



# Albatross

*Birding and Nature Tours*



Chile: 7 days around Santiago, Feb 2012

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**Participants:** Lev Frid, Kyle and John Holloway

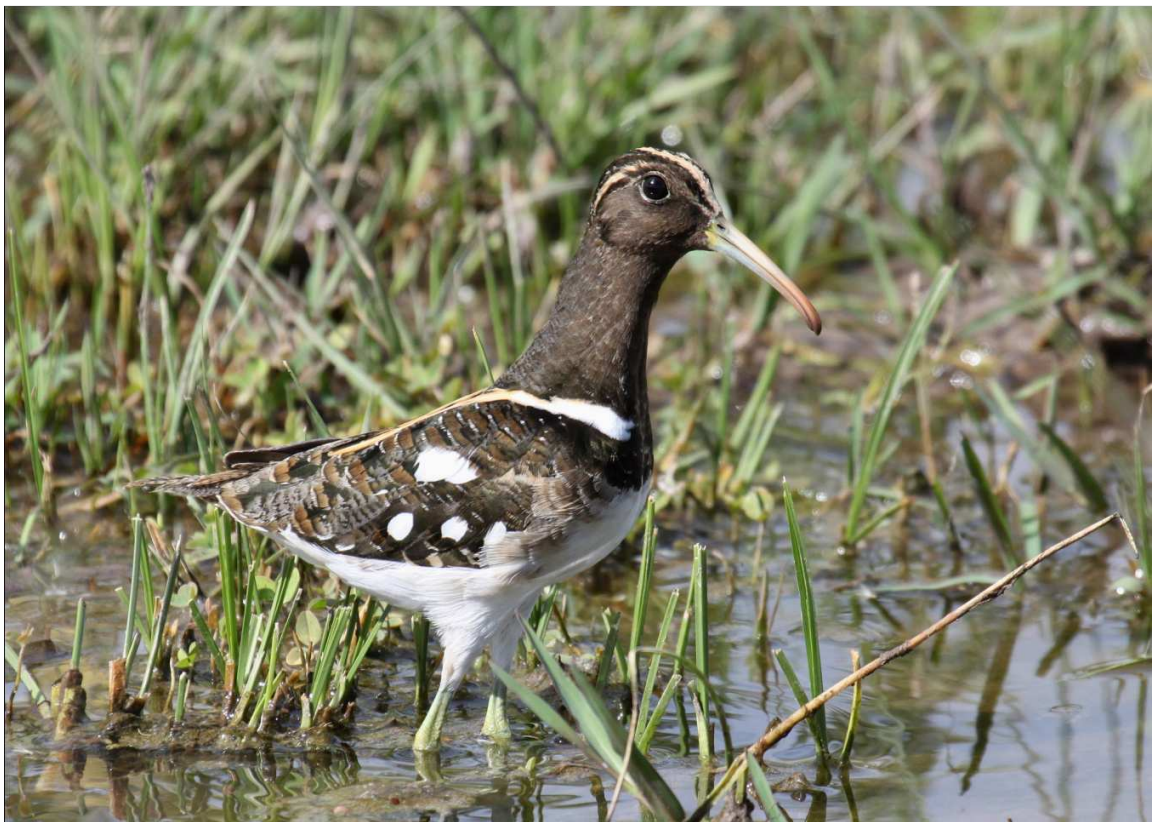
Albatross Birding and Nature Tours

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[www.albatross-birding.com](http://www.albatross-birding.com)

To see more bird pictures, please have a look to my gallery:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/fabrice-schmitt/>



**The elusive South American Painted Snipe.**



El Yeso is definitely the best place to see the stunning Diademed Sandpiper Plover!



Moustached Turca, an easy to see tapaculo!!

## DAY BY DAY ACTIVITIES

**February 25<sup>th</sup>, International flight to Santiago. Night in Santiago**

**February 26<sup>th</sup>, Coastal Birding. Night in Valparaiso**

We first visited the Maipo estuary where we spent most of the morning. On the way to Valparaiso, we stopped to a few more places, including El Peral Lake, San Sebastian estuary and Algarrobo. A good introduction to Chilean birding with lot's of waterfowl and coastal species, including the endemic Seaside Cinclodes.

**February 27<sup>th</sup>, Pelagic trip off Valparaiso, coastal birding. Night in Olmué.**

A pelagic trip is always a very exciting moment in a birding trip to Chile! Our best birds this morning were probably the Juan-Fernandez Petrel and Northern Royal Albatross. After our pelagic trip, we spent the afternoon birding the coast, visiting the Humboldt Penguin colony at Cachaga, and successfully looking for Great Shrike-Tyrant!

**February 28<sup>th</sup>, La Campana NP, Lampa wetlands. Night in Santiago.**

We spent the morning at La Campana NP where we found a few more Chilean endemics like Moustached Turca or Dusky-tailed Canastero. We then drove to the Lampa wetlands, finding no less than 8 South American Painted-Snipe, and most of the waterfowl species found in Central Chile. A visit to the Lampa sewage plant even gave us a Chilean vagrant: a Fulvous Wistling-Duck!

