

PSITTAScene

Magazine of the WORLD PARROT TRUST



Winter 2022



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ABOUT THE WPT

Capture for the live-bird trade, habitat loss and other factors put wild parrots at risk. Nearly 30% of all parrot species are considered by IUCN to be at risk of global extinction.

As an international leader in parrot conservation and welfare, the World Parrot Trust works with researchers, in-country organisations, communities and governments to encourage effective solutions that save parrots.

Since 1989 the WPT has grown to become a global force that moves quickly to address urgent issues and support long-term projects. Over that time WPT has led or aided conservation and welfare projects in 45 countries for more than 80 species of parrot.

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CONTENTS



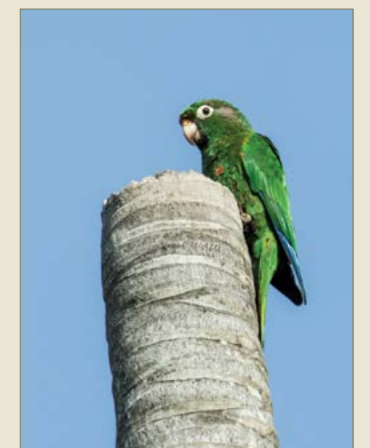
- 4** Message from the Operations Director
Steve Milpacher
- 5** Kākā Conservation
Update from the field
- 8** Exploring the Distributional Range of the Santa Marta Parakeet
- 12** Interview with Ann Brooks:
Phoenix Landing Foundation
- 14** Parrot Trafficking in Mexico:
Large Seizure Prompts New Actions
- 18** PsittaNews
*Parrot news and updates
WPT contacts*
- 20** Parrots in the Wild
Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo

ON THE COVER

Photo © Nick Athanas [CC BY-NC-SA 2.0]

The **Santa Marta Parakeet** (*Pyrrhura viridicata*) is found high up in the wet subtropical forest of the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta in NE Colombia. Its small range is threatened by widespread deforestation.

Learn more in *Exploring the Distributional Range of the Santa Marta Parakeet*, Page 8.



a message from...
Steve's desk

As the New Year begins, it's time to reflect on all that has happened and to look forward to the future. Our past year has been amazingly jam-packed with conservation and welfare activities on nearly every continent, and with exciting prospects for critical new efforts on the horizon. We take a glance at the efforts of long-term collaborators in this issue and explore an exciting new program just beginning.

First, our Oceania program covers many individual projects, one of them being Kākā conservation. These parrots are beginning to recover their numbers, but that in some ways puts them into conflict with humans. We'll tell you why, and how we're helping local groups lessen the threats and monitor the population.

Next, we talk about a new project with the beautiful Santa Marta Parakeet, which is highly endangered in its native Colombia. We hope to work with local organizations and communities to protect this species.

Then we feature an interview with a long-time friend of the WPT, and of parrots everywhere, Ann Brooks, who co-founded Phoenix Landing. The long-time rescue has, as of the end of October 2022, re-homed over 3,350 parrots. A remarkable achievement.

And lastly, we check in with our rescue partner TIVÚ in Mexico, which is hard at work caring for parrots and other birds caught in trade, and is putting into action new initiatives to help communities to find alternatives to trapping.

Best wishes for 2023!



Steve M

Steve Milpacher
Operations Director

What will be your legacy?

Let your dedication to parrots live on! Leaving a legacy gift to the parrots through your estate may be one of the most fulfilling contributions you will ever make.

Visit our website at parrots.org/legacy or contact an office near you (see page 19.)



Leave a Legacy

Crimson Rosella © KKR Images



© Sarah Hamilton, Getty Images

**KĀKĀ
CONSERVATION**

...update from the field

by Luis Ortiz-Catedral, PhD

The Kākā (*Nestor meridionalis*) are large, forest-dwelling parrots endemic to New Zealand. Historically very abundant, their distribution has been reduced due to land clearing and to depredation by introduced mammals, such as stoats, across most of their range in the North and South Islands.

