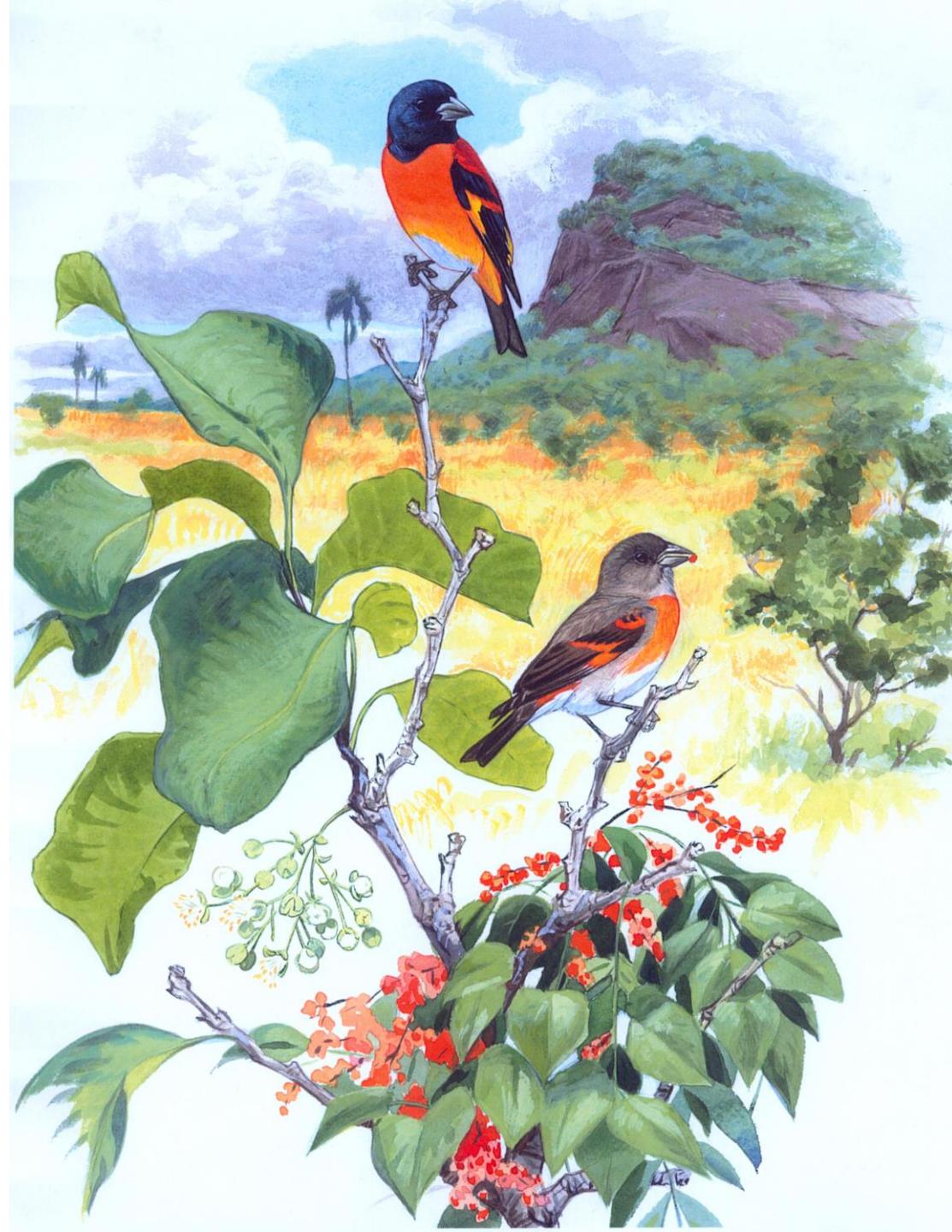


Red Siskin Recovery Project



Smithsonian
Institution

Brian Coyle
Project Coordinator
Museum Natural History





Parque Zoológico y
Botánico Bararida



Smithsonian Institution



RUHL WALKER
Architects



South Rupununi
Conservation Society





- Endangered since 1952
- US ESA
- CITES Appendix I



Venezuela population

- 100s to low 1000s
- > 90% decline



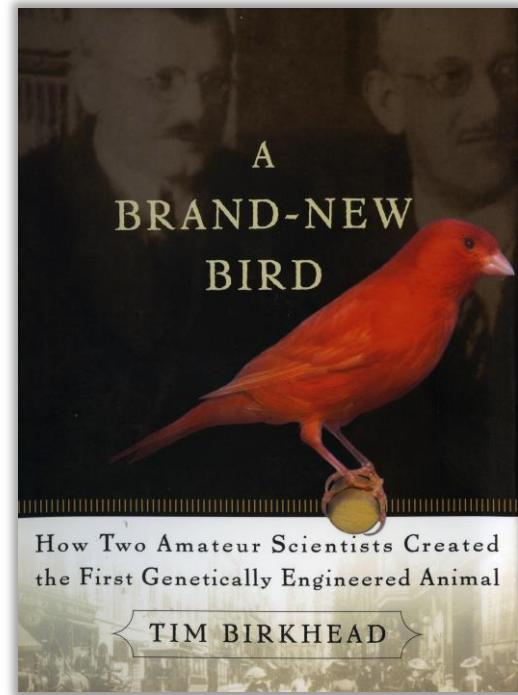
