

Revision of the status of bird species occurring in Colombia 2010

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Abstract

The following species are added to Colombia's bird checklist: Manx Shearwater *Puffinus puffinus* (observations), Black-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus ridibundus* (observations), Forster's Tern *Sterna forsteri* (photographic record), Grey-backed Hawk *Leucopternis occidentalis* (observations), Rio Orinoco Spinetail *Synallaxis beverlyae* (newly described) and Yellow-cheeked Becard *Pachyramphus xanthogenys* (new record). First confirmed records for Colombia of White Tern *Gygis alba* (photograph), Point-tailed Palmcreeper *Berlepschia rikeri* (sonogram and photograph) and Lesser Wagtail-Tyrant *Stigmatura napensis* (sonogram) are published. A first sight record for Colombia of Blue-mantled Thornbill *Chalcostigma stanleyi* and photographs of the first specimen record of Ring-billed Gull *Larus delawarensis* are published. The following species are removed as no records were found: Ecuadorian Trogon *Trogon mesurus* and Olivaceous Siskin *Carduelis olivacea*. Various splits are recognised, resulting in changes of name for some species and the recognition of the following 'new' species for Colombia: Highland Motmot *Momotus aequatorialis*, Whooping Motmot *Momotus subrufescens*, Fulvous Antshrike *Frederickena fulva*, Chocó Tyrannulet *Zimmerius albigularis*, Paramo Tapaculo *Scytalopus opacus*, Black-headed Brush-Finch *Arremon atricapillus*, Colombian Brush-Finch *Arremon basilicus* and Phelps' Brush-Finch *Arremon perijanus*. San Andrés Mockingbird *Mimus magnirostris* is removed due to recognition of a lump. Rationales for splits of Colombian Chachalaca *Ortalis columbiana*, Chestnut-mandibled Toucan *Ramphastos swainsonii* and Venezuelan Tyrannulet *Zimmerius improbus* are presented, including sonograms showing vocal support for the splits in the case of *Ortalis* and *Zimmerius*. Various species change category within the list, following a review of record documentation. Several amendments to genus and species names, English names and linear order are made. Following these changes, the Colombian checklist stands at 1,878 species, of which 1,802 have 'confirmed' records.

Resumen

Las siguientes especies se agregan al listado de aves de Colombia: *Puffinus puffinus* (basado en observaciones), *Chroicocephalus ridibundus* (observaciones), *Sterna forsteri* (registro fotográfico), *Leucopternis occidentalis* (observaciones), *Synallaxis beverlyae* (recientemente descrita) y *Pachyramphus xanthogenys* (observaciones). Registros "confirmados" para Colombia de *Gygis alba* (fotografía), *Berlepschia rikeri* (sonograma y fotografía) y *Stigmatura napensis* (sonograma), son presentados. Un primer registro para *Chalcostigma stanleyi* y fotografías del primer espécimen de *Larus delawarensis* en Colombia también son presentados. Las siguientes especies fueron quitadas ya que no se encontraron registros de ellos en Colombia: *Trogon mesurus* y *Carduelis olivacea*. Varias separaciones son reconocidas, resultado en un cambio de nombre para algunas especies y el reconocimiento de las siguientes "nuevas" especies para Colombia: *Momotus aequatorialis*, *Momotus subrufescens*, *Frederickena fulva*, *Zimmerius albigularis*, *Scytalopus opacus*, *Arremon atricapillus*, *Arremon basilicus* y *Arremon perijanus*. *Mimus magnirostris*, se retira debido al reconocimiento de una fusión. Se incluyen detalles sobre la propuesta separación de *Ortalis columbiana*, *Ramphastos swainsonii* y *Zimmerius improbus*. Se presentan un estudio de sonogramas en apoyo a las separaciones de *Ortalis* y *Zimmerius*. Varias especies cambian de categoría dentro del listado, tras una revisión de bibliografía. Se efectuaron varias modificaciones en los nombres al nivel de género y especie, en los nombres en inglés y en el orden lineal. A raíz de estos cambios, el listado de especies en Colombia asciende a 1,878 de los cuales 1,802 cuentan con registros "confirmados".

Introduction

The Colombian checklist (Salaman et al. 2001, 2007, 2008a, 2009) is now being updated annually. In the past two updates, various details on changes to the checklist have been presented, the first considering records of species new for the country (Salaman et al. 2008b) and the second including updates to status and to reflect latest publications (Donegan et al. 2009a). This paper sets out details of and reasons for changes made to the 2010 version of the Colombian bird checklist (Salaman et al. 2010). Most of these changes have been open for discussion in the Colombian Bird Records Forum: <https://proaves.blogspot.com> which was launched in 2009.

This paper is split into various sections: (i) species added; (ii) subspecies added; (iii) splits; (iv) species removed; (v) subspecies removed; (vi) changes of category; and (vii) other changes (genus names, English names, spellings, linear order, etc.).

Species added

Manx Shearwater *Puffinus puffinus*

There is a sight record of this species from San Andrés island (McCormick 1999, McNish 2003). Manx Shearwater was listed as hypothetical for Colombia by Anonymous (2009) but we are not aware of any records in the continental area of Colombia. There are records of this pelagic species elsewhere in the Caribbean region of northern South America (Aruba, Bonaire, Curaçao and Trinidad & Tobago) and other Caribbean islands (Cuba, Hispaniola, Puerto Rico and St Vincent: Raffaele et al. 1998 who do not list the species for San Andrés) and Central America (e.g. Howell & Webb 1995), so its occurrence as a vagrant in San Andrés (or off the Caribbean coast) would not be surprising. We include this species for San Andrés with a denotation that it is known only from sight records ('SA(Obs)'), pending formal publication of any further details of this record.

Black-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus ridibundus*

This species was listed for Colombia by Salaman et al. (2001), who cited Parker et al. (1996). However, Parker et al. (1996) do not list the species for Colombia, noting records only in Trinidad, French Guyana, Suriname and the Antilles. Hilty & Brown (1986) had previously considered this species only to be "possible" in Colombia. The only published South American records of this species to our knowledge are from Trinidad & Tobago and French Guyana (Tostain & Dujardin 1989, Kenefick & Hayes 2006). Black-headed Gull was therefore not included in recent editions (Salaman et al. 2007, 2008, 2009). However, Rodner et al. (2000) and Restall et al. (2006) report sight records from unspecified localities in Colombia and Anonymous (2009) also lists the species for Colombia. We are not aware of details of any Colombian records having been published, although this species surely occurs in Colombia as a vagrant. We tentatively list the species as hypothetical ("Obs") on the basis of Rodner et al. (2000) and Restall et al. (2006) in the hope that published details of records are forthcoming in the near future.

Forster's Tern *Sterna forsteri*

An individual observed and photographed by Carl Downing et al. in SFF Los Flamencos, Dept of Guajira, northern Colombia on 8 December 2009. Photographs have been made available to the checklist team. We add this species to the main list as confirmed but do not publish a photograph herein, given that a paper concerning this record is in preparation by the observers in question.

Grey-backed Hawk *Leucopternis occidentalis*

Included on a list of birds observed in Nariño department by Universidad de Nariño students and professors (per M. McMullan). This species is previously known north to northwestern Ecuador and must occur in southern Colombia. Details of any observations have not yet been

published, so we categorize it as “Obs” for the time being. We would encourage the observers to publish details of their records.

Rio Orinoco Spinetail *Synallaxis beverlyae*

Hilty & Ascanio (2009) described this new species from several islands in the Río Orinoco. One of the collecting localities is on a river island which appears to include some Colombian and Venezuelan territory. Only Venezuelan localities were detailed for the species by Hilty & Ascanio (2009) although the occurrence of the species in Colombia is asserted in the abstract of the paper. S. Hilty (in litt. 2009) noted that "I have no doubt that the bird occurs on some islands which are Colombian, and even occasionally on the mainland shore (all these island specialists also occur from time to time along the shore when there are floods). However, the political affiliation of some of the numerous islands—i.e. whether Colombian or Venezuelan—is difficult to discern in the middle Orinoco region where this species was found. In particular, river channel changes and instability of some islands complicates this problem. All of our work there was on the Venezuelan side and I do not have a tape recording from a site in that region that is unambiguously Colombian." D. Ascanio (in litt. 2009) later noted to us that: "There are a couple of records for Colombia already. One was reported in the Colombian side of the Orinoco". *S. beverlyae* is added to the checklist with the annotation "Obs" indicating that there are sight records only in Colombia on the basis of these comments and Hilty & Ascanio (2009)'s abstract. A published photograph would be welcomed to confirm the tiny range extension that a Colombian record would represent.

Yellow-cheeked Becard *Pachyramphus xanthogenys*

Observed by Miles McMullan on the Pasto-Mocoa road at 1050m (eastern slope of the Andes), Dept of Putumayo in February 2010. Both sexes were observed well in lightly wooded

roadside vegetation at about 15-20m distance. They responded to playback. This species was previously known north to northern Ecuador and is an overdue addition to the Colombian list. However, photographic confirmation is still lacking, so we categorize it as “Obs”.

Species removed

Ecuadorian Trogon *Trogon mesurus*

Restall et al. (2006) and Remsen et al. (2010) considered this recently split species not to occur as far north as Colombia. We erroneously included this species for Colombia in Salaman et al. (2009) based on the split in Remsen et al. (2010).

Olivaceous Siskin *Carduelis olivacea*

There are no specimen records of this species on BioMap and we are not aware of any published records. Anonymous (2009) did not list the species for Colombia. *C. olivacea* occurs on the east slope of the Andes in northern Ecuador and possibly could occur in Nariño but is removed from the checklist for now.

Subspecies added

We recognize the following subspecies as occurring in Colombia:

Oxyruncus cristatus brooksi has been tentatively added to the checklist following a comparison between specimens collected in the northern Central Andes of Colombia (ICN 34391 and un-numbered) and a photograph of a further individual (Salaman et al. 2002) against material in the AMNH and BMNH collections. The population in Colombia is closer to *brooksi* than to Venezuelan *phelpsi* in its dorsal coloration. We do not comment on whether *brooksi* is itself a valid subspecies as against other Central American populations or on whether the Central Andes population may be subspecifically distinct,

but follow existing treatments of subspecies in this group in this regard (Dickinson 2003, Kirwan et al. in prep.). Alvarez et al. (2007) also tentatively categorized the Colombian population as being of the subspecies *brooksi*.