Kākā feed on a large variety of flowers, leaves, fruits, seeds and insects, as well as tree sap. They are gregarious and in some areas can be seen in large groups. Like most parrots Kākā are secondary cavity nesters, meaning that they do not excavate their own nests but rather use tree hollows or rock crevices for nesting. Females are particularly vulnerable to depredation by introduced mammals during incubation and chick rearing.

Throughout New Zealand, the Department of Conservation, zoos and community groups conduct important conservation work to conserve these parrots. Such work consists of predator control, protection of nests, captive breeding for release and rehabilitation of injured birds.



© Luis Ortiz-Catedral



© Luis Ortiz-Catedral

Luis Ortiz-Catedral and Karen Saunders from the Native Bird Rescue Waiheke complete health checks and ID banding
Photos © Native Bird Rescue Waiheke



Last year, with the support of the Keefe Family Foundation, and in collaboration with the Department of Conservation, Cape Sanctuary, Native Bird Rescue (NBR) and Te Iwi Tahī o Karioi, the World Parrot Trust initiated a project which will assist in the long-term conservation of Kākā in the North Island.

This project has two main aims:

- 1) understanding the movements of Kākā released into a predator-fenced sanctuary and,
- 2) rehabilitating injured Kākā on Waiheke Island.

In November last year, ten captive-bred Kākā were released at Cape Sanctuary on Cape Kidnappers Peninsula on the east coast of New Zealand's North Island. There, these birds joined an established flock of 80+ Kākā. Five of these captive-bred birds had a radio-transmitter fitted on their back (like a mini-backpack) and have been closely monitored since their release. All five Kākā with radio transmitters


(named sparkles, sky, twinkle, winner and jax) are alive and well and are seen regularly visiting the feeding station at Cape Sanctuary. The meticulous monitoring work carried out by Cape Sanctuary volunteers and staff has helped us understand the daily movement patterns of Kākā within this fenced sanctuary. An important aspect of this work is the training of more volunteers on radio-tracking techniques and data keeping. Since November 2021, four volunteers from Te Iwi Tahī o Karioi have learned the basics of Kākā behaviour and radio-tracking. This capacity building is a crucial aspect of Kākā conservation throughout New Zealand, as more of these large parrots are reintroduced to bird sanctuaries across the country, where there is a growing need to determine their survival and dispersal.

On Waiheke Island, in Auckland, Kākā are common. Unfortunately, they collide on

windows from time to time, and require extended care before they can be released to the wild. Since November last year, the Waiheke Native Bird Rescue centre has successfully rehabilitated four Kākā and released them back to the wild. Another patient, fufu, is a female that was badly injured after one of these collisions. Her prognosis did not look good on arrival, but thankfully veterinarians found no fractures on her x-ray. Against the odds, fufu recovered and has now been released back in the wild. These experiences on Waiheke Island are crucial for the long-term conservation of Kākā on urban and suburban environments in New Zealand.

These rehabilitation efforts go hand-in-hand with a growing awareness campaign so people in the community help reduce the number of

Kākā window collisions. In the coming months another phase of this project will begin, testing the efficacy of UV-reflective stickers to reduce Kākā window collisions.

Kākā conservation work is made possible by the direct efforts of many dedicated people in the field and in rescue facilities. The WPT will continue to collaborate with them to ensure the survival of these beautiful birds. 

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- **Native Bird Rescue - Waiheke Island**
tinyurl.com/2sjyreds
- **Cape Sanctuary:**
tinyurl.com/3vcysdcr

Exploring the Distributional Range of the Santa Marta Parakeet:

Venturing into the wonders of the Sierra Nevada, Colombia

BY MARIA PAULA SANTOS TAUTIVA

IN COLLABORATION WITH DIEGO ZARRATE, ESTEBAN BOTERO-DELGADILLO, LEONARDO LEMUS

It all began with the idea of getting the World Parrot Trust to work in Colombia again, where I was born and raised. Having worked in conservation in Latin America for a few years as a veterinarian, I felt it was time to give back to my country.

