

Birds in Atlantic Forest fragments in north-east Brazil

Luís Fábio Silveira, Fábio Olmos and Adrian J. Long

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Durante o mês de outubro de 2001 os autores percorreram 15 fragmentos florestais no Estado de Alagoas, Brasil. O objetivo principal foi localizar novas populações e obter mais dados sobre os táxons endêmicos do 'Centro Pernambuco'. Foram realizados censos em cada um dos fragmentos, que também foram analisados quanto ao estado geral de conservação. Discute-se a presença de espécies-chave, como grandes frugívoros ou aquelas sensíveis à fragmentação ou às mudanças na estrutura da vegetação. Os dois fragmentos mais importantes, com relação ao número de espécies encontrado e o número de táxons endêmicos, estão localizados na Usina Serra Grande (Mata do Pinto e Mata do Engenho Coimbra), onde foram registrados 16 táxons endêmicos e/ou ameaçados de extinção. Recomenda-se pesquisa taxonômica urgente, que procure evidenciar os táxons endêmicos do 'Centro Pernambuco', além de uma efetiva proteção aos fragmentos e às aves que ainda os habitam, uma maior vigilância contra a caça, a retirada de madeira e o desmatamento e um programa de reflorestamento que procure conectar os fragmentos mais próximos entre si.



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In contrast to the Amazon forest, the Brazilian Atlantic Forest stretches along a broad latitudinal band, with little longitudinal variation. This latitudinal gradient, from c.6°S to 32°S, is further diversified by the montane ranges born of intense Cenozoic tectonic activity⁵¹ that occur throughout much of the region. It is little wonder that tropical forest in such setting is an important centre of endemism. Over 90% of known frogs and 70% of reptiles recorded in the Atlantic Forest are endemic^{26,40}. Among the breeding avifauna, c.200 recognised species are endemic to the Atlantic Forest region³¹. Endemism levels are probably even greater as several taxa currently regarded as subspecies may prove to be biological (BSC) and/or phylogenetic (PSC) species once detailed taxonomic studies are undertaken. Examples of such from north-east Brazil include *Thamnophilus caeruleus*

pernambucensis, *T. aethiops distans* and *Iodopleura pipra leucopygia*^{55,61}.

The 'Serra do Mar' centre of avian endemism²² covers the Atlantic Forest from Rio Grande do Norte (c.7°S) to Rio Grande do Sul (c.32°S), with two main divisions: the narrow belt of coastal and montane forests, and the *Araucaria* forests of southern Brazil and nearby Argentina and Paraguay. Despite forming a recognisable entity, the Serra do Mar centre can be further divided into several 'subcentres' characterised by assemblages of endemic birds^{21,68}.

The forested belt north of the rio São Francisco is one such area, generally referred to as the 'Pernambuco centre'^{12,57}. It includes both the coastal forests and complex transitional area between them and drier habitats inland. The Pernambuco centre is considered an area of interchange between biota



Figure 1. Extensive areas of forest have been destroyed to make way for sugarcane plantations, leaving the landscape heavily fragmented (Luiz Claudio Marigo)



Figure 2. Usina Serra Grande contains one of the largest and best-preserved remnants of montane forest in Alagoas; it harbours a considerable number of endemic and globally threatened species (Luiz Claudio Marigo)

Table 1. Endemic forest birds of the Pernambuco centre and nearby highland forests of Ceará state, Brazil. Threat categories follow BirdLife International¹¹. Nomenclature and status of endemic taxa is based on general catalogues or recent revisions^{8,33,49,55,56,70} and specimens housed in the collections of Museu de Zoologia da Universidade de São Paulo and Universidade Federal de Pernambuco.

| Taxon | Distribution | Status |
|---|---|---------------------|
| <i>Tinamus solitarius pernambucensis</i> Berla, 1946 | Alagoas and Pernambuco | Near Threatened |
| <i>Mitu mitu</i> Linnaeus, 1766 | Alagoas | Extinct in the wild |
| <i>Penelope superciliaris alagoensis</i> Nardelli, 1993 | Alagoas | - |
| <i>Odontophorus capueira plumbeicollis</i> Cory, 1915 | Alagoas to Ceará | - |
| <i>Leptodon forbesi</i> (Swann, 1922) | Alagoas and Pernambuco | Critical |
| <i>Pyrrhura anaca</i> (Gmelin, 1788) | Ceará, Pernambuco and Alagoas | - |
| <i>Phaethornis ochraceiventris camargoi</i> Grantsau, 1988 | Pernambuco, Alagoas | - |
| <i>Momotus momota marcgraviana</i> Pinto & Camargo, 1961 | Alagoas and Paraíba | - |
| <i>Picumnus lima</i> Sneathlage, 1924 | Ceará | - |
| <i>Picumnus fulvescens</i> Stager, 1961 | Pernambuco and Paraíba | - |
| <i>Picumnus exilis pernambucensis</i> Zimmer, 1947 | Alagoas and Pernambuco | - |
| <i>Dendrocincla fuliginosa taunayi</i> Pinto, 1939 | Alagoas to Pernambuco | - |
| <i>Lepidocolaptes fuscus atlanticus</i> (Cory, 1916) | Pernambuco to Ceará | - |
| <i>Synallaxis infusca</i> Pinto, 1950 | Pernambuco and Alagoas | Critical |
| <i>Automolus leucophthalmus lammi</i> Zimmer, 1947 | Alagoas and Paraíba | - |
| <i>Philydor novaesi</i> Teixeira & Gonzaga, 1983 | Alagoas | Critical |
| <i>Xenops minutus alagoanus</i> Pinto, 1954 | Alagoas to Paraíba | - |
| <i>Sclerurus caudacutus caligineus</i> Pinto, 1954 | Alagoas | - |
| <i>Thamnophilus caerulescens pernambucensis</i> Naumburg, 1937 | Alagoas and Pernambuco | - |
| <i>Thamnophilus caerulescens cearensis</i> (Cory, 1919) | Ceará | - |
| <i>Thamnophilus aethiops distans</i> Pinto, 1954 | Alagoas and Pernambuco | - |
| <i>Myrmotherula snowi</i> Teixeira & Gonzaga, 1985 | Alagoas and Pernambuco | Critical |
| <i>Terenura sicki</i> Teixeira & Gonzaga, 1983 | Alagoas and Pernambuco | Endangered |
| <i>Cercomacra laeta sabinoi</i> Pinto, 1939 | Alagoas and Pernambuco | - |
| <i>Pyriglena leuconota pernambucensis</i> Zimmer, 1931 | Pernambuco, Alagoas and (perhaps) Paraíba | - |
| <i>Myrmeciza ruficauda soror</i> Pinto, 1940 | Alagoas to Paraíba | Endangered |
| <i>Conopophaga melanops nigrifrons</i> Pinto, 1943 | Alagoas to Paraíba | - |
| <i>Iodopleura pipra leucopygia</i> Salvin, 1885 | Alagoas, Pernambuco and Paraíba | Endangered |
| <i>Phylloscartes ceciliae</i> Teixeira, 1987 | Alagoas and Pernambuco | Critical |
| <i>Platyrhynchus mystaceus niveigularis</i> Pinto, 1954 | Alagoas to Paraíba | - |
| <i>Hemitriccus mirandae</i> Sneathlage, 1925 | Alagoas and Ceará | Vulnerable |
| <i>Hemitriccus zosterops naumburgae</i> (Zimmer, 1945) | Alagoas to Paraíba | - |
| <i>Schiffornis turdinus intermedius</i> Pinto, 1954 | Alagoas to Paraíba | - |
| <i>Hemithraupis flavicollis melanoxantha</i> (Lichtenstein, 1823) | Pernambuco, Alagoas | - |
| <i>Tangara fastuosa</i> Lesson, 1831 | Alagoas to Paraíba | Endangered |
| <i>Tangara cyanocephala corallina</i> (Berlepsch, 1903) | Pernambuco and Alagoas | - |
| <i>Tangara cyanocephala cearensis</i> Cory, 1916 | Ceará | - |
| <i>Caryothraustes canadensis frontalis</i> Hellmayr, 1905 | Ceará, Pernambuco and Alagoas | - |

of the Atlantic and Amazon forests⁵⁷, with typically Amazonian forms occurring alongside Atlantic Forest taxa^{18,54,76}. Birds are the group with the largest number of north-east Brazilian representatives of Amazonian species, most being disjunct, endemic populations currently treated as subspecies (Table 1). Other taxa, such as *Crypturellus strigulosus* and *Pteroglossus inscriptus*, have not diverged morphologically from their Amazonian counterparts. Overall, 38 bird taxa are recognised as endemic to the Pernambuco centre (Table 1).

Compared to other sectors of the Atlantic Forest, the Pernambuco centre is the one that has been most severely impacted by humans, as well as being the least known and protected^{18–20,35,37,39}. It is unsurprising that the region harbours the largest number of threatened birds in Brazil, and one area

(Murici, Alagoas) supports the most threatened birds in the Americas⁷⁷.