**February 29<sup>th</sup>, El Yeso all day, Night in Santiago.**

A full day to El Yeso, the well known place for the Diademed Sandpiper-Plover. We found 2 of this sought after species, but also 25+ Grey-breasted Seedsnipe, good number of White-sided Hillster and 4 Crag Chilia.

**March 1<sup>st</sup>, Mahuida park, drive to Talca and Colbún Lake, Night in Vilches.**

A short visit to Mahuida park where we had an excellent view on White-throated Tapaculo, endemic to Chile! Then a long drive (5 hours) to reach Colbún lake, where we got a nice group of 40+ Burrowing Parakeet, 6 Spectacled Duck and a few Upland Geese. We spent the late evening at Altos de Lircay NP, and found some of the *Nothofagus* specialties: Austral Parakeet, Thorn-tailed Rayadito, or White-throated Treerunner.

**March 2<sup>nd</sup>, Altos de Lircay NP in the morning, drive back to Santiago, night in Santiago.**

A full morning to Altos de Lircay NP, where we unfortunately only heard the Chestnut-throated Hued-hued, we had good views on Chucao and Magellanic Tapaculos. Drive back to Santiago in the afternoon.

**March 3<sup>rd</sup>, Flight to Falkland Islands.**

**March 3<sup>rd</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup>, a full week birding the Falkland Islands**

**March 10<sup>th</sup>, Flight from the Falklands Islands to Santiago.**

**March 11<sup>th</sup>, Yerba Loca, Farellones and Valle Nevado.**

An early morning drive to the Yerba Loca private reserve where we rapidly found the endemic Chilean Tinamou. We spend most of the day birding the way up, from the pre-cordillera to the high Andes reaching our highest elevation at Valle Nevado at 3.000 m.

Good birds of the day include the impressive Andean Condor, but also Dusky Tapaculo and Black-fronted Ground-tyrant.

Drive to the airport in the afternoon, and fly back to Canada.

## BIRD LIST

RR = Restricted-range species (total range < 50,000 km<sup>2</sup>)

Conservation Status follows Birdlife International (April 2012)

Taxonomic order and notes follows South American Classification Committee (April 2012)

<http://www.museum.lsu.edu/~Remsen/SACCBaseline.html>

(H) heard only

### TINAMOUS

RR Chilean Tinamou - *Nothoprocta perdicaria* CHILEAN ENDEMIC

One well seen in the morning near the Yerba Loca entrance road at the beginning of the day.

### DUCKS

Fulvous Whistling-Duck - *Dendrocygna bicolor* Monotypic

A vagrant in Chile!! 1 seen at the Lampa sewage plant.

Black-necked Swan - *Cygnus melancoryphus* Monotypic

25 seen at the Maipo estuary

Coscoroba Swan - *Coscoroba coscoroba* Monotypic

3 at the Maipo estuary

Upland Goose - *Chloephaga picta picta*

6 on the shore of the Colbún Lake.

Crested Duck - *Lophonetta specularioides*

4 at El Yeso

Spectacled Duck - *Specularnas specularis* Monotypic NEAR-THREATENED

6 together at the Colbún Lake.

Chiloe Wigeon - *Anas sibilatrix* Monotypic

20+ at the Lampa wetlands.

Yellow-billed Teal - *Anas flavirostris flavirostris*

35 at the Maipo estuary, and 50+ at the Lampa wetlands

Hellmayr & Conover (1948a) and many earlier classifications treated *andium* as a separate species from *A. flavirostris*. Many authors, from Meyer de Schauensee (1970) to Dickinson (2003), have treated *andium* as a subspecies of *A. flavirostris*. *Anas andium* was considered a separate species from *Anas flavirostris* by Ridgely & Greenfield (2001), and this was followed by Hilty (2003). SACC

[proposal](#) passed to recognize *andium* as separate species. Jaramillo (2003) further suggested that the subspecies *oxyptera* may also deserve recognition as a separate species from *A. flavirostris*.

**Yellow-billed Pintail - *Anas georgica spinicauda***

Common in Central Chile, and seen at most of the visited wetlands.

**White-cheeked Pintail - *Anas bahamensis rubrirostris***

10 at the Lampa wetlands

**Silver Teal - *Anas versicolor fretensis***

4 at the Lampa wetlands

**Cinnamon Teal - *Anas cyanoptera cyanoptera***

Common in Central Chile, and seen at most of the visited wetlands.

**Red Shoveler - *Anas platalea* Monotypic**

Seen at most of the visited wetlands, and 800+ at the Lampa sewage plant.

**Rosy-billed Pochard - *Netta peposaca* Monotypic**

5 at the Lampa wetlands

**Black-headed Duck - *Heteronetta atricapilla* Monotypic**

200+ at the Lampa sewage plant. The Black-headed Duck is the only parasitic duck in the world, mostly parasiting Red-gartered and Red-fronted Coot. The chicks are independent when they hatch and don't need the help of the fathers. The fathers look for incubators only, and Black-headed Duck eggs have been found in very different species nest, including egrets and Chimango Caracara!!

