

# Manu Expeditions



## Field Report – CHILE FROM THE ATACAMA DESERT TO PATAGONIA

**November 9th – 27<sup>th</sup> 2007**

**Led by: Barry Walker**

**With: Barbara Thomas, Irmgard Kroier, Joe and  
Sylvia Easley, Paul Berrigan and Alan Cairns.**



**Canary-winged Finch**

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Joe, Sylvia and Irmgard came in day early and decided to go birding with a Santiago birder Rodrigo Barros and Barry joined them and we birded Farellones and the Mahuide Park. Next day we were off on a journey which took us the full 4000 kilometer length of the country from the most arid desert in the world – the Atacama – to the plains of Patagonia, the high glacier topped Andes and the temperate coastal range of the centre of the country and to the extreme foot of the American continent – Tierra del Fuego, the Land of Fire. Food was consistently good though and we tried local dishes such as Pastel de Choclo, Empanadas, Chilena Salmon, Mote con Hueso and of course Pisco Sours. You definitely had to be a fan of Ham and Cheese Sandwiches (Barros Jarpa in Chilean Spanish), which were served ubiquitously on our internal flights and box lunches. This was balanced by excellent seafood and a great variety of evening fare and of course the excellence of the Chilean wines and surprising good quality of its beer (thanks to the strong German influence in the south). We even had an earthquake but we were in the air between Arica and Antofagasta and didn't feel it but we had to circle until the airport was declared safe to land on. The birds, although not in great quantity as in other places we go to such as Peru and Bolivia, were of great quality and charm. One disappointment was that late snows at Puyehue stopped us from visiting the volcanic crater. We recorded 272 species amongst which were included 23 species of Waterfowl, 4 Miners 4 Earthcreeper's, 6 Canasteros and 8 Tapaculos. We found ourselves birding in some of the most spectacular scenery imaginable from the stark red deserts to the snow capped altiplano with its herds of Vicunas and Llamas, from the mystical Nothofagus (southern beech) forests, which intrigued Darwin, to the windswept Patagonian plains. Indeed we were birding under Cerro La Campana, which Darwin climbed, when HMS Beagle was refitting in Valparaiso and where the seeds of the Theory of Evolution formed in his mind. The birds were great fun and needed some looking for. Tapaculos and Huet-Huets skulked in the bamboo, flocks of Geese wandered the plains of Tierra del Fuego. Magallanic and Diademed Sandpiper Plovers had their special habitats, whilst Magellanic Woodpeckers and White-throated Treerunner's roamed the beech forests. A fantastic trip by anyone's standards!

## Schedule.

**November 9<sup>th</sup>.** Arrival in Santiago. Some of us went to Farellones and The Mahuide park and met the rest of the group going to Arica at the hotel

**November 10<sup>th</sup>** Fly to Arica via Antofagasta and after lunch to the mouth of the Lluta River for some birding before driving to Putre in the high andes.

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**November 11<sup>th</sup> Birding the Putre environs at 3600- 3500 meters and then to the Chaquipina Polylepis woodland at 3700 meters, finally birding the Lauca National Park at 4300 meters.**

**November 12<sup>th</sup>: Full Day birding the Lauca National Park at 4300 – 4600 meters visiting Las Cuevas, Parinacocha and Laguna Chungara. Late afternoon stop below Putre.**

**November 13<sup>th</sup>: Drive from Putre to the Azapa valley and the aptly named “Hummingbird Sanctuary” then after lunch to the Vitor valley near Chaca. Night in Arica**

**November 14<sup>th</sup>: Morning birding on the rocky beach close to the hotel and then flight to Santiago to join the main tour.**

**November 15<sup>th</sup> Start at the Batuco wetlands at Estero Lampa 650mts. Birding the Catapilca road and then to the Cachagua Penguin Colony. Lunch at Punchuncavi then the Aconcagua estuary, Ventana pools and Renaca coastline. Night Hotel Oceanic**

**November 16<sup>th</sup> All day at La Campana national park 500mts. Night in Olmue**

**November 17<sup>th</sup>. Morning pelagic 31 miles offshore from Valparaiso and afternoon visit to Lagunas El Peral and Cartagena and return to Santiago.**

**November 18<sup>th</sup>. Embalse El Yeso Valley above San Gabriel 1600-2500mts.**

**November 19<sup>th</sup>. Santiago to Talca and on to Alta Vilches Park. Afternoon in park at 1200-1350 mts.**

**November 20<sup>th</sup>. Morning at Puente Maule and Lago Colbun and then afternoon travel to Santiago and late afternoon birding at Farellones.**

**November 21<sup>st</sup>. Flight to Punta Arenas and lunch at the Puerto Viejo Restaurant and then birding south of Punta Arenas to San Juan**

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**November 22<sup>nd</sup>** Drive to the Pali Aike road and then to Buque Quemado. Lunch at the ferry crossing at Iro Angostura. Ferry from Bahia Azul to Tierra del Fuego and birding drive to Porvenir.

**November 23<sup>rd</sup>** Morning at Laguna Verde and Bahia Grande and ferry from Porvenir to Punta Arenas.

**November 24<sup>th</sup>**. Quick trip south to see Spectacled Duck and then drive to the Penguin colony at Senno Otway and then to airport for flight to Puerto Montt. Drive via Rio Negro to the Puyehue national park. Night at Antillanca.

**November 25<sup>th</sup>**. All day birding Puyehue park from Antillanca to Aguas Calientes and Salto del Indio. 1100- 800mts Night Antillanca.

**November 14<sup>th</sup>**. All day birding from Antillanca to Aguas Calientes weather not good - 1100 - 900mts. Night Antillanca.

**December 15<sup>th</sup>**. Pre-dawn owling at Puyehue and then via Rio Negro the airport. Fly to Santiago and end tour



**MAGELLANIC PLOVER**

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## The Birds:

GREEN TEXT – seen on the extension to Arica only.

**E** – Chilean Endemic – found only in Chile

**NE**– Near endemic to Chile – mostly a Chilean species, but whose range just extends into a neighboring country – in this case mostly Peru and Argentina.

### CRITICALLY ENDANGERED/ENDANGERED/VULNERABLE

Birdlife International's status in "Threatened Birds of the World"

\* - Heard only.

#### RHEIDAE

Darwins Rhea *Pterocnemia pennata*. Fairly common along the road to Pali Aike road on November 22<sup>nd</sup> with some on the 24<sup>th</sup> near the Senno Otway Penguin colony. See comments under next species for taxonomic notes.

Puna Rhea *Pterocnemia tarapacensis*: A total of 14 in Lauca National Park on November 12<sup>th</sup>. The suggestion that this and the preceding species are worthy of species distinction on the basis of their highly disjunct and allopatric distribution (Jaramillo *et al.*) is erroneous since both form a contiguous range through central west Argentina. Marginal differences in morphology could well be consistent within sub-specific variation, but there are no studies from the area where the two forms meet, thus for the time-being this potential split remains controversial. The American Ornithologist's Union South American Checklist Committee (SACC) says "The montane subspecies of Lesser Rhea *tarapacensis* (with "*garleppi*") may deserve recognition as a separate species from lowland nominate *pennata* (Blake 1977, Fjelds  and Krabbe 1990, Folch 1992), and this was followed by Jaramillo (2003)"

#### TINAMIDAE

**CE** Chilean Tinamou – *Nothoprocta chilena*\* Only heard unfortunately

Ornate Tinamou *Nothoprocta ornata*: Prolonged views of a pair above Putre in an alfalfa field on November 14<sup>th</sup>.

