STATUS AND DISTRIBUTION OF SOME NORTHWEST PERUVIAN BIRDS

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ABSTRACT.—A brief history of ornithological exploration in northwestern Peru (Depts. of Tumbes, Piura, and Lambayeque) is given, with emphasis on recent work by the authors and other personnel of the Louisiana State University Museum of Zoology. New information on the distribution of 48 species is presented. Two species, Common Nighthawk (Chordeiles minor) and Black-and-white Warbler (Mniotilta varia), are reported in Peru for the first time.

Field workers from the Louisiana State University Museum of Zoology (LSUMZ) have obtained many noteworthy distributional records of birds in northwestern Peru. The most important of these, including records of two species not previously reported from the country, are presented in this paper. We have also included sight records or unpublished specimens obtained by workers from other institutions. Northwestern Peru is here defined as the area from the crest of the western Andes to the Pacific in the Departments of Tumbes, Piura, and Lambayeque. In this paper, “Tumbes,” “Piura,” and “Lambayeque” refer to names of Departments, and not to the cities of the same names unless otherwise specified.

Although much of northwestern Peru is now reasonably accessible by road, few ornithologists have worked there and little has been published on its avifauna. J. Stolmann and K. Jelski, apparently the first ornithologists to visit northwestern Peru, collected in Tumbes in 1876-1877 (Taczanowski 1877a, b). Of the few naturalists who have worked there since, P. Simons, H. Watkins, M. A. Carriker, Jr., and M. Koepcke made the most significant contributions. Simons travelled from Sullana, Piura to Eten, Lambayeque in 1899 (Chubb 1919). Watkins, a collector for the American Museum of Natural History (AMNH), worked in central Piura in 1919 and 1922. Watkins’ specimens from Peru and adjacent Ecuador were analyzed by Chapman (1926) and Zimmer (“Studies of Peruvian Birds,” nos. 1–66, 1931–1955, Am. Mus. Novit.). Carriker collected in Tumbes, Piura, and Lambayeque in 1933 for the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia (ANSP) (A. J. Mack, pers. comm.). Koepcke worked extensively on the western slope of the Andes in central Peru, beginning in 1952, and collected in Tumbes and Piura in 1950 and 1956 (Koepcke 1961; catalog, Museo de Historia Natural “Javier Prado”).


Beginning in 1977, Olmos and Chiclayo, Lambayeque have served as bases from which LSUMZ field parties have mounted expeditions into the interior of northern Peru. From 1977 to 1979 LSUMZ field workers have made numerous brief (1–2 days) visits to various localities in Lambayeque, particularly to coastal areas near...
Chiclayo and to forested streams (quebradas) northeast of Olmos. Most localities referred to in this paper are readily located on standard maps, and Vaurie (1972) provided coordinates for the classical collecting localities. Certain sites near Olmos, mentioned frequently in the species accounts, are less well-known and are here described in greater detail:

San Isidro, Lambayeque, 450–525 m (5°39'S, 79°44'W). A seasonally dry forest bordering a stream (Quebrada San Isidro). In striking contrast to forests at lower elevations, which are generally dominated by Acacia, the most common trees at San Isidro are tall deciduous Bombax and Erythrina. Celtis and Ficus are also found along the stream, where trees retain their leaves through the dry season. Epiphytic bromeliads, including Tillandsia usneoides, are conspicuous.

Granada, Lambayeque, 300–525 m (ca. 5°45'S, 79°39'W). Forest similar to San Isidro.

Rio Tocito, Lambayeque, 200 m (ca. 5°50'S, 79°43'W). A seasonally dry stream bordered by a relatively tall forest of Celtis, Loxopterygium, and Acacia, with a well-developed shrubby understory.


SPECIES ACCOUNTS

Crypturellus transfasciatus. Pale-browed Tinamou. Gustavo del Solar collected a male (LSUMZ 86016) on 25 Oct. 1977 at Quebrada La Pachinga (about 5°45'S, 79°42'W). La Pachinga is probably similar to San Isidro and Granada, but we are not familiar with this locality. This is the first record for Lambayeque. The southernmost previously published locality is Mallares, Piura (Koepcke 1962).

Macronectes giganteus. Giant Petrel. R. S. Ridgely observed a single individual swimming in the ocean N of Canoas, Tumbes on 7 Sep. 1976. The Giant Petrel, generally a bird of cold-water currents, has been recorded as far north as Talara, Piura (Blake 1977). The present record is unusual, because the waters off Tumbes are typically outside of the Humboldt Current, and are consequently somewhat warmer.

