



Identifying sites of global biodiversity conservation importance for the Fiji BSAP

2003-2004 Annual report to the Darwin Initiative



The Long-legged Warbler was rediscovered by this project:
12 pairs were found in 2003, the first records on Viti Levu since 1894

Darwin Initiative for the Survival of Species

Annual Report

1. Darwin Project Information

Project Ref. Number	162/11/022
Project Title	Identifying sites of global biodiversity conservation importance for the Fiji BSAP
Country	Fiji
UK Contractor	BirdLife International
Partner Organisations	BirdLife International Fiji Programme and Institute of Applied Sciences, University of the South Pacific
Darwin Grant Value	£131,064
Start/End dates	August 2002- September 2005
Reporting period (1 Apr 200x to 31 Mar 200y) and report number (1,2,3..)	1 April 2003 – 31 March 2004 2 nd annual report
Project website	Not yet established (summary on http://www.birdlife.org/worldwide/regional/pacific/programme2.html)
Author(s), date	Guy Dutson (editor), Lincoln Fishpool and Vilikesa Masibalavu April 2004.

2. Project Background

The project covers the whole of the Republic of the Fiji Islands in the South Pacific. Fiji has a large number of endemic and threatened species, notably of forest birds. In particular, 11 species of endemic forest birds are classified as Globally Threatened on the IUCN/BirdLife Red List. It is a priority country for biodiversity conservation because of these species, the potential to conserve large areas of remaining forest, and the lack of significant ongoing terrestrial conservation work. Fiji's biodiversity conservation needs are well documented in the BSAP. The project purpose and outputs are designed to address a number of BSAP activities which Fiji would otherwise lack adequate technical skills and resources to achieve.

3. Project Purpose and Outputs

Project Purpose:

National registers identify sites of global importance for biodiversity conservation in Fiji (and other Pacific islands), and advocate site action through NBSAPs and follow-up projects

Project Outputs:

- Technical capacity of national institutions is built
- Biodiversity value and conservation potential of sites of possible importance are researched in field visits
- Sites of global biodiversity importance are identified and communicated
- National awareness is raised
- Resources are mobilised to enable long-term site-based biodiversity conservation

The achievements are presented against these outputs in the log-frame in Annex I. The outputs and the operational plan have not been modified over the last year.

4. Progress

Since the project started in August 2002, the Training and Supervision Coordinator (Guy Dutson) has worked 50% time and the National Project Coordinator (Vilikesa Masibalavu) has worked full-time. The initial National Project Assistant (Betani Salusalu) was replaced by the current Assistant (Timoci Gaunavinaka) during the year. The project has established an office and a clear identity within Fiji and it has made good progress with its initial aims of identifying sites in need of fieldwork, and undertaking biodiversity and community surveys in these sites. Significant new data on Fiji's endemic and threatened birds have been collected. It has also made good progress with raising awareness within communities and with a national technical audience. This has been fed into Fiji's BSAP process.

Progress in the year 2003-2004 has been good but uneven. The project has measured progress against the standard Darwin Outputs, including some indicators specific to this project (notably Number of Sites Visited and Number of Days spent on Fieldwork). The project set quantified targets for these outputs as part of its work-planning process, and these were endorsed by the Project Steering Committee (PSC). As an example, the PSC endorsed the following objectives for the period April-September, presented here as the No. outputs achieved / No. outputs planned for each activity:

No. Sites Visited = 8/6; no. days in the field = 34/30; no. people trained on fieldwork = 27/20; No. days indoor training = 3/8; no. awareness presentations = 6/4; no. media releases in newspapers = 4/4; on radio = 2/3; on TV = 1/3 and no. posters produced = 1/1.

Progress against the log-frame is presented in Annex 1. In the previous feedback, ECTF indicated that it found the log-frame unclear and suggested a revision. The project replied at the time that we (like many other projects in the developing world) found the log-frame helpful for reporting back to donors, but not for in-country implementation. What would be most useful for the project would be to align the log-frame reporting with that of the EC component, which now co-sponsors of the project. The EC log-frame is included as Annex III for your consideration and the project will also make this suggestion separately to the Darwin Initiative secretariat.

Progress against the baseline schedule in the original project document included continuation of earlier outputs through this period, and the following new outputs:

1. Posters / Communication materials – during the year, the project produced a series of national stamps featuring Fiji's threatened birds, an A3 poster on the Long-legged Warbler (digital photo included as Annex VII) and continued using the pre-existing, very suitable posters and books already produced by the BirdLife Affiliate for Fiji (Dr Dick Watling).
2. Newsletter – this is still overdue. Discussions with the target audience indicated that a conventional printed newsletter would not be well-received as many suffer from an overload of reading materials. The project is currently working on how to make an electronic newsletter most appealing, to be produced in 2004.

3. Students trained – all suitable post-graduate students have received two periods of training in the field (and one in the classroom) during the University/BirdLife PABITRA field courses. We are still in discussion with the Biology Dept about providing input to the undergraduate courses.
4. Papers published – only one short note written and published to date (see Table 2) but enough data have been collected to write papers on at least three target bird species.
5. UK press release – a press release on the re-discovery of the Long-legged Warbler was very successful (e.g. in The Times, Guardian, BBC and many other international websites).

Project's achievements: methods

The project methods have remained basically unchanged but have become more efficient as project staff and collaborating organisations learned more exactly what was needed and how best to achieve the results. Fieldwork methods were little-changed but the analysis was improved, notably through the design and use of a spreadsheet to calculate standardised encounter rates. Planning and analysis became more streamlined as the project “finished” (i.e. desk-research, fieldwork and analysis largely completed) the main island of Viti Levu and moved on the second island of Vanua Levu. Having “completed” Viti Levu, the project process is much more comprehensible to all staff, collaborators and advisors. The Project Leader, Dr Lincoln Fishpool, visited Fiji in November to assess the project methods and maintain the scientific rigour to the standard employed by BirdLife International elsewhere. A scientific document detailing the methods for use by this project and other Pacific islands, including lessons learned, is planned for the next reporting year. (The project took final decisions on methodology, finalised the list of sites in Viti Levu, and identified sites of “potential” interest on Vanua Levu during the Project Steering Committee meeting - see Annex II.)

