

Short Communications



First record of Arctic Tern *Sterna paradisaea* for Nicaragua

In the New World, Arctic Tern *Sterna paradisaea* breeds from Greenland (c.84°N) and Alaska (71°N) to Cape Cod, Massachusetts (41°N) and California (38°N)^{1,3},

with non-breeders recorded in New York state in summer (May–August)⁶ and Mexico (18°N)^{9,10}. Its annual round-trip of c.40,000 km is mainly pelagic with many individuals wintering at the edge of the Antarctic pack-ice³. The few observations and recoveries

of banded birds indicate two main pelagic routes: south over the eastern Atlantic and Pacific Oceans in autumn, and north in spring over a broader front that includes central regions of both oceans, with an unknown number making long, high-altitude, overland flights^{3,10}. To our knowledge, the following represents the fourth documented record for Central America.

On 23 September 2008, we were training ecotourism guides from Ostional, Nicaragua. Weather conditions ranged from overcast to partially sunny, with intermittent light showers. At 09h10 we saw a mid-sized immature tern on the rocky shoreline near a small fishing village just south-west of the río Ostional mouth (11°06'28.95"N 85°45'42.75"W) (Fig. 1). It was approached to within 2 m. The bird was exhausted; its left wing drooped and it gaped intermittently. After several minutes, the bird stood up, its very short orange legs barely visible. We studied the tern for c.10 minutes before it flew c.10 m away. We approached it again, but did not pressure the bird. After a few minutes, it flew toward the open sea. Its flight was laboured because of the onshore wind and perhaps due to its poor physical condition. Although there were no significant regional storms in the Pacific Ocean for at least four days prior to 23 September 2008 (www.nhc.noaa.gov/2008epac.shtml), at the time heavy rains were observed over Costa Rica, visible in the distance.

Several morphological characters diagnostic in separating *S. paradisaea* from, e.g., Common *S. hirundo*, Roseate *S. dougallii* and Black Terns *Chlidonias niger*, are visible in Figs. 2–3. The bird's conspicuous cap, pale-banded mantle, rectrices, patterned (pale, rather than dark grey) primaries and tertials, suggest a juvenile in



Figure 1. Map showing the location of the Nicaraguan observation of Arctic Tern *Sterna paradisaea*; the large, black circle denotes the río Ostional mouth (11°06'28.95"N 85°45'42.75"W).



Figure 2. First-year Arctic Tern *Sterna paradisaea*, Ostional Bay, Nicaragua, 23 September 2008 (Marvin A. Tórréz)

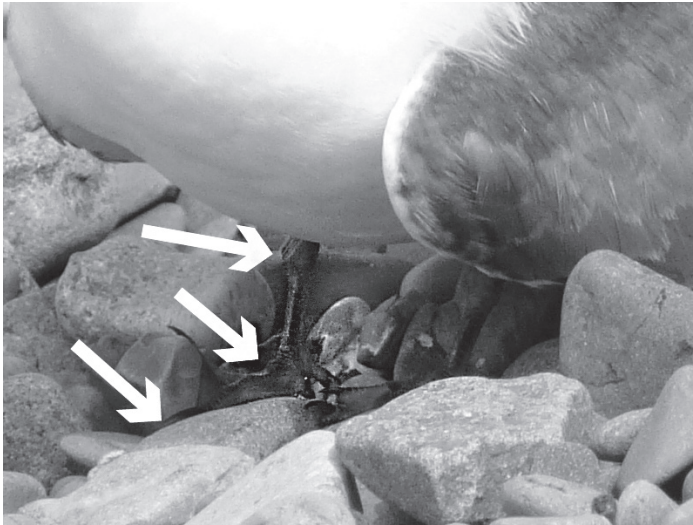


Figure 3. Close-up of the legs of the first-year Arctic Tern *Sterna paradisaea* (Marvin A. Tórréz). The elongated middle toe (lower white arrow) is proportionately longer than the tarsometatarsus (visible between upper and middle white arrows), a characteristic that separates this species from the similarly plumaged Common Tern *S. hirundo*.

moult (D. Dittmann & L. Bevier *in litt.* 2009). Its very long wings and long outer rectrices, which extended well beyond the wingtips (Fig. 2) indicate a *Sterna*; and its short tarsi and clearly visible small tarsometatarsus to the length of middle toe (+ claw) ratio (Fig. 3), short, delicate black bill (Fig. 2) and small head, give it a Black Tern-look, all of which indicate Arctic Tern (S. Cardiff, R. Clapp, D. Dittmann *in litt.* 2009). The bird's mantle was medium grey. A black auricular 'finger' extended onto the face (Fig. 2) and, although the wing-coverts were brown, whereas the flight feathers were grey, the brown carpal bar (Fig. 2) was not as strikingly contrasting as *S. hirundo*. In flight no black margins to the outer rectrices were visible, but the overcast conditions precluded good views of the tail.

There is one published record of Arctic Tern for mainland Central America. On 19 October 1994, a single adult was photographed (VIREO #v06/47/017) at the río Jiboa mouth (13°21'32.40"N 89°02'16.80"W), El Salvador⁴. In Costa Rica, there are published reports from various offshore

locations⁵, including Cocos Island^{2,8}, with an unpublished photographic record by J. Vandergaast from Playa Azul, near Tárcoles (www.angelfire.com/bc/gonebirding/news20.html: accessed 2 January 2012). The species is unknown from Panama's mainland⁷. The only Central American record of *S. paradisaea* within the BIRDNET database (www.nmnh.si.edu/BIRDNET/) is a juvenile female collected by S. Sinclair on 3 November 1987 (Los Angeles County Museum 104230). The emaciated tern was floating on the Pacific Ocean and was being harassed by a Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus* near Cañas Island (08°23'N 78°49'W) in the Pearl archipelago, c.40 km west of Panama.

Movements of young Arctic Terns are poorly documented³ because migration is presumably primarily pelagic, where the species is frequently seen alone or in small, compact groups of <20 individuals (J. Hatch *in litt.* 2009). Although we cannot eliminate the possibility of factors other than adverse climatic conditions in forcing the young tern ashore, e.g., malnutrition, parasites,

disease, etc., apart from appearing physically exhausted, no additional maladies were noted (Fig. 2). It is more likely that the 'beached' juvenile was migrating south when it was blown off course because of heavy rains and strong winds.

With the current pattern of records and contemporary understanding of the species' southbound migration route, this species is not anticipated to occur in Nicaragua on a regular basis. We conclude that Arctic Tern is accidental or at least irregular in Nicaragua and adjacent, offshore waters.

Acknowledgements

The training of Ostional ecotourism guides and our field observations were made possible via a Participating Agency Service Agreement, USAID / Nicaragua and US Forest Service, USAID-PASA No. 524-P-00-00-07-00007-00 awarded to and facilitated through the efforts of Jerry Bauer, USFS-IITF / International Cooperation. We thank Rosa Chevez, Fabio Collado, Karen Lacayo, Lidia Lara, Arellys Martínez, Lucelia Pizarro and Rafaela Vargas for their keen interest in birds. We are grateful to the following for corroborating our initial identification: Donna Dittmann, Steve Cardiff and J. Van Remsen (LSUMZ); James Dean and Roger Clapp (USNM); Louis Bevier, Curtis Marantz, Mark Szantyr and Javier E. Mercado-Vélez. Jorge Paniagua kindly prepared the map.

References

1. Anon. (2011) Bibliography of *Sterna paradisaea* – Pontoppidan, 1763 (Arctic Tern). In: Deomurari, A. N. (compiler) Avian Information System–Indian BioDiversity Information System, v. 1.0. Foundation for Ecological Security, India (accessed 2 January 2012).
2. Dean, R. & Montoya, M. (2005) Ornithological observations from Cocos Island, Costa Rica (April 2005). *Zeledonia* 9: 62–69.

3. Hatch, J. J. (2002) Arctic Tern (*Sterna paradisaea*). In: Poole, A. & Gill, F. (eds.) *The birds of North America*, 707. Philadelphia, PA: The Birds of North America, Inc.
4. Komar, O. (2003) Notes on autumn bird migration in coastal El Salvador. *Orn. Neotrop.* 14: 1–8.
5. May, R. H. (2005) Avistamientos interesantes. *Zeledonia* 9: 59–61.
6. Mitra, S. S. (2009) Regular inshore occurrence of nonbreeding Arctic Terns (*Sterna paradisaea*) during summer on Long Island, New York. *Kingbird* 59: 46–58.
7. Ridgely, R. S. & Gwynne, J. A. (1989) *A guide to the birds of Panama, with Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and Honduras*. Second edn. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
8. Slud, P. (1967) The birds of Cocos Island. *Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist.* 134: 261–296.
9. Villaseñor, J. F. (1993) First documented records of the Arctic Tern on the Pacific coast of Mexico. *Wilson Bull.* 105: 364–365.
10. Villaseñor, J. F. & Phillips A. R. (1994) A new puzzling route of the Arctic Tern and its implications. *Bull. Brit. Orn. Club* 114: 249–258.

Wayne J. Arendt

USDA Forest Service, International Institute of Tropical Forestry, Sabana Research Field Station, HC 2 Box 6205, Luquillo 00773, Puerto Rico. E-mail: waynearendt@mac.com.

Marvin A. Tórriz

USDA Forest Service, International Institute of Tropical Forestry, Sabana Research Field Station, HC 2 Box 6205, Luquillo 00773, Puerto Rico. Current address: Universidad Centroamericana, Rotonda Rubén Darío 150 m al oeste, Apdo. 69, Managua, Nicaragua. E-mail: mtorrez@ns.uca.edu.ni.

Received 22 January 2012; final revision accepted 27 June 2012



Figure 1. Snowy-bellied Hummingbird *Amazilia edward*, Ujarrás, Paraíso, prov. Cartago, Costa Rica, October 2011 (Ernesto M. Carman)

First record of Snowy-bellied Hummingbird *Amazilia edward* on the Caribbean slope of Costa Rica, and another record from the Caribbean slope of Panama

Snowy-bellied Hummingbird is endemic to Costa Rica and Panama⁸, with one record from north-west Colombia¹. In Costa Rica it occurs on the southern Pacific slope^{4,5} possibly blocked by the high mountains of the Cordillera Talamanca, as occurs with other species^{3,5}.

On 27 October 2011 we photographed (Fig. 1) an immature visiting flowers of the cultivated *Sechium edule* (Cucurbitaceae) in Ujarrás, Paraíso, prov. Cartago, 1,036 m (09°83'873"N 83°83'799"W). A bird (we assume the same) was seen there repeatedly until 19 December 2011. To our knowledge, this the first record of *A. edward* on Costa Rica's Caribbean slope.

The Ujarrás Valley receives an important influence from the Pacific due to a low pass in the Cordillera de Talamanca near Casamata, prov. Cartago (EMC unpubl.). Such passes in montane ranges are well recognised as 'gateways' for species dispersal^{2,6} and taxa such as the Snowy-bellied

Hummingbird probably reach the Caribbean slope via this low pass.

We also observed *A. edward* on 13 June 2008 near Catalina, prov. Chiriquí Grande (08°86'298"N 82°17'974"W) on the Caribbean slope of Panama, which supplements two other observations in this area⁷.

References

1. Colorado-Z., G. J. & Pulgarín-R., P. (2003) Snowy-bellied Hummingbird *Saucerrotia edward*, new to Colombia and South America. *Cotinga* 20: 99–101.
2. Craw, D., Burrridge, C. P., Upton, P., Waters, J. M. & Rowe, D. L. (2008) Evolution of biological dispersal corridors through a tectonically active mountain range in New Zealand. *J. Biogeogr.* 35: 1790–1802.
3. Dick, C. W., Roubik, D. W., Gruber, K. & Bermingham, E. (2004) Long distance gene flow and cross-Andean dispersal of lowland rainforest bees (Apidae: Euglossini) revealed by comparative mtDNA phylogeography. *Mol. Ecol.* 13: 3775–3785.
4. Garrigues, R. & Dean, R. (2007) *The birds of Costa Rica, a field guide*. Ithaca,

- NY: Cornell University Press.
- Janzen, D. H. (1967) Why mountain passes are higher in the tropics? *Amer. Natur.* 101: 233–249.
 - McCain, C. (2009) Vertebrate range sizes indicate that mountains may be “higher” in the tropics. *Ecol. Lett.* 12: 550–560.
 - Ridgely, R. S. & Gwynne, J. (1976) *A guide to the birds of Panama*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
 - Stiles, F. G. & Skutch, A. (1989) *A guide to the birds of Costa Rica*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.

Ernesto M. Carman and Herman Venegas

Cerulean Warbler Conservation—C.R., 56-7100, Paraíso, Costa Rica. E-mail: emcarman@gmail.com.

Received 19 October 2012; final revision accepted 28 March 2013

First record of Yellow-bellied Sapsucker *Sphyrapicus varius* from the Andes

On 5 December 2010, KMB & A. Uribe were with a tour group at Río Blanco Ecological Reserve, dpto. Caldas, Colombia, when AU spotted a woodpecker unfamiliar to him. KMB acquired a very brief view just before the bird flew and recognised it as a sapsucker *Sphyrapicus* sp. None of the other tour participants saw the bird well enough to identify it. KMB's view was insufficient to eliminate Red-naped Sapsucker *S. nuchalis*, but that species occurs as far south only as north-west Mexico^{2,11}, so he tentatively identified the bird as the much more likely Yellow-bellied Sapsucker *S. varius*, which winters regularly in small numbers to Panama⁸ and irregularly to the Netherlands Antilles⁷.

On 29 January 2011, AU was accompanying another tour group led by REW & DU when he spotted the bird in the same location. DU obtained photographs as it approached in response to pre-recorded *S. varius* calls



Figure 1. First-winter female Yellow-bellied Sapsucker *Sphyrapicus varius*, Río Blanco Ecological Reserve, dpto. Caldas, Colombia, 29 January 2011 (Daniel Uribe)

(although it did not vocalise) and the bird was confirmed as a first-winter female *S. varius*.

The bird's conspicuous white wing patches unequivocally identify it as a *Sphyrapicus* (Fig. 1). REW's field notes mention whitish head stripes with, especially on the nape, some brownish tones; a moderate amount of dull, poorly defined red on the crown (from the photographs, apparently confined to the forecrown) but none on the nape; a white throat; an incomplete, black chest crescent; extensive, blackish streaking and mottling on the sides; extensive, white laddering on the back, tinged with cream and buff; and barred, white, outer rectrices on an otherwise black tail. The photographs also reveal some yellow on the lower belly.

The poorly defined and incomplete head and breast markings indicate a bird in pre-formative moult, which in *S. varius* is typically completed on the wintering grounds⁶. *S. nuchalis*, in contrast, completes the same moult much earlier⁷ and has red on the nape and throat, and a darker back^{2,6}. In *S. varius*, the lack of red on the throat indicates a female. Females of this species winter further south than males¹¹ and greatly outnumber

males in southern parts of the winter range³.

The site where the bird was found (05°04.643'N 75°26.247'W) is characterised by montane secondary forest at 2,700 m beside a single-track, dirt road and close to cleared pasture and a small settlement. This is typical of the species' winter habitat in southern Central America, which is described as forest edge, light woodland and semi-open habitats, chiefly at 900–3,000 m^{8,10,11}.

