birds. In Cuba and Maine, watersheds and associated wetlands are critical to avian conservation and for most of our common ecological woes. For example, the GOM declining fisheries are due to thousands of dams on our rivers and streams blocking the movement of potentially exponential numbers of Alewives and American Shad which traditionally migrated up to the base of Mount Kathadin. Removal of the Great Works Dam on the Penobscot River this summer is the type of project needed on all of our major waterways in the GOM to improve our devastated New England fisheries and the health of Neotropical breeding and migrant birds.

Our "Cuban Bird Survey" program in Cuba is timely because it coincides with a marked upsurge in concern for Neotropical migrants, particularly forest-dwelling land birds breeding in eastern North America. Results of population monitoring programs like Migration Monitoring Programs and Breeding Bird Survey's have clearly demonstrated that a number of Neotropical migrants are in decline, some seriously. *Migrants pose complex conservation problems since their populations are impacted on their wintering grounds, during migration and on their breeding grounds like Maine.* Many researchers that I work with realize there is so much to learn about the status of Neotropical migrants on the wintering grounds and the factors affecting their populations. The same is true for the Birds of Mount Desert Island and that is why I have been gathering data together since 1993 building a list of birds and where to find them on MDI and the region. You can see an interactive map on the Acadia Birding Festival website.

While we northerners seek out the single Dovekie in South West Harbor there are millions of birds wintering in the West Indies dreaming about migrating north again and feasting on our incredible insect community in our wetlands and forests. James Bond (the ornithologist) helped point the way to better understanding these avian assemblages in the Caribbean and here on Mount Desert Island. Thanks to James Bond, I have a firm foundation to stand on when birding in Cuba and Maine. Spring is coming to Maine and I can't wait!

Michael J. Good, MS
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**Appendix 4** Locations of Birds observed during November 3-15, 2012

The rice drying crew