Pachyptila belcheri. Slender-billed Prion. In 1978 Graves collected two males (25 June, LSUMZ 87130; 26 June, LSUMZ 87131; both emaciated) flying low over the surf along the beach 2 km S Pimentel, Lambayeque. M. D. Williams found several prions dead on beaches in Lambayeque in 1978: one, 2 km S Pimentel, 26 June; three, 5 km N San Jose, 4 July; and one, Isla Lobos de Tierra, 15 July (all uncatalogued skeletons, LSUMZ). Parker, Schulenberg, Williams, et al. saw four live prions 6.5 to 8 km offshore from Pimentel on 30 July 1978. One of these birds flew close to the boat and briefly settled on the water. All observers noted the relatively narrow bill which distinguishes this species from other species of prion recorded from Peru. The prions we saw flew low over the water and often glided. The northernmost previous records of P. belcheri are from Playa Villa, Dpto. Lima, about 675 km SE Pimentel (Plenge 1974). Most Peruvian records of Pachyptila are of birds found dead on beaches. Our observations show that living prions range as far north as northern Peru, although perhaps not regularly. Hughes (1970) noted that at Mollendo, Dpto. Arequipa, prions were more common some years than others; possibly they occur off northwestern Peru only irregularly.

Isybrachyx exilis. Least Bittern. Single individuals were seen on 24 Sep. 1977 (Parker) and 8 Oct. 1977 (Parker et al.) at a cattail-bordered marsh at Km 879 on the Pan American highway, about 5.2 km N Olmos, Lambayeque. G. L. Graham mist-netted a female (LSUMZ 87133) over this marsh on 13 Oct. 1978. Williams saw single individuals several times from Sep. through Nov. 1978 at a coastal marsh 3 km N Puerto Eten, Lambayeque, and collected a female (LSUMZ 87134) there on 21 Nov. 1978. Both specimens are of the subspecies peruvianus, previously known only from Dpto. La Libertad south to Dpto. Lima (Blake 1977). Sight records from Agua Santa, NE Pisco, Dpto. Ica (June 1976, Parker), the mouth of the Fisco River, Dpto. Ica (7 July 1978, Ridgely and J. Gee) and Mollendo, Dpto. Arequipa (Hughes 1976) extend the species' range to the south, and suggest that Least Bitterns may occur in virtually any area with suitable habitat in coastal Peru.

Theristicus caudatus. Buff-necked Ibis. Schulenberg saw a pair fly over Mochumi, Lambayeque on 17 Nov. 1978. Schulenberg, Eley, Robbins and Wiedenfeld saw up to 50 Buff-necked Ibises feeding in sorghum fields 5 km N, 2 km W Jayanca, Lambayeque in late July 1979. In flight these birds gave a high, bell-like honking call. We have one specimen (LSUMZ 91601) of the subspecies melanopis collected from this flock on 15 July 1979 by a local hunter. Schulenberg saw five Buff-necked Ibises fly across the nearby Pan American highway on 31 Aug. 1979. The only other report north of Dpto. Lima was an observation of a "small flock" near Cayañal, Lambayeque (Koepcke 1961). The presence of a population in northwestern Peru is particularly important because the coastal population elsewhere in Peru has apparently suffered a precipitous decline (Hughes 1970, Koepcke 1970). We know of no coastal Peruvian breeding records, although Hughes (1970) reported it to be "formerly resident" at Mollendo, Dpto. Arequipa. It is said by local hunters to occur year-round near Jayanca.

Eudocimus albus. White Ibis. Parker photographed several individuals (LSUMZ photo file) of 30–40 present 18–23 Nov. 1974 on mudflats at Puerto Pizarro, Tumbes. Ridgely saw 20 White Ibises, including several immatures, near Salto, Tumbes on 4 Aug. 1976. Schulenberg and Graves saw an adult at Puerto Pizarro on 26 Sep. 1977, and Robbins and Wiedenfeld saw six adults there on 11 June 1979. The catalog of the Museo de Historia Natural "Javier Prado," Lima, records four specimens (MHNJ 1846; collected at Puerto Pizarro by J. Ortiz de la Puente in May 1951. Schulenberg located only one of these specimens (MHNJ 1846, adult female) in the research collection in Dec. 1979, and noticed another adult labelled "Tumbes" on display in an exhibit hall. We know of only one previous record from Peru, at Santa Lucia, Tumbes (Taczanowski 1877b). Lévêque (1964) reported the White Ibis to be very common and probably breeding in the Guayas Estuary, Ecuador, 140 km N Tumbes. The species is probably a regular non-breeding visitor to coastal northwestern Peru, and may eventually be found breeding there.

Anas cyanoptera. Cinnamon Teal. Schulenberg saw this species, often with White-cheeked Pintails (A. ba-
hamensis) and occasionally Blue-winged Teal (A. discors), at Puerto Eten, Lambayeque from Sep.–Nov. 1978, and July–Aug. 1979. Peak numbers were seen on 19 July 1979, with 15 male cyanoptera, one male discors, and 90 unidentified females. Schulenberg and Williams examined a male shot by Gustavo del Solar at this locality on 1 Oct. 1978. Taczanowski (1977b) reported a male shot at Santa Cruz, Buenos Aires (1977) reported only a single coastal locality (Mollenndorff, Dpto. Arequipa) for this species, although it is regular north to Dpto. Lima (Koopcke 1970). The Cinnamon Teal is probably more widespread in coastal Peru than the few records indicate.