In 2021, I made contact with Diego Zárrate, Conservation Director at ProCAT Colombia (Proyecto de Conservación de Aguas y Tierras), and thereafter with Esteban Botero-Delgadillo and Nicholas Bayly, both founding members and part of the board of directors at SELVA: Research for Conservation in the Neotropics. ProCAT has been working with endangered species and ecosystems conservation planning since 2008. SELVA focuses its work on priority species, with an expertise on migratory birds, threatened and endemic species.

After a few meetings, we agreed to start a joint effort between the three NGOs (World Parrot Trust, ProCAT Colombia, and SELVA) for the parrots with conservation concerns in this region in the north of Colombia, focusing our efforts in the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta (SNSM). The SNSM is considered the most irreplaceable ecosystem on Earth because of its unique geology and isolation from the Andes. The different ecosystems in it are under constant threat from a number of dangers and require urgent conservation actions.

In addition, the people who inhabit this area, including indigenous tribes, fishermen, farmers, Afro-Caribbean communities, and rural settlers coming from different regions of Colombia, have diverse cultures and traditions.

Around 670 species of birds can be found in the SNSM, of which 24 are unique. This has led to the SNSM being designated as an Endemic Bird Area or EBA, and recognition as a Biosphere Reserve. The ecosystems in the SNSM are highly threatened by land transformation and habitat destruction. Between 2000 and 2018 more than 3,000 km² of forest were lost. After a few conversations, we decided to focus our work on one threatened parrot species, the Santa Marta Parakeet (*Pyrrhura viridicata*). Parrots can travel long distances, making them excellent candidates to act as umbrella species (those whose protection would benefit others

in the region). We selected this parakeet because it is one of the most threatened parrots in the Neotropics, and because despite its current conservation status, it is fairly easy to identify in the field; this is important for community monitoring programs to be successful.

From the beginning we knew that engaging the local people with our project was essential if conservation and management plans were to have a long-lasting impact. To accomplish our new project's goals, we used geographic information systems (GIS) to create a geographical analysis that allows us to identify places where the species could be. An innovative tool called SMART (*Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool*) is used to collect data, allowing us to use a phone to gather information and organise it. We surveyed five zones in the SNSM searching for the parakeet (Fig. 1)

