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Abstracts

## FEATURE ARTICLES

### SOCIAL ORGANIZATION ON LEKS OF THE WIRE-TAILED MANAKIN IN SOUTHERN VENEZUELA

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*Abstract.* I studied the social organization of lekking Wire-tailed Manakins (*Pipra filicauda*) in the Amazonian lowland rainforest of southern Venezuela. Territorial males maintained dispersed territories at lek sites in seasonally flooded forest and were visited by other territorial males, by nonterritorial males, and by immature males. Nonterritorial males became territorial either by establishing a new display area or by inheriting an existent territory. The majority of territorial visitors never engaged in joint displays with territory owners, whereas nonterritorial male visitors attempted displays with the resident bird during more than half of the observed interactions. One-third of the territory owners formed at least periodically close display partnerships with a specific nonterritorial male. Observations during female visits to male pairs and dominant behavior of the resident bird within its territory suggest a hierarchy within display pairs. Dominance relationships, stability in the composition of display pairs, and the possibility for subordinates to inherit a territory indicate that coordinated displays between males may have a cooperative function. However, most female visits were directed to single males, so that joint displays are probably not obligatory for achieving copulations.

*Key words:* coordinated display, dispersed lek, manakins, *Pipra filicauda*, social status.