Aceiptiter bicolor. Bicolored Hawk. D. Tallman collected an immature female (LSUMZ 72152) at El Agolo, Piura on 13 Nov. 1972. Ridgely saw a large adult at Quebrada Hierba Buena, Lambayeque on 11 June 1978. This bird uttered a loud, "typical accipiter call: 'kek-kek-kek'" (pers. comm.). Parker saw an adult and an immature at San Isidro on 1 Aug. 1978. These are the first reports of the species between Tumbes (Taczanowski 1877a) and Taulis, Dpto. Cajamarca (Koepcke 1965), the only other locations on the west slope of Peru where it has been found.

Burhinus nordmanni. Great Black Hawk. Parker saw a pair of adults 15 road-km E Canchaque, Piura, 2,425 m on 5 Dec. 1974. Parker saw three adults engaged in aerial maneuvers suggesting courtship activities along the Rio Tocoto on 18 May 1978. Schulenberg found an uncatalogued adult specimen in June 1979 at the MHNP. The only information on the tag was "Hacienda Mallares, cerca de Sullana" (Piura) and "Merkt" (=Markl, an amateur ornithologist who formerly lived in Piura). D. Tallman collected an adult male (LSUMZ 75092) at Rica Playa, Tumbes on 30 Oct. 1973. Both adults and immatures of this species were seen regularly at El Cauchó, Tumbes and an adult male (LSUMZ 91610) was collected there on 18 June 1979. Although the species is often reported to occur in northwestern Peru (Meyer de Schauensee 1966, 1970, Blake 1977), we could not find any previously published locality records. The apparent basis for these reports is unpublished information from the late Maria Koepcke, as Meyer de Schauensee (1966) stated that the species was known from "northern Peru (fide Koepcke)."

Charadrius collaris. Collared Plover. We have the following records, from north to south: Schulenberg et al. saw one on mudflats at Puerto Pizarro, Tumbes on 13 Nov. 1972. D. Tallman collected a female along the Rio Tumbes at the city of Tumbes, Tumbes on 27 Sep. 1977, and Schulenberg saw two there on 11 June 1979. Ridgely saw two about 15 km W Sullana, Piura on 7 Sep. 1976, and Schulenberg et al. saw four at the edge of a lagoon at the city of Piura, Piura on 10 July 1979. We have many sightings of small numbers of Collared Plovers in coastal Lambayeque, and three specimens from this area: LSUMZ 87182, male, 15 km N San José, 4 July 1978; LSUMZ 87183, male, 15 km N San José, 4 July 1978; LSUMZ 87184, female, 3 km N Puerto Eten, 21 Nov. 1978. None of our specimens is in breeding condition, but Williams saw a pair north of Puerto Eten on 21 Nov. 1978 that acted as if they had eggs or young nearby. The Collared Plover is known from western Ecuador and Chile (Meyer de Schauensee 1966, 1970, Blake 1977) but has not previously been reported from west-central Peru, where our observations suggest that it is widespread in suitable habitat south at least in Lambayeque.

Eudromias (=Oreopholus) ruficollis. Tawny-throated Dotterel. Williams, Schulenberg, et al. regularly found this species near Pimentel and Santa Rosa, Lambayeque, in 1978 and 1979. Dotterels were usually found in small flocks (up to 15 individuals) in bare fields or at the edge of desert. Three specimens (LSUMZ 87185, 87186, 91636) agree well with descriptions of E. r. pullidus, described by Carrick (1935) from San José, 15 km N Santa Rosa. Hellmayr and Conover (1948) did not recognize pullidus, after examining a specimen from Isla Lobos de Tierra, Lambayeque that "looked almost indistinguishable from the nominate race. However, Schulenberg and Wiedenfeld saw a very dark individual with a flock of typically pale dotterels at Santa Rosa on 7 June 1979. Both the Isla Lobos de Tierra specimen and the dark Santa Rosa individual may have been migrants of the nominate race, which breeds from the highlands of southern Peru south to Tierra del Fuego, and which is migratory (Meyer de Schauensee 1966, 1970). D. Tallman collected another pullidus (LSUMZ 75092) on 3 Nov. 1973 at Jequetepeque, Dpto. La Libertad, extending the range of this population 65 km farther south.

On 13 Aug. 1979, Parker, V. Emanuel and a natural history tour group found seven adult dotterels and three–four downy young in barren desert bordering the Pan American highway about 15 km S Chiclayo. Parker and Robbins collected an adult male (LSUMZ 91641) 3 km NW Puerto Eten, Lambayeque from Sep.–Nov. 1978. None of our specimens is in breeding condition, with a soft melodious "ti-turr" or "chi-churr," the young ran rapidly away, but not necessarily in the direction of the adults. Only one adult accompanied each of the young birds.

This breeding population is almost certainly of the resident race pullidus. Koepcke (1970) assigned breeding dotterels at the Lomas de Lachay, Dpto. Lima, the only other Peruvian coastal breeding population, to the nominate race.