The December sighting occurred <2 weeks after the first documented records on the South American mainland^{1,4}. Clearly, an unprecedented number of sapsuckers reached South America that winter. The Río Blanco bird constitutes the first record from the Andes and the southernmost ever.

Although we are unaware of any evidence to suggest higher than usual numbers of *S. varius* elsewhere in winter 2010–11, the species' population is increasing overall, which could lead to more extralimital records. For example, in eastern North America the Breeding Bird Survey shows an estimated 2.6% annual population increase in 1999–2009⁹, which is also reflected in 1999–2010 Christmas Bird Count data from the USA, but not from areas further south⁵.

Acknowledgements

We thank Colombia Birdwatch and Field Guides for organising the tours during which these sightings occurred and Albeiro Uribe for his sharp eyes and dedication to the birds of Río Blanco.

References

- Ginsburg, P. A. (2012) First documented mainland South American record of Yellow-bellied Sapsucker *Sphyrapicus varius*. *Cotinga* 34: 160–161.
- Howell, S. N. G. & Webb, S. (1995) *A guide to the birds of Mexico and northern Central America*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Howell, T. R. (1953) Racial and sexual differences in

- migration in *Sphyrapicus varius*. *Auk* 70: 118–126.
4. Luna, J. C., Ellery, T., Knudsen, K. & McMullan, M. (2011) First confirmed records of Yellow-bellied Sapsucker *Sphyrapicus varius* for Colombia and South America. *Conserv. Colombiana* 15: 29–30.
 5. National Audubon Society (2010) The Christmas Bird Counts historical results. www.christmasbirdcount.org (accessed 25 August 2011).
 6. Pyle, P. (1997) *Identification guide to North American birds*, 1. Bolinas, CA: Slate Creek Press.
 7. Restall, R., Rodner, C. & Lentino, M. (2007) *Birds of northern South America*. New Haven: Yale University Press.
 8. Ridgely, R. S. & Gwynne, J. A. (1989) *A guide to the birds of Panama, with Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and Honduras*. Second edn. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
 9. Sauer, J. R., Hines, J. E., Fallon, J. E., Pardieck, K. L., Ziolkowski, D. J. & Link, W. A. (2011) *The North American breeding bird survey, results and analysis 1966–2009*. Version 3.23.2011. Laurel, MD: USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center.
 10. Stiles, F. G. & Skutch, A. F. (1989) *A guide to the birds of Costa Rica*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.
 11. Winkler, H., Christie, D. A. & Nurney, D. (1995) *Woodpeckers*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin.

Kenneth M. Burton
 PO Box 1038, Arcata, CA 95518,
 USA. E-mail: shrikethree@gmail.com.

Daniel Uribe
 E-mail: daniel@agroecotur.org.

Richard E. Webster
 E-mail: rwebster@vtc.net.

Received 23 June 2012; final
 revision accepted 3 January 2013

Range extension for Rio Negro Gnatcatcher *Poliioptila (guianensis) facilis* in Colombia

Rio Negro Gnatcatcher *P. facilis* is a poorly known, rare and local bird found primarily in southern Venezuela and north-west Brazil. Usually considered a subspecies of Guianan Gnatcatcher *P. guianensis*, recent studies have suggested it might merit species rank given morphological and vocal differences⁹; the split has been accepted by some authorities^{2,8}, but not universally^{5,7}.

The first record of ‘Guianan’ Gnatcatcher *P. guianensis sensu lato* in Colombia was in 1992, when a male was observed in a mixed-species flock at the Serranía de Naquen, dpto. Guainía^{4,6}. The sighting was referred to *P. facilis* on range and the published description did not specifically distinguish the bird from *guianensis*. On 8 January 2012, in *terra firme* forest near the village of Urania, c.6 km east of Mitú, dpto. Vaupés, we observed a pair of *P. facilis* foraging in a mixed-species canopy flock beside a man-made clearing (01°15′54″N 70°10′57″W). They were observed for c.10 minutes through binoculars and a telescope at c.40–50 m range. Identification was straightforward: the birds had a classic gnatcatcher shape and jizz—very small with quite long, narrow tail usually held cocked, and small, slender bill. Head, upperparts, wings and breast uniform, fairly dark bluish-slate, clearly contrasting with white belly. Tail blackish with white outer tail feathers, but precise pattern not noted. Overall appearance somewhat reminiscent of Slate-throated Gnatcatcher *P. schistaceigula*, albeit with paler upperparts. No eye-ring was noted on the bird briefly seen through the telescope. This was initially puzzling, as McMullan *et al.*⁵ stated that an ‘obvious eye-ring’ is a feature of ‘Guianan’ Gnatcatcher. However, an eye-ring is present in some of the *P. guianensis* complex, but not *facilis*⁹. The only possible confusion species in this region of

Colombia, Tropical Gnatcatcher *P. plumbea* has all-white underparts (including the breast) and darker wings contrasting with the mantle, with at least a slight pale wing panel. The birds foraged high in the canopy (20+ m), were very active, often disappeared from view, and seemed to favour bare branches and twigs. Other species present included Orinoco Piculet *Picumnus pumilus*, Pygmy Antwren *Myrmotherula brachyura*, Slender-footed Tyrannulet *Zimmerius gracilipes*, and several tanagers and woodcreepers.

Our record is the second for Colombia, a range extension of c.230 km and the westernmost of the taxon. The record is not entirely unexpected, as Mitú is in the Orinoco-Negro White-sand Forest Endemic Bird Area (EBA 065) and holds most endemics of this region³. Because this gnatcatcher’s range is essentially limited to the EBA, its presence in dpto. Vaupés is unsurprising. Renewed attention from birders and ornithologists has resulted in numerous recent range extensions around Mitú¹, and additional field work will undoubtedly lead to more discoveries.

Acknowledgements

We thank George Wagner and Robert Ulph for companionship in the field, Jesús Ignacio Cárdenas Perilla (‘Nacho’) of the SINCHI institute for logistical support, the Urania community for access to their land, and Thomas Donegan and Guy Kirwan for their helpful comments on the manuscript.

References

1. Athanas, N., Spencer, A. & Davies, I. (2011) Mitú, Colombia. June 7–14. http://antpitta.com/tripreports/Mitu_Colombia_June2011_Athanas.pdf.
2. Atwood, J. & Lerman, S. (2006) Family Poliioptilidae (gnatcatchers). In: del Hoyo, J., Elliott, A. & Christie, D. A. (eds.) *Handbook of the birds of the world*, 11. Barcelona: Lynx Edicions.
3. BirdLife International (2012) Endemic Bird Area factsheet: Orinoco-Negro white-sand

- forest. <http://www.birdlife.org> (accessed 11 March 2012).
4. Kingston, T., Barlow, K., Newman, J., Langley, J., Kaye, P., Cortés, R., Córdoba, M. & Córdoba, G. (1992) Amazon 1992 – final report. Cambridge-RHBNC expedition to Colombia. Unpubl. rep.
 5. McMullan, M., Donegan, T. M. & Quevedo, A. (2010) *Field guide to the birds of Colombia*. Bogotá: Fundación Proaves.
 6. Newman, J. (2008) Sight records of five bird species new to Colombia from Serranía de Naquen, depto. Guainía. *Cotinga* 29: 160–161.
 7. Remsen, J. V., Cadena, C. D., Jaramillo, A., Nores, M., Pacheco, J. F., Pérez-Emán, J., Robbins, M. B., Stiles, F. G., Stotz, D. F. & Zimmer, K. J. (2012) A classification of the bird species of South America (version 14 September 2012). www.museum.lsu.edu/~Remsen/SACCBaseline.html.
 8. Ridgely, R. S. & Tudor, G. (2009) *Birds of South America: passerines*. London, UK: Christopher Helm.
 9. Whitney, B. M. & Alvarez-Alonso, J. (2005) A new species of gnatcatcher from white sand forests of northern Amazonia Peru with revision of the *Polioptila guianensis* complex. *Wilson Bull.* 117: 113–127.

Ottavio Janni

Via G.G. D'Amore 21, 81016
Piedimonte Matese (CE), Italy.
E-mail: coeligena@hotmail.com.

Lieven De Temmerman

Teerlingstraat 8, 2B, 9880
Aalter, Belgium. E-mail:
l.m.j.detemmerman@gmail.com.

Stijn Cooleman

Mosselstraat 9, 8490 Jabbeke,
Belgium. E-mail: stijn.cooleman@gmail.com.

Received 1 October 2012; final
revision accepted 18 March 2013



Figures 1–2. Juvenile Slaty-backed Forest Falcon *Micrastur mirandollei*, Playa de Oro, prov. Esmeraldas, Ecuador, 30 July 2010 (Dušan M. Brinkhuizen)

Slaty-backed Forest Falcon *Micrastur mirandollei* in north-west Ecuador

Slaty-backed Forest Falcon *Micrastur mirandollei* is rarely encountered but widespread in humid lowland forest from Costa Rica south to Brazil^{1,2}. For Ecuador, Ridgely & Greenfield³ noted confirmed records in the Amazonian lowlands and an unconfirmed record from the north-west. Documented reports from western Ecuador known to us are as follows: (1) a tape-recording considered probably of this species made near San Lorenzo, prov. Esmeraldas, on 23 February 1997, by J. Nilsson⁵; (2) a bird tape-recorded at Río Canandé, prov. Esmeraldas, on 12 September 2006, by P. Coopmans & J. Olah (pers. comm.); and (3) a report at Playa de Oro, prov. Esmeraldas, that requires confirmation, by O. Jahn⁴.

On 30 July 2010 we observed a Slaty-backed Forest Falcon at the start of the waterfall trail within the territory of the Playa de Oro community, prov. Esmeraldas, at c.150 m (00°51'N 78°44'W). The bird was calling from within

primary forest characterised by an abundance of large trees reaching heights of c.30–40 m and sparse undergrowth. We sound-recorded it (www.xeno-canto.org; XC92172) and on playback the bird instantly flew towards us but we acquired only brief views. Shortly thereafter, we relocated it perched in a small tree c.4 m above ground. We approached it to c.8 m and obtained photographs (Figs. 1–2). The bird called persistently throughout the observation.

We identified it as a juvenile Slaty-backed Forest Falcon from the literature^{1–3,5}. It was a mid-sized *Micrastur* with uniform dark grey upperparts including face and neck, pale whitish underparts, with a scaly breast pattern of clear dark chevrons formed by dark brown feather fringes; uppertail dark with three narrow whitish bands and a narrow white tip; eye-ring, bill base and legs were yellow. Potential confusion species such as Bicoloured Hawk *Accipiter bicolor*, Semiplumbeous Hawk *Leucopternis semiplumbeus* and three other *Micrastur* spp. known from Playa de Oro⁴ do

not show a combination of scaled breast pattern with uniform grey upperparts^{2,3,5}. The vocalisation was rather plaintive, a rising series of c.10–13 nasal *aah* notes delivered continuously, somewhat reminiscent of Laughing Falcon *Herpetotheres cachinnans*.

Our recording supports the identification as Slaty-backed Forest Falcon. The bird's persistent calling from the lower forest strata suggests that its nest may have been nearby as is known for other juvenile *Micrastur* (U. Valdez pers. comm.).

Our record is the first photographed, and perhaps the first visual observation of Slaty-backed Forest Falcon in western Ecuador. The species is known from the Pacific lowlands of Colombia south to south-west Nariño³, and its occurrence in north-west Ecuador was therefore to be expected⁵.

Acknowledgements

We thank Ursula Valdez, Niels Krabbe, Juan Freile and Guy Kirwan for their help in improving this note.

References

1. Bierregaard, R. O. (1994) Family Falconidae (falcons and caracaras). In: del Hoyo, J., Elliott, A. & Sargatal, J. (eds.) *Handbook of the birds of the world*, 2. Barcelona: Lynx Edicions.
2. Ferguson-Lees, J. & Christie, D. A. (2001) *Raptors of the world*. London, UK: Christopher Helm.
3. Hilty, S. L. & Brown, W. L. (1986) *A guide to the birds of Colombia*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
4. Jahn, O. (2011) *Bird communities of the Ecuadorian Chocó: a case study in conservation*. Bonn. Zool. Beitr. Monogr. 56.
5. Ridgely, R. S. & Greenfield, P. J. (2001) *The birds of Ecuador*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.

Dušan M. Brinkhuizen

Casilla Postal 17-07-9345,
Quito, Ecuador. E-mail:
d.m.brinkhuizen@gmail.com.

Bert de Bruin

Saedalsveien 69, 5099 Bergen,
Norway. E-mail: bedebe@gmail.
com.

Received 2 January 2012; final
revision accepted 26 June 2012

New records of Chilean Flamingo *Phoenicopterus chilensis* and Franklin's Gull *Larus pipixcan* in mainland Ecuador

In February and November 2010, I photographed two waterbirds in north-west Ecuador outside their known ranges: a Franklin's Gull *Larus pipixcan* in prov. Pichincha and a Chilean Flamingo *Phoenicopterus chilensis* in prov. Esmeraldas.

On 3 February 2010, on the access road to Mindo (00°02'56"S 78°46'33"W; 1,280 m), I observed a first-winter Franklin's Gull,

which I digiscoped confirming the following features: rear crown dark brown to blackish contrasting with white nape, white eye-ring striking but incomplete, forehead white and short bill (Fig. 1), while the contrast between the greyish mantle and brownish wings aged the bird^{2,4}.

On 24 November 2010, an adult Chilean Flamingo was at Laguna de la Ciudad (01°06'N 79°07'W; 7 m), a brackish marsh 10 km south-west of La Tola community, prov. Esmeraldas (Fig. 2). The red 'knees' contrasting with bluish tarsi, and pink bill base are diagnostic.

Franklin's Gull is a passage migrant and boreal winter visitor to Ecuador, with few records away from the coast². Chilean Flamingo is a nomadic visitor mainly to south-western coasts, and north to prov. Manabí^{1,2},



Figure 1. Franklin's Gull *Larus pipixcan*, near Mindo, prov. Pichincha, February 2010 (Manuel Sánchez Nivicela)



Figure 2. Chilean Flamingo *Phoenicopterus chilensis*, Laguna de la Ciudad, prov. Esmeraldas, November 2010 (Manuel Sánchez Nivicela)

with a high-Andean record from Limpiopungo Lake, Cotopaxi National Park³. My record of Franklin's Gull is the first for Pichincha, whilst that of Chilean Flamingo is the northernmost in Ecuador, c.390 km from Ecuasal, where large groups occur¹.

Acknowledgements

Thanks to A. Solano-Ugalde, J. Freile, R. Ahlman and E. Guevara, for their comments on the manuscript. M. Lysinger, B. Haase and L. Navarrete confirmed the Franklin's Gull record. The records were made while I was guiding for Neblina Forest Birding & Nature Tours, and Naturetrek.