Project's achievements: research

The backbone of the project is the identification of sites of global biodiversity conservation importance. Fiji had very little pre-existing site-based data so this process is centred around the project collecting its own field data. Feedback from within Fiji has indicated that the project has been exceptionally successful in actually getting into the field, thanks largely to the interest and motivation of the project staff. The project spent 100 days in the field at 23 sites during the year. These figures are high in part because of the time spent by three British volunteers, and unlikely to be achieved in the next year. The quality of the data is monitored by the regular participation in the field, and checking of all fieldwork reports by the Training Coordinator and other expatriate professionals. For each site visit, the following data are collected:

- Semi-quantitative assessments of bird species abundance, standardised through a custom-built spreadsheet. Opportunistic notes on other vertebrates. These follow generally accepted best-practice methods for rapid site assessments.
- tape-recordings of bird vocalisations for research and educational purposes. An exhaustive library is being compiled. Opportunistic photography undertaken.
- Socio-political data, including assessments of threats and community attitudes to conservation. These are unstructured and opportunistic, and need to be followed-up before any site-based follow-up work is started.

Data from each site are synthesised into a site report distributed to the key Fijian institutions and a summary Fijian report for the host communities and local government. During the year, all data from the main island of Viti Levu were analysed to create a list and map of “probable” sites of global biodiversity conservation importance. This will be formalised at a national workshop later in the project.

The research highlight of the year was the first sighting of Long-legged Warbler on Viti Levu since 1894 (see section 11 below). As well as the scientific value of these data, there was significant Fijian ownership over the discovery. The project has gathered important new data

on a range of other endemic bird species, which will be synthesised and published in the final year.

Project's achievements: training

The main result is the ongoing success with training project staff and collaborators in fieldwork methods: four Fijians are now fully competent at bird survey techniques, from zero at the project start. These individuals have proven themselves able to undertake fieldwork to international standards of excellence. Training project staff in project management skills has proved more challenging as the staff were chosen for their interest in biodiversity conservation rather than office skills. Significant progress has been made, for instance with planning and reporting, but it is not anticipated that they will be fully competent at these skills by the project end. A major skills-deficiency is the need for first-language quality written English when communicating to donors. The Training Coordinator is addressing this need by commenting and correcting on all written outputs (using the program "Track Changes").

Perhaps the most important contribution to this output was the recruitment of three British volunteers, all professionals taking time off from their careers with RSPB (the BirdLife International Partner in the UK). The project staff are very grateful to Dr Digger Jackson, Dr Sophie Lake and Dr Durwyn Liley for their time and effort, totalling 32 weeks.

Significant difficulties

The difficulties encountered this year were similar to those of last year, and similarly hard to address. There were ongoing problems caused by excessive demands on the Training and Supervision Coordinator's time (only funded 6 months / year). This has hindered the outputs which require technical, scientific or English language expertise, such as media outputs, papers, newsletter, awareness materials and especially training. This was particularly marked this year as so much time was spent securing the EC grant (much more time-consuming than anticipated). From February 2004, this EC grant will be financing a full-time regional project manager and a regional financial / office manager, to be based in the Darwin project office. Once the project administration is handed-over to these managers, the Training and Supervision Coordinator will have much more time to address the outputs listed above.

The other problems are inherent to working in Fiji, caused by the limited experience, skills and resources of collaborative institutions, notably government. The project has adjusted by becoming more aware and more independent, but cannot achieve the volume of outputs that it originally proposed. Accordingly, the targets for some outputs have been reduced in consultation with the Project Steering Committee, although some others have been raised in compensation.

Project design

Refining and starting to use the log-frame for the EC-funded part of the project has enabled the Darwin project to re-assess its design. Little needs to be changed but it is proposed that the reporting structure should be synchronised with that of the EC.

Workplan

The National Project Coordinator and the Project Assistant follow rolling 1-month or 3-month workplans depending on the in-country schedule of the Training and Supervision Coordinator. These workplans are based on a system of 1 or 2 weeks fieldwork then 2 weeks in the office, with occasional extra office weeks scheduled before deadlines, and during training and conferences / meetings. The project has a list of target sites for fieldwork in Vanua Levu, and will re-visit some upland sites in Viti Levu in June-July when the main food-plant of the Red-throated Lorikeet is in flower. (The lorikeet has not been seen for several years and is now the project's main target species, following success with the other target species.) However, these fieldwork plans are often postponed by inclement weather and social problems (especially funerals in the host communities or staff families). Other last-minute opportunities are often taken to join other fieldwork programmes or meetings.

The Training and Supervision Coordinator will be working in Fiji in April 2004 to hand-over supervision roles to the EC project manager, in July-August to work on the outstanding written tasks (e.g. media outputs, papers, newsletter, awareness materials) and will spend

three months in November-March concentrating on formalised training programmes and developing an exit strategy. All visits to Fiji will involve at least one week of dedicated fieldwork training, depending on the team's requests and their perceived needs.

The Darwin Project Manager will be focussing time on maintaining the scientific standards of training and methods manuals for use in both Fiji and other Pacific islands.

The EC Project Manager will be providing ongoing supervision and management for the National Project Coordinator and the Project Assistant and will be coordinating the monitoring and reporting. The EC Finance and Office Manager will be taking over many of the financial and administrative duties.

Provisional workplan for April 2004-March 2005

Month	National Project Coordinator and Assistant	Training and Supervision Coordinator (NB: works 50% time)
April 04	2 weeks work-planning and report-writing, including a monthly outputs report. 2 weeks fieldwork on Vanua Levu	3 weeks work-planning and report-writing. 1 week fieldwork at Natewa.
May	2 weeks analysing results, report-writing, including a monthly outputs report, attending meetings etc. 2 weeks fieldwork on Vanua Levu or Ovalau.	
June	As May but 2 weeks fieldwork on Viti Levu or Ovalau	1 week Pacific Round Table for Nature Conservation. 1 week assessment and planning. 1 week fieldwork on Ovalau or Viti Levu. 6 weeks completing outstanding written tasks (e.g. media outputs, papers, newsletter, awareness materials)
July	As June	
August	Each subsequent month as May but 2 weeks fieldwork on Vanua Levu	
September		
October		3 weeks work-planning and report-writing, including revision of training materials. 2 weeks fieldwork.
November		
December	Aim to finish fieldwork on Vanua Levu by Christmas.	2 months formalising training programmes and developing exit strategy.
January	Plan fieldwork on other islands, notably Kadavu, Taveuni, Lomaiviti, Lau, Rotuma	
February		
March 05		

5. Actions taken in response to previous reviews (if applicable)

The main recommendations made, and our actions to address these are:

1. To motivate and encourage the professional development of local staff, thereby reducing dependency on British counterparts and aiding the exit strategy.