Larus cirrocephalus. Gray-hooded Gull. Schulenberg located a single nest at a lagoon at the city of Piura, Piura on 10 July 1979. The nest was on a low island 10 m from shore. The nest contained two eggs, one of which was collected (LSUMZ, T. Schulenberg 1693). Thirty gulls, all in breeding plumage, were observed within 25 m of the roadway; they seemed to be attracted to vegetable debris that falls from passing trucks and draws hordes of insects, especially small flies. The young, which on both dates measured ca. 80 mm (total length), were sandy-brown spotted with black. When pursued they crouched in the sand and became almost invisible. They remained limp when held in the hand and held their eyes tightly closed. Upon hearing the whistled calls of nearby adults, a soft melodious "ti-turr" or "chi-churr," the young ran rapidly away, but not necessarily in the direction of the adults. Only one adult accompanied each of the young birds.

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Sterna hirundinacea. South American Tern. Robbins collected an alternate-plumaged individual (LSUMZ 91641) 3 km NW Puerto Eten, Lambayeque on 90 Aug. 1979. The non-breeding population in Peru was Punta Puya, Dpto. La Libertad (Murphy 1936). The species may be more common in Lambayeque than the one record would indicate, as Sterna terns are difficult to identify in the field. The beach at which this specimen was collected, at the mouth of the Rio Reque, often attracts large numbers of terns; we have specimens of Common (S. hirundo), Arctic (S.
purula.~ea), Royal (S. maxima) and Elegant (S. elegans) terns from this locality, and sight records of the Sandwich Tern (S. sandvicensis).

Columbina minuta. Plain-breasted Ground-Dove. Ridgely saw two near Mochumi, Lambayeque on 10 June 1978. Williams, Schulenberg et al. reported observed small numbers in 1978 and 1979 between Pi-mentel and Santa Rosa, Lambayeque. We have three specimens from this area: LSUMZ 86980 (skeleton), 25 June 1978; LSUMZ 91650–91651, 15 July 1979. We also have records from Puerto Eten, Lambayeque (two, 20 Nov. 1978; Williams; several, 19 Oct. 1979, Schu- lenberg) and Laguna, Lambayeque (six, 7 Aug. 1976, Ridgely). This dove seems to prefer barren fields not frequented by Croaking Ground-Doves (C. cruziana). On the coast of Peru the species was previously re- ported only as far north as Cartavio, Dpto. La Libertad (Bond 1955).

Claraea monodetora. Maroon-chested Ground-Dove. Graves observed a male walking on the ground under bamboo in a narrow humid canyon 2.8 km by road south of Porculla. Mever de Schauensee (1966, Tumbes on 25 Oct. 1973. Graves and Schulenberg saw field workers. The species is known to occur in south- ern Tumbes, Tumbes on 22 and 27 Sep. 1977. Ridgely saw bamboo on 5 June 1978 at San Isidro. We know of no other report of the species for the western slope of the Andes, although it has been recorded in southwestern Colombia at Munchique, Dpto. Cauca (Meyer de Schauensee 1949).

Tapea nevina. Striped Cuckoo. D. and E. Tallman collected a male (LSUMZ 75121) at Roca Playa, Tumbes on 25 Oct. 1973. Graves and Schulenberg saw single individuals in shrubby thickets near the city of Tumbes, Tumbes on 22 and 27 Sep. 1977. Ridgely saw one at Laguna, Lambayeque some 400 km S Tumbes, on 7 Aug. 1976. Striped Cuckoos have not been found at Laguna on subsequent visits by Ridgely or LSUMZ field workers. The species is known to occur in southwest Ecuador, but was not previously reported from northwestern Peru (Meyer de Schauensee 1966, 1970).

Pulsatrix perspicillata. Spectacled Owl. Del Solar collected one sometime during the fall (probably Oct.) of 1977 NE Olmos, Lambayeque. Del Solar froze the bird, and it was photographed (color transparency, LSUMZ photo file) by Williams in June 1978. Williams prepared the bird as a skeleton, but the specimen was later destroyed by a dog. A pair of Spectacled Owls was regularly heard calling after dark at El Caucho, Tumbes in June 1979, and Eyel once saw a bird during the day. The species occurs in western Colombia and Ecuador. Eyel saw five, but was previously known from western Peru (Meyer de Schauensee 1966, 1970).

Chordeiles minor. Common Nighthawk. Barkley and Graham mist-netted a female (LSUMZ 87304) over a marsh 5.2 km N Olmos, Lambayeque on 12 Oct. 1978. Although the species is widely distributed as a winter resident in South America, and probably occurs in eastern Peru, this is the first specimen record for the coun- try. The specimen has not been identified to subspe- cies.

Phaethornis griseogularis. Gray-chinned Hermit. This hummingbird is uncommon in streamside forest at San Isidro and Granada. In Oct. 1977 Gray-chinned Hermits were found in a densely wooded canyon en- tering the Rio Quirao 46 km by road SW Ayabaca, Piura, 700 m. Two specimens were collected but were later stolen. The species also occurred uncommonly in similar habitats at El Caucho, Tumbes in June 1979. Two specimens (LSUMZ 91724-91725) from El Ca- cho agree with Zimmer’s (1950a) description of the subspecies porcullae, previously known only from Porculla Pass (type locality) and Palamaba, Piura.