References

- Haase, B. J. M. (2011) *Aves marinas de Ecuador continental y acuáticas de las piscinas artificiales de Ecuasal*. Guayaquil: Aves&Conservación, Ecuasal C.A., Acta para la Conservación de las Aves Migratorias Neotropicales & Servicio de Vida Silvestre de Canadá.
- Ridgely, R. S. & Greenfield, P. J. (2001) *The birds of Ecuador*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.
- Santander, T., Terán, K., Mueces, T., Lara, A., Llumiquinga, C. & Guevara, E. (2011) Registros inusuales de aves costeras en lagunas Altoandinas de Ecuador. *Cotinga* 33: 105–107.
- Schulenberg, T. S., Stotz, D. F., Lane, D. F., O'Neill, J. P. & Parker, T. A. (2010) *Birds of Peru*. Rev. edn. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Manuel Sánchez Nivicela

Calle Sucre N25-10, Piñas, El Oro, Ecuador. E-mail: clandestine.bird@gmail.com.

Received 20 June 2012; final revision accepted 4 January 2013

First record of Black Tern *Chlidonias niger* for the northern Andes

On 21 December 2010, at 09h00–12h00, I observed a Black Tern *Chlidonias niger* at Laguna de Yambo (01°06'S 78°35'W), prov. Cotopaxi, in the Interandean valley of the central highlands of Ecuador, at 2,550 m. The bird foraged at the south end of the lake, periodically resting on dead trees in the water (Fig. 1).

It was identified as a *Chlidonias* tern by the buoyant, nighthawk-like flight, short black bill and short, slightly notched tail^{2,4,6}. The dark grey mantle, back, rump, tail and upperwing-coverts, blackish shoulder bar, short black legs and head pattern (Fig. 1) are indicative of Black Tern^{2,4,6}. Additional photographs are available on request.

This is the first published record of *C. niger* from the northern Andes^{1,3–5}. *C. niger* is a boreal migrant that winters in South America, but mainly at sea. It is common off the Caribbean and Pacific coasts of Colombia³, but uncommon in Ecuador (mainly prov. Manabí and Guayas)⁴ and Peru⁶, and accidental in Chile and Argentina². It rarely ventures inland, being only occasionally

seen at coastal lagoons or freshwater lakes^{4,6}. Occurrence in the Andes is known from two records in the Peruvian puna, near Cusco, dpto. Cusco⁶: 2–3 on 6 January 2003 at Huacarpay lake by P. O'Donnell, and one on 11 December 2011 at Huaypo lake by A. Durand (*vide* T. S. Schulenberg & G. Engblom *in litt.* 2012). It had never been reported in the highlands of Ecuador and remains to be recorded away from the coast in Colombia^{1,4,5}.

References

- Fjeldså, J. & Krabbe, N. (1990) *Birds of the high Andes*. Copenhagen: Zool. Mus., Univ. of Copenhagen & Svendborg: Apollo Books.
- Gochfeld, M. & Burger, M. (1996) Family Sternidae (terns). In: del Hoyo, J., Elliott, A. & Sargatal, J. (eds.) *Handbook of the birds of the world*, 3. Barcelona: Lynx Edicions.
- Restall, R., Rodner, C. & Lentino, M. (2006) *Birds of northern South America*. London, UK: Christopher Helm.
- Ridgely, R. S. & Greenfield, P. J. (2001) *The birds of*



Figure 1. Black Tern *Chlidonias niger*, Laguna de Yambo, prov. Cotopaxi, Ecuador, December 2010 (P.-Y. Henry)

Ecuador. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.

5. Salaman, P. G. W., Donegan, T. & Caro, D. (2009) Listado de aves de Colombia. *Conserv. Colombiana* 8: 1–89.
6. Schulenberg, T. S., Stotz, D. F., Lane, D. F., O'Neill, J. P. & Parker, T. A. (2007) *Birds of Peru*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Pierre-Yves Henry

Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, 1 avenue du Petit Château, F-91800 Brunoy, France.
E-mail: henry@mnhn.fr.

Received 27 March 2012; final revision accepted 2 August 2012

The nest, eggs and nestlings of Grey-chinned Hermit

Phaethornis griseogularis

Phaethornis is one of the largest genera of hummingbirds, with 26 species distributed throughout tropical America⁶. The nests and general breeding biology for most species have been studied, and the genus is well known for its lekking behaviour⁶. The reproduction of Grey-chinned Hermit *Phaethornis griseogularis*, however, is almost completely unstudied. The species ranges from Colombia and Venezuela to northern Peru, at elevations of 600–2,000 m^{5,6}. Based on the distributions given by Schuchmann⁶ and Ridgely & Greenfield⁵, the nest we studied

belonged to *P. g. porcellae*, which taxon is restricted to the Tumbesian region of south-west Ecuador and north-west Peru. Gould², in the plate accompanying his discussion of this species, figured two nests, drawn from examples in his own collection. Although Gould² provided no further details or locality data for these nests, they are figured with the nominate subspecies, and thus probably belong to *P. g. griseogularis*. Thus, although the nest of Grey-chinned Hermit has previously been illustrated, this is the first formal description.

On 10 February 2010 we found a nest of *P. griseogularis* at the Jorupe Reserve, near Macará,



Figure 1. Eggs of Grey-chinned Hermit *Phaethornis griseogularis porcellae*, prov. Loja, Ecuador, 10 February 2010 (Harold F. Greeney)

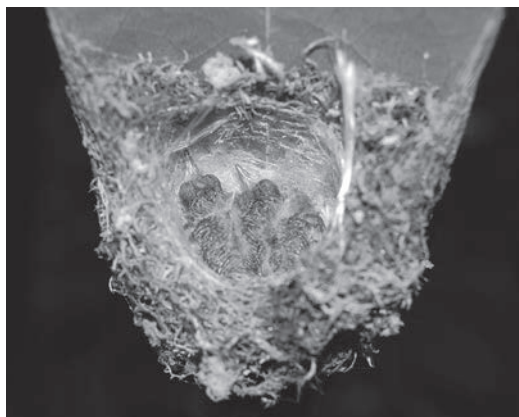


Figure 2. Nestlings of Grey-chinned Hermit *Phaethornis griseogularis porcellae* five and six days old, prov. Loja, Ecuador, 19 February 2010 (Harold F. Greeney)



Figure 3. Adult Grey-chinned Hermit *Phaethornis griseogularis porcellae* incubating two eggs, prov. Loja, Ecuador, 12 February 2010 (Harold F. Greeney)

prov. Loja, south-west Ecuador (04°23'S 79°57'W; 600 m). At 08h45 we flushed an adult from a nest which contained two immaculate white eggs (Fig. 1) that measured 12.27 × 8.05 mm and 12.15 × 7.95 mm, and weighed 0.40 and 0.39 g, respectively. At 16h00 on 13 February, the second egg described above had hatched, but we were unable to detect any pips in the shell of the other egg. The single nestling weighed 0.37 g, indicating that it had hatched only shortly before our arrival. It was pink-skinned, darker dorsally, and bore 11 pairs of beige-coloured natal plumes on its back. At 06h45 the following morning the other egg remained unhatched, but on our return that day at 14h00 the nest contained two nestlings. At this time the newly hatched nestling weighed 0.37 g and the one which was now one day old 0.48 g. We weighed them only once more, on 17 February at 06h45. While we were unable to identify the nestlings individually, one was significantly heavier (0.86 g), and we presume the other (0.65 g) to have been the younger sibling. By six days of age the nestlings were porcupine-like, with contour feather pins emerged from the skin (Fig. 2). These pin feathers began breaking their sheaths by day seven or eight, and the nestlings appeared well feathered by day 17 or 18. The nest was visited every two days and, on 6 March at 08h40, it still contained two nestlings that appeared very close to fledging. On 7 March, at 15h00, one nestling had left the nest, but we were unable to locate it. The second nestling remained at 08h30 the following day, but was gone by 12h00 on 9 March. Thus, hatching occurred c.24 hours apart and the nestlings fledged at least 24 hours apart, possibly even closer to 48 hours. These observations provide a nestling period of 21–23 days for *P. griseogularis*, similar to that reported for other small *Phaethornis*^{3,6–8}.

In typical hermit style, the nest was attached to the underside of a leaf, 1.3 m above the ground (Fig. 3), at the bottom of a small riparian area. The leaf belonged to

an unknown species of Lauraceae, and measured c.28 cm long by 6.5 cm wide (max. dimensions). The nest comprised a complex mix of small bark pieces, seed down, small dried flower inflorescences and (predominantly) green moss. It was bound together and attached to the leaf with copious spider webs, and had a sparse inner lining of soft white seed down (Fig. 1). The front rim (furthest from the leaf) was c.1 cm lower than the portion attached to the leaf. Internally the cup measured 28 mm wide by 24 mm deep at the shallowest point. Externally the nest was 47 mm wide by 38 mm front to back (perpendicular to the axis of the leaf blade). From the back rim of the nest (against the leaf) to the tip of the leaf it measured 49 mm, and 32 mm from the front rim. The nest had a well-formed 'tail' of material dangling below the leaf, which extended 11 cm, with an additional 4 cm of sparse scraps below this.

Unsurprisingly, the nests illustrated by Gould² appear very similar to the nest described here, including having the appearance of being composed, at least externally, of moss and seed down. Similarly, the nest of *P. griseogularis* closely resembles, in form and attachment, those of other *Phaethornis*⁶, including two well-studied species thought to be closely related; Stripe-throated *P. striigularis*^{4,7,8} and Reddish Hermits *P. ruber*^{1,3}. The other two presumed relatives of *P. griseogularis*, Black-throated Hermit *P. atrimentalis* and White-browed Hermit *P. stuarti* still lack published descriptions of their nests.

Acknowledgements

We thank Field Guides Inc., John V. & the late Ruth Ann Moore, Matt Kaplan, Tim Metz, the PBNHS, Population Biology Foundation and Tom Walla for supporting HFG's field work. Members of Jocotoco Foundation and staff at Jorupe Reserve, in particular Leonidas E. Cabrera, were instrumental in completing this study. We thank Juan Freile and an anonymous reviewer for improvements to the manuscript.

References

1. Davis, T. A. W. (1958) The displays and nests of three forest hummingbirds. *Ibis* 100: 31–39.
2. Gould, J. (1861) *A monograph of the Trochilidae*, 1. London, UK: Taylor & Francis.
3. Oniki, Y. (1970) Nesting behavior of Reddish Hermits (*Phaethornis ruber*) and occurrence of wasp cells in nests. *Auk* 87: 720–728.
4. Peck, M. E. (1910) The effect of natural enemies on the nesting habits of some British Honduras birds. *Condor* 12: 53–60.
5. Ridgely, R. S. & Greenfield, P. J. (2001) *The birds of Ecuador*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.
6. Schuchmann, K. -L. (1999) Family Trochilidae (hummingbirds). In: del Hoyo, J., Elliott, A. & Sargatal, J. (eds.) *Handbook of the birds of the world*, 5. Barcelona: Lynx Edicions.
7. Skutch, A. F. (1951) Life history of Longuemare's Hermit hummingbird. *Ibis* 93: 180–195.
8. Skutch, A. F. (1964) Life histories of hermit hummingbirds. *Auk* 81: 5–25.

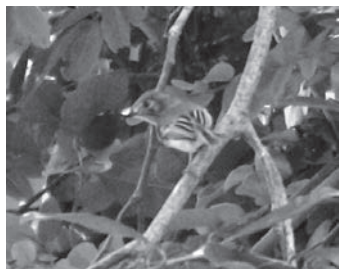
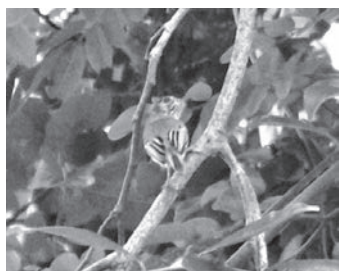
Harold F. Greeney, Isaac Lichter-Marck and Eli Lichter-Marck

Yanayacu Biological Station & Center for Creative Studies, Cosanga, Napo, Ecuador; c/o 721 Foch & Amazonas, Quito, Ecuador. E-mail: revmmoss@yahoo.com.

Received 10 October 2011; final revision accepted 11 August 2012

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^{2,5,6}. 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^{1,6} and the nearby río Huallaga Valley^{6,7} (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 Ecuador³. 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 tertiaries, 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^{5,6}. The only *Myiornis* known in eastern Ecuador is Short-tailed Pygmy Tyrant *M. ecaudatus*⁴, which differs in its uniform dark grey head with a bold white eye-ring and entirely unmarked underparts (including breast and flanks)^{2,5,6}. In Ecuador, Short-tailed Pygmy Tyrant is usually found below 400 m⁴ 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^{2,5,6}.

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.

Acknowledgements

We thank Roger Ahlman, Nick Athanas, Mitch Lysinger, Byron Palacios, Forrest Rowland and Andrew Spencer for sharing their observations, Dan Lane for information on the species' distribution in northern Peru, Niels Krabbe for sharing his bird records from the río Nangaritza, and Juan Freile, Krabbe and Guy Kirwan for their comments on the manuscript.

References

1. Alverson, W. S., Rodríguez, L. O. & Moskovits, D. K. (eds.) (2001) *Perú: Biabo Cordillera Azul*. Rapid Biological Inventories Rep. 2. Chicago: Field Museum of Natural History.
2. Fitzpatrick, J. W. (2004) Family Tyrannidae (tyrant-flycatchers). In: del Hoyo, J., Elliott, A. & Christie, D. A. (eds.) *Handbook of the birds of the world*, 9. Barcelona: Lynx Edicions.
3. Krabbe, N. & Ahlman, F. L. (2009) Royal Sunangel *Heliangelus regalis* at Yankuam Lodge, Ecuador. *Cotinga* 31: 69.
4. Ridgely, R. S. & Greenfield, P. J. (2001) *The birds of Ecuador*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.
5. Ridgely, R. S. & Tudor, G. (2009) *Field guide to the songbirds of South America*. Austin: University of Texas Press.
6. Schulenberg, T. S., Stotz, D. F., Lane, D. F., O'Neill, J. P. & Parker, T. A. (2007) *Birds of Peru*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

7. Valqui, T. (2004) *Where to watch birds in Peru*. Lima: Grafica Nañez S.A.

Dušan M. Brinkhuizen

CP 17-07-9345, Quito, Ecuador.
E-mail: d.m.brinkhuizen@gmail.com.

Clide Carter

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

Jane A. Lyons

CP 17-17-404, Quito, Ecuador.
E-mail: jalyons593@gmail.com.

Néstor J. Albán

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

Received 17 February 2012; final
revision accepted 3 March 2013

Northern Shoveler *Anas clypeata*, a new species for the Galápagos Islands, Ecuador

Northern Shoveler *Anas clypeata* breeds across much of the northern Holarctic and, in the Western Hemisphere, winters in southern North America, the West Indies, Central America and north-west South America^{2,5,6}. In mainland Ecuador there were six records in 1988–2012, in prov. Santa Elena and Manabí (Table 1).

On 22 October 2011, PF and a group of tourists photographed an unusual bird, apparently healthy judging by its behaviour and fresh plumage, at Punta Moreno lagoon (00°43'6.24"S 90°20'21.41"W), Isabela Island, Galápagos, Ecuador. It had a long,



Figure 1. Northern Shoveler *Anas clypeata*, Punta Moreno lagoon, Isabela Island, Galápagos, Ecuador, 22 October 2011 (Peter Freire)

broad spatula-like, orange bill with blackish culmen, reddish-orange legs and brownish-mottled body (with darker upperparts). PF identified it as a Northern Shoveler and the photographs (Fig. 1) subsequently permitted GJU to confirm the identification and to establish that the bird was an adult female.

