

APPENDIX 2

Bird species recorded only from Llaviuco Valley, Ecuador (for periods of observation see text). Nomenclature follows Hilty & Brown (1986).

Anas discors
Anas cyanoptera
Buteo poecilochrous
Oreotrochilus estella

Urochroa bougueri
Myioborus miniatus
Conirostrum albifrons
Diglossa lafresnayii

Anisognathus lacrymosus
Anisognathus flavinucha

Common Nighthawk *Chordeiles minor* and new records of seabirds from Tristan da Cunha and Gough Islands

by Peter G. Ryan

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Records of non-breeding and vagrant birds at the Tristan da Cunha Island group and nearby Gough Island, central South Atlantic Ocean, have been reviewed (Richardson 1984, with additional records in Griffiths & Sinclair 1982, Williams & Imber 1982, Enticott 1984, Fraser 1984, Enticott 1986, Fraser *et al.* 1988). To date, 24 non-breeding seabird and 22 landbird species have been recorded from the islands, with unconfirmed records of an additional 3 seabird and 8 landbird species. In this note I record 3 new species for the region, one species new for Gough Island and one species new to the Tristan group.

SLENDER-BILLED PRION *Pachyptila belcheri*

Three Slender-billed Prions were observed at 40 and 100 km NNE of the main island of Tristan da Cunha on 27 September 1987. They were identified by their relatively small size, pale head and breast markings, lack of a dark terminal bar to the tail, and the characteristic shearwater-like flight (cf. Harrison 1983). One was moulting its outer primaries, which distinguished it at a distance from the abundant Broad-billed Prions *P. vittata* (*vittata*). All 3 birds were observed by 2 observers who are familiar with the species from the Subtropical Convergence south of Africa, where it is seasonally abundant in mixed flocks with Antarctic Prions *P. (v.) desolata* (Ryan & Rose 1989). Not previously recorded from the region; probably overlooked among the large numbers of breeding Broad-billed Prions.

LEACH'S STORM-PETREL *Oceanodroma leucorhoa*

Between 2 and 4 Leach's Storm-petrels were observed following in the ship's wake c.30 km east of Tristan da Cunha on 17 November 1984. Unrecorded previously in the central South Atlantic (Griffiths & Sinclair 1982), although fairly common in oceanic waters off southern Africa (Ryan & Rose 1989).

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER *Calidris fuscicollis*

An adult White-rumped Sandpiper in non-breeding plumage was photographed at Gough Island by weather station personnel in mid-October 1984. The bird fed and roosted on the wooden helicopter landing pad at the weather station in Transvaal Bay for several days. Several individuals of this species have been recorded on both the main island of Tristan (Richardson 1984) and on Inaccessible Island (Fraser 1984), but none previously from Gough Island.

LONGTAILED SKUA *Stercorarius longicaudus*

Three Longtailed Skuas, 2 adults and 1 immature, were observed 80–130 km NNE of Tristan da Cunha on 27 September 1987. Previously recorded off the east coast of Gough Island (Williams & Imber 1982), none has been recorded from the Tristan islands *sensu stricto*, although Griffiths & Sinclair (1982) recorded it west to 14°35'W in the South Atlantic. Widespread in the southeast Atlantic (Ryan in press), it may occur at relatively low densities throughout the South Atlantic, linking the 2 apparent wintering centres in the Falkland Current (Veit 1985) and off the west coast of Southern Africa (Lambert 1980, Ryan in press).

COMMON NIGHTHAWK *Chordeiles minor*

A juvenile ♀ Common Nighthawk was found in the settlement of Edinburgh, Tristan da Cunha, on 27 November 1988 after a period of strong westerly winds. The bird died and was shipped frozen to Cape Town for identification. The specimen is lodged in the Durban Natural History Museum and has the following (fresh) measurements (mm); wing 204, tail 115, fork depth 17, culmen length 7.2, tarsus 15.3. After being defrosted in Cape Town, its mass was 48 g, which probably is similar to the mass at death, because there were no signs of dehydration; the eyes were still turgid. The bird had started to moult into adult plumage, having c. 40% adult scapular feathers, with active body moult on the upper- and underparts. The stomach was empty except for a small beetle elytrum.

Common Nighthawks breed throughout much of North and Central America, migrating to wintering areas in South America south to central Argentina. Birds leave the breeding areas in North America between late July and early October, with peak passage in late August and early September (Cramp 1985). Vagrants have reached Melville Island, Greenland, Iceland, the Faroes, Britain and the Azores (American Ornithologists' Union 1983, Cramp 1985), all British records being between 12 September and 25 October. Fairly regular occurrence at Bermuda (Bent 1940) and in the West Indies suggests a transoceanic migration route for populations breeding in eastern North America (Cramp 1985), which can account for trans-Atlantic vagrancy in the northern hemisphere. However, the late date (more than a month later than the latest British record) and the vast distance make it unlikely that the bird at Tristan da Cunha could have reached almost 40°S without first having reached South America. It was probably blown offshore by strong westerly winds while moving along the east coast of South America. The bird's mass corresponds with that of juveniles exhausted after crossing the Caribbean in October (Cramp 1985).

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Address: Peter G. Ryan, Percy FitzPatrick Institute of African Ornithology, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700, South Africa.

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Migration of the Mississippi Kite *Ictinia mississippiensis* in Bolivia, with comments on *I. plumbea*

by Susan E. Davis

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The Mississippi Kite *Ictinia mississippiensis* breeds in the central and southern United States (Palmer 1988) and, from the few data available, appears to migrate through Middle America and winter in central South America. However, detailed observations of this species during the non-breeding season until now have been nonexistent. Specimens of *I.*



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