Anisognathus lacrymosus yariguierum is a new subspecies for science recently described by Donegan & Avendaño (2010) as endemic to subpáramo habitats in the Yariguíes mountain range.

Lafresnaya lafresnayi longirostris was a new subspecies described by Schuchmann et al. (2003) which had previously been overlooked.

Arremon torquatus larensis is added (see discussion below) (Cadena & Cuervo 2009).

An undescribed subspecies of *Syndactyla subalaris* (description in preparation, C Andes: Donegan in prep.) is added as “subsp”.

Subspecies removed

The following previously-listed subspecies of the *Momotus momota* complex are not regarded by Stiles (2009) as valid: *conexus*, *olivaresi*, “*subsp.* (*Cm, alto Magd.*)”, and *reconditus*. They are removed in the 2010 edition. The following subspecies of *Momotus subrufescens* (previously tentatively listed in the checklist, denoted with a “?”) are not considered to occur in Colombia by Stiles (2009): *argenticinctus* and *momota*.

As discussed further below, the subspecies *Cinclodes fuscus paramo* is also removed.

Splits and lumps

In this section, we discuss our treatment of various splits which have been suggested in recent literature. We also set out rationale for certain splits which are already recognized in the checklist but which are not accepted by some other authorities. In some such cases, whilst splits have been suggested in the field guide literature

or have been debated over the years, sonograms have not previously been published and voice has not been subject to detailed studies. In each case, maintenance of our approach in the Colombian checklist was supported by the vast majority of persons who voted online in the *Foro de Listado*.

Colombian Chachalaca *Ortalis columbiana*

In Salaman et al. (2001) but not in Salaman et al. (2007, 2008a, 2009), we recognised the split of Colombian Chachalaca *Ortalis columbiana* of the Cauca and Magdalena valley slopes from Speckled Chachalaca *Ortalis guttata* of the Amazonian basin and eastern Andean foothills. Many other authors have adopted a similar approach in splitting these species (e.g. Peters 1934, Pinto 1938, Meyer de Schauensee 1964, Hilty & Brown 1986, Sick 1993, Ridgely & Greenfield 2001, Restall et al. 2006, Gill & Donsker 2010). However, in some publications, they are lumped (e.g. Dunning 1987, Dickinson 2003, Rodriguez et al. 2005, Erize et al. 2006; Brooks 2006, Rensen et al. 2010). In the case of Brooks (2006) a research and conservation priority was highlighted for *Ortalis guttata columbiana* to “verify its status as a subspecies of *O. guttata* or its validity as a separate species”. Votes on the Colombian checklist forum were 13-3 in favor of treating this as a separate species.

As is well known, *columbiana* differs considerably from eastern populations in plumage characters. *O. columbiana* has more extensive pale scaling on the breast and belly, compared to stippled white marks in *guttata* (**Figure 1**).

Previous opinions on the rank of these taxa have been based largely on subjective interpretations of plumage and biometrics (e.g. Sick 1993). Molecular studies of the group (e.g. Pereira et al. 2002, Frank-Hoeflich et al. 2007) have not addressed the issue of relations between members of the *Ortalis guttata* group to date. In this section, we consider vocal differences, which have not been subject to detailed study before

now. Notably, vocal differences are comparable to those between other *Ortalis* ranked as species.

There are considerable interspecific differences in the rhythm of phrases of *Ortalis* songs. For example, the song of *Ortalis garrula* is a repeated three-syllable “*Guachara*” whilst that of *O. ruficauda* is a repeated “*Guacharacá*” (four syllables with emphasis on final note). Differences in these aspects of the vocal signature have impacts on acoustic variables such as number of notes, total song length and the relative length of different notes in a song. Recordings of *columbiana* (n=7) involve an initial ‘cha’ followed by a gap, then a longer phrase, in all song bouts. The full repeated phrase could be transcribed as “*Cha, chachalaca*”. The final two notes are sometimes delivered closely together and merge in some recordings into: “*Cha, Chachalac*”. In contrast, all recordings studied of the song of other *O. guttata* populations lack the initial note in their main song bouts (n=21). The songs of the subspecies *guttata* and *subaffinis* of Amazonia (n=16), *auracan* of northern Brazil (n=2) and *squamata* of southern Brazil (n=3) are instead a repeated three or four note refrain with no initial note or gap, which could be transcribed as “*Chachala*” or “*Chachalaca*”. In recordings where more than one individual is calling, one must listen carefully to identify particular individuals so as to discern the rhythm of the song, particularly at the start of a song, when many individuals tend to vocalize in duets. Sick (1993)’s transcriptions of some songs is based on the sound of more than one individual vocalizing, for example. Fieldwork by the first author in Colombia and Bolivia with both *columbiana* and *guttata* groups revealed that these more complex appearing songs are due to several individuals vocalising at the same time.

There is variation in songs across the range of the eastern populations. Recordings of the northern Brazilian populations *auracan* examined are all of a three-syllable refrain. Recordings had different relative lengths of the three syllables compared to Amazonian populations (**Figure 2**).

These two Brazilian populations also have different plumage from *guttata*, leading some authorities to split them (e.g. Sick 1993). However, the Comité Brasileiro de Registros Ornitológicos does not recognize this split and vocal differences are not so marked as for *columbiana*.

Rufous-headed Chachalaca *Ortalis erythroptera* also has a three-syllable song (as for a narrower *Ortalis guttata*) but the song is lower pitched and slower (**Figure 2**). This difference is comparable to that shown between *O. guttata* group and *O. columbiana*.

Turning to calls, various one-note honks and whistles, often repeated, are given by both *guttata* and *columbiana* groups. Insufficient materials were available to carry out a detailed comparison.

In light of vocal and morphological differences, a better approach for these birds for the time being under a biological species concept (Helbig et al. 2002) would be to recognize *Ortlais columbiana* as a species and we therefore adopt this approach, reverting to the position in Salaman et al. (2001).

Recordings examined: {Note: coordinates are in different formats for different recordings but follow the original source} *O. guttata guttata*
Songs: XC2629, XC2632, XC2635 (Sjoerd Mayer, Ibasiriri, Izozog, Santa Cruz, Bolivia 19°5334S, 62°5334W, 400m), XC2588 (Sjoerd Mayer, Buena Vista, Santa Cruz, Bolivia, 17°468S, 63°661W, 325m), XC8550 (Herman van Oosten, Juan Guerra, Amazonas, Peru, 06°569118S, 76°242371W, 350m), XC10009, XC10010, XC10011 (Allen T. Chartier, Sacha Lodge, Rio Napo, Orellana, Ecuador, 00°4714S, 76°4603W, 250m), XC11351 (Todd Mark, near Alto Dorado, Rio San Francisco drainage, Cajamarca, Peru, 04°9548S, 78°9792W), XC28117 (David Geale, Explorama Lodge, Loreto, Peru, 03°4501S, 72°8801W, 100m), XC28118 (David Geale, Amazonia Lodge, Alto Madre de Dios, Peru, 12°866S, 71°367W, 550m), XC43910, XC44406 (Thomas Donegan, Urpuma,

Sandillani, PNN Cotapata, La Paz, Bolivia, 16°22'23"S, 67°8'762"W, 1950m), XC43701 (Jorge Muñoz, Entre Rios, Florencia-Caquetá, Colombia, 75°36'18"W, 01°38'9"N, 330m).
Puerto Napo, Ecuador (Krabbe & Nilsson 2003);

Kapawi Lodge, Pastraza (Krabbe & Nilsson 2003). Calls: XC36400 (Charlie Vogt, Rio Mayo below Chito 11 km SE of Zumba, Zamora-Chinchipe, Ecuador, 750m).

