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Important Bird Areas AMERICAS

BRAZIL

Pedro F. Develey & Jaqueline M. Goerck





Country facts at a glance

Area:	8,514,877 km ²
Population (2006):	186,770,562
Capital:	Brasília
Altitude:	0–2994 m
Number of IBAs:	234
Total IBA area:	93,713,597 ha
IBA coverage of land area:	11%
Total number of birds:	1822
Globally threatened birds:	122
Globally threatened birds in IBAs:	104
Country endemics:	232

General introduction

With an area of 8.5 million km², Brazil is the largest country in South America and the fifth largest in the world. It is divided into 26 states or federal districts, grouped into five macro-regions, taking into account political, administrative, physical, economic, social and demographic characteristics. The five regions (North, Northeast, South, Southeast and Center-West) differ widely and have great social inequality. The south and southeast regions are the most economically developed with superior human and social development indices to those of the North, Northeast and Mid-West. Brazil is a presidential republic with a democratically elected president holding office for four-year terms. The president governs jointly with a bicameral parliament made up of the Federal House and the Senate.

Brazil's population is mostly white or *mestizo* (of mixed race). According to the latest figures from the National Indigenous Foundation, 460,000 indigenous inhabitants live in Brazil. In certain areas of the northern region, isolated tribes who have never been contacted still exist. However, the European colonization greatly contributed to the decline of indigenous peoples and maintaining traditional indigenous culture and customs remains a challenge today.

Brazil has six major biomes: Amazon (including the north and south Amazon biomes), Caatinga, Cerrado, Chaco (Pantanal), Atlantic Forest and Pampas, in addition to marine and coastal areas. Brazil is considered a megadiverse country, holding approximately 13% of the entire world's biota (Lewinsohn & Prado 2005) within 45 ecoregions (Olson & Dinerstein 1998). The country also boasts approximately 40% of the planet's tropical forests (concentrated in the Amazon Basin; Peres 2005) and the world's largest tropical flooded region, the Pantanal. Regrettably, figures relating to biodiversity loss are also high. The Atlantic Forest, once the second largest rainforest in the Americas, has only about 7% of its original vegetation remaining today (Fundação SOS Mata Atlântica & INPE 2001). Severe loss of original vegetation has also occurred in the Cerrado and Pampas regions, where agriculture and exotic tree plantations are expanding rapidly. Due to this habitat loss and wealth of diversity, two regions have been designated as Hotspots (Atlantic Forest and Cerrado; Myers *et al.* 2000). In the case of the Amazon, the situation is not as serious. Despite increasing rates of deforestation, about 80% of its area remains intact.

One of the biggest challenges currently facing Brazil is the conciliation of development and socio-economic growth with environmental conservation. Although society in general is clearly concerned about environmental issues, the way to solve many of these conflicts is still uncertain. However, in several cases, this concern is reflected in concrete actions, such as creating new public and private conservation areas; restricting environmental permits for new development; active and committed non-governmental organizations (NGOs) with good government relations; and mass media attention to environmental matters.



Mamirauá IBA (BR023) is a state protected area covering more than 1 million ha in the Brazilian Amazon. The site supports globally important populations of Wattled Curassow (*Crax globulosa*) and Harpy Eagle (*Harpia harpyja*).
Photo: Pedro F. Develey

Conservation and protected area system



Following the agreement signed at the Seventh Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, Brazil established a National Protected Areas Action Plan (PNAP, Portuguese) in 2006. The plan was drafted by the Brazilian Government, with public participation facilitated through the National Forum for Protected Areas. The action plan outlines a commitment to reduce the rate of biodiversity loss through the establishment and maintenance of national and regional systems of protected areas. The PNAP is a planning and management tool which defines principles, guidelines, goals and strategies to establish a comprehensive system of protected areas which are ecologically representative and effectively managed. A cooperation agreement exists to implement PNAP, established by presidential decree, with representation on the part of federal, provincial, state and local government, indigenous peoples, communities living in reserves, *Quilombola* or maroon communities (descended from former escaped slaves), the private sector and civil society.

The PNAP primarily includes the two protection categories defined in the National System of Nature Conservation Units, legally established in 2000: 1) *full protection units*, aiming to preserve representative samples of ecosystems and biodiversity therein; and 2) *sustainable use units*, primarily allowing a sustainable use of natural resources with a secondary function of protecting biodiversity (MMA-SNUC 2000). However, as well as the above conservation units, the PNAP also includes indigenous and maroon community lands. Other protected areas are treated as key areas for landscape planning within an ecosystem approach, providing strategic functions such as connectivity between protected areas and other natural fragments. These other areas include, permanent preservation areas contemplated in the Brazilian Forest Code (areas with a slope of more than 45° and areas next to bodies of water, among others) and legal reserves (Law no. 4.771/1965) established through a set-aside scheme where a percentage of native vegetation on any agricultural estate is maintained (this percentage varies according to the biome or property size, for example, 80% in the Amazon, 30% in Cerrado and 20% in the Atlantic forest and other vegetation types).

“The National Protected Areas Action Plan commits to reducing the rate of biodiversity loss through national and regional systems of protected areas.”



Cacao farmers in Serras das Lontras e do Javi (BR110) have implemented a traditional system of cultivation, favoring biodiversity conservation (Box 3). Photo: Joaquim Blames

“Several species action plans provide a detailed guide for species conservation as well as being vital tools for fundraising.”

The protection of large areas of undisturbed habitat is without a doubt the most effective way to conserve species. In Brazil, areas enjoying full protection total 37 million ha, while sustainable use units reach 111 million ha (Rylands & Brandon 2005). In addition to conservation units in the Amazon, indigenous reserves represent almost 20% of the Brazilian Amazon (Rylands & Brandon 2005). A serious debate is taking place amongst conservationists as to the effectiveness of sustainable use units and indigenous and maroon lands within the concept of protected areas. However, there are cases where indigenous lands often impede logging and deforestation in the region (Schwartzman & Zimmerman 2005). Thus, in an ideal system, categories including full protection and sustainable use would be complementary on a site by site basis.

In addition to site protection, political mechanisms can contribute to biodiversity conservation, through conventions, agreements and international treaties implemented at government level. Conventions to which Brazil is party include: Convention on Biological Diversity, The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands; Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora and the World Heritage Convention, among others.