Puna Tinamou *Tinamotis pentlandii*: Good views of a family group of 13 in Lauca and then a group of 3 spotted by Sylvia, of this poorly known Tinamou as they foraged in the open steppe. Named after Joseph Barclay Pentland, a 19th century Irish explorer and diplomat in Bolivia.

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## PODICIPEDIDAE

White-tufted Grebe *Rollandia rolland*: Observations on lakes in central and southern Chile, were all referable to the continental race *chilensis*. Note that the large nominate race, endemic to the Falkland Islands, may eventually be considered a separate species. Named after Master Gunner Rolland of the French corvette *L'Uranie* which circumnavigated the globe from 1817-1820.

Pied-billed Grebe *Podilymbus podiceps* A few in Central Chile

Silvery Grebe *Podiceps occipitalis*: We saw 2 sub-species – nominate *occipitalis* in Patagonia and the *junensis* race in Lauca. The SACC says “Fjeldså & Krabbe (1990) and Jaramillo (2003) suggested that the northern Andean subspecies, *juninensis*, might merit recognition as a separate species from *Podiceps occipitalis*.” They certainly look very different

Great Grebe *Podiceps major*: The sightings at El Peral in central Chile were referable to the nominate race. The birds in Patagonia are darker were the subspecies *navasi*. The SACC says “*Podiceps major* was formerly (e.g., Peters 1931, Pinto 1938, Hellmayr & Conover 1948a) placed in the genus *Aechmophorus*, but see Wetmore & Parkes (1954). Bochenski (1994) proposed that this species be placed in a monotypic genus (*Podiceps major* Bochenski, 1994) based on morphological differences; see also Storer (1963, 1996), who noted that it has a behavioral display unlike that of any other grebe.”

## SPHENISCIDAE

Humboldt Penguin *Spheniscus humboldti*: A Humboldt currant endemic. 60 or more were scoped at their breeding colony at Cachagua November 16<sup>th</sup> and several seen on the pelagic out of Valparaiso. **VULNERABLE**. The word *Penguin* is thought by some to derive from the Welsh words *pen* (head) and *gwyn* (white), applied to the now extinct Great Auk, which had white spots in front of its eyes (although its head was black), This theory is supported by the fact that penguins look remarkably like Great Auks in general shape.

Magellanic Penguin *Spheniscus magellanicus*: 20+ seen from the Porvenir ferry on November 23<sup>rd</sup> and many at their nesting burrows at Seno Otway the next day, a Patagonian endemic. **VULNERABLE**

## DIOMEDEIDAE

Southern Royal Albatross – *Diomedea epomophora epomophora* – the first “Royal” we saw was of the nominate form – less common than the following.

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Northern Royal Albatross – *Diomedea epomophora sanfordi* At least 10 of these huge seabirds on the pelagic out of Valparaiso. World population estimated at 13-14 thousand birds. **ENDANGERED**

Black-browed Albatross *Thalassarche melanophris*: At least 1400 seen on the Porvenir ferry crossing – an incredible sight and 25 out of Valparaiso and another 30 from the coast near Tres Brazos. World populations of this species have been estimated to be declining 65% per generation (they live for 40-60 years). 65% of the worlds population nest on the Falklands Islands. The smaller species of albatross, also known as Mollymawks, have been separated into the genus *Thalassarche*, leaving the great albatrosses (Royal and Wandering) in the genus *Diomedea* and the Sooty Albatrosses in the genus *Phoebetria*. **ENDANGERED**

Salvin's Albatross (Shy Albatross) *Thalassarche [cauta] salvini*: 25 or more, seen on the Valparaiso pelagic. Different authorities accept between one and four species in the *cauta* complex, although the latest DNA work shows that they are all closely related. The SACC says "*Thalassarche cauta* has been considered to consist of three separate species by Robertson & Nunn (1998), and this treatment has been followed by <REF>. See, however, Penhallurick & Wink (2004) for continued treatment as conspecific. <incorp. Abbott & Double 2003a, b, Double et al. 2003, Rheindt & Austin 2005> **SACC proposal passed to split into two or three species. SACC proposal pending to reverse this decision.**" **VULNERABLE**

## HYDROBATIDAE

Wilson's Storm-Petrel species *Oceanites oceanicus*: Fairly common on the pelagic.

White-vented Storm-Petrel - *Oceanites gracilis* About 4 identified on the Valparaiso pelagic. Nests on guano islands off the coast of Peru and northern Chile

Markham's Storm Petrel - *Oceanodroma markhami*. One seen on the pelagic out of Valparaiso

## PROCELLARIIDAE

Antarctic (Southern) Giant-Petrel *Macronectes giganteus*: 20+ from the Valparaiso pelagic and around 30 15 from the Porvenir ferry and near Punta Arenas **VULNERABLE**

Hall's (Northern) Giant-Petrel *Macronectes halli* One positively identified from the Valparaiso pelagic – the red tip to the bill being clearly seen. Named after Australian ornithologist Robert Hall. **THREATENED**

Southern Fulmar – *Fulmarus glacialisoides*. Common this year with 2 on the Valparaiso pelagic and 100+ in the Straits of Magellan.

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Cape Petrel *Daption capense*. 300 on the Valparaíso pelagic and six in the straights.

**NE** Masatierra (Delfilippe's) Petrel *Pterodroma defilippiana*. At least 2 on the Valparaíso pelagic. Near endemic breeding exclusively off the coast of Chile, and rather sedentary. Always good to see a *Pterodroma*. **VULNERABLE**

**NE** Juan Fernandez Petrel *Pterodroma externa*. 2 on the Valparaíso pelagic. A million pairs breed on Alexander Selkirk island named after the famous castaway who was the inspiration for the book "Robinson Crusoe"

White-chinned Petrel *Procellaria aequinoctialis*: 20 or more on the pelagic. **VULNERABLE**

Westland Petrel *Procellaria westlandica*: At least four seen on the pelagic -one very well at rest on the water **VULNERABLE**

Pink-footed Shearwater *Puffinus creatopus*: 150 or more seen on the pelagic. The SACC says "Genetic data (Austin et al. 2004, Penhallurick & Wink 2004) support the traditional treatment of Pink-footed Shearwater *Puffinus creatopus* and Flesh-footed Shearwater *P. carneipes* as sister taxa. Some authors (e.g., REFS, Penhallurick & Wink 2004) consider them to be conspecific." **VULNERABLE**

Sooty Shearwater *Puffinus griseus*: Large numbers on the pelagic.

## PELECANOIDIDAE

Peruvian Diving-Petrel *Pelecanoides garnotii*: Only one of these large diving-petrels on the pelagic, restricted to southern Peru and northern Chile. **ENDANGERED**

**NE** Magellanic Diving-Petrel *Pelecanoides magellani*: 40 seen well from the Porvenir ferry, a Patagonian endemic.

## SULIDAE

Peruvian Booby *Sula variegata*: Fairly common at all coastal sites visited in central Chile, a Humboldt current endemic.

## PELECANIDAE

Peruvian Pelican *Pelecanus thagus*: Large numbers recorded at all coastal sites with some far offshore on the pelagic; another Humboldt current endemic.

## PHALACROCORACIDAE

Neotropic Cormorant *Phalacrocorax brasilianus*: Scattered records of fairly large numbers throughout, including one at 4500 metres in Lauca National Park.

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Guanay Cormorant (Shag) *Phalacrocorax bougainvillii*: 25 on the central Chilean coast.

