

FINAL REPORT WATERBIRDS IN GUYANA

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of GATBS

2006

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Introduction

This report is the first of its kind to be produced for Guyana. Therefore it is lacking in much critical data. The Society began the migratory bird count on September 25, 2005 when the first pair of Peregrine Falcon (*Falco Peregrinus*) was spotted in Georgetown.

There were 61 migrant waterbirds recorded during the last migratory season. Due to a lack of funding prime habitat areas were not able to be visited.

The Society is requesting financial support to keep the migratory programs currently being undertaken running so as to have up-to-date information these species throughout Guyana.

Considerations

At present, there is a lot of concern as regards the avian flu. However no cases have yet been reported here. The migrant waterbirds which would pose the most threat are those that feed and roost within close proximity to local species.

On the 21st of January, 2006 the American Wood Stork (*Mycteria Americana*) was observed mingling as one flock with the Jabiru Stork (*Jabiru Mycteria*) in South Rupununi. This interaction poses a threat to one of the largest waterbirds by way of exposure to potentially infected individuals of the migrant flock.

Codes

Due to the lack of data it was not possible to use the codes as specified. However the Society has used the codes used by the Smithsonian Institute to give a general idea regarding the density of the populations in prime habitat.

Migrant Waterbird

The primary habitat of migratory waterbirds in Guyana is found in two main areas. (1) The estuaries of the Atlantic Ocean namely

- Waini River
- Essequibo River
- Demerara River
- Mahaica River
- Mahaicony River



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- Abary River
- Berbice River
- Corentyne River

This habitat contains mainly mangrove forests, marine and salt-water habitat and freshwater habitat with flooded forest along with flooded grassland and open lakes.

(2) In the hinterland of Guyana there are the

- Rupununi River
- Rewa River

This is made up of mixed flooded forest with swamp savannah and open lakes.

Migratory information

Migratory waterbirds inhabit Guyana from early October to late March. During this 26-week period birds coming from North America and as far away as England come to Guyana. Some species breed during this season but in very small numbers. Juvenile migratory waterbirds are usually left behind to mature until the next migrant flight. This contributes to small numbers of resident populations which inhabit Guyana year round.

A minimum quantity of data has been collected on migrant waterbirds throughout Guyana. The G.A.T.B.S has for the first time from 2005- 2006 put together a list of migrant species for Guyana . This list was began in October 2005 and completed at the end of the migratory season in March 2006 with a total of 61 species being recorded in primary habitat.

Due to a scarcity of data on bird species on the whole in Guyana, the Society cannot give population estimates. However the checklist will provide codes so as to give a reasonable idea of the populations throughout Guyana. This checklist will be updated each year during the migrant season.

Waterbirds of Guyana

A total of 76 waterbirds endemic to South America were identified in Guyana to in the following habitat

- * Rivers
- * Saltwater habitat
- * Lake habitat

These habitat are found along the following rivers



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- Sipu River
- Kamoia River
- Kassikaityu River
- Kuyuwini River
- New River
- Oronoque River
- Upper Corentyne River
- Rupununi River
- Rewa River
- Upper Essequibo River
- Burro Burro River
- Potaro River
- Cuyuni River
- Mazaruni River
- Pomeroon River
- Waini River
- Lower Essequibo River
- West Demerara Conservancy
- Demerara River
- East Demerara Conservancy
- Mahaica River
- Mahaicony River
- Abary River
- Berbice River
- Lower Corentyne River

The areas mentioned above are 23 major waterways throughout the country and are the prime habitat for waterbirds residing in Guyana.

Along the banks of these rivers there is mixed flooded forest as well as flooded grasslands with large open lakes. Some also have large areas of cultivated land especially along the coast of Guyana. These areas together contain 275 waterfalls, 18 large lakes many of which are of unclear status due to scarcity of data.

A total of 137 waterbirds comprising both migratory waterbirds (61 species) and waterbirds endemic to South America (76 species) were identified as inhabiting Guyana but this number is currently being updated.

This analysis began in 1996 by Gajendra Nauth Narine and has continued until now. In 2003 he along with the youths in the community formed the G.A.T.B.S



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which has been collecting data from members in all areas of Guyana. The Society is executing a continuous update of this list.

Checklist of the Waterbirds of Guyana Codes

Migrant Codes:

- **Blue squares** --- Represent migrant species to Guyana.
- **?** --- Represent species of unknown status due to scarcity of data.

Habitat Codes:

- **M** --- Marine and saltwater habitat along the Coast.
- **R** --- Rivers and freshwater habitat.
- **L** --- Lakes and flooded grasslands.