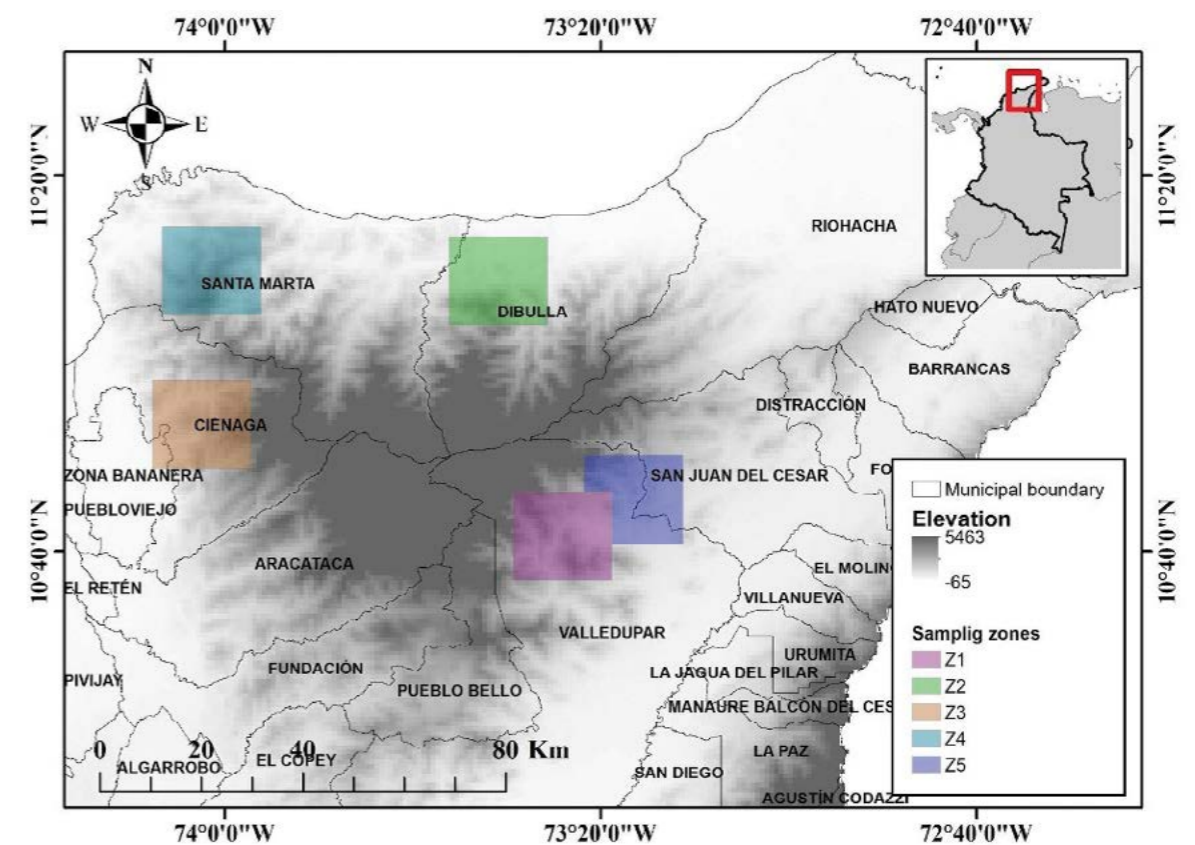


FIG 1. SNSM study area and digital elevation model as background, with survey zones highlighted.



© Nick Athanas [CC BY-NC-SA 2.0]

While it was long suspected that the Santa Marta Parakeet occurred in some of the visited areas, its presence was a complete enigma in other areas that were studied. This new project is a pilot to test innovative methods that will help us increase our knowledge on this species in areas that have been scarcely surveyed, so in the future we can generate actions, where needed, to help conserve this wonderful parrot.

About the Santa Marta Parakeet

This charismatic parrot is endemic to the SNSM, mainly inhabiting the wetland forest of the northwestern slope of this mountain system, between 1900 and 3200 metres above sea level. Most of the studies on this species have been carried out in specific and highly localised areas of the SNSM, hence the lack of knowledge about its ecology and population status across it. This species is included in the IUCN Red List of threatened species (EN) due to several factors, including its restricted geographical range, its apparently reduced population size, and the

degradation and destruction of its habitat caused mainly by agricultural expansion. This species is also included in Appendix II of CITES.

Aiming for local communities and conservationists to work together

It is vital that we share the conservation issues faced by the Santa Marta Parakeet with the local communities and encourage their involvement in conserving this species. If they are not aware of it, how are they supposed to protect it? While searching for the parakeet in each of the studied areas, Yurgen Vega, our field technician, interviewed the women and men living there using a questionnaire formulated by the research team. This could allow us to better understand their priorities, so at a later stage we can formulate strategies that will hopefully help them to improve their livelihood and the way they interact with nature. Yurgen also invited interviewees to join him for parrot counts, and those few that showed some interest in what he was doing were later asked whether they

would like to be trained to search and count parrots. This way, they would be directly involved in an exciting citizen science conservation project!

However, as we mentioned, this parakeet is mainly found high up in the mountains, meaning challenging conditions for the people that live there. Farms were sparsely distributed throughout the studied areas, hence it was difficult for Yurgen to find enough people to interview or train.

In spite of the challenges, we needed to carry out a trial of our citizen science initiative to evaluate how feasible it would be to scale-up this approach if we wanted to train more people across the region. Yurgen revisited one of the previously selected surveyed areas, based on the presence of the species and people inhabiting the area. He trained two family members, Leidy Perez Serrano and Jhon Ospina Serrano, on how to properly identify the Santa Marta Parakeet, track it, and to collect data using the SMART technology. They were paid for their work, which

hopefully will give them more incentive to help protect the area where they live.

