**Any hope for the birds from Atlantic Forest of NE Brazil?**

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The Atlantic Forest is a hotspot, combining high biodiversity levels and a high level of deforestation and degradation. The Pernambuco Centre of Endemism (PCE) was originally distributed in northern São Francisco River, in the states of Paraiba, Alagoas, and Pernambuco. It is today the most endangered Atlantic Forest region and certainly one of the most endangered ecosystems in the world, as only small and isolated forest fragments have remained, comprising about 3% of its original extension. As a consequence, at least 20 endemic taxa are considered threatened and three endemic bird species have been already recognized as extinct recently - *Glaucidium mooreorum* (Pernambuco Pygmy-owl), *Cichlocolaptes mazarbarnetti* (Cryptic Treehunter), and *Philydor novaesi* (Alagoas Foliage-gleaner), and another endemism is considered extinct in wild, *Pauxi mitu* (Alagoas Curassow). On the other hand, this is also the less studied region in the entire Atlantic Forest, with at least four new, undescribed species of birds and two mammals, all of them critically endangered before its scientific recognition. At least 4 bird species count with less than 50 individuals in the whole population, and new extinctions are being expected for the next years. After the recognition of the critical situation of this center of endemism, actions have been implemented as improving the knowledge on the taxonomy and conservation of birds and mammals from the PCE, trough taxonomic reviews using morphology and molecular data to illuminate valid taxa, most of which can be lost before scientific recordings. This knowledge is being applied to propose and to apply practical, immediate conservation management practices, as the captive breeding for critically endangered taxa, the reintroduction of extinct species and restoration, connection and protection of the forest remnants to stop or to minimize this ongoing extinction wave.