Red-legged Cormorant (Shag) *Phalacrocorax gaimardi*: 1 near Renaca. A Humboldt currant endemic. **NEAR THREATENED**

Imperial Cormorant (Shag) *Phalacrocorax atriceps*: Common in Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego. Formerly considered to comprise two species: King Shag *P. albiventer* and Blue-eyed Shag *P. atriceps* but large intermixed colonies occur throughout much of the species range, courtship displays have been shown to be identical and cross-breeding with fertile offspring is commonplace, and as such these forms have been lumped. A Patagonian endemic.

Rock Shag - *Phalacrocorax magellanicus*. A few nesting from the Bahia Azul ferry crossing and around 100 at various sites in the south A Patagonian endemic.

## ANATIDAE

Coscoroba Swan *Coscoroba coscoroba*: A few in Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego plus a pair with 2 goslings at Laguna Cartegena in central Chile. This unusual species with a duck-like bill is probably not a swan at all.

Black-necked Swan *Cygnus melancorypha*: Common at Laguna El Peral, some with goslings.

**Andean Goose** *Chloephaga melanoptera*: Common at Lauca National Park.

Upland Goose *Chloephaga picta* Common in the south. Patagonian Endemic

Kelp Goose - *Chloephaga hybrida* 7 south of Punta Arenas were a pleasant find – striking sexual dimorphism.

**NE** Ashy-headed Goose *Chloephaga poliocephala*. Many in the south. Occurs in Argentina and the Falklands

**NE** Ruddy-headed Goose *Chloephaga picta*. 16 in the south. Populations have declined dramatically on the South American mainland but a healthy population occurs on the Falklands Islands. Occurs in Argentina.

Crested Duck *Lophonetta specularioides*: We saw the nominate race in Patagonia and the orange-eyed race *alticola* in Lauca. Formerly placed in the genus *Anas*, but recent authors unanimously resurrect the monotypic genus *Lophonetta* for this unusual duck.

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**NE** Flightless Steamer-Duck *Tachyeres pteneres*: One aggressive bird chasing Crested Ducks south of Punta Arenas on November 21<sup>st</sup> and another at long range near the Seno Otway penguin Colony. Virtually a Chilean endemic.

**NE** Flying Steamer-Duck *Tachyeres patachonicus*: A total of 12 seen in the south. Also occurs in Argentina but restricted to Patagonia.

Spectacled Duck – *Anas specularis*. A scouting trip by Barabara and Irmgard found 2 of this species and we twitched it the next day seeing, failing to see that pair, but finding an adult with 7 juveniles nearby **NEAR THREATENED**

Speckled Teal *Anas flavirostris*: In the south we saw the nominate *flavirostris* race. **Abundant at Lauca where referable to the altiplano race *oxyptera* which shows silvery white under-parts which contrast strongly with the dark head.** With no reports of integration between these forms it seems plausible that two species are involved as mentioned by Jaramillo *et al.* Note also that birds from the Andes of Venezuela, Colombia and Ecuador are now split off by some authors as a separate species, the Andean Teal *A. andium*.

Chiloé Wigeon (Southern W) *Anas sibilatrix*: Regular encounters throughout the lowlands.

Yellow-billed Pintail *Anas georgica*: Regular encounters throughout.

**Puna Teal *Anas puna*: 6 in Lauca National Park.**

Cinnamon Teal *Anas cyanoptera*: A few lakes in central Chile referable to the nominate race.

Red Shoveler *Anas platalea*: Regular at lakes in central Chile.

Rosy-billed Pochard *Netta peposaca*: One at Estero Lampa.

Torrent Duck *Merganetta armata*: A male plus 3 young on the river at the mouth of the El Yeso Valley .

Black-headed Duck *Heteronetta atricapilla*. A male with a red base to the bill seen at Laguna Crategena after some searching. The worlds only parasitic Duck, mostly parasitizing Coots. Lays up to 2 eggs in each hosts nest. The young are precocial and so only need incubation from the hosts. Many more seen by Barabara and Irmgard on their last day in Chile.

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**Andean Duck *Oxyura furruginea*.** We saw a male on lake Chungara in Lauca National Park

**Lake Duck *Oxyura vittata*:** Small numbers on lakes in central coastal Chile.

## ARDEIDAE

**Snowy Egret *Egretta thula*:** Small numbers recorded throughout the tour. Note that the Latin name '*thula*' refers to Black-necked Swan in *Araucano* tongue from southern-central Chile and has been erroneously applied to this species.

**Great Egret *Ardea alba*:** Scattered records in central Chile. Previously called *Casmerodius albus* but DNA and skeletal studies now firmly place this egret in the genus *Ardea*.

**Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*:** Ubiquitous. a species which colonized the New World from Africa in the 1960s.

**White-necked (Cocoi) Heron *Ardea cocoi*.** 6 at Estero Lampa on December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Black-crowned Night-Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*:** Small numbers encountered at coastal sites in central and southern Chile and at Lauca

## THRESKIORNITHIDAE

**Puna Ibis *Plegadis ridgwayi*:** Up to 20 daily at Lauca National Park, still in non-breeding dress.

**Black-faced Ibis *Theristicus melanopis*:** A very common sight in the lake district, their presence often revealed by far-carrying trumpeting calls, and referable to the nominate race. Note that Andean Ibis" *T. branickii* of the high Andes of Ecuador to Northern Chile (locally common only in the high Andes of Peru) is generally accepted to represent a subspecies of Black-faced Ibis, while the widespread Buff necked Ibis *T. caudatus* of central-southern South America is unanimously considered as a distinct species. The SACC says "Sibley & Monroe (1990) considered *branickii* as separate species ("Andean Ibis") from *melanopis*."

## PHOENICOPTERIDAE

**Chilean Flamingo *Phoenicopterus chilensis*:** 30 at Buque Quemado and 80 in Lauca National Park. The other species of Flamingo were not present and they move about seasonally

## CATHARTIDAE

**Black Vulture *Coragyps atratus*:** Note that genetic studies indicate that New World vultures are modified storks.

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**Turkey Vulture *Cathartes aura*:** Fairly common throughout with large numbers seen in the north.

**Andean Condor *Vultur gryphus*:** Common at Farellones 1 immature at El Yeso and in Patagonia with a male giving fine views.

## ACCIPITRIDAE

**White-tailed Kite *Elanus leucurus*:** 2 at Estero Lampa

**Cinereous Harrier *Circus cinereus*:** A total of seven throughout the tour.

**Long-winged Harrier – *Circus buffoni*** A pale morph male seen at Estero Lampa on November 15<sup>th</sup> was a rarity for Chile. Initially found in mid-October 2006 – the bird returned this summer – where does it go to in winter? A genuine Chilean rarity.