Once the project management and resource-raising needs are completed, the Training and Supervision Coordinator is spending most of his time and effort on building the capacity of our Fijian team. The project collaborators have been asked for their advice and have suggested some possibilities for further directed training. The project needs to have realistic expectations and whilst it is very happy that its staff are by far the best who have shown interest in the jobs, they will need ongoing assistance if they are to lead further projects such as this on their own.

2. More details needed with regards to the reporting of research and training.

The project would be grateful for feedback on the reporting contained in this report.

3. A revised schedule should be produced if it hasn't been already.

The project schedule consists of a summary front-page, the Logical Framework, Expenditure, Target Outputs, Implementation Timetable, and Key Staff Inputs. The project believes that the following do not need further revision after the first revision in 2002: summary front-page, Expenditure and Key staff inputs. The project has suggested a revision for the Logical Framework (above), and hopes that the revised workplan adequately addresses the purpose of the Implementation Timetable. The project has been working on revising its Target Outputs through the process of presenting quantified objectives to the Project Steering Committee. So far objectives have been set for a maximum of 6-month periods. Based on this experience, the project and the Steering Committee have suggested a revised Target Outputs for the remainder of the project, as Annex IV.

4. The logical framework is not logical and some of the actual measurable indicators are inappropriate for the outputs and activities listed.

The project recognises the limitations of its log-frame but felt it to be an academic exercise to re-phrase it for the sake of logical clarity, without changing the meaning of the objectives and activities. There is now the opportunity to re-think the log-frame in parallel to re-designing and starting to use the EC project log-frame, which was based on the original Darwin log-frame and lessons learned from its implementation. The project suggests that both Darwin and EC projects and donors use this revised log-frame and indicators (or a summarised version).

6. Partnerships

The main collaboration is with the Institute of Applied Sciences at the University of the South Pacific. This has gone well. Other collaborations have been forged with all the relevant government departments and non-government organisations and are working well, with the qualification that they rarely have any spare staff capacity to work collaboratively with this project. However the project is ensuring that it is working closely with the Department of the Environment, responsible for the BSAP (see Annex V and VI for their feedback) and the National Trust of Fiji, responsible for inputting the project results into government policy as "Sites of National Significance".

Now that the project has been expanded with EC funds to include three other Pacific island territories, it is collaborating closely with conservation projects in Palau, French Polynesia and New Caledonia. Furthermore, through hosting a partnership meeting in Fiji in November, the project has developed a pivotal role in the BirdLife Pacific Partnership, which has led to close links with projects in the Cooks Islands and Samoa, as well as strengthening links to Australia, New Zealand, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu.

7. Impact and Sustainability

The project has attained a high profile within Fiji through its media releases in newspapers, radio and TV. It has also taken all opportunities to contribute articles to national magazines such as the Fijian Affairs Board magazine “Na Mata” (distributed to all Fijian villages). BirdLife staff have also contributed to most relevant national conferences and meetings. The highest-profile meetings were the project hosting a national BSAP workshop (see Annex VI), presenting a poster at the IUCN World Parks Congress (in South Africa), and hosting the BirdLife Pacific Partnership meeting.

The evidence for an increasing interest in biodiversity conservation is best measured by the number of external enquiries made to the project office, now coming in at a rate of about one a week. Unfortunately, the project staff do not have the time or follow-up opportunities to build on these enquiries as they would wish. They spend time in discussion, share ideas about opportunities for follow-up, and give further reading materials to those visitors showing most interest. Increased capacity within country is best measured by the means-indicators reported elsewhere in this report. A note is made in the Annex I log-frame that the project would benefit from advice on end-indicators for measuring capacity-building.

An ideal project exit strategy would be for the Fijian staff to find funds to continue this type of work themselves. Realistically, the Training and Supervision Coordinator intends to seek funds for the staff to continue in follow-up projects with some ongoing supervision. The project’s success in securing funds for a four-year project from the European Community makes this outcome more likely, especially by providing a regional EC Project Manager who can provide the necessary supervision. A detailed exit strategy will be developed 10 months before the project end.

8. Outputs, Outcomes and Dissemination

As noted in the section above in the section *Project Progress*, several outputs have slipped behind schedule. The main outputs of concern are Posters / Communication materials, Newsletter, Students trained, and Papers published. A number of other outputs are being achieved but at a slower rate than proposed, notably media coverage and training courses.

The two main factors leading to under-achievement or schedule slippage are the large amount of the Training and Supervision Coordinator’s time spent finalising a major grant from the European Community, and the change in Project Assistant. The €1.2 million grant from the EC to consolidate project work in Fiji and to expand the project to three new Pacific island territories (Palau, French Polynesia and New Caledonia) is arguably the best progress to report for the year but has taken much longer than anticipated from the Coordinator’s time. The Training and Supervision Coordinator will now be able to pass over many administrative and management duties to the EC Project Manager, and concentrate on addressing the slipped project outputs. The resignation and replacement of the Project Assistant has slowed progress and necessitated more time being spent on basic staff training. This is not a problem in the larger picture, as the previous Project Assistant is using his project skills in his new job (with the Wildlife Conservation Society South Pacific Program) but has led to fewer Darwin outputs being achieved. A revised outputs schedule has been devised to account for these problems.

The main additional outputs were:

1. Initiation of a new database on Fijian birds, including photos and sound-recordings, aimed at non-technical audiences. Significant project time is being spent on making tape-recordings suitable for this database and as a training tool. This will be circulated at the end of the project as a CD-ROM.
2. Completion of a report on gender issues. This has been discussed with the project staff who are now aware of the issues and the suggested ways forward.

3. Hosting the BirdLife Pacific Partnership meeting in Fiji in November. This was a great opportunity to disseminate the project lessons to interested individuals and NGOs from across the Pacific, and to learn from them.

Dissemination Activities

The project has disseminated its results through the following means, most of which are reported under Table 1 Project Outputs:

- Media releases to newspapers, radio and TV. Target audience = all Fijians (radio interviews are in Fijian to reach the Fijian-speaking audience)
- Articles in national Fijian magazines. Target audience = all Fijian villages
- Presentations and interventions at national conferences and meetings. Target audience = national environmental institutions (government and non-government) and technical staff.
- Presentations and discussions at community and local government meetings. Target audience = land-owning communities and local decision-makers.
- Project Steering Committee meetings and one-to-one meetings. Target audience = key national decision-makers.

