Protecting the Atlantic Rainforest of Brazil: Stresemann's Bristlefront Reserve Supported by Tropical Forest Forever Fund

The Brazilian Atlantic Forest once covered eastern Brazil from the state of Rio Grande do Norte, south to Porto Alegre, and reaching inland as far as Paraguay. It is now one of the most endangered ecosystems on Earth, having been reduced to less than 8% of its former extent, and in some places having disappeared completely. One of its inhabitants, the Stresemann's Bristlefront is a Critically Endangered species of tapaculo, found only here in the Atlantic Coastal Forest of eastern Brazil. Brazilian NGO Fundacao Biodiversitas and American Bird Conservancy mobilized in 2007 to purchase 1,468 acres to establish the Stresemann's Bristlefront Reserve. However, the forest surrounding the reserve continues to be under extreme pressure from logging and conversion to pasture. In September 2012 GCBO proudly awarded a *Tropical Forest*

Forever Fund grant of \$20,000 to ABC and their partners to purchase an additional 120 acre, high-quality forest tract to help secure the future for this elusive species.

In addition to the Bristlefront, 16 other threatened bird species and eight near threatened species have been documented at Bandeira, including one of the only surviving populations of the stunningly beautiful and Endangered Banded Cotinga (Cotinga



A rare photo of a female © Ciro Albano

maculata). It also contains a population of the Critically Endangered Yellow-breasted Capuchin monkey. Overwintering Nearctic-neotropical migrants include Barn Swallow and Red-eyed Vireo.



Banded Cotinga © Ciro Albano, 2008

This is the 15th land acquisition grant we have awarded via our *Tropical Forest Forever Fund* - see all of the exciting projects on our website.

Learn more about the efforts of Fundacao Biodiversitas here: http://www.biodiversitas.org.br/index.htm

Check it our yourself on GoogleEarth by entering these coordinates in Google Earth:

15 ° 44'42.17"S 40° 29'55.28"W

The red line is the existing Stresemann's Bristlefront Reserve, and the yellow outlines indicate potential tracts for acquisition (including the 120 acre Edvaldo and Brothers tract funded with our TFFF grant).