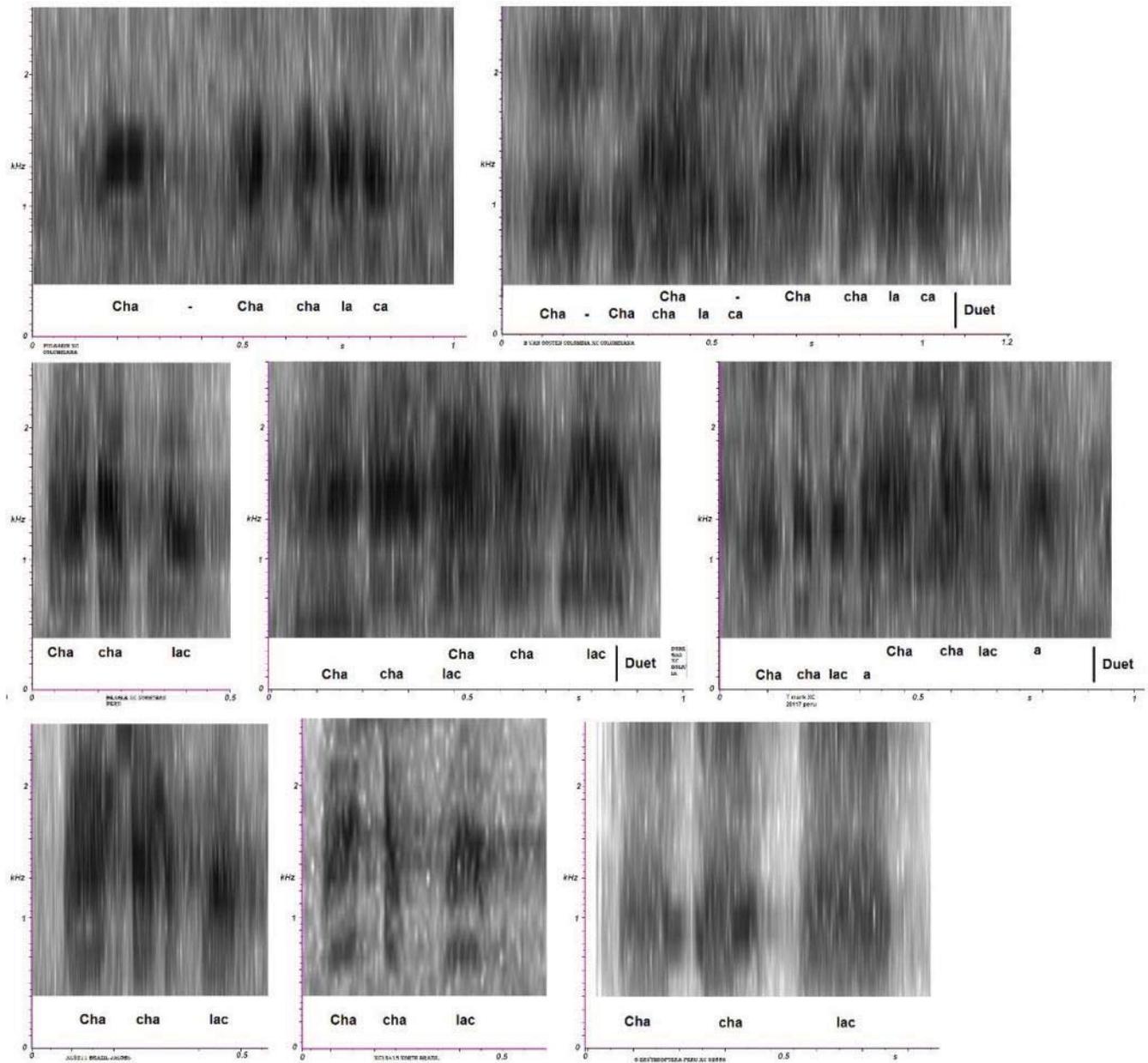


Figure 2: Sonograms of (left to right): Top row: (i) *Ortalis columbiana* XC4983 (Paulo C. Pulgarín, Antioquia, Colombia); (ii) *Ortalis columbiana* duet XC18157 (Herman van Oosten, Antioquia). Middle row: (i) *Ortalis guttata guttata* XC28118 (David Geale, Madre de Dios, Peru); (ii) *Ortalis guttata guttata* Duet XC44406 (Thomas Donegan, La Paz, Bolivia); (iii) *Ortalis guttata guttata* alternative song Duet XC11351 (Todd Mark, Cajamarca, Peru). Bottom row: (i) *Ortalis guttata squamata* XC7385 (Fernando Jacobs, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil); (ii) *Ortalis guttata auracan* XC13415 (Gilmar Farias, Mata da Ronda, Brazil), (iii) *Ortalis erythroptera* XC32556 (Paul Noakes, Tumbes, Peru).

O guttata auracana Songs: XC5634 (Glauco Alves Pereira, Mata do INCRA, Bonito, Pernambuco, Brazil, 600m), XC13415 (Gilmar Farias, Pernambuco, Pombos, Mata da Ronda, Brazil, 07°852159S, -34°917126W, 368m), Calls: XC6182 (Glauco Alves Pereira, Mata da Millenium, Mataraca, State of Paraíba, Brazil, 06°5834S, 35°0501W, 30m), XC10114 (Mauricio Cabral Periquito, Praia do Gamela, Sirinhaém, Pernambuco, Brazil, 08°6114S, 35°0392W, 0m).



Figure 1: *Ortalis columbiana* (Cerro de la Paz, Santander, Colombia, 1000 m, January 2003 by T. Donegan, top) and *Ortalis guttata* (below, Sacha Lodge, Ecuador, 2007, Kent Nickle, flickr.com).

Ortalis guttata squamata Songs: XC7385 (Fernando Jacobs, 09001 Coqueiro - São Lourenço do Sul, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, 31°3653S, 51°9784W, 100m), XC8211 (Fernando Jacobs, 07001 Arroio Santa Bárbara - Pelotas, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, 31°6920S,

52°4067W, 0m); XC45600 (Evaír Legal, Parque Municipal da Lagoa do Peri, Florianópolis, Santa Catarina, Brazil, 27°43'1"S, 48°31'1"W).

O. columbiana Songs: XC4983 (Paulo C. Pulgarín, Antioquia, Mpio. Amalfi, Vereda Guayabito, Finca Costa Rica, Colombia, 1800m), XC18157 (Herman van Oosten, El canon del Rio Claro, Antioquia, Colombia, 05°8334N, 74°8667W, 600m), XC30817 (Thomas Donegan, La Luchata, above Galan, Serrania de los Yariguies, Santander, Colombia, 06°6334N, 73°3167W, 2000m). Finca Tintiná, Caldas (05°14'55"N; 75°41.06"W) (Álvarez & Cordoba 2002). Yotocó, Valle del Cauca (03°52'N, 76°26'W) (Álvarez et al. 2003). Vereda El Encanto, Amalfi, Antioquia (06°54'N, 75°07'W), Andrés Cuervo (Álvarez et al. 2007); Neira, vereda La Cristilina, cuenca alto río Tapias (05°34'N, 74°53'W), Mauricio Álvarez (Álvarez et al. 2007). Calls: XC45336 (Bernabe Lopez-Lanus, Roncesvalles, Tolima, 2500m); Finca Tintiná, Caldas (05°14'55"N; 75°41'06"W) (Álvarez & Cordoba 2002); Yotocó (as above) José Agustín Lopez (Álvarez et al. 2007).

Sandwich Tern *Thalasseus sandvicensis*

We have accepted the recently-proposed split of Sandwich Tern based on molecular data (Efe *et al.* 2009). The differences in morphology (especially for first winter birds) between new world and old world populations are also noteworthy in the context of group where differences in such features among sympatric species are often small (e.g. *Sterna hirundo* vs. *S. paradisea*). This split results in a change of name of the population in Colombia to *T. acuflavidus*, "Cabot's Tern" or, in Spanish, "Gaviotín de Cabot" but does not result in any additional species being added to the Colombian checklist. We already treat the taxon eurygnatha ("Cayenne Tern") as conspecific as recommended by Efe et al. (2009) so no further changes are required. A vote on the Colombian checklist forum suggested support for this split, with a 9-1 vote in favor.

Common Gallinule *Gallinula galeata*

This split was accepted by Remsen et al. (2010: Proposal 416) based on vocal data presented by Constantine & The Sound Approach (2006) and molecular studies by Groenenberg et al. (2008). There is a consequent change to the Latin and English name for the population occurring in Colombia from Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus* to Common Gallinule *Gallinula galeata*.

Blue-crowned Motmot *Momotus momota*

Stiles (2009) proposed splitting this taxon into five separate species and this was accepted by Remsen et al. (2010: Proposal 412). Salaman et al. (2001) had previously accepted the split of *M. aequatorialis* but this was lumped so as to follow Remsen et al.'s previous treatment in Salaman et al. (2007, 2008a, 2009) when we moved to SACC taxonomy. The following species and subspecies occur in Colombia:

- *Momotus aequatorialis* (subspecies: *aequatorialis*) (Andean region) Andean Motmot
- *Momotus subrufescens* (subspecies: *subrufescens*, *osgoodi*, *spatha*) (Caribbean region and Magdalena valley) Whooping Motmot
- *Momotus momota* (subspecies: *microstephanus*) (Eastern Colombia) Blue-crowned Motmot.

Chestnut-mandibled Toucan *Ramphastos swainsonii*

Many authors, particularly in the field guide literature, treat Chestnut-mandibled Toucan *Ramphastos swainsonii* as separate from Black-mandibled Toucan *R. ambiguus*, (e.g. Meyer de Schauensee 1964, 1966, Hilty & Brown 1986, Fjeldsa & Krabbe 1990, Ridgely & Gwynne 1989, Dunning 1987, Howell & Webb 1995, Ridgely & Greenfield 2001, Stotz et al. 1996, Dickinson 2003, Krabbe & Nilsson 2003, Hilty 2003, Restall et al. 2006, AOU 1998, 2019,

Salaman et al. 2000, 2007, 2008a, 2009; and Gill & Donkser 2010, the latter considering the split to be “accepted by all except SACC”). Despite the latter assertion, some other authorities treat them as lumped (e.g. Short & Horne 2001, 2002; Erize et al. 2006; Remsen et al. 2010; and post-2006 journal papers that require Remsen et al. 2010 to be followed, e.g. Donegan et al. 2007, Patané et al. 2010).

R. swainsonii (subspecies: *swainsonii* and *abbreviatus*) occurs west of the Andes into the Magdalena valley, whereas *R. ambiguus* occurs on the east slope of the Andes. All three taxa were lumped by Haffer (1974) who noted overlaps in biometrics and plumage, based largely on studies of specimens. An inspection of specimens at BMNH gives some insights to this treatment. Once bare skin and bill coloration are lost, as occurs on specimens of a certain age, individuals are difficult to assign to one or other subspecies (except by collecting locality), because biometrics (bill, tail and wing length) overlap and plumage is essentially identical. Despite this, based on the literature review above, it is evident that Haffer (1974)'s lump has not been widely followed.

The two species groups differ considerably in bare skin coloration on the face, with *ambiguus* being blue and *abbreviatus* and *swainsonii* being greenish and yellowish respectively. The English names also correctly reflect the differences in bill coloration, with *ambiguus* being black-billed and *abbreviatus* / *swainsonii* being dark chestnut brown. As pointed out by Stiles et al. (1999), *abbreviatus* is a valid taxon and is closer to *swainsonii* in its morphology, habitat requirements and range. The morphological differences between the *swainsonii* and *ambiguus* groups are rather striking when individuals are observed in the field.

A recent molecular study showed *R. ambiguus* to be a monophyletic group based on the individuals sampled. There was 1.35% mtDNA variation between *swainsonii* and *ambiguus*, suggesting a

Pleistocene divergence (Patané et al. 2010). Whilst this was a relatively high value for intraspecific mtDNA variation for a toucan, it amounts to only modest variation and was based on limited sampling (not including *abbreviatus*). On its own, this data forms no basis for either lumping or splitting a species and no such action was suggested by the authors.

Turning to voice, Stiles et al. (1999) elucidated small differences between recordings from Colombia and a single recording then available of *ambiguus* from Peru. Recordings available today include good numbers and broad geographical sampling of all populations. An inspection of sonograms of available recordings was carried out (recordings inspected: all those in Krabbe & Nilsson (2003, Ecuador: 5 *swainsonii*, 2 *ambiguus*), Alvarez et al. 2007 (Colombia: 2 *ambiguus*), Jahn et al. 2001 (Ecuador: 1 *swainsonii*), Boesman 1999 (Venezuela: 2 x *ambiguus*) and www.xeno-canto.org as of 16 April 2010 (various countries: 13 *swainsonii*, 3 *abbreviatus*, 5 *ambiguus*); totals 19 *swainsonii*, 11 *ambiguus*, 3 *abbreviatus*. Both groups give two phrases in their songs, commonly transcribed as: “Dios te de” and “Dios te de te de”. Several recordings of *ambiguus* sound more hurried (hence, shorter) and higher than some recordings of the *swainsonii* group (as noted by Stiles et al. 1999). However, there is overlap, with slower *ambiguus* falling in the range of faster *swainsonii* (including if only “Dios te de” recordings are compared). It is possible that there are average differences in some acoustic variables (this was not tested statistically), but there would not appear to be diagnostic differences in note shape, song length or acoustic frequency for any particular population. Ridgely & Greenfield (2001) previously noted that populations do not appear fully diagnosable on the basis of voice, a conclusion which is consistent with ours.

