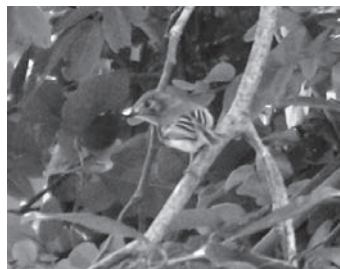
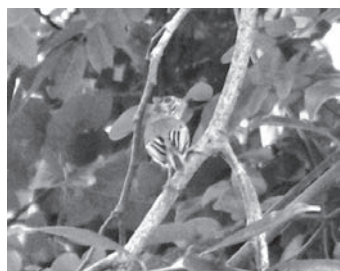


**White-bellied Pygmy Tyrant  
*Myiornis albiventris*, new to  
Ecuador**

White-bellied Pygmy Tyrant  
*Myiornis albiventris* occurs locally on the east slope of the Andes and outlying ridges in Peru and northern Bolivia, where it inhabits the canopy and midstorey of humid upper tropical forest, often in vine tangles, forest edges and treefall gaps<sup>2,5,6</sup>. The northernmost localities in Peru are Cordillera



Figures 1–3. White-bellied Pygmy Tyrant *Myiornis albiventris*, Shaime, prov. Zamora-Chinchipe, Ecuador, 14 December 2010 (Dušan M. Brinkhuizen)

Azul National Park<sup>1,6</sup> and the nearby río Huallaga Valley<sup>6,7</sup> (D. F. Lane pers. comm., www.xeno-canto.org, XC36573).

In December 2010 we visited Yankuam Lodge, in the upper tropical zone of the río Nangaritza Valley, immediately west of Cordillera del Condor, prov. Zamora-Chinchipe, south-east Ecuador<sup>3</sup>. On 14 December we explored a new road to the bank of the río Nangaritza opposite the settlement of Shaime (04°19'S 78°39'W). The recently cut gravel road exited primary into secondary forest near the river, where DMB's attention was drawn to an insect-like call at c.980 m elevation. The series of piping, tinkling trills, *tree' iir' eewr* and *tru' tu' truw*, uttered

in quick succession, apparently by two individuals counter-calling, was sound-recorded (XC94108). Three tiny round-bodied tyrannids in the canopy were detected and appeared to be *Myiornis*; in response to playback of a pre-recorded song of White-bellied Pygmy Tyrant (XC20691) they came closer and were photographed. They had olive-green upperparts, bright yellow fringes to the primaries, secondaries and tertials, two yellow wingbars, a very short tail, grey neck and face sides, large dark ear-coverts spot, buffy eye-ring and lores, prominent dark grey striping on the throat and breast extending to the flanks, otherwise white underparts with unmarked belly, a pink mandible and pink legs (Figs. 1–3). One bird sang in response (XC94107) and was positively identified as White-bellied Pygmy Tyrant<sup>5,6</sup>. The only *Myiornis* known in eastern Ecuador is Short-tailed Pygmy Tyrant *M. ecaudatus*<sup>4</sup>, which differs in its uniform dark grey head with a bold white eye-ring and entirely unmarked underparts (including breast and flanks)<sup>2,5,6</sup>. In Ecuador, Short-tailed Pygmy Tyrant is usually found below 400 m<sup>4</sup> and to our knowledge it has not been recorded from the río Nangaritza (N. Krabbe pers. comm.). White-bellied Pygmy Tyrant has a streaked breast and flanks, and might therefore be confused with Scale-crested Pygmy Tyrant *Lophotriccus pileatus*, which is larger and longer tailed, and has distinct rufous fringes to the crest feathers<sup>2,5,6</sup>.

We have made or know of 11 subsequent records from the area in 2010–13, six documented by photographs or tape-recordings (N. Athanas, S. Woods, I. Campell, P. Cervantes; R. Ahlman, A. Spencer [XC86217]; and DMB unpubl.), indicating the presence of at least seven territories within a c.12 km transect south of Yankuam, with territories north and south of Miazi, at Shaime, and near Heroes del Cóndor at Laberinto de las Mil Ilusiones. Although the area supports extensive primary forest, most birds were observed

in the canopy and midstorey of lightly disturbed edge habitat along roadsides. The above records extend the species' breeding range c.275 km north-west and are the first for Ecuador. Due to its very small size, rather unobtrusive vocalisations and the fact that it often forages high in the canopy, the species has probably been under-recorded and may be more widespread in the eastern Andes and outlying ridges than known.

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**Dušan M. Brinkhuizen**

CP 17-07-9345, Quito, Ecuador.  
E-mail: [d.m.brinkhuizen@gmail.com](mailto:d.m.brinkhuizen@gmail.com).

**Clide Carter**

4 Gillard Road, Simon's Town,  
7975 South Africa. E-mail:  
[candlor@hotmail.com](mailto:candlor@hotmail.com).

**Jane A. Lyons**

CP 17-17-404, Quito, Ecuador.  
E-mail: [jalyons593@gmail.com](mailto:jalyons593@gmail.com).

**Néstor J. Albán**

Galo Plaza Lasso y Julio Salem  
N16-79, Carapungo, Quito,  
Ecuador. E-mail: [njalbanm@hotmail.com](mailto:njalbanm@hotmail.com).

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