Colibri coruscans. Sparkling Violetear. This species was present in small numbers along forest edge E Canchaquai, Piura, 2,425 m in late Nov.-early Dec. 1974 (Parker), where R. Thomas collected a male (LSUMZ 75037) at 1,725 m. Parker and Schulenberg saw several violetears, probably this species, in streamside vegetation at Granada on 5 Oct. 1977. The low elevation, 525 m, suggests that this species under- goes seasonal altitudinal migrations in northern Peru, as it does in Dpto. Lima (Koepcke 1970). Ridgely found the species common along the road below Porculla Pass, Piura on 20 Nov. 1978 (1954) reported a specimen from Porculla. Meyer de Schauensee (1966, 1970) reported that Sparkling Violetears occur on the west slope of Peru only in Dpto. Lima, but the species probably has a continuous distribution along the west- ern slope of the Peruvian Andes, as suggested by our records and two specimens in the MHNJP: MHNJP 2293, Lima, Dpto. Cajamarca, 22 Apr. 1951; and MHNJP 2286, “cerca de Colcabamba,” Dpto. Ancash, about 2,800 m, 17 Aug. 1953.

Leucipps baeri. Tumbes Hummingbird. This species is a common resident in Lambayeque, primar- ily from 175–1,275 m in or near areas with a well-de- veloped shrub formation. We have seen Tumbes Hum- mingbirds feeding at large red Erythrina blossoms and a red-flowering epiphyte (Psittacanthus), and appar- ently common on the west slope of these with another hum- mingbird, Amazilia amazilia. We have five specimens from Lambayeque: LSUMZ 87376, 10 km NE Nape, 175 m, 16 May 1978; LSUMZ 91738–91740, Rio Tocito, 19–21 July 1979; and LSUMZ 87377, 5.2 km N Olmos, 13 Oct. 1978. We have also seen the species at San Isidro, Granada, Km 34 on the Olmos-Porculla Pass highway (1,275 m), and Hierba Buena (Ridgely). The southernmost previous record of this Peruvian endemic was from Paimas, Piura, 150 km N Olmos (Berlioz 1962).

Meyer de Schauensee (1966, 1970) described the range of L. taczanowskii as “arid coastal Peru from Piura S to Ancash,” suggesting that these two species of Leucipps might be sympatric in Piura and Lamb- bayeque. The Spot-throated Hummingbird (Leucipps taczanowskii), which does occur in Piura but only in- land in the Rio Maranon drainage north to Huanacabam- ba, has not been recorded on the west slope north of PaucaL, Dpto. Cajamarca, about 140 km SE Olmos (Zimmer 1950b).

Thaumastura cora. Peruvian Sheartail. Feddotta collected a female (LSUMZ 35139) and two basic- plumaged males (LSUMZ 35138, 35140) on 28 Dec. 1964 at Hacienda San Jacinto, near Catacos, Piura. Schulenberg saw five, one was a plumaged male, 5 km N Yanuca, Lambayeque on 1 Oct. 1977. Parker saw a female 14 km N, 2 km E Olmos, Lamb- bayeque on 1 Sep. 1978. These records are from the presumed non-breeding season. Koepcke collected an alternate-plumaged male (MHNJP 211) with slightly enlarged testes (1.5 mm) on 3 Mar. 1958 “cerca de Chongoyape,” Lambayeque. Ridgely saw three alternate- plumaged males at 1,675 m below Porculla Pass, Piura on 12 June 1978. The species was previously recorded only as far north as Hacienda Llagdueto, Dpto. La Libertad (Zimmer 1953). The Peruvian Sheartail probably breeds as far north as Lambayeque and dis- perses to the adjacent lowlands after breeding.

Autonolus (=Hylocreta) erythrocephalus. Hen- namee-hooded Folieage-gleaner. Parker collected a male (LSUMZ 89479) at Km 1,675 m below Porculla Pass, highway, Lambayeque, 1,275 m on 21 Sep. 1977. The bird was moving about one m above the ground through streamside vegetation. Ridgely observed this species at the same location on 12 June 1978. In Peru the species was previously known only from Palamaba, Piura, about 50 km north of these records (Pavnter 1972a).

Myrmecia griseiceps. Gray-headed Antbird. Graves
collected a female (LSUMZ 84912) on 2 Oct. 1977 2.8 km by road SW Porculla Pass, Piura, 1,975 m. The species was previously known only as far south as Piamba, Piura (Chapman 1926, specimens LSUMZ).

