



Patuxent Science Meeting 2004 Poster Abstract

Gene-pool loss to the eastern population of the Painted Bunting: the illegal cage-bird trade in South Florida

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The Painted Bunting (*Passerina ciris*) has been declining annually over the past 35 years based upon results of the Breeding Bird Survey. A cursory survey of the illegal trapping of Painted Buntings for a black market cage-bird trade in South Florida indicates that the practice is widespread and out of control. A remedy for this illegal activity is urgently needed.