Forest destruction in the Pernambuco centre began five centuries ago, driven mostly by sugarcane plantations and mills (*usinas*), and cattle ranching¹⁸. Aside from forest clearance, extraction and hunting depleted and even extirpated species, e.g. a population of Bare-faced Curassow *Crax fasciolata*^{53,69}. Human impact has been sufficiently pervasive that most remaining forest is second growth, occupying formerly cultivated or heavily logged areas⁴.

Initially, the *usinas* planted sugarcane in the plains along the main rivers draining to the sea, and consequently riverine forests and wetlands are long gone. The mills used wood for power, thus deforestation increased in the 19th century when steam machinery was introduced. The tablelands

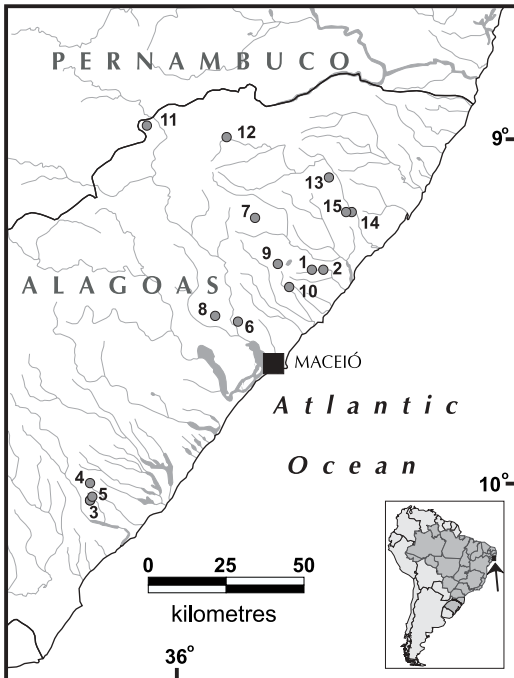


Figure 1. Localities surveyed (see also Table 2): 1. Usina Santo Antonio I; 2. Usina Santo Antonio 2; 3. Fazenda Riachão, Usina Coruripe; 4. Mata do Capiatã, Usina Coruripe; 5. Mata do Riachão, Usina Coruripe; 6. Mata da Sálvia, Usina Utinga-Leão; 7. Torre da Embratel, Murici Ecological Station; 8. Mata do Cedro, Usina Utinga-Leão; 9. Mata da Sela, Usina Cachoeira; 10. Mata Bamburral II, Usina Cachoeira; 11. Mata do Pinto, Usina Serra Grande; 12. Mata do Engenho Coimbra, Usina Serra Grande; 13. Mata da Encosta do Grotão, Usina Camaragibe; 14. Mata da Santa Justina, Usina Santo Antônio; 15. Grotão do Brás, Mata de Santa Justina, Usina Santo Antônio.

away from the floodplains were largely spared until the 20th century, when demand for wood, and thus clearance, peaked. Deforestation reached its height between the late 1970s and 1988, during the PROALCOOL, an official programme of the Brazilian government that subsidised the owners of *usinas* in order to increase ethanol and sugar production. In order to acquire readily accessible taxpayer money they had little incentive to return, *usina* owners virtually eliminated all accessible forest in order to grow sugarcane⁶⁹. Now, most remnant forests are within steep valleys, where suitable conditions to plant sugarcane do not exist, or near sources of water the *usinas* considered useful to protect. Besides causing habitat loss, sugarcane plantations, until quite recently, also relied heavily on aerial pesticide applications, which reached remnant forests. In addition, few landowners forbade hunting or woodcutting in their forests. These further impacts have greatly affected the local avifauna.

Although Europeans occupied much of the Brazilian coast within a comparatively short period, it was in the north-east that colonisation had the most damaging impacts on the Atlantic Forest. Over 90% of forests in the Pernambuco centre have been cleared and the remnants are mostly small and isolated⁶⁵, a different situation from that in south-east Brazil, where the coastal mountains and poor coastal soils forced large-scale agriculture elsewhere, permitting the survival of relatively large forest areas that may act as sources^{13,24,39,59}.

The forests of the Pernambuco centre originally covered c.56,000 km² or 4.6% of the Atlantic Forest complex. Main forest types were transitional inland forests (34.9%), semideciduous forests (28.4%) and open ombrophylous forests (20.5%). Data from 1995 satellite images showed only 2,124 km² of forests remained or only 3.76% of the Pernambuco centre⁴⁵. The situation has deteriorated since, as forest clearance has continued even in 'protected' areas such as Murici (pers. obs.).

It has been suggested that the Atlantic Forest avifauna is pre-adapted to withstand forest fragmentation because of the persistence of diverse communities in patches of reduced area^{7,13,14,58} but the evidence is equivocal², and it has been argued that those Atlantic Forest species more sensitive to human impacts became extinct without formal description⁴⁶. Bird guilds differ in their vulnerability to human impacts, some being more susceptible to hunting (large-bodied species such as cracids and other ground frugivores⁶⁴), while others are vulnerable to fragmentation and changes in the physical structure of their habitat, such as understorey insectivores and large arboreal frugivores^{1-3,16,28,30,38,78}.

Despite being considered a conservation priority, and the long history of human impact making it an ideal area to understand the long-term impact of habitat fragmentation, deforestation, extraction and chronic hunting on Neotropical forests, few recent data concerning forest bird communities in the Atlantic Forest of north-east Brazil exist^{6,36,44,54}. Here, we endeavour to plug this gap, describing the results of quantitative bird surveys in 15 forest fragments in Alagoas state, and discussing the impacts of human activities on selected bird guilds.

Methods

We conducted bird surveys in Atlantic Forest fragments in Alagoas during October 2001. Our main goal was to search for unreported populations of the regional endemics^{66,67} (see Table 1) and to assess the conservation status of forest fragments on sugar mill land, which harbour most such remnants in north-east Brazil.

Field work was undertaken during the period 6–27 October 2001. We visited 15 previously identified, larger and better-preserved forest fragments

Table 2. Forest fragments surveyed for endemic Atlantic Forest birds in Alagoas, 6–27 October 2001.

| Locality | Location | Area (ha) | Field hours | Number of species recorded | Notes |
|--|------------------------------|-----------|-------------|----------------------------|--|
| 1. Usina Santo Antônio I | 09°23'S 35°37'W; 100 m | c.80 | 7 | 89 | Ombrophyllous forest within a steep narrow valley with a creek. Few patches of larger trees amid tangled, degraded second growth; some large ground bromeliads, emergent trees (mostly <i>Parkia pendula</i>). Intensive on-going selective logging. Several poacher hides. |
| 2. Usina Santo Antônio 2 | 09°23'S 35°35'W; 30 m | c. 25 | 4 | 84 | Ombrophyllous forest within a steep narrow valley with creeks. Several large trees and emergents (mostly <i>Parkia pendula</i>), open understorey. No evidence of recent logging. Several poacher hides. |
| 3. Fazenda Riachão, Usina Coruripe | 10°03'S 36°16'W; 120 m | 337 | 6 | 38 | Drier forest with many <i>Caesalpinia echinata</i> trees. No perennial creek. Upper canopy 20 m, with emergents over 30 m. No evidence of recent logging. Several poacher hides. |
| 4. Mata do Capiatã, Usina Coruripe | 10°00'S 36°16'W; 150 m | 458 | 6 | 53 | Linked to the previous fragment, with similar vegetation in better-drained areas. Three creeks, surrounded by ombrophyllous forest with trees over 40 m, draining a large reservoir surrounded by forest. A village of 400 people by the forest, which is encircled by second growth. Three poachers observed. |
| 5. Mata do Riachão, Usina Coruripe | 10°03'S 36°16'W; 100 m | 454 | 2.1 | 24 | Drier forest with many <i>Caesalpinia echinata</i> trees and very large fig trees. A small perennial creek. Upper canopy at 25 m, with emergents over 40 m. No evidence of recent logging. |
| 6. Mata da Sálvia, Usina Utinga-Leão | 09°32'S 35°50'W; 160 m | c.400 | 4 | 77 | Ombrophyllous forest within a valley with open undergrowth. Many tall emergents (<i>Parkia pendula</i>). Forest centre surrounded by a belt of <i>Cecropia</i> and other secondary species. Selective logging of poles, poaching and bird catching recorded. |
| 7. Torre da Embratel, Murici Ecological Station | 09°14'S 35°47'W; 470 m | c.300 | 2.5 | 40 | Second-growth montane forest, highly degraded. Most trees have multiple trunks due to re-sprouting from former cutting. Taller trees belong to non-commercial species. Many secondary species like <i>Cecropia</i> . Intensive logging. |
| 8. Mata do Cedro, Usina Utinga-Leão | 09°31'S 35°54'W; 120 m | c.500 | 7 | 78 | Ombrophyllous tall forest with many emergents (<i>Parkia</i>) and large <i>Attalea</i> palms. Connected to other fragments and total area may be 1,000 ha. Slopes possess tall forest with open understorey; level areas selectively logged and have lower trees and tangled understorey. Forest surrounds a large water reservoir. One gunshot heard. |
| 9. Mata da Sela, Usina Cachoeira | 09°22'S 35°43'W; 160 m | c.100 | 2 | 46 | Dry forest on a hillside with many exposed boulders. Highly degraded by selective logging. A few emergents, up to 30 m high, tower above an 8 m-high canopy of second-growth spp. (<i>Cecropia</i> , Melastomaceae). Undergrowth with many sedges. |
| 10. Mata Bamburral II, Usina Cachoeira | 09°26'S 35°41'W; 150 m | c.500 | 2.1 | 69 | Ombrophyllous forest within a steep, narrow valley with a creek. Large emergents (<i>Parkia pendula</i> and <i>Aspidosperma</i> sp.) amid many second-growth spp. (<i>Inga</i> , <i>Cecropia</i>). An abandoned camp (of poachers?) found. |
| 11. Mata do Pinto, Usina Serra Grande | 08°58'S 36°06'W; 160 m | c.300 | 5.4 | 103 | Ombrophyllous hilltop forest with a 20 m-high canopy; evidence of selective logging long ago. Many fruiting <i>Didymopanax morototoni</i> and melastomes, the latter forming a belt around parts of the fragment. Open undergrowth with sedge patches. Creeks and two water reservoirs within the fragment. |
| 12. Mata do Engenho Coimbra, Usina Serra Grande | 09°00'S 35°52'W; 590 m | c.800 | 5.1 | 103 | Tall ombrophyllous forest with a 20–25 m-high canopy and emergents over 30 m. Many palms (<i>Attalea</i> , <i>Euterpe edulis</i>) and arboreal bromeliads. Many fallen fruits (Sapotaceae and Annonaceae) eaten by parrots. Several creeks. No evidence of selective logging. Eight poachers (plus six hunting dogs) recorded. |
| 13. Mata da Encosta do Grotão, Usina Camaragibe | 09°07'S 35°34'W; 160 m | c.100 | 4 | 45 | Very degraded ombrophyllous forest under severe selective logging. No permanent water. A few emergent <i>Parkia</i> . |
| 14. Mata da Santa Justina, Usina Santo Antônio | 09°13'S 35°30'W; 30 m | c.80 | 11 | 77 | Ombrophyllous forest with evidence of past selective logging, within a steep narrow valley. Reasonably conserved, with emergent <i>Parkia</i> . Some trails used by poachers and loggers. |
| 15. Grotão do Brás, Mata de Santa Justina, Usina Santo Antônio | 09°13'S 35°31'W; 50 m | c.100 | 7 | 20 | Well-conserved ombrophyllous forest in the narrow steep valley of a small river; 25 m-high canopy. Many emergents (<i>Parkia pendula</i> and <i>Lecythis pisonii</i>). Many palms, including fruiting <i>Euterpe edulis</i> . Open and species-rich undergrowth. An old trail, obstructed at points, leads to the forest. |