Abundance Codes:

- **C** --- Common; more than 20 individuals seen daily in prime season and habitat.
- **F** --- Fairly common; 5-20 individuals seen daily in prime season and habitat.
- **U** --- Uncommon; seen in small numbers, fewer than 5 individuals; not encountered during prime habitat and season.
- **R** --- Rare; only encountered in small numbers in prime habitat and season.
- **?** --- Status unknown due to scarcity of data.

Population codes:

- **DD** --- Data deficient. No estimate of these populations could be made throughout Guyana due to a limited amount of data.



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GUYANA AMAZON TROPICAL BIRDS SOCIETY
FIELD CHECKLIST OF WATERBIRDS OF GUYANA

Location: Guyana, South America

G.P.S Coordinates: Latitude:- between 1-9° and Longitude:-between 51-61°

	English Name / Scientific Name	Migrat	Habitat	Abu	Pop.
1	Grebes / Podicipedidae				
1	Least Grebe / Tachybaptus dominicus		R, L	F	DD
2	Pied-billed Grebe / Podilymbus podiceps		R, L	U	DD
2	Shearwater / Procellariidae				
3	Cory's Shearwater / Calonectris diomedea	?	M	?	DD
4	Greater Shearwater / Puffinus gravis	?	M	?	DD
5	Audubon's Shearwater / Puffinus lherminieri	?	M	?	DD
3	Boobies / Sulidae				
6	Brown Booby / Sula leucogaster	?	M	F	DD
4	Pelicans / Pelecanidae				
7	Brown Pelican / Pelecanus occidentalis		M	C	DD
5	Cormorants / Phalacrocoracidae				
8	Neotropic Cormorant / Phalacrocorax brasilianus		R, L	C	DD
6	Anhingas / Anhingidae				
9	Anhinga / Anhinga anhinga		R, L	F	DD
7	Frigatebirds / Fregatidae				
10	Magnificent Frigatebird / Fregata magnificens		M	C	DD
8	Hérons / Ardeidae				
11	Zizgzag Heron / Zibrilus undulatus		R, L	U	DD



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12	Pinnated Bittern / <i>Botarus pinnatus</i>		R, L	F	DD
13	Stripe-backed Bittern / <i>Ixobrychus involucris</i>		R, L	?	DD
14	Least Bittern / <i>Ixobrychus exilis</i>		R, L	F	DD
15	Rufescent Tiger-Heron / <i>Tigrisoma lineatum</i>		R, L	F	DD
16	Fasciated Tiger-Heron / <i>Tigrisoma fascitum</i>		R, L	F	DD
17	Cocoi Heron / <i>Ardea cocoi</i>		R, L	F	DD
18	Great Egret / <i>Ardea alba</i>		M, R, L	C	DD
19	Snowy Egret / <i>Egretta thula</i>		M, R, L	C	DD
20	Little Blue Heron / <i>Egretta cearulea</i>		M, R, L	C	DD
21	Tricoloured Heron / <i>Egretta tricolor</i>		M, L	C	DD
22	Cattle Egret / <i>Bubulcus ibis</i>		R	C	DD
23	Striated Heron / <i>Butorideis striatus</i>		R, L	C	DD
24	Agami Heron / <i>Agamia agami</i>		R	U	DD
25	Capped Heron / <i>Pilherodius pileatus</i>		R	F	DD
26	Black-crowned Night Heron / <i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>		R, L, M	C	DD
27	Yellow-crowned Night Heron / <i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>		M	C	DD
28	Boat-billed Heron / <i>Cochlearius cochlearius</i>		R, L	F	DD
9	Ibises / Threskiornithidae				
29	Scarlet Ibis / <i>Eudocimus ruber</i>		M, L	C	DD
30	Glossy Ibis / <i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>		R, L	U	DD
31	Whispering Ibis / <i>Phimosus infuscatus</i>		L	?	DD
32	Sharp-tailed Ibis / <i>Cercibis oxycerca</i>		L	U	DD
33	Green Ibis / <i>Mesembrinibis cayennensis</i>		R	F	DD
34	Buff-necked Ibis / <i>Theristicus caudatus</i>		L	C	DD
35	Roseate Spoonbill / <i>Ajaia ajaja</i>		L	F	DD
10	Storks / Ciconiidae				
36	Jabiru / <i>Jabiru mycteria</i>		R, L	C	DD
37	Wood Stork / <i>Mycteria americana</i>		L	C	DD
38	Maguari Stork / <i>Ciconia maguari</i>		L	U	DD
11	Flamingos / Phoenicopteridae				
39	Greater Flamingo / <i>Phoenicopus ruber</i>		M	R	DD