At just 40 km from Manaus on the Rio Negro, the Arquipélago de Anavilhanas (BR024) consists of more than 400 islands and is considered the largest fluvial archipelago in the world. Photo: Pedro F. Develey

With regard to bird conservation, Brazil does not yet have a national bird conservation strategy. However, the federal environment agency –the Chico Mendes Institute for Biodiversity Conservation (ICMBio)– has published several species action plans for individual or groups of species in partnership with civil society organizations and research institutes. Some species with published plans include: Lear’s Macaw (*Anodorhynchus leari*; IBAMA 2006), Brazilian Merganser (*Mergus octosetaceus*; Hughes *et al.* 2006), Red-billed Curassow (*Crax blumenbachii*; Silveira *et al.* 2005), albatrosses and petrels (Neves *et al.* 2006) and Araripe Manakin (*Antilophia bokermanni*; Aquasis 2006). ICMBio aims to cover all of Brazil’s threatened birds with specific action plans. In addition to acting as a detailed guide of all necessary actions for a species’ conservation, including scientific research and public policies, these plans are also vital tools for fundraising.



Ornithological importance

Brazil has a total 1822 species of birds, of which no less than 232 species are endemic to the country (CBRO 2008). Brazil is among the top three countries in the world for bird species richness (along with Colombia and Peru), but soberingly, it is first in number of globally threatened species, with a total of 122 threatened birds, of which 23 are Critically Endangered, 30 are Endangered and 66 are Vulnerable¹. A further 93 species are Near Threatened (BirdLife International 2007).

The national red list of threatened birds considers a total of 160 taxa, including threatened subspecies, which, in part, explains the differences between this list and the global red list (Machado 2005). Most Brazilian bird species are resident, only a few areas, mainly on the south coast of the country, can be considered important feeding sites for approximately 63 migratory species, breeding in the northern hemisphere.

“Brazil has a staggering 232 endemic and 122 globally threatened bird species.”

Brazil has the most restricted-range (A2) and biome-restricted (A3) species in the Americas. A total of 175 species are restricted to 15 Endemic Bird Areas (seven of which are exclusively within the country) and nine Secondary Areas (Stattersfield *et al.* 1998). This total includes Rufous Crab-hawk (*Buteogallus aequinoctialis*) proposed for a new Secondary Area in the coastal mangroves of French Guiana and Brazil. A total of 470 species are restricted to one of seven biomes in Brazil employed for IBA identification, following Stotz *et al.* (1996), including two for the Amazon region. The Atlantic Forest biome concentrates about 80% of all threatened birds in the country.

Sites worth highlighting for their importance to bird conservation include Murici ecological Station (BR122) in the state of Alagoas (Box 2), where 14 globally threatened and six Near Threatened species are present and Boa Nova / Serra da Ouricana (BR105) in Bahia state (Box 1), with 10 globally threatened species and 17 Near Threatened.

Alagoas Foliage-gleaner
(*Philydor novaesi*)
Photo: Ciro Albano

Araripe Manakin
(*Antilophia bokermanni*)
Photo: Ciro Albano

Restinga Antwren
(*Formicivora littoralis*)
Photo: Joao Quental

Brazil has more Critically Endangered species than any other country in the world. The BirdLife Preventing Extinctions Program (see p25) sets out to stop these species from going extinct by appointing Species Champions to fund conservation actions and Species Guardians to implement them. These Critically Endangered species have all benefitted from the program, with three-year conservation projects currently underway for both Araripe Manakin and Restinga Antwren.

¹ Changes to IUCN red list categories resulting from the 2008 evaluation are as follows. Uplists: Tristan Albatross (*Diomedea dabbenena*) - EN to CR; Atlantic Petrel (*Pterodroma incerta*) - VU to EN; Sun Parakeet (*Aratinga solstitialis*) - LC to EN; Hoary-throated Spinetail (*Synallaxis kollari*) - VU to EN. Downlists: Rondonia Bushbird (*Clytoctantes atrogularis*) - CR to VU; Rio Branco Antbird (*Cercomacra carbonaria*) - VU to NT. This directory uses 2007 categories throughout.

IBA overview



BirdLife International’s global IBA program was officially presented to the Brazilian ornithological community at the VIII Brazilian Ornithological Congress in 2000. Identification of IBAs in Brazil began in April 2001 through a partnership with the Fundação Zoobotânica do Rio Grande do Sul. As part of the process, contacts were made with government entities and NGOs coordinating related initiatives to identify priority areas for biodiversity conservation in Brazil. Thus, information obtained during these surveys was used for IBA identification. In March 2006, the first Brazilian IBA publication was launched (Bencke *et al.* 2006), covering IBAs in the Atlantic Forest, completing the first stage of the Brazilian IBA program. The Atlantic Forest was chosen among Brazilian biomes as a starting point for IBA identification for two important reasons: the high level of threats faced by the region as well as the relatively large volume of information available on its avifauna. The second stage of IBA identification in Brazil includes all states in the north and center-west of the country, incorporating three biomes: Amazon, Cerrado and Pantanal (De Luca *et al.* 2009).

“The Atlantic Forest was chosen as a starting point for IBA identification due to its high level of threats as well as the large volume of information on its avifauna.”

To date, the process of IBA identification in Brazil has involved approximately 60 biologists/ornithologists, with a total of 450 areas reviewed and 700 species evaluated under IBA criteria. In total, 234 IBAs have been identified in Brazil (Table 1, Figure 1), totaling 93,713,597 ha and representing 11% of the entire country’s area. Ninety-three IBAs or 40% are totally outside the national

“Considering the limited funds available for conservation, a priority-setting exercise is crucial to define which IBAs need immediate on-the-ground activities to ensure the long-term survival of threatened birds.”

protected area system, ninety-two (39%) are partially protected and only 51 (21%) are fully protected. Protected areas within the IBA network correspond to 27,687,893 ha. The largest IBA in Brazil, at 7,351,066 ha, is Tabocais (BR059) in the states of Amazonas and Acre, designated for one threatened and four Near Threatened species. The smallest IBA is Ilhas dos Currais (BR209) in the state of Paraná at just 13 ha, and designated for a breeding colony of Magnificent Frigatebirds (*Fregata magnificens*). In Pernambuco state, 16 IBAs have been designated, holding 18 threatened species and totaling 529,104 ha, of which 70,000 are within conservation units. In contrast, in the Amazon region, 13 IBAs have been designated for six threatened species, totaling 28.5 million ha, of which 8.5 million ha are within protected areas. This comparison clearly shows the vast differences among IBAs in Brazil and reinforces the importance of a priority setting process to determine areas in need of immediate actions to ensure their conservation.