**Lake Duck - *Oxyura vittata* Monotypic**

45+ at El Peral Lake and 150+ at the Lampa sewage plant

## NEW WORLD QUAILS

**California Quail - *Callipepla californica***

A very successful introduced species. Common in central Chile.

## GREBES

**White-tufted Grebe - *Rollandia rolland chilensis***

Seen at different places in small numbers

**Great Grebe - *Podiceps major***

1 seen in the Valparaiso harbor

## PENGUINS

**Humboldt Penguin - *Spheniscus humboldti* Monotypic VULNERABLE**

45 at the Algarrobo breeding colony, 3 during the pelagic trip, and 50 more at the Cachagua breeding colony.

## ALBATROSSES

**Northern Royal Albatross - *Diomedea epomophora sanfordi* ENDANGERED**

1 during our pelagic trip off Valparaiso

**Salvin's Albatross - *Thalassarche salvini* VULNERABLE**

100+ during our pelagic trip off Valparaiso

## SHEARWATERS

**Juan Fernandez Petrel - *Pterodroma externa* Monotypic VULNERABLE**

2 during our pelagic trip off Valparaiso

**White-chinned Petrel - *Procellaria aequinoctialis* Monotypic VULNERABLE**

5 during our pelagic trip off Valparaiso.

**Sooty Shearwater - *Puffinus griseus* Monotypic NEAR-THREATENED**

1000+ during our pelagic trip off Valparaiso.

The Sooty Shearwater is an abundant shearwater, breeding on islands off **New Zealand, Australia and Chile**, and the **Falkland Islands (Malvinas)**. In Australia there are colonies on 17 islands (all of less than 1,000 pairs), southern Chile (many colonies, some up to 200,000 pairs and up to 4 million birds on Isla Guafo) and the Falklands (10,000-20,000 pairs) and more than 80 colonies in New Zealand (totalling c.5 million pairs). It nests on islands and headlands in large colonies. Burrows are dug for breeding under tussock grass, low scrub and on the Snares Islands under *Olearia* forest. Birds typically do not return to their natal colonies until age four. It feeds on fish, crustacea and cephalopods, caught while diving. Short (1-3 days) and long (5-15 days) provisioning trips are made by parents.

**Pink-footed Shearwater - *Puffinus creatopus* Monotypic VULNERABLE**

30+ during our pelagic trip off Valparaiso

The Pink-footed Shearwater is an east Pacific seabird that breeds only on Robinson Crusoe (8,459 burrows in 2005-06, of which up to 60% (5,075) may be occupied) and Santa Clara (3,470 breeding pairs in 2006) in the Juan Fernández Islands, and on Isla Mocha (possibly up to 25,000 pairs) off the coast of Arauco, **Chile**. Predation by cats and coatis on Robinson Crusoe, and cats and dogs on Mocha may be the most significant threat. Additionally, rats predate chicks and eggs on Robinson Crusoe and possibly on Mocha. Chicks are harvested by islanders on Mocha in March-May, with an estimated 20% of all chicks taken in 1998

## STROM PETRELS



**Wilson's Storm-Petrel - *Oceanites oceanicus chilensis***

40+ during our pelagic trip off Valparaiso.

The *chilensis* subspecies, sometimes called "Fuegian Storm-Petrel" may be a cryptic species distinct from Wilson's Storm-Petrel.

**DIVING PETRELS**

**Peruvian Diving-Petrel - *Pelecanoides garnotii* Monotypic **ENDANGERED****

10+ during our pelagic trip off Valparaiso

Endemic to the Humboldt Current, this species has an extremely small occupied breeding range on four islands. All subpopulations are declining and some rapidly. It consequently qualifies as Endangered. The species is detrimentally affected by a number of threatening processes: guano extraction and exploitation for food, predation by introduced rats and dogs on breeding islands, incidental bycatch at sea and increasing frequency of El Niño Southern Oscillation events

**BOOBIES**

**Peruvian Booby - *Sula variegata* Monotypic**

Common on the coast. 20+ during our pelagic trip off Valparaiso

**CORMORANTS**

**Neotropic Cormorant - *Phalacrocorax brasilianus olivaceus***

Very common

**Red-legged Cormorant - *Phalacrocorax gaimardi* Monotypic **NEAR-THREATENED****

5 during our pelagic trip off Valparaiso

**Guanay Cormorant - *Phalacrocorax bougainvillii* Monotypic **NEAR-THREATENED****

5 during our pelagic trip off Valparaiso

**PELICANS**

**Peruvian Pelican - *Pelecanus thagus* Monotypic **NEAR-THREATENED****

Common on the coast.

