

Bob Reitsma

Research Technician, Migratory Bird Center, Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute
National Zoological Park, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. 202-633-4186

EDUCATION

M.S., Biology/Environmental Science and Public Policy **1999**
George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia

- *Thesis*: The Importance of Cacao Plantations in Maintaining Avian Diversity in Southeastern Costa Rica

Certified Environmental Analyst, Au Sable Institute of Environmental Studies, **1985**
Mancelona, Michigan

B.S., Biology **1984**
Calvin College, Grand Rapids, Michigan

School of Forestry, University of Michigan – Filibert Roth **1983**

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Research Technician and Program Manager, Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center. (2000 to Present)

- Annual implementation and management of national citizen science program with hundreds of participants focused on survival of birds within urban-to-rural landscapes matrices.
- Development of standards based educational materials to promote bird conservation for adults as well as schoolchildren.
- Development of website content.
- Logistical and administrative support for all agency research programming.

Field Technician, Census Methodology Studies, Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, (1999-2000)

- Conducted Breeding Bird Survey routes throughout DC, Maryland, Virginia, and Delaware as part of a double observer pilot study.

Habitat Conservation Consultant, Asociación de Nuevas Alquimicas, Talamanca, Costa Rica. (1999)

- After extensive field work, developed lists of high diversity birding localities for growing ecotourism industry.
- developed preliminary long-term bird monitoring scheme for the region.
- taught courses in Spanish covering basic and advanced field identification of birds for prospective local bird guides.
- consulted with cocoa producers concerning the green marketing of the region's organic cocoa.

Program Manager, Bird Studies in Costa Rican Cocoa-Growing Regions, The Nature Conservancy (1997-1998)

- Supervised research examining avian diversity within chocolate plantations.
- Conducted daily project tasks with Spanish-speaking field staff and local farmers.
- Furnished a variety of technical reports for in-country agencies, NGO's, and local community groups.

Research Technician, Overwintering Habitat Use of Migratory Birds, Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center (1990-1995)

- Conducted field research on use of anthropogenic habitats by migratory and resident birds in Chiapas, Mexico and the Polochic Valley, Guatemala.
- Trained Latin American project personnel.
- Lived and worked within small subsistence farming communities.
- Research led to surge of interest and marketing of Bird-friendly coffee

Research Technician, Long-term Avian Population Studies, Dartmouth College (1988-1990)

- Conducted field research on songbird breeding ecology and population dynamics.

SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

Evans, B. S., **R. Reitsma**, A. H. Hurlbert, and P. P. Marra. 2018. Environmental filtering of avian communities along a rural-to-urban gradient in Greater Washington, D.C., USA. *Ecosphere* 9(11):e02402. 10.1002/ecs2.2402

Evans, B. S., Ryder, T. B., **Reitsma, R.**, Hurlbert, A. H. and Marra, P. Characterizing avian survival along a rural-to-urban land use gradient. *Ecology*. 2015, 96: 1631–1640.

Ryder, T.B., **Reitsma, R.**, Evans, B., and P. Marra. Quantifying avian nest survival along an urbanization gradient using citizen- and scientist-generated data. *Ecological Applications*. 2010, 20: 419-426.

Evans, C., Abrams, E., **Reitsma, R.**, Roux, K., Salmonsén, L., and P. Marra. The Neighborhood Nestwatch Program: Participant outcomes of a citizen-science ecological research project. *Conservation Biology*. 2005, 19(3): 589-594.

Dupuis II, A. P., Marra, P. P., **Reitsma, R.**, Jones, M. J., Louie, K. L., and L. D. Kramer. Serologic evidence for West Nile virus transmission, Puerto Rico and Cuba. *Emerging Infectious Diseases*. 2005, 73(2): 474 – 476.

Reitsma, R., Parrish, J.D., and W. O. McLarney. The role of cacao plantations in maintaining avian diversity in southeastern Costa Rica. *Agroforestry Systems* 2001, 53(2): 185-193.

Greenberg, R., Gonzales, C.E., Bichier, P., and **R. Reitsma**. Nonbreeding habitat selection and foraging behavior of the black-throated green warbler complex in Southeastern Mexico. *Condor*. 2001, 103:31-37.

Parrish, J. D., **Reitsma, R.**, Greenberg, R., McLarney, W., Mack, R., and J. Lynch. Los cacaotales como herramienta para la conservación de la biodiversidad en corredores biológicos y zonas de amortiguamiento. *Agroforestería en las Américas*. 1999, 6(22): 16-19.

Greenberg, R., Bichier, P., Cruz Angón, A., and **R. Reitsma**. Bird populations in shade and coffee plantations in Central Guatemala. *Conservation Biology*. 1997, 11: 1-13.

Greenberg, R., **Reitsma, R.**, and A. Cruz Angón. Interspecific aggression by yellow warblers (*Dendroica petechia*) in a sun coffee plantation. *Condor* 1996, 98: 640-642.