The threatened, endemic Seven-coloured Tanager (*Tangara fastuosa*) triggers IBA criteria at 14 sites in Brazil.

The Critically Endangered and endemic Grey-breasted Parakeet (*Pyrrhura griseipectus*) only survives at one location, Serra do Baturité (BR041).
Photos: Ciro Albano

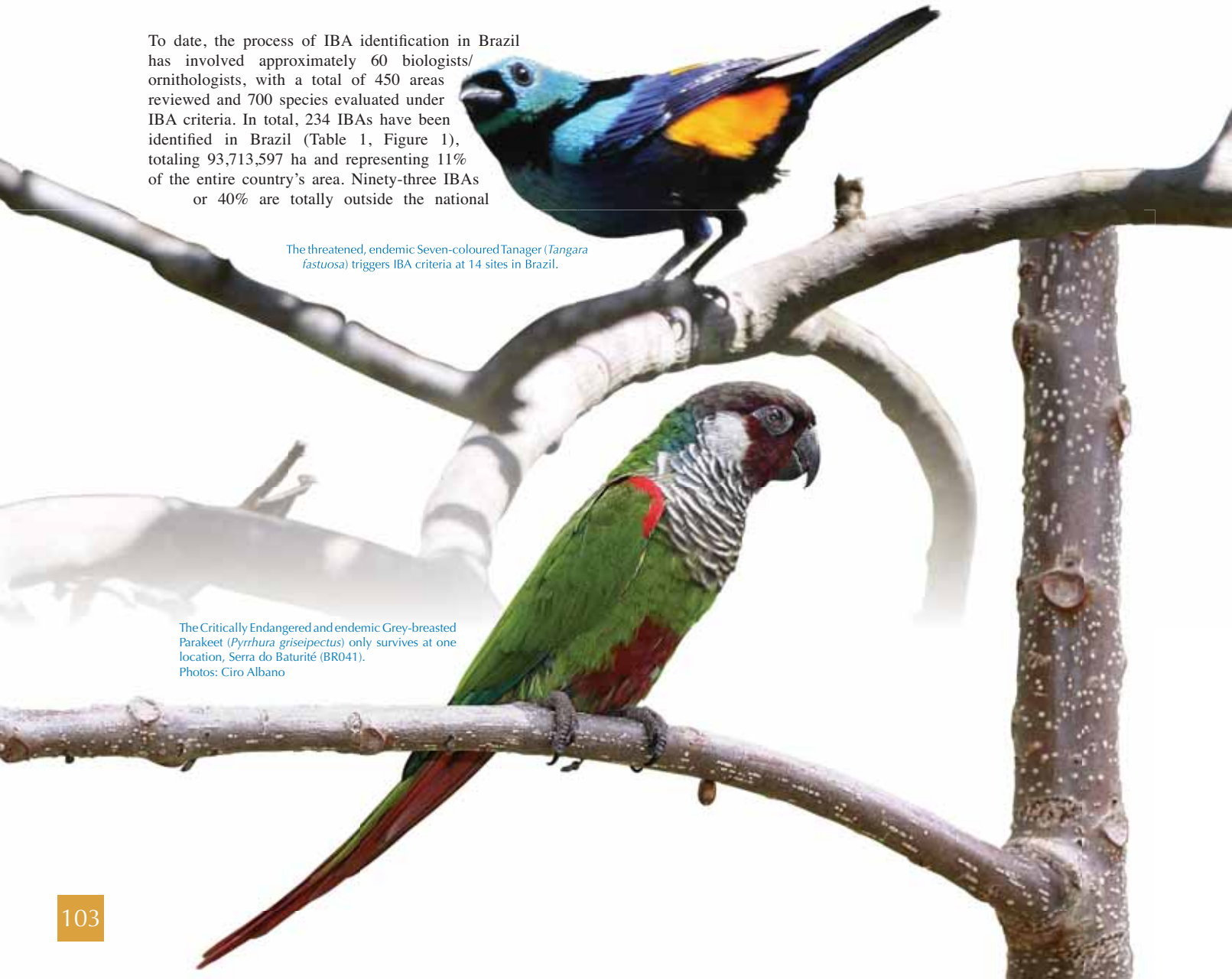
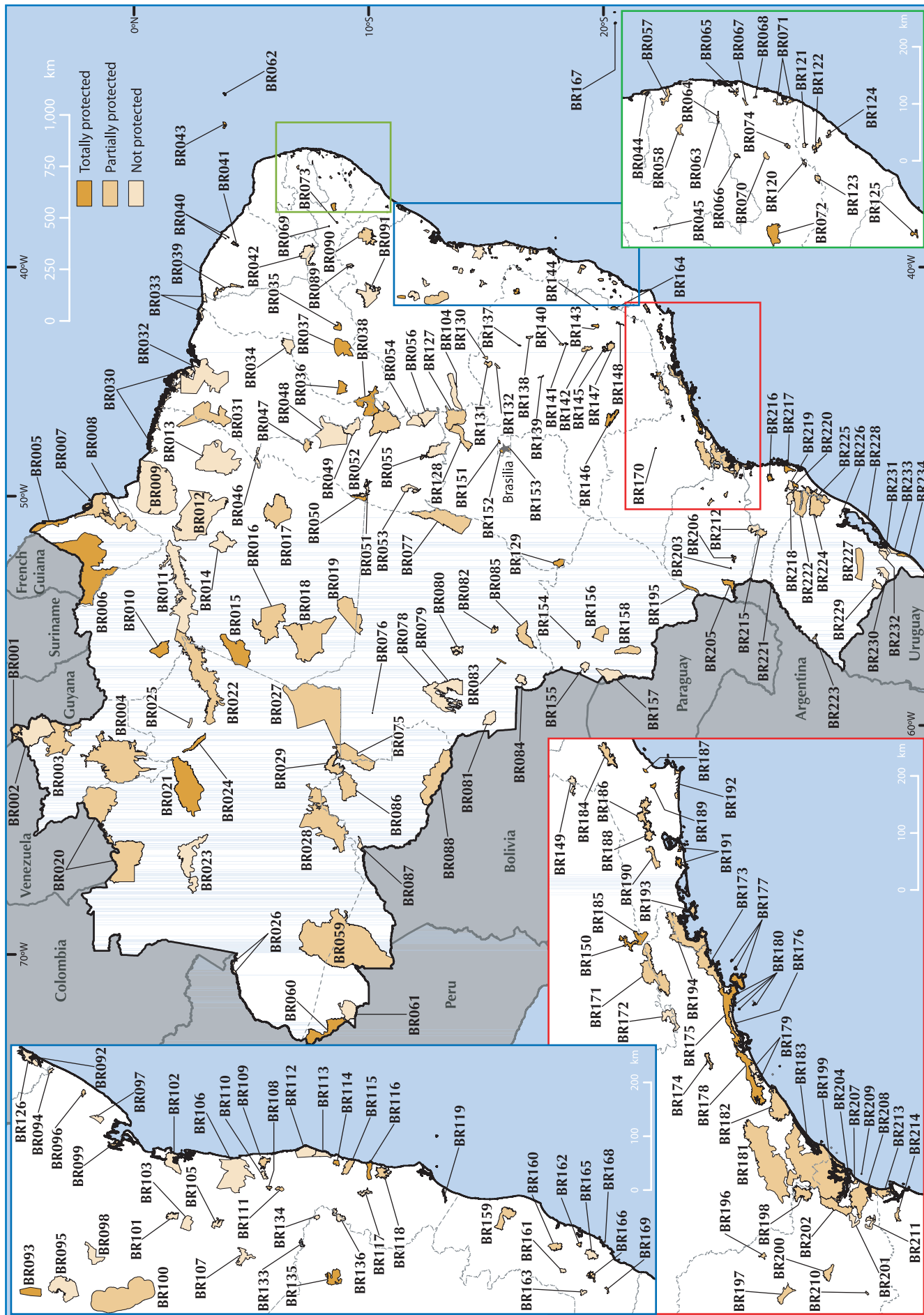