A rationale for treating *swainsonii* as separate from *ambiguus* would be based on allopatric distributions, diagnostic differences in bare skin and bill coloration, moderate mtDNA variation

and average differences in biometrics and possibly song speed. *R. swainsonii* is clearly a phylogenetic species but is a questionable biological species. Despite these only moderate differences, votes on the Colombian checklist forum were strongly in favour of maintaining species rank for *swainsonii*, with 12-1 votes in favour, perhaps reflecting the status quo of treatments in the vast majority of leading texts.

We see no strong reasons either to split or lump these taxa based on available studies and materials. Although the split is not strongly supported, the proposition that Remsen et al. (2010)’s lump treatment represents the “status quo” is also weakly supported. The SACC list is supposedly based on Meyer de Schauensee (1970) and Dickinson (2003) who both split this group, as does the AOU’s North American checklist committee (AOU 2010). For whatever reason, Haffer (1974)’s lump has not been widely followed. In accordance with the prevailing treatment in leading texts and the votes received on the checklist forum, we therefore tentatively maintain our current treatment but with little enthusiasm.

Bar-winged Cinclodes *Cinclodes fuscus*

Sanín et al. (2009) proposed splitting this species into three separate species. This proposal was accepted by Remsen et al. (2010: Proposal 415). The only species in this group occurring in Colombia is *Cinclodes albidiventris*, with subspecies *oreobates* (East Andes) and *albidiventris* (southernmost Andes of Nariño and surrounding region, South into Ecuador) occurring in the country. The subspecies name “*paramo*” referred to in Salaman et al. (2001, 2007, 2008a, 2009) appears to be incorrect so has been deleted. We adopt Alvaro Jaramillo’s suggestion (in Remsen et al. 2010) of the English name Chestnut-winged Cinclodes for *albidiventris*.

White-streaked Antvireo *Dysithamnus leucosticta*

The split of *Dysithamnus leucosticta* has now been proposed for a second time to Remsen et al. (2010), following publication of additional vocal data supporting this already widely-recognized split by Isler et al. (2008). As we had already recognized this split, no changes to its status in the Colombian checklist are necessary. We note that a vote on the Colombian checklist forum also supported the split, with 11-0 voted in favor.

Undulated Antshrike *Frederickena unduligera*

Isler et al. (2009) proposed to split this species into two, based on vocal differences. It was suggested that the differences in song between the two populations involved are equivalent to those between sympatric thamnophilid antbirds. Fulvous Antshrike *F. fulva* is known from a series of specimens (see Hilty & Brown 1986) and other records (e.g. Salaman et al. 1999) from the base of the East Andes in Cauca, Caquetá and Nariño departments. Undulated Antshrike *F. unduligera* was hypothesized by Isler et al. (2009) to occur in Amazonas department of Colombia and is also included in our checklist (Salaman et al. (2001, 2007, 2008a, 2009), but no records were presented by Isler et al. (2009). We retain *F. unduligera* on the basis of observations pending further data, treating it as hypothetical (“Obs”) for now.

Chocó Tyrannulet *Zimmerius albigularis*

Remsen et al. (2010: Proposal 363) recently split this species from *Zimmerius chrysops* based on molecular data published by Rheindt et al. (2008). *Zimmerius albigularis* occurs in southern Colombia (Nariño department) from where BioMap reports over 70 specimens, under *Zimmerius chrysops albigularis*). The vast majority of these specimens were collected by M.A. Carriker Jr. at Ricaurte and most of them are at the Academy of National Sciences, Philadelphia with a handful of specimens in

Colombia (e.g. two at Universidad de Nariño from La Planada). This split is recognised and the species' presence in Colombia can be considered well-documented. *Z. albigularis* is therefore added to the main checklist as a confirmed species.

Venezuelan Tyrannulet *Zimmerius improbus*

We recognized Ridgely & Tudor (1994)'s split of these species in Salaman et al. (2001, 2007, 2008a, 2009). Essentially all other major works dealing with the two populations over the last 20 years have adopted the same approach (e.g. Sibley & Monroe 1990, AOU 1998, 2010, Hilty 2003, Fitzpatrick 2004, Restall et al. 2006, Rheindt et al. 2008, Ridgely & Tudor 2009, Gill & Donsker 2010). Remsen et al. (2010) is effectively the 'last man standing' in lumping this species with Paltry Tyrannulet *Z. vilissimus*, leading this to be an exception to our decision in 2007 to follow Remsen et al.'s taxonomy in the Colombian checklist. That decision was re-evaluated this year.

Venezuelan Tyrannulet *Z. improbus* of the Perijá and Mérida Andes and coastal Venezuela is a bigger bird than Paltry Tyrannulet *Z. vilissimus*. As is well known (e.g. Ridgely & Tudor 1994), the former also has a considerably larger bill and most different head plumage. A review of sound recordings at www.xeno-canto.org further supports the split, as noted by Ridgely & Tudor (1994), Fitzpatrick (2004) and Rheindt et al. (2008). *Z. vilissimus* has a short 'pip' as its call whereas Venezuelan Tyrannulet of the Merida and Perijá ranges gives a longer whistle with a most different note shape (**Figure 3**). These differences are equivalent to those between other *Zimmerius* treated as species (comparing with sonograms in Rheindt et al. 2008).

Habitat requirements (lower montane vs. lowland) are also quite distinct. Although there are no recordings available from the Perijá range or Santa Marta, one would expect populations in that region to be related to Andean populations

given their similarity in plumage and other aspects of morphology. We see no reason to adopt Remsen et al. (2010)'s more cautious approach in light of the obvious vocal and morphological differences between these species, which are substantial in the context of Tyrannidae. Votes on the Colombian checklist forum were in favor of maintaining our current (split) treatment with 10-0 votes in favor. In light of all these factors, we will maintain our current treatment of recognizing these two species.



Figure 3: Examples of specimens of the most geographically proximate subspecies of Venezuelan and Paltry Tyrannulets. Above and on left: *Zimmerius improbus petersi* ICN 36483 male collected by Ana María Díaz-B. and F. Gary Stiles on 19 October 2007 at Minca, Santa Marta, Magdalena. Below and on right: *Zimmerius*

vilissimus parvus ICN 23947 male collected by C. Marin Kelle on 10 June 1998 at Bahia Solano, Chocó.

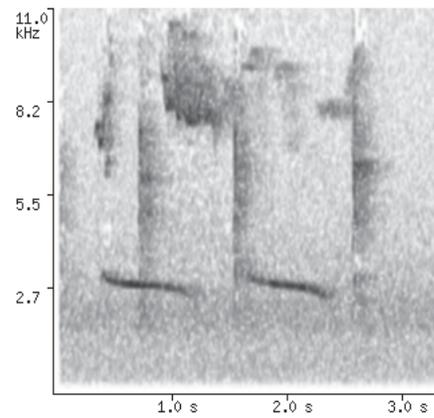
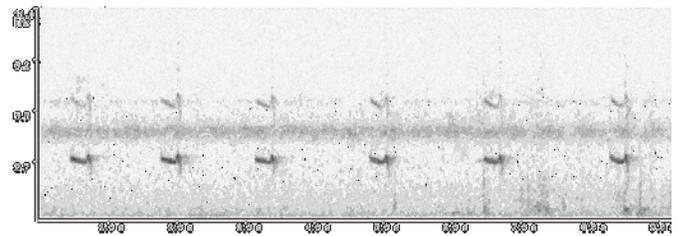


Figure 4: sonograms generated by www.xeno-canto.org of: Above: Call of Paltry Tyrannulet (*Zimmerius vilissimus*) recorded by Don Jones (XC15563, Puntarenas, Costa Rica). Below: call of Venezuelan Tyrannulet (*Zimmerius improbus*) by Nick Athanas (XC3463, Aragua, Venezuela).

Further taxonomic work would be welcome on the Venezuelan and Central American populations, due to notable (but smaller) differences in plumage within the two groups (e.g. Restall et al. 2006) and the lack of recordings from northeastern Colombia. Recordings from Nicaragua and Mexico show a more “n”-shaped note than those from Costa Rica and Panama, but the northern Central American recordings are still of a similar length and pitch to others of the *Z. vilissimus* group. Traylor (1982) previously noted that some of the other subspecies might be better considered as separate species, which is an issue worthy of further study. However, considering variation within the two

groups would be a separate matter to recognizing the well-supported split of *improbus* versus *vilissimus*.

Sound recordings inspected:

Z. vilissimus group: Don Jones (XC15563) on 25-11-1993 at Estación Biológica Las Cruces, San Vito de Coto Brus, Puntarenas, Costa Rica. David Bradley (XC3244, background) at Volcan Lakes, Chiriqui province, Panama on 14-7-2005. Tom Will (XC11072) undated at La Lupe, Nicaragua. Macaulay no. 127250 Reserva Biosefera El Triunfo, Chiapas, Mexico by Curtis Marantz on 19 March 2002. Macaulay nos. 25671 and 31125 at Cerro Jefe, Panama by Theodore Parker on 3 February 1982 and by Thomas Davis on 1 March 1983. Macaulay no. 30262 by Lewis Kibler on 19 July 1983 in Panama (9.0, -79.0, 30m). Macaulay no. 28248 by Arnoud Berg at Monteverde, Puntarenas, Costa Rica on 7 May 1981.

Z. improbus group: Cortada de Maya road, Colonia Tovar, Aragua, Venezuela by Nick Athanas (XC3463) on 11-10-2005; Nick Athanas (XC8253 and XC8251) at Pico Humboldt Trail, Parque Nacional Sierra Nevada, Mérida, Venezuela on 01-08-2006, 2350-2500m. Macaulay library nos. 66647, 66649, 66651 at Miranda, Venezuela (10.43N, 66.83W) by Paul Schwartz on 21 May 1961. Macaulay no. 66650 at Aragua, Venezuela (10.42N, 67.28W) by Paul Schwartz on 27 May 1961 (also in Alvarez et al. 2007). Note: recordings in Boesman (1999) reported to be of this species are in fact of a Vireo species, as corrected in Boesman (2007) (P. Boesman in litt. 2010).