The dissemination activities will be continued for a period by the EC-funded project which continues until September 2007. It is unlikely that any Fijian institution will continue this work without specific funding. The need to continue disseminating project results will be considered when devising the project exit strategy in late 2004.

Table 1. Project Outputs (According to Standard Output Measures)

Code No.	Quantity	Description
2	0	The (Fijian) Masters student has completed course work and preliminary field work to assess best methodology for research
5	19 months	(Fijian) project staff receiving direct hands-on training from professional British staff and volunteers
6A 6B	68 people x 1 week	Fieldwork training for staff from National Trust of Fiji, Department of Forests, Ministry of Tourism, USP students and the landowners (all Fijian)
	5 people x 1week	Important Bird Areas training course (participants from Fiji, Palau, French Polynesia and New Caledonia)
	18 people x 1day	Institutions listed above and all US Peace Corps volunteers
7	3	Training / awareness materials = (poster: see Annex VII; project leaflet; stamps of threatened Fijian birds)
8	19 weeks (+32 weeks)	UK staff and professional UK volunteers directly training project staff and other Fijians in-country.
12A	2 (not finalised)	Developing an educational CD and a site-directory on a data-base
12B	6	Databases enhanced for government (BSAP; Ramsar Convention; National Trust Register of SNS) and for other conservation organisations (CEPF; Fiji ecoregion; Alliance for Zero Extinction)
14A	2	Conferences organised: BirdLife Pacific Partnership meeting x 1 week (49 participants). BSAP workshop (45

		participants).
	37	Community presentations organised each with 4 - 50 Fijian participants
14B	9	Conferences attended: (World Parks Congress, Fiji Heritage Trees, CEPF hotspot profile, CITES, WWF Fiji ecoregional planning, Oceans Forum, Mangrove & Climate Change Workshop, Levuka Heritage Conference, BirdLife World Conference)
15A	4	National press releases
15C	1	UK press releases (Long-legged Warbler)
17A	2	Dissemination networks established (press list; reports list)
17B	4	Dissemination networks improved (CEPF; Fiji BSAP; BirdLife Pacific; WCS Pacific Program newsletter)
18A	3	National TV features
19A	4	National radio features
19B	(2)	Two national radio features in USA (National Public Radio) and Canada (Canada BC Radio 1)
23	GBP15,200	Funds raised for project work in Fiji = FJ\$4700 from Conservation International, FJ\$13500 from Wetlands International, FJ\$2350 from Society of Wetland Scientists and FJ\$25000 from DGIS (Dutch Government). Also starting the E1.2million EC project, some to be spent in Fiji, but most for expansion to three other Pacific islands
ALSO	23	Number of sites visited for fieldwork
	100	Number of days on fieldwork research

Table 2: Publications

Type *	Detail	Publishers	Available from	Cost £
(e.g. journals, manual, CDs)	(title, author, year)	(name, city)	(e.g. contact address, website)	
Journal	Dutson and Masibalavu (2003) Darwin project discovers Pink-billed Parrotfinches in Fiji	Oryx 37: 139-140		

Publications have been regularly written for national Fijian magazines (3 issues) and international magazines (e.g. World Birdwatch).

9. Project Expenditure

Table 3: Project expenditure during the reporting period (Defra Financial Year 01 April to 31 March)

Item	Budget	Expenditure	Balance
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Actual expenditure includes estimated figures for March 2004, as these were not yet available at the time this report was produced

10. Monitoring, Evaluation and Lessons

The main method of internal monitoring and evaluation is through the Project Steering Committee (PSC) which includes a review of the quantified objectives and outputs. A PSC meeting was held in January 2004 and the minutes are copied below as Annex II. This year we also wrote an annual report (for the calendar year 2003) – comments and feedback on this report were requested to help us with our monitoring and evaluation. Most of the PSC members sent hand-written comments and the one formal written evaluation is included as Annex V: all were very positive about the content of this report and progress of the project.

The project purpose is “*National registers identify sites of global importance for biodiversity conservation in Fiji (and other Pacific islands), and advocate site action through NBSAPs and follow-up projects*”. The indicators for the national registers are, at this stage, the number of sites that have had full and successful fieldwork visits. The project was exceptionally successful in this regard during the year under review. Data are entered onto a database to facilitate efficient production of registers once all the data are collected. Advocating site action through the BSAP is proving difficult as the Fiji BSAP is currently moribund. The project is regularly talking to the Department of Environment (e.g. a meeting in May 2003) to discuss ways of assisting the NBSAP process. Advocating site action through follow-up projects is scheduled to happen later in the project but we are collecting all the necessary data on community attitudes, threats and opportunities, during fieldwork.

The project is aware that the external monitoring and evaluation undertaken by ECTF / Darwin Initiative is based on Standard Darwin Outputs which do not necessarily provide a good overview of the exact project progress. The project seeks your advice whether it would be better to report against a revised log-frame, as suggested elsewhere in this report.

The most important lessons learned this year were regarding the use of volunteers. The project found its volunteers very useful but these and other institutions’ experiences highlighted the need to choose the correct people. They should be given a written contract or MoU to highlight their cultural responsibilities (our project partner has offered to write a suitable contract). Project staff are now much better able to assess and manage volunteers.

11. OPTIONAL: Outstanding achievements of your project during the reporting period (300-400 words maximum)

■ I agree for ECTF and the Darwin Secretariat to publish the content of this section

The Long-legged Warbler *Trichocichla rufa* was last definitely seen on the main Fijian island of Viti Levu in 1894. In December 2003, this project, as part of a multi-disciplinary biodiversity research team, discovered 12 pairs in a remote forest reserve.

The Long-legged Warbler was known from just four specimens taken in 1890-1894 on Viti Levu, and a second subspecies *T. r. clunei* was discovered on Vanua Levu in 1974. The lack of records has led to concern that this ground-haunting bird had been exterminated by introduced predators, notably rats and mongooses. All ground-nesting birds on Viti Levu (up to 15 species of rails and seabirds) have been extirpated by the Small Indian Mongoose *Herpestes auropunctatus* which was introduced to control rats in sugar-cane plantations. Although previously classified as Critically Endangered, its current IUCN threat status of Data Deficient reflects this possibility that it is just rare and overlooked.