Figure 1. Location of Important Bird Areas in Brazil



Important Bird Areas AMERICAS

Table 2. Important Bird Areas in Brazil

IBA code	IBA name	Adm unit	Area (ha)	A1				A2	A3	A4				
				CR	EN	VU	NT			A4i	A4ii	A4iii	A4iv	
BR001	Tepuis de Roraima	Roraima	248,250					X						
BR002	Savanas do Rio Cotingo	Roraima	1,499,454		1	1		X						
BR003	Lavrados de Roraima	Roraima	1,477,273		2			X						
BR004	Campinas e Várzeas do Rio Branco	Roraima	3,859,627		1	3		X	X					
BR005	Parque Nacional do Cabo Orange	Amapá	410,424					X						
BR006	Parque Nacional Montanhas do Tumucumaque	Amapá, Pará	3,882,120				1		X					
BR007	Goiabal / Piratuba	Amapá	968,625					X		X				
BR008	Savanas do Amapá	Amapá	766,643				3							
BR009	Ilha de Marajó	Pará	3,910,144		1	1		X						
BR010	Reserva Biológica do Rio Trombetas	Pará	409,585					X	X					
BR011	Várzeas de Monte Alegre	Pará	2,664,834				1	X						
BR012	Caxiuanã / Portel	Pará	3,422,612		1	4								
BR013	Rio Capim	Pará	2,141,584		1	2								
BR014	Baixo Rio Xingu	Pará	622,266		2	4								
BR015	Parque Nacional da Amazônia	Amazonas, Pará	1,161,379		1				X					
BR016	Jamanxim / Altamira	Pará	1,541,628		2									
BR017	Serra dos Carajás	Pará	1,223,610		1	6			X					
BR018	Novo Progresso	Pará	2,621,296		1	1		X						
BR019	Cristalino / Serra do Cachimbo	Mato Grosso, Pará	1,123,562		3	2			X					
BR020	Tepuis do Amazonas	Amazonas	4,429,575					X	X					
BR021	Parque Nacional do Jaú	Amazonas	2,377,889				2	X	X					
BR022	Várzeas do Médio Rio Amazonas	Amazonas, Pará	2,875,752				1	X						
BR023	Mamirauá	Amazonas	1,124,000		1	2		X						
BR024	Arquipélago de Anavilhanas	Amazonas	197,812				2	X						
BR025	Área de Relevante Interesse Ecológico Projeto Dinâmica Biológica de Fragmentos Florestais e Entorno	Amazonas	46,208						X					
BR026	Baixo Rio Javari	Amazonas	77,158		1			X						
BR027	Alto Sucunduri	Amazonas	4,629,900	1			1	X						
BR028	Campos de Humaitá-Lábrea	Amazonas, Rondônia	2,724,632			2							X	
BR029	Campo do Alto Marmelos	Amazonas, Rondônia	451,017				2							
BR030	Reentrâncias Maranhenses/Paraenses	Maranhão, Pará	1,134,852					X		X		X		
BR031	Gurupi	Maranhão, Pará	1,392,974		1									
BR032	Baixada Maranhense	Maranhão	2,045,444							X				
BR033	Delta do Parnaíba	Ceará, Maranhão, Piauí	217,139					X		X				
BR034	Barragem de Boa Esperança	Maranhão	280,547	1	1	1								
BR035	Parque Nacional da Serra da Capivara	Piauí	91,849			2	6		X					
BR036	Estação Ecológica de Uruçuí-Una	Piauí	203,445		1		2							
BR037	Parque Nacional da Serra das Confusões	Piauí	523,924			2	5		X					
BR038	Nascentes do Rio Parnaíba	Maranhão, Piauí, Tocantins	730,191		1		2							
BR039	Serra de Ibiapaba	Ceará	146,171			4	3	X	X					
BR040	Serras de Maranguape e da Aratanha	Ceará	4,649			2		X						
BR041	Serra do Baturité	Ceará	30,240	1		5		X	X					
BR042	Chapada do Araripe	Ceará, Pernambuco	394,426	1		2	5	X	X					
BR043	Atol das Rocas	Rio Grande do Norte	35,186							X	X	X		
BR044	Mata Estrela	Rio Grande do Norte	6,930			1								
BR045	Estação Ecológica do Seridó	Rio Grande do Norte	1,124				1							
BR046	São Pedro da Água Branca	Maranhão, Pará, Tocantins	112,297	1		1		X						
BR047	Monumento Natural das Árvores Fossilizadas e Adjacências	Tocantins	152,140		1	1	6	X						
BR048	Cerrados do Nordeste de Tocantins	Tocantins	1,296,041	1	1		3							
BR049	Lizarda	Tocantins	349,193			2	5							
BR050	Parque Estadual do Cantão	Tocantins	90,017			2	1	X						
BR051	Matas Ciliares do Rio do Coco e Afluentes	Tocantins	138,721	1	1	2	2	X	X					
BR052	Jalapão	Bahia, Tocantins	1,187,017	1	2	1	5			X			X	
BR053	Formoso do Araguaia	Tocantins	169,672				1			X				
BR054	Vale do Rio Palmeiras	Tocantins	272,225		1		3	X						
BR055	Interflúvio dos Rios Tocantins e Paranã	Goiás, Tocantins	472,744		1	1	2							
BR056	Aurora do Tocantins / Taguatinga	Tocantins	370,934		1		2	X						
BR057	Mamanguape	Paraíba	19,528		2	2	2							
BR058	Mata do Pau-Ferro	Paraíba	13,693			2		X						
BR059	Tabocais	Acre, Amazonas	7,351,066		1		4	X	X					
BR060	Parque Nacional da Serra do Divisor	Acre	840,955		1			X	X					
BR061	Alto Juruá	Acre	539,864		1		3	X	X					
BR062	Arquipélago de Fernando de Noronha	Pernambuco	1,827			1	1	X	X	X		X		
BR063	Mata do Estado	Pernambuco	702	1	5	1	2	X						
BR064	Serra do Mascarenhas	Pernambuco	3,311	1	4	1	1	X						
BR065	Igarassu	Pernambuco	7,766		1	2	4							
BR066	Brejo de Taquaritinga	Pernambuco	4,659		1	1								