This is the first record of Northern Shoveler in the Galápagos and brings the number of bird species recorded in the archipelago (including vagrants and introductions)^{3,4,7} to 156. Northern Shoveler must be considered a vagrant to the archipelago.

Acknowledgements

We thank the Galápagos National Park Service, the Charles Darwin Foundation, the staff of the

Domenica and the Field Guides group. Christine Nelson Gallardo commented on an early version of the manuscript, while Juan Freile, Hernán Vargas, Ben Haase and Tatiana Santander provided information and comments. This is contribution no. 2050 of the Charles Darwin Foundation for the Galápagos Islands.

References

1. Freile, J. F. (2008) New distributional records of birds from western Ecuador, and comments on the avifauna of Isla de la Plata. *Bull. Brit. Orn. Club* 128: 233–241.
2. Haase, B. J. M. (2011) *Aves marinas de Ecuador continental y acuáticas de las piscinas artificiales de Ecuasal*. Guayaquil:

Table 1. Northern Shoveler *Anas clypeata* records from mainland Ecuador.

Date	Location			No. of individuals	Observers
	Lagoon	Sector	Province		
29 Feb 1988	Ecuasal	Mar Bravo	Santa Elena	one male, one female	P. Shepherd, A. Marshall ^{1,2,6}
20 Jan 2007		Pacoa		one male	R. S. Ridgely, B. Haase, F. Sornoza, R. Quinn ^{1,2}
3 Mar 2007		La Segua	Manabí	one male	J. F. Freile ¹
Jan 2008				seven	F. Sornoza ²
21 Feb 2010	Ecuasal	Pacoa	Santa Elena	one male	B. Haase ²
Jan–May 2012				15	B. Haase (pers. comm.)

- Aves & Conservation & Ecuasal C.A.
- Jiménez-Uzcátegui, G., Milstead, B., Márquez, C., Zabala, J., Buitrón, P., Llerena, A., Salazar, S. & Fessl, B. (2007) Galápagos vertebrates: endangered status and conservation actions. In: *Galápagos Report 2006–2007*. Puerto Ayora: Charles Darwin Foundation, Galápagos National Park Service & Galápagos National Institute.
 - Jiménez-Uzcátegui, G., Wiedenfeld, D. A., Vargas, F. H., & Snell, H. L. (2012) CDF Checklist of Galápagos birds. Puerto Ayora: Charles Darwin Foundation. <http://checklists.datazone.darwinfoundation.org/vertebrates/aves/> (accessed 8 July 2012).
 - Meyer de Schauensee, R. (1966) *The species of birds of South America and their distribution*. Narberth, PA: Academy of Natural Sciences Philadelphia.
 - Ridgely, R. S. & Greenfield, P. J. (2001) *The birds of Ecuador*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.
 - Wiedenfeld, D. A. (2006) Aves, the Galapagos Islands, Ecuador. *Checklist 2*: 1–27.

Gustavo Jiménez-Uzcátegui
Charles Darwin Research Station,
Puerto Ayora, Galápagos, Ecuador.
E-mail: gustavo.jimenez@cdarwin.org.ec.

Peter Freire
Puerto Ayora, Galápagos, Ecuador.
E-mail: killerwhale2000pf@yahoo.com.

Received 9 March 2012; final revision accepted 14 August 2012

First record of Andean Teal *Anas andium* in Lambayeque, Peru

At Tinajones Reservoir (06°37'48"S 79°26'04"W; 190 m), Lambayeque region, north-west Peru, on 10 January 2012, we noticed a mid-sized, dark-billed and dark-headed duck in flight. When it landed, we identified it as an



Figure 1. Andean Teal *Anas andium*, Tinajones Reservoir, Lambayeque, Peru, 10 January 2012 (Robert S. R. Williams)

Andean Teal *Anas andium* (Fig. 1). The bird fed at a vegetated margin of the reservoir with c.1,000 Slate-coloured Coots *Fulica ardesiaca* and several hundred ducks, mainly Cinnamon *A. cyanoptera* and Blue-winged Teals *A. discors* and White-cheeked Pintails *A. bahamensis*. Andean Teal is resident at high-altitude wetlands from Venezuela to southern Ecuador and northernmost Peru, where it was first found in northern Cajamarca and Piura in 2003¹. Our record is the first in Lambayeque, the southernmost ever, and possibly the lowest altitude on record for the species.

Acknowledgements

Manuel Plenge and Barry Walker commented on the record and provided information concerning other records.

References

- More, A., Viñas, P., Eckhardt, K. & Amanzo, J. (2006) First records of Andean Teal *Anas andium* for Peru. *Cotinga* 25: 88–89.

Robert S. R. Williams, Alec D. Williams and Heinz Plenge
Asociación TuTierra, Malecón Seoane 721, Pimentel, Lambayeque, Peru. E-mail: robsrw@gmail.com.

Received 15 January 2012; final revision accepted 3 April 2012

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^{1,3}. 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 rivers⁵. In Ecuador it is also found east of the Andes, with a few old records from the western lowlands, in the lower río Guayas drainage⁴, 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 site².

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.

Acknowledgements

EP thanks his parents for their permanent support. We are grateful to Manuel A. Plenge and Tom Schulenberg for their invaluable help in obtaining data and references.

References

1. Angulo P., F., Tello, J. & Barrio, J. (2008) First records of Fasciated Tiger Heron *Tigrisoma fasciatum* in the west Peruvian Andes. *Cotinga* 29: 173–175.
2. Angulo P., F., Schulenberg, T. S. & E. Puse F. (2010) Las aves de los humedales de Eten, Lambayeque, Perú. *Ecol. Aplicada* 9(2): 71–81.
3. Piana, R., Angulo, F., Ormaeche, E. & Mendoza, C. (2006) Two new species for Peru: Lemon-rumped Tanager *Ramphocelus icteronotus* and Black-cheeked Woodpecker *Melanerpes pucherani*. *Cotinga* 26: 78–79.
4. Ridgely, R. S. & Greenfield, P. J. (2001) *The birds of Ecuador*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.
5. Schulenberg, T. S., Stotz, D. F., Lane, D. F., O'Neill, J. P. & Parker, T. A. (2010) *Birds of Peru*. Revised edn. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Edevaly Puse-Fernández
Asociación Peruana "Aiicaec",
Chiclayo, Peru. E-mail: eddup23@
yahoo.es.

Fernando Angulo Pratolongo
CORBIDI, Peru. E-mail:
chamaepetes@gmail.com.

Received 14 May 2012; final
revision accepted 10 December
2012

New distributional records of Rufous-necked Puffbird *Malacoptila rufa* and Pearly Antshrike *Megastictus* *margaritatus* in Peruvian Amazonia

We present the first confirmed records of Rufous-necked Puffbird *Malacoptila rufa* and Pearly Antshrike *Megastictus margaritatus* in the Pucallpa region of the Ucayali basin in Peruvian Amazonia. These records extend the known geographic range of *M. rufa* by at least 200 km south to dpto. Ucayali, and fill a significant gap in the known distribution of *M. margaritatus*.

Both species are restricted to tropical evergreen forests of Amazonia where they forage in the understorey, often in pairs^{7,9}. *M. rufa* is fairly common within

its range, which spans parts of Peru, Bolivia and Brazil^{7,9}, with two recognised subspecies, *M. r. rufa* and *M. r. brunnescens*, of which *M. r. rufa* occurs south of the Amazon, from north-east Peru to the Madeira River in Brazil, and from north-east Bolivia to eastern Mato Grosso, Brazil⁵. In Peru, the southernmost published record of *M. rufa* is from Sarayacu, Loreto^{8,11}. West of the Ucayali, the southernmost published records of *M. rufa* are from Santa Cruz and Yurimaguas, Loreto¹⁰. Our records of *M. rufa* represent a range extension of c.200 km south.

M. margaritatus is a monotypic species that is rare to uncommon and patchily distributed throughout its range, possibly being most frequent in *terra firme*^{7,9}. It occurs in southern Venezuela, eastern Ecuador, north-east and east-central Peru, west-central Brazil, and in extreme south-east Colombia¹³. In south-central Peru, it is very local⁷, with the southernmost records from Lagarto, on the east bank of the Ucayali River at 10°35'50"S 73°52'40"W¹². West of the Ucayali, there are also records from the floodplain of the Cushabatay in Loreto¹. Our records of *M. margaritatus* represent the first



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 *Megastictus margaritatus*, prov. Coronel Portillo, dpto. Ucayali, south-west Peru, 29 July 2010 (Juan Molina Vilca)

Table 1. Capture information and mensural data for individuals of Rufous-necked Puffbird *Malacoptila rufa* and Pearly Antshrike *Megascictus margaritatus* captured in July and August 2010.

Species	Band number	Wing-chord	Weight (g)	Fat*	Pectoral muscle**	Capture date	Capture time	Capture location	
<i>Malacoptila rufa</i>	D000114	87	41.2	1	3	8 August	07h10	08°30'4.231"S	74°42'1.186"W
<i>Malacoptila rufa</i>	D000115	87				8 August	08h10	08°30'4.231"S	74°42'1.186"W
<i>Malacoptila rufa</i>	E000104	88	38.5	0	2	23 July	07h45	08°30'15.833"S	74°42'13.77"W
<i>Malacoptila rufa</i>	E000105	90	42	0	2	23 July	07h45	08°30'15.833"S	74°42'13.77"W
<i>Megascictus margaritatus</i>	C000119	72	20.9	0	2	29 July	09h56	08°30'15.833"S	74°42'13.77"W
<i>Megascictus margaritatus</i>	C000123	60	22.3	1	1	31 July	07h20	08°30'13.706"S	74°41'59.903"W

* 0 = No visible fat, 1 = trace of fat

** 1 = muscle rather depressed, 2 = muscle slightly rounded, 3 = muscle fully rounded

Codes taken from Redfern & Clark⁶

between these two sites, and help fill an apparent gap in the species' distribution.

During July–August 2010, we captured four *M. rufa* and two *M. margaritatus* in a forest on the west bank of the río Ucayali, south-west of Pucallpa in the Coronel Portillo district of Ucayali at 74°42'W 08°30'S. The forest was characterised by moderate levels of human disturbance from selective logging and subsistence hunting. All six individuals were trapped in mist-nets (12 m × 2.6 m; 36 mm mesh), measured, photographed and banded with aluminum bands marked with a unique code and the inscription 'PERU www.corbidi.org'.

We captured a pair of *M. rufa* together on 23 July 2010 at 07h45 and another pair on 8 August 2010 at 07h10. One bird (band no. D000115) escaped and we were only able to take a photograph and record its wing-chord. Of the other three individuals, none was reproductively active, or in body or wing moult. Because *M. rufa* is sexually monomorphic, sexing was impossible. Neither did we definitively age them, but all were probably adults based on the lack of obvious juvenile characters and the presence of two feather generations.

The first *M. margaritatus* was trapped on 29 July 2010 at 09h45 and the second on 31 July 2010 at 07h20; both were adult males based on plumage coloration and their completely pneumatized

skulls. Both had signs of a brood patch, but neither showed cloacal protuberance or feather moult. One (band no. C000119) was in light (1–10%) body moult. Both weighed close to 20.2 g, the mean body mass for this species². We did not record any female *M. margaritatus* during our field work.

These new distributional records, discovered during a short field season, strongly argue the need for further ornithological inventories of lowland forests in the Ucayali drainage. Because this region remains understudied biologically (T. S. Schulenberg pers. comm.), it is probable that the area harbours other previously unreported resident birds. Some urgency exists for such baseline surveys as the region is being rapidly transformed by logging and agricultural expansion. In 1999–2005, >50% of all deforestation in Peruvian Amazonia was in the Pucallpa region⁴. Although *M. rufa* and *M. margaritatus* are considered Least Concern by the IUCN³, both species are highly sensitive to disturbance⁹ and could disappear if logging and habitat fragmentation continue at present levels.

Acknowledgements

We are grateful to the National Science Foundation's CNH Program (Grant No. 0909475) for funding the research on which this manuscript is based. We also thank CORBIDI (Centro de

Ornitología y Conservación) and the Museo de Historia Natural de la Universidad Nacional de San Agustín, Arequipa, for institutional support; Tom Schulenberg for sharing his wealth of knowledge of both species; Chris Witt and Dustin Rubenstein for comments on the manuscript; and Miguel Pinedo-Vásquez for introducing us to this fascinating corner of the world.

References

- Alverson, W. S., Rodríguez, L. O. & Moskovits, D. K. (eds.) (2001) *Peru: Biabo Cordillera Azul*. Rapid Biological Inventories No. 2. Chicago: Field Museum of Natural History.
- Dunning, J. B. (2008) *CRC handbook of avian body masses*. Boca Raton, FL: CRC Press.
- IUCN (2011) IUCN Red List of threatened species: Version 2010.4. www.iucnredlist.org (accessed November 2011).
- Oliveira, P. J. C., Asner, G. P., Knapp, D. E., Almeyda, A., Galvan-Gildemeister, R., Keene, S., Raybin, R. F. & Smith, R. C. (2007) Land-use allocation protects the Peruvian Amazon. *Science* 317: 1233–1236.
- Rasmussen, P. C. & Collar, N. J. (1999) Family Bucconidae (puffbirds). In: del Hoyo J., Elliott, A. & Sargatal, J. (eds.) *Handbook of the birds*

- of the world, 7. Barcelona: Lynx Edicions.
6. Redfern, C. P. F. & Clark, J. A. (2001) *Ringers' manual*. Theford: British Trust for Ornithology.
 7. Schulenberg, T. S., Stotz, D. F., Lane, D. F., O'Neill, J. P. & Parker, T. A. (2010) *Birds of Peru*. Rev. edn. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
 8. Sclater, P. L. & Salvin, O. (1873) On the birds of eastern Peru, with notes on the habits of the birds by Edward Bartlett. *Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond.* 41: 252–311.
 9. Stotz, D. F., Fitzpatrick, J. W., Parker, T. A. & Moskovits, D. K. (1996) *Neotropical birds: ecology and conservation*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
 10. Taczanowski, L. (1886) *Ornithologie du Pérou*, 3. Paris: Typographie Oberthur.
 11. Zimmer, J. T. (1931) Studies of Peruvian birds. I. New and other birds from Peru, Ecuador, and Brazil. *Amer. Mus. Novit.* 500: 1–23.
 12. Zimmer, J. T. (1932) Studies of Peruvian birds. VII. The genera *Pygiptila*, *Megastictus*, *Dysithamnus*, *Thamnomanes*, *Cercomacra*, and *Phlegopsis*. *Amer. Mus. Novit.* 558: 1–25.
 13. Zimmer, K. J. & Isler, M. L. (2003) Family Thamnophilidae (typical antbirds). In: del Hoyo J., Elliott, A. & Christie, D. A. (eds.) *Handbook of the birds of the world*, 8. Barcelona: Lynx Edicions.

Alicia Srinivas

Columbia University, Dept. of Ecology, Evolution, and Environmental Biology, 1200 Amsterdam Avenue, New York, NY 10027, USA. Current address: Wildlife Conservation Society, Center for Global Conservation, 2300 Southern Boulevard, Bronx, NY 10460 USA. E-mail: asrinivas@wcs.org.