(Table 2) recording bird species observed, number of individuals, as well as habitat type, group size, food habits and general behaviour, and the conservation status of each area. Field work always commenced at dawn and usually continued until nightfall. Birds were observed using binoculars and vocalisations recorded with a Sony TCM 5000 EV and Sennheiser ME66 microphone. Copies of recordings have been deposited at the Arquivo Sonoro Elias Coelho (ASEC), Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro. Coordinates and altitude were taken using a GPS and the staff of the *usinas* furnished additional information such as the size of each area. The number of records of each species was converted to an abundance index (number of individuals/100 field hours^{78,79}) to facilitate comparisons between areas. We also recorded mammals we encountered as complementary data.

The 15 fragments were very varied in habitat status and conservation. One important fact that demands emphasis is that in southern, drier fragments, there is a trend for the undergrowth of the more humid parts of such forests to be dominated by *Psychotria* (Rubiaceae) treelets, while *Miconia* and *Leandra* spp. (Melastomataceae) are abundant in the more humid northern fragments and may even form a 'belt' around higher altitude areas such as Murici and Usina Serra Grande⁶⁶.

Results

A list of bird species recorded in our survey is presented in Table 3. The areas that harboured the most species were Mata do Engenho Coimbra and Mata do Pinto, both with 103 species recorded after slightly more than five field hours in each fragment. Both belong to Usina Serra Grande and are relatively close (c.30 km by car) to each other, though situated at different altitudes.

Indicator species

Tinamous and cracids

The larger cracids and tinamous are classic examples of birds vulnerable to hunting^{50,64}; indeed Alagoas Curassow *Mitu mitu* is considered extinct in the wild^{11,66}. We found no evidence for the continued existence of *Tinamus solitarius pernambucensis*, now thought to be restricted to Murici (F. Pinto pers. comm.), at any of our survey sites. None of the people we interviewed was aware of recent records of the *macuca*, as local people commonly refer to it. The form was rarely heard in Murici during the 1991 breeding season (J. F. Pacheco *in litt.*) and recent visits there by birdwatching groups have also failed to detect it; thus the taxon, if valid, is evidently Critically Endangered.

Even where present, forest tinamous were scarce in all areas, with only 1–2 records/area, while *Crypturellus parvirostris* was common in nearby

sugarcane plantations and other man-made habitats. *C. soui* was the most widespread species, recorded in six areas, an expected result, as the species prefers dense secondary vegetation at edges and clearings, and will use bushy areas and cocoa plantations¹⁵. It is probably well able to withstand selective logging and forest fragmentation, and its small size and cryptic habits mean that hunters do not favour the species. *C. strigulosus*, on the other hand, is restricted to lowland humid forests and was found only at Grotão do Brás, near sea level, where a single record was made. At Usina Uruba and Coruripe we were shown three captive *C. noctivagus* caught in scrubby coastal forest (restinga) near the mouth of the rio São Francisco, at *usinas* Coruripe and Marituba. They exhibited the dark coloration characteristic of the threatened nominate (Atlantic Forest) subspecies and thus represent either a significant northward range extension for this taxon or a population intermediate between *C. n. noctivagus* and the caatinga *C. n. zabele*. The species appears to be as locally scarce as Solitary Tinamou and is Critically Endangered at a regional level.

Ortalis araucuan is apparently a habitat generalist easily recognised by its vocalisation and gregarious habits that make its detection simple for biologists and poachers alike. This species was considered common throughout north-east Brazil⁷¹ but we recorded it only once (a pair duetting at site 2). Despite chachalacas being the cracids best able to cope with hunting and deforestation, it was absent from 14 fragments surveyed and its status does not appear as safe as formerly considered.

Penelope superciliaris is another generalist able to cope with deforestation and even comparatively high levels of poaching, and was found in five fragments varying from well conserved to heavily degraded forest. The population in Alagoas belongs to the recently described *P. s. alagoensis*, which appears quite distinctive in plumage⁴³.

Birds of prey

While open-country species such as *Buteo* spp. are common, larger forest raptors and owls (*Spizaetus* spp., *Spizastur melanoleucus* and *Pulsatrix perspicillata*) appeared scarce or absent from our survey sites. The continued survival of *Spizaetus tyrannus* in the region is attested by recent records at Usina Serra Grande (S. A. Roda *in litt.*) and one was seen in June 2002 near the Pernambuco/Alagoas border stalking marmosets (F. Melo *in litt.*). The largest hawk species we recorded were the medium-sized and adaptable *Leptodon cayanensis* (two sites), *Geranospiza caerulescens* (two sites) and *Micrastur semitorquatus* (only in Mata da Sálvia). All *Leptodon* recorded by us exhibited the typical characters of *L. cayanensis*, and the validity of White-collared Kite *L. forbesi* is currently being studied by LFS.

Table 3. Bird taxa recorded in 15 forest fragments in Alagoas, north-east Brazil, and their relative abundances (individuals/100 hours; for a fuller explanation of such methodology see Willis⁷⁸ and Willis & Onki⁹⁹). See Table 2 for the code of localities (1–15). Question marks refer to observations in which the species identity was uncertain.

