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Population active in reproduction and population assessment of Lear Macaw (*Anodorhynchus leari*, Psittacidae) in Bahia, Brazil

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Lear's macaw (*Anodorhynchus leari*) is an endemic and threatened species which breeds in cavities found in sandstone cliffs in only two sites in Bahia State, Brazil. This study had the aims of estimate the number of breeding pairs at these two sites and the increment of the population during three breeding seasons. Observations of breeding pairs, fledging birds and bird counts were made with the aim of binocular and scopes from strategical points, avoiding double countings. In average, each pair raised on young/nest/year, which left the nests in meddle of April. During three breeding seasons 242 nests were studied (67 in 2004-5; 63 in 2005-6; 112 in 2008-9). The number of breeding pairs raised from 134 in 2004 to 224 in 2009 and at least 288 new individuals were added to the population in these three breeding seasons, with average sighting of nestlings of 1 chicken per couple. We estimate the total population of Lear's macaw in a minimum of 1,000 birds, a significant increase of 150% since the counts started in 2003, when 400 individuals were found. Continuous monitoring and educational programs, and protection of the key areas are essential to the protection of this species.