A recent split from Brown Pelican *Pelecanus occidentalis*

**HERONS**

**Black-crowned Night-Heron - *Nycticorax nycticorax obscurus***

2 seen at the Lampa wetlands

**Cattle Egret - *Bubulcus ibis ibis***

Common

**Cocoi Heron - *Ardea cocoi* Monotypic**

2 at the Maipo estuary

**Great Egret - *Ardea alba egretta***

Regular sightings during the trip

*Ardea alba* was formerly (e.g., Pinto 1938, Hellmayr & Conover 1948a, Phelps & Phelps 1958a, Meyer de Schauensee 1970, AOU 1983) placed in monotypic genus *Casmerodius*, but morphometric (Payne and Risley 1976), vocal (McCracken & Sheldon 1987), and genetic data (Sheldon 1987, Sheldon et al. 1995, McCracken & Sheldon 1998) do not support recognition of this as a separate genus from *Ardea*. Some classifications (e.g., Bock 1956, Blake 1977) have placed *Ardea alba* in *Egretta*, but see Sheldon (1987), Sheldon et al. (1995), McCracken & Sheldon (1998), and Sheldon et al. (2000). Some recent genetic data (Chang et al. 2003) support resurrection of *Casmerodius*

**Snowy Egret - *Egretta thula brewsteri***

Common

## NEW WORLD VULTURES

**Turkey Vulture - *Cathartes aura jota***

Common.

Jaramillo (2003) suggested that the resident tropical subspecies *ruficollis* and the southern subspecies group (*jota* and "*falklandica*") might merit recognition as separate species from the northern *Cathartes aura* group.

**Black Vulture - *Coragyps atratus foetens***

A few on the coast

**Andean Condor - *Vultur gryphus* Monotypic **NEAR-THREATENED****

3 birds at Farellones, all up in the sky but good looks.

## HAWKS

**White-tailed Kite - *Elanus leucurus leucurus***

1 seen very close at the Maipo estuary

**Bicolored Hawk - *Accipiter bicolor chilensis***

1 at Altos de Lircay NP.

Thiollay (1994) treated the subspecies *chilensis* as separate species from *Accipiter bicolor* based on difference in habitat preference and disjunct distribution; see also Jaramillo (2003). See Conover

(1946) and Amadon (1964) for rationale for treating them as conspecific (e.g., subspecies *pileatus* is intermediate in plumage between nominate *bicolor* and *chilensis*).

**Harris's Hawk - *Parabuteo unicinctus unicinctus***

1 at the Mahuida park

Ferguson-Lees & Christie (2001) and Jaramillo (2003) suggested that northern *harrisi* group (USA to coastal Peru) might warrant recognition as a separate subspecies from the nominate *Parabuteo unicinctus* group

**Variable Hawk - *Geranoaetus polyosoma* Monotypic**

1 seen close at Zapallar

Formerly a *Buteo*, this species has recently been merged into *Geranoaetus*. Farquhar (1988) concluded that *Buteo poecilochrous* and *B. polyosoma* are conspecific, as they were formerly treated (REF); he was unable to find any way to reliably diagnose the two forms using plumage characters or measurements. Ridgely & Greenfield (2001), Jaramillo (2003), and Schulenberg et al. (2007) followed this treatment and suggested "Variable Hawk" be retained for the composite species. Genetic data (Riesing et al. 2003) are consistent with hypothesis that *B. polyosoma* and *B. poecilochrous* are conspecific.

**Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle - *Geranoaetus melanoleucus australis***

1 seen at the Lampa wetlands

## RAILS

**Plumbeous Rail - *Pardirallus sanguinolentus landbecki***

Excellent views at El Peral Lake!!

**Spot-flanked Gallinule - *Gallinula melanops crassirostris***

Good views at El Peral Lake

**Red-gartered Coot - *Fulica armillata* Monotypic**

Common in most wetlands in Central Chile

**Red-fronted Coot - *Fulica rufifrons* Monotypic**

Common in most wetlands in Central Chile

**White-winged Coot - *Fulica leucoptera* Monotypic**

Common in most wetlands in Central Chile

## PLOVERS

**Southern Lapwing - *Vanellus chilensis chilensis***

Abundant.

Fjeldså & Krabbe (1990) and Wiersma (1996) suggested that *Vanellus chilensis* might consist of more than one species but also noted that data so far suggest intergradation between the two subspecies groups <REF - Neotropical reference in Fjeldså & Krabbe 1990>; Jaramillo (2003) also consider than more than one species is probably involved: two groups exist, southern "Chilean Lapwing" (*chilensis* and *fretensis*) and more northern and eastern "Cayenne Lapwing" (*cayennensis* and *lampronotus*). The two differ in structure, plumage, crest length and colour, soft-part coloration and voice.

**Collared Plover - *Charadrius collaris* Monotypic**

15 at the Maipo estuary

**Diademed Sandpiper-Plover - *Phegornis mitchellii* Monotypic NEAR-THREATENED**

Wonderful view of that stunning bird.