| English name | Scientific name | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
|------------------------------|---|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|------|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|
| Little Tinamou | <i>Crypturellus soui</i> | 14 | 50 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 100 | - | - | 59 | - | 18 | 29 |
| Tataupa Tinamou | <i>Crypturellus tataupa</i> | 14? | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Brazilian Tinamou | <i>Crypturellus strigulosus</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 57 |
| Striated Heron | <i>Butorides striatus</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 29 | - | - | 19 | - | - | - | - |
| Rufescent Tiger-heron | <i>Tigrisoma lineatum</i> | - | - | - | 17 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 37 | - | - | - | - |
| Black Vulture | <i>Coragyps atratus</i> | 14 | 50 | 67 | - | - | 100 | 320 | 14 | 150 | - | 56 | 118 | 50 | 64 | 14 |
| Turkey Vulture | <i>Cathartes aura</i> | 14 | - | - | - | - | - | 80 | 29 | - | - | - | 20 | 75 | 36 | - |
| Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture | <i>Cathartes burrovianus</i> | 14 | - | - | 33 | - | - | 120 | 57 | - | - | 19 | 20 | - | 18 | - |
| Bicoloured Hawk | <i>Accipiter bicolor</i> | - | - | - | 17? | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Grey-headed Kite | <i>Leptodon cayanensis</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 59 | - | - | - |
| Crane Hawk | <i>Geranospiza caerulescens</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 14 | - | - | - | - | 25 | - | - |
| Grey Hawk | <i>Asturina nitida</i> | - | - | - | - | - | 25 | 40 | 29 | - | 95 | 19 | - | - | - | - |
| Roadside Hawk | <i>Rupornis magnirostris</i> | 14 | 25 | - | 33 | - | - | - | - | - | 95 | - | - | 50 | 27 | - |
| Short-tailed Hawk | <i>Buteo brachyurus</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 9 | - |
| Zone-tailed Hawk | <i>Buteo albonotatus</i> | 14 | - | - | 17 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 59 | - | - | - |
| Crested Caracara | <i>Caracara plancus</i> | 14 | - | - | 17 | - | 50 | - | - | - | 48 | 19 | 20 | 25 | 18 | - |
| Yellow-headed Caracara | <i>Milvago chimachima</i> | - | - | - | - | - | 75 | - | - | - | - | 37 | - | - | - | - |
| Laughing Falcon | <i>Herpetotheres cachinanns</i> | - | - | - | - | - | 25 | - | 29 | 50 | - | - | - | - | 9 | - |
| Barred Forest-falcon | <i>Micrastur ruficollis</i> | 14 | 25 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 19 | 20 | - | 9 | 14 |
| Collared Forest-falcon | <i>Micrastur semitorquatus</i> | - | - | - | - | - | 75 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Speckled Chachalaca | <i>Ortalis araucuan</i> | - | 50 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Rusty-margined Guan | <i>Penelope superciliaris alagoensis</i> | - | - | 33 | - | - | - | - | 29 | 50 | 48 | 19 | - | - | - | - |
| Spot-winged Wood-quail | <i>Odontophorus capueira plumbeicollis</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 29 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Limpkin | <i>Aramus guarauna</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 43 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Rufous-sided Crake | <i>Laterallus melanophaius</i> | - | - | - | - | - | 50 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Russet-crowned Crake | <i>Laterallus viridis</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 48 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Grey-necked Wood-rail | <i>Aramides cajanea</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 19 | - | - | - | - |
| Ash-throated Crake | <i>Porzana albicollis</i> | - | - | - | - | - | 25 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Blackish Rail | <i>Pardirallus nigricans</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 37 | - | - | - | - |
| Purple Gallinule | <i>Porphyryla martinica</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 37 | - | - | - | - |
| Common Moorhen | <i>Gallinula chloropus</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 37 | - | - | - | - |
| Wattled Jacana | <i>Jacana jacana</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | 71 | - | - | - | 37 | - | - | - | - |
| Scaled Pigeon | <i>Columba speciosa</i> | 29 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 29 | 100 | 95 | 19 | 20 | - | - | - |
| Plain-breasted Ground-dove | <i>Columbina minuta</i> | 29 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Ruddy Ground-dove | <i>Columbina talpacoti</i> | - | - | - | - | - | 300 | - | 57 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 29 |
| White-tipped Dove | <i>Leptotila verreauxi</i> | 14 | 25 | - | 17 | - | 50 | - | 71 | - | - | 19 | 20 | 25 | 18 | - |
| Grey-fronted Dove | <i>Leptotila rufaxilla</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 14 | - | - | 19 | 20 | - | 9 | - |
| Ruddy Quail-dove | <i>Geotrygon montana</i> | - | - | - | - | - | 25 | - | 29 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Red-shouldered Macaw | <i>Diopsittaca nobilis</i> | 71 | 100 | - | - | - | 450 | 2560 | 57 | - | - | - | 235 | 100 | 91 | 57 |
| Jandaya Parakeet | <i>Aratinga jandaya</i> | - | 25 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 100 | - | - | - | 100 | 27 | - |
| Peach-fronted Parakeet | <i>Aratinga aurea</i> | - | 50 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Blue-winged Parrotlet | <i>Forpus xanthopterygius</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 37 | 39 | - | - | - |
| Plain Parakeet | <i>Brotogeris tirica</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 50 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Golden-tailed Parrotlet | <i>Touit surda</i> | 14 | - | - | - | - | 150 | 480 | - | - | 95 | - | 235 | - | - | - |
| Blue-headed Parrot | <i>Pionus menstruus</i> | 29 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 100 | - | - | 98 | - | 91 | - |
| Dark-billed Cuckoo | <i>Coccyzus melacoryphus</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 57 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Squirrel Cuckoo | <i>Piaya cayana</i> | 14 | 50 | - | 17 | 48 | 50 | 40 | 43 | - | 95 | 74 | 39 | - | 27 | 14 |
| Smooth-billed Ani | <i>Crotophaga ani</i> | - | 150 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Guira Cuckoo | <i>Guira guira</i> | 57 | 50 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Striped Cuckoo | <i>Tapera naevia</i> | 14 | 25 | - | - | - | 25 | 40 | - | - | 95 | - | 39 | 25 | 18 | - |
| Tropical Screech-owl | <i>Otus choliba</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 9 | - |
| Spectacled Owl | <i>Pulsatrix perspicillata</i> | - | - | - | - | 95 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Ferruginous Pygmy-owl | <i>Glaucidium brasilianum</i> | - | - | - | 33 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 25 | - | - |
| Common Potoo | <i>Nyctibius griseus</i> | - | - | 17 | 17 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Short-tailed Nighthawk | <i>Lurocalis semitorquatus</i> | - | - | 17 | 33 | 48 | - | - | - | - | - | 19 | 137 | - | 36 | - |
| Pauraque | <i>Nyctidromus albicollis</i> | - | 50 | 33 | 50 | 286 | - | - | - | - | - | 19 | 118 | 50 | 18 | - |
| Ocellated Poorwill | <i>Nyctiphrynus ocellatus</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 20 | - | - | - |
| Rufous Nightjar | <i>Caprimulgus rufus</i> | - | 25 | - | 33 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 9 | - |
| Scissor-tailed Nightjar | <i>Hydropsalis torquata</i> | - | 25 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 25 | - | - |
| Lesser Swallow-tailed Swift | <i>Panyptila cayennensis</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 18 |
| Grey-rumped Swift | <i>Chaetura spinicauda</i> | - | 75 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 50 | - | - | 20 | - | - | - |
| Rufous-breasted Hermit | <i>Glaucis hirsuta</i> | 14 | - | - | - | - | 25 | - | 29 | - | - | 19 | - | - | - | - |
| Buff-bellied Hermit | <i>Phaethornis ochraceiventris camargoi</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 48? | 19? | 59? | - | - | - |
| Reddish Hermit | <i>Phaethornis ruber</i> | 29 | 25 | 50 | 83 | 48 | 25 | 40 | 57 | - | 48 | - | 78 | - | - | - |
| Swallow-tailed Hummingbird | <i>Eupetomena macroura</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 25 | - | - |