The Long-legged Warbler is an important indicator species and the team were delighted to finally find this species on a field trip to the remote Wabu Forest Reserve. Several Fijian conservation institutions had been organised by the Institute of Applied Sciences at the University of the South Pacific to survey the biodiversity of Wabu, as part of the BirdLife / Darwin Initiative / European Community project to identify areas of international biodiversity conservation importance in Fiji. The first Long-legged Warbler to be seen for 109 years was mobbing a mongoose, and the team later discovered a pair with a fledgling in the area. Although it was encouraging to note successful breeding despite mongoose activity, it was disappointing to note mongooses at this site several kilometres from the nearest (abandoned) logging road. These birds called often and the team tape-recorded several songs and calls. Recognising the songs is the key to surveying this species, and the team soon found more birds, to a total of 12 pairs within 2 km of the campsite.

BirdLife is hoping to work with the Department of Forestry and the local land-owning communities to help ensure the long-term protection of this forest against the threats of logging and mahogany plantations. In Fiji, as in most of the Pacific, sustainable conservation requires strong community support. The interest and commitment of the community members participating in this survey bodes well for the long-term conservation of the bird and the forest.

Annex 1 Report of progress and achievements against Logical Framework for Financial Year: 2003/2004

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2003-Mar 2004	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Goal: To draw on expertise relevant to biodiversity from within the United Kingdom to work with local partners in countries rich in biodiversity but poor in resources to achieve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The conservation of biological diversity, • The sustainable use of its components, and • The fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources 			
<p>Purpose</p> <p>National registers identify sites of global importance for biodiversity conservation in Fiji (and other Pacific islands), and advocate site action through NBSAPs and follow-up projects</p>	<p>No. stakeholders and institutions participating = 37 community presentations and 11 conferences (24 Fijian institutions at BSAP conference; grand total not calculated)</p> <p>No. Pacific nationals trained and No. and type of training = 19 staff-months of training + 68 people x 1 week in field + 18 people x 1 day + 5 Pacific Islanders x 1 week</p> <p>No. hits to website and printed copies of registers = not yet established</p> <p>No. follow-up proposals for site conservation = many discussed; Sovi Basin and Vatu-I-Ra being actively developed.</p>	<p>Good success with participation of stakeholders and institutions (see figures in Table 1).</p> <p>Project website not yet established</p> <p>No proposals developed for site conservation.</p>	<p>Training has been opportunistic but it should be more formalised, especially fieldwork training</p> <p>As the project has now generated significant interesting data and lessons, website establishment will be scheduled for the next year.</p> <p>Site-based conservation proposals are scheduled towards the end of the project – will be scheduled for next year if opportunities arise.</p>

Outputs			
Technical capacity of national institutions is built	No. staff trained = 19 staff-months No. training weeks = 68 trainees x 1 week No. institutions benefiting = direct training for National Trust of Fiji, Department of Forests, Ministry of Tourism, USP students and the landowners; participation in conferences etc for about 30 institutions	The means-indicators show that good progress has been made with capacity-building but it is difficult to assess the impact.	We would appreciate ideas on how to rapidly and unintrusively measure impact of capacity-building (standard before and after assessments are time-consuming for the project and especially for the recipient institution)
Biodiversity value and conservation potential of sites of possible importance are researched in field visits		All priority sites on the main island of Viti Levu are now visited – the project is on target to complete the whole country.	Target sites on Vanua Levu (second-largest island) have been mapped and agreed for 2003-2004.
Sites of global biodiversity importance are identified and communicated	No. literature items archived = not yet counted	All fieldwork visits are followed-up with English and Fijian reports.	To be accessible from website once established in 2003-2004
National awareness is raised	No. stakeholders consulted = 37 presentations with 4 - 50 stakeholders No. person-days fieldwork = 100 days	As with capacity-building, the means-indicators show that good progress has been made with but it is difficult to assess the true impact.	As with capacity-building, we would appreciate any advice on how other small projects measure this.

<p>Resources are mobilised to enable long-term site-based biodiversity conservation</p>	<p>x average 3.5 people No sites visited = 23 No. and type of publications and presentations = <i>Oryx</i> note; local magazines including <i>Air Pacific</i> in-flight magazine, <i>World Birdwatch</i> articles; presentations to communities and national meetings and international conferences No. participants at talks = up to 300 (at BirdLife World Conference) Amount of resources for follow-up proposals = GBP15,200 and E1.2million for co-finance and replication</p>	<p>Major success with EC funding. Also smaller grants from four other donors.</p>	<p>An ongoing activity, now to be shared with the EC project staff.</p>
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Annex II: Minutes of the 3rd Project Steering Committee Meeting

Background discussion paper:

DESIGNATING IMPORTANT BIRD AREAS ON VITI LEVU

Schedule: All IBAs in Fiji should be agreed by the end of the Darwin project: in August 2005.

It is easier to leave designation until the end, to allow sites to be designated in a full national context. But it would be helpful to agree our current recommendations for IBAs on Viti Levu now, so:

- we and our partners can better understand the IBA process
- we have some more definite outputs to show partners and communities
- our work in Vanua Levu can be better targeted.

Process: Data is collected on all potential IBAs. These are then assessed against the IBA criteria by the Fiji team. Conclusions are checked and endorsed by BirdLife in Cambridge.

Problems:

1. Insufficient data – given the financial constraints and the imperative to enact conservation, not just plan it, we have to accept that we will not have as much data as we would like. We have taken a decision to finish fieldwork on Viti Levu on 28 Feb, and the IBA assessment will be made on data available to that date. The problems of inadequate data are that some sites have no data on birds (which we will have to extrapolate from other similar sites) or forest (other than the various forest maps) or socio-political factors. For other sites that we have visited, we have data for only a small proportion of the whole area, and/or rain has reduced the quality of the data.

2. Boundaries

The BSAP list of Sites of National Significance (SNS) did not address the issue of boundaries. But sites are meaningless without them, and we must work to define boundaries. We will use socio-political boundaries as much as biogeographical boundaries. Suggested way forward:

- Tim / Vili research mataqali boundaries and physical/geographic boundaries (ridges, rivers, forest edge etc)
- Tim / Vili also investigate land-use designation including presence and details of any logging or mineral concession
- Tim / Vili recommend actual boundaries for each IBA based on a combination of mataqali / other political boundaries and physical/geographic boundaries
- We meet to agree boundaries. Who else should we involve in this meeting? (NLTB, Land Use, Alifereti Bogiva?)
- Tim documents / data-bases the information on mataqali ownership and other useful data which comes up in his research, ideally capturing all relevant data in the World Bird Data Base

Please advise on the practicalities of this, notably how long it would take, and what short-cuts are acceptable.