## OYSTERCATCHERS

**American Oystercatcher - *Haematopus palliatus palliatus***

35+ at the Maipo estuary

**Blackish Oystercatcher - *Haematopus ater* Monotypic**

A few sightings on the rocky coast, including a pair feeding 2 chicks at Cachagua

## AVOCET and STILTS

**Black-necked Stilt - *Himantopus mexicanus melanurus***

Seen in most wetlands around Santiago

*Himantopus mexicanus* was formerly (e.g., Peters 1934, Pinto 1938, Hellmayr & Conover 1948b, Phelps & Phelps 1958a, Vaurie 1965c, Meyer de Schauensee 1970, Blake 1977, Haverschmidt & Mees 1994) considered a subspecies of Old World *H. himantopus* ("Common Stilt") and was so treated by Dickinson (2003). Some authors have treated southern South American *melanurus* as a separate species (e.g., Sibley & Monroe 1990, Ridgely & Greenfield 2001). The six taxa in the genus *Himantopus* form a near-globally distributed superspecies (Mayr & Short 1970, Sibley & Monroe 1990, Pierce 1996), and with from one to six species-level taxa recognized by various authors. Virtually no data are available relevant to taxon-ranking of allopatric populations. The contact between *mexicanus* and *melanurus* in South America, where at least some hybridization occurs, affords one of the best opportunities for such study.

## SANDPIPERS

**South American Snipe - *Gallinago paraguaiiae magellanica***

50+ flushed at the Lampa wetlands, but also seen at the Maipo estuary and at El Yeso

Species limits in New World *Gallinago* have been fluid and controversial, and not based on explicit analyses. Many authors (e.g., Peters 1934, Pinto 1938, Hellmayr & Conover 1948b) have

considered *paraguaiiae*, *magellanica*, and *andina* to be conspecific. Additionally, *Gallinago paraguaiiae* was considered conspecific with *G. [gallinago] delicata* by Phelps & Phelps (1958a), Meyer de Schauensee (1970), and Blake (1970). Fjelds  and Krabbe (1990) placed *magellanica* with *paraguaiiae*, making this species *G. magellanica*. Any arrangement of species limits in these taxa is based largely on anecdotal data, and this group is badly in need of formal study, especially given that differences in displays and vocalizations among *paraguaiiae*, *magellanica*, and *andina* have been reported (Jaramillo 2003)

**Whimbrel - *Numenius phaeopus hudsonicus***

150+ at the Maipo estuary

Zink et al. (1995) proposed a return to earlier classifications (e.g., Ridgway 1919) that considered New World *hudsonicus* to be a separate species from Old World populations based on genetic distance. Although plumage pattern also differs substantially, vocalizations are evidently very similar, in contrast to the many allotaxa in the Scolopacidae treated as separate species.

**Greater Yellowlegs - *Tringa melanoleuca* Monotypic**

1 at the Lampa wetlands

**Lesser Yellowlegs - *Tringa flavipes* Monotypic**

Several sightings during the trip

**Surfbird - *Aphriza virgata* Monotypic**

3 at Zapallar

**Baird's Sandpiper - *Calidris bairdii* Monotypic**

2 at El Yeso

**Pectoral Sandpiper - *Calidris melanotos* Monotypic**

20+ at the Lampa wetlands. A rare shorebird in Chile mostly seen in February-March.

**SEEDSNIPES**

**Gray-breasted Seedsnipe - *Thinocorus orbignyianus orbignyianus***

25+ seen at El Yeso

**PAINTED-SNIPE**

**South American Painted-snipe - *Nycticryphes semicollaris* Monotypic**

A rare one and usually difficult to see. 8 birds flushed at our usual spot at the Lampa wetlands

**SKUAS**

**Parasitic Jaeger - *Stercorarius parasiticus* Monotypic**

1 during our pelagic trip off Valparaiso

## GULLS

### **Andean Gull - *Chroicocephalus serranus* Monotypic**

1 at the Maipo estuary, and 10 more at the Colbún Lake.

### **Brown-hooded Gull - *Chroicocephalus maculipennis glaucodes***

Seen at most visited wetlands, with 350+ at the Maipo estuary

### **Gray Gull - *Leucophaeus modestus* Monotypic**

180 at the Maipo estuary, and 5 during our pelagic trip off Valparaiso

The Grey Gull only breeds in the extremely arid Atacama Desert in northern **Chile** and is present as a non-breeding visitor throughout most of the Chilean coast, excluding the south, and the coast of **Peru** and **Ecuador**. This species feeds mainly and sometimes exclusively on mole crabs, but will also feed on fish, nereid worms and offal. Its breeding season ranges from November to January, breeding in the barren montane Atacama Desert between 35 and 100 km inland. Its nests is a scrape in the sand, usually near rocks, but does not breed in years with a severe occurrence of El Nino

### **Franklin's Gull - *Leucophaeus pipixcan* Monotypic**

20 at the Maipo estuary, and 5000+ leaving the Valparaiso harbor at dawn.

### **Kelp Gull - *Larus dominicanus* Monotypic**

The common gull in Chile

### **Inca Tern - *Larosterna inca* Monotypic NEAR-THREATENED**

A Humboldt Current endemic. 25 during our pelagic trip off Valparaiso.