| English name | Scientific name | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
|-------------------------------|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Black Jacobin | <i>Melanotrochilus fuscus</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 78 | - | - | - |
| Sombre Hummingbird | <i>Aphantochroa cirrochloris</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 37 | - | - | - | - |
| Black-throated Mango | <i>Anthracothorax nigricollis</i> | - | - | - | - | - | 50 | - | 29 | - | 48 | 19 | - | - | - | - |
| Ruby-topaz Hummingbird | <i>Chrysolampis mosquitus</i> | - | - | - | - | - | 50 | - | - | - | - | - | 20 | 25 | 9 | - |
| Blue-chinned Sapphire | <i>Chlorestes notatus</i> | 29 | 25 | 33 | 50 | - | 25 | 40 | 43 | 100 | - | - | - | 25 | - | - |
| Glittering-bellied Emerald | <i>Chlorostilbon aureoventris</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 95 | - | - | - | - |
| Long-tailed Woodnymph | <i>Thalarnia watertonii</i> | 29 | 25 | - | 33 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 143 | - | 20 | - | - |
| Rufous-throated Sapphire | <i>Hylocharis sapphirina</i> | 14 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| White-chinned Sapphire | <i>Hylocharis cyanus</i> | - | 25 | 17 | 17 | - | - | - | 14 | - | - | - | 78 | - | - | - |
| Versicoloured Emerald | <i>Agyrtia versicolor</i> | 14 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 48 | - | - | - | - |
| Glittering-throated Emerald | <i>Amazilia fimbriata</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 37 | - | - | - |
| Black-eared Fairy | <i>Heliathryx aurita</i> | - | 25 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 37 | - | - | - |
| Blue-crowned Trogon | <i>Trogon curucui</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 18 |
| White-tailed Trogon | <i>Trogon viridis</i> | 43 | 50 | - | 33 | - | 25 | - | - | - | 95 | - | - | - | 9 | 14 |
| Green Kingfisher | <i>Chloroceryle americana</i> | 14 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 29 | - | 48 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Blue-crowned Motmot | <i>Momotus momota marcgraviana</i> | 14 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 71 | - | 95 | - | 59 | - | 82 | - |
| Rufous-tailed Jacamar | <i>Galbula ruficauda</i> | 29 | 50 | 50 | 17 | - | 25 | 40 | 100 | 100 | 48 | 93 | 20 | - | 9 | - |
| Lettered Aracari | <i>Pteroglossus inscriptus</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 43 | - | - | 37 | - | - | 18 | - |
| Black-necked Aracari | <i>Pteroglossus aracari</i> | - | 25 | - | - | - | - | 240 | 29 | - | - | - | - | - | 127 | 43 |
| Channel-billed Toucan | <i>Ramphastos vitellinus</i> | 14 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 78 | - | - | - |
| Golden-spangled Piculet | <i>Picumnus exilis pernambucensis</i> | - | - | - | 17 | - | 75 | 80 | 43 | 100 | 48 | 19 | 157 | - | 36 | - |
| Fulvous Piculet | <i>Picumnus fulvescens</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 37 | - | - | - | - |
| Little Woodpecker | <i>Veniliornis passerinus</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 95 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Red-stained Woodpecker | <i>Veniliornis affinis</i> | 43 | - | - | - | - | - | 160 | - | - | - | 19 | 39 | - | 18 | - |
| Yellow-throated Woodpecker | <i>Piculus flavigula</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 20 | - | - | - |
| Golden-green Woodpecker | <i>Piculus chrysochlorus</i> | - | - | - | - | - | 40 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Blond-crested Woodpecker | <i>Celeus flavescens</i> | 29 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 48 | 19 | - | - | - | - |
| Lineated Woodpecker | <i>Dryocopus lineatus</i> | 14 | 25 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 19 | 20 | - | - | - |
| Sooty-fronted Spinetail | <i>Synallaxis frontalis</i> | - | - | - | - | 25 | - | - | - | - | - | 19 | - | 50 | - | - |
| Pinto's Spinetail | <i>Synallaxis infusca</i> | - | - | - | - | 25 | - | - | - | - | - | 74 | - | - | - | - |
| Grey-headed Spinetail | <i>Cranioleuca semicnerea</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 74 | 20 | - | - | - |
| Yellow-chinned Spinetail | <i>Certhiaxis cinnamomea</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 37 | 20 | - | - | - |
| Common Thornbird | <i>Phacelodroma rufifrons</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 19 | 20 | - | - | - |
| Plain Xenops | <i>Xenops minutus alagoanus</i> | 57 | 25 | - | - | - | 40 | 29 | - | 48 | 19 | 20 | - | 9 | - | - |
| White-eyed Foliage-gleaner | <i>Automolus leucophthalmus lammi</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 137 | - | - | - |
| Plain-brown Woodcreeper | <i>Dendrocincla fuliginosa taunay</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | 29 | - | - | - | - | 78 | - | 18 | - |
| Olivaceous Woodcreeper | <i>Sittosomus griseicapillus</i> | 43 | 25 | - | 17 | - | 100 | - | 43 | 50 | 95 | 37 | 59 | - | 45 | - |
| Straight-billed Woodcreeper | <i>Xiphorhynchus picus</i> | 14 | 50 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 19 | 20 | 25 | - | - |
| Buff-throated Woodcreeper | <i>Xiphorhynchus guttatus</i> | 14 | - | 17 | 100 | 95 | 50 | - | 100 | - | - | 37 | - | - | 55 | 29 |
| Lesser Woodcreeper | <i>Lepidocolaptes fuscus atlanticus</i> | - | - | - | - | 25 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 20 | - | - | - |
| Great Antshrike | <i>Taraba major</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 37 | - | - | - | - |
| Barred Antshrike | <i>Thamnophilus doliatus</i> | 14 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| White-shouldered Antshrike | <i>Thamnophilus aethiops distans</i> | - | - | - | - | - | 80 | 29 | - | - | - | - | 78 | - | - | - |
| Variable Antshrike | <i>Thamnophilus caerulescens pernambucensis</i> | 86 | 25 | - | - | 95 | 25 | - | - | 50 | - | 74 | 39 | 100 | 27 | 14 |
| Rufous-winged Antshrike | <i>Thamnophilus torquatus</i> | - | 50 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Plain Antwren | <i>Dysithamnus mentalis</i> | - | - | - | 17 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| White-flanked Antwren | <i>Myrmotherula axillaris</i> | 29 | 50 | 33 | 17 | - | - | 40 | 86 | 100 | - | - | 78 | - | 18 | 57 |
| Black-capped Antwren | <i>Herpsilochmus atricapillus</i> | 57 | 50 | - | 33 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 56 | - | - | - | - |
| Rufous-winged Antwren | <i>Herpsilochmus rufimarginatus</i> | 86 | 50 | 100 | 133 | 95 | 275 | 80 | 143 | 250 | 95 | 37 | 490 | - | 27 | - |
| White-fringed Antwren | <i>Formicivora grisea</i> | 114 | 50 | 33 | 33 | 95 | 25 | 40 | 114 | 100 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Orange-bellied Antwren | <i>Terenura sicki</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 98 | - | - | - |
| Willis' Antbird | <i>Cercomacra laeta sabinoi</i> | 14 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 39 | - | - | - |
| White-backed Fire-eye | <i>Pyrglana leuconota pernambucensis</i> | 29 | 50 | 33 | - | - | 50 | 80 | 43 | 100 | 48 | - | 118 | - | - | 14 |
| Scalloped Antbird | <i>Myrmeciza ruficauda soror</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 235 | - | - | 29 |
| Rufous-capped Anthrush | <i>Formicarius colma</i> | - | - | - | 33 | - | - | - | 14 | - | - | - | 20 | - | - | - |
| Rufous Gnatcatcher | <i>Conopophaga lineata cearae</i> | 14 | 25 | - | - | - | 25 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Black-cheeked Gnatcatcher | <i>Conopophaga melanops nigrifrons</i> | - | 50 | 33 | 33 | 48 | 25 | - | 14 | - | - | - | 157 | - | 55 | 14 |
| Screaming Piha | <i>Lipaugus vociferans</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 9 | - |
| Bearded Bellbird | <i>Procnias averano</i> | 43 | - | - | - | - | - | 80 | 86 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| White-bearded Manakin | <i>Manacus manacus</i> | 114 | 100 | - | - | - | 75 | 40 | - | 100 | 95 | 204 | 59 | - | 55 | - |
| Blue-backed Manakin | <i>Chiroxiphia pareola</i> | 171 | 100 | 67 | 200 | 190 | 25 | 120 | 257 | 200 | 190 | 93 | 588 | - | 73 | 14 |
| Red-headed Manakin | <i>Pipra rubrocapilla</i> | 86 | 100 | 33 | 50 | 48 | 100 | 120 | 100 | - | 48 | 130 | 510 | - | 55 | - |
| Pale-bellied Tyrant-manakin | <i>Neopelma pallescens</i> | 86 | 100 | 17 | 17 | - | - | - | 29 | - | - | 19 | 39 | - | - | - |
| Slender-footed Tyrannulet | <i>Zimmerius gracilipes</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 20 | - | - | - |
| White-lored Tyrannulet | <i>Ornithion inerme</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | 80 | - | 100 | 48 | 19 | - | - | 36 | - |
| Southern Beardless-tyrannulet | <i>Camptostoma obsoletum</i> | 29 | 100 | 17 | 33 | 48 | 125 | - | 43 | 50 | 48 | - | 20 | 25 | 18 | - |
| Yellow Tyrannulet | <i>Capsiempis flaveola</i> | 57 | 100 | - | - | - | 175 | - | - | - | 95 | 19 | 39 | - | - | - |
| Forest Elaenia | <i>Myiopagis gaimardii</i> | - | - | - | - | - | 25 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