**Harris's (Bay-winged Hawk) – *Parabuteo unicinctus*** 2 in the Mahuide Park

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

**Red-backed Hawk *Buteo polyosoma*:** Regular sightings of singles and pairs throughout the tour in the center and south of the country. This and the following species were once lumped as Variable Hawk but there is no hard data to support this hypothesis. The SACC says "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) and Jaramillo (2003) 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. [incorp. Cabot & De Vries 2003] [incorp. Vaurie 1962]. **Proposal badly needed.**

**Puna Hawk *Buteo poecilochrous*:** These were the birds seen daily in Lauca and also at El Yeso

## FALCONIDAE

**Mountain Caracara *Phalcoboenus megalopterus*:** A few in Lauca national Park and two at Enbalse El Yeso

**Southern Caracara (S Crested-Caracara) *Caracara plancus*:** Common in the lake district. Formerly placed in the genus *Polyborus* but, this species has been switched to the genus *Caracara*. Note also that the former species known as Crested Caracara, has been split into three species with those ranging north of north-west

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Peru and the Amazon River referable to Northern Crested-Caracara *C. cheriway* while another form, the extinct Guadalupe Caracara *C. lutosus*, of Guadalupe Island, Mexico, has also been given its untimely species status. The SACC says “*Caracara cheriway* and *C. plancus* were formerly considered conspecific (e.g., Hellmayr & Conover 1949, Phelps & Phelps 1958a), sometimes also including *C. lutosus* of Guadalupe Island (e.g., Meyer de Schauensee 1970, Stresemann and Amadon 1979), but the ranges of *cheriway* and *plancus* are nearly parapatric with no sign of intergradation, contrary to earlier interpretations (see Banks REF); they constitute a superspecies. The three forms had previously been considered separate species by REFS, Pinto (1938), and Friedmann (1950).”

Chimango Caracara *Milvago chimango*: Common and widespread in central and southern Chile, mostly referable to the widespread pale brown nominate race, but very dark brown birds of the subspecies *temucoensis* were a regular sight in the more densely forested areas of the Lake District.

American Kestrel *Falco sparverius*: Numerous sightings throughout and referable to the widespread subspecies *cinnamominus*.

**Aplomado Falcon *Falco femoralis*: A pair seen well near Putre.**

**Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*. We saw 2 in the Azapa Valley area**

## ODONTOPHORIDAE

California Quail *Callipepla californica*: A ubiquitous introduced species in central Chile and the lake district.

## RALLIDAE

Plumbeous Rail *Pardirallus sanguinolentus*\*: At Laguna El Peral.

Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*: Only seen at the mouth of the Lluta river and Estero Lampa

Spot-flanked Gallinule *Gallinula melanops*: Close looks at 2 at Laguna El Peral.

Andean Coot (Slate-coloured) *Fulica ardesiaca*: Seen at Lauca National Park.

Red-gartered Coot *Fulica armillata*: The commonest coot in central and southern Chile. Readily identified by the dark red band dividing the yellow bill and frontal shield.

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**White-winged Coot *Fulica leucoptera*:** Not as common as the previous species and a little less widespread; readily identified by their rounded yellow or orange frontal shield.

**Red-fronted Coot *Fulica rufifrons*:** Some 30 birds at Laguna El Peral and 15 in the Lampa marshes, characterized by its dark red mitre-shaped frontal shield.

**Giant Coot *Fulica gigantea*:** The abundant coot of Lauca National Park with much breeding activity in evidence and arguably the most handsome member of the genus with its tri-colored bill and elevated orbital rims. Restricted Range.

## THINOCORIDAE

**Grey-breasted Seedsnipe *Thinocorus orbignyianus*:** Great 'scope looks in the Lauca National Park and also in the El Yeso Valley

**Least Seedsnipe *Thinocorus rimicivorus*.** 10 on Tierra del Fuego. Detailed studies in the last decades have shown that Seedsnipes are probably the closest living relatives of the enigmatic Plains-Wanderer *Pedionomus torquatus* of Australia.

## CHARADRIIDAE

**Southern Lapwing *Vanellus chilensis*:** Common throughout except in the north.

**Andean Lapwing – *Vanellus resplendens* One only in Lauca**

**American Golden Plover – *Pluvialis dominica* – 2 at the mouth of the Lluta river**

**Black-bellied (Gray) Plover - *Pluvialis squatarola* - 1 at the mouth of the Lluta river**

**Killdeer – *Charadrius vociferous* – Only in Chile at the mouth of the Lluta river which is where we saw it.**

**NE Two-banded Plover *Charadrius falklandicus* Fairly common in Patagonia.**

**Puna Plover – *Charadrius alticola* – 1 seen well in the Lauca national park on November 12th**

**Rufous-chested Dottrel *Charadrius modestus* scope views of 2 on Laguna Grande.**

**Tawny-throated Dottrel – *Oreopholus ruficollis* – Great looks at 4 breeding plumage birds along the Pali Aike road.**

**Diademed Sandpiper-Plover *Phegornis mitchellii*: Outstanding looks in Lauca National Park We refused to get our feet wet at El Yeso as everyone had seen the**

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species previously! One of the most sought after shorebirds along with Magallanic Plover. Named after David William Mitchell. English zoologist and secretary of the London Zoologist Society.

## PLUVIANELLIDAE

**NE** Megallenic Plover *Pluvianellus socialis*. This species has its own family. A much desired bird, 3 seen on Tierra del Fuego at Laguna Verde. A Patagonian specialty, which also occurs in Argentina.

## ROSTRATULIDAE

American Painted Snipe – *Rostratula semicollaris* One maybe 2 flushed, one in good light at Estero Lampa.

## HAEMATOPODIDAE

American Oystercatcher *Haematopus palliatus*: Only seen near Arica and Valparaiso

Blackish Oystercatcher *Haematopus ater*: 4 on the Valparaiso coast and 7 at Arica.

Magallanic Oystercatcher *Haematopus leucopodus*. Common in Patagonia

## RECURVIROSTRIDAE

White-backed Stilt *Himantopus melanurus*: Good numbers in central Chile. Sometimes considered as a race of Black-necked Stilt *H. mexicanus* which ranges from Peru and northeast Brazil to the U.S.A. The SACC says “*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.”

Andean Avocet *Recurvirostra andina*. At least 10 in the Lauca National Park on November 12<sup>th</sup>

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## SCOLOPACIDAE

**Magellanic Snipe – *Gallinago megallanicus*** One scoped in the El Yeso Valley at 2600 meters (despite Birds of Chile giving 2000 meters as top of range) and one near Punta Arenas. The SACC says “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 *paraguaiae*, *magellanica*, and *andina* to be conspecific. Additionally, *Gallinago paraguaiae* was considered conspecific with *G. [gallinago] delicata* by Phelps & Phelps (1958a), Meyer de Schauensee (1970), and Blake (1970). Fjeldså and Krabbe (1990) placed *magellanica* with *paraguaiae*, 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 *paraguaiae*, *magellanica*, and *andina* have been reported (Jaramillo 2003). **proposal badly needed.**

**Whimbrel (Hudsonian Whimbrel) *Numenius phaeopus hudsonicus***: Commonly encountered in small to large numbers at most coastal sites visited, and referable to wintering birds from Alaska and northern Canada. The subspecies involved, *hudsonicus*, is restricted to the New World and may eventually be afforded species status. The SACC says “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***

**Lesser Yellowlegs *Tringa flavipes***

**Willet – *Catoptrophorus semipalmatus*** 6 at Arica and one at Laguna Cartagena

**Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres***: 50 at Arica on rocks and some on the central Chilean coast.

**Surfbird *Aphriza virgata*** : 200 plus on rocks at Arica and a few in central Chile

**Sanderling *Calidris alba***:

**White-rumped Sandpiper *Calidris fuscicollis***. The common peep in Tierra del Fuego and Patagonia.

**Baird’s Sandpiper *Calidris bairdii***: Less common but also present in Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego, also in the Andes at Lauca.