### **Common Tern - *Sterna hirundo hirundo***

5 at the Maipo estuary

### **Elegant Tern - *Thalasseus elegans* Monotypic NEAR-THREATENED**

200+ at the Maipo estuary.

### **Sandwich Tern - *Thalasseus sandvicensis***

8 at the Maipo estuary

## SKIMMERS

### **Black Skimmer - *Rynchops niger cinerascens***

350+ at the Maipo estuary.

Sibley & Monroe (1990) and Zusi (1996) considered *Rynchops niger* to form a superspecies with African *R. flavirostris* and Asian *R. albicollis*; justification for treatment as separate species is weak; in fact, Jaramillo (2003) pointed out that the differences between the Amazonian subspecies

*cinerascens* and nominate *niger* are as great as those between *R. flavirostris* and nominate *niger*. The subspecies *cinerascens*, of most of South America, was formerly (e.g., Ridgway 1919) considered a separate species from *R. nigra*, but Peters (1934) treated them as conspecific; this treatment has been followed in most subsequent classifications.

## PIGEONS

### **Picui Ground-Dove - *Columbina picui picui***

Regular sightings

### **Black-winged Ground-Dove - *Metriopelia melanoptera melanoptera***

Seen near Farellones

### **Rock Pigeon - *Columba livia***

So pretty... especially the brown ones!!

### **RR Chilean Pigeon - *Patagioenas araucana* Monotypic**

A few seen at Altos de Lircay NP.

The species was almost extirpated by Newcastle's Disease in 1954, but has since recovered

### **Eared Dove - *Zenaida auriculata***

Very common in all the country (*auriculata* subspecies in Central Chile)

## BARN OWL

### **Barn Owl - *Tyto alba tuidara***

1 singing all night and seen well in the garden of our hotel at Olmué.

The New World *perlata* subspecies group was formerly (e.g., Cory 1919) considered a separate species from Old World *Tyto alba*

## OWLS

### **Great Horned Owl - *Bubo virginianus magellanicus***

1 roosting at their usual place near Santiago.

König et al. (1996, 1999), followed by Marks et al. (1999), Mazar Barnett & Pearman (2001), Jaramillo (2003), and Wink et al. (2008), recognized *B. magellanicus* as separate from *B. virginianus* based primarily on vocal differences; critical intermediate populations, however, have yet to be sampled. [SACC proposal to recognize as separate species did not pass](#). [NACC rejected a proposal to recognize *magellanicus* as a species pending more thorough study, including sampling of critical intermediate populations.]

### **(H) Rufous-legged Owl - *Strix rufipes* Monotypic**

1 heard and glimpsed at Altos de Lircay NP

**Austral Pygmy-Owl - *Glaucidium nana* Monotypic**

1 seen at Altos de Lircay NP

**NIGHTJARS**

**Band-winged Nightjar - *Caprimulgus longirostris***

1 seen well by day time at El Yeso

**HUMMINGBIRDS**

**Green-backed Firecrown - *Sephanoides sephaniodes* Monotypic**

a few contacted around Santiago, and common at Altos de Lircay NP.

**White-sided Hillstar - *Oreotrochilus leucopleurus* Monotypic**

25+ feeding on *Tristerix verticillatus* flowers, a parasitic plant common in Central Chile.

**Giant Hummingbird - *Patagona gigas gigas***

A migrant species leaving Central Chile by mid-February. 2 birds seen during the trip, probably the last ones to leave the country.

**WOODPECKERS**

**Striped Woodpecker - *Veniliornis lignarius* Monotypic**

A good view at Zapallar

*Veniliornis lignarius* and Chequered Woodpecker *V. mixtus* form a superspecies (Short 1982, Fjeldså & Krabbe 1990, Sibley & Monroe 1990, Winkler & Christie 2002); justification is weak for their treatment as separate species (Short 1970, 1971, 1982); genetic data (Weibel & Moore 2002a, b) confirm their relationship as sister species.

**Chilean Flicker - *Colaptes pitius* Monotypic**

Good view at Altos de Lircay NP

**FALCONS**

Ericson et al. (2006) and Hackett et al. (2008) found that the Falconiformes are actually more closely related to the Psittaciformes and Passeriformes than to any other orders

**Chimango Caracara - *Milvago chimango***

Common from Santiago (nominate subspecies) to Patagonia (*temucoensis* subspecies)

**Mountain Caracara - *Phalcoboenus megalopterus***

Seen at Farellones



**American Kestrel - *Falco sparverius cinnamominus***

Common

**PARROTS**

**Burrowing Parakeet - *Cyanoliseus patagonus bloxami***

50+ at the Colbún Lake. A Chilean endemic subspecies, very endangered by the pet traffic whose population is probably below 5000 individuals

**Austral Parakeet - *Enicognathus ferrugineus***

20+ seen at Altos de Lircay NP belonging to the *minor* subspecies

**(H) Mountain Parakeet - *Psilopsiagon aurifrons rubirostris***

mm.... only heard on the way to El Yeso...