| English name | Scientific name | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
|-------------------------------|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Large Elaenia | <i>Elaenia spectabilis</i> | 14 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Yellow-bellied Elaenia | <i>Elaenia flavogaster</i> | 29 | 25 | 17 | 17 | - | 125 | 120 | 14 | - | 190 | 74 | 118 | 75 | 36 | - |
| White-crested Tyrannulet | <i>Contopus cinereus</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 19 | - | - | - | - |
| Sepia-capped Flycatcher | <i>Leptopogon amaurocephalus</i> | 14 | 25 | 17 | 17 | 48 | 125 | - | 43 | 50 | 48 | 19 | 39 | - | 73 | - |
| Alagoas Tyrannulet | <i>Phylloscartes ceciliae</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 20 | - | - | - |
| White-eyed Tody-tyrant | <i>Hemitriccus zosterops naumburgae</i> | 43 | 50 | 67 | 83 | 95 | 50 | 120 | 100 | 100 | 95 | 19 | 216 | - | 91 | - |
| Common Tody-flycatcher | <i>Todirostrum cinereum</i> | 14 | 25 | - | - | - | 150 | - | 43 | - | - | 111 | - | 75 | 18 | - |
| White-throated Spadebill | <i>Platyrinchus mystaceus</i> | - | - | - | - | 143 | - | - | 29 | - | 48 | - | 20 | - | - | - |
| Olivaceous Flatbill | <i>Rhynchocyclus olivaceus</i> | - | - | 17 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 59 | - | - | - |
| Yellow-olive Flycatcher | <i>Tolmomyias poliocephalum</i> | - | - | 17? | - | - | - | - | 57? | - | - | 19? | - | - | - | - |
| Yellow-breasted Flycatcher | <i>Tolmomyias flaviventris</i> | 57 | 100 | 67 | 67 | 143 | 150 | - | 114 | 50 | 143 | 19 | 98 | 25 | 27 | - |
| Bran-coloured Flycatcher | <i>Myiophobus fasciatus</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 14 | - | - | 19 | - | 25 | - | - |
| Euler's Flycatcher | <i>Lathrotriccus euleri</i> | - | 50 | 33 | 33 | 48 | - | - | 14 | - | 48 | 74 | 39 | - | 27 | - |
| Masked Water-tyrant | <i>Fluvicola nengeta</i> | - | - | - | - | - | 25 | - | 86 | - | - | 74 | - | - | - | - |
| Bright-rumped Attila | <i>Attila spadiceus</i> | - | - | 17 | 17 | 48 | 25 | - | 71 | - | 48 | 37 | 98 | - | 36 | 14 |
| Greyish Mourner | <i>Rhytipterna simplex</i> | 14 | 25 | 17 | 17 | 48 | 25 | - | 29 | 50 | 95 | - | 157 | - | 27 | 14 |
| Dusky-capped Flycatcher | <i>Myiarchus tuberculifer</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 48 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Swainson's Flycatcher | <i>Myiarchus swainsoni</i> | 29 | - | - | 50 | - | - | - | - | 100 | 95 | - | 20 | - | - | - |
| Short-crested Flycatcher | <i>Myiarchus ferox</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 29 | - | - | - | - | 25 | - | - |
| Great Kiskadee | <i>Pitangus sulphuratus</i> | 29 | 25 | - | - | - | 25 | - | 43 | - | 48 | 130 | - | 25 | 18 | - |
| Boat-billed Flycatcher | <i>Megarynchus pitangua</i> | 57 | 50 | - | - | - | 25 | - | - | 100 | 95 | 111 | 59 | 25 | 18 | - |
| Social Flycatcher | <i>Myiozetetes similis</i> | 29 | 50 | - | - | - | 100 | - | 143 | - | 95 | 37 | 78 | - | 18 | - |
| Streaked Flycatcher | <i>Myiodynastes maculatus</i> | - | - | 17 | - | 48 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Variiegated Flycatcher | <i>Empidonomus varius</i> | - | - | - | - | - | 25 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Tropical Kingbird | <i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i> | 14 | 25 | 17 | 17 | - | 225 | - | 29 | - | 95 | 56 | 137 | - | 36 | - |
| Thrush-like Schiffornis | <i>Schiffornis turdinus intermedius</i> | 14 | - | 17 | 33 | 48 | - | - | 57 | 50 | 48 | - | - | - | 18 | - |
| Green-backed Becard | <i>Pachyramphus viridis</i> | - | - | - | - | - | 25 | - | 14 | 50 | 48 | - | - | - | - | - |
| White-winged Becard | <i>Pachyramphus polychopterus</i> | 14 | 25 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 50 | 95 | 37 | 20 | - | - | - |
| Grey-breasted Martin | <i>Progne chalybea</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 190 | 37 | - | - | - | - |
| White-rumped Swallow | <i>Tachycineta leucorhoa</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 57 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Blue-and-white Swallow | <i>Notochelidon cyanoleuca</i> | 14 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Southern Rough-winged Swallow | <i>Stelgidopteryx ruficollis</i> | 29 | - | - | - | - | 75 | - | 43 | 100 | 381 | 19 | - | - | 127 | - |
| Black-capped Donacobius | <i>Donacobius atricapillus</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 37 | - | - | - | - |
| Moustached Wren | <i>Thryothorus genibarbis</i> | 86 | 50 | 33 | 33 | 95 | 200 | 80 | 143 | 300 | 48 | - | 59 | 100 | 36 | - |
| House Wren | <i>Troglodytes aedon</i> | - | 25 | - | - | - | 100 | 40 | - | - | - | 19 | 20 | 25 | 18 | - |
| Rufous-bellied Thrush | <i>Turdus rufiventris</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 19 | - | - | - | - |
| Pale-breasted Thrush | <i>Turdus leucomelas</i> | 43 | 100 | - | - | - | 200 | 40 | 43 | 50 | 48 | 278 | 137 | 50 | 55 | 57 |
| Cocoa Thrush | <i>Turdus albicollis</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 19 | 39 | - | - | - |
| Long-billed Gnatwren | <i>Ramphocaenus melanurus</i> | 86 | 25 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 50 | 48 | 19 | 373 | - | 45 | - |
| Tropical Gnatcatcher | <i>Poliophtila plumbea</i> | - | 75 | - | - | - | 25 | - | - | - | 95 | 37 | - | - | - | - |
| Red-eyed Vireo | <i>Vireo olivaceus</i> | 143 | 100 | 100 | 317 | 333 | 125 | - | 271 | 100 | 190 | 93 | 294 | 150 | 91 | 29 |
| Rufous-browed Peppershrike | <i>Cyclarhis gujanensis</i> | 114 | 25 | 17 | 17 | - | 75 | 40 | - | 50 | 95 | 130 | 176 | 25 | 9 | - |
| Tropical Parula | <i>Parula pitayumi</i> | 57 | 50 | - | - | - | - | 40 | - | - | - | - | 20 | - | - | - |
| Golden-crowned Warbler | <i>Basileuterus culicivorus</i> | 57 | 25 | - | 17 | - | 100 | - | 14 | - | 95 | 74 | 20 | 50 | 36 | - |
| Flavescent Warbler | <i>Basileuterus flaveolus</i> | 29 | 25 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 48 | 74 | - | 50 | - | - |
| Bananaquit | <i>Coereba flaveola</i> | 86 | 100 | 117 | 67 | - | 250 | - | 100 | 50 | 190 | 93 | 314 | 75 | 55 | - |
| Brazilian Tanager | <i>Ramphocelus bresilius bresilius</i> | - | - | - | - | - | 50 | - | - | - | - | 93 | 20 | - | - | - |
| Cinnamon Tanager | <i>Schistochlamys ruficapillus</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 25 | - | - |
| Orange-headed Tanager | <i>Thlypopsis sordida</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 56 | - | 50 | - | - |
| Guira Tanager | <i>Hemithraupis guira</i> | 57 | 50 | 67 | - | - | 50 | 120 | - | - | - | 111 | 118 | - | - | - |
| Yellow-backed Tanager | <i>Hemithraupis flavicollis melanoxantha</i> | 43 | 50 | 167 | 33 | - | - | - | - | 100 | - | 37 | 529 | - | 36 | - |
| Hooded Tanager | <i>Nemosia pileata</i> | - | 50 | 33 | 33 | - | 150 | - | 100 | - | 48 | 37 | - | 50 | - | - |
| Flame-crested Tanager | <i>Tachyphonus cristatus</i> | 86 | 75 | - | 50 | - | - | 80 | - | 50 | - | 37 | 294 | - | 36 | - |
| White-lined Tanager | <i>Tachyphonus rufus</i> | 114 | 50 | 33 | - | - | 175 | - | - | 50 | 190 | 37 | 98 | 100 | 55 | - |
| Sayaca Tanager | <i>Thraupis sayaca</i> | - | - | - | - | - | 75 | - | 14 | - | - | 56 | 59 | 50 | 36 | - |
| Palm Tanager | <i>Thraupis palmarum</i> | 29 | 50 | - | - | - | 225 | - | 100 | 100 | - | 204 | 157 | 150 | 73 | - |
| Purple-throated Euphonia | <i>Euphonia chlorotica</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 19 | 20 | 25 | 18 | - |
| Violaceous Euphonia | <i>Euphonia violacea</i> | - | 50 | - | - | - | 150 | 80 | 29 | 50 | - | 111 | 39 | - | 18 | - |
| Chestnut-bellied Euphonia | <i>Euphonia pectoralis</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 98 | - | - | - |
| Seven-coloured Tanager | <i>Tangara fastuosa</i> | 171 | 150 | - | - | - | 75 | - | - | - | 95 | 148 | - | - | - | - |
| Red-necked Tanager | <i>Tangara cyanocephala corallina</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 444 | 78 | 200 | - | - |
| Burnished-buff Tanager | <i>Tangara cayana</i> | 114 | 100 | - | - | - | 275 | - | - | - | 143 | 204 | 39 | - | 73 | - |
| Opal-rumped Tanager | <i>Tangara velia cyanomelaena</i> | 57 | - | - | - | - | - | 280 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Blue Dacnis | <i>Dacnis cayana</i> | 114 | 50 | - | - | - | 100 | - | 57 | 150 | 48 | 56 | 137 | - | 18 | - |
| Green Honeycreeper | <i>Chlorophanes spiza</i> | - | 25 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Red-legged Honeycreeper | <i>Cyanerpes cyaneus</i> | - | 50 | - | - | - | - | 80 | - | 100 | 48 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Blue-black Grassquit | <i>Volatinia jacarina</i> | - | 25 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 20 | - | - | - |
| White-bellied Seedeater | <i>Sporophila leucoptera</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 50 | - | - |