Empowering women

Another aim of this project is to empower women in the study area by intentionally including them in the work we are doing. We are aware that in very remote areas most of the family structures are very traditional, so getting the women involved can be challenging. Our intention is to show them other ways they can protect the land where they live and how this can potentially generate other sources of income (for instance, ecotourism). Leading by example, we want to inspire local women throughout the project's process.

An unexpected re-discovery

While searching for the Santa Marta Parakeet, Yurgen came across a singing male Santa Marta Sabrewing (*Campylopterus phainopeplus*), a hummingbird that is threatened with extinction. Since 1946, when it was found and captured by Rodolphe Meyer de Schauensee, no other proven record of the species was obtained until the following century. In 2010, researchers from SELVA managed to observe it again. The species has been recorded sporadically since 2010, but without

any physical evidence. In early July of this past year, Yurgen found the hummingbird again in a forest in the Cesar department. No doubt this exciting record will guide future efforts to localise stable populations of this bird, hopefully filling some major knowledge gaps.

So what next?

If we are going to continue our work, we need to plan and adapt the way we are going to involve the diverse communities of the SNSM so that they become key actors in protecting this beautiful animal and the ecosystems where it can be found.

We want to scale-up this project by visiting 10 or so more areas to get a really good idea of the current status of the Santa Marta Parakeet throughout its distribution. We also want to involve as many communities as possible in our citizen science initiative. Inhabitants of rural communities share their homes with this species; therefore, involving them in long-term monitoring programs provides a two-fold benefit: scientists can get information in real time from inaccessible areas to increase their knowledge of the species, and the monitoring program strengthens the link between local people and the unique biodiversity of the SNSM with which they share their home. 📍



© Yurgen Vega



About ProCAT Colombia

ProCAT is an international NGO dedicated to the research and conservation of ecosystems and species using an interdisciplinary approach, designing conservation plans for species and ecosystems through the search for human well-being and biodiversity conservation.

ProCat on the web: procat-conservation.org
Facebook & Twitter: [@ProCATColombia](https://www.facebook.com/ProCATColombia)



About SELVA

SELVA is an NGO founded in Colombia. Their mission is to generate science-based knowledge that facilitates biodiversity conservation that ultimately helps find a balance between humans and nature. They seek to inspire sustainable change leading to the protection of Colombia's natural heritage by promoting the development of new talents and collective learning.

SELVA on the web: selva.org.co
Facebook & Twitter: [@selvaorgco](https://www.facebook.com/selvaorgco)



Prism © Cassandra Crawford



Interview with Ann Brooks, President and Co-Founder: Phoenix Landing Foundation

Established in 2000, Phoenix Landing is a nonprofit avian welfare organization in the United States. It has grown into an extensive network of volunteers to facilitate a foster and adoption program for parrots, and hosts a robust parrot care education program open to everyone regardless of location to improve the quality-of-life for parrots in captivity.

What should people know about Phoenix Landing?

Our goal is to put parrots first and consider each as an individual who deserves the best possible future. For some, that may mean a new home. For others, it might mean giving their family additional information to make life better through enrichment, nutrition, health, space, and understanding behaviour. That is why continuing education is so important, because we can always learn something new to improve the lives of the birds in our homes.

Phoenix Landing hosts a robust educational program for this reason.

We strive to change the language we use about birds and why adoption is so important. Most parrots will need more than one home because they can live a long time, and human lives change through no fault of the birds. We try to avoid using the word “rescue” because it sounds like the parrot is the problem. This is unfair since birds are very adaptable and resilient, no matter where they come from, and we try not to restrict their future fortunes. We encourage families not to use any labels (“aggressive”, “hormonal” or “prefers women”) because [that] may not prove true in a different environment. Parrots deserve fresh starts and new opportunities.

We also try to support research and conservation for wild parrots through donations and ecotours. There are many things in trouble on our planet, so the future of wild parrots depends on those of us that have a special affinity for birds. I encourage everyone to do something for conservation!

Who do you partner or collaborate with?