3. Political implications

We would welcome the PSC's comments on the political implications of IBA designation. IBAs are non-statutory: there are no legal implications (unlike e.g. Ramsar sites). However, conservation of IBAs will be promoted, for instance through lobbying government departments to refuse or mitigate applications for negative impacting activities e.g. logging and mining. This may have restricting effects on some sites and some communities but if the legal restrictions come from designation as SNS, then IBA designation should not be an additional issue.

4. Other SNS

We must be clear that we are identifying IBAs of international standard, not identifying SNS. We can propose/confirm some SNS based on our fieldwork. We can also use our experience to help designate some other proposed SNS which we have not visited. If it is considered useful, we could designate some of these non-IBAs as sub-regional IBAs – this would allow us to include e.g. seabird nesting islands and Peregrine cliffs. We need to agree a way forward with the National Trust.

2. The proposed IBAs on Viti Levu

Based on Vili's preliminary analysis for our November meeting (see table below), I suggest the following IBAs on Viti Levu:

Probable IBAs

- Sovi Basin. Boundary to follow CI. To include forest of outside slopes of basin (need to check their latest ideas)
- Wabu and Tomaniivi. To include both forest reserves. Check Forest reserve boundaries - is this the best boundary? Does this include enough forest? are there any large areas of unlogged forest not included?
- Monasavu catchment. Need to check boundaries of FEA catchment area. Do we use the FEA boundary or make our own boundary following mataqali or geographic boundaries? Do we extend south across Nadrau plateau?
- Vaturu catchment. Need to check boundaries of PWD catchment area. Need to check if there is significant forest outside this boundary (I think not). Check that this includes Peregrine cliffs. I suggest that we include Vaturu as a site for Friendly G-Doves and a site in the west. But not include Koroyanitu. Check with Dick.
- Savura. Best to include adjacent forest blocks, perhaps as far as Waivaka, not just Savura catchment. Check latest ideas and boundaries from WCS
- Namosi. Difficult to know where we should draw boundaries. Look at logging and mining concessions as well as mataqali boundaries and forest cover. Might combine with Savura/Waivaka.
- Serua/Wainikoroiluva: including Nabukulevu and Nakavika. Very difficult to know where we should draw boundaries. Look at logging and mining concessions as well as mataqali boundaries and forest cover. Might extend a long way north!

Sites of National Significance

- Vili/Tim to draw up a list of all other SNS on Viti Levu
- Consider de-selecting any SNS: Vili/Tim to note any SNS which had very poor results on bird surveys. Must check with other experts in case it's important for other biodiversity or other features.
- Vili/Tim to think of any additional SNS eg seabird sites, Peregrine nest sites

Sites	Red-throated Lorikeet	Pink-billed Parrotfinch	Long-legged Warbler	Black-faced Shrikebill	Others	Priority
Namosi		X		X	X	A
Garrick				X	X	C
Monasavu	X (old)	X	X	X	X	A+
Navai/Wabu	X (old)	X	X	X	X	A+
Sovi	(X?)	X	X	X	X	A+
Laselevu					X	D

Korobaba			X	D
Nabukelevu	X	X	X	A
Naraiyawa	X		X	B
Nakavika	X	X	X	A
Vaturu		X	X	C
Waimanu	X		X	B
ColoiSuva/Savura	X	X	X	A

Annex III: Project logical framework used for European Community, the project co-sponsor

<p>OVERALL OBJECTIVE:</p> <p>Sites of global biodiversity importance are sustainably managed for people and biodiversity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percentage of priority sites with improved sustainable management • Percentage of priority sites incorporated into national CBD (and BSAP) programmes. • Improved or stabilised conservation status of key indicator birds³ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government reports • Site monitoring visits • IUCN global reviews of bird conservation status 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of globally important forest facilitates their sustainable management • Sustainable forest management is feasible • Adequate follow-up resources mobilised
<p>PROJECT PURPOSE:</p> <p>Identification of sites of global importance for biodiversity, and agreement and enablement for sustainable management through an IBA process</p> <p>(involving desk-research across South Pacific, integrated with community fieldwork in four countries – Fiji, Palau, French Polynesia and New Caledonia)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sites of global biodiversity importance are agreed and accepted • Percentage of communities -improving sustainable management • Number of improvements to government and civil society policy and legislation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project reports • Directories published by project • Government reports, e.g. to CBD and BSAP • Copies of other policy documents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Communities maintain support for programme – Governments maintain support – Adequate government stability – Adequate technical capacity can be built
<p>EXPECTED RESULTS 1: Increased awareness</p> <p>Increased national and local awareness of sustainable forest management for benefit of subsistence communities and biodiversity</p> <p>1.1 Raised coverage in national media</p> <p>1.2 Raised awareness amongst participatory government and civil society groups</p> <p>1.3 Raised awareness in provincial and local institutions</p> <p>1.4 Raised awareness in target communities</p> <p>1.5 Raised awareness within all community sectors, especially potentially</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Number of articles in national media (1.1; 1.2; 1.3; 1.6) – Number of presentations given at national level (1.2; 1.3; 1.6) – Number of participants at project presentations (1.2; 1.3; 1.4; 1.5; 1.6) – Number of presentations given at provincial and local level (1.2; 1.4; 1.5; 1.6) – Number of communities participating in awareness programmes (1.4; 1.5; 1.6) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Project reports – Annual reports to governments – Training programme reports – External project reviews 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Awareness methods effective – Other government departments and sections of civil society participate in project – Provincial and local governments supportive – Continuing support from host communities – Participation of all sectors of society is culturally acceptable

