

PIGEONS THROUGH COWBIRDS

Two Puerto Rican Plain Pigeons, an endangered endemic, were noted at Cidra, PR, July 9 (GL, CJ). White-crowned Pigeons were abundant at Big Green Cay June 23 where Dean counted 1200 returning to the cay at sundown. Still more were coming when it was too dark to count (*vide* TW). White-winged Doves numbered 13 at Cay Lobos June 23, but nesting was unconfirmed. From Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, Lasley and Johnson managed to get good looks at Key West Quail-Dove at Bosque de Susua July 8, Ruddy Quail-Dove at Paguera July 9, and Bridled Quail-Dove at Cinnamon Bay, St. John, July 11. An unexpected treat and course in cuckoo vocalizations presented itself to Lasley and Johnson at Guanica Forest where Yellow-billed, Mangrove, and Puerto Rican Lizard cuckoos called the morning of July 8.

A flock of about 25 Black Swifts were noted flying around a sinkhole (GL, CJ) July 8 at Cueva Clara, Parque Nacional de Cavernas, Lares, PR. The previously reported Fish Crow remained at W. End, Grand Bahama, where it was seen July 21 (RO). Among the landbirds noted at Saba (GL) along the Mt. Scenery trail were Lesser Antillean specialties: Brown Trembler, Scaly-breasted Thrasher, and Purple-throated Carib July 5. Landbirds at Big Green Cay June 23 include a Mangrove Cuckoo, Antillean Nighthawk, Bahama Mockingbird, Thick-billed Vireo, Bananaquit, and Black-faced Grassquit. On July 8 along the entrance drive to Guanica Forest, Lasley and Johnson heard Puerto Rican Nightjar calling in the pre-dawn hour. At Paguera, PR, they found six-eight Yellow-shouldered Blackbirds, an endangered endemic, gathering nesting material on the grounds of the Parador Villa Paguera July 7. A Shiny Cowbird found at the Treasure Cay dump, Abaco, July 24 (WB) is not good news for indigenous species such as the Black-cowled Oriole, if indeed it is still present as a breeder there.

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1998 INDEX

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The main part of this index covers those bird records that were considered significant enough to be mentioned in bold-face type in the Regional Reports: outstanding rarities, first nesting records, extreme out-of-season occurrences, and so on. Each entry after the species name in the index begins with the state or province (two-letter postal codes in the U.S., two- or three-letter standard abbreviations in Canada). This is followed by the number of the issue (1: with Fall 1997 reports; 2: with Winter 1997-1998 reports; 3: with Spring 1998 reports; 4: the current issue, with Summer 1998 reports. Finally, the entry gives the page number for the boldfaced mention of the species.

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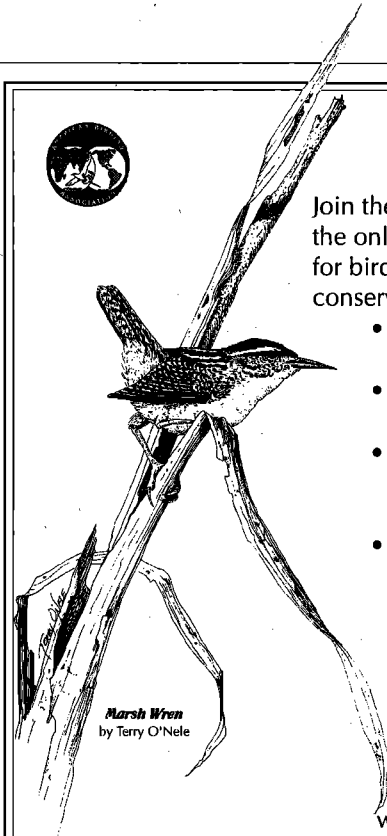
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Marsh Wren
by Terry O'Nele

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