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**Red Phalarope (Gray Phalarope) *Phalaropus fulicaria*: 4 seen on the pelagic out of Valparaiso**

## **LARIDAE**

**Chilean Skua *Catharacta chilensis*: About 30 seen on the ferry crossings and over land in Patagonia, and one on the Pelagic distinguished from other "Brown Skuas" by their cinnamon under-parts and wing-linings.**

**Black Skimmer – *Rynchops niger* 3 on Laguna Cratagena**

**Dolphin Gull *Larus scoresbii*. Fairly common in the south both on the mainland and on Tierra del Fuego**

**Grey Gull *Larus modestus*: 30 on the Central Chilean coast and 20 outside our hotel in Arica**

**Belcher's Gull *Larus belcheri* 6 near Arica. Belcher's Gull *Larus belcheri* and Olrog's Gull *Larus atlanticus* were formerly (e.g., Meyer de Schauensee 1970, Blake 1977) considered conspecific, but Devillers (1977) provided rationale for treatment as separate species [check], and this treatment has been followed by most authors, e.g., Sibley & Monroe (1990), Burger & Gochfeld (1996), and AOU (1998); they form a super-species (Sibley & Monroe 1990). The AOU (Banks 2003) recently adopted proposal to change English name to "Belcher's Gull"; SACC proposal passed to change the name of *Larus belcheri* from "Band-tailed" to "Belcher's."**

**Kelp Gull *Larus dominicanus*: Common at all coastal sites.**

**Andean Gull *Larus serranus*: Around 40 at Lauca.**

**Brown-hooded Gull *Larus maculipennis*: Numerous in the center and south with a sizeable colony with chicks at Laguna El Peral.**

**Franklin's Gull *Larus pipixcan*. Common along the coast in center and north, some with summer rosy under-parts still. Full migration was happening and we saw many groups pushing their way south. The world's population winters along the coast of Peru and Chile.**

**Elegant Tern *Sterna elegans* A few along the central coast and Arica**

**South American Tern *Sterna hirundinacea*: Manu hundreds in non-breeding dress at the Aconcagua estuary – a confusing non-breeding plumage. In the south they were in full breeding dress**

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**Common Tern *Sterna hirundo*** Some with the huge South American tern flock at the Aconcagua estuary.

**Inca Tern *Larosterna inca*:** Some 50 birds seen on the central and a few on the pelagic.

## COLUMBIDAE

**Rock Pigeon *Columba livia*:**

**NE Chilean Pigeon *Patagioenas araucana*:** Good numbers of this striking pigeon in central and southern Chile.

**Spot-winged Pigeon *Patagioenas maculosa*.** At Putre 20 were seen on November 11<sup>th</sup>. Not mentioned in Birds of Chile and first recorded in Chile at Putre in February 2003 from whence it has been seen regularly and now breeds.

**Eared Dove *Zenaida auriculata*:** Widespread and common.

**Pacific Dove *Zenaida meloda*:** Common in and around Arica, and abundant in the Azapa and Lluta valleys.

**Picui Ground-Dove *Columbina picui*:** Small numbers in central Chile, representing the nominate race.

**Croaking Ground-Dove *Columbina cruziana*:** Small numbers in the Azapa and Lluta valleys.

**Bare-faced Ground-Dove *Metriopelia ceciliae*:** Fairly common around Putre, perhaps one of the most handsome of the *Metriopelia* ground doves. We saw the *gymnops* subspecies.

**Black-winged Ground-Dove *Metriopelia melanoptera*:** Common in Lauca and in the Andes above Santiago.

**Golden-spotted Ground-Dove – *Metriopelia aymara*** 4 of this difficult to see species in Lauca was a treat.

## PSITTACIDAE

**Burrowing Parrot (Parakeet) – *Cyanoliseus patagonus*.** 2 seen well in flight near Lago Colbun near Talca. Now a rare bird in Chile. The Chilean race *bloxami* is an endemic subspecies and the only one with a gray breast-band

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**NE** Austral Parakeet *Enicognathus ferrugineus*: Small numbers seen on three dates in the Lake District and also at Alto Vilches. [particularly common at Antillanca with groups seen daily. Also occurs in Argentina

**E** Slender-billed Parakeet *Enicognathus leptorhynchus*: 4 heard and seen flying high near Rio Negro and then later great looks of another 4 (scoped) at Rio Negro feeding on blossoms

## CUCULIDAE

**Groove-billed Ani – *Crotophaga sulcirostris* One at the Humminbird Paradise**

## STRIGIDAE

Magellanic Horned Owl – *Bubo magellanicus*. Two seen well roosting at Farellones and one on a rocky out crop on Tierra del Fuego. Formally considered part of Great-horned Owl the SACC says “König et al. (1996, 1999), followed by Marks et al. (1999), Mazar Barnett & Pearman (2001), and Jaramillo (2003), recognized *B. magellanicus* as separate from *B. virginianus* based primarily on vocal differences; critical intermediate populations, however, have yet to be sampled. **proposal needed.** [AOU CLC rejected a proposal to recognized *magellanicus* as a species pending more thorough study, including sampling of critical intermediate populations.]

**NE** Rufous-legged Owl *Strix rufipe*: Good if brief looks at a very mobile bird pre-dawn in Puyehue National Park. Note that Chaco Owl *Strix chacoensis* of dry chaco woodlands in south-east Bolivia, western Paraguay and western Argentina has been split from Rufous-legged Owl and differs by plumage, voice and habitat niche. Occurs just over the border in Argentina.

Austral Pygmy-Owl *Glaucidium nanum*: 2 birds seen well during the daytime in La Campana Park.

Burrowing Owl *Athene cunicularia*: Seen by Barbara and Irmgard on their last day in Chile

Short-eared Owl – *Asio flammeus*: Seen by Barbara and Irmgard on their last day in Chile

## TROCHILIDAE

**Andean Hillstar *Oreotrochilus estella*: Numerous in the northern Andes, with many good looks, here the nominate race.**

**NE** White-sided Hillstar *Oreotrochilus leucopleurus*: Seen well at Farellones.

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**Giant Hummingbird *Patagona gigas*:** A few of the nominate race were encountered in central Chile and **at least six birds at Putre of the larger subspecies *peruviana* differed by their rufous vent.**

**Green-backed Firecrown *Sephanoides sephaniodes*:** Fairly in central and southern Chile, eventually with close-ups of a couple of feeding birds, a Patagonian forest endemic.

**Oasis Hummingbird *Rhodopis vesper*:** A total of 30+ seen well in the Azapa Valley.

**Peruvian Sheartail *Thaumastura cora*:** 10+ seen in the Azapa Valley including stupendous males. Not recorded in Chile until 1971 and unfortunately it may be competing with Chilean Woodstar.