Juan Molina Vilca

Universidad Nacional de San Agustín / Museo de Historia Natural, Colección Científica (MUSA), Av. Alcides Carrión s/n, Arequipa, Peru. E-mail: juanmolina.biologia@gmail.com.

Received 2 June 2011; final revision accepted 31 July 2012

Black Bushbird *Neotantes niger*: new record from Bahuaja Sonene National Park, Peru

On 20 September 2011 we mist-netted an adult female Black Bushbird *Neotantes niger* (Fig. 1) in a patch of *Guadua weberbaueri* bamboo and secondary forest, in Bahuaja Sonene National Park, Puno, Peru, at 289 m (13°23'20.16"S 69°29'44.19"W). We trapped the bird during a survey of Cerro Cuchilla, as part of a biological inventory for the Wildlife Conservation Society. The bird was not in breeding condition: 37 g, bill length (to skull) 16.2 mm, bill width 5.01 mm, bill depth 7.25 mm, wing 77 mm, tarsus 23.53 mm and tail 60 mm.

Black Bushbird is widely but patchily distributed in Amazonia^{4,7}, mainly in north-east Peru (Loreto) and adjacent Brazil, Colombia and Ecuador⁵ (Fig. 2). More isolated populations occur in Manu National Park in south-east Peru⁸ and along the

middle rio Madeira and western Pará (Brazil)⁵. However, given its rarity⁶, the species is easily overlooked. The nearest known to locality to Bahuaja Sonene National Park is Cocha Cashu Biological Station (Manu National Park), 270 km to the north-west, where despite being one of the most studied areas in the Peruvian lowlands the only reports of Black Bushbird are those of Terborgh *et al.*⁶ and Lambert². In 2011, a team led by G. Londoño (pers. comm.) found Black Bushbird for the first time in the Kosñipata Valley, south-east Peru, despite having surveyed the same area over the previous four years. The species was not reported during a rapid inventory of the Candamo watershed in 1993³, although INRENA¹ mentioned *N. niger* for Bahuaja Sonene National Park, without clarifying the basis for the species' presence on this list.

We believe our Cerro Cuchilla record represents a previously undocumented resident population within Bahuaja Sonene National Park and the Tambopata watershed. This population has gone undetected probably due to the species' skulking behaviour and lack of coverage. Our record is the southernmost of the species and the first for Puno. We hypothesise that its range could extend into Bolivia, where the species should be searched



Figure 1. Female Black Bushbird *Neotantes niger*, Bahuaja Sonene National Park, Puno, Peru, September 2011 (Gabriel Jamie / Wildlife Conservation Society)

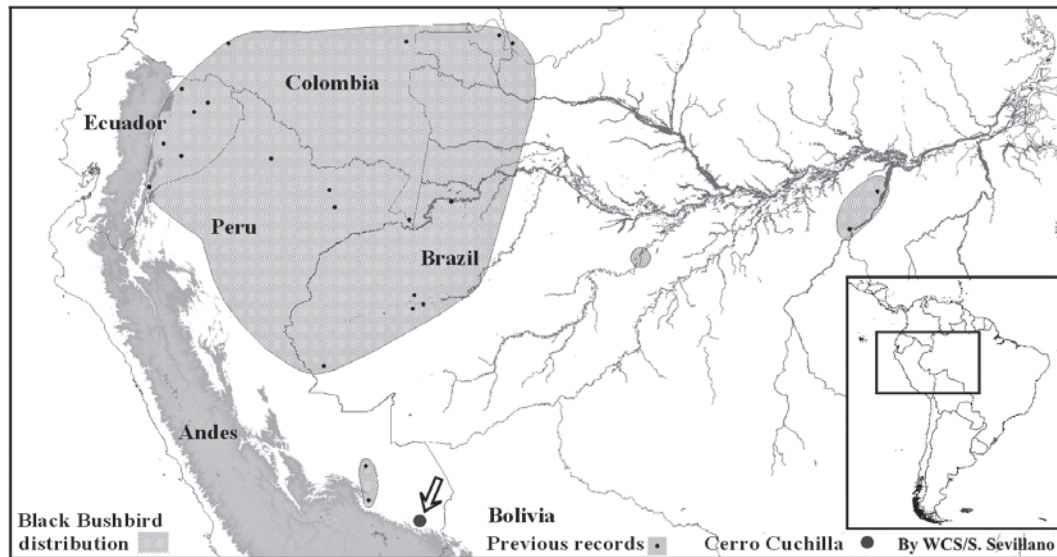


Figure 2. Map showing Black Bushbird *Neotantes niger* distribution following Ridgely et al.⁵, with arrow indicating Cerro Cuchilla, Bahuaja Sonene National Park, Puno (Peru).

for in Madidi National Park, which shares similar habitats to those where it has been found in south-east Peru.

Acknowledgements

We thank the Wildlife Conservation Society, Alicia Kuroiwa and all the WCS team and staff who contributed to the success of our survey, and the staff of Bahuaja Sonene National Park for their support in all manner of ways. We are grateful to Manuel Plenge for information and literature and to Armando Valdés-Velásquez, Renzo Piana, Laura Morales and Raizha Yurivilca for improving the manuscript.

References

1. INRENA (2003) *Parque Nacional Bahuaja Sonene plan maestro 2003–2008*. Lima: INRENA.
2. Lambert, F. (2004) Notes on a nest of Black Bushbird *Neotantes niger* in Peru. *Cotinga* 21: 80–81.
3. Parker, T. A., Donahue, P. K. & Schulenberg, T. S. (1994) Birds of the Tambopata Reserve (Explorer's Inn Reserve). In: Foster, R. B., Carr, J. L. & Forsyth, A. B. (1994) *The Tambopata-*

Candamo Reserved Zone of southeastern Peru: a biological assessment. RAP Working Papers 6. Washington DC: Conservation International.

4. Ridgely, R. S. & Tudor, G. (2009) *Field guide to the songbirds of South America, the passerines*. Austin: University of Texas Press.
5. Ridgely, R. S., Allnutt, T. F., Brooks, T., McNicol, D. K., Mehlman, D. W., Young, B. E. & Zook, J. R. (2011) *Digital distribution maps of the birds of the Western Hemisphere*, version 4.0. Arlington, VA: NatureServe.
6. Terborgh, J. W., Fitzpatrick, J. W. & Emmons, L. (1984) Annotated checklist of bird and mammal species of Cocha Cashu Biological Station, Manu National Park, Peru. *Fieldiana Zool.* 1352: 1–29.
7. Zimmer, K. J. & Isler, M. L. (2003) Family *Thamnophilidae* (typical antbirds). In: del Hoyo, J., Elliott, A. & Christie, D. A. (eds.) *Handbook of the birds of the world*, 8. Barcelona: Lynx Edicions.

C. Steven Sevellano

Wildlife Conservation Society, Calle 15 de Enero 591, Lima 18, Peru; and Laboratory for Biodiversity Studies, Cayetano Heredia University (LEB-UPCH), Lima, Peru. E-mail: csevellano@wcs.org.

Gabriel Jamie

Zoology Department, Cambridge University, Cambridge, UK. E-mail: gaj29@cam.ac.uk.

Julián Quillén Vidoz and Héctor Julián Slongo

Asociación Civil Armonía, Castilla 3566, Lomas de Arena 400, Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia. E-mails: quidoz@yahoo.com.ar and hectorslongo@gmail.com.

Received 6 September 2012; final revision accepted 21 March 2013

Range extension for the Endangered Cochabamba Mountain Finch *Compsopiza garleppi* in Chuquisaca, Bolivia

Ornithological studies in Bolivia commenced early in the 19th century, yet distributional data are still lacking for many species because many regions remain under-explored¹³. The southern

departments of Chuquisaca, Potosí and Tarija are biologically among the least explored areas of the country; they are not only poorly known, but also possess few protected areas^{7,15}. Here we report

the first record of Cochabamba Mountain Finch *Compsospiza garleppi* from dpto. Chuquisaca, c.275 km south of the closest known locality.

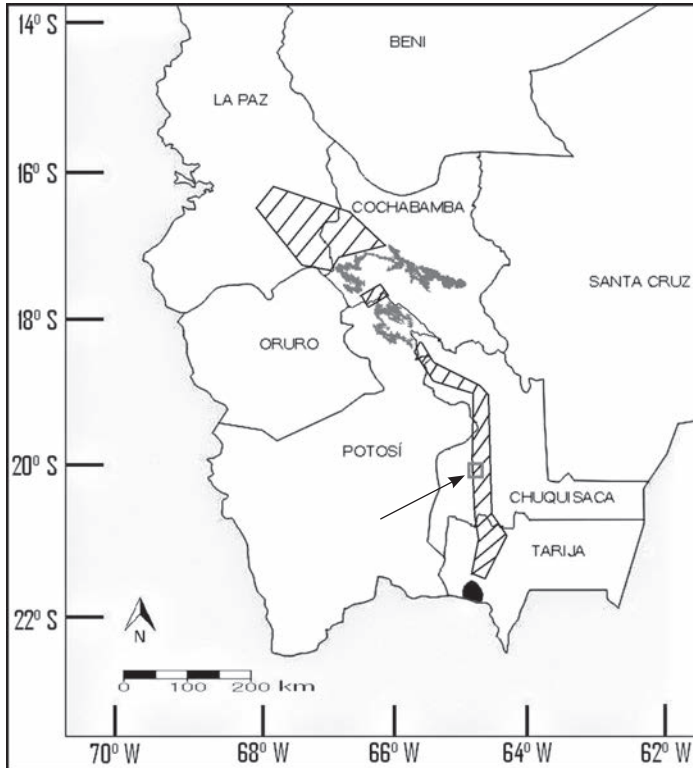


Figure 1. Map showing the new locality (open square with arrow) for Cochabamba Mountain Finch *Compsospiza garleppi* in Chuquisaca. The modelled range¹¹ is shown in grey and the barred polygons represent priority areas to search for *C. garleppi*. The range of Tucumán Mountain Finch *C. baeri* is shown in black⁵.

C. garleppi is endemic to Bolivia, occurring at 2,700–3,900 m in the transitional zone between the Inter-Andean Dry Valleys and *Puna* life zones³. Its known distribution comprises 25 localities in dptos. Cochabamba and Potosí^{3,9}. It inhabits semi-humid montane scrub, in valleys with ravines and scattered *Polylepis* and *Alnus* trees. Cochabamba Mountain Finch is listed as Endangered, owing to continued habitat loss within its small and fragmented range³.

On 13 August 2012, near the locality of Órganos Punta, Chuquisaca, in south-central Bolivia (20°17'S 64°52'W; Fig. 1), we observed two *C. garleppi* (presumably a pair) in a ravine, flying fast between small bushes and perching for a few seconds (Fig. 2). The birds fed briefly on the ground and then disappeared. The ravine where the observation was made is in the Boliviano-Tucumano Ceja de Monte scrublands (e.g. *Baccharis* sp., *Echinopsis* sp., *Salvia* sp.), just above the Ceja de Monte subhumid-humid woodland (including *Polylepis crista-galli*), within the transitional zone between semi-humid *puna* and the Inter-Andean Dry Valleys^{12,14}. The ravine is c.40 m from a dirt road and is characterised by patches of 2–3 m-tall scrubs within a matrix of grassland, and some rocky outcrops (Fig. 3).

Herzog *et al.*¹¹ modelled the potential distribution of *C.*



Figure 2. Cochabamba Mountain Finches *Compsospiza garleppi*, Órganos Punta, dpto. Chuquisaca, Bolivia, August 2012 (Diego R. Méndez)



Figure 3. Habitat of Cochabamba Mountain Finch *Compsospiza garleppi*, Órganos Punta, dpto. Chuquisaca, Bolivia (Diego R. Méndez)

garleppi (Fig. 1), indicating that the species' range extends south as far as northern Potosí, in the area adjacent to extreme north-west Chuquisaca. Likewise, based on records and environmental data, Guerrero⁹ modelled a similar range and suggested that, although less likely, the species' range could extend north-west as far as La Paz and to the south throughout central Chuquisaca as far as Tarija. Our record demonstrates that its distribution reaches southern Chuquisaca and could extend much further to the south than previously suspected.

Although no specific locality is mentioned, surveys for Cochabamba Mountain Finch in areas of suitable habitat in Chuquisaca in the early 1990s failed to record the species⁸. Our observation, made during a short survey, suggests that further effort is needed to detect the species in southern Bolivia, and indeed elsewhere in the country. For example, it is thought that populations in Cochabamba and Potosí—separated by c.70 km—are isolated by geographic barriers (e.g. the río Caine) and the lack of suitable habitat²; accordingly, the birds in Chuquisaca could represent a different population, as the locality is >200 km south of the closest record and separated by

a vast area with limited suitable habitat, although surveys are needed to confirm this.

Ornithological surveys are also required to check if the species reaches dpto. La Paz and if it occurs in the border area between dptos. Cochabamba and Potosí, as well as between the new locality in Chuquisaca and sites in Potosí, and to the south of the new locality in Chuquisaca, as far as dpto. Tarija (Fig. 1). Moreover, genetic studies are needed to assess the relationships and connectivity among the species' populations.

Another issue raised by our observation is the possibility that a contact zone between *C. garleppi* and Tucumán Mountain Finch *C. baeri* exists. In Bolivia, the Vulnerable and closely related *C. baeri*, which occurs in similar habitats, has been recorded only in south-east Tarija⁵ (Fig. 1). Surveys south of the new locality for Cochabamba Mountain Finch in Chuquisaca, in addition to attempting confirm the presence of this species, should also search for *C. baeri* north of its currently known distribution.

We recorded 25 other bird species (Table 1) during two hours at Órganos Punta, including three Near Threatened and seven restricted-range species^{4,10}. Based on the A1 and A3 criteria for the selection of Important Bird Areas (IBAs)⁶, the area around the new locality for *C. garleppi* could be proposed as an IBA. With only two national and three municipal / departmental protected areas, large parts of Chuquisaca are unprotected⁷. The presence of an IBA in this region could focus future ornithological studies—particularly on Cochabamba Mountain Finch—and strength the organisation of the protected area system towards effective biodiversity conservation.

Acknowledgements

We thank Peter Hosner who provided valuable suggestions that improved the submitted version of this manuscript. Our observation was made while monitoring Andean Condor *Vultur gryphus* populations in the eastern Bolivian

Andes, as part of an Asociación Armonía project supported by The Peregrine Fund.