| English name | Scientific name | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
|-------------------------|--|----|----|---|----|---|-----|----|----|-----|----|-----|----|----|----|----|
| Sooty Grassquit | <i>Tiaris fuliginosa</i> | 29 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 37 | - | - | - | - |
| Pectoral Sparrow | <i>Arremon taciturnus</i> | - | 25 | - | 33 | - | 175 | 40 | 14 | - | 95 | 167 | 39 | - | - | - |
| Rufous-collared Sparrow | <i>Zonotrichia capensis</i> | - | 25 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Buff-throated Saltator | <i>Saltator maximus</i> | 86 | 25 | - | - | - | 75 | 40 | 29 | - | 95 | 19 | 78 | 25 | 55 | - |
| Black-throated Grosbeak | <i>Saltator fuliginosus</i> | - | 50 | - | - | - | 75 | - | - | - | - | 37 | 20 | - | - | - |
| Yellow-green Grosbeak | <i>Caryothraustes canadensis frontalis</i> | 57 | - | - | 33 | - | - | - | - | 100 | - | - | 39 | - | 36 | - |
| Epaullet Oriole | <i>Icterus cayanensis</i> | - | - | - | - | - | 50 | - | - | - | 95 | 37 | - | 25 | - | - |

Large canopy frugivores and omnivores

Some canopy frugivores require large territories, while all rely on limited resources such as tree hollows and adequate fruit crops. Many are targeted by poachers for meat or to supply the cagebird market. Nevertheless, most are able to cover long distances in search of fruiting trees (some even performing migrations⁶³) and may be pre-adapted to fragmented landscapes provided key food resources and nest sites remain.

The most widespread parrots were the adaptable, forest-edge and cerrado *Diopsittaca nobilis* and *Aratinga jandaya*, found in nine and five sites respectively. Their comparative abundance is surprising as both are targets of illegal cagebird commerce (*D. nobilis* being made up to look like Amazon parrots) and rely on fairly large cavities for nesting, available only in older trees. *D. nobilis* is quite common in coconut groves in northern Alagoas and its ability to utilise open habitats presumably include unappreciated strategies that permit the species to survive in Alagoas.

No *Amazona* parrots were recorded, and the threatened *Amazona rhodocorytha* may be extinct in Alagoas. We also failed to record *Pyrhura anaca*, which is apparently restricted to the montane forests of Murici⁷³. *Brotogeris tirica* was found only at Mata da Sela, where a pair was observed. Its rarity is surprising as it was described as common by Teixeira *et al.*⁷² and the species is widespread in south-east Brazil from sea-level (where it is very common) to over 1,000 m, and it even occurs in downtown São Paulo (pers. obs.).

Pionus menstruus reichenowi is a quite distinctive form of a widespread Amazonian species, which occurs from Alagoas south to northern Espírito Santo (records from Rio de Janeiro are uncertain: J. F. Pacheco pers. comm.). Habitat destruction has been severe within its range and the race has been heavily trapped to supply the cagebird market, although it persists in a few protected areas, principally in Espírito Santo^{41,48}. This taxon deserves Vulnerable status. We found *P. m. reichenowi* in four areas (Table 2), including the large Mata do Engenho Coimbra. However, the most significant population was at site 14, where we recorded at least three different small groups. In other areas, despite the presence of apparently suitable habitat, none was recorded. In the southern Atlantic Forest, the related *P. maximiliani* is more

abundant in some fragmented or logged forests^{1,78}, so the genus may be better able to cope with human impacts than *Amazona* species.

That the commonest forest parrot (and one of the most frequent birds in Mata do Engenho Coimbra) during our surveys was the globally threatened *Touit surda* points to the cause of the demise of the *Amazona* spp. *T. surda* is not sought as a cagebird because of its poor survival in captivity, and, not being wholly dependent on tree hollows, it is able to nest in arboreal termitaria in relatively young forest⁷⁴. Termitaria and other alternative nest sites probably also account for the continued survival of *Diopsittaca nobilis* and *Aratinga jandaya*²⁷. *D. nobilis* has successfully established feral populations in southern Brazilian cities such as São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro, nesting in buildings and other human structures⁶³ (pers. obs.).

Like parrots, toucans are locally sought by cagebird traffickers and are dependent on tree hollows for nesting and roosting. Toucans also feed heavily on large fruits produced by commercial timber species, e.g. *Virola*, *Ocotea* and *Copaifera* spp., and palms such as *Euterpe edulis*^{28,29}. Therefore, they are almost certainly affected by selective logging and palm-heart extraction. The largest toucan in Alagoas, *Ramphastos vitellinus*, was found in only two fragments (Usina Santo Antonio 1 and Mata do Engenho Coimbra), being commonest at the latter. Its rarity is unsurprising as it requires more mature forest with larger hollowed trees and is a more desired target among poachers than the smaller species. It should be noted that the species is quite common in old second-growth forest in the southern Atlantic Forest, being easily found in isolated (but protected) forests of a few hundred hectares close to urban areas (e.g. around São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro, and in northern Santo Amaro Island) but also near large areas of continuous forest that act as sources.

Pteroglossus inscriptus is a widespread Amazonian species known from Pernambuco⁵² and three localities in Alagoas⁴⁷. We found it in another three forest fragments (Mata do Cedro, Mata do Pinto and Mata da Santa Justina), being sympatric with *P. aracari* at the first-named locality. The latter occurred in five fragments, all lowland forests, and its relatively greater abundance is consistent with its ability to persist in Atlantic Forest fragments

elsewhere⁵.

Two cotingas were found during the surveys: *Lipaugus vociferans* (only at Mata da Encosta do Grotão, near sea level) and *Procnias averano* (at sites 1, 7 and 8). *Xipholena atropurpurea* has been recorded from Mata do Engenho Coimbra (two specimens in the collection of the Universidade Federal de Pernambuco¹¹) but was not observed by us. *L. vociferans* is restricted to lowlands, while *P. averano* occurs to at least 500 m. *Lipaugus* can persist in mosaics of logged forest in the Amazon (pers. obs.) and the closely related *L. unirufus* has survived, albeit in greatly reduced numbers, on Barro Colorado Island after 85 years of isolation from the mainland⁶². A similar pattern appears evident in Alagoas. Bellbirds undertake fairly extensive migrations and this ability probably assists individuals explore widely dispersed forest fragments⁶³. *P. averano* has been subject to heavy trapping in Alagoas to supply bird fanciers (one specialised trapper until recently worked in the Camaragipe area: F. Pinto pers. comm.) and this pressure, combined with habitat destruction, explains the species' comparative rarity.

Trunk and twig insectivores

Only two large woodpeckers were found (*Celeus flavescens* and *Dryocopus lineatus*), both at just 3–4 sites. The lack of these otherwise common and conspicuous species able to utilise fragmented forests was striking in apparently suitable habitat such as at Usina Coruripe and Utinga-Leão. The scarcity of large woodpeckers probably affects cavity nesters such as parrots, trogons and toucans, which take advantage of the holes created by woodpeckers.

Six woodcreeper species were found. *Sittasomus griseicapillus*, *Xiphorhynchus picus* and *X. guttatus* appeared widespread and occurred even in degraded fragments, which is unsurprising given that they occupy a broad range of habitats, including woodland with sparse trees⁶¹.

The two forest-dependent woodcreepers, the local forms of *Dendrocincla fuliginosa* and *Lepidocolaptes fuscus*, were found only in the few fragments of more humid forest with the best habitat and/or largest area. Some specialised woodcreepers, e.g. *Dendrocolaptes certhia* and *Campylorhamphus trochilostrius*, whose geographic range includes this region, were not recorded during the surveys. The rarity/absence of woodcreeper species may be linked to the observed scarcity of mixed-species flocks and army ant swarms (see below).

Understorey and ground insectivores

This group comprises forest-dependent species with limited dispersal ability that are known to be adversely affected by habitat fragmentation, changes in vegetation structure associated with log-

ging and extraction, and loss of associated organisms such as army ants, especially if no 'source' areas of undisturbed habitat exist nearby^{1,3,9,16,42,78}. Representative taxa are antbirds, e.g. *Thamnophilus aethiops*, *T. caerulescens*, *Dysithamnus mentalis*, *Myrmotherula axillaris*, *Cercomacra laeta*, *Myrmeciza ruficauda*, *Pyriglena leuconota*, *Formicarius colma*, gnatcatchers (*Conopophaga lineata* and *C. melanops*), some furnariids (*Synallaxis infuscata*, *Automolus leucophthalmus*) and tyrant-flycatchers (*Zimmerius gracilipes*, *Rhynchocyclus olivaceus*).

