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Workshop: Linking banders and bird Conservation across the Hemisphere

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Through the Western Hemisphere Bird Banding Network (WHBBN), many national program coordinators have been working to enhance international collaboration. Several Latin American and Caribbean countries and organizations are in the process of developing or have expressed interest in developing national banding schemes and coordination at this time provides an opportunity to create strong future partnerships. Previous WHBBN workshops have produced an action plan, a webpage for reporting captures, a communications list serve, supported development of new banding centers, and provided opportunities to share expertise. Many challenges remain and WHBBN is interested in addressing issues regarding capacity building, permits, data management and sharing, standardized metadata and data collection, bander ethics, encounter/recovery reporting, and communication among countries. During this workshop, WHBBN will address all these aspects and aims to update the WHBBN action plan, identify specific actions to be implemented within the next years, and address future directions for the network. This workshop will demonstrate how coordinated banding programs and shared banding expertise can support the stewardship of western hemisphere migratory birds and express the usefulness of collaborative banding efforts. This meeting will benefit from experiences derived from networks of banding centers world-wide, as gathered also through the IOC Research Coordination Committee on Bird Marking. Within a climate change scenario it is urgent to build up the potential for global monitoring approaches based on shared protocols for bird conservation and demographic monitoring. Analyses of connectivity across continents and CMR data sets will positively contribute to scientifically sound conservation policies. WHBBN Meeting Proposed Program (preliminar): we propose that this meeting has a one day program, with the participation of the banding centers from several countries, especially from Americas. We will discuss many bird banding aspects, to be defined, including: 1) Capacity building. How we can join efforts (training, organizational support and partnerships) an offer training courses, support new banding programs, transfer materials across the hemisphere? 2) Encounter/recovery reporting. How can we facilitate recovery reporting so that all banders have access to their recovery reports and reporters have access to banding records? 3) Permit issues. What is the process to obtain a banding permit in each country of the America? 4) Data management and sharing. What data should banding schemes share? How can data be shared? 5) Bands and marking Issues. Standards, supply, country code, distribution. 6) Mechanisms for Communication. Web page development and list serve advances. 7) Bander ethics and bird safety. A code of ethics reviewed for the WHBBN. 8) Banding and Encounter Data: coordination, management and sharing across the Hemisphere [LandBird Monitoring Network - C.J Ralph – Redwood Sciences Laboratory]. 8) Bird Banding in Western Hemisphere recent developments and future directions. 9) A brief introduction by country representatives: **Brazil**, Raquel Lacerda, CEMAVE; **Chile**, Francisco Chavez, Servicio Agrícola y Ganadero; **Costa Rica**, Pablo Elizondo, PiF/InBio; **Peru**, Evelyn Tavera, Fundación Corbidi.