IBA code	IBA name	Adm unit	Area (ha)	A1				A2	A3	A4				
				CR	EN	VU	NT			A4i	A4ii	A4iii	A4iv	
BR067	Tapacurá	Pernambuco	3,883				1							
BR068	Complexo Gurjaú	Pernambuco	1,455	3	3	2		X						
BR069	Reserva Ecológica Maurício Dantas	Pernambuco	1,798		2	1								
BR070	Brejo dos Cavalos	Pernambuco	9,061	3	1	2		X						
BR071	Guadalupe	Pernambuco	14,629	1	2	2	1			X				
BR072	Parque Nacional do Catimbau	Pernambuco	62,294			1	4	X	X					
BR073	Serra Negra (Floresta)	Pernambuco	5,448			2	5	X	X					
BR074	Serra do Urubu	Pernambuco	3,776	2	4	3	1	X						
BR075	Ji-Paraná / Roosevelt	Amazonas, Mato Grosso,	1,112,493	1	1		1	X	X					
BR076	Salto das Andorinhas e de Dardanelos	Rondônia	740										X	
BR077	Interflúvio dos Rios das Mortes e Araguaia	Mato Grosso	1,450,560			2	4	X						
BR078	Alto Rio Juruena	Mato Grosso	910,054	1			3							
BR079	Tirecatina / Utiariti	Mato Grosso	605,359	1			1							
BR080	Rio Claro	Mato Grosso	146,773	1										
BR081	Campos do Encanto	Mato Grosso	274,114			1		X	X					
BR082	Parque Nacional da Chapada dos Guimarães e Adjacências	Mato Grosso	66,042	1			6							
BR083	Estação Ecológica Serra das Araras	Mato Grosso	29,741	1	1	1	1			X				
BR084	Cáceres	Mato Grosso	151,172	1			1							
BR085	Reserva Particular do Patrimônio Natural SESC Pantanal e Entorno	Mato Grosso	506,607	1	2	3								
BR086	Jamari	Mato Grosso	792,165	1										
BR087	Abunã	Rondônia	79,289					X						
BR088	Vale do Guaporé	Rondônia	1,664,439				1							
BR089	Curaçá	Rondônia	32,680			1	1							
BR090	Raso da Catarina	Bahia	400,626	1		3	5	X	X					
BR091	Sento Sé / Campo Formoso	Bahia	584,813	1			2	X						
BR092	Mangue Seco	Bahia	2,635										X	
BR093	Parque Estadual do Morro do Chapéu	Bahia	48,504			1	5	X						
BR094	Matas de Conde e Baixios	Bahia	4,844	2	1	1								
BR095	Serra de Bonito	Bahia	143,677	1	2	3		X						
BR096	Itanagra	Bahia	5,848	2	2	2		X	X					
BR097	Mata da Campina e Fragmentos Adjacentes	Bahia	17,358	2	1	1								
BR098	Ibiquera / Ruy Barbosa	Bahia	52,819			1								
BR099	Santo Amaro / Cachoeira	Bahia	9,386	2	2	1								
BR100	Parque Nacional da Chapada Diamantina	Bahia	449,755	2	6	14		X	X					
BR101	Jaguaquara	Bahia	19,921	1				X						
BR102	Baixo-Sul	Bahia	60,380	1	3	4	1	X						
BR103	Jequié	Bahia	38,574	1				X						
BR104	Rio Arrojado	Bahia	423,860	1	1	1								
BR105	Boa Nova / Serra da Ouricana	Bahia	18,513	2	7	3		X	X					
BR106	Ilhéus / Itabuna	Bahia	242,353			1		X						
BR107	Vitória da Conquista	Bahia	39,394	1	1	5		X	X					
BR108	Serra do Teimoso	Bahia	4,121			2	2							
BR109	Una	Bahia	21,854	2	4	5	1	X	X					
BR110	Serras das Lontras e do Javi	Bahia	9,895	2	7	6		X	X					
BR111	Serra Bonita	Bahia	7,526	2	6	8		X						
BR112	Foz dos Rios Pardo e Jequitinhonha	Bahia	56,619			1								
BR113	Santa Cruz Cabrália/Belmonte	Bahia	25,873	2	3									
BR114	Estação Veracruz	Bahia	7,999	4	6	1								
BR115	Parque Nacional do Pau Brasil/Trancoso	Bahia	30,072	2	3									
BR116	Parque Nacional de Monte Pascoal	Bahia	22,332	4	5	1		X						
BR117	Serra de Itamaraju	Bahia	13,015	1										
BR118	Parque Nacional do Descobrimento	Bahia	32,496	2	2	1								
BR119	Rio Mucuri	Bahia	6,282	2	1			X						
BR120	São José da Laje / Canhotinho	Bahia	4,167	1	1	1								
BR121	Engenho Coimbra (Usina Serra Grande)	Alagoas, Pernambuco	4,337	6	2	1		X						
BR122	Murici	Alagoas	16,403	3	5	5	4	X	X					
BR123	Reserva Biológica de Pedra Talhada	Alagoas	9,903	6	4	4		X						
BR124	Usina Cachoeira	Alagoas, Pernambuco	5,804		2	1								
BR125	Serra de Itabaiana e Matas de Areia Branca	Alagoas	7,999	1	3	2		X						
BR126	Mata do Crasto e Restingas de Itaporanga e Estância	Sergipe	44,056	2	3									
BR127	Terra Ronca	Sergipe	676,190	2			3	X	X					
BR128	Parque Nacional da Chapada dos Veadeiros e Adjacências	Goiás	395,681	1	1	6	5			X				
BR129	Parque Nacional das Emas	Goiás	133,064	1	4	4	4			X				
BR130	Mocambinho	Goiás, Mato Grosso do Sul	18,648			1	4	X	X					
BR131	Vale do Peruçu	Minas Gerais	64,831	1		1	3	X	X					
BR132	Januária	Minas Gerais	21,080	1		1	2	X						
BR133	Bandeira / Macarani	Minas Gerais	4,826	1	1	8	1	X						