A few species, at least, appear fairly widespread and able to withstand habitat disturbance (*Thamnophilus caerulescens*, *Myrmotherula axillaris*, *Pyriglena leuconota*, *Conopophaga melanops*). *Pyriglena leuconota*, *T. caerulescens* and, especially, *Hemitriccus zosterops* are the most widespread of the endemic Pernambuco centre taxa, occurring in at least ten of the 15 surveyed sites. On the other hand, the rarity of the conspicuous *Dysithamnus mentalis*, recorded in only one area, was unexpected as the species is usually adaptable and able to maintain healthy populations in forest fragments. The apparent lack of the forest-edge *Synallaxis infuscata* and *Cercomacra laeta*¹⁰ from most fragments was unexpected and, in the latter's case, may partially be a sampling artefact caused by lack of familiarity with the species' vocal repertoire.

Other species, found in only 1–3 areas, which appeared genuinely rare were: *Thamnophilus aethiops*, *Myrmeciza ruficauda*, *Conopophaga lineata*, *Formicarius colma*, *Automolus leucophthalmus* and *Rhynchocyclus olivaceus*. All were present (and some found only) at Mata do Engenho Coimbra and this group probably includes those species most sensitive to habitat disturbance and fragmentation. The presence of some appeared linked to specific microhabitats not found in disturbed fragments. For example, we found *Myrmeciza ruficauda* and *Automolus leucophthalmus* only in open shaded undergrowth dominated by broad-leaved Marantaceae under tall forest by creeks.

One striking observation was the rarity of this guild in apparently suitable habitat at Usina Coruripe and Mata do Cedro, and the generally low species richness and number of records of all guilds there. One explanation may be the recent widespread use of aerially dispersed chemical pesticides, which have certainly reached the isolated forests amid the plantations.

The scarcity of mixed-species flocks comprising understorey and mid-level species was also notable. Although canopy flocks of tanagers and some insectivores such as antwrens (*Herpsilochmus* spp.) were common, flocks of ground and mid-level insectivores were not observed. Also, some key (and

conspicuous) species in this group, e.g. *Sclerurus mexicanus*, *S. caudacutus*, *Dendrocolaptes certhia*, *Thamnomanes caesi*, *Thamnophilus pelzelni*, etc were completely absent, suggesting an important rupture in the bird community. This may be linked to the absence of army ant swarms, none of which was recorded by us.

Important areas

The most important areas in terms of habitat extent, quality of remaining forest and number of threatened and/or endemic bird taxa were those at Usina Serra Grande (16 species in Mata do Engenho Coimbra and eight at Mata do Pinto), Usina Utinga-Leão (11 species at Mata do Cedro), Usina Cachoeira (nine species at Bamburral) and Usina Santo Antônio (nine species at Santo Antonio 1) and, of course, the uplands of Murici. The latter is one of the most important sites for conservation in Neotropics^{11,77}.

The forests owned by Usina Serra Grande comprise one the most continuous and best-preserved fragments in north-east Brazil, and Mata do Engenho Coimbra may be the largest remnant in the entire region, given the continuing deforestation at Murici. Mata do Engenho Coimbra, despite the activities of poachers, holds most of the endemics described from Murici except, apparently, the local race of Solitary Tinamou, *Tinamus solitarius pernambucensis*, and Alagoas Foliage-gleaner *Philydor novaesi*.

Mata do Cedro may be the largest remnant midway between the sea and the Serra de Borborema highlands, and holds very good habitat. The area is interesting because of the presence of bellbirds and other large frugivores such as toucans and guans, and was one the few fragments where *Thamnophilus aethiops* and *Dendrocincla fuliginosa* were found. The area certainly warrants further research.

The small fragments at Usina Santo Antônio are restricted to the valleys and slopes of low hills. However, the presence of tinamous (*Crypturellus strigulosus*), hawks (*Leptodon cayanensis*), parrots (*Pionus menstruus reichenowi*) and the report of a probably undescribed form of capuchin monkey, *Cebus* sp. (which is rare, but still present) place this forest as a priority for future research. The true extent of the forest belonging to the *usina* is unknown and should be investigated using up-to-date satellite images.

The forests at Usina Coruripe, especially Capiatã, are important due their extent, numbers of mature *Caesalpinia echinata* trees and the apparent vegetation difference between the forests north and south of Maceió. Despite its comparatively impoverished avifauna, the Fazenda Riachão/Capiatã fragment could be used for reintroduction and/or translocation experiments of endemics.

Conservation issues

All surveyed fragments were isolated from other forest patches by sugarcane plantations, pastures and other inhospitable habitats for forest birds, effectively making them ecological islands. Though it is possible for canopy frugivores, tanagers and other groups to move between fragments, the same is not true for undergrowth and forest-floor species. Much of the observed species loss can be attributed to the isolation of forest fragments too small to harbour viable populations²⁵. Clearly there is an urgent need to create forested corridors between fragments both to increase available habitat and to provide connectivity between otherwise isolated populations³⁴. Forest corridors could be planted along watercourses and steep slopes, as dictated by Brazilian law, putting to better use areas that are currently under-utilised⁷⁵.

Despite most *usinas* nominally protecting their forests, woodcutting (mainly for poles and firewood) was detected in many surveyed areas. Such activity is deleterious as most forests have been selectively logged and continue to lose trees as they become adult. Planting of fast-growing species could provide an alternative source of poles, and coupled with better enforcement would help prevent further degradation. Also, forest enrichment by planting timber species important in shaping forest structure, and other species offering resources such fruits and nectar to the fauna, would assist in making better habitats of many remaining forests.

An important issue is poaching, which is undertaken using shotguns and dogs, and accounts for the general scarcity of larger birds and mammals. Among the latter, only the marmoset *Callithrix jacchus* was common and widespread (recorded in nine areas). We also recorded lone raccoons *Procyon cancrivorus* (area 12), foxes *Cerdocoyon thous* (areas 6 and 12) and tayras *Eira barbara* (sites 1 and 12) and a group of c.6 coatis *Nasua nasua* (area 5). Agoutis *Dasyprocta prymnolopha* and squirrels *Sciurus alphonsei* attain high densities in isolated forest fragments in south-east Brazil^{17,23} but were observed only once in areas 8 and 4, respectively, and armadillo burrows, often comparatively ubiquitous in Neotropical forests, were absent from all but areas 8 and 12. Hunting with firearms is traditional in regional culture, but is not related to the poverty of the rural population. Rather, it is a weekend activity undertaken by urbanites and country people alike, and more a pastime than for survival. According to the owners of Usina Utinga-Leão, many poachers caught red-handed in their forests are off-duty policemen enjoying target practice and leisure time with like-minded friends.

Enquiries in Maceió and Murici revealed the cost of .12 and .28 cartridges (which are favoured)

to be R\$2.00–2.50 (c.US\$1) apiece, while 1 kg of frozen chicken cost R\$1.7 (c.US\$0.68). Given other costs involved in hunting, such as transportation (there is no sizeable forest within a 10 km-radius of urban areas) and food for the hunter and his dogs, it is clear that hunting is not being driven by hunger. The common excuse that hunger causes poaching is not supported by the facts, and the activity is the most likely cause for the obvious absence or rarity of medium and large vertebrates in all surveyed forests. Only if this threat can be removed will it be possible to advance plans to reintroduce locally extinct species such as *Tinamus solitarius* and *Mitu mitu* into the larger fragments.

Research recommendations

The taxonomic status of several subspecies endemic to north-east Brazilian deserves further and urgent attention. Several taxa were originally described as species and subsequently demoted to subspecies during the ‘lumping era’ of the mid-20th century without detailed work to support such decisions, or relegated to synonyms by reviewers who failed to examine appropriate specimen material. The ‘lower’ taxonomic treatment afforded to several endemic (and certainly threatened) taxa has certainly been responsible for their conservation not being considered a priority^{60,79}. Though the status of some taxa is doubtful (e.g. *Tinamus solitarius pernambucensis*), other subspecies are clearly species under either the PSC or BSC, which will dramatically increase the number of endemics and/or threatened species-level taxa in this region of Brazil. A more critical and scientific approach to taxonomic research is needed to support conservation efforts.

Local NGOs and authorities must undertake the implementation of multiple-use forested corridors between small forest fragments. Such projects are relatively inexpensive to finance and possess an obvious social component given the locally high demand for firewood, with results being apparent in the short term. This is an essential mechanism for forest birds that cannot cross the ‘sea of sugarcane’ that isolates forest fragments. The best tree associations for creating new habitats and their permeability by forest birds are interesting, and necessary, topics for future research.

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Luís Fábio Silveira

Departamento de Zoologia, Universidade de São Paulo, Rua do Matão, Travessa 14, nº 321, Cidade Universitária, São Paulo, SP 05508-900, Brazil. E-mail: lfsilveira@uol.com.br. Bolsista FAPESP (processo nº. 99/12326-9).

Fábio Olmos

BirdLife International Brasil Programme, Rua Padre Carvalho 433, 04727-100, São Paulo, SP, Brazil. E-mail: guara@nethall.com.br.

Adrian J. Long

BirdLife International, Wellbrook Court, Girton Road, Cambridge CB3 0NA, UK. E-mail: Adrian.Long@birdlife.org.uk.