Paramillo Tapaculo *Scytalopus canus*

Krabbe & Cadena (2010) presented vocal, molecular and morphological data supporting the split of this species. Two species are now recognised as occurring in Colombia:

Paramillo Tapaculo *Scytalopus canus*: timberline on the north end of the Western Cordillera (dept of Antioquia)

Paramo Tapaculo *Scytalopus opacus opacus*: high elevations in the southern Central Andes (dept of Nariño, Cauca, Huila, Valle, Tolima, Quindio, and Risaralda).

San Andrés Mockingbird *Mimus magnirostris*

We have previously treated this taxon in a species separate from Tropical Mockingbird *Mimus gilvus* but now treat it as a subspecies to follow AOU (2010).

Stripe-headed Brush-Finch *Arremon torquatus*

Cadena & Cuervo (2010) have published a revision of this difficult group, suggesting a number of splits. The previous treatment of a single species occurring in Colombia has been untenable for some years. For example, forms *atricapillus* and *assimilis* replace one another by elevation in the Magdalena valley (Hilty & Brown 1986, Donegan et al. 2007). Many authors (e.g. Hilty & Brown 1986, Ridgely & Tudor 1989, Salaman et al. 2001) previously split Black-headed Brush-Finch *A. atricapillus* for this reason. Cadena & Cuervo (2010) propose various further splits, including recognising four species that occur in Colombia. Vernacular names were not given, so we propose names for the Santa Marta and Perijá populations for which no vernacular name was previously used (to our knowledge):

Arremon atricapillus (subspecies *atricapillus* and *tacarcunae*) (lower slopes of all three Andean Andes and mountains of Panamá). Black-headed Brush-Finch / Gorrión-Montés Cabecinegro

Arremon basilicus (Santa Marta mountains) (ENDEMIC) Colombian Brush-Finch / Gorrión-Montés Colombiano. (N.b. "Santa Marta Brush-Finch is used for *Atlapetes melanocephalus*)

Arremon perijanus (Perijá mountains) (NEAR-ENDEMIC) Phelps' Brush-Finch / Gorrion-Montés de Phelps. (N.b. "Perija Brush-Finch" is already used for *Atlapetes nigrifrons*)

Arremon assimilis (subspecies *assimilis* and *larensis*) (widespread from Venezuela through Colombia and Ecuador south to Peru). Stripe-headed Brush-Finch / Gorrión-Montés Listado.

Changes of Category

Audubon's Shearwater *Puffinus lherminieri*

This species was reported to be hypothetical for Colombia by Anonymous (2009). Hilty & Brown (1986) and BioMap both list a specimen record of subspecies *subalaris* in Colombian waters (Universidad del Valle no. 6144, collected in 1995 at Punta Marzo, Juradó, Chocó, prepared by J. Lasso) which had been killed in a fishing net 70 miles from offshore from Cabo Marzo (Chocó). However, this taxon is generally split as Galapagos Shearwater, including in our checklist. Subspecies *loyemilleri* is known from a series of 11 specimens at FMNH from the region of Isla Providencia, where it was considered at least formerly to breed by Bond (1950). The current categorization in Salaman et al. (2008a, 2009) as confirmed is therefore changed to "SA" on account of the records on San Andrés and Providencia.

Red-footed Booby *Sula sula*

Various photographs, unequivocally of this species, were taken on Malpelo and published by López-Victoria & Estela (2007). Further photographs by Felipe Barrera are available on ProAves' flickr page: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/proaves/sets/72157618401920563/> Red-footed Booby can therefore be treated as confirmed for Colombia. The species likely also occurs in the Caribbean region of Colombia, although there have been no records to date other than in San Andrés (McNish 2003). There are a handful of records on the north coast of mainland

Venezuela (although Hilty (2003) queried the status of the species in that region). A white-tailed brown morph bird was observed at relatively close quarters and was present for a period of several hours off the north coast of Venezuela near Puerto Cabello by Julia Robinson-Dean, José Clavijo Jr, Thomas Donegan, Blanca Huertas and Keith Willmott during August 2006 - and this form likely also occurs off northern Colombia.

Red-tailed Hawk *Buteo jamaicensis*

There are a series of sight records in Colombia (Strewe 2001, Castaño & Colorado 2002) and also in Venezuela (Hilty 1999) but no photographic or specimen records have published to date (Rensen et al. 2010). This species is therefore changed in status to "Obs" to note the lack of confirmed records.

Belcher's Gull *Larus belcheri*

Reported to be hypothetical by Anonymous (2009) although Hilty & Brown (1986) previously considered the species only to be "possible" for Colombia. Restall et al. (2006) considered the species to occur in Colombia, being "rare" in the Colombian Pacific but did not provide details of any records. No specimens are found in the BioMap database. This species doubtless occurs as a vagrant in Colombia and is reported by a number of sources. We have changed its status from confirmed to hypothetical (Obs) on the basis of Restall et al. (2006) and in view of the light of published photographs or specimens.

Elegant Tern *Thalasseus elegans*

In Hilty & Brown (1986) there is a record of a single individual on 3 March 1979 in Buenaventura. In our checklist (Salaman et al. 2008a, 2009) it was considered hypothetical ("Obs"). There are various sight records, specimens and recent captures from Colombia in

the Pacific region (Downing 2005, Collins 2006). This species is therefore moved to the main list.

White Tern *Gygis alba*

This was previously treated on the checklist as known only from sight records owing to the lack of published photographs or specimens (Salaman et al. 2008a, 2009) despite the species being well-known in Colombia, particularly on Malpelo where it breeds in numbers (e.g. López-Victoria & Estela 2007). BioMap does not include any specimens and we could not find any previous published photographs. In order to ensure its inclusion as a species confirmed for Colombia, photographs of an individual apparently nesting are printed below. These were taken by Juan Carlos Luna of ProAves on 8 August 2009 on Isla Malpelo. A series of further photographs are available at: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/proaves/sets/72157618401920563/> (Figure 5). The species can now certainly be treated as “confirmed” for Colombia.



Figure 5: White Tern *Gygis alba* on 8 August 2009 on Isla Malpelo by Juan Carlos Luna.

Blue-mantled Thornbill *Chalcostigma stanleyi*

In Salaman et al. (2008b), an overlooked “Bogotá” specimen for Colombia was reported and this species was included in the checklist with the denotation of “Bog”. The species’ inclusion was criticized on the Neotropical Ornithological discussion group (NEOORN-L) by Sergio Córdoba as perhaps not collected in Colombia and unlikely to occur as far north as southern Colombia based on biogeographic and historical geo-political considerations (to which we responded) and by C. Daniel Cadena in Remsen et al. (2010) on the basis that the species’ presence in Colombia was inconsistently documented compared to other species on the Colombian checklist (although the species was denoted “Bog” like others known in Colombia only from Bogota specimens). An individual was observed at close quarters by Miles McMullan at Daza, Cerro Morasurco, 3200 m, off the old Pasto-Buesaco road in July 2009. One female/young male was observed well at 3m distance at eye level. The bird flew up and returned to its perch several times, affording both frontal and dorsal views. Perhaps this was a wandering bird as it was observed during a very dry period and this record is lower than that at which the species normally occurs in Ecuador (Ridgely & Greenfield 2001). As a confirmed locality is still lacking, we add the denotation “Obs” to that of “Bog” for this species and move it from the “Bogota” specimens totals to the hypothetical species totals.

Point-tailed Palmcreeper *Berlepschia rikeri*

The only formally published record of which we are aware for Colombia is a sight record by Pearman (1993) in Leticia, Amazonas although there are various other observations by birders from this region. The first “confirmed” record would appear to be a sound recording made by P. Coopmans from north of Leticia, Amazonas (Macaulay Library no. 50621: 4.1S, 69.93W) on 12 July 1989. The sound file can be found at: <http://macaulaylibrary.org/audio/50621> (Figure

6). The species was recently observed at km 10, Leticia on 28 August 2007 and 14 August 2008 (e.g. Hansson 2007, 2008) where a photograph was taken by Lars Petersson (**Figure 7**). There are no specimens on BioMap or published photographs or sound recordings to our knowledge, but the species can now be treated as confirmed in Colombia based on this published sonogram and photograph.

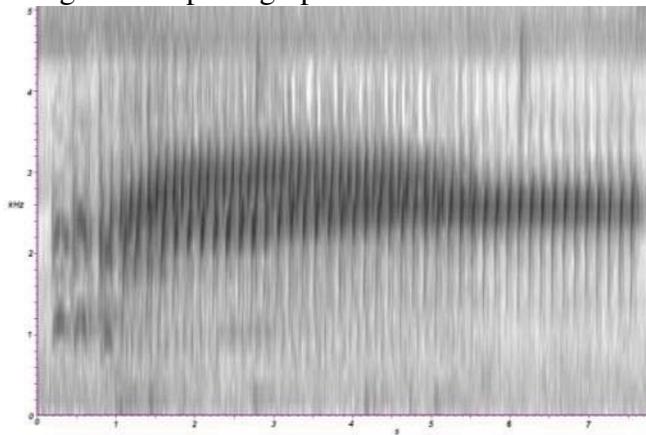


Figure 6: Sonogram of recording of *Berlepschia rikeri* from Leticia, Colombia by P. Coopmans produced using Raven Lite.



Figure 7: Point-tailed Palmcreeper *Berlepschia rikeri* at km 10, Leticia, Colombia 14 August 2008, by Lars Petersson.

Short-tailed Field Tyrant *Muscigralla brevicauda*

Reported to be hypothetical for Colombia by Anonymous (2009), an approach we have now also adopted. There is a record on Isla Gorgona

(Ortiz von Halle 1990), as well as a recent bird mist-netted (but no photograph published) in Sanquianga, Chocó (Ruiz et al. 2007). Photographic or specimen confirmation remains lacking. The hyphen in the English name for this species has been removed following Remsen et al. (2010).

