

CANADA

This year the *Canadian World Parrot Trust* continues its funding contributions to the **Cuban Parakeet and Parrot Project** administered by Drs. Rosemarie Gnam and Jim Wiley. The objectives for 1997 are:

a) To determine the Cuban Parakeet and Cuban Parrot's status and distribution in Cuba and the Islade la Juventud,

b) To characterise habitat of the parakeet and parrot, including breeding, feeding and roosting habits;

c) To determine their diet and foraging ecology;

d) To investigate the species' breeding biology;

e) To examine the general ecology of the parakeet and parrot, with emphasis on interactions with competitors, predators, & parasites;

f) To determine causes of the parakeet's decline, from which a strategy for its conservation can be developed;

g) To train local scientists and field staff in techniques used in investigating threatened species.

This is a three-year project and this year they are expanding their efforts to the east-central and easternmost (Oriente province) parts of the main island of Cuba. This also reflects a shift towards more intensive work on the parakeet populations, which are more common in the eastern part of the island.