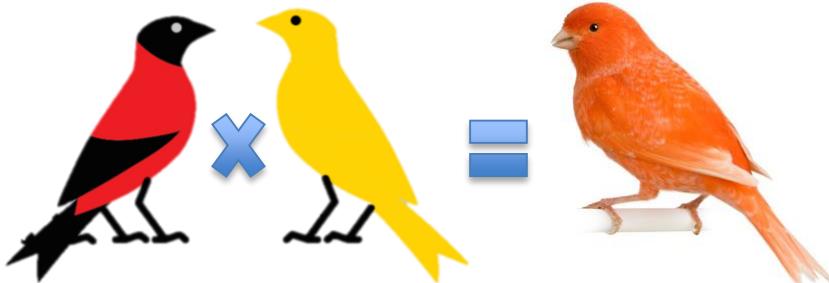
Guyana population

- Low 1000s
- Natural origin
- Stable & Viable??

Threat # 1

Wildlife Trafficking

- Past: Hybridized with canaries
- Today: Popular as pets



Threat # 2

Habitat Loss



Fire in Guyana



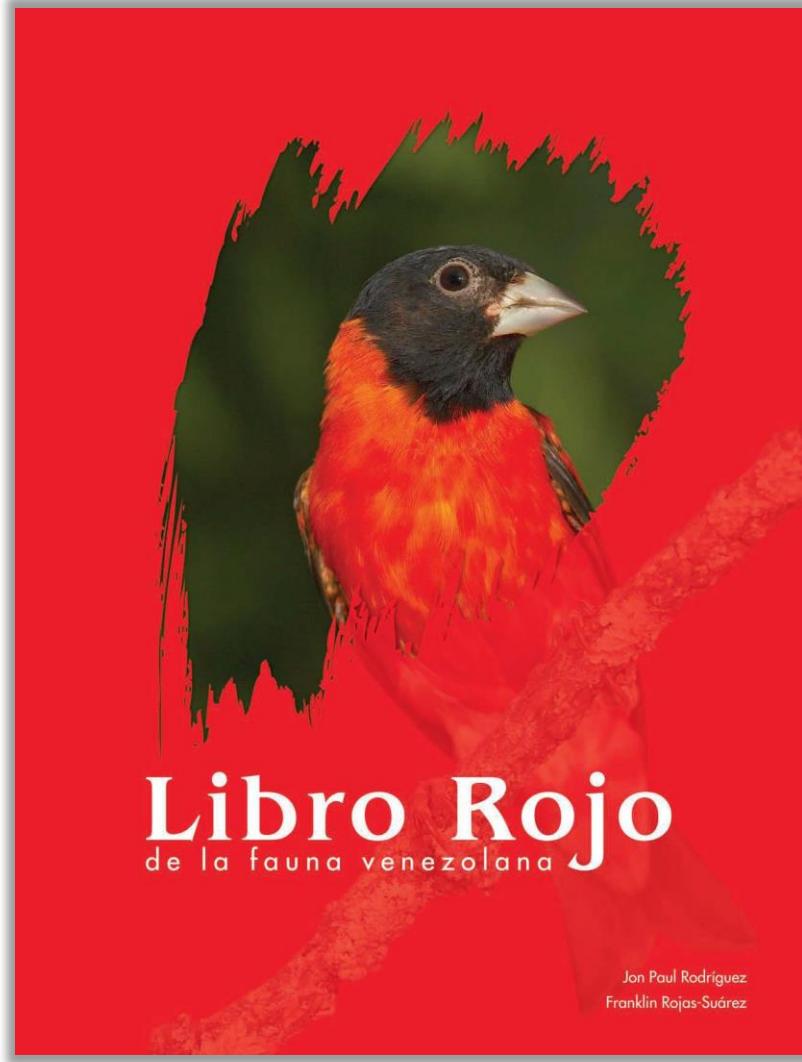
Overdevelopment in Venezuela

Strategy & Project Areas

- Research - Field & Molecular
- Captive Breeding
- Reintroduction
- Habitat Protection
- Education & Threat Reduction
- Capacity Building