**NE Chilean Woodstar *Eulidia yarrellii*:** Close views of 2 females or eclipse males in the Azapa valley south of Arica. Note that some recent authors have switched this Woodstar from the monotypic genus *Eulidia* into the genus *Myrtis*, but with little reasoning. The SACC says “*Eulidia yarrellii* was formerly (e.g., Cory 1918) placed in *Myrtis*, but see Peters (1945). Schuchmann (1999) again merged *Eulidia* into *Myrtis*, but no evidence provided.” This Hummingbird has one of the smallest ranges of any hummingbird and is declining in a man-made environment, while competing with other invading Hummingbirds. Historically occurred in nearby Peru where it has not been seen for over 10 years and maybe extirpated there. **ENDANGERED**

## PICIDAE

**Striped Woodpecker *Venilornis lignarius*:** 3 seen well at La Campana and other heard at Puyehue. Note that birds attributed to this species in the “valles” region of southern Bolivia and adjacent north-west Argentina may represent a distinct species. Note that this species was formally placed in the genus *Picoides*. The SACC says particular, the two South American species formerly treated in *Picoides* are more closely related to *Veniliornis* (as represented by *V. nigriceps* and *V. callonotus*) than they are to Northern Hemisphere *Picoides*; see also Moore et al. (2006). This result is exceptionally robust with respect to analytical techniques, and it includes both mitochondrial and nuclear genes. However, it might be best to wait for additional taxon-sampling before proposing a merger (and to wait for broader rearrangement of *Picoides*, which consists of at least five lineages worthy of generic recognition, including restoration of *Dendrocopos* and *Dryobates*). Data from Moore et al. (2006), however, require removal of *lignarius* and *mixtus* from *Picoides*. **SACC proposal passed to transfer to *Veniliornis*. SACC proposal passed to change linear sequence within *Veniliornis*.**

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**NE** Chilean Flicker *Colaptes pitius*: 3 at la Camapana and a pair seen on two days at Puyehue. Patagonian forest endemic.

**Andean Flicker** *Colaptes rupicola*\*: Heard in the Lauca National Park

**NE** Magellanic Woodpecker *Campephilus magellanicus*: Superb! First a female seen well at Alto Vilches and then what appeared to be a pair and a youngster. Also around our lodge in Puyehue on two morning. Patagonian forest endemic.

## FURNARIIDAE

Common Miner *Geositta cuncularia* We saw 20+ of the nominate race in Patagonia

**NE** Short-billed Miner *Geositta antarctica* Up to 30 seen o Tierra del Fuego. Patagonian endemic.

**Puna Miner** *Geositta punensis*: A total of eight seen at Lauca National Park, a Puna endemic.

Rufous-banded Miner *Geositta rufipennis*. Common at El Yeso and Farellones

Scale-throated Earthcreeper *Upucerthia dumetaria*: 2 of the subspecies *hypoleuca* seen at Farellones

White-throated Earthcreeper *Upucerthia albigula*: At least 1 seen at Putre, responding to tape well and giving incredible views!

Plain-breasted Earthcreeper *Upucerthia jelskii*:1 seen in Lauca National Park after some searching.

Straight-billed Earthcreeper *Upucerthia ruficauda*: Common in the Putre area, even from the breakfast table. This is the subspecies *montana*.

**E** Crag Chilia *Chilia melanura*: Seen at Farellones and then 3 seen at a traditional site in the El Yeso valley. A strange rock loving Furnarid and Chilean endemic

**NE** Dark-bellied Cinclodes *Cinclodes patagonicus*: A few seen flying off trhe road in Putehue and then one spotted by Alan and watched for many minutes at Aguas Calientes. The term Patagonia drives from the Spanish “Patagones” – big feet - a name applied by Magellan to the giant Telhuelche natives who wore animal skins on their feet

Grey-flanked Cinclodes *Cinclodes oustaleti*: 2 in the El Yeso Valley and 3 at Portillo. Recent studies conclude that three races are involved which include the so-

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called “Olrog’s Cinclodes” of the sierras of Córdoba, Argentina, still sometimes considered a distinct species for unknown reasons. The name Grey-flanked Cinclodes has been considered redundant due to the fact that all races have brown flanks although Jaramillo *et al.* continue to use this. The SACC says “Nores (1986) considered *Cinclodes olrogi* to be a subspecies of *C. fuscus*; others (Olrog 1979, Navas & Bó 1987, Vuilleumier & Mayr 1987, Mazar Barnett & Pearman 2001) considered it more likely to be closely related to *C. oustaleti*. Genetic data support the latter relationship (Chesser 2004).”

Bar-winged Cinclodes *Cinclodes fuscus*: Small numbers in central Chile of the nominate race *fuscus* (“Buff-winged Cinclodes”), and of the *albiventris* sub-species in Lauca (“Cream-winged Cinclodes”). More than one species may be involved in the *fuscus* complex.

**White-winged Cinclodes *Cinclodes atacamensis*: 4 or so in Lauca, here the nominate race. Highly tied to running water unlike the preceding species.**

Chilean Seaside Cinclodes *Cinclodes nigrofumosus*: Great looks at 3-5 birds on seaweed covered rocks near Renaca. Currently considered a distinct species from Peruvian Seaside Cinclodes *C. taczanowskii* of coastal Peru but their ranges are separated by the international Peruvian/Chilean border with Peruvian ranging to the last rocky headland in Peru and supposedly Chilean to the last rocky headland in Chile! The SACC says “*Cinclodes taczanowskii* and *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 (Remsen 2003); they form a superspecies (Sibley & Monroe 1990, Remsen 2003), and genetic data (Chesser 2004) show that they are weakly differentiated sister taxa. **SACC proposal to lump these two species did not pass because of insufficient published data”**

**NE** Des Murs’ Wiretail *Sylviorthorhynchus desmursii*: A delightful bird! One of the few passerines with just six tail feathers, although just two are usually visible. A ping-pong ball with 2 spines! Seen at Puyehue in response to playback. Occurs in nearby Argentina. Named after Marc Athanase Parfait Oeillet des Murs, an early French naturalist.

**NE** Thorn-tailed Rayadito *Aphrastura spinicauda*: Abundant in the *Nothofagus* forest and indeed endemic to this forest type. We became familiar with this snazzy cute Furnarid.

**Streaked Tit-Spinetail *Leptasthenura striata*: The nominate race *striata* was fairly common around Putre.**

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Plain-mantled Tit-Spinetail *Leptasthenura aegithaloides*: Jaramillo *et al.* provide a detailed discussion on plumage and vocal differences between races, and suggest that more than one species may be involved. We saw all 4 Chilean taxa with *berlepschi* being seen in Lauca, *gricesens* in the desert near Arica, nominate *aegithaloides* in central Chile and *pallida* on Tierra del Fuego.

Canyon Canastero *Asthenes pudibunda*: A common Canastero around Putre with 5 individuals seen well

Sharp-billed Canastero (Lesser Canastero) *Asthenes pyrrholeuca*: 3 seen well in response to playback at Portillo.

**NE** Dark-winged Canastero *Asthenes arequipae*: Common around Putre where many bulky nests were also seen. Occurs in nearby Peru. Considered a distinct species within the Creamy-breasted Canastero *A. dorbignyi* complex by most recent authors. The SACC says “The subspecies *huancavelicae* and *arequipae* were considered separate species ("Pale-tailed Canastero" and "Dark-winged Canastero") from *Asthenes dorbynyi* by Fjeldså & Krabbe (1990) and Ridgely & Tudor (1994). SACC proposal to recognize *huancavelicae* and *arequipae* as separate species did not pass because published data are incomplete and insufficient.”

**E** Dusky-tailed Canastero *Asthenes humicola*: A total of 4 seen in the La Campana and Catapilca areas, of the nominate race. Considered endemic to Chile although there exists a 1911 specimen from Mendoza province, Argentina.

Cordilleran Canastero *Asthenes modesta*: Eight seen at Lauca, this being a widespread Canastero with numerous races.

**NE** Austral Canastero *Asthenes anthoides*: Patagonian endemic. 2 seen at the Seno Otway Penguin colony

Wren-like Rushbird *Phleocryptes melanops*: Common in central Chilean reed-beds, with two seen well at Laguna El Peral and 4 at Estero Lampa

**NE** White-throated Treerunner *Pygarrhichas albogularis*: Superb! A chunky nuthatch-like Furnariid with a stout chisel-like bill which was fairly common in the southern beech forests to which it is endemic. Recent DNA studies indicate that it is a living relict which radiated into birds like Barbtails, Pearled Treerunner and Spectacled Prickletail now occupying a variety of Sub-tropical Andean forests.