**TAPACULOS**

**(H) RR Chestnut-throated Huet-huet - *Pterotochos castaneus* Monotypic**

A few heard at Altos de Lircay NP, but unfortunately no one came in the open.

**RR Moustached Turca - *Pterotochos megapodius* CHILEAN ENDEMIC**

Good views at La Campana and on the way to Farellones belonging here to the nominate subspecies. A large and charismatic tapaculo running in the open!!

**RR White-throated Tapaculo - *Scelorchilus albicollis* CHILEAN ENDEMIC**

1 seen at La Campana. Nominate subspecies here.

**Chucao Tapaculo - *Scelorchilus rubecula***

1 seen well at Altos de Lircay NP.

**Magellanic Tapaculo - *Scytalopus magellanicus* Monotypic**

Good views at Altos de Lircay NP

**Dusky Tapaculo - *Scytalopus fuscus* Monotypic CHILEAN ENDEMIC**

Only heard at the Maipo estuary, but seen on the way to Farellones.

**OVENBIRDS**

**Rufous-banded Miner - *Geositta rufipennis***

20+ at El Yeso belonging to the *fasciata* subspecies.

*Geositta rufipennis* may consist of more than one species (Jaramillo 2003, Remsen 2003).

**White-throated Treerunner - *Pygarrhichas albogularis* Monotypic**

Common at Altos de Lircay NP

**RR Crag Chilia - *Ochetorhynchus melanurus* CHILEAN ENDEMIC**

Excellent views on 4 birds on the way to El Yeso belonging to the nominate subspecies

**Wren-like Rushbird - *Phleocryptes melanops***

A few seen at several of the visited wetlands

**Scale-throated Earthcreeper - *Upucerthia dumetaria***

3 at El Yeso (*hypoleuca* subspecies).

**Buff-winged Cinclodes - *Cinclodes fuscus* Monotypic**

A common Cinclodes in the highlands of Central Chile

Jaramillo (2003) suggested that the *albiventris* group might warrant recognition as a separate species from *Cinclodes fuscus*. Unfortunately, Chesser's (2004a) sampling did not include populations of *C. fuscus* from the Andes north of Argentina. Sanín et al. (2009) sampled *C. fuscus* from throughout its range and found that it was polyphyletic, with various populations more closely related to *C. ologi*, *C. oustaleti*, *C. comechingonus*, and *C. antarcticus*. [SACC proposal passed to elevate the \*albiventris\* and \*albidiventris\* groups to species rank](#). Derryberry et al. (2011) also corroborated this treatment. As for English names, Jaramillo (2003) proposed Cream-winged Cinclodes for *C. albiventris* and Buff-winged Cinclodes for *C. fuscus*, and Jaramillo (see proposal 415) proposed Chestnut-winged Cinclodes for *C. albidiventris*; these are used here tentatively until formal SACC action

**Gray-flanked Cinclodes - *Cinclodes oustaleti***

A few seen at El yeso, but also on the coast where the species is spending the non-breeding season.

**Seaside Cinclodes - *Cinclodes nigrofumosus* Monotypic CHILEAN ENDEMIC**

Excellent views at our lunch place north of San Antonio.

The Surf Cinclodes *Cinclodes taczanowskii* (endemic to Peru) and the Seaside Cinclodes *C. nigrofumosus* were considered conspecific by Meyer de Schauensee (1966, 1970), although previously (e.g., Hellmayr 1925, Peters 1951) considered separate species; justification for treating them as separate species is weak (Renssen 2003); they form a superspecies (Sibley & Monroe 1990, Renssen 2003), and genetic data (Chesser 2004a) show that they are weakly differentiated sister taxa. [SACC proposal to lump these two species did not pass because of insufficient published data](#). Derryberry et al. (2011) found them to be barely differentiated in terms of loci sampled.

**Thorn-tailed Rayadito - *Aphrastura spinicauda spinicauda***

Common at Altos de Lircay NP

**Plain-mantled Tit-Spinetail - *Leptasthenura aegithaloides***

2 seen at Zapallar, belonging to the *aegithaloides* subspecies in Central Chile.

Jaramillo (2003) suggested that *Leptasthenura aegithaloides* might consist of more than one species

**Cordilleran Canastero - *Asthenes modesta***

Seen near Farellones

**RR Dusky-tailed Canastero - *Pseudasthenes humicola* CHILEAN ENDEMIC**

Good views at La Campana NP and on the way to Farellones (nominate subspecies)

**TYRANT FLYCATCHERS**

**White-crested Elaenia - *Elaenia albiceps chilensis***

The common summer flycatcher in Chile!! We saw the last ones, before their migration.

Ridgely & Tudor (1994) suggested that *Elaenia albiceps* may consist of two or three species. Fitzpatrick (2004) suggested that *Elaenia pallatangae* and *E. albiceps* might be closely related; they may hybridize to an uncertain extent in N. Peru (Fjeldså & Krabbe 1990). Rheindt et al. (2008a) found that Andean populations (Cuzco) were genetically more similar to sympatric populations of *E. pallatangae* but suggested that this could be due to gene flow between them. Rheindt et al. (2009) provided evidence that the subspecies *chilensis* is actually more closely related *E. pallatangae*.

