

Title of project: Follow us and you will learn how to protect birds. Actions that promote the need to conserve and protect birds with children, youth and community members in general in the communities near the Estrella Aguadores Protected Natural Landscape.

Participants:

Principal Investigator:

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Other participants in the project:

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2. Lic. Milagro Lobaina Marzo (Administradora del área protegida).
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PROJECT PROFILE.

The Island of Cuba is privileged for the great diversity of bird species that it treasures and especially for the number of endemics, since, of the 371 registered species, 7.7% are endemic. Among the 26 endemics of our country we can mention the beautiful Cartacuba or pedorrera, the Toco-ro-ro (our national bird), the Zunzuncito, the smallest bird in the world, the Catey, with its beautiful colors, the Caguarero Gavilán, Churroso Carpenter, among many more However, the most worrying thing is that many of them are exposed to natural threats such as intense rains and hurricanes, fire, extended periods of drought and man-made conditions such as the loss of nesting and feeding sites.

For the conservation of these charismatic species, **the Festival of Endemic Birds of the Caribbean** takes place every year, it is a regional initiative of the Society for the Study and Conservation of Caribbean Birds, which aims to promote knowledge and promote conservation of the endemic avifauna of the region and raise the awareness of the population about their protection. This Festival is celebrated every year from April 22 (Earth Day) to May 22 (Biodiversity Day), including May 9 (International Migratory Bird Day). It has been celebrated in Cuba since 2003 and in our Company since 2007.

The actions are linked to the pedagogical essence of learning by doing and learning by reflecting supported by the tools provided by Peter Feinsinger's "Teaching of Ecology in the Schoolyard" and Popular Education, we propose this environmental education project. It aims to support, through constructivist pedagogy, the preservation of the endemic birdlife of the region and reduce the effects of a growing phenomenon such as illegal hunting of bird species, their commercialization.

The project will be implemented in the protected area Estrella Aguadores Protected Natural Landscape which has 3 nearby communities Aguadores with 123 inhabitants, La Estrella with 48 inhabitants and the Ciudadamar junction which has 241 inhabitants, with a total population of 412 inhabitants, of them 131 among children and young people. We consider the need to carry out the project in this area since it would be very useful to arm them with key tools about the importance of birds and the urgency of their care and protection for all the benefits they bring to human life and nature. usually.

General objective:

Encourage in children and young people the love for birds, whether endemic, resident or migratory, as well as the need to protect them, through the activities that we propose.

DIRECT PROJECT ACTIONS

Taking into account that we are going through an atypical moment with the SARS-CoV-2 virus pandemic, we will not carry out activities inside the schools since for security reasons when classes begin, entry will be very limited. For this reason we will work with small groups of children and young people in the Biological Station of the protected area and in open spaces of the area as such and complying with hygienic sanitary measures and distancing.

- Conversations, talks and workshops with children, young people, workers in the protected area and interested communities (for example, characteristics of birds, their importance, how to protect them and the need for their care and conservation, among other topics)
- Distribution of folders, bulletins and leaflets with basic information that helps protect birds.
 - Cleaning the coastline, with the campaign "Cleaning for birds"
 - Making simple articles with recyclable materials.
 - Videos - debates on the values of Cuban biodiversity and the preservation of endemic birds in protected areas and biodiversity conservation in general.
 - Drawing and literature contest (in which they can write poetry, stories, letters, among others).
- Participation games related to the protection of birds.
- Set up an exhibition at the Biological Station with the results of the contest.
- Development of activities commemorating environmental dates, the festival of endemic birds of the Caribbean, environmental days, among others.
- Carry out a seed festival, in which the children will collect the seeds of the fruits they eat, they will make a nursery with them and later they will be able to sow them in their homes or give them to the community as these will serve as food and shelter for the community fauna, especially birds.
- Observations of birds, in which children and young people can identify them by their shape and song.
- Finally, the children will conclude with the creation of a magazine in which their favorite bird illustrates the importance of birds and what actions they take to protect them.
- Presentations will be made on the radio, provincial television, dissemination in the press and on social networks, which will allow the scope of the project to be extended to all the inhabitants of the Santiago de Cuba province, the eastern region and, if possible, to the entire country.

POST PROJECT ACTIONS**DISSEMINATION OF RESULTS.**

The results will be published in informative material, specialized biological magazines, such as, **Biodiversidad de Cuba Oriental, Revista flora y Fauna**, among others. A part of the results will be published in non-specialized, local and regional literature, including flyers, newsletters and bulletins. In particular, it will try to include information in the bulletin of the Pronaturaleza society, which is distributed in all the provinces of Eastern Cuba.

HOW WILL THE SUCCESS OF THE PROJECT BE EVALUATED?

Writing a report that summarizes the activities carried out and how they have influenced children, young people and the community for the protection and conservation of endemic birds and, in general, the biodiversity of Cuba.

**BUDGET
EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS REQUESTED:**

Equipment and materials	UM	Precio	Cantidad	Importe
Newsletter printing	U	1.00	100	100.00
Folding printing	U	1.00	100	100.00
Crayons	Caja	3.00	40	120.00
Colored pencils	U	3.00	40	120.00
Leaves	Paquete	5.00	3	15.00
Purchase of personalized nasobucos	U	4.00	50	200.00
Logistics and transportation for activities	U		60	345.00
Total Expenses				\$ 1000.00

SCHEDULE

Activities	January	February	March	April	May	Jun	July	August	September	October	November	December
	Covers, talks and workshops for teachers, boys, girls and young people.	X		X		X	X				X	
Distribution of flyers, newsletters and bulletins			X	X		X		X			X	
Cleaning the coastline				X	X	X	X	X		X		
Making articles with recyclable materials		X		X		X		X	X		X	
Video discussions			X		X	X				X		X
Drawing and literature contest					X					X		
Participation games			X		X		X			X		X
Exhibitions				X	X	X					X	X
Commemoration of environmental dates	X		X	X	X	X			X	X		

Seed festival		X	X	X					X	X		X
bird watching			X	X	X	X				X		X
Making a magazine										X	X	X
Presentations on radio, TV, the dam and social networks	X			X	X	X				X		X

Equivalent funds or resources:

This project is part of the National Action Plan Program of the Cuban Network for Environmental Training (REDFA), which has financing in national currency or CUP from the National Forest Development Fund. This funding covers only the fees of specialists who work directly in the communities and schools as environmental promoters.

Continuity:

Due to the importance of this project, it is our purpose that upon completion we can replicate it in the other protected areas managed by the Santiago de Cuba Flora and Fauna Company.

Resume

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Occupation: Specialist in guarded Areas, Enterprise Flora and Fauna Santiago de Cuba.

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Realized studies: Bachelor's degree in Astronomy a Physics

Vocational experience: Since 1994 I worked to the 2002 as a woman teacher of basic secondary school, as from 2003 I am doing like Specialist of Conservation in National Company for the protection of Flora and Fauna Santiago de Cuba to the present.

Courses of after degree

1. Postgrad's course of the Ecology at the School's Patio, sponsored for Wildlife Conservation Society, February 2009
2. Course of environmental interpretation and techniques of driving, 2016
3. Course of Flora, Fauna and Ecology, 2016
4. Workshop of Environmental Education, June 2017
5. Long-distance Training Course of Popular Educators, Martin Luter King Center 2018
6. Course of Basic English, University of Orient 2019.
7. Workshop of Environmental Education, May 2019
8. Workshop of Environmental Education, April 2020