## RHINOCRYPTIDAE

**NE** Chestnut-throated Huet-huet *Pteroptochos castaneus*: Spectacular! One seen at Alto Vilches on December 8<sup>th</sup> and several more heard. Next day 2 were seen at the

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same locality. This species is restricted to a small area in southern-central Chile and at two forests in adjacent Argentina.

**NE** Black-throated Huet-huet *Pterotochos tarnii*: Spectacular! Not as rare as the former but equally as impressive. A common sound of the Puyehue National park where we were treated to good looks at several birds.

**E** Moustached Turca *Pterotochos megapodius*: A stunning endemic Tapaculo, Common vocally and good views obtained in La Campana and particularly in the El Yeso valley where one circled us carrying food. Megapodius means chicken-like bird with large feet.

**E** White-throated Tapaculo *Scelorchilus albicollis*: Yet another endemic Tapaculo of central Chile, common by voice in La Campana and seen twice well at the Mahuide park.

**NE** Chucao Tapaculo *Scelorchilus rubecula*: The characteristic haunting sound of the magical *Nothofagus* and impossible to forget. We had several delightful encounters with this star amongst Chilean birds.

**E** Ochre-flanked Tapaculo – *Eugralla paradoxa*\* Perhaps the toughest of the Tapaculos to see – we heard on in Puyehue Park.

**NE** Magellanic Tapaculo *Scytalopus magellanicus*: An un-described dark crowned race was seen in a boulder field at Farellones. Then the white crowned race seen well at Puyehue. Also occurs in nearby Argentina.

**E** Dusky Tapaculo *Scytalopus fuscus*: Endemic to the Cordillera de la Costa in Chile and we had fantastic looks in the La Campana National Park.

## TYRANNIDAE

Chilean White-crested Elaenia *Elaenia albicephala chilensis*: A familiar bird throughout the trip. Birds commonly encountered in central and southern Chile were of the subspecies *chilensis*, whereas the one we saw in the northern oasis near Arica belong to subspecies *modesta*. These forms bear little resemblance to one another in plumage or crest shapes and give different vocalizations. There are many races and subspecies throughout South America and much taxonomic work is to be done still.

Peruvian White-crested Elaenia *Elaenia albicephala modesta*: This was the one near Arica . The SACC says “The subspecies *modesta* was formerly (REF) considered a separate species from *Elaenia albiceps*, but see Zimmer (1941a). Jaramillo (2003) suggested that *E. albiceps* consists of more than one species”.

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**Yellow-billed Tit-Tyrant *Anairetes flavirostris*: At least 2 birds near Putre.**

**Tufted Tit-Tyrant *Anairetes parulus*: Common in central Chile.**

**Many-colored Rush-Tyrant *Tachuris rubrigastra*: Common in all reed fringed habitats in central Chile, 2 being seen well at Lampa.**

**Chilean Warbling Doradito – *Pseudocolopteryx flaviventris* One responded splendidly to playback at Lampa. A rare bird in Chile, research on voice has determined that this species needs to be split from the Argentine form so this will eventually be named as a distinct species.**

**Pacific Bran Colored Flycatcher – *Myiophobus fasciatus rufescens*. One made a brief appearance in the Vitor valley. This is another for sure split form regular Bran-colored Flycatchers, occurring on the pacific coast of South America only.**

**Vermilion Flycatcher *Pyrocephalus rubinus*: Common around Arica.**

**White-browed Chat-Tyrant – *Ochthoeca leucoprphys* An elusive individual in our hotel grounds in Putre was eventually seen by all**

**NE Patagonian Tyrant *Colorhamphus parvirostris*: Eventually after some effort, great looks in response to playback in Puyehue National Park on November 26<sup>th</sup>. An easily overlooked Patagonian forest endemic.**

**NE Fire-eyed Diucon *Xolmis pyrope*: Common in central Chile and in the Lake District. A Patagonian endemic.**

**NE Chocolate-vented Tyrant *Neoxolmis rufiventris*. A much sought after bird and a striking species of open Patagonian grassland. 3 along the Pali Aike road on November 22nd.**

**Black-billed Shrike-Tyrant *Agriornis montanus*: Two in Lauca valley and 2 at Farellones. The most widespread species of shrike-tyrant. Note that the species has been modified from *montana* to *montanus*.**

**Spot-billed Ground-Tyrant *Muscisaxicola maculirostris*: One near Putre and 2 in the lower El Yeso valley.**

**Cinnamon-bellied Ground-Tyrant *Muscisaxicola capistrata* 2 along the Pali Aike road in Patagonia.**

**Rufous-naped Ground-Tyrant *Muscisaxicola rufivertex*: 2 single birds at Farellones.**

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**Puna Ground-Tyrant *Muscisaxicola juninensis*: Very Common in Lauca National Park.**

**White-browed Ground-Tyrant *Muscisaxicola albilora*: Common in the El Yeso valley and at Farellones**

**Cinereous Ground-Tyrant – *Muscisaxicola cinerea* 2 at Farellones**

**White-fronted Ground-Tyrant *Muscisaxicola albifrons*: Good looks at around 8 birds in Lauca National Park, this distinctive Ground-Tyrant is by far the largest member of the genus.**

**Ochre-naped Ground-Tyrant *Muscisaxicola flavinucha*: Brief views of one in the El Yeso Valley**

**NE Black-fronted Ground-Tyrant *Muscisaxicola frontalis*: 3 in the El Yeso valley and 3 at Farellones. This striking ground-tyrant has a fairly small and local distribution in the Andes of Chile and Argentina.**

**Andean Negrito *Lessonia oreas*: Common at Lauca. Formally part of the Rufous-backed Negrito species with the next species. The two species were split from Rufous-backed Negrito on account of plumage and vocal distinctions.**

**Austral Negrito *Lessonia rufa*: 1 at Estero Lampa and very very common in Patagonia.**

**Spectacled Tyrant *Hymenops perspicillatus*: Good looks at 10+ including displaying birds at Lampa note the name change from *perspicillata* to *perspicillatus*.**

## COTINGIDAE

**Rufous-tailed Plantcutter *Phytotoma rara*: Good looks at several places in central Chile**

## HIRUNDINIDAE

**Chilean Swallow *Tachycineta meyeri*:**

**Blue-and-white Swallow *Notiochelidon cyanoleuca*: Numerous encounters throughout the tour.**

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Bank Swallow - *Riparia riparia*. A few in the Arica area. The SACC says "Called "Sand Martin" or "Common Sand-Martin" in Old World literature and in Ridgely & Tudor (1989), Turner & Rose (1989), Sibley & Monroe (1990), and Ridgely & Greenfield (2001). SACC Proposal to change to "Sand Martin" did not pass.

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*: 15+ in the Lluta Valley and 2 in central Chile

Andean Swallow *Haplochelidon andecola*: 20+ at Lauca National Park. Formerly placed in the genera *Petrochelidon* or *Hirundo*.

## TROGLODYTIDAE

House Wren *Troglodytes aedon*: Seen throughout the tour mostly the subspecies *chilensis*. Grayer birds seen in the Lluta Valley represent the distinctive subspecies *tecellatus*.