Southern Scrub-Flycatcher *Sublegatus modestus*

Various records from eastern Colombia were reported by Hilty & Brown (1986). However, Restall et al. (2006) considered the species "extremely unlikely [to have] occurred" in northern South America, suggesting that records of Amazonian Scrub-Flycatcher *S. obscurior* more likely to have been involved. Ridgely & Tudor (2009) in contrast considered the records to be plausible, noting that there are other "extralimital" records of this austral migrant in northern South America. This species was considered not to occur in Colombia by Anonymous (2009) and no specimens are reported on BioMap. We continue to list this species, but consider it to be based on field observations only and not confirmed (Obs).

Lesser Wagtail-Tyrant *Stigmatura napensis*

Various sight records from the Leticia region exist (e.g. Hilty & Brown 1986, Restall et al. 2006) but we are not aware of any previous published photographs, sound recordings or specimens from the Amazonian region of Colombia. Furthermore, there are no specimens on BioMap. However, Boesman (1999) includes recordings from the locality "Orinoco river islands (Amazonas)" which is actually in Colombian territory (05.24'N, 67.46'W, 100m) in islands where the Colombo-Venezuelan border is on the east flank of the Orinoco. These recordings are of the Río Negro and Orinoco population of this species (**Figure 8**). That population is currently undergoing study to see whether it requires description and possibly splitting. However, this species can be added to the main

“confirmed” part of our checklist based on these published sound recordings. A confirmed record of the Amazonian population would also be welcomed.

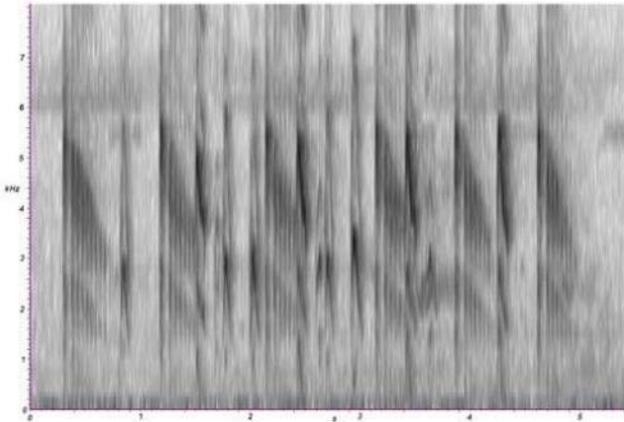


Figure 8: Sonogram of Lesser Wagtail-Tyrant *Stigmatura napensis* in Colombian Orinoco (produced from recording in Boesman 1999) produced using Raven Lite.

American Pipit *Anthus rubescens*

The only record is a sight record from San Andrés (Salaman et al. 2008b). The correct category should therefore be SA(Obs), not SA.

Least Flycatcher *Empidonax minimus*

There is a record of an individual mist-netted, measured and ringed on San Andrés island, with ProAves ring number A32160 (Salaman et al. 2008b), but no photographs of this individual were taken due to the large number of birds being processed on the relevant day (N. Bayly in litt. 2010). The wing formula and measurements confirmed the species' identity and relevant observers have extensive experience of identifying this species in Central America (N. Bayly in litt. 2010). We considered various reported photographic records of *Empidonax minimus* for the Colombian mainland based on data in the ProAves ringing database, but individuals involved were all of other species (*E. traillii* and *E. virescens*).

Comments on the status of other species

Rusty Tinamou *Crypturellus brevirostris*

Rusty Tinamou was listed as a confirmed species for Colombia by Anonymous (2009) but we are only aware only of published sight records (Newman 2008, the same record also being reported by Alvarez 2001). No specimens are registered in BioMap, although this does not include data from IAVH, who have made some expeditions to this area results of which remain unpublished.

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*

The population of this species in Bogotá parks was discussed in Salaman et al. (2008b). It is noteworthy that the Parque Timiza population has declined from that of January 2008 (35) to between 23-26 individuals (counts in October 2008, January 2009, January 2010), with individuals remaining now being mostly less elegant (larger towards tail) and smaller-winged individuals, many of which are likely to be flightless. There are also some Muscovy Duck *Cairina moschata* x Mallard hybrids. A handful of winged females of a normal body shape exhibiting something approaching 'natural' plumage were still present on these occasions. This raises questions as to the origin and fate of the several natural plumage males and females that were present in January 2008. It is not known whether such individuals were released and dispersed or if they were wanderers from other introduced or natural populations. The status of this species as “introduced” is maintained for the time being.

Great Frigatebird *Fregata minor*

Pitman et al. (1995) and López-Victoria & Estela (2006) each report this species as occurring on Malpelo island, in the latter case as possibly breeding. It was considered to be hypothetical by Anonymous (2009) although we had previously treated it as confirmed. A photograph of an

individual tentatively identified as of this species, taken by David Caro at Malpelo in February 2010 (reproduced from Caro 2010), is reproduced below. However, based on the photograph, it is not possible to eliminate Magnificent Frigatebird *F. magnificens* (A. Jaramillo in litt. 2010). As a result, the species remains hypothetical in lacking a definitive photograph.



Figure 9: Great Frigatebird *Fregata minor* on sea off Malpelo (David Caro)

Buckley's Forest Falcon *Micrastur buckleyi*

This species was considered to be confirmed in Colombia by Anonymous (2009). However, whilst there are several records in the Leticia region, the only published record to our knowledge remains a sight record reported in Hilty & Brown (1986) by R. Ridgely and D. Gardner in Leticia in 1976. No specimens are reported by BioMap, nor do any published photographs or sonograms yet exist to our knowledge. This species is widespread and relatively common in Ecuador (Ridgely in litt. 2010) so the lack of confirmed records in

Colombia is somewhat surprising and hopefully can be remedied soon.

Hudsonian Godwit *Limosa haemastica*

Reported to be hypothetical by Anonymous (2009), as was considered the case by Hilty & Brown (1986), citing sight records in Naranjo (1979) at Isla Barú, 8 November 1978. There is also an overlooked specimen record from Colombia (Universidad del Atlántico, Barranquilla no. 069) procured in 1976 from an unspecified locality in Magdalena department, which was taken into captivity in Barranquilla zoo and prepared as a specimen on its death. Despite the vague locality record, “Magdalena department” is unequivocally in Colombia so this is sufficient to constitute an acceptable confirmed record. The current categorisation in Salaman et al. (2008a, 2009) as confirmed is therefore maintained.

Ring-billed Gull *Larus delawarensis*

Based on comments by P. Donahue, Hilty & Brown (1986) considered a specimen at ICN of unknown locality to have been collected “probably in Colombia”, but categorized the species hypothetical for the country. Anonymous (2009) also considered the species to be hypothetical. There are various sight records reported for Colombia by Hilty & Brown (1986), Mazar Barnett et al. (1996) and Downing (2005). A further sight record is reported on e-bird/DATAves by Jerry Cole on 9 January 2007 at Santa Marta, Magdalena. In the notes at the end of the checklist in Salaman et al. (2008a, 2009), we referred to a specimen from Colombia collected in Boyacá as constituting a confirmed record. A photograph of the specimen is published below. Ring-billed Gull has also been recorded in the Andean region in Valle department (Downing 2005) so this montane locality is plausible. Given that this species disperses further south in South America (to Brazil) and as far as western Europe as a regular vagrant or rare winter visitor, its presence in

Colombia is to be expected. We have no reason to doubt that the specimen data in this instance is accurate and therefore maintain listing of this species in the main part of the checklist.



Figure 10: Specimen of Ring-billed Gull *Larus delawarensis* no. ICN 14953 collected at Lago de Tota, Boyacá on 8 December 1964, previously from the collection of C.E. Stiefren.

South American Tern *Sterna hirundinacea*

Reported not to be hypothetical by Anonymous (2009). However, the only known Colombian records are published observations by Spear & Ainley (1999), cited in previous editions of the checklist, for which no photograph or sound recording has been published. The current

categorisation in Salaman et al. (2008a, 2009) as based only on sight records is therefore maintained.

Roseate Tern *Sterna dougallii*

Reported not to be hypothetical by Anonymous (2009). There are no specimen records for Colombia recorded by BioMap. However, a banded (ringed) recovery from Colombia has been reported (Hays 1971). The individual in question was previously banded in the United States. This record has been overlooked in the literature relating to this species Colombia (e.g. Naranjo 1979, Hilty & Brown 1986) although it was referred to by Gochfeld et al. (1980). There are further sight records from February 1979 at Punta de La Cruz, Casablanca and Buritaca, all in Guajirá (Naranjo 1979). There are also sight records on Isla Malpelo (Arzuza et al. 2008) and PNN Salamanca (Gochfeld et al. 1980, Arzuza et al. 2008). The occasional occurrence of this species in Colombia is therefore well established, although to our knowledge it still not confirmed with a published photograph.

Dunlin *Calidris alpina*

The Dunlin is currently listed in the checklist as known in Colombia only from sight records, based on the records in Salaman (1995) and Ruiz-Guerra et al. (2007). Restall et al. (2006) also noted only sight records. This species was reported not to be hypothetical by Anonymous (2009). No specimens reported by BioMap. This species is also well established as occurring as a vagrant in Colombia, but still lacks published documentation.

Rufous-winged Ground-Cuckoo *Neomorphus rufipennis*

Stiles et al. (1995) reports this species from Chiribiquete but no photographs or sonograms have been published. No specimens are reported by BioMap. We therefore consider this species still to be known in Colombia only from

published observations. *N. rufipennis* was considered to be confirmed in Colombia by Anonymous (2009) presumably on a basis of the Stiles et al. (1995) records but we do not follow that treatment pending publication of a sonogram or other verifiable documentation.

Red-billed Ground-Cuckoo *Neomorphus pucheranii*

Willis (1988) made a sight record of this species at Puerto Umbría, Putumayo. This is the only published record of which we are aware and there are no specimen records databased on BioMap. *N. pucheranii* was considered not to be hypothetical by Anonymous (2009) but we do not follow that treatment pending publication of a photograph or sound recording.

Golden-spangled Piculet *Picumnus exilis*

Reported not to be hypothetical by Anonymous (2009). Two sight records are reported in Hilty & Brown (1986) in NE Guainía. A further sight record is reported by Raymond Belding at Camp Camturama on the Venezuela-Colombian border (Vichada department) on 17 February 1993 by e-bird/DATAves. The species was also observed by Kingston et al. (1992) in Serranía de Naquen. Restall et al. (2006) also considered the species to be known only from sight records in the country. No specimens are reported in the BioMap database and no published photographs exist of which we are aware. We therefore consider the status of this species in Colombia to continue to be based solely on observations.