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12	Ducks, Geese / Anatidae				
40	White- faced whistling-Duck / <i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>		R, L	C	DD
41	Black-faced whistling-Duck / <i>Dendrocygna autumnalis</i>		R, L	C	DD
42	Fulvous Whistling-Duck / <i>Dendrocygna bicolor</i>		R, L	R	DD
43	Orinoco Goose / <i>Deochen jubata</i>		R, L	R	DD
44	Muscovy Duck / <i>Cairina moschata</i>		R, L	C	DD
45	Comb Duck / <i>Sarkidiornis melanotos</i>		R, L	R	DD
46	Brazilian Teal / <i>Amazonetta brasiliensis</i>		R, L	R	DD
47	Blue-winged Teal / <i>Anas discors</i>		R, L	R	DD
48	White-cheeked Pintail / <i>Anas bahamensis</i>		R, L	R	DD
49	Northern Pintail / <i>Anas acuta</i>		R, L	R	DD
50	Masked Duck / <i>Oxyura dominica</i>		R, L	R	DD
13	Hawks, Eagles / Accipitridae				
51	Osprey / <i>Pandion haliaetus</i>		R	F	DD
52	Snail Kite / <i>Rostrhamus sociabilis</i>		L	C	DD
53	Black-collared Hawk / <i>Busarellus nigricollis</i>		R, L	F	DD
54	Rufous Crab-Hawk / <i>Buteogallus aequinoctialis</i>		M	F	DD
55	Common Black-Hawk / <i>Buteogallus anthracinus</i>		R	C	DD
56	Great Black-Hawk / <i>Buteogallus urubitinga</i>		R	C	DD
14	Rails / Rallidae				
57	Ocellated Crake / <i>Micropygia schomburgkii</i>		R, L	R	DD
58	Russet-crowned Crake / <i>Anurolimnas viridis</i>		R, L	R	DD
59	Rufous-sided Crake / <i>Laterallus melanophaius</i>		R, L	F	DD
60	Gray-breasted Crake / <i>Laterallus exilis</i>		R, L	R	DD
61	Clapper Rail / <i>Rallus longirostris</i>		R, L	U	DD
62	Rufous-necked Wood-Rail / <i>Aramides axillaris</i>		R, L	U	DD
63	Gray-necked Wood-Rail / <i>Aramides cajanea</i>		R, L	F	DD
64	Uniform Crake / <i>Amaurolimnas concolor</i>		R, L	R	DD
65	Sora / <i>Porzana carolina</i>		R, L	R	DD
66	Ash-throated Crake / <i>Porzana albicollis</i>		R, L	U	DD
67	Yellow-breasted Crake / <i>Porzana flaviventer</i>		R, L	U	DD
68	Paint-bellied Crake / <i>Neocrex erythrops</i>		R, L	R	DD
69	Speckled Crake / <i>Coturnicops notata</i>		R, L	R	DD



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70	Purple Gallinule / <i>Porphyryla martinica</i>		R, L	C	DD
71	Azure Gallinule / <i>Porphyryla flavirostris</i>		R, L	F	DD
72	Common Moorhen / <i>Gallinula chloropus</i>		R, L	U	DD
15	Sungrebes / Heliornithidae				
73	Sungrebe / <i>Heliornis fulica</i>		R	C	DD
16	Sunbitterns / Eurypygidae				
74	Sunbittern / <i>Eurypyga helias</i>		R	C	DD
17	Limpkins / Aramidae				
75	Limpkin / <i>Aramus guarauna</i>		L	C	DD
18	Plovers / Charadriidae				
76	Pied Plover / <i>Hoploxypterus cayanus</i>		M, R	C	DD
77	Southern Lapwing / <i>Vanellus chilensis</i>		M, R, L	C	DD
78	Black-bellied Plover / <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>		M, R	F	DD
79	American Golden-Plover / <i>Pluvialis dominica</i>		M, R	U	DD
80	Collared Plover / <i>Charadrius collaris</i>		M, R	C	DD
81	Wilson's Plover / <i>Charadrius wilsonia</i>		M, R	F	DD
82	Semipalmated Plover / <i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>		M, R	U	DD
83	Snowy Plover / <i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>		M, R	U	DD
19	Jacannas / Jacanidae				
84	Wattled Jacana / <i>Jacana jacana</i>		R, L	C	DD
20	Sandpipers / Scolopacidae				
85	Greater Yellowlegs / <i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>		M	C	DD
86	Lesser Yellowlegs / <i>Tringa flavipes</i>		M	C	DD
87	Solitary Sandpiper / <i>Tringa solitaria</i>		M	F	DD
88	Willet / <i>Catoptrophorus semipalmatus</i>		M	U	DD