Sedge (Grass) Wren – *Cistothorus platensis*. 2 seen well and scoped at the Senno Otway Penguin colony. Told you it was no problem Barbara! The SACC says "Two distinctive major subspecies groups, Andean and south-temperate *platensis* and lowland *polyglottus*, intergrade in southeastern South America (Traylor 1988). The North American *stellaris* group may warrant species rank from *Cistothorus platensis* (e.g., see Meyer de Schauensee 1966, Ridgely & Tudor 1989). Called "Grass Wren" by Meyer de Schauensee (1970), Ridgely & Tudor (1989), and others. SACC proposal to change English name did not pass

## TURDIDAE

Chiguanco Thrush *Turdus chiguanco*: Common around Putre and one seen by Barbara at Olmue.

Austral Thrush *Turdus falcklandii*: The common Thrush of central and southern Chile of the sub-species *magellanicus*.

## MIMIDAE

**E** Chilean Mockingbird *Mimus thenca*: Seen daily in good numbers in central and southern Chile. The commonest Chilean endemic.

## MOTACILLIDAE

Correndera Pipit *Anthus correndera*: Fairly common in Patagonia.

## FRINGILLIDAE

Thick-billed Siskin – *Carduelis crassirostris*. 2 birds of the *amadoni* race in the Chaupina Polylepis forest near Putre

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**Hooded Siskin *Carduelis magellanica*:** Common around Putre of the subspecies *urubambensis*.

**Black Siskin *Carduelis atrata*:** A total of 15+ in Lauca National Park. A very pretty bird.

**Yellow-rumped Siskin *Carduelis uropygialis*:** Common at Lauca and in central Chile

**Black-chinned Siskin *Carduelis barbata*:** Small flocks in central Chile and the Lake District, a widespread Patagonian endemic.

## THRAUPIDAE

**Black-throated Flowerpiercer *Diglossa brunneiventris*:** 2 near Putre. Formerly placed in the family Emberizidae, but now generally accepted to belong within Thraupidae.

**Cinereous Conebill *Conirostrum cinereum*:** Common in the Arica and Putre areas of the sub-species *littorale* here.

**Giant Conebill – *Oreomanes fraseri*.** A family party containing juveniles was seen feeding quietly in the Chaquipina Polylepis forest near Putre

**Blue-and-yellow Tanager *Thraupis bonariensis*:** Fairly common around Putre of the subspecies *darwinii*.

## CARDINALIDAE

**Golden-billed Saltator *Saltator aurantirostris*:** One seen at Putre of the subspecies *albociliaris*.

## EMBERIZIDAE

**Band-tailed Seedeater *Catamenia analis*:** Common around Putre

**Chestnut-throated Seedeater *Sporophila telasco*:** A common species in the Lluta and Azapa valleys.

**Blue-black Grassquit *Volatinia jacarina*:** 2 seen in the Azapa Valley at the hummongbird paradise.

**Bright-rumped Yellow-Finch *Sicalis uropygialis*.** 2 high in Lauca Park

**NE Greater Yellow-Finch *Sicalis auriventris*:** Quite common in the El Yeso valley and at Farellones. This is certainly one of the least known of the Yellow-Finches.

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**Greenish Yellow-Finch *Sicalis olivascens*:** Fairly common at Putre, of the rather bright sub-species *chloris*.

**NE Patagonian Yellow-Finch *Sicalis lebruni*** Only two this year flying over the road near the Penguin colony.

**Grassland (Misto) Yellow-Finch *Sicalis (luteioventris) luteola*:** Common in central and central-southern Chile with almost daily encounters, here referable to the subspecies *luteiventris* which has been considered a separate species “Misto Yellow-Finch” although nothing has ever been published on the subject. The SACC says “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).

**Slender-billed Finch *Xenospingus concolor*:** 2 birds in the Azapa Valley and at least 8 bat the mouth of the Lluta river. Ranges as far north as Lima Peru.

**White-winged Diuca-Finch *Diuca specularis*:** 3 seen in Lauca national Park, this high Andean finch feeds almost exclusively at cushion plant bogs.

**Common Diuca-Finch *Diuca diuca*:** Common in central and central-southern Chile.

**NE Canary-winged (Black-throated) Finch *Melanodera melanodera*.** What a bird! 7 on the Pali Aike road in Patagonia. Restricted to Patagonian steppe.

**Patagonian Sierra-Finch *Phrygilus patagonicus*:** Fairly common in Patagonian *Nothofagus* forest to which it is endemic.

**Grey-hooded Sierra-Finch *Phrygilus gayi*:** Commonly seen in the Cordillera de la Costa and at El Yeso and Farellones

**Black-hooded Sierra-Finch *Phrygilus atriceps*:** Common in the Lauca and Putre area.

**Mourning Sierra-Finch *Phrygilus fruticeti*:** Common

**Plumbeous Sierra-Finch *Phrygilus unicolor*:** A few in the high Andes

**NE White-throated Sierra-Finch *Phrygilus erythronotus*:** 2 seen well at Lauca on November 11<sup>th</sup>. Tricky to see species.

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Ash-breasted Sierra-Finch *Phrygilus plebejus*: Common non-descript highland Finch.

Band-tailed Sierra-Finch *Phrygilus alaudinus*. Above Putre and at Lampa.

Rufous-collared Sparrow *Zonotrichia capensis*: The only bird recorded every day of the trip.

## ICTERIDAE

Shiny Cowbird *Molothrus bonariensis*: A few here and there.

**NE** Austral Blackbird *Curaeus curaeus*: A common Icterid of central and southern Chile and a Patagonian endemic, here the nominate race.

Yellow-winged Blackbird *Agelaius thilius*: At Estero Lampa and Laguna El Peral.

**Peruvian Meadowlark** *Sturnella bellicose*: A few around Arica.

Long-tailed Meadowlark *Sturnella loyca*: Numerous in central Chile and the Lake District.

## PASSERIDAE

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*: Widespread and common except in the high Andes.



Peruvian Huemal

## MAMMALS

Marine Otter *Lontra felina* Great looks at one at the Humboldt penguin colony at Charagua ( endemic to the coast of Peru and Chile)

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**South American Sealion *Otaria byronia*: 3 seen from the pelagic and 2 in the Straits of Magellen.**

**Brown Hare *Lepus europaeus*: Fairly common – an introduced species from Europe.**

**Old World Rabbit - *Oryctolagus cuniculus* Common introduced species.**

**Southern Mountain Viscacha *Lagidium viscacia*: Up to 15 daily at Lauca, related to the Chinchillas**

**Coypu *Myocastor coypus*: Two at Laguna El Peral**

**Cururo *Spalacopus cyanus*. This was the furry rodent critter seen by Barbara at Farellones**

**Commersons Dolphin *Cephalorhynchus commersonii*. 2 following the ferry at Bahia Azul and one on the way back from Porvenir. First described in 1767 by Philibert Commerson, from right where we saw them – the Straits of Magellan**

**Southern Gray Fox *Dusicyon griseus*. 2 seen in Patagonia of this small South American Fox**

**Andean Fox or Culpeo *Pseudalopex culpaeus* One in Lauca, and one at Laguna Verde on Tierra del Fuego**

**Guanaco *Lama guanicoe*: Common in Patagonia. This and the latter are the only wild South American Camelids and Llamas and Alpacas are domesticated versions produced by cross breeding.**

**Vicuña *Vicugna vicugna*: Pleasantly Abundant at Lauca.**

**North Andean Deer or Peruvian Huemal *Hippocamelus antisensis* 4 seen near Lauca national park – a scarce declining species.**

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