We welcome partnerships with all parrot-related organisations. While we may have different approaches, there is always common ground. Parrots deserve for us to put aside our differences to help them live life to its fullest in the best



Pippin © Cassandra Crawford

Living with a parrot can be challenging, and requires dedication. Problems are not solved overnight, but in most cases a solution can be found.



Nutty and Phoenix
© Cassandra Crawford

possible ways. We work directly with several conservation organisations, including the World Parrot Trust! In fact, every month I highlight a conservation project for the Lafeber Company, and they in turn donate \$500 to that project.

Does a special story come to mind when you think about Phoenix Landing?

I think it was the epiphany soon after I acquired Phoenix in 1995, an unweaned greenwing macaw, and realized I had made an impulsive and uneducated decision. I felt an immense responsibility to plan for his future. To this day, I am paying forward in the hopes

our organisation will have the sustainability needed to ensure that Phoenix will have access to an enriched and healthy life after I am gone. Phoenix Landing has now rehomed over 3,350 birds, and I take the placement of each one as seriously as I wish someone to do for Phoenix someday! We have incredibly smart and dedicated volunteers, so this gives me hope for our future.

What advice do you have to people looking to adopt a parrot?

Be patient, it’s a big decision if you’re going to do right by a parrot! Try to learn as much as you can, and never stop learning. Be prepared for

expenses - especially good whole foods, toys, and medical care. And most importantly, if you want to develop a positive relationship, have appropriate expectations. When we want something that makes a bird uncomfortable or is not natural for them, we break trust. We’re disappointed. But this is not the parrot’s fault. Remember that birds are magical, intelligent, and beautiful. Those are all extraordinary traits to appreciate. Anything more than that is extra.

Simply enjoy parrots for who they are and try to give them what they need – and you too will experience the magic! 📷



Primary Address: P.O. Box 459 Alexander, NC 28701 USA
Visit their website at: www.phoenixlanding.org

Parrot Trafficking in Mexico: Large Seizure Prompts New Actions

by WPT Staff
All photos © TIVÚ

Mexico is a country rich in culture, wildlife and plants. With over 108,000 different species it boasts nearly 12% of the world's biodiversity, including over 20 species of parrot. Of these, over a third are threatened in the wild by trapping for the wild bird trade and loss of habitat to agriculture and logging.

Capture for trade — although illegal since 2008 — continues unabated for some species.

One example, the Orange-fronted Conure (*Eupsittula canicularis*), demonstrates the depth of the problem: the species has been so adversely affected by trafficking that it was recently uplisted to Vulnerable by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Between 1995 and 2019, about 570,100 individuals were illegally captured in Mexico alone. As the overall mortality rate for trapped parrots is high (+70%), this has a terrible effect on wild birds. Population decreases have forced trappers to look for parrots from state to state. Some have taken to entering protected areas to search for their targets.

There is only one official rescue center facility in the entire country, so authorities are hard-pressed to deal with the number of birds regularly confiscated. TIVÚ, a non-profit based in Tuxtla Gutiérrez, Chiapas made up of professionals from many animal-related disciplines, has offered to help authorities to rescue wildlife. Their mission is



to conserve, protect, rescue and rehabilitate native animals. They help a wide range of creatures that are reported hurt, are confiscated or otherwise have mishaps with humans.

Recently, TIVÚ's dedicated team was sorely tested: in September 2020 they received a large group of parrots. Most of the birds were in poor-to-critical condition. From the start, treating and stabilising them was intensive work, testing the fortitude of everyone involved. Equipment quickly needed purchasing, supplies, chick-rearing food and medication gathered, and brooders and other intensive care units built to house the sickest birds.

The captured parrots were in family groups (juveniles and adults), with the youngest still relying on their parents. Initially with the support of a private individual the parrots were placed in a large cage. Still, as the days went by it became necessary for the weakest ones, which were deteriorating rapidly, to be transferred to TIVÚ veterinary clinic for intensive care.

It was clear to everyone that the poachers involved were part of a network that knew what they were doing. Entire families had

been trapped in mist netting, and their flight feathers had been brutally plucked to prevent them from escaping.