Important Bird Areas AMERICAS

IBA code	IBA name	Adm unit	Area (ha)	A1				A2	A3	A4				
				CR	EN	VU	NT			A4i	A4ii	A4iii	A4iv	
BR134	Fazenda Santana	Bahia, Minas Gerais	5,253	3	2	3		X						
BR135	Reserva Biológica da Mata Escura	Minas Gerais	50,872		1	4								
BR136	Alto Cariri	Minas Gerais	22,129	1	1	3								
BR137	Chapada do Catuni	Bahia, Minas Gerais	5,091		1									
BR138	Botumirim	Minas Gerais	24,476		1	2		X						
BR139	Baixo Rio das Velhas	Minas Gerais	10,107	1	1		1	X						
BR140	Parque Estadual do Rio Preto	Minas Gerais	14,927		3	1								
BR141	Parque Estadual do Pico do Itambé e Serra do Gavião	Minas Gerais	7,358		1	1		X						
BR142	Serra do Cipó	Minas Gerais	74,244	1	3	6		X	X					
BR143	Parque Estadual do Rio Doce	Minas Gerais	35,947	4	3	5								
BR144	Caratinga	Minas Gerais	1,288		1									
BR145	Serra do Caraça	Minas Gerais	29,500	1		9		X						
BR146	Serra da Canastra	Minas Gerais	197,810	1	1	6	12	X	X					
BR147	Ouro Preto/Mariana	Minas Gerais	96,146				1							
BR148	Parque Estadual da Serra do Brigadeiro	Minas Gerais	13,173		5	4			X					
BR149	Laranjal/Miracema	Minas Gerais	18,014		1			X						
BR150	Parque Estadual da Serra do Papagaio	Minas Gerais, Rio de Janeiro	22,929		2	3		X						
BR151	Estação Ecológica de Águas Emendadas	Minas Gerais	10,547	1	2	1								
BR152	Parque Nacional de Brasília	Distrito Federal	31,895	1		2		X						
BR153	Cerrados ao Sul de Brasília	Distrito Federal	18,952	1	1	3		X						
BR154	Nhumirim	Distrito Federal	43,887	2		2								
BR155	Maciço do Urucum e Adjacências	Mato Grosso do Sul	118,718	2		3								
BR156	Rios Negro e Aquidauana	Mato Grosso do Sul	287,852	3		2			X					
BR157	Pantanal de Nabileque	Mato Grosso do Sul	468,274	1										
BR158	Parque Nacional da Serra da Bodoquena e Entorno	Mato Grosso do Sul	326,892	1		1								
BR159	Sooretama/Linhares	Mato Grosso do Sul	60,644	6	10	4		X	X					
BR160	Santa Teresa	Espírito Santo	23,167	2	2	8	17	X	X					
BR161	Itarana	Espírito Santo	5,910	1		4		X						
BR162	Reserva Biológica de Duas Bocas	Espírito Santo	4,305				6							
BR163	Fazenda Pindobas IV e Arredores	Espírito Santo	6,711	1	1	2	4	X	X					
BR164	Parque Nacional do Caparaó	Espírito Santo	31,763		2	14		X						
BR165	Encostas da Região de Domingos Martins	Espírito Santo, Minas Gerais	24,151	1	1	3								
BR166	Complexo Pedra Azul / Forno Grande	Espírito Santo	11,168	1	1	2	3	X	X					
BR167	Trindade e Martim Vaz	Espírito Santo	1,664		1					X	X			
BR168	Ilhas do Litoral Sul do Espírito Santo	Espírito Santo	644							X				
BR169	Cafundó e Bananal do Norte	Espírito Santo	2,756	1	4	3								
BR170	Itirapina	Espírito Santo	2,907		2	3								
BR171	Serra da Mantiqueira	São Paulo	153,714		2	8		X	X					
BR172	São Francisco Xavier / Monte Verde	Minas Gerais, São Paulo	45,208		1	2	8							
BR173	Parque Estadual da Serra do Mar (entre Caraguatatuba e Picinguaba)	São Paulo	99,935	1	2	10	20	X	X					
BR174	Serra da Cantareira	São Paulo	12,776				8							
BR175	Parque Estadual da Serra do Mar (entre Santos e São Sebastião)	São Paulo	105,997	1	1	5	19	X	X					
BR176	Bertioga	São Paulo	19,876		6	1								
BR177	Parque Estadual de Ilhabela	São Paulo	29,318	1	3	10								
BR178	Parque Estadual da Serra do Mar (entre Pedro de Toledo e Cubatão)	São Paulo	111,472	1	1	1								
BR179	Itanhaém / Mongaguá	São Paulo	30,876		4	2								
BR180	Arquipélago dos Alcatrazes	São Paulo	243						X	X				
BR181	Maciço Florestal de Paranapiacaba	São Paulo	437,646	3	13	11		X	X					
BR182	Estação Ecológica de Juréia-Itatins	São Paulo	108,181	2	9	17		X						
BR183	Ilhas Comprida e Cananéia	São Paulo	22,794	2	7	3				X				
BR184	Parque Estadual do Desengano e Entorno	Rio de Janeiro	44,521	3	12	10		X						
BR185	Parque Nacional de Itatiaia	Minas Gerais, Rio de Janeiro	28,084	1	1	6	23	X	X					
BR186	Região Serrana do Rio de Janeiro	Rio de Janeiro	55,351		1									
BR187	Reserva Biológica União	Rio de Janeiro	2,923	1	3	3								
BR188	Serra dos Órgãos	Rio de Janeiro	16,885	2	1	5	18	X	X					
BR189	Reserva Biológica de Poço das Antas	Rio de Janeiro	5,065		2	2								
BR190	Serra do Tinguá	Rio de Janeiro	27,924	1	6	20		X	X					
BR191	Maciços da Tijuca e Pedra Branca	Rio de Janeiro	15,981	1	3	2								
BR192	Restinga de Maçambaba e Ilha de Cabo Frio	Rio de Janeiro	20,247	1	1			X	X					
BR193	Ilha Grande	Rio de Janeiro	18,029	1	3	4								
BR194	Serra da Bocaina / Paraty / Angra dos Reis	Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo	159,011	4	9	24		X	X					
BR195	Parque Nacional de Ilha Grande	Mato Grosso do Sul, Paraná	107,917		1									
BR196	Jaguariaíva	Paraná	10,859	1	1	5								
BR197	Cânion do Guartelá	Paraná	31,554	1	2	4								
BR198	Parque Estadual das Lauráceas e Entorno	Paraná	46,509	1	3	6								
BR199	Guaraqueçaba / Jacupiranga / Cananéia	Paraná, São Paulo	624,000	3	14	6		X	X					

