



SOUTH RUPUNUNI
CONSERVATION SOCIETY

RANGER-RESEARCHER TRAINING

MARCH 2014

SRCS EXEC TEAM

- Nicholas Fredericks (President)
- Leroy Ignacio (Vice-President)
- Kayla defreitas (Treasurer)
- Erin Earl (Secretary)
- Justin defreitas (Field Executive Officer)
- Asaph Wilson (Specialist Bird Guide)

Non-Executive Trainers:

- Evi Paemelaere (Panthera)

PROJECT DONORS:



Thank You to other contributors:
Vortex Binoculars
Hennessy Hammocks
Garmin GPS
Dadanawa Ranch (training site)
Rupununi Trails

A special thanks goes out to Sand Creek Village for their support on our very first field visit to Shorin Tao! We were successful in capturing, measuring, banding and releasing 3 Red Siskins (1 male and 2 female). We are excited by this news!

NEW SRCS PROJECT BEGINS!

With funding from the Global Environmental Fund's Small Grants Programme in Guyana and the Conservation Leadership Awards, the South Rupununi Conservation Society (SRCS) has completed the first stage of a two year conservation and education project in the South Rupununi.

Over two years, the project will research the rare Red Siskin in its habitat around South Central Rupununi. The aim is that by understanding the bird we will be better able to protect it from habitat loss and exportation.

Research will be combined with education schemes in interested schools, where children will have a chance to learn more about their environment and the part they play in its future.

The first part of the project was to train participants from the 6 villages near known Siskin population sites in all the techniques they will need to study the birds.

This includes use of:

- Binoculars
- Bird and Mammal books
- GPS
- Cameras

- Camera Traps
- Mist Nets
- The equipment needed to safely capture, measure, band and release the birds
- Recording of scientific data

We are excited to report that the training went very well! We are lucky to have these trainees on the team! Thanks to all the participating villages.

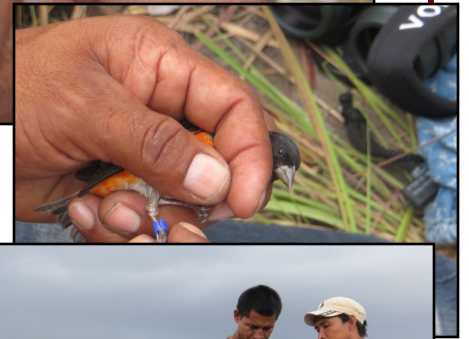


PARTICIPANTS

- Samuel Cyril (Katoonarib)
- Nicholas Cyril (Katoonarib)
- Jenny Wilson (Rupunau)
- Henry Kaitan (Rupunau)
- Ronson Gonsalves (Rupunau)
- Harold S. Isaacs (Potarinau)
- Derek John (Sand Creek)
- Bryan Andrew (Sand Creek)
- Angelbert Johnny (Sawariwau)
- Frank Johnny (Sawariwau)
- Abraham Ignace (Shulinab)
- Maxi Ignace (Shulinab)
- Perpetua Adolph (Shulinab)
- Leon Baird (Dadanawa)
- Richard Peters (Dadanawa)

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Upcoming SRCS work

For the next year and a half, the newly trained researchers will be visiting siskin sites to observe, capture, band, measure and release the birds.

Starting in September, 2014 our education part of the project begins. We will be preparing lessons for school children and interested wildlife clubs.

The endangered Red Siskin, (*Sporagra Cucullata*), is officially protected by the South Rupununi Conservation Society. Its range sites in the South Rupununi are a proposed Important Bird Area (IBA)

Interested people from the area are encouraged to join in the research and learn techniques on the job. There will also be opportunities for school children to participate.



Each lesson will cover an environmental subject: its scientific, English and local names. Along with the traditional and scientific knowledge of the subject. Interested teachers, parents and children feel free to contact us with ideas!