

Tropical Forest Forever Fund Soars

The Tropical Forest Forever Fund (TFFF) is a permanent endowment whose proceeds are used to support the purchase and permanent protection of tropical rainforests and cloud forests in Latin America – the winter home of hundreds of our nation’s songbird species. Since TFFF began in 1998 we have awarded grants totaling \$512,476 and worked with partners in 10 different countries to protect 17,045 acres.



Stresemann’s Bristlefront Reserve, ©Biodiversitas

Our latest Tropical Forest Forever Fund grant, made this past December was our third grant to save the dwindling Atlantic forests of Brazil. Partnering with the American Bird Conservancy and Fundação Biodiversitas this acquisition of 958 acres is now part of the Stresemann’s Bristlefront Reserve. The Atlantic Forest stretches along the Brazilian coastline from the state of Rio Grande do Norte south to Rio Grande do Sul, reaching inland as far as Paraguay in the south. Coinciding with dense human development, the Atlantic Forest has been reduced to less than 8% of its former extent, in fragmented patches, and in some places has almost disappeared completely. Amazingly, the Atlantic Forest is still a place where one can see and hear thousands of unusual plants and animals—species uniquely adapted to this ecosystem and found nowhere else on Earth. After being identified as an Alliance for Zero Extinction site The Stresemann’s Bristlefront Reserve was created in 2007 by the Brazilian conservation group Fundação Biodiversitas. This Reserve is the only known site for the Critically Endangered Stresemann’s Bristlefront, where fewer than ten individuals have been found. In the last bird survey of the area, the bird was also observed on an adjacent property –the 958 Leal tract –and the focus of this recent acquisition. In addition to Stresemann’s Bristlefront, the Leal tract also protects twelve vulnerable bird species, sixteen globally threatened species and the remaining population of the Banded Cotinga. This purchase expands the Stresemann’s Bristlefront Reserve to a size of 2,539 acres – GCBO is proud to be in a position to help protect these amazing lands and their rich avifauna.

See the reserve on Google Earth by clicking [here](#)