

PRIORITIZED STRATEGY ITEMS BY WORKING GROUP

CONSERVATION WORKING GROUP (BREEDING SEASON)

1. Maintain CW tech committee
 - Maintain CW tech group with diversity of input, scientific base, management community (gov, private industry), non-traditional partners. ID info gaps and use to refine conservation strategies.
2. Improve/forgo relationships with Joint Ventures
 - Integrate recommendations into efforts of existing partnerships, especially increasing science staff capacity within joint ventures.

Joint Ventures:

 - Lower Mississippi
 - Upper Miss
 - Atlantic Coast
 - Central Hardwoods
 - Eastern Habitat
3. Address mining issues including national level mining policy
4. Insert CW conservation into CCPs, National Forest plans, and state comprehensive plans
 - NWR CCPs

National Forest Plans
State comprehensive plans
State and private forestry programs
Farm Bill
DOD management plans
Others...
5. Develop recommendations for CW habitat conservation

RESEARCH WORKING GROUP (BREEDING SEASON)

Research questions that should be addressed across the range of the species. These questions should be addressed with manipulative field experiments, with spatial and temporal replication, when possible. Topics are not in an order beyond “high”, “medium”, or “low”.

The most important response variable is demographic response

1. Forest Management Questions
 - Population response of CERW to silvicultural treatments/timber harvest techniques (HIGH)
 - Effects of forest structure and composition on population demography. (HIGH)
2. Key Limiting Factors In Life History
 - Survival, dispersal, fecundity (e.g., brood parasitism and nest predation), and recruitment patterns. (HIGH)

3. Landscape Characteristic Questions

- What is different in areas where CERW are increasing vs. decreasing? (HIGH)
- What are the multiscale effects of land use (e.g., mining, sprawl, wind towers, forest conversion, ROWs, etc.) on population demography? (HIGH)
- What are the landscape-scale mechanisms that affect population demography? (HIGH)

4. Habitat Characteristics

- How does habitat use/selection vary across the breeding range of the species? (HIGH)
- What are the migrational habitat needs (time of occupancy, routes, stop-over habitat needs, etc.)? (HIGH)

NON BREEDING SEASON

Natural History (Biology and Habitat)

- Conduct Gap Analysis to delineate the **species** range and identify the distribution within that breeding range, identify habitat characteristics, and match known distribution with existing conservation units (do we have major gaps?)

Conservation (habitat protection, contaminants)

- Conduct a regional analysis of habitats at the whole Andean region level with all **and** available information, then landscape analyses at landscape level (land use, land cover, ownership, drug cultivation/spraying, pesticide use, human populations, protected areas). Select focus area sites (protected areas or private rural properties)

Information Management

- Coordinate development of database of observations that preserves local ownership and integration among stakeholders and others.

Partnerships and Coordination

- **Identify**, assess/evaluate and coordinate Cerulean Warbler work with ongoing initiatives

Outreach and Education

- Encourage birdwatchers (traveling abroad or within country) to work with guides and communicate their interest in migration so they can incorporate migratory issues in their guiding and promote the linkages that migrants bring.

CEWA Survey and Monitoring

Three priorities

Priority 1. Expanding breeding-season distribution surveys

Goals

- 1) More complete assessment of breeding distribution and hot spots at core of range
- 2) Better inform modeling and monitoring efforts in all physiographic areas
- 3) Refine global and regional population estimates for CEWA

Strategies

- 1) Make sure surveys cover areas with high threats
- 2) Use modeling to inform our sampling
- 3) Go beyond presence/absence
- 4) Stratification / landscape modeling of distribution
- 5) **Action items:** Working group including Ken R and Ben Wigley, Forest Industry and FS reps to devise sampling effort in 2003. (use model zero tool, working Melinda Knutson)

Priority 2. Expand and refine monitoring capabilities

Goal

- 1) Produce better estimates of population trend rangewide
- 2) Monitor status of local populations at hot spot
- 3) Enhance the credibility of BBS for conservation applications
- 4) Improve understanding of habitat relationships

Strategies

- 1) Monitor as many hot spots as possible through partnerships with states, IBA programs and local groups
- 2) Ensure complete coverage of all BBS routes in CEWA range
- 3) Commitment of states to incorporate survey data into national database
- 4) Identifying some standard methodologies
- 5) Improve habitat data at stops to assess habitat relationships and trends
- 6) Assess road bias

Priority 3. Combine inventory and monitoring with predictive habitat modeling

Goals

- 1) Use modeling to direct inventory and monitoring efficiency
- 2) Use results of surveys to refine model development
- 3) Produce regional models to direct management for conservation action