

## **Trip Report: Argentina (January 2015)**

### **Buenos Aires and Entre Ríos Provinces**

This report summarises some mid-summer birding around the Reserva Ecológica Costanera Sur, located within the city of Buenos Aires (see previous trip reports for more details on this site), and a full day's birding in the vicinity of Perdices and Ceibas in southern Entre Ríos province, where Marcelo Gavensky was again my guide (see <http://www.birdingbuenosaires.com>).

Although the start to our day in Entre Ríos was inauspicious (our 2WD vehicle was unable to pass through the muddy roads en-route to our intended target habitat in the vicinity of Perdices) and the very warm and sunny weather somewhat suppressed bird activity (and sapped our energy levels) during the middle of the day, we saw many interesting species during some 8 hours of birding from local dirt roads. The roads cut through marginally higher and drier country than I had visited with Marcelo in December and highlights included a Glaucous-blue Grosbeak (encountered as we turned back from our failed mission to reach Perdices), 5 Greater Rhea (seen in open country west of Ceibas), large numbers of Southern Screamer and storks (including one Jabiru - a first for Marcelo in Entre Ríos, and apparently one of few records in the province), several Firewood-gatherers (the bird itself is not as spectacular as its unusual name) and three species of pipit. On the way back to Buenos Aires we wrapped up with a late-afternoon bonus stop at the Reserva Natural Otamendi in Buenos Aires province. Highlights there included views of a pair of Rufous-capped Antshrikes and a Freckle-breasted Thornbird, however we could not locate the Straight-billed Reedhaunters that finally started singing at dusk.



*Greater Rhea [near to Ceibas, Entre Ríos]*

Casual birding at Costanera Sur added no lifers, with activity appearing to be generally lower than on my visits before Christmas. Nonetheless, I enjoyed photographing the more common water bird families including the young birds that had grown up significantly since I first saw them back in November last year.



*Fulvous Whistling-Ducks (juveniles) [Costanera Sur, Buenos Aires]*

Overall, I identified a combined total of 114 species in Buenos Aires city together with Buenos Aires and Entre Ríos provinces. 103 of these were encountered without use of playback during the day trip to Entre Ríos (coincidentally exactly the same number of species as identified there during my December visit) including 14 lifers, and 46 during my visits to Costanera Sur (all but 11 of which were also seen on the day trip outside the city). A combined trip list is included at the end of this report.



*Gaucho riding through the water logged fields [near to Ceibas, Entre Ríos]*



*Chotoy Spinetail [near to Ceibas, Entre Ríos]*



*Fork-tailed Flycatcher [near to Ceibas, Entre Ríos]*



*Burrowing Owl [near to Ceibas, Entre Ríos]*



*Masked Yellowthroat (f) [Reserva Natural Otamendi, Buenos Aires]*



*Limpkin [Costanera Sur, Buenos Aires]*



*Great Kiskadee [Costanera Sur, Buenos Aires]*

# 1. Bird Trip List<sup>1</sup>

Confirmed personal sightings only for DJS – excludes birds heard only unless otherwise indicated. As field guide I used [‘Birds of Southern South America and Antarctica’ by Martín de la Peña and Maurice Rumboll \(Princeton University Press, 1998\)](#). Some names have been updated since this guide was published, so birds in the trip list are identified as per ‘The Clements Checklist of Birds of the World’, Cornell, 2007 with updates through December 2010 (online version 6.5).

Locations where species were seen, in order of travel:

**BA** = Buenos Aires city, principally the Reserva Ecológica Costanera Sur (“Costanera Sur”) adjacent to Puerto Madero in downtown Buenos Aires (on various early-mornings and late-afternoons between January 6<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>). The mid-summer weather in Buenos Aires was variable, with several cool and rainy days mixed in amongst the more common blue-sky days. Maximum temperatures varied between 25 and 35°C. Altitude ~ 0 to 5m ASL.

**ER** = Entre Ríos province, including roadsides near to Perdices and Ceibas (full day January 23<sup>rd</sup>). Altitude ~ 0 to 20m ASL.

**O** = Reserva Natural Otamendi in Buenos Aires province between the city and Entre Ríos province (a short, late-afternoon visit on January 23<sup>rd</sup>). Altitude ~ 0 to 5m ASL.

## RHEAS Rheidae

**Greater Rhea** *Rhea americana* [ER]:

## TINAMOUS Tinamidae

**Red-winged Tinamou** *