

**Large-billed Tern *Phaetusa simplex* west of the Peruvian Andes**

In recent years, many bird species new to Peru and significant range extensions have been obtained in north-west Peru<sup>1,3</sup>. These new data are important to better understand species distributions, biogeographical relations and conservation status. Here we report a new species for the west slope of the Peruvian Andes, from Lambayeque.

In Peru, Large-billed Tern *Phaetusa simplex* is a fairly common resident on Amazonian rivers<sup>5</sup>. In Ecuador it is also found east of the Andes, with a few old records from the western lowlands, in the lower río Guayas drainage<sup>4</sup>, but is now considered very rare there. On 16 January 2012, EP saw four birds at 13h30



Figure 1. Large-billed Tern *Phaetusa simplex*, Humedales de Eten, Lambayeque, Peru, 31 January 2012 (Edevaly Puse-Fernández)

near the mouth of the río Reque, at Humedales de Eten (06°55'15"S 79°52'39"W; 0 m, Fig. 1). On 31 January 2012, one was videotaped at 11h00 at the same spot. These records are the first from the west slope of the Peruvian Andes. The species had not been previously recorded at this site<sup>2</sup>.

*P. simplex* must be a vagrant to the Peruvian coast due to the scarcity of records from a relatively well-surveyed area. It is unknown if these birds originated from western Ecuador or lowland eastern Peru, but given the lack of recent records from the former, they probably came from Amazonian Peru.

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Figure 1. Rufous-necked Puffbird  
*Malacoptila rufa*, prov. Coronel Portillo,  
dpto. Ucayali, south-west Peru, 8  
August 2010 (Juan Molina Vilca)

Figure 2. Pearly Antshrike *Megascictus  
margaritatus*, prov. Coronel Portillo,  
dpto. Ucayali, south-west Peru, 29 July  
2010 (Juan Molina Vilca)