Popular Species - High Recognition



Field Research

Estimate Population Size

- Distance sampling
- Mark-Recapture



Jhonathan Miranda

Understanding Ecology

- Behavioral observation
- Characterize habitat variables



SOUTH RUPUNUNI
CONSERVATION SOCIETY

Habitat Modeling

- Predict suitable remaining habitat
- Identify reintroduction Sites



Captive Breeding

SCBI Research Population

Test and develop methods

- Husbandry
- Management
- Veterinary Care
- Release techniques



Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute

Breed for Reintroduction

- Large scale programs
- In range in South America



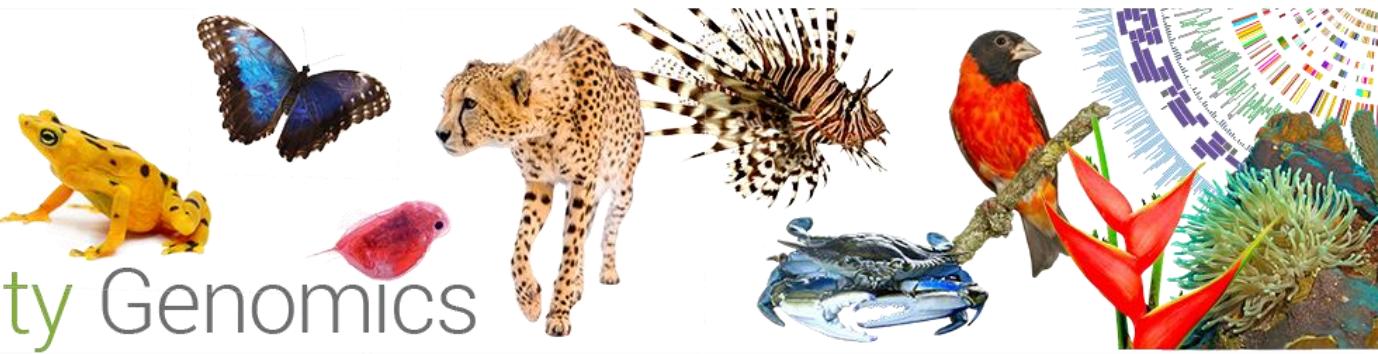
Parque Zoologico y Botanico Barrarida



Smithsonian

Institute for

Biodiversity Genomics



Molecular Work

Preserve Genetic Identity

- Detect & exclude hybrids

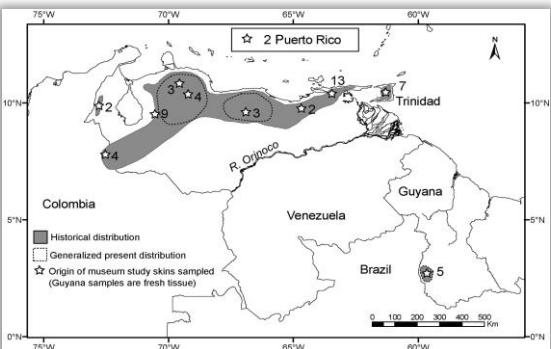


Assess wild populations

- Genetic diversity & structure

Breeding Management

- Limit inbreeding & Manage diversity



Reintroduction

SMBC “Bird Friendly Coffee”

- Shade coffee & cacao farms
- Manage habitat for Red Siskins
- Extra security against trafficking
- Train farm staff to monitor
- Partner with adjacent parks and landowners
- “Save the Siskin” coffee



Shade coffee farm in Venezuela



Siskin Project Members on Tour

Protection & Policing

Preserve Habitat

- Establish Important Biodiversity Areas (IBAs)
- Create officially protected habitat



Combat Trafficking

- Community monitoring
- Formal monitoring and reporting system with EPA-Guyana
- Wildlife ID training for govn't agents
- Increase policing and confiscation



Acknowledgements

Smithsonian Members

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Center for Species Survival

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Paul Marinari

Migratory Bird Center

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Institutional Partners

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Parque Zoologico El Pinar, VE

Provita – Conservation NGO, VE

Universidad Central de Venezuela, VE

South Rupununi Conservation Society, GY

Environmental Protection Agency, GY

Collaborators

American Bird Conservancy, USA

Bird Life International

Exemplars of Biodiversity Genomics

Mike Braun, Brian Coyle

Warren Johnson, Jesus Maldonado

Support the Red Siskin Recovery Project

- Engaging story and history
- Attractive and charismatic
- Strong societal attachment
- Flagship species for habitat
- Many facets to the project
- Exciting science
- Feasible and economical
- Great existing partners



**Red
Siskin**
Recovery
Project

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Avian Scientific Advisory Group