

Natural Resource Management Track

Bird and Mangroves Monitoring Session (All day field trip to Port Royal wetlands)

Agenda

Tuesday, March 14, 2006

Learning Objectives

- Brief overview/review of importance of birds as part of a larger environment
- Basic familiarization with field techniques/tools used in bird monitoring
- Brief overview/review of importance of mangroves as part of larger coastal environment (mangrove-seagrass-reef complex)
- Basic familiarization with field techniques/tools used for mangrove monitoring and to assess productivity and species recruitment (of mangrove species and associated fauna/flora with the understanding that productivity measurements are unlikely to be fully feasible). This topic should provide basic information
- Familiarization with species indicators (birds, plant, inverts, etc) used to identify and evaluate the condition and complexity of a mangrove site

- 6:15 a.m. Meet in hotel lobby for bus departure for Field Trip to Port Royal
- Introduction to Bird Monitoring techniques (Dr. B. Hay)
 - Initial Bird Monitoring field exercise in the mangroves
- 9:30 a.m. Coffee Break
Arrive at University of the West Indies Port Royal facilities
- 10:00 a.m. Lecture – Avian Monitoring in Wetlands (Dr. B. Hay)
- 11:00 a.m. Mangrove Monitoring
- Introduction to Mangrove Monitoring and Field Techniques (M. Hibbert, UWI)
 - Field visits to the Mangroves
 - Lab time to conduct sample analysis on
 - Mangrove indicators samples
 - Fresh water samples from Blue Mountains (Monday's field trip)
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. Mangrove Monitoring (continued)
- 4:30 p.m. Return to Hotel

Facilitators: Brandon Hay and Marlon Hibbert.

Mr. **Brandon Hay** has served as research assistant to Robert and Ann Sutton since 1996. Together they are conducting research on migrant land birds in Jamaican mangrove forests. Brandon is also the Scientific Officer for the Caribbean Coastal Area Management Foundation, an organization dedicated to the protection and sustainable development of Jamaican natural resources. At the University of the West Indies (UWI), where he earned a B.S. degree in zoology in 1995 and currently attends graduate school, Brandon was involved in researching the reproductive success of Red-billed and Black-billed streamertails (hummingbirds). He enjoys scuba diving, boating, and radio-controlled model aircraft.

Mr. **Marlon Hibbert** works for the University of West Indies (UWI) in Life Sciences Port Royal Marine Laboratory. He holds a BsC in Botany and Zoology and is currently working towards his MPhil in Marine Science. He has worked extensively in the natural resource management arena, with specific emphasis on marine systems and estuaries. His work has included research on the Martha Brae River Estuary Environmental Assessment with work towards creating a management plan for the area.