IBA code	IBA name	Adm unit	Area (ha)	A1				A2	A3	A4			
				CR	EN	VU	NT			A4i	A4ii	A4iii	A4iv
BR200	Campos Gerais do Paraná	Paraná	23,184	1	4	8		X	X				
BR201	Várzeas da Região Metropolitana de Curitiba	Paraná	19,589	1		1		X					
BR202	Serra do Marumbi	Paraná	66,842	2	4	28		X	X				
BR203	Parque Estadual do Rio Guarani	Paraná	2,113		1	5							
BR204	Baixo Curso do Rio Nhundiaquara	Paraná	2,749	1	1	1		X					
BR205	Parque Nacional do Iguçu	Paraná	169,696	1	1	4	13			X			
BR206	Corredor do Iguçu	Paraná	29,151	1		2							
BR207	Rio Guaraguaçu	Paraná	4,370	1	4	2		X					
BR208	Área de Proteção Ambiental de Guaratuba	Paraná	126,597	2	2	9	8	X	X				
BR209	Ilhas dos Currais	Paraná	13									X	
BR210	Várzeas do Curso Médio-Superior do Rio Iguçu	Paraná	1,498	1									
BR211	Várzeas em Tijucas do Sul	Paraná	17,422	1									
BR212	General Carneiro	Paraná	132,308	1	1	3		X					
BR213	Baía da Babitonga	Santa Catarina	31,998	1	1	3	1	X					
BR214	Salto do Pirai	Santa Catarina	10,538	1			12						
BR215	Campos de Água Doce e Palmas	Paraná, Santa Catarina	118,361	1	2	1							
BR216	Região de Blumenau	Santa Catarina	57,375		2	18			X				
BR217	Parque Estadual da Serra do Tabuleiro	Santa Catarina	94,342	1	5	13			X				
BR218	Painel/Urupema	Santa Catarina	135,280		3								
BR219	Urubici	Santa Catarina	99,548	1			5						
BR220	Parque Nacional de São Joaquim	Santa Catarina	42,775		2	6							
BR221	Parque Estadual do Turvo	Rio Grande do Sul	16,979	1		9							
BR222	Campos do Planalto das Araucárias	Rio Grande do Sul, Santa Catarina	562,529	1	5	10		X					
BR223	Banhado São Donato	Rio Grande do Sul	16,265	1	1	1		X	X				
BR224	Campos de Cima da Serra	Rio Grande do Sul	453,244	1	5	5		X					
BR225	Região dos Aparados da Serra	Rio Grande do Sul, Santa Catarina	270,004	2	4	21		X	X				
BR226	Banhado dos Pachecos	Rio Grande do Sul	2,605	1	2	2		X					
BR227	Médio Rio Camaquã	Rio Grande do Sul	387,238		1	3		X					
BR228	Parque Nacional da Lagoa do Peixe	Rio Grande do Sul	36,722		3	3				X		X	
BR229	Campos da Região de Bagé	Rio Grande do Sul	108,836		2	2		X	X				
BR230	Região de Pinheiro Machado	Rio Grande do Sul	151,352	1		4		X					
BR231	Estuário da Laguna dos Patos	Rio Grande do Sul	103,756		2	2		X	X				
BR232	Várzea do Canal São Gonçalo	Rio Grande do Sul	82,159	1	1	4		X	X				
BR233	Banhado do Maçarico e Cordões Litorâneos Adjacentes	Rio Grande do Sul	64,703	2	2	1		X	X				
BR234	Banhado do Taim	Rio Grande do Sul	111,272		1	1		X	X		X		X



For information on trigger species at each IBA, see individual site accounts at BirdLife's Data Zone: www.birdlife.org/datazone/sites/

Opportunities



Bird conservation in Brazil still represents a major challenge. Ten percent of all globally threatened birds are found in Brazil and many are at risk of imminent extinction. At the same time, the number of recently described bird species is growing: 21 species new to science were described between 1996 and 2006. Major bird habitats are facing contrasting situations: the Atlantic Forest is one of the most threatened tropical forests in the world, with only 7% of natural vegetation remaining; whereas 80% of the Amazon is still intact, making Brazil a unique country in terms of biodiversity conservation.

However, future prospects are favorable in that a growing interest in birds currently exists among society. In the past three years, the average number of participants at the Brazilian Ornithological Congress has been approximately 500 people, mostly students. The Brazilian Ornithological Society (SBO) is also growing and now has over 800 members. A National Birders' Fair, known as Avistar, has been established in Brazil and in 2008, more than 5000 people participated.

“Ten percent of all globally threatened birds are found in Brazil and many are at risk of imminent extinction.”