<p>disadvantaged groups</p> <p>1.6 Raised awareness of traditional culture and linkage to sustainable forest management</p>			
<p>EXPECTED RESULTS 2: Raised national capacity</p> <p>Technical capacity of governments and civil society built</p> <p>2.1 Staff trained in project management and technical skills</p> <p>2.2 Staff on secondment return skills to government</p> <p>2.3 Other project staff seek subsequent employment in similar work</p> <p>2.4 Representatives from other collaborative parties trained at project workshops</p> <p>2.5 Communities aware of and trained to influence policy-makers</p> <p>2.6 Government revision of legal and policy framework based on community input</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of people trained by project subsequently employed or participating in work promoting sustainable development • Number and composition of people completing training programmes (2.1; 2.4; 2.5) • Number of staff seconded from government (2.2) • Number of other government personnel participating in project (2.2; 2.4) • Number of personnel from other institutions participating in project (2.4) • Number of community participants in project (2.5) • Number of government and NGOs policies reviewed (2.6) • Number of national laws reviewed (2.6) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project reports • External project reviews • Annual reports to governments • Workshop and training course reports • Agreements with other collaborative parties • Training programme reports • National policy review reports • National legal review reports • External government reports, e.g. to CBD, BSAP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sufficient government and NGO capacity for full collaboration • Suitable personnel recruited • Training methods effective • Governments and civil society support policy and legal review • Policies and laws can be amended
<p>EXPECTED RESULTS 3: Regional networks and capacity built</p> <p>Regional capacity for sustainable forest use is built through effective linkages and skills-share between small island nations</p> <p>3.1 Intra-Pacific skills shared at regional workshops and visits</p> <p>3.2 Intra-Pacific linkages built at regional workshops and visits</p> <p>3.3 Networks built between governments and civil society</p> <p>3.4 Technical support supplied from regional base</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of problems solved through discussion in newsletters and e-mail fora • Number and composition of personnel from project and collaborative institutions participating in workshops (3.1; 3.2) • Number, duration and reason for visits (3.1; 3.2) • Number of institutions participating in project (3.2; 3.3) • Number of government, NGO and other personnel participating in project ((3.1; 3.2; 3.3) • Number of questions and problems addressed by regional co-ordinator (3.4) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project reports and newsletters • Workshop reports • Visit reports • Annual reports to governments • External project reviews 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sufficient government and NGO capacity for full collaboration • Suitable personnel recruited • Government and civil society parties collaborate • Personnel successfully complete training programme • Personnel openly discuss problems and solutions

<p>EXPECTED RESULTS 4: Technical fieldwork and reports</p> <p>Sites of global biodiversity importance are researched and communicated</p> <p>4.1 Project staff trained and experienced in ecological research, data management, publication and advocacy</p> <p>4.2 Criteria for identification of sites of global biodiversity importance in Pacific agreed, published and used</p> <p>4.3 Literature collated and archived in-country</p> <p>4.4 Fieldwork at all candidate sites in five countries (Fiji, Palau, French Polynesia, New Caledonia and Samoa)</p> <p>4.5 Community awareness and education at all fieldwork sites</p> <p>4.6 Manuals produced for model fieldwork, data analysis and communication</p> <p>4.7 Desk-research identifying potential sites in all other South Pacific countries.</p> <p>4.8 Results published and communicated, and action advocated</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional and national directories of priority sites produced (4.8) • Number of staff completing training courses (4.1) • Criteria published (4.2) • Number of literature items collated (4.3) • Number of literature items archived in-country (4.3) • Number of person-days spent in field (4.4) • Number of community liaison person-days during fieldwork (4.4; 4.5) • Number of sites visited (4.4) • Number of communities participating in awareness programmes (4.5) • Number of best practice manuals produced (4.6) • Number of reports accessible on world-wide web (4.8) • Number of hits to project reports on www (4.8) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project reports • Training reports • Criteria published • Literature database published and on web • Fieldwork reports • Directories and manuals published and available on web • Distribution list for manuals and directories • Report on project pages on world-wide web 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suitable personnel can be recruited • Criteria can be agreed across nations and cultures • Criteria work • No undue constraints on fieldwork caused by, e.g., weather, law and order, safety • Scientific methods can be communicated to other cultures • Adequate published data for other countries
<p>EXPECTED RESULTS 5: Community action</p> <p>Land-owning communities aware and empowered to implement sustainable land-use policy practices</p> <p>5.1 Raised community awareness of sustainability and global biodiversity importance</p> <p>5.2 Improved access to information and representation of potentially disadvantaged community sectors</p> <p>5.3 Raised awareness of legal rights and procedural channels</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of communities participating in awareness programme (5.1; 5.2) • Number and type of requests for further help (5.2; 5.3) • Number of representations made to government by or on behalf of communities (5.5) • Production of guidance manual (5.7) • Number of spontaneous requests for manual (5.2; 5.7) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project reports • Fieldwork reports • Annual reports to government • External project reviews • Minutes of meetings with governments • Distribution list for manual 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information can be communicated efficiently during fieldwork visits • Inclusion of all sectors of society is culturally acceptable • Communities able to improve sustainable management policies • Communities wish to improve sustainable management policies

<p>5.4 Raised awareness of relationship between traditional law and culture and modern law and guidelines</p> <p>5.5 IBA process represents local views to national and regional decision-making bodies</p> <p>5.6 Communities improves sustainable management policies</p> <p>5.7 Manual produced to guide communities wishing to establish sustainable management policies</p>			
<p>EXPECTED RESULTS 6: Project expansion</p> <p>Resources mobilised to support sustainable-use frameworks in new sites and new countries</p> <p>6.1 Innovative concept and results of project communicated</p> <p>6.2 Communication utilises appropriate media including world-wide web</p> <p>6.3 Project expansion strategy agreed with all collaborative parties, and communicated</p> <p>6.4 New countries wish to participate</p> <p>6.5 Communities wish to further develop sustainable management</p> <p>6.6 Support of donor community</p> <p>6.7 Resources mobilised</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amount of resources mobilised by end of project (6.7) • Number of communications disseminating project conclusions (6.1; 6.2) • Number of hits to project pages on world-wide web (6.2) • Project expansion strategy produced (6.3) • Number of new countries expressing interest in joining project (6.4) • Number of communities keen to further develop sustainable management (6.5) • Number of funding applications submitted (6.6) • Number of other projects and plans using data and recommendations from this project (6.7) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project reports • External project reviews • Project expansion strategy document • Donor pledges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborative parties agreed on expansion strategy • Donor community supports project expansion plans • Resources pledged to enable expansion possibilities