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89	Spotted Sandpiper / <i>Actitis macularia</i>		M, R	C	DD
90	Eskimo Curlew / <i>Numenius borealis</i>		M	U	DD
91	Hudsonian Godwit / <i>Limosa haemastica</i>		M	C	DD
92	Ruddy Turnstone / <i>Arenaria interpres</i>		M	C	DD
93	Red Knot / <i>Calidris canutus</i>		M	C	DD
94	Sanderling / <i>Calidris alba</i>		M	C	DD
95	Semipalmated Sandpiper / <i>Calidris pusilla</i>		M	C	DD
96	Western Sandpiper / <i>Calidris mauri</i>		M	C	DD
97	Least Sandpiper / <i>Calidris minutilla</i>		M	U	DD
98	White -rumped Sandpiper / <i>Calidris fuscicollis</i>		M	U	DD
99	Pectoral Sandpiper / <i>Calidris melanotos</i>		M	U	DD
100	Stilt sandpiper / <i>Calidris himantopus</i>		M	U	DD
101	Buff - breasted Sandpiper / <i>Calidris tryngites subruficollis</i>		M	U	DD
102	Short - billed Dowitcher / <i>Limnodromus griseus</i>		M	F	DD
103	Common Snipe / <i>Gallinago gallinago</i>		M	F	DD
104	South American Snipe / <i>Gallinago paraguaiiae</i>		M	F	DD
105	Giant Snipe / <i>Gallinago undulata</i>		M	R	DD
21	Gulls, Terns, Skimmers / Laridae				
106	Great Skua / <i>Catharacta skua</i>		M	R	DD
107	Pomarine Jaeger / <i>Stercorarius pomarinus</i>		M	R	DD
108	Laughing Gull / <i>Larus atricilla</i>		M	C	DD
109	Gull-billed Tern / <i>Sterna nilotica</i>		M	F	DD
110	Royal Tern / <i>Sterna maxima</i>		M	F	DD
111	Sandwich Tern / <i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>		M	F	DD
112	Roseate Tern / <i>Sterna dougallii</i>		M	E	DD
113	Common Tern / <i>Sterna hirundo</i>		M	E	DD
114	Least Tern / <i>Sterna antillarum</i>		M, R	C	DD
115	Yellow-billed / <i>Sterna superciliaris</i>		M	C	DD
116	Bridle Tern / <i>Sterna anaethetus</i>		M	R	DD
117	Sooty Tern / <i>Sterna fuscata</i>		M	C	DD
118	Large- billed Tern / <i>phaetusa simplex</i>		M, R	C	DD
119	Brown Noddy / <i>Anous stolidus</i>		M	R	DD
120	Black Skimmer / <i>Rynchops niger</i>		M, R	C	DD



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22	Hoatzins / Opisthocomidae				
121	Hoatzin / <i>Opisthocomus hoazin</i>		R	C	DD
23	Oilbirds / Steatornithidae				
122	Oilbird / <i>Steatornis caripensis</i>		R	F	DD
24	Hummingbirds / Trochilidae				
123	Crimson Topaz / <i>Topaza pella</i>		R	F	DD
25	Kingfishers / Alcedinidae				
124	Ringed Kingfisher / <i>Ceryle torquata</i>		R, L	C	DD
125	Belted Kingfisher / <i>Ceryle alcyon</i>		R, L	C	DD
126	Amazon Kingfisher / <i>Chloroceryle amazona</i>		R, L	C	DD
127	Green Kingfisher / <i>Chloroceryle americana</i>		R, L	C	DD
128	Green-rufous Kingfisher / <i>Chloroceryle inda</i>		R, L	C	DD
129	American Pygmy Kingfisher / <i>Chloroceryle aenea</i>		R, L	C	DD
26	Ovenbirds / Furnariidae				
130	Plain-crowned Spinetail / <i>Synallaxis guyjanensis</i>		R, L	C	DD
131	Yellow-chinned Spinetail / <i>Certhiaxis cinnamomea</i>		R, L	C	DD
27	Tyrants / Tyrannidae				
132	Pied Water-Tyrant / <i>Fluvicola pica</i>		R, L	C	DD
133	White-headed Marsh-Tyrant / <i>Arundinicola leucocephala</i>		R, L	C	DD
28	Swallows / Hirundinidae				
134	White-winged Swallow / <i>Tachycineta albiventer</i>		R	C	DD
135	White-banded Swallow / <i>Atticora fasciata</i>		R	C	DD
29	Wood Warblers / Parulidae				
136	Northern Waterthrush / <i>Seiurus noveboracensis</i>		R, L	C	DD
137	River Warbler / <i>Phaeothlypis rivularis</i>		R	C	DD



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Acknowledgements

The following individuals contributed greatly to the successful compilation of this list; G.N. Narine (Andy), Luke Johnson, Alicia McKenzie, Christopher Li, Jeremy Melville, Bernard Rodrigues, Alain Van Veen, Pierre DeClou, Anthony Gonsalves, Rod Carew, Curtis Stanley, Carlton Narine and Jason McKenzie.

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