

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE
MIGRATORY SPECIES INITIATIVE
AND
THE SOCIETY FOR THE CONSERVATION AND STUDY OF CARIBBEAN BIRDS

The Western Hemisphere Migratory Species Initiative (WHMSI) and The Society for the Conservation and Study of Caribbean Birds (SCSCB) enter into this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on the basis of shared interests and a wish to build synergy.

WHMSI serves as a mechanism to promote collaboration for the conservation of migratory species across the entire Western Hemisphere. Whereas WHMSI is concerned with all migratory species that cross international boundaries of the entire Western Hemisphere, SCSCB is concerned with all birds, migratory and resident, that occur within the islands of the Caribbean, including Bermuda, Bahamas, and all islands within the Caribbean basin.

As a regional organization, SCSCB works to increase the ability of Caribbean ornithologists, resource managers, conservation organizations, institutions, and local citizens to conserve the birds of the Caribbean and their habitats through research, education, conservation action and capacity building. Through a network of partners (both government and non-government) and members, SCSCB can assist WHMSI in its efforts to improve conservation of many birds under the mandate of WHMSI by:

- 1) acting as a focal point in the region for WHMSI activities; and
- 2) drawing on SCSCB regional programs, activities, Working Groups, partners and members to assist WHMSI and participate in its activities.

WHMSI can support SCSCB through:

- 1) enhanced engagement with bird conservation organizations in other portions of the hemisphere;
- 2) greater opportunity to influence other hemisphere bird conservation initiatives; and
- 3) greater opportunities to enhance the capacity of local NGOs and governments to implement effective migratory bird and habitat conservation measures, e.g., through training workshops in monitoring, protected areas management, outreach and education, etc.

WHMSI and SCSCB recognize the breadth of each others' mission, respecting those missions in their entirety, while focusing on those portions that overlap. Therefore, WHMSI and SCSCB intend to seek ways to work together more effectively and to build on each others' strengths and thus enhance the effectiveness of both institutions.



Andrew Dobson
President, SCSCB

2 April 2008
Date



Herb Raffaele
Interim Chair WHMSI Steering Committee

2 April 2008
Date