

PREVENTING EXTINCTIONS

Alagoas Antwren *Myrmotherula snowi*



Alagoas Antwren (© [Ciro Albano/www.rarebirdseyearbook.com](http://CiroAlbano/www.rarebirdseyearbook.com))



Background

Alagoas Antwren has only ever been recorded in Alagoas and Pernambuco states, north-east Brazil. It was first discovered at Murici (Alagoas) in 1979, when an adult male and two adult females were collected. An additional juvenile male was collected in 1984, and subsequent records throughout the 1990s, in 2000 and in 2009 have only found the species in very small numbers. Its remaining habitat is very limited and severely fragmented, largely as a result of logging and conversion to sugarcane plantations and pastureland. The massive clearance of Atlantic forest in Alagoas and Pernambuco has left few other sites likely to support populations of this species.

Actions being implemented

1. A primary aim is to establish a **population estimate** in primary and secondary Atlantic Forest in Serra do Urubu, Brazil, by engaging students and teachers from local urban schools in bird surveys
2. During the same surveys, habitat structure will be recorded to **research** the association between species occurrence and the quality of the forest (second growth vs. primary forest)

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