Annex IV: Proposed revised outputs

Code no.	Output description	Target and notes (target = same as original proposal except where noted)
2	No people to attain Masters degree	One
4A	No of undergrad students trained	Average size of Biology undergrad class = 30
4B	No of training weeks provided	Average size of Biology postgrad class = 15
4C	No postgrad students trained	No. weeks training = yet to be decided with USP. The project will not be the sole trainer but contribute to multi-institutional training courses
4D	No of training weeks provided	
5	Number of people to receive at least one year of training	2 staff x 3 years x 50% time. Training of the two technical project staff is included here for the weeks when a British (or other professional) trainer/supervisor is with them in the field or the same office.
6A	No people to receive other forms of education/training	Two categories: training of technical staff from collaborative national institutions, and training of community representatives.
6B	No training weeks to be provided	Technical staff – 5/year x 1 week each Community reps – 20/year x 1 week each
7	No training materials to be produced for use by host country	Original proposal = six Revised proposal = four
8	No weeks to be spent by UK project staff on project work in Fiji	36 weeks Will also report on professional volunteers
11A	No papers to be published in peer reviewed journals	Five
11B	No papers to be published elsewhere	Five
12A	No computer databases established and handed over to the host country	Two to be established (original proposal = one)
12B	No computer databases enhanced and handed over to the host country	Five to be enhanced (original proposal = about 10)
14A	No conferences/workshops to be organised to present findings	About 100 – to include community awareness meetings
14B	No attended at which project findings will be presented	About 30
15A	No national press releases in Fiji	30
15C	No national press releases in UK	Three (original proposal = 5)
16A	No newsletters to be produced	Four (original proposal = 6)
16B	Circulation of newsletter in Fiji	30 (original proposal = 60)
16C	Circulation of newsletter in the UK	20
17A	No dissemination networks to be established	Four (original proposal = 6) = press list; reports list; email list-groups; BirdLife Pacific group
17B	No dissemination networks to be enhanced/	Ten (original proposal = about 15)

	extended	
18A	Number of national TV programmes in Fiji	Ten (original proposal = about 20)
19A	Number of national radio interviews/features in Fiji	Twenty (original proposal = about 100)
19B	No national radio interviews/features in UK	None but some in other developed countries (original proposal = zero)
20	Estimated value (£'s) of physical assets to be handed over to Fiji	Original proposal = £7650 More now scheduled through success with co-finance
23	Value of resources raised from other sources for project work	£120,211 Also aiming to raise significant resources for follow-up projects and extension to new countries

Annex V: Comments from Project Steering Committee on Annual Report



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT

ETA House
2nd Floor Gladstone Road

All correspondence to be addressed to:
The Director of Environment
P.O. Box 2131
Government Buildings
Suva, FJ



TAX. NO. (875) 3312 879
TEL. NO. (870) 3311 699

REF. NO. _____

28th January, 2004

Mr. Vilkesa Masibolavu
Birdlife International – Fiji Programme
11 Ma'afu Street
SUVA

Dear Sir,

Re: Annual Report – 2003

I refer to paragraph 5 of page 7 of the draft Annual Report beginning, "The overall distribution of birds in various categoriesdid not vary much from site to site".

Can this be explained further since it is not clear what is meant by the word distribution: is it

- (i) vertical distribution;
- (ii) horizontal distribution and or both at different structure of the canopy in the case of forest birds;
- (iii) or are you referring only to numbers sighted or recorded irrespective of the birds distribution pattern within the particular habitat.

Please verify. At the end of the sentence, you are saying, "did not vary much from site to site". I interpret this to mean the number of forest birds e.g. 100 was not different from those found in wetlands, also 100 or 98 or 105.

Please also clarify whether this refers to total number of birds recorded or species. Once that is corrected i.e. comparing number of species in the different habitats (forest, wetland, grassland, shrub land, etc); the other

categories mentioned (threatened, introduced) should be cautiously used in the above categorised habitats. For example, verifying number of threatened species in the different habitats or the extend of occurrence of introduced species in those habitats. Will there be any statistical analysis?

However, I must thank your team for the marvellous work you did in 2003 and Government look forward to a fruitful 2004.

Manasa Sovaki
For DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT

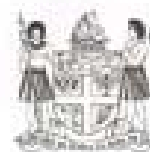
Annex VI: Comments from Dept of Environment on BSAP workshop



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT

FFA HOUSE
3rd Floor Gladstone Road

All correspondence to be addressed to:
The Director of Environment
P.O. Box 2131
Government Buildings
Suva, Fiji



FAX NO. (878) 3312 878
TEL NO. (878) 3311 899

REF. NO. _____

8th May, 2003

Dr Guy Dutson
Birdlife International Fiji Project
Maafu Street
Suva

Dear Sir

BIODIVERSITY WORKSHOP

The Department of Environment appreciate the survey work your team is presently involved in, which augurs well with the Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (BSAP) for Fiji.

My Department also appreciate your organization's willingness to furthering Fiji's BSAP at this crucial stage especially in terms of financial assistance regarding the one (1) day workshop held at the Holiday Inn on 16th April, 2003 where stakeholders presented activities they are currently involved in and any future plan of activities related to BSAP.

Report from that one day workshop will be very useful in assessing the countries effort in conserving and sustainably use Fiji's biological resources since the completion of the BSAP project in Dec. 1999 and will enable government to update the BSAP document before it is published and distributed.

Fiji Government indeed thanks your organization.

Sincerely

for E Nasome
DIRECTOR

Annex VII: Awareness and training poster

FIJI'S 109 YEAR'S FIND

THE FIND

A day for another landmark in history. On 10 November 2005, a team of scientists from BirdLife International and the Department of Forestry and Fisheries of Fiji discovered a new species of bird. It was a small brown bird, about the size of a sparrow, with a long, thin beak. It was found in a forest in the mountains of Viti Levu. The bird was named the Long Legged Warbler. It was the first new species of bird to be discovered in Fiji since 1900. The bird was found by a team of scientists from BirdLife International and the Department of Forestry and Fisheries of Fiji. The bird was named the Long Legged Warbler. It was the first new species of bird to be discovered in Fiji since 1900.

The bird was found in a forest in the mountains of Viti Levu. The bird was named the Long Legged Warbler. It was the first new species of bird to be discovered in Fiji since 1900. The bird was found by a team of scientists from BirdLife International and the Department of Forestry and Fisheries of Fiji. The bird was named the Long Legged Warbler. It was the first new species of bird to be discovered in Fiji since 1900.

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The Long Legged Warbler

photo by Peter Scriver/BirdLife



The BIRDIFER survey group members in the location where the Long Legged Warbler was first found in Viti Levu.



A food source found by BIRDIFER team members in the mountains of the Great Dividing Range.



Pacific Parakeet (JUVEN) being held at Viti Levu by BIRDIFER survey team.



The team behind the Long Legged Warbler: Peter L.A. Schuster, Peter Bay, Steven, Wilson, Peter, Scott, and Thomas.



The Long Legged Warbler found in the forest.



Forest clearing for agriculture in the mountains of Viti Levu.



Pacific parakeet (JUVEN) being held at Viti Levu by BIRDIFER survey team.



Logging and land conversion in the forest.



11 Ma'alu Street, GPO Box 18332, Suva, Fiji Islands
 Tel: (879) 330 1732 Fax: (879) 331 7198
 Email: birdlife@connect.com.fj