



# Natural History Society of Jamaica

## *Seminar Series*

### MONITORING OF SEABIRDS ALONG THE GERMAN COAST BY AERIAL SURVEYS



#### **The Speaker:** Mr. Norbert Kempf Hamburg, Germany

A self-employed Biologist based in Hamburg (Germany) whose Master's thesis examined invertebrates in salt marshes along the German coast. His expertise lies in the monitoring of the size of bird populations and the conservation of endangered species. He works for governmental and non-governmental organisations, park authorities, planning agencies and private companies.



The "Wadden Sea", a huge tidal area (about 400 km long and 10–30 km wide) along the shallow North Sea coast of Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands



#### **The Lecture**

Since 1988, Mr. Kempf has been conducting aerial surveys of birds and seals along the coast of the North Sea and the Baltic Sea. In the lecture, the intertidal zone in the southeastern part of the North Sea, the co-called Wadden Sea, will be described alongside two projects, in which aerial surveys played a key role in the monitoring of bird populations. Finally, a computer-based method to count thousands of birds in aerial photos will be demonstrated.

In the Wadden Sea, with up to 6.1 million birds present at the same time, and 10-12 million passing through the region each year, ground-based counts cannot deliver reliable results. The use of aircraft is the only possible strategy to collect data.



Thursday  
Nov 24

Botany Seminar Room 1, UWI Mona  
Dept. of Life Sciences, Block B upstairs

Refreshments @ 5:30 p.m.  
Presentation @ 6:00 p.m.