References

1. Araujo, N., Quiroga, D. & Cuéllar, S. (2011) Estado de conservación de los ecosistemas del Departamento de Chuquisaca. In: Carretero, A., Serrano, M., Borchsenius, F. & Balslev, H. (eds.) *Pueblos y plantas de Chuquisaca. Estado del conocimiento de los pueblos, la flora, uso y conservación*. Sucre: Universidad Mayor de San Francisco Xavier de Chuquisaca.
2. Balderrama, J. A. (2009) Range extension for the endangered Cochabamba Mountain-Finch (*Compsospiza garleppi*) in Bolivia and new avifaunal records for Potosí department. *Ecol. Bolivia* 44: 67–69.
3. BirdLife International (2012) Species factsheet: *Compsospiza garleppi*. www.birdlife.org (accessed 1 October 2012).
4. BirdLife International (2012) IUCN Red List for birds. www.birdlife.org (accessed 1 October 2012).
5. BirdLife International (2013) Species factsheet: *Compsospiza baeri*. www.birdlife.org (accessed 25 March 2013).
6. Boyla, K. & Estrada, A. (eds.) (2005) *Áreas Importantes para la Conservación de las Aves en los Andes tropicales: sitios prioritarios para la conservación de la biodiversidad*. Quito: BirdLife International (Conserv. Ser. 14) & Conservación Internacional.
7. Castro, L. (2011) Gestión y conservación in situ de la biodiversidad en Chuquisaca. In: Carretero, A., Serrano, M., Borchsenius, F. & Balslev, H. (eds.) *Pueblos y plantas de Chuquisaca. Estado del conocimiento de los pueblos, la flora,*

- uso y conservación. Sucre: Universidad Mayor de San Francisco Xavier de Chuquisaca.
8. Collar, N. J., Gonzaga, L. P., Krabbe, N., Madroño Nieto, A., Naranjo, L. G., Parker, T. A. & Wege, D. C. (1992) *Threatened birds of the Americas: the ICBP/IUCN Red Data book*. Cambridge, UK: International Council for Bird Preservation.
 9. Guerrero, T. (2011) Preferencia de hábitat y distribución potencial de *Compsopiza garleppi*, endémica de Bolivia (Passeriformes: Emberizidae). Tesis de Licenciatura. Cochabamba: Universidad Mayor de San Simón.
 10. Hennessey, A. B., Herzog, S. K. & Sagot, F. (2003) *Lista anotada de aves de Bolivia*. Quinta edn. Santa Cruz de la Sierra: Asociación Armonía / BirdLife International.
 11. Herzog, S. K., Maillard Z., O., Embert, D., Caballero, P. & Quiroga, D. (2012) Range size estimates of Bolivian endemic bird species revisited: the importance of environmental data and national expert knowledge. *J. Orn.* 153: 1189–1202.
 12. Ibsch, P. L. & Mérida, G. (2003) *Biodiversidad: la riqueza de Bolivia. Estado de conocimiento y conservación*. Santa Cruz de la Sierra: Ministerio de Desarrollo Sostenible & Ed. FAN.
 13. Maillard, Z. O., Davis, S. E. & Hennessey, A. B. (2009) Bolivia. In: Devenish, C., Díaz Fernández, D. F., Clay, R. P., Davidson, I. & Yépez Zabala, I. (eds.) *Important Bird Areas Americas: priority sites for biodiversity conservation*. Quito: BirdLife International (Conserv. Ser. 16).
 14. Navarro, G. & Ferreira, W. (2011) Clasificación y caracterización de la vegetación del Departamento de Chuquisaca. In: Carretero, A., Serrano, M., Borchsenius, F. & Balslev, H. (eds.) *Pueblos y plantas de Chuquisaca. Estado del conocimiento de los pueblos, la flora, uso y conservación*. Sucre: Universidad Mayor de San Francisco Xavier de Chuquisaca.
 15. Soria Auza, R. W. & Hennessey, A. B. (2005) Áreas Importantes para la Conservación de las Aves en Bolivia. In: Boyla, K. & Estrada, A. (eds.) *Áreas Importantes para la Conservación de las Aves en los Andes tropicales: sitios prioritarios para la conservación de la biodiversidad*. Quito: BirdLife International (Conserv. Ser. 14) & Conservación Internacional.
- Diego R. Méndez Mojica**
Asociación Civil Armonía, Av. Lomas de Arena 400, Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia. E-mail: aetus14@yahoo.com
- Eber Leyva Choque**
CP 750, Sucre, Bolivia.

Received 18 December 2012; final revision accepted 31 May 2013

Observations at a nest of Crested Eagle *Morphnus guianensis* in the southern Gran Sabana, Venezuela

Crested Eagle *Morphnus guianensis* is a low-density, Near Threatened, resident of forested areas of Middle and South America that is known in Venezuela from three specimens and a few other records, most recently from the llanos in 2006¹², from Junglaven, Amazonas, in December 2006 (G. M. Kirwan *in litt.* 2012), and five observations by AC in the region of El Paují, Bolívar, since June 2008². The latter involved both pale- and barred-phase birds. AC has also seen Harpy Eagle *Harpia harpyja* twice nearby² (c.1 and 3 km from the Crested Eagle sightings). This and a report by G. M. Kirwan (*in litt.* 2012) of nests of both species seen in the early 2000s within 1 km of each other in the Serrados Carajás, Pará, Brazil, provide additional evidence of their sympatry^{5,11}, although Thiollay

observed that their territories did not overlap in two study areas in French Guiana⁵. Nesting in Venezuela, in 1981, was reported in Hilty⁶, and there are breeding data for Brazil (north of Manaus) in 1984¹, for Guatemala in 1995¹⁰ and Peru in 2002⁷.

On 1 April 2011, we heard several long, high-pitched, unfamiliar whistles emanating from forest canopy close to the El Paují–Santa Elena dirt road in the southern Gran Sabana, Bolívar, near a ridge in the río Surucún basin (in the headwaters of the río Caroní). On searching, we discovered a pair of Crested Eagles, close to a very large nest in the main fork, at canopy level, of an emergent tree. Annual rainfall⁸ in this region is 2,000–2,250 mm and the Surucún supports largely intact primary forest of c.400 km². The nest site is on a gentle slope, c.20 m lower and 220 m from the ridge at 990 m elevation, along which is the road carrying 30–60 vehicles per day. A logging trail passes below the nest tree and has been used recently. To avoid drawing the attention of hunters to the nest and because detailed breeding data are available^{1,10}, we elected to sporadically monitor the nest from the ground, despite the inherent limitations. We opened a separate path to our main observation location and did not meet anyone during our visits to the nest, thereby fulfilling one of our principal objectives, to avoid jeopardising the breeding attempt.

The nest tree, a *Balizia pedicellaris* (Fabaceae), has compound leaves mostly at its extremities, so that the tree is open with unusually ‘clean’ branches, providing easy access for a large raptor, and is a well-lit location. The trunk, of 1.05-m diameter near ground level, rises vertically to the primary fork c.23 m above ground, where the nest is located. Here, the tree separates into several large, widely spread, crooked branches, with upper foliage 12–15 m above the nest. Most trees around the nest have crowns below c.24 m with a more open area and lower growth c.70 m to the north-west, and an old

treefall c.40 m to the south. The nest is higher than most adjacent trees, particularly those downslope thereby providing a wide view over the canopy to the north, which direction was normally used by the eagles for take-off. The nest was c.1 m in diameter, 0.8 m deep, and comprised sticks up to c.3 cm in diameter, with lianas growing on the sides, possibly originating from leafy lianas brought by the eagles (Fig. 2). Such 'adorning' of the nest with greenery has been reported previously¹.

We visited the nest on 22 occasions between 1 April and 1 November 2011, for a total of 70 hours, including some day-long visits. We were unable to precisely determine the dates of laying and hatching. However, we did observe the young eagle's first flights and could therefore estimate the hatching date as 17 May, based on 114 days to fledging¹⁰. By comparing our own observations with 11 developmental milestones provided by Whitacre *et al.*¹⁰, we can confirm 17 May as a fair estimate of hatching date. Laying and commencement of brooding occurred between 1 and 15 April, consistent with the incubation period of 40–50 days assumed by Bierregaard¹.

We first saw the young eagle on 30 June, at c.44 days of age (it was not seen on days 10, 13, 21 and 28). On 30 June the female was away from the nest for 80% of the day, including a period of 30 minutes of light rainfall. In lowland Guatemala¹⁰, the female only left the young alone at 59 days. It is probable that this difference reflects the cooler climate (and considerably higher elevation) of our site, relieving the female of the need to shade the young earlier in its development.

Development of the young and adult behaviour was otherwise similar to those in lowland Guatemala, with two exceptions. Firstly, the young appeared less excitable (e.g., less jumping during wing exercising and less reaction to over-flying vultures and other large birds) and secondly, and more significantly, we observed the female withhold food from



Figure 1. Female Crested Eagle *Morphnus guianensis*, 30 June 2011; note white crest feathers tipped black, and absence of barbules basally on the main crest feather; tail barring is pale greyish brown above and white below (Anthony Crease)



Figure 2. Female Crested Eagle *Morphnus guianensis* on nest, 30 June 2011 (Anthony Crease)



Figure 3. Unfledged young Crested Eagle *Morphnus guianensis*, c.105 days of age, 30 August 2011 (Anthony Crease)



Figure 4. Juvenile Crested Eagle *Morphnus guianensis* in nest tree post-fledging, c.133 days old, 27 September 2007 (Anthony Crease)

the young for many hours, during consecutive full-day visits 81 and 99 days after estimated hatching, which behaviour has not previously been reported in the literature.

At 81 days, the female left the nest area at 06h12, was seen soaring overhead at 10h30 and returned to the nest at 11h08, remaining in the environs without a break of more than 15 minutes until 14h13. Additionally, during this period, the young made begging whistles almost constantly, again implying the adult's continuous presence. At 13h16 the female was seen with a Woolly Mouse Opossum *Micoureus demerarae*, presumably captured during the period of absence prior to 11h08. However, the prey was not delivered to the young until nearly 16h58. During this period the female landed and quickly took off from the nest on seven occasions without depositing the prey, despite the nestling's begging; and also whistled sporadically from nearby, causing the pullus to redouble its begging calls. The eventual delivery just permitted the young to feed before dusk. Similar behaviour was observed 18 days later, when an unidentified large batrachian was withheld for c.4 hours. Whatever the reason for this behaviour, it appears that other factors than maximum weight gain, which would best be achieved by feeding the young rapidly, are functioning.

The female did not incubate the egg or remain with the young continuously, but took short absences when it was warm or the nest was sunlit. However, she was always present early in the morning prior to hatching and when the young was <50 days old, and she therefore presumably spent the night on the nest during this c.100-day period. At 81 days after hatching, the female was not on the nest before sunrise and was only present eight minutes during the entire day, with absences from the nest area of several hours at a time. From this age (and probably earlier) only the female was observed bringing (and

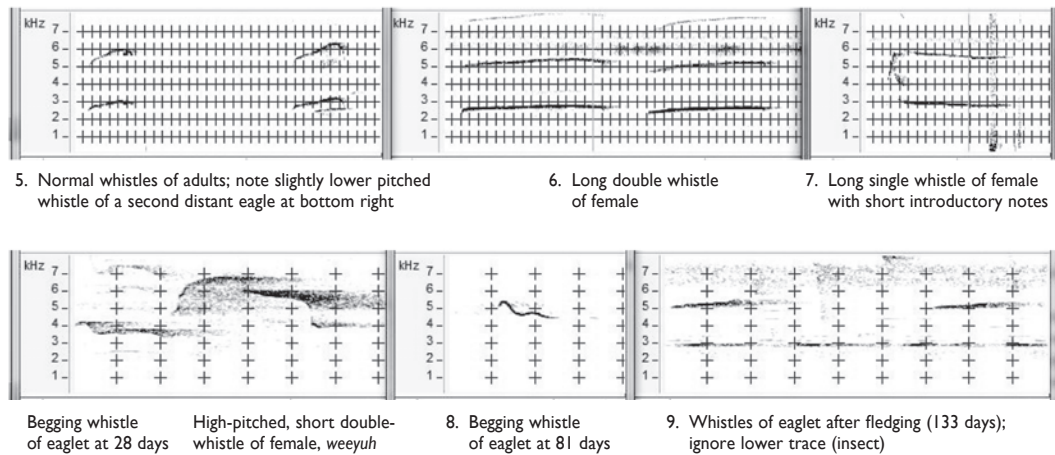


Figure 5 'Normal whistles', three from one bird (probably the female), two from the other at slightly lower pitch.

Figure 6. Long doubled whistle from female.

Figure 7. Variant of female's long whistle with introductory 'squeal', which is also commonly given alone.

Figure 8. Begging whistle of young at 81 days.

Figure 9. Whistles of post-fledged young at 133 days.

All recordings made with EDIROL R-09HR and Sennheiser ME-67 microphone by Anthony Crease; software: Wavesurfer.

withholding) prey. The male was not seen to deliver prey after the young was 50 days old.

The male's participation in the breeding process was primarily to feed the female during the incubation period, and both the female and the nestling in the early stages. He also assisted with nest maintenance by bringing sticks. Once the female could leave the young alone and commence hunting, the male was rarely seen nearby. His visits with food were generally <10 minutes in duration although, exceptionally, during our (30-minute) morning and afternoon visits on 6 May (c.11 days before estimated hatching), the male remained above the nest while the female incubated. When the male delivered food, the female always vacated the nest beforehand, unlike at the nest observed by Bierregaard¹.

On our final visit on 1 November, 53 days after fledging, the young was not present in the nest tree at 05h25 and neither it nor the adults were seen nearby.

Plumage of the barred-phase male closely matches illustrations and descriptions in major references^{4,6,8}. The juvenile's plumage also corresponds

to previously published information^{4,8}, except that the entire crest and nape was white (Figs. 3–4).

An extreme dark phase, which is relatively scarce and was described as *M. taeniatus*⁵, was illustrated in Ferguson-Lees & Christie⁴ and briefly described by Bierregaard¹. Our female was even darker and further differed in having no white on the wings, back or nape; brownish tones were visible in strong sunlight (Fig. 1); underparts almost black except for diffuse white bars around the thighs; undertail-coverts white, and no barring visible on upper belly or above; three tail bars appeared bright white from below but pale brownish grey above (Fig. 1); single long crest feather white, tipped black (Fig. 1); and entire underwing boldly and coarsely barred black and white.

Crest shape is a function of wind direction, leading to surprising variations (cf. Figs. 1 and 2). In the female, the basal part of the quill of the single longest crest feather was devoid of barbs for c.30% of its length, perhaps due to wear as it is pushed to and fro between the shorter crest feathers when rotating the head in windy

conditions (Fig. 1). Loss of barbs was not observed in the juvenile at 19 weeks, supporting the hypothesis of wear as the cause of loss.

Vocalisations comprise whistles of variable length, separation and pitch pattern, and always show a second, and sometimes also a faint third, harmonic. On 1 April 2011, when both adults were at the nest prior to laying, they uttered similar whistles ('normal whistles'), of 1.0–1.4 seconds duration, their pitch rising slightly to a peak of 2.7–3.0 kHz, then falling slightly, *wieeeuh* (Fig. 5). In the sonogram, three loud whistles by one bird and two fainter ones by the other at slightly lower pitch and longer spacing are visible. The louder whistles are probably from the female, which appears stronger voiced, based on our cumulative experience. The female also made loud and much longer (2.5–3.6 seconds) whistles of similar pitch and pattern on 6 July 2011 (Fig. 6). Whether this reflected warning or alarm is unclear. The whistles were mostly given doubled with the second somewhat shorter (75%). A variant of the long whistle was also recorded

in which the pitch dropped very slightly through 3 kHz and was preceded by a short (0.38-seconds) high-pitched, bisyllabic squeal, *skee'yuh* (Fig. 7), which rises from 4 to 6 kHz, before falling. This squeal was also commonly given alone.