Graullicula ferrugineiceps. Rusty-breasted Antpitta. Koepcke collected an immature female (MHNJ 4331) “cerca de Canchaque,” Piura, 1,750-1,800 m on 4 May 1956. Parker collected a female (LSUMZ 78547) on the west side of the pass between Canchaque and Huancabamba, Piura, 3,050 m on 29 Nov. 1974. This antpitta was previously known to occur in active molt, and it is not referable to subspecies. This specimen, however, (examined by Schulenberg in June 1979) is a female (LSUMZ 88351) in open "chu-u-ree." Ridgely saw four birds, giving similar calls, on 12 June 1978 in dry forest at Hierba Buena, Lambayeque. Parker collected the two males he saw (LSUMZ 88192-88193) and these three identities were identified by Schulenberg at AMNH as the subspecies salteini. Comparison was made with the type of guayaquilensis, described by Zimmer (1936) from western Ecuador. Koepcke collected a male at the border of the Rio Tocito a few hundred meters from the taller woods inhabited by the species in coastal marshes west of Piura, Piura (Zimmer 1978). The species is uncommon in dry scrub in the coastal lowlands (and nominate Sulionia). These were large enclosed mud nests, similar to those of Cliff Swallows (P. pyrrhonota), but with long necks. Most of the nests in each colony were in use, as evidenced by nest-building activity, fresh eggshells on the ground below the colony, and nestlings seen in the nests of nests.

Myiarchus phaeocephalus. Sooty-crowned Flycatcher. This species is an uncommon resident at Hierba Buena, San Isidro, Granada and Rio Tocito. Parker collected a female (LSUMZ 88351) in open Celtis woods at Rio Tocito on 18 May 1978. Here the species nearly overlaps with the Rufous Flycatcher (M. semirufus), which occurs in Acacia scrub bordering the Rio Tocito a few hundred meters from the taller woods inhabited by a m. phaeocephalus. The southernmost record for this flycatcher on the west slope was Palambla, Piura (Lanyon 1978). The species is now known to occur near the base of the Porcilla Pass ridge, which separates the coastal lowlands (and nominate phaeocephalus) from the Rio Maranon drainage (and M. p. interior).

Todirostrum cinereum. Common Tody-Flycatcher. This species occurs fairly commonly in dry scrub in Tumbes, Piura and Lambayeque. Our southernmost record is for Javanca, Lambayeque, where Schulenberg saw one on 1 Oct. 1977. The species was not previously known to occur southeast of Sullana and Symate, Piura (Zimmer 1940). We have two specimens from Lambayeque: LSUMZ 35253, 24 km S Olmos, 24 Dec. 1964, and LSUMZ 85159, 12 road-km N Olmos, 3 Oct. 1977.

Tachycineta albilinea. Mangrove Swallow. Ridgely saw a "very few" at Salto, Tumbes on 4 Aug. 1976. Schulenberg et al. saw a pair at Puerto Pizarro, Tumbes on 13 June 1979. Parker saw several in the city of Tumbes, Tumbes on 17 Nov. 1974 and several in a mesquite-lined wash N Talara, Piura on 17 and 24 Nov. 1974 and in June 1976. Schulenberg et al. saw 20 there on 9 July 1979, and 5 the following day at the city of Piura, Piura. Since 1977 we have many records of Mangrove Swallows from Lambayeque, principally over irrigated land and mesquite groves near Olmos and Laguna. Meyer de Schauensee (1966, 1970) described the South American distribution of the species as "Piura S to La Libertad," but the only published locality is Chepen, Dpto. La Libertad (Zimmer 1955). There is a specimen in Lima (MHNJ 4632) from "Tumbes" collected 20 Sep. 1876. We have three specimens from Lambayeque: LSUMZ 88530 (skin) and LSUMZ 89507 (alcoholic), 12 km N Olmos, 29-30 Sep. 1978; and LSUMZ 90118 (skeleton), 8 km W Mocupe, 15 Oct. 1978.


Petrochelidon fulva. Cave Swallow. We have the following sight records from north to south: 1, city of Piura, Piura, 10 July 1979 (Schulenberg), "common," 12 km N Olmos; field number 1418e, now MHNJP 3594) from Huabal, below Canchaque, Piura to guayaquilensis. This specimen, however, described by Zimmer (1936) from western Ecuador. Koepcke collected a male at the border of the Rio Tocito a few hundred meters from the taller woods inhabited by a m. phaeocephalus. The southernmost record for this flycatcher on the west slope was Palambla, Piura (Lanyon 1978). The species is now known to occur near the base of the Porcilla Pass ridge, which separates the coastal lowlands (and nominate phaeocephalus) from the Rio Maranon drainage (and M. p. interior).

Todirostrum cinereum. Common Tody-Flycatcher. This species occurs fairly commonly in dry scrub in Tumbes, Piura and Lambayeque. Our southernmost record is for Javanca, Lambayeque, where Schulenberg saw one on 1 Oct. 1977. The species was not previously known to occur southeast of Sullana and Symate, Piura (Zimmer 1940). We have two specimens from Lambayeque: LSUMZ 35253, 24 km S Olmos, 24 Dec. 1964, and LSUMZ 85159, 12 road-km N Olmos, 3 Oct. 1977.