**Tufted Tit-Tyrant - *Anairetes parulus parulus***

Common in Central Chile

**Many-colored Rush Tyrant - *Tachuris rubrigastra***

Seen at most of the visited wetlands

**Austral Negrito - *Lessonia rufa* Monotypic**

4 seen at the Lampa wetlands

**White-browed Ground-Tyrant - *Muscisaxicola albilora* Monotypic**

20+ at El Yeso

**Rufous-naped ground-tyrant - *Muscisaxicola rufivertex rufivertex***

Seen on the way to Valle Nevado

**Black-fronted Ground-Tyrant - *Muscisaxicola frontalis* Monotypic**

Seen at Valle Nevado

**Great Shrike-Tyrant - *Agriornis lividus***

A nice view on that rare and huge flycatcher. Actually the largest tyrant-flycatcher in the world!

**Fire-eyed Diucon - *Xolmis pyrope***

Regular sightings. Probably a monotypic species even if the *fortis* subspecies has been described for the birds from Chiloe Island.

**COTINGAS**

### **Rufous-tailed Plantcutter - *Phytotoma rara* Monotypic**

A few seen on the coast

## **SWALLOWS**

### **Chilean Swallow - *Tachycineta meyeri* Monotypic**

Common in Central Chile

## **WRENS**

### **House Wren - *Troglodyte (aedon) musculus***

Everywhere and common (*chilensis* subspecies)

Many authors (e.g., Hellmayr 1934, Pinto 1944, Phelps & Phelps 1950a) formerly treated Neotropical mainland populations as a separate species *T. musculus*; see also Brumfield and Capparella (1996); this treatment was followed by Brewer (2001) and Kroodsma & Brewer (2005). <incorp. Paynter 1957?> The Falklands population, *T. a. cobbi*, might also be best treated as a species (Wood 1993), as was done by Brewer (2001), Mazar Barnett & Pearman (2001), Jaramillo (2003), and Kroodsma & Brewer (2005). [SACC proposal to treat \*cobbi\* as separate species did not pass](#)

## **THRUSHES**

### **Austral Thrush - *Turdus falcklandii magellanicus***

An everyday bird in Central Chile

## **MOCKINGBIRDS**

### **RR Chilean Mockingbird - *Mimus thenca* Monotypic CHILEAN ENDEMIC**

Very common in Central Chile.

The species is spreading to the south and is now even breeding on Chiloe Island. There are also a few sightings in Argentina, so the species should not be considered any more a Chilean endemic...

## **PIPITS**

### **Correndera Pipit - *Anthus correndera chilensis***

A few flushed in the Lampa wetlands.

## **TANAGERS**

**Gray-hooded Sierra-Finch - *Phrygilus gayi***

Common at El Yeso

**Mourning Sierra-Finch - *Phrygilus fruticeti***

5+ seen in the Yeso valley and better views of many more birds (10+) at Yerba Loca.

**Band-tailed Sierra-finch - *Phrygilus alaudinus***

At least 5 birds at Yerba Loca.

**Common Diuca-Finch - *Diuca diuca***

Common in Central Chile

**Greater Yellow-Finch - *Sicalis auriventris***

3 at El Yeso

**Grassland Yellow-Finch - *Sicalis luteola luteiventris***

1 seen on the coast during our lunch stop, and 5 at the Lampa wetlands

Meyer de Schauensee (1966) and Ridgely & Tudor (1989) suggested that the southern subspecies *luteiventris* might represent a separate species from *Sicalis luteola*, and it was treated as such by Sibley & Monroe (1990) and AOU (<?> 1983, 1998). Meyer de Schauensee (1966), Ridgely & Tudor (1989), and Hilty (2003) also suggested that the subspecies *bogotensis* might deserve species rank.

## SPARROWS

**Rufous-collared Sparrow - *Zonotrichia capensis***

Every single day!

## BLACKBIRDS

**Austral Blackbird - *Curaeus curaeus***

A common blackbird in Central Chile

**Yellow-winged Blackbird - *Agelasticus thilius***

Common in any wetlands in Central Chile

**Shiny Cowbird - *Molothrus bonariensis***

A few, seen at the Maipo estuary

**Long-tailed Meadowlark - *Sturnella loyca***

Common in Central Chile

## FINCHES

**Yellow-rumped Siskin - *Sporagra uropygialis* Monotypic**

15 seen at El Yeso

**Black-chinned Siskin - *Sporagra barbata*** Monotypic  
Common in Central Chile

## OLD WORLD SPARROWS

**House Sparrow - *Passer domesticus***  
Common all over the country

## MAMMAL LIST

**Culpeo Fox - *Pseudalopex culpaeus***  
1 seen near Farellones

## REPTILES LIST

**Southern Grumbler - *Pristidactylus torquatus***  
1 found at Altos de Lircay NP.



The Southern Grumbler, a rare lizard seen at Altos de Lircay NP