Begging whistles of the young at 81 days are short (0.35 seconds), see Fig. 8, and have a characteristic pattern, which peaks early at 5.5 kHz and then falls, rises and falls to c.4.5 kHz; *tsiu*. They are similar to those recorded at 50 days and appear to be an attempt to reproduce the adult's 'squeal'. These begging whistles were given in bouts of 3–10 with 1–2 seconds between whistles. As previously reported¹⁰, the young appeared only to beg when the adults were in view or audible, and was otherwise silent. At 19 days after fledging, the juvenile gave a different whistle (presumably not begging as the adults were absent), similar in pattern to the 'normal' whistles of adults, but higher and shorter, *twee* (Fig. 9).

Acknowledgements

We thank Mario Gabaldón and Pierre Perret for helping to identify the nest tree, Rob Bierregaard for his comments on the submitted manuscript and Guy Kirwan for many suggestions and improvements to the same.

References

1. Bierregaard, R. O. (1984) Observations of the breeding of the Guiana Crested Eagle *Morphnus guianensis*. *Wilson Bull.* 96: 1–5.
2. Crease, A. B. (2009) Avian range extensions from the southern headwaters of the río Caroní, Gran Sabana, Bolívar, Venezuela. *Cotinga* 31: 5–19.
3. Corporación Venezolana de Guayana-Electrificación del Caroní (CVG-EDELCA) (2004) *La cuenca del río Caroní: una visión en cifras*. Caracas: CVG-EDELCA.
4. Ferguson-Lees, J. & Christie, D. A. (2005) *Raptors of the world*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
5. Global Raptor Information Network (2011) Species account: Crested Eagle *Morphnus guianensis*. www.globalraptors.org (accessed 7 July 2011).
6. Hilty, S. L. (2003) *Birds of Venezuela*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
7. Raine, A. F. (2007) Breeding bird records from the Tambopata-Candamo Reserve Zone, Madre de Dios, south-east Peru. *Cotinga* 28: 53–58.
8. Restall, R., Rodner C. & Lentino, M. (2006) *Birds of northern South America*. London, UK: Christopher Helm.
9. Thiollay, J. M. (1989) Area requirements for the conservation of rain forest raptors and game birds in French Guiana. *Conserv. Biol.* 3: 128–137.
10. Whitacre, D. F., López Ávila, J. & López Ávila, G. (2002) Behavioral and physical development of a nestling Crested Eagle *Morphnus guianensis*. *J. Raptor Res.* 36: 77–81.
11. Vargas-González, J. de J., Mosquera, R. & Watson, M. (2006) Crested Eagle *Morphnus guianensis* feeding a postfledged young Harpy Eagle *Harpia harpyja* in Panama. *Orn. Neotrop.* 17: 581–584.
12. Vargas-González, J. de J., Ríos Uzcátegui, G. A., Serrano Marin, J. J., Cancion Arias, M. J. & Briceño David, E. J. (2010) Primer registro de Águila Crestada *Morphnus guianensis* en los llanos occidentales de Venezuela. *Cotinga* 32: 160–161.

Anthony Crease and Ivan Tepedino

El Pauji, Oficina de Correos Ipostel, Santa Elena de Uairén, Estado Bolívar, Venezuela.
E-mails: trcrease@gmail.com and ivantepui@yahoo.com.

Received 1 November 2011; final revision accepted 31 July 2012

Range extension for Many-banded Araçari *Pteroglossus pluricinctus* in Amazonian Brazil: conservation and biogeographical significance

Nine species of *Pteroglossus* occur in northern South America. Many-banded Araçari *P. pluricinctus* is a species of primary and old secondary lowland forest. The species is widespread in north-west Amazonia, in eastern Ecuador, north-east Peru, neighbouring Colombia and Venezuela, and reaches its eastern limit between the ríos Negro and Solimões²¹, in Brazil, probably on the 'middle Río Negro'²². Despite being large and noisy, distributional uncertainties persist concerning some species of *Pteroglossus* (e.g. *P. beauharnaesii*¹⁷). Here we present new records of *P. pluricinctus*, extending its known distribution eastwards both north and south of the Río Negro.

Observations

On 20 July 2002, SHB observed at least three Many-banded Araçaris foraging in a 35–40 m emergent tree in Jaú National Park (JNP), in the canopy of tall *terra firme* forest near the park's administrative headquarters at Monteiro (02°35'52"S 63°22'09"W: Site 1, Fig. 1). This is the first record of the species in JNP and the fourth *Pteroglossus* to be recorded in the park⁵.

On 1 November 2010 at 07h30, AAB observed a group of nine Many-banded Araçaris in the uppermost part of a dead tree c.7 m above the intact canopy of surrounding *terra firme* forest near Sitio Santa Rita (03°12'41.2"S 60°11'32.9"W: Site 3, Fig. 1), in Iranduba municipality, Amazonas (Fig. 1). The group called for c.6 minutes and then flew deeper into the forest in single file. The distance (250 m), conditions (slightly overcast but dry) and clear view, provided good observational conditions. The site is some 350 km east of the JNP locality.

As at JNP, three other *Pteroglossus* occur in the eastern

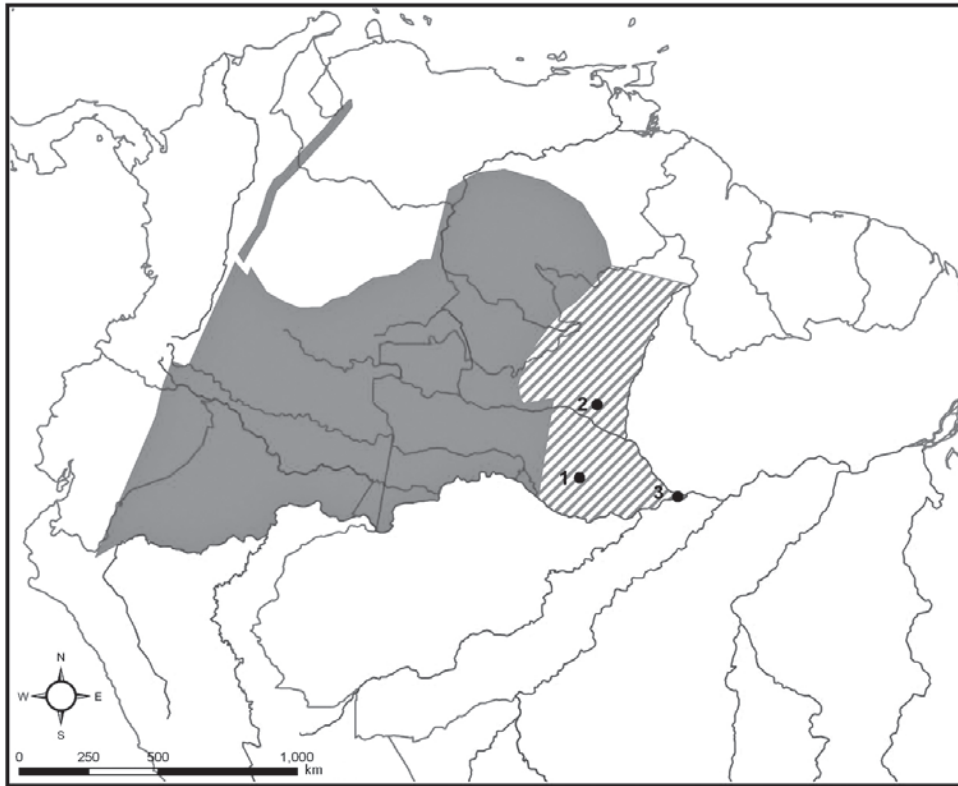


Figure 1. The distribution of Many-banded Araçari *Pteroglossus pluricinctus*. Dark grey = previously documented range, hatched area = newly extended range. Sites: 1 = Jaú National Park; 2 = Araçá Mountains; 3 = Sitio Santa Rita.

part of the Negro–Solimões interfluvium (Ivory-billed *P. azara*, Chestnut-eared *P. aracari* and Lettered Araçaris *P. castanotis*). During both encounters just detailed, the presence of two complete black breast-bands distinguished the birds from *P. castanotis* or *P. inscriptus*, whereas the dark bill with a white blaze on the upper mandible eliminated *P. azara*.

In August 2008 SHB observed five *P. pluricinctus* in low-stature secondary forest (00°14'8.3"S 62°48'13.2"W: Site 2, Fig. 1) at the foot of the Araçá Mountains, northern Amazonas. Other sympatric *Pteroglossus* are Green Araçari *P. viridis* (distinguished from *P. pluricinctus* by its smaller size, green back, unbarred breast and the presence of a horizontal red stripe on the bill) and *P. azara flavirostris* (distinguished from *P. pluricinctus* by bill pattern,

and the absence of yellow / black breast-bands).

Discussion

South of the rio Negro, in the Negro–Solimões interfluvium, Restall *et al.*²¹ and Haffer¹³ indicated the species' easternmost limit to be the headwaters of the Jaú River, and questioned whether it might occur in the west of the Negro–Solimões interfluvium. Our records not only confirm that the species occurs at this easternmost boundary (cf. Fig. 1), but provide an eastward range extension of c.350 km, indicating that the species probably occurs throughout the Negro–Solimões interfluvium. North of the Negro, range maps for *P. pluricinctus*^{16,21} suggest the species occurs well west of the rio Branco (Fig. 1). The record in the Araçá Mountains is the first for *P. pluricinctus* east of the rios Padauri and Araçá, making it

highly probable that its range reaches the rio Branco itself (see Fig. 1).

Presence in the Araçá Mountains is predictable being neither unusual in terms of habitat nor biogeography, given that there is no real barrier to the north-easternmost limits of the species' range, whereas the rio Branco is a major biogeographical barrier for many taxa¹⁸, including birds¹⁹. The Jaú region also lacks a major habitat disjunction, nor is it a broad river by Amazonian standards. For example, *Ramphastos* toucans are often observed traversing the Jaú, and other rivers in the region (e.g. the Carabinani) in mere minutes, making this range extension within the Negro–Solimões interfluvium unsurprising. However, our records are of two-fold significance: firstly, the genus *Pteroglossus* was one of

those employed by Haffer^{12–15} to illustrate the Pleistocene refugia hypothesis, the known distributions of its nine members conforming closely to several of these areas (cf. Lees & Peres¹⁷). In his analysis of the Amazonian avifauna, Haffer¹⁴ considered *P. pluricinctus* endemic to the upper rio Negro basin (the Imeri Centre of Endemism). However, as demonstrated here, the species' distribution is clearly broader than previously known. As with the greatly expanded distribution recently reported for Yapacana Antbird *Myrmeciza disjuncta*⁴, our observations reveal that the extent of the Imeri refugium needs to be modified; indeed such a south and eastwards extension as suggested by our *P. pluricinctus* data was proposed by Cracraft⁹ as long ago as 1988.

Secondly, our results reveal how much remains to be learned concerning the ranges even of obvious species like *Pteroglossus*. Furthermore, sites such as the Araçá Mountains are little visited and still as poorly known biologically^{1,6,11} as when Prance & Johnson²⁰ discussed their affinities 20 years ago. Sitio Santa Rita lies between Iranduba and Manacapuru, towns of >30,000 people, an area undergoing rapid land-use change following the construction of a bridge across the rio Negro at Manaus⁷. No complete environmental impact assessments were undertaken prior to the project's initiation, with the commissioned reports (e.g. De Souza Carvalho¹⁰) having little biological content. Remarkably, biogeographical reviews of central Amazonia show that, although the two municipalities most effected by new land usage are <100 km from the state capital Manaus, the area lacks adequate inventories for most vertebrates (e.g. fish^{8,23}, bats², birds^{3,4}). These sightings underscore the need for rapid biological assessments, both for conservation planning and to test biogeographical models, not only in remote areas such as the Araçá Mountains, but also near towns such as Manacapuru and Iranduba. In the east of the

Negro–Solimões interfluvium such inventories should serve both to establish protected areas and to record what currently exists.

Acknowledgements

AAB thanks Euzenira Costa dos Santos and Raimundo Helder do Espírito Santo Barroso for their hospitality at Sitio Santa Rita, and Eliana Andrade. SHB thanks IBAMA and ICMBio for permits to work in JNP and the Gordon & Betty Moore Foundation for financially supporting field work in the Araçá region. We thank Sarah Ann Boyle for preparing the map, and Alex Lees and Jason Weckstein for their helpful comments as referees. This is contribution 12 of the Igapó Study Project.

References

1. Aymard, G. A. & Cuello, N. I. (2004) Two new species of *Aegiphila* (Verbenaceae) from Venezuela and Brazil. *Novon* 14: 20–24.
2. Barnett, A. A., Sampaio, E., Kelko, E., Shapley, R. L., Fischer, E., Camargo, G. & Rodriguez-H., B. (2006) Bats of Jaú National Park, central Amazonia, Brazil. *Acta Chiropterologica* 8: 103–128.
3. Borges S. H. (2007) Análise biogeográfica da avifauna da região oeste do baixo Rio Negro, Amazônia brasileira. *Rev. Bras. Zool.* 24: 919–940.
4. Borges S. H. & Almeida R. A. (2001) First Brazilian record of the Yapacana Antbird (*Myrmeciza disjuncta*, Thamnophilidae) with additional notes on its natural history. *Ararajuba* 9: 163–165.
5. Borges, S. H. & Almeida, R. A. (2011) Birds of Jaú National Park and adjacent areas: new species records with reanalysis of a previous check-list. *Rev. Bras. Orn.* 19: 108–133.
6. Boubli, J. P., da Silva, M. N. F., Amado, M. V., Hrbek, T., Pontual, F. B. & Farias, I. F. (2008) A taxonomic reassessment of *Cacajao melanocephalus* Humboldt (1811), with the description of two new species. *Intern. J. Primatology* 29: 723–741.
7. Carrington, D. (2010) First Amazon bridge to open world's greatest rainforest to development. *The Guardian* 5 August 2010: www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2010/jul/29/manuel-bridge-amazon-rainforest (accessed 25 August 2011).
8. Cox Fernandes, C., Podos, J. & Lundberg, J. (2004) Amazonian ecology: tributaries enhance diversity. *Science* 305: 1960–1962.
9. Cracraft, J. (1988) Patterns and processes of diversification: speciation and historical congruence in some Neotropical birds. *Evolution* 42: 603–620.
10. De Souza Carvalho, A. (ed.) 2007. Relatório de impactos ambientais (RIMA) do empreendimento de travessia do rio Negro por ponte. Unpubl. Rep. Manaus: Univ. Federal do Amazonas, Centro de Ciências do Ambiente.
11. Grant, J. R., Maas, P. J. M. & Struwe, L. (2006) *Yanomama araca* (Gentianaceae), a new genus and species from Serra do Araçá, an outlier of the Guayana Region in Amazonas state, Brazil. *Harvard Pap. Bot.* 11: 29–37.
12. Haffer, J. (1969) Speciation in Amazonian forest birds. *Science* 165: 131–137.
13. Haffer, J. (1974) Avian speciation in tropical South America. *Publ. Nuttall Orn. Club* 14: 1–390.
14. Haffer, J. (1987) Quaternary history of tropical America In: Whitmore, T. C. & Prance G. T. (eds.) *Biogeography and Quaternary history in tropical America*. Oxford: Clarendon Press.
15. Haffer, J. & Prance, G. T. (2002) Impulsos climáticos da evolução na Amazônia durante o Cenozóico: sobre a teoria dos refúgios da diferenciação biótica. *Estudos Avançados* 16: 175–206.

