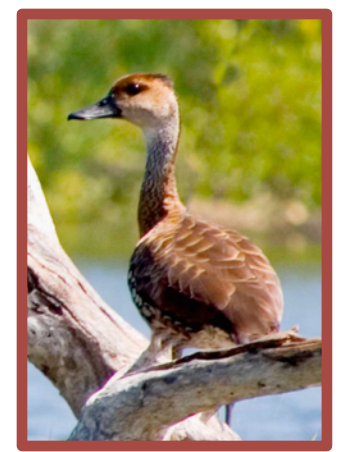


Corridor toward Stewardship of *Dendrocygna arborea*: The Juana Matos Community Initiative (Cataño, Puerto Rico)



About Us

We are a community-based non-governmental organization dedicated to conservation through the development of educational materials about habitat restoration. The initiative also integrates stakeholders drawn from schools, government agencies and the private sector.

Our collaboration

We are interviewing diverse members of the community to establish a recorded memory of the human interactions with the ecosystem. The construction of databases enables social entrepreneurs to add value through specific projects.

Mission

To develop projects that educate stakeholders about human and ecosystem interaction in order to promote stewardship.

Vision

Co-management of natural areas will alleviate environmental stress and achieve restoration of ecosystem services and hopefully, habitats. Community empowerment through learning centers of natural and human history enriches identity with place and leads to replication elsewhere.

Method

The Corridor of the Yaguazo, Inc. is a vehicle for sustainable use in Puerto Rico. To achieve sustainability, natural resources must first be understood in an historic, legal and social context. Carefully constructed educational programs are key. Through activities customized to diverse audiences, the community becomes proactive in charting a better future of natural and human history.



Ongoing Activities

- Conservation of ecosystem services and habitat restoration
- Monitoring of the *Dendrocygna arborea*, an avian species native to Puerto Rico
- Interdisciplinary learning stations
- Development of educational materials
- Training workshops
- Data collection on natural and human history of the locale.



Betzaida Ortiz-Carrión, IGERT Fellow
Environmental Sciences Program
University of Puerto Rico - Río Piedras