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Abstracts

SHORT COMMUNICATIONS

LOSS OF HABITAT CONNECTIVITY HINDERS PAIR FORMATION AND JUVENILE DISPERSAL OF CHUCAO TAPACULOS IN CHILEAN RAINFOREST

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Abstract. Loss of connectivity among forest fragments of south-temperate rainforest in Chile reduced mating success of male Chucao Tapaculos (*Scelorchilus rubecula*) and the probability of juvenile dispersal. Of 159 chicks banded in 2000 and 2001, 19 of 91 (21%) in poorly connected fragments stayed in their natal fragments, overall, compared to only 2 of 68 (3%) in well-connected fragments. The frequency of unmated males was consistently higher in poorly connected fragments (12 of 65 males, or 18%) compared to well-connected fragments (1 of 82 males, or 1%). Chucao populations could be maintained most readily in this increasingly agricultural matrix by a network of woodlots with dense understory, connected by wooded corridors.

Key words: Chile, Chucao Tapaculo, connectivity, forest fragmentation, *Scelorchilus rubecula*, south-temperate rainforest.