



VISIT TO THE RED SISKIN  
CONSERVATION CENTER  
TO START THE 2020  
BREEDING SEASON

# EXPERIENCE AT THE SERVICE OF CONSERVATION

By Andrés Mascia  
Photograph taken by Arlene Cardozo

The project carried out by the Smithsonian Conservation and Biology Institute along with Provita for the reintroduction of the Venezuelan endemic species *Carduelis cucullata* is of great importance. Its activity, by means of captive breeding, includes many sectors and people involved in national ornithology. We are all here to help achieve the proposed goals. We know it is not an easy task, but the understanding of breeding and the species adaptation could serve as tools for an effective repopulation.

Governmental entities of surveillance and control must be effective, as their collaboration could help maintain the ecosystems where these wonderful birds inhabit. The experience of decades in captive-breeding work with different exotic and native species, and the knowledge acquired during this time, will serve as input to this project that we are pushing with a lot of faith and enthusiasm for all those people that in one way or another have had extensive experience and development in captive breeding.

We hope that this project, with everyone's help, will benefit this cherished species, which has been labeled as the ornithological ambassador of Venezuela. Let's add ourselves to this "Yes or Yes" success of this project.

**Andrés  
Mascia**

57 years old  
30 years of  
experience

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