Lineated Woodcreeper *Lepidocolaptes albolineatus*

We treat this species as known only from sight records, based on observations by Willis (1988) in Mitú, Vaupés. Restall et al. (2006) considered that these records likely relate to subspecies *duidae*. A further sight record is reported by Raymond Belding at Camp Camturama on the Venezuela-Colombian border (Vichada

department) on 16 February 1993 recorded on e-bird/DATAves. There is also a sound recording on the Venezuelan side of the río Negro by Chris Parrish (XC6230) but there remain no published Colombian records. BioMap reports 5 specimens of *L. albolineatus* from Colombia, none with definitive data. Five of these are at AMNH but are in fact of *L. souleyetii lineatriceps* (P. Sweet in litt. 20 May 2008) and were presumably previously identified as *albolineatus* based on previous taxonomic treatments in which these two species were lumped. A further “Bogotá” specimen labelled as of this species is at the Leiden museum, but we have not been able to verify its identity and consider it also likely to be of *L. souleyetii*. Although *L. albolineatus* must occur in Colombia, a published photograph or sound recording is still lacking. This species was considered not to be hypothetical by Anonymous (2009) but we consider it not yet to be confirmed.

Guianan Streaked-Antwren *Myrmotherula surinamensis*

Reported not to be hypothetical by Anonymous (2009). The only published record is a sight record by Newman (2008). No specimens in BioMap, although this does not include data from IAVH, who have made some expeditions to this area results of which are unpublished.

Brownish Elaenia *Elaenia pelzelni*

Various published sight records was made of this species in 1979 by Steven Hilty (Hilty & Brown 1986) but we are not aware of any further published records and no specimens are reported by BioMap; nor are any further records noted by Restall et al. (2006). The species was reported to be confirmed in Colombia by Anonymous (2009). This species is well known to occur in the Colombian Amazon region but a published photograph or sonogram remains elusive.

White-throated Kingbird *Tyrannus albogularis*

Reported to be confirmed in Colombia by Anonymous (2009). However, we are aware only of published sight records of this species from the Leticia region (Hilty & Brown 1986) and Serranía de Naquen (Kingston et al. 1992). BioMap reports no specimens.

Fiery-throated Fruiteater *Pipreola chlorolepidota*

Reported to be confirmed in Colombia by Anonymous (2009). However, only published sight records exist (Restrepo et al. 2002, Salaman et al. 2002). Although there are several such records, some of them by the authors of this paper, no specimens, photographs or sound recordings are yet available.

Mangrove Swallow *Tachycineta albilinea*

As foreshadowed in Donegan et al. (2009), the record of a flock of this species at PNN Salamanca (Gochfeld et al. 1980) has been reviewed. Gochfeld et al. (1980) did not definitively identify this species, but referred instead to 40 *Tachycineta* sp. with “green-blue backs and white rumps ... but the fine loreal mark could not be discerned”. The record is considered unlikely to be of White-rumped Swallow *T. leucorhoa* or Chilean Swallow *T. meyeni* as the date of the observations was in January 1977 when such species “would normally be on their southern breeding grounds”. Ridgely & Tudor (2009) recently considered the species had only “perhaps been seen” in the Caribbean region of Colombia based on this record. Blue-and-white Swallow *Pygochelidon cyanoleuca* is common in the Santa Marta mountains (see recordings at www.xeno-canto.org: XC 43798, T. Donegan) but is not found in the lowlands of PNN Salamanca. It is noteworthy that White-winged Swallow *Tachycineta albilinea* is not mentioned by Gochfeld et al. (1980) as that species is common at PNN Salamanca. However, one assumes that it was not mentioned as the white

wings of that species are such an obvious identification feature. Based on Gochfeld et al. (1980)’s published observations, it is difficult to suggest what else these records could refer to but Mangrove Swallow. Notably, land use at Salamanca has changed dramatically in the last three decades. It is plausible that this region was a wintering ground for Mangrove Swallow before the habitat destruction in the region caused by the north coast road. As a result, we tentatively leave this species on the checklist, denoted “Obs”.



Figure 11: Putative aberrant or molting White-winged Swallow *Tachycineta albiventer* in Salamanca, March 2006. Taken from: <http://www.mangoverde.com/wbg/picpages/pic123-13-4.html>

A photographic record of Mangrove Swallow was recently claimed on a website by Rob Scanlon in March 2006 at Salamanca PNN of a bird observed by him and Carl Downing (**Figure 11**). However, based on discussions with various experts, it transpires that the individual is most likely an aberrant or molting White-winged Swallow *Tachycineta albiventer*. This is the most common species in this genus found in the region and the bird photographed has a trace of white on the wing. The individual is not of Tree Swallow *T. bicolor* or Mangrove Swallow *T. albilinea* due to its shade of its upperparts. The photographed

individual more closely resembles Chilean Swallow *T. leucopyga* and White-rumped Swallow *T. leucorhoa* but differs from the latter in lacking more extensive white loreal markings and from both species in its more robust bill and the pattern of white on the neck (A. Jaramillo in litt. 2010).

Tree Swallow *Tachycineta bicolor*

In connection with the review of *Tachycineta* species in Colombia, we also considered the status of Tree Swallow. There are a handful of specimens collected in Colombia according to BioMap: Colegio San José, Medellín houses three specimens: 1468, 1481 and 2365 (all from Hacienda El Amparo, Remedios, Antioquia. There is a further specimen from ICN (no. 3827 collected in 1950 at Lago Guamues (Laguna La Cocha), Pasto, Nariño by J.I. Borrero (Hilty & Brown 1986). Many sight records also exist in the Caribbean region (e.g. Hilty & Brown 1986, Gochfeld et al. 1980). This species is therefore maintained as confirmed for Colombia.

Scrub Blackbird *Dives warszewiczi*

Sight records of this species from southwestern Colombia were discussed in Salaman et al. (2008), leading us to list this species as known only from sight records. Anonymous (2009) lists it as not hypothetical but we are not aware of published details of any specimens or photographs.

Cape May Warbler *Dendroica tigrina*

Reported not to be hypothetical by Anonymous (2009). However, we are aware of only published sight records from the Colombian mainland (PNN Tayrona: Hilty & Brown 1986). The only specimen record on BioMap (Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia no. 150892 was collected in 1937 on Providencia island by D. Feathers. Various other records from San Andrés and Providencia also exist (e.g. Russell et al. 1979, ProAves unpublished data). We therefore

maintain its status as confirmed for San Andrés and Providencia but known only from sight records on the mainland.

Other records considered

Three species were considered to be hypothetical for Colombia by Anonymous (2009) whose presence is well established: Golden-bellied Grosbeak *Pheucticus chrysogaster*, Antillean Nighthawk *Chordeiles minor*, Black-necked Red-Cotinga *Phoenicircus nigricollis*. Brown-hooded Gull *Chroicocephalus maculipennis* and Wing-barred Seadeater *Sporophila americana* were both listed as occurring in Colombia by Anonymous (2009), presumably in error for Grey-hooded Gull *C. cirrocephalus* (Strewe et al. 2008) and other *Sporophila species* (following splits by Stiles 1996) respectively. Various *Brotogeris* and *Rhinocryptidae* were also reported for Colombia by Anonymous (2009) in error whilst species in these groups occurring in Colombia were not included, presumably due to a databasing problem.

Accidental Species

Various changes to species treated as “accidental”, “transient” or “introduced” have been made to reflect latest information.

Escaped and introduced species

We have removed the category of “Introduced not established” or “Int?” and added a new category of “Escaped Species” (Esc). Escaped species have consequently been removed from counts of species in the main part of the list, as done by other checklist authorities (e.g. BOU). The category “Esc” is intended to be used for escaped, exotic species where populations are not yet known to have become established. The category includes species which may be established but where data is lacking, as such species have at some point escaped, even if they are not introduced. The species are included in the main part of the checklist but are not included in the species totals that we report for Colombia.

The following species are changed from the "Int?" category within the checklist to the "Escaped species" category:

- Greylag Goose *Anser anser*
- Pale-winged Trumpeter *Psophia leucoptera*
- African Turtle-Dove *Streptopelia roseogrisea*
- Java Sparrow *Lonchura oryzivora*

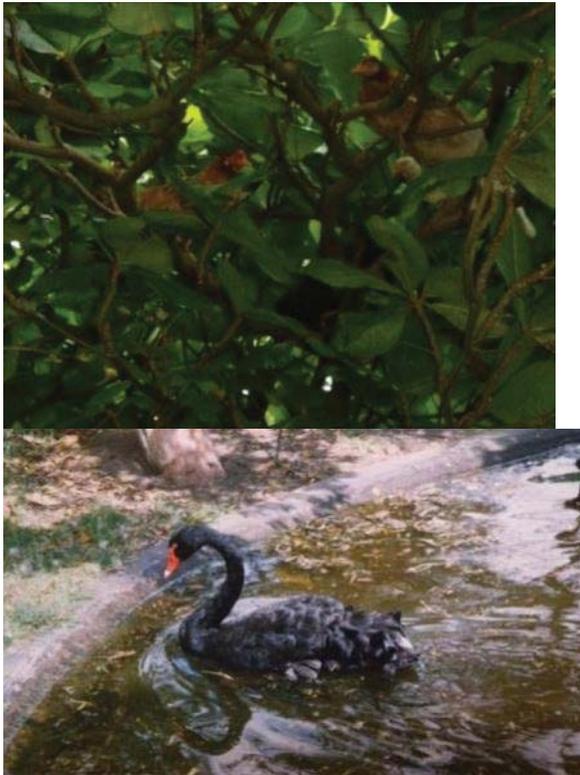


Figure 12: Above: Roaming domestic Chickens *Gallus gallus* roosting in trees adjacent to a marsh near San Luis, San Andrés island by Blanca Huertas, October 2009. Below: Black Swan *C. alector* at Bogotá's botanical gardens by Thomas Donegan, January 2004. As discussed in the species accounts, these photographs are published only to avoid denoting these species as "Obs" as well as "Esc".

Some notes on escaped species are set out below. These include notes on various escaped species which are an addition to the list. For some of these, photographic confirmation is published, so as to deal with issues of record documentation.