Peru. Scrub Blackbirds are common along the western base of the Andean foothills, and also occur in the upper Río Marañón drainage in Piura east of Porculla Pass. In some areas with extensive agriculture, such as near Sullana, they occur well out into the desert. Watkins was the first to find *Dives* in Piura; he collected specimens (AMNH) at Lamor, Sullana, Chilaco, and Pilares in 1919. A series of 15 male specimens from Tumbes, Lambayeque, and Toc encounters the range of size variation 22.6-27.8 mm; see Hellmayr 1937). A female (LSUMZ 64517; wing 107.4 mm, culmen 24.4 mm) from 12 km W Llama, Dpto. Cajamarca, and a male (MNHN 4170; wing 140 mm, culmen 34 mm) from La Esperanza, Dpto. Cajamarca appear to represent *warszewiczii* and *kalunousski*, respectively; these localities are only 35 km apart. Other specimens suggest introgression however, including a male reported from Palambla, Piura by Bond (1953; wing 121 mm, culmen 29 mm) and a female from Trujillo, Dpto. La Libertad (MNHN 4633; wing 120 mm; culmen 29 mm). These two taxa are probably conspecific, as they are usually treated, but contact between them merits further investigation.

*Icterus mesomelas*. Yellow-tailed Oriole. Peduccia collected an adult male (LSUMZ 35304) 15 km E Olmos on the Olmos-Porcula Pass road, Lambayeque on 26 Dec. 1964. Wiedenfeld collected an adult female (LSUMZ 93834) on the Rio Toclo on 19 July 1979. On the west slope this species was previously recorded south only to Palambla, Piura (Bond 1953). The Yellow-tailed Oriole does not appear to be common in Lambayeque, as the two specimens represent our only records. The White-edged Oriole (*Icterus graccevnae*), in contrast, is common at the same localities at which the specimens of *I. mesomelas* were taken.

*Basileuterus trifasciatus*. Three-banded Warbler. *Basileuterus fraseri*. Gray-and-gold Warbler. Parker saw three *B. trifasciatus* and one *B. fraseri* in tall mesquites, 5.2 km N Olmos, Lambayeque on 1 Sep. 1978. Schulenberg saw one *B. fraseri* 12 km N Olmos on 15 Dec. 1980. The elevation of these localities, about 150 m, is unusually low for both of these warblers and indicates that they may occasionally move downward from the western Andes. Subsequent visits to these localities have failed to produce additional records.

*Haplopyza rustica*. Slaty Finch. Parker mist-netted a male (LSUMZ 79430) above Canchaquera, Piura, 2.750 m, on 1 Dec. 1974. Graves collected a male (LSUMZ 85632) and saw three other individuals in bamboo-laced forest understory 2.8 km by road SW Porculla Pass, Piura, 1.975 m, on 2 Oct. 1977. In western Peru the species was previously reported only from Llama, Dpto. Cajamarca (Koepecke 1961).

*Atlapetes seebohmi*. Bay-crowned Brush-Finch. Parker saw three *A. seebohmi* on 1 Aug. 1978 at San Isidro in a large flock of White-winged (*A. leucopetersus*) and White-headed (*A. albiceps*) brush-finches. Ridgely saw four—five and collected three specimens (LSUMZ 97451-97453, MVZ 156594, MVZ 157964) also resemble *simonsi*. These specimens, however, are generally smaller than a series of seven specimens of nominate *seebohmi* from Dpto. Ancash (LSUMZ), and may show an approach to *celiae*, a small form known only from the type from Celicia, Prov. Loja, Ecuador (see Paynter 1972b).

*Rhodospingus cruentus*. Crimson Finch. Parker saw a flock of six Crimson Finches, including one adult male, in the undergrowth of *Loxopterygium-Celtis-Prospis* forest along the Rio Toclo on 17 May 1978. They associated with White-headed Brush-Finches and Tumbes Sparrows (*Amophila stolzmanni*), and were difficult to approach. Parker saw several Crimson Finches the following day, and collected a female (LSUMZ 88808). The species was previously reported only as far south as northern Piura (Meyer de Schauensee 1966).

**SIGHT RECORDS**

We would also like to report sight records of the following species whose presence in northwestern Peru has not been documented by specimens or photographs.

*Podiceps occipitalis*. Silvery Grebe. D. Hunter and Williams saw a single individual on 21 July 1978 on a small nush-borderer sewage lagoon 0.5 km N Puerto Eten, Lambayeque. Attempts to collect the bird were unsuccessful. Present on the lagoon at the same time for comparison were 150 White-tufted Grebes (*Rollandia [=Podiceps] rollandia*). The Silvery Grebe could not be found the following day. This is the first record for this species on the coast of Peru, but is at the same time of year as most coastal records of aquatic puna birds (Pearson and Plenge 1974).

