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## Abundance of terrestrial endemic birds of Fernando de Noronha Archipelago (Brazil)

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This study assessed and compared the abundance of the terrestrial endemic birds in *Fernando de Noronha* (FN) Archipelago (NE Brazil). *Elaenia ridleyana* (Noronha Elaenia) and *Vireo gracilirostris* (Noronha Vireo) are considered globally vulnerable and near threatened (respectively), however they are still poorly studied. FN is a volcanic archipelago with 21 islands, and at the larger island occur five species of terrestrial birds (non marine) including *E. ridleyana*, *V. gracilirostris*, *Zenaida auriculata* (eared dove), *Passer domesticus* (house sparrow), and *Bubulcus ibis* (cattle egret). In September and October 2005 and 2006, we estimated the abundance of these terrestrial species by 159 point counts (5 min, 25m radio) between 5:00 and 9:00 h. The points were classified by vegetation covering and human modified areas. We registered 2,559 birds, including 284 *E. ridleyana* (mean = 1.8, standard deviation = 1.8); 610 *V. gracilirostris* (3.8, 4.2); 1,199 *Z. auriculata* (7.5, 10.3); 280 *P. domesticus* (0.05, 0.4); and 186 *B. ibis* (1.2, 5.9). We found frequencies of 63% *E. ridleyana*; 88.7% *V. gracilirostris*; 89% *Z. auriculata*; 24% *P. domesticus*; and 23% *B. ibis*. We registered greater abundance of *E. ridleyana* and *V. gracilirostris* ( $p < 0.001$ ) in sites predominating vegetation. *Z. auriculata* were more abundant in open habitats and human modified areas ( $p < 0.01$ ), and *P. domesticus* and *B. ibis* were aggregated in antropogenic sites. These findings suggest preference for specific sites, and show a possible human interference in abundance of endemic endangered birds. This study was continued in 2009 and detailed conclusions will be published soon.