Tragically, despite an all-out effort by staff and volunteers, and outside support from different organisations including the WPT, many of them did not survive due to the effects of injury and prolonged stress. In addition, up until this event there were few experiences of releases of rehabilitated birds in Mexico, which left hundreds to languish in captivity. Knowing this, it was unclear if their current efforts would finish with returning the survivors to the wild. Thankfully though, 80 birds survived, and after TIVÚ staff sought a state judge's approval, 40 of them were released on October 2021. They were ringed and chipped to allow tracking and were successfully integrated back into the wild. The youngest are still undergoing rehabilitation.

Despite the disheartening setbacks there are clear signs that a movement is gaining momentum in Chiapas. A network has been formed that includes NGOs, federal, state and municipal governments, academia and dozens of volunteers to address the problem of at-risk parrots in southern Mexico. Everyone involved in the rescue and rehabilitation process has recognised the importance of working with communities where parrots are found and where potential release sites exist.

Top, Middle and Bottom:
Various patients undergoing
examination and intensive care
treatment for malnutrition,
stress and injury





Top, left and right: Recovering birds forage and gain strength in a large flight
Bottom, left: Volunteers ready to release rehabilitated birds back to the wild
Bottom, right: A helper prepares food for hungry and convalescing birds

Top, left: A White-fronted Amazon feasts on a nutritious mix
Top, right: Local women take part in Embroidering Con Causa (Embroidering with a Cause) creating nature-themed goods. Other small businesses sell organic coffees and more, all benefiting people and parrots
Bottom, right: Colourful and fun educational props for serious messaging

Local organisations and government bodies have begun awareness campaigns and educational gatherings that are reaching people as never before. As a result they have become concerned for the well-being of their native parrots, are more involved with monitoring and reporting illegal activities, and are watching out for the recently released birds.

And that's just the start: underway are a new birding festival and a program to educate pet bird owners to ensure improved parrot welfare. A local doctor has agreed to having two rehabilitation aviaries on his property to house the remaining birds and those seized in the future. There have been companion bird surrenders and orphaned chick rescues. Gaining

favour are new initiatives to reduce pressure on people needing to make a living trapping birds - these include ecotourism ventures and local micro-industries creating nature-themed embroidered goods (Embroidering Con Causa / Embroidering with a Cause), organic coffees and more. Through a national prize from Yves Rocher (Tierra de Mujeres or Land of Women), a key TIVÚ staff member will begin conservation work, supported with matching funds by the WPT and several partners, with the Barra Zacapulco community in La Encrucijada Biosphere Reserve where the rescued parrots were released. It's also where the IUCN Critically Endangered Yellow-naped Amazon (*Amazona auropalliata*) lives. There a group of women leads a project to

protect the Yellow-napes, one of the species most severely hit by illegal traffic and trade.

Support from higher powers is important as well: TIVÚ has fostered relationships with government entities such as PROFEPA (Procuraduría Federal de Protección al Ambiente / Federal Attorney's Office for Environmental Protection) and CONANP (Comisión Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas / National Commission of Natural Protected Areas Mexico), to ensure compliance with national laws and streamline the logistics of helping parrots in need. TIVÚ kept an accounting of the parrot care and release process, and the issues they encountered, and has shared it with PROFEPA

to help improve and standardise care and treatment guidelines for future confiscations and rescues. In addition, students from veterinary (Universidad Autónoma de Chiapas - UNACH), biology (Universidad de Ciencias y Artes de Chiapas - UNICACH) and technical (Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey- ITESM) schools have been instructed at the rescue centre as part of a social work required for a Bachelor's degree. They spent their time there learning the many intricacies of wildlife rescue, from confiscation to eventual release.

