



Saving the Caribbean's Amazon Parrots

A Regional Programme for the Study and Conservation of Amazon Parrots Endemic to the Caribbean Islands

Amazon parrots (genus *Amazona*) are frugivorous Neotropical birds that depend heavily on natural tree cavities for nesting. Some populations have been decimated by hurricanes in the past and remain vulnerable to extreme weather events, deforestation and wildlife trafficking. In some countries, these parrots are also persecuted because of the damage they can cause to agricultural crops.

In 2026, Caribaea Initiative launched a pilot project dedicated to the conservation of the Imperial Amazon (*Amazona imperialis*) in Dominica. This Critically Endangered species is estimated to have only 40–80 adult individuals remaining. Supported by the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) until April 2027, the project is implemented in partnership with the local organisation EcoBalance Inc., in collaboration with Dominica's Forestry, Wildlife and Parks Division (FWPD). Its main objectives include improving parrot monitoring and population survey protocols through new methodologies, developing the use of artificial nesting cavities, reducing potential conflicts with farmers, and raising awareness of conservation issues among younger generations.

From 2027 onwards, Caribaea Initiative aims to build on this experience by developing a three-year regional programme dedicated to the study and conservation of Amazon parrots endemic to the Caribbean islands, with a particular emphasis on regional cooperation, local capacity building and knowledge sharing.



Red-necked Amazon



A. ventralis
Hispaniola

VU



A. leucocephala
Cuba

NT



A. imperialis
Dominique

CR



A. versicolor
Ste Lucie

VU



A. agilis
Jamaïque

VU



A. guildingii
St Vincent

VU



A. vittata
Porto Rico

CR



A. arausiaca
Dominique

VU



A. collaria
Jamaïque

EN

There are currently nine species of Amazon parrots endemic to the Caribbean islands. Several are threatened with extinction, including two that are critically endangered.

This new programme aims to expand conservation activities in Dominica to include the Red-necked Amazon (*Amazona arausiaca*), another species endemic to the island and classified as Vulnerable, while also launching a similar project focusing on the Hispaniolan Amazon (*Amazona ventralis*), likewise classified as Vulnerable, in the Dominican Republic.

Given the threats facing these species, particularly the consequences of extreme weather events, developing suitable facilities for the care and rehabilitation of parrots is another important avenue for their conservation. The programme could therefore contribute to establishing or improving specialised centres across different Caribbean islands. These facilities would provide care for injured or weakened birds, support their return to the wild whenever possible, and offer opportunities for scientific research, particularly in behavioural ecology, as well as conservation education. Their locations and operational arrangements would be determined according to local needs, established partnerships and available funding.



The proposed new project focusing on the Hispaniolan Amazon in the Dominican Republic would initially aim to construct and install artificial nesting cavities, establish regular population monitoring using appropriate methods and technologies, and conduct education and awareness campaigns. In the longer term, it would contribute to strengthening local capacities in parrot research and conservation.



Hispaniolan Amazon



Red-necked Amazon



Imperial Amazon

Finally, the regional programme aims to establish a network of stakeholders involved in the study and conservation of Caribbean Amazon parrots, including researchers, naturalists, forest officers, veterinarians and other specialists. This network would facilitate knowledge and experience sharing, the development of joint projects and fundraising efforts. Collaboration could also be developed with conservation stakeholders in Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent, both home to threatened endemic Amazon parrot species.

To encourage these exchanges, Caribaea Initiative aims to promote scientific and technical meetings at the regional level. The programme also seeks to support student research projects (Bachelor's, Master's and PhD), contribute to the technical training of local conservation practitioners, and encourage the collaborative development of education and awareness programmes.

Together, Let's Secure a Future for Caribbean Amazon Parrots!

The conservation of Caribbean Amazon parrots requires long-term efforts combining scientific research, field-based conservation activities and the involvement of local communities.

Your support can help us continue these efforts and develop new initiatives to protect these emblematic species.

Every contribution matters, no matter the amount!

How Can You Support the Programme?

You can make a donation to Caribaea Initiative or Caribaea Initiative (Switzerland), by credit card or bank transfer, depending on the organisation you choose.

To ensure that your contribution is specifically allocated to the Amazon parrot conservation programme, please indicate your preference when making your donation or contact our team.



Donate in France: <https://www.caribaea.org/donation>

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In France, donations to Caribaea Initiative may qualify for a 66% income tax reduction, subject to applicable legal conditions and limits. For example, a €100 donation may cost you only €34 after tax relief!

In Switzerland, donations to Caribaea Initiative (Switzerland) are also tax-deductible, subject to applicable regulations.

For any questions or to discuss making a larger contribution to the programme, please do not hesitate to contact us.