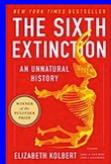
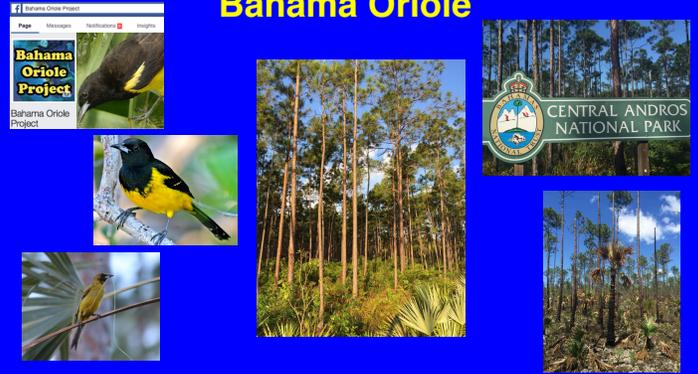


MAKE SURE VIDEOS LOAD
 2nd Half - UMBC Undergrad Video 2
 Daniel Stonko, 2016 Field Crew

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4QubuSYkO50>

Conservation Biology of the Critically Endangered Bahama Oriole



GLOBAL EXTINCTION CRISIS



- especially acute on islands (e.g., Hawaii)
- birds in particular are vulnerable on islands
- ~80 songbirds recently extinct (since 1500)
- >90% of these were ISLAND species!

WHY ISLANDS? small numbers, island forms lose fear of predators, lose wings, introduced predators, etc.

Island species very vulnerable to climate change.
 (e.g., Bahamas very low islands, sea level rise, hurricanes)

CARIBBEAN

- one of 35 "Biodiversity Hotspots"

- 22 threatened songbird species in the Caribbean*
- 8 orioles in Caribbean (genus *Icterus*); all 1 island endemics
- 4 of these listed as threatened/near threatened (IUCN)



Bahama Oriole – Now Restricted to Andros *

ANDROS: 6,000 sq. km.; only 8,000 People; 3 main islands



THREE RECENT CAT 4&5 HURRICANES no baseline data to measure impacts



UMBC Undergrad Video 1
Daniel Stonko, Oriole Behavior

Yearlings – both sexes dull, both sing
Adult – both sexes elaborate, both sing

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qi8ZdO8mHN8>

FOUR MAIN HABITAT TYPES

1) Pine Forest

2) Broadleaf



NATIVE

3) Developed

4) Agriculture



DISTURBED

2016 FIELDWORK

Four UMBC undergrads; two students from Andros



2016 FIELDWORK:

Are orioles nesting in the pine forest far from settlements?
We had seen some orioles deep in the pine forest. **Are they nesting there? YES**



A. Bahamas National Trust researcher found nest in the pine forest IN A PINE TREE!

2016 FIELDWORK:

Are orioles nesting in the pine forest far from settlements?
Do Bahama Orioles use native understory palms? YES



The Journal of
Caribbean Ornithology

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Vol. 53:1-4 (2018)

New documentation of pine forest nesting by the
Critically Endangered Bahama Oriole (*Icterus northropi*)

Daniel C. Stonko, Lebron E. Rolle, Leta S. Smith, Anika L. Campbell, Jennifer L. Cresswell,
Michael G. Rooney, Shannon S. Ware, Shelley Carl Woodhouse, Leslie Drake, Scott S. Johnson,
Kathy E. Orlford

Photo: Scott Roach

Birds of Caribbean

B. UMBC undergrad found 2 pairs nesting in palms

UMBC Undergrad Video 2
Daniel Stonko, 2016 Field Crew

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4QubuSYkO50>

2017 Results – Nest Site Selection

UMBC Alum Briana Yancey – Class of 2019

- measured each nest tree & surrounding vegetation
- also measured random plots 50 meters and 500 meters from nest



- orioles may choose tallest thatch palms for nesting
- orioles prefer nesting in forest with more thatch palms
(first authored manuscript submitted for publication)

NSF - International Research in The Bahamas: Conservation Biology of the Critically Endangered Bahama Oriole

Our fundamental goals in this NSF proposal are:

- increase the diversity of students studying conservation
- train the next generation of global scientists

US students will work in collaborative teams with scientists from UMBC and the Bahamas to study the critically endangered Bahama Oriole.

Student research projects will enable students to develop deep understanding of a range of topics in environmental science related to island ecosystems, extinction and climate change.

Study Site Map

Camera Setup

Camera in Place

Cat 1

Cat 2

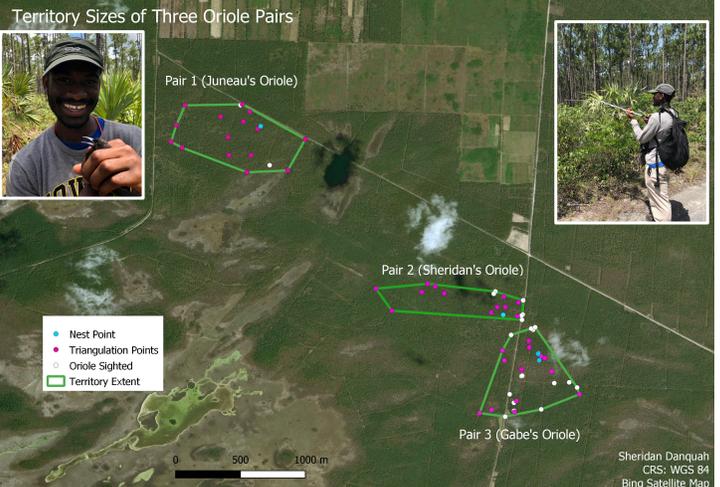
Cat 3

2019 Cat-Cam Results

- Breanna Byrd – GES major, Senior
- ~8 cats in our 7 km² study site.

Cats also reproducing in pine forest!

Territory Mapping – Radio Tracking (Sheridan Danquah, Senior, Biol)



DETAILS:

WHEN? Summer 2019, Summer 2020, Summer 2021

WHO? Anyone interested in ecology, conservation & env. science

WHAT? Exciting fieldwork, early mornings, bugs, radio tracking birds

ALSO? Amazing forests, snorkeling in coral reefs, Bahamian culture

CLASS? Summer after sophomore yr. best, freshmen & juniors too*

APPLICATIONS? Due Feb. 20, 2020. (Thursday 5PM)

*****EMAIL APPLICATIONS TO: iresbahamas@umbc.edu**

Bahama Oriole Project



NOTE – students will have travel expenses covered and be paid a \$4,000 stipend.

FORFAR FIELD STATION – base of operations on Andros

<https://www.intfieldstudies.org/forfar-field-station/>



B. Timeline – Spring Semester: ~5 hours/week prep & planning, Summer on Bahamas: 5 weeks on Andros – May 23 - June 27; Summer back in MD : 5 weeks at UMBC* – July-Aug.

C. Application Information – omlandlab.umbc.edu/ires

PLEASE sign email list if interested. See Drs. Studds, Fagan, Omland