In the end, the dedicated staff and volunteers of TIVÚ and other members of the network in Chiapas are sending a clear message to the

public: the illegal trade in parrots exacts a heavy toll on Mexico's wild birds. If parrots and their ecosystems are protected, the rewards for local people can be substantial. And the results so far are proving that their words are being taken to heart. ☐

The Effects of Parrot Trapping

- causes populations to decline
- capturing breeding adults causes chick mortality of abandoned nestlings or eggs
- loss of adults reduces the number of breeding pairs
- extraction of nestlings can cause damage to / loss of nesting trees
- continued trapping year over year can cause local extinctions

NEWS

Blue-fronted Amazons: Released birds breeding in new nest boxes

Confiscated Blue Fronted Amazons (*Amazona aestiva*), rehabilitated and recently released at WPT partner Lins Ecological farm in Brazil, are doing well in the wild. Bosque da Kiki (Kiki's wood) was named in honour of a private donor's beloved companion parrot and has now become a favourite area for the Amazons. Since their release, the birds have actively used the nest boxes provided by the farm to raise chicks.

Lins farm focuses on helping the heavily-trafficked Blue-fronted Amazon and other bird species in Brazil. Owner Ivan Tadeu has restored the farm to a safe haven for birds by planting native trees that will one day provide important roosting and nesting spaces. In the meantime, artificial nest boxes can help to boost the population in the area.

The World Parrot Trust continues to support the efforts of several facilities across Brazil to help ease the toll of trafficking on wild parrots.

Learn more:
tinyurl.com/ynhub8rb



Photos © Lins Ecological Farm

United for Wildlife Global Summit

WPT's Dr. Rowan Martin in attendance

The illegal trade is a major threat to many iconic parrot species; ending this trade is a core focus of WPT's work. Recently, WPT's Dr. Rowan Martin joined 300 leading figures from law enforcement agencies, conservation organisations and businesses at the United for Wildlife Global Summit in London.

United for Wildlife seeks to foster collaboration between the private and

public sectors through its Transport and Financial Taskforces and was established by the Royal Foundation of the Prince and Princess of Wales. At the summit HRH The Prince of Wales highlighted the serious and organised nature of illegal wildlife crime, warning that the world does not have "the luxury of time to tackle it", but it does have "a proven roadmap to success and the motivation to put it into action."

WPT is working with the United for Wildlife network to dismantle illegal trade networks for parrots around the world. Dr. Martin

said, "It's vitally important that the trade in parrots is recognised at the highest level for the threat that it poses to wild populations. It was very encouraging to see the trade in parrots and other birds being discussed alongside more charismatic species. The summit was a great opportunity to explore with leaders in the transport and financial sectors, law enforcement and conservation bodies the practical actions that can be taken to end trade."

2023 Parrot Wall Calendars

Enjoy a year's worth of your favourite birds as depicted by some of the world's best wildlife artists with our Artist's Edition calendar. Or, fall in love with candid images of parrots in the wild with the Photography Edition.

Sale proceeds help to protect parrots from trafficking and habitat destruction.

Start shopping:
parrots.org/shop



WPT and NECF Launch the Parrot Conservation Grants Program

Earlier this year the World Parrot Trust (WPT), in partnership with Natural Encounters Conservation Fund (NECF), launched the Parrot Conservation Grants Program.

The Parrot Conservation Grants Program invited applications for grants to be awarded through a 2022-23 funding cycle for up to \$5,000 per project. The purpose of the funding is to implement several conservation projects on behalf of the nearly 100 species of parrots currently threatened with global extinction.



We were delighted to receive over 60 initial applications which through careful review by a panel of experts and were whittled down to the 11 projects that have been selected for funding in this grants cycle. Although we received so many proposals worthy of funding, we had to give priority to projects that we believe will have the most impact towards the conservation of threatened parrot species in the wild.

It is wonderful to be able to implement more conservation action for parrots through this program and support people on the frontline of parrot conservation to not only manage threats to different species but expand upon our knowledge and understanding of how to protect their populations.

We are very excited to be working with the individuals and organisations selected for funding, and we look forward to introducing you to their projects in upcoming issues of *PsittaScene*.



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PARROTS IN THE WILD:
Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo
(*Zanda funerea*)

Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoos feed on *Pinus*, *Eucalyptus*, *Hakea*, *Casuarina*, *Banksia* and *Acacia* seeds. They are also reliant on *Eucalyptus* woodland for breeding.

Queensland, Australia

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