The unprotected IBA of Matas Ciliares do Rio do Coko e Afluentes (BR051) holds globally important populations of the Critically Endangered Kaempfer's Woodpecker (*Celeus obrieni*) and the Vulnerable Bananal Antbird (*Cercomacra ferdinandi*).
Photo: Pedro F. Develley

Important Bird Areas AMERICAS

The preparation of a single bird conservation strategy in Brazil, taking into account the above challenges, is an extremely important step that must involve NGOs, researchers and government sectors. IBAs are a basic tool with which to develop the strategy and could be adopted as the basis for conservation planning at the landscape scale. For example, rainforest IBAs are already contributing in a practical way to conservation planning, leading to the creation of new protected areas. For example, at Murici (BR122; Box 2), remaining forest was purchased to create a private reserve in one of the most important and threatened fragments of the Atlantic Forest in Brazil. IBAs are also useful tools for awareness raising and educational campaigns, for example in changing local people's perceptions of the environment (Boa Nova, Serra do Urubu). IBAs have also played an important role for local communities in creating alternative incomes from sustainable sources, compatible with environmental conservation (e.g. Serra das Lontras; Box 3) and in scientific research focusing on threatened birds (e.g. Chapada Araripe, Maçambaba). Finally, IBAs have enabled broad participation in the process of defining priority areas for conservation in Brazil, in efforts led by the federal government.

The conclusion of the IBA inventory is an invaluable contribution to bird conservation in Brazil, however this is just the first step of a long process. On-the-ground activities are urgent in many IBAs to ensure the long-term survival of threatened birds. Nevertheless, considering the limited funds available for conservation, plus the large number of IBAs and threatened birds in Brazil, a priority setting exercise is crucial to define which IBAs need immediate action. Ensuring the long-term conservation of these sites and their biodiversity represents a challenge for SAVE Brasil and the whole of the conservation community in the country.

“The conclusion of the IBA inventory is an invaluable contribution to bird conservation in Brazil, however this is just the first step of a long process.”

Box 1

Conservation program changes local people's perception of the environment in Boa Nova

Boa Nova (BR105), located in the southern state of Bahia is of special importance for birds due to its location in a transition area between the Atlantic Forest and Caatinga. Local bird diversity is incredibly high, with 391 species identified so far, of which 10 are globally threatened. This transition area provides habitat to the Endangered Slender Antbird (*Rhopornis ardesiacus*), one of Brazil's rarest birds. Despite its biological wealth, the region has suffered constant pressure due to firewood extraction, logging, hunting and illegal trade of wild animals, as well as deforestation for agriculture and pastureland. Since 2004, SAVE Brasil has implemented a conservation program in Boa Nova including scientific research, community engagement, education and environmental awareness, habitat management and coordination of public policies, especially geared to the creation of protected areas. A major outcome of the project

has been a change in the local population's behavior and perception in relation to the environment. So far, 1100 people, including children and adults, have participated in awareness raising campaigns and educational programs, leading to the community's adoption of Slender Antbird as a symbol of the city. Landowners are also involved in the project, having set aside 840 ha of forest within the species' range. A proposal to create a 32,000 ha-protected area has been prepared and will be evaluated by the federal government. Also, scientific research papers have provided new data on the biology of Slender Antbird, including the first description of its nest and reproductive behavior. The next step of the project is to restore degraded areas and water sources with local community involvement as well as continued lobbying of the federal government to create a protected area.

Slender Antbird
(*Rhopornis ardesiacus*)
Photo: Ciro Albano

Boa Nova (BR105)
Photo: Pedro F. Develey

Murici Pact ensures conservation of globally important center of endemism

Box 2

The Murici forest is one of the most important areas for bird conservation in the world. It is located in a biodiversity-rich region, unique in terms of evolutionary history: the Pernambuco center of endemism. This is the location of the 6116-ha Murici Ecological Station (BR122) in Zona da Mata Alagoano. Murici has 14 globally threatened bird species, three of which are Critically Endangered: White-collared Kite (*Leptodon forbesi*), Alagoas Antwren (*Myrmotherula snowi*) and Alagoas Foliage-gleaner (*Philydor novaesi*). Conservation activities in Murici began in 2000 and work is currently carried out in partnership with seven other organizations. Together with SAVE Brasil, these organizations established the Murici Pact which aims to ensure the conservation of remaining forests in Central Pernambuco, principally focused on Murici. The project's principal outcome so far has been the creation of the Ecological Station in 2001, which officially ensures the conservation of the area. Subsequent work has focused on the empowerment of local communities living around the reserve as well as supporting training activities for protected area managers in the region.

Joint work with major local landowners (sugar cane producers) is also taking place, covering issues such as forest restoration and the establishment of private reserves in the central region of Pernambuco. A management plan for the reserve now needs to be written and implemented.



Signing of the Murici Pact, Brazilian Senate, May 2004.
Photo: Anon.



Atlantic forest at Murici (BR122).
Photo: Pedro F. Develey

Box 3

Traditional cacao production favors conservation in Serra das Lontras

Located in southern Bahia, the mountainous region of Serra das Lontras (BR110) covers lowland and montane forests. The large altitudinal gradient and high diversity of vegetation provides for a wealth of bird species, with 310 recorded so far, 18 of which are globally threatened and two are new to science. The region is known for the traditional system of shade cacao cultivation in the Atlantic Forest, known as *cabruca*. SAVE Brasil has been working in

partnership with local organizations to implement a model of sustainable development integrating forest protection by promoting environmentally appropriate agriculture and the social development of local communities. Training has been provided on organic production methods (for 400 farmers and their families) and business management and national and international marketing (for local associations and cooperatives). So far, the project has resulted in 1800 ha of certified organic production. Additionally, a legally protected area is being created for 650 ha of Atlantic Forest and a proposal exists for the creation of a 16,000 ha National Park, currently being evaluated by the federal government. SAVE Brasil has also carried out scientific research and monitoring to assess the impacts of the recently implemented sustainable agricultural techniques on bird communities, focusing on endemic and threatened species. Difficulties to be overcome in the next stages of the project relate to the marketing of the organic cacao, taking into account the small scale of production and the need to strengthen and empower local cooperatives.



Organic chocolate (left) produced from the Cabruca system in Serra das Lontras (BR110).
Photo: Patricia Ruggiero

Further information

Data sources

National IBA Directories

Áreas Importantes para a Conservação das aves no Brasil. Parte I - Estados do Domínio da Mata Atlântica (Bencke *et al.* 2006)

Áreas Importantes para a Conservação das aves no Brasil. Parte II - Amazônia, Cerrado e Pantanal (De Luca *et al.* 2009)

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The Critically Endangered Lear's Macaw

(*Anodorhynchus leari*) triggers

IBA criteria at just two sites.

Photo: Andy & Gill Swash; www.rarebirdyearbook.com