*Phoenicopterus chilensis*. Chilean Flamingo. K. E. Campbell saw "probably a couple of hundred flamingoes" (pers. comm.) on several occasions in Apr. 1970 at an embayment about 30 km SSW Sechura, Piura. Coppelia Hays de Brown also saw flamingoes at this locality in Feb. and Mar. 1979. Hays de Brown saw 80-120 flamingoes in mid-Feb. 1979 at San Pedro, Piura, and 45 flamingoes at Miramar, Piura during the same month. None was identified to species in the field, but there is little doubt that they refer to the Chilean Flamingo, since this is the only species recorded from the Peruvian coast. Taczanowski (1877a) reported this flamingo to be a rare visitor to the Río Tumbes, Tumbes. There are no other records from Peru north of Huacho, Dpto. Lima (Koepecke 1970), although Chilean Flamingos have recently been reported from western Ecuador (Ridgely 1980). The presence of flamingoes at the same locality near Sechura on two occasions nine years apart suggests that *Phoenicopterus chilensis* may be a local but regular visitor to the coast of northern Peru, as it is in central and southern Peru (Hughes 1970, Pearson and Plenge 1974).

*Buteo swainsoni*. Swainson's Hawk. Ridgely saw two light-phase adults over agricultural fields south of the city of Tumbes, Tumbes on 23 Oct. 1976. Parker saw a light-phase adult over the city of Piura, Piura on the late date of 8 June 1980. The species is believed to winter in southern South America, but migration routes and wintering areas are not well known (Ama-
don 1994). This hawk has been recorded in western Colombia, though not on the Pacific slope (Meyer de Schauensee 1949). In Peru the Swainson’s Hawk was previously known only from Dpto. Puno (Meyer de Schauensee 1966).

Harpagla resoluta solitaria. Solitary Eagle. Ridgely saw an adult on 13 June 1978 at San Isidro. The eagle “made a quick pass in the direction of two White-winged Guans (Penelope albipennis), the latter for cover inside the cords” (Ridgely, pers. comm.). The bird then perched for a long period in a tall Bombax at the edge of a clearing, and later was seen with another individual soaring high. Local farmers told Ridgely that eagles regularly went after guans. Other species of “eagle,” however, such as the Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle (Geranoaetus melanoleucus), occur at San Isidro. The Solitary Eagle has a curiously local distribution (Blake 1977). The species was not previ-ously recorded from western Ecuador or Peru, although there is a record for Munchique, Dpto. Cauca, Colombia (Meyer de Schauensee 1949).

Falco rufipennis. Bat Falcon. Parker saw a pair on the Rio Tocito on 18 May 1978. The birds were calling loudly, and one of them carried a small bird. This falcon occurs in western Colombia and Ecuador, but was not previously reported from western Peru (Meyer de Schauensee 1966, 1970, Blake 1977).

Panoptila cayennensis. Lesser Swallow-tailed Swift. Small numbers of this swift (maximum 4 flock) were seen occasionally at El Caucho, Tumbes in June 1979. Parker, Schulenberg, and Graves saw two flying low over the forest at Granada on 5 Oct. 1977. The birds passed within 60 m of the observers and diagnostic field marks were noted. The species is known on the west coast of South America south to Ecuador (Meyer de Schauensee 1949, Ridgely, pers. comm.) but was not reported from northwestern Peru.

Petrochelidon pyrhonota. Cliff Swallow. Ridgely saw five Cliff Swallows perched on a telephone wire with Barn Swallows (Hirundo rustica) and Southern Martins (Progne modesta) about 15 km W Sullana, Piura on 24 Oct. 1976. The birds were carefully distin-
guished from P. fulva, the expected Petrochelidon. Hughes (1977) reported that the Cliff Swallow to be regular fall migrants (Sep.–Nov.) at Mollendo, Dpto. Arequipa.

Mniotilta varia. Black-and-white Warbler. Parker saw a female-plumaged individual of this distinctive species on 30 Aug. 1978 in the central plaza at Olmos, Lambayeque. This is the first record of the species for the coastal lowlands of Peru. Other Peruvian records (previously unpublished sight records by Parker) are of two individuals (each with a different mixed-species flock) 33 rd km NE Ingenio, 2,125 m, Dpto. Amazonas on 24 Dec. 1974, and a female-plumaged individual with Yellow-throated (Iridosornis analis) and Flame-faced (Tangara parzudakii) tanagers on 5 Nov. 1979 at Utcubamba, above Ongon, 2,200 m, Dpto. La Libertad.

Setophaga ruticilla. American Redstart. Hunter saw a female-plumaged individual in tall mesquites 12 km N Olmos, Lambayeque on 22 June 1978. Schulenberg found a female-plumaged bird in a cane thicket at the same locality on 15 Dec. 1980, in a small warbler flock that also included two Tropical Parulas (Parula pitta-
yum), one Masked Woodrow (Geothlypis aequinoctialis), and one Bushtit (Sturnella uncata). Three of the four previous records for Peru (see Plenge 1974, Hughes 1976) are also from the coastal lowlands. An additional previously unpublished record is of another female-plumaged bird seen by Parker E Chalhuana, Dpto. Apurimac, 2,400 m on 24 Oct. 1974.

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