16. Hilty, S. L. & Brown, W. L. (1986) *A guide to the birds of Colombia*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
17. Lees, A. C. & Peres, C. A. (2008) A range extension for Curl-crested Araçari (*Pteroglossus beauharnaesii*): implications for avian contact zones in central Amazonia. *Bull. Brit. Orn. Club* 128: 53–54.
18. Naka, L. L. (2010) The role of physical and ecological barriers in the diversification process of birds in the Guiana Shield, northern Amazonia. Ph.D. thesis. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University.
19. Naka, L. L., Cohn-Haft, M., Mallet-Rodrigues, F., Santos, M. P. D. & Torres, M. F. (2010) The avifauna of the Brazilian state of Roraima: bird distribution and biogeography in the Rio Branco basin. *Rev. Bras. Orn.* 14: 197–238.
20. Prance, G. T. & Johnson, D. M. (1992) Plant collections from the plateau of Serra do Araçá (Amazonas, Brazil) and their phytogeographic affinities. *Kew Bull.* 47: 1–22.
21. Restall, R., Rodner, C. & Lentino, M. (2006) *Birds of northern South America*. London, UK: Christopher Helm.
22. Short, L. L. & Horne, J. F. M. (2002) Family Ramphastidae (toucans). In: del Hoyo, J., Elliott, A. & Sargatal, J. (eds.) *Handbook of the birds of the world*, 7. Barcelona: Lynx Edicions.
23. Silvano, R. A. M., Amaral, B. D. & Oyakawa, O.T. (2000) Spatial and temporal patterns of diversity and distribution of the upper Juruá River fish community (Brazilian Amazon). *Environ. Biol. Fishes* 57: 25–35.

Adrian A. Barnett
Centre for Research in
Evolutionary and Environmental
Anthropology, Roehampton
University, London SW15 4JD,

UK. E-mail: adrian.barnett1.biology@gmail.com.

Sérgio H. Borges
Fundação Vitória Amazônica, Rua Estrela d'Alva 146, Morada do Sol, Aleixo, CEP 69060-093, Manaus, AM, Brazil. E-mail: sergio@fva.org.br.

Received 25 August 2011; final revision accepted 27 June 2012

First records of Chestnut-headed Tanager *Pyrrhocomma ruficeps* from Goiás, central Brazil

Chestnut-headed Tanager *Pyrrhocomma ruficeps* is a distinctively plumaged Thraupidae generally considered to be endemic to the Atlantic Forest in north-east Argentina (Misiones), south-east Paraguay and south-east Brazil (from Espírito Santo south to Rio Grande do Sul). N. Moura and I encountered a pair of *P. ruficeps* on 23 January 2012 at the Reserva Particular do Patrimônio Natural (RPPN) Fazenda Pousada dos Anões, Alto Paraíso de Goiás, in the Chapada dos Veadeiros, Goiás. The pair was observed at 14h15 as they crossed a narrow vehicle track in gallery forest within a vast matrix of well-preserved *cerrado* physiognomies at 14°19'S 47°29'W (1,130 m). The pair fed on coarse grasses and remained largely within cover. I obtained a good-quality recording of their contact calls—an unobtrusive high-pitched *tip.... tip* archived on www.xeno-canto.org (XC93479) but they were unresponsive to playback of their own vocalisations and we lacked any pre-recorded songs. I obtained poor-quality photographs of the male, of which two are archived on WikiAves (WA556855 and 556853). These images are sufficient to resolve the male's silver bill, dark lores, chestnut head and grey wings, body and tail, which in combination are diagnostic of this tanager. We maintained aural and occasional visual contact for 20 minutes until the pair moved away.

Other birds observed in the same forest fragment included Ochre-cheeked Spinetail *Synallaxis*

scutata, Russet-mantled Foliage-gleaner *Syndactyla dimidiata*, Rufous Gnateater *Conopophaga lineata*, Grey Elaenia *Myiopagis caniceps*, Black-tailed Flycatcher *Myiobius atricaudus*, Sepia-capped Flycatcher *Leptopogon amaurocephalus*, Greenish Schiffornis *Schiffornis virescens*, Helmeted Manakin *Antilophia galeata*, Pale-bellied Tyrant-Manakin *Neopelma pallescens* and White-bellied Warbler *Basileuterus hypoleucus*. Recent records of Greenish Schiffornis (e.g., WA556549) from the Pousada dos Anões also represent a minor range extension from the previous northern limit, Nova Veneza in central Goiás^{4,5}. Although Chestnut-headed Tanager is considered to be associated with bamboo⁶, we did not observe the large-stemmed *Guadua paniculata* anywhere around Alto Paraíso de Goiás, which is perhaps above this bamboo's altitudinal tolerance (it was abundant to the west, lower down, close to the town of Colinas do Sul). Subsequently, D. Kverno photographed (WA682653, 682636) a pair of *P. ruficeps* at Tabapuã dos Pireneus (15°46'S 48°48'W) in the municipality of Cocalzinho de Goiás (30 km north of Pirenópolis) on 8 July and 25 August 2012. This pair associated with a mixed flock including Saffron-billed Sparrow *Arremon flavirostris*, Yellow-bellied Seedeater *Sporophila nigrigolis* and Ochre-cheeked Spinetail *Synallaxis scutata*, foraging in grasses in the understorey of gallery forest (D. Kverno *in litt.* 2012). The previous northernmost documented record is from the Casca D'Anta waterfall, Serra da Canastra National Park, Minas Gerais (>660 km from the Chapada dos Veadeiros), where a pair was observed and tape-recorded on 13 August 2005⁷. However, the species has previously been reported (documentation unclear) from the Distrito Federal, at Fazenda Agua Limpa, just 150 km south-west of Fazenda Pousada dos Anões². Antunes & Willis¹ suggested that Chestnut-headed Tanagers breed in the Serra do Mar and Serra do Mantiqueira, and migrate to the interior during the austral winter.

These new records—during both the austral summer and winter—appear out of synch with what would be expected of long-distance migrants or vagrants. Further observations are required to ascertain whether the Chapada dos Veadeiros might host a resident population of *P. ruficeps* (which is apparently naturally rare anywhere in the north of its range) or just occasional visitors. Recent years have witnessed a suite of discoveries in Goiás of Atlantic Forest ‘endemic’ birds whose ranges were considered not to reach interior Brazil and the Cerrado biome. These include Shrike-like Cotinga *Laniisoma elegans*³ and Pin-tailed Manakin *Ilicura militaris*⁴, thus increasing ornithological field work in the fragments of humid montane forest in Goiás may yet reveal more surprises.

Acknowledgements

I thank Nárgila Moura for company in the field; Derek Kverno for information on his records of *P. ruficeps*; Paulo Hungria Machado and Gustavo Malacco for supplying references; and Bradley Davis for recommending I visit the Fazenda dos Anões.

References

1. Antunes, A. Z. & Willis, E. O. (2003) Novos registros de aves para a Fazenda Barreiro Rico, Anhembi-São Paulo. *Ararajuba* 11: 101–102.
2. Bagno, M. A. & Marinho-Filho, J. (2001) A avifauna do Distrito Federal: uso de ambientes abertos e florestais e ameaças. In: Ribeiro, J. F., Fonseca, C. E. L. & Sousa-Silva, J. C. (eds.) *Cerrado: caracterização e recuperação de matas de galeria*. Planaltina: EMBRAPA.
3. Ferreira, A. A., Figueiredo-Neto, A., Paula, J. P., Machado, N., Azevedo, P. L. & Laranjeiras, T. O. (2010) Ocorrência de *Laniisoma elegans* (Aves: Tityridae) no Estado de Goiás. *Atualidades Orn.* 156: 9.
4. Kirwan, G. M. (2008) The range of the Pin-tailed Manakin *Ilicura militaris* extends to central Brazil. *Rev. Bras. Orn.* 16: 260–261.
5. Snow, D. W. (2004) Family Pipridae (manakins). In: del Hoyo, J., Elliott, A. & Christie, D. A. (eds.) *Handbook of the birds of the world*, 9. Barcelona: Lynx Edicions.
6. Stotz, D. F., Fitzpatrick, J. W., Parker, T. A. & Moskovits, D. K. (1996) *Neotropical birds: ecology and conservation*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
7. Vasconcelos, M. F., D’Angelo Neto, S., Kirwan, G. M., Bornschein, M. R., Diniz, M. G. & Silva, J. F. (2006) Important ornithological records from Minas Gerais state, Brazil. *Bull. Brit. Orn. Club* 126: 212–238.

Alexander C. Lees

Museu Paraense Emílio Goeldi, CP 399, Av. Perimetral 1901, Terra Firme, 66077-530 Belém, Pará, Brazil. E-mail: alexanderlees@btopenworld.com.

Received 27 January 2012, final revision accepted 4 September 2012

Southernmost record for Rufous-backed Antvireo *Dysithamnus xanthopterus*, in Santa Catarina, Brazil

Rufous-backed Antvireo *Dysithamnus xanthopterus* is endemic to the coastal mountains of south-east Brazil from Rio de Janeiro to Paraná⁴, where it inhabits cloud forests above 700 m, sometimes syntopically with Plain Antvireo *D. mentalis*². In south Brazil, it is known from fragments of *Araucaria* forest in the municipality of Telêmaco Borba, Paraná¹ (although these records have been questioned³), with recent records in the municipalities of Quatro Barras (E. Pereira pers. comm.) and Adrianópolis (L. R. Deconto pers. comm.), on the Atlantic slope. In Santa Catarina it was recorded by A. E. Rupp (pers. comm.) at Serra Dona Francisca (c.760 m), Joinville, but his record is unpublished.

On 26 August 2012, a male *D. xanthopterus* was photographed (Fig. 1) and sound-recorded (xeno-canto.org, XC109388) at RPPN Prima Luna (27°15'39.56"S 49°01'31.57"W), at 900 m, municipality of Nova Trento, Santa Catarina. The bird sang



Figure 1. Rufous-backed Antvireo *Dysithamnus xanthopterus*, Nova Trento, Santa Catarina, Brazil, August 2012 (Glaucó Kohler)

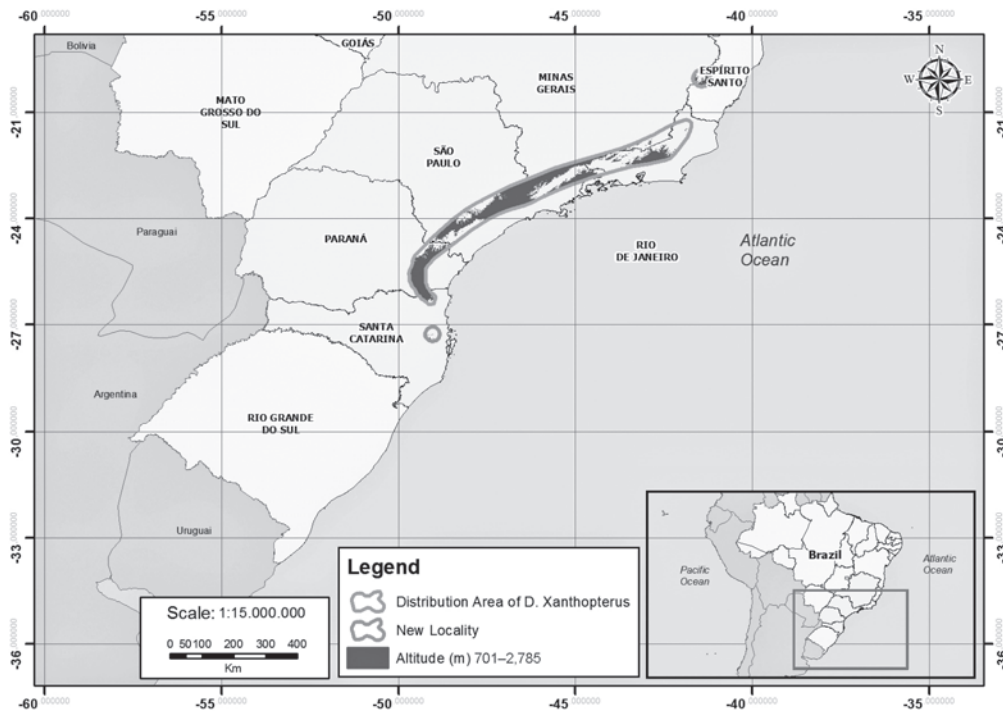


Figure 2. The new locality for Rufous-backed Antwreio *Dysithamnus xanthopterus* in Santa Catarina relative to the species' known distribution in south-east and southern Brazil.

spontaneously above the observers for c.20 minutes, before flying off.

Our new locality expands the species' range c.170 km south from Joinville (Fig. 2) and is not connected to other montane forest areas known to support *D. xanthopterus*. Such data highlight the importance of more intensive field work, as many gaps in our knowledge of species' distributions merely reflect a lack of research. The biogeography of the southern Brazilian Atlantic Forest requires further study, both to understand former distributions and how geological events (such as the formation of the Itajaí-Açu basin) might have shaped current species distributions and segregate populations.

D. xanthopterus should be searched for in forested areas of Santa Catarina's montane plateau (municipalities of Bom Jardim da Serra, Urubici and Praia Grande) as well as in adjacent Rio Grande do Sul, given their environmental characteristics.

Acknowledgements

We are grateful to Grazielle Volpato for information from Paraná, Adrian E. Rupp for his records in Joinville and other references, Leonardo R. Deconto and Evandro Pereira for recent records in Paraná, and Áthila G. Montibeller for kindly preparing the map.

References

1. Anjos, L. dos, Schuchmann, K.-L. & Berndt, R. A. (1997) Avifaunal composition, species richness, and status in the Tibagi River Basin, Parana state, southern Brazil. *Orn. Neotrop.* 8: 145–173.
2. Sick, H. (1997) *Ornitologia brasileira*. Rio de Janeiro: Ed. Nova Fronteira.
3. Straube, F. C., Urben-Filho, A. & Kajiwara, D. (2004) Aves. In: Mikich, S. B. & Bérnils, R. S. (eds.) *Livro vermelho da fauna ameaçada no Estado do Paraná*. Curitiba:

Instituto Ambiental do Paraná.

4. Zimmer, K. J. & Isler, M. L. (2003) Family Thamnophilidae (typical antbirds). In: del Hoyo, J., Elliott, A. & Christie, D. A. (eds.) *Handbook of the birds of the world*, 8. Barcelona: Lynx Edicions.

Glauco U. Kohler

Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas da Amazônia, Programa de Pós Graduação em Genética, Conservação e Biologia Evolutiva, Av. André Araújo 2936, Petrópolis, CEP 69080-971, Manaus, Amazonas, Brazil. E-mail: certhiaxis@gmail.com.

Carinne C. Chaves

Rua Bahia 623, Centro, CEP 89440-000, Irineópolis, Santa Catarina, Brazil. E-mail: carinne.cc@ibest.com.br.

Received 4 March 2013; final revision accepted 28 May 2013