Java Sparrow *Lonchura oryzivora*

This was reported to be an introduced species (not hypothetical) by Anonymous (2009). Restall et al. (2006) reported introduced populations in north-east Venezuela and Carantón et al. (2008) considered the species to have occurred in Colombia based on comments from Claudia Múnera and this was previously listed in the checklist (Salaman et al. 2007, 2008a, 2009). We previously listed this species in the checklist as introduced (but not established) based on records of escapes, details of which we have been unable to locate. We are unaware of any publication claiming an established population of this species in Colombia.

Red Junglefowl / Chicken *Gallus gallus domesticus*

One of the world's most important food sources. The vast majority of chickens on San Andrés island have human owners (T. McNish in litt. 2010). However, escaped or wandering individuals sometimes can be found on the island, including outside of farms on grassy verges, village commons and in scrub around lagoons and marshland. Wandering individuals can also sometimes be observed in rural parts of Colombia. The species is listed as "introduced" for the Galapagos (Wiedenfeld 2006), Hawaii (AOU 2010) and some Caribbean islands (per Avibase), which, like San Andrés, have no native gallinaceous bird populations or predators of such birds. We add this to the "escaped" list for San Andrés only, but do not consider it to be established anywhere in Colombia. A photographic record was taken of three individuals roosting in a tree bordering marshland (**Figure 12**).

Black Swan *Cygnus alector*: A small number of individuals are found in Bogotá's parks, including a long-lived individual at the botanical gardens (Ordoñez 1992; photograph above) and birds at Hacienda Napoles, Puerto Triunfo, Antioquia. A photographic record is

published above so as to deal with issues of record documentation.

Budgerigar *Melopsittacus undulatus* This is a common cagebird of which escapes have been recorded in Colombia (Ordoñez 1992) but it is not known to have established sustainable populations. The species is listed by Instituto Alexander von Humboldt as an “introduced species” (URL: http://ef.humboldt.org.co/list_especies.asp) but we would not go so far and consider it only to be known from escapes. No published photographs exist of escaped birds to our knowledge, so this species is also treated as known only from sight records (i.e. both “Obs” and “Esc”).

Common Canary *Serinus canarius*: escaped individuals reported in Bogotá by Ordoñez (1992). No published photographs exist of escaped birds to our knowledge and no populations are considered to be established, so this species is also treated as both escaped and known only from sight records (i.e. both “Obs” and “Esc”).

IAVH also considered various other species included in our checklist to be introduced: Great Egret *Ardea alba*, Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*, Common Ground-Dove *Columbina talpacoti* and White-winged Dove *Zenaida asiatica*. Although some of these species have certainly undergone range expansions as a result of habitat conversion - and *Bubulcus ibis* colonized South America in the 1800s to early 1900s - we do not consider this sufficient to treat any of them as “introduced” as opposed to naturally occurring.

Genus Names, Linear Order, Spellings and English names

We have made the following minor changes, which are either under consideration or have been accepted by Remsen et al. (2010) (Proposal numbers and, where appropriate, key references supporting these changes are cited below):

400. Change linear sequence of genera in Rhinocryptidae (Remsen) (Moyle et al. 2009)
 401. Remove hyphens from certain English names (Remsen)
 402. Remove hyphens from certain English names that do not represent monophyletic groups (Remsen)
 404. Change English name for *Scytalopus griseicollis* (Thomas Donegan) (Donegan & Avendaño 2008)
 408. Change linear order of current *Thryothorus* wrens (II) (Thomas Donegan and Keith Barker) (Mann et al. 2006, 2009)
 410. Recognize genus *Thryophilus* (II) (Thomas Donegan and Keith Barker) (Mann et al. 2006, 2009)
 411. Recognize genus *Cantorchilus* (II) (Thomas Donegan and Keith Barker) (Mann et al. 2006, 2009)
 413. Change linear sequence of genera in *Diglossa* (Remsen) (Mauck and Burns 2009)
 425. Recognize *Nephelomyias* (Remsen) (Ohlson et al. 2009)
 430. Recognize *Trogon [v.] ramonianus* and *T. [v.] crissalis* as constituting a single species distinct from *Trogon violaceus* (Zimmer) (Da Costa & Klicka 2008).
 431. Split *Frederickena unduligera* into two species (Zimmer) (see discussion above)
 434. Place all members of *Schizoeaca* and *Oreophylax* in *Asthenes* (Robb Brumfield) (Derryberry et al. 2010a)
 435. Place *Deconychura stictolaema* in a new genus *Certhiasomus* (Robb Brumfield) (Derryberry et al. 2010b)
- The following proposed changes are relevant to species occurring in Colombia but do not affect the checklist as they result in changes only to extralimital forms:
388. Split *Diomedea exulans* into four species (Frank Rheindt) (references cited in Remsen et al. 2010).
 414. Change linear sequence of species in *Cinclodes* (Camilo Sanín) (Sanín et al. 2009)

421. Split (A) *Grallaricula cumanensis* and (B) *G. kukenamensis* from *G. nana* (Thomas Donegan) (Donegan 2008)

423. Change linear sequence of genera in Rhinocryptidae (Remsen) (Ericson et al. 2009)

The following SACC proposals were already dealt with in previous versions of our checklist, so there has been no need to make further changes:

405A: Split *Dysithamnus plumbeus* and *D. leucostictus* (II) (Thomas Donegan) (Isler et al. 2008)

405C: Adopt "White-streaked Antvireo" as English name for *D. leucostictus* (II) (Thomas Donegan) (Ridgely & Tudor 1994)

409. Recognize genus *Pheugopedius* (II) (Thomas Donegan and Keith Barker) (Mann et al. 2006, 2009)

426. Place *Chlorospingus* in the Emberizidae (Remsen) (Klicka et al. 2007, Da Costa et al. 2009)

Changes resulting from the following AOU NACC proposals (which are relevant to Colombia and not already reflected in our checklist) have also been adopted:

2009-A-15 Change English group name of Cardinalidae to "Cardinals and Allies" (Terry Chesser)

2009-B-03 Recognize the parulid genus *Leiothlypis* (Richard Banks) (Sangster 2008)

2009-B-05 Recognize the parulid genus *Parkesia* (Richard Banks) (Sangster 2008)

2009-B-06 Recognize a new scientific name for the Blue-winged Warbler (Richard Banks) (Olson & Reveal 2009)

2009-C-1: Create a new order, Phaethontiformes, for the Phaethontidae (S. Billerman, I. Lovette, T. Chesser) (Hackett et al. 2008)

2009-C-2: Alter the traditional orders Pelecaniformes (excluding Phaethontidae) and Ciconiiformes to reflect new data on their relationships, and create a new order, Suliformes (option 3) (S. Billerman, I. Lovette, T. Chesser) (Hackett et al. 2008)

2009-C-3: Remove the Accipitridae from the Falconiformes, and create a new order, Accipitriformes (S. Billerman, I. Lovette, T. Chesser) (Hackett et al. 2008)

2009-C-5: Create a new order, Eurypygiformes, for the Sunbittern (and Kagu) (S. Billerman, I. Lovette, T. Chesser) (Hackett et al. 2008)

In addition, we make the following changes:

We have changed the name of *Campyloramphus pucherani* to *Drymotoxeres pucheranii*. The change of species name from *pucherani* to *pucheranii* was suggested by David et al. (2009). The new genus *Drymotoxeres* was described separately by Claramunt et al. (2009) due to *Campyloramphus* being polyphyletic. *Sporophila nigricollis vivida* has been renamed *S. n. olivacea*, as recommended by Mlíkovský (2009).

The following spelling mistakes from Salaman et al. (2008) were corrected: Black-browed Albatross *Thalassarche melanophris* (not *Thalassarche melanophris*), Leach's Storm-Petrel *Oceanodroma leucorhoa* (not *Oceanodroma leucorrhoea*), and American White Pelican *Pelecanus erythrorhynchos* (not *Pelecanus erythrorhynchus*).

Bird orders have been added to the checklist, following Remsen et al. (2010) as modified by the NACC proposals referred to above. We previously only included families.

Threat Categories

Updates to the threat status of the following a review process by BirdLife International that concluded in May 2009:

Wattled Curassow *Crax globulosa* VU to EN

Yellow-eared Parrot *Ognorhynchus icterotis*: CR to EN

Black-and-chestnut Eagle *Spizaetus isidori* NT to VU

Chimney Swift *Chaetura pelagica* LC to NT

Table 1: Summary of changes and new species totals:

TYPE OF CHANGE	SPECIES	Confirmed	Bog	Obs	Obs*	SA	SA (Obs)	Int	Int? / Esc	TOTAL
2009 TOTALS		1793	5	43	5	15	2	4	4	1871
New species for science	Rio Orinoco Spinetail			+1						+1
New species for the country	Forster's Tern	+1								+1
	Grey-backed Hawk			+1						+1
	Manx Shearwater						+1			+1
	Black-headed Gull			+1						+1
	Yellow-cheeked Becard			+1						+1
Species removed	Ecuadorian Trogon	-1								-1
	Olivaceous Siskin	-1								-1
Splits	Highland Motmot	+1								+1
	Whooping Motmot	+1								+1
	Fulvous Antshrike			+1						+1
	Chocó Tyrannulet	+1								+1
	Páramo Tapaculo	+1								+1
	Black-headed Brush-Finch	+1								+1
	Colombian Brush-Finch	+1								+1
	Phelps' Brush-Finch	+1								+1
	Colombian Chachalaca	+1								+1
Lumps Changes of category	San Andrés Mockingbird					-1				-1
	Audubon's Shearwater	-1				+1				0
	Red-footed Booby	+1		-1						0
	Red-tailed Hawk	-1		+1						0
	Belcher's Gull	-1		+1						0
	Elegant Tern	+1		-1						0
	White Tern	+1		-1						0
	Blue-backed Thornbill		-1	+1						0
	Point-tailed Palmcreeper	+1		-1						0
	Short-tailed Field-Tyrant	-1		+1						0
	Southern Scrub-Flycatcher	-1		+1						0
	Lesser Wagtail-Tyrant	+1		-1						0
	American Pipit					-1	+1			0
	Least Flycatcher					-1	+1			0
Additional "Escaped" species	Black Swan								+1	+1
	Budgerigar								+1	+1
	Canary								+1	+1
	Chicken								+1	+1
	TOTALS Per Category 2010	1800	4	48	5	13	5	4	8	1887
	Change since 2009 Checklist	+7	-1	+5	-	-2	+3	-	+4	+16
Less escapes									-8	
TOTAL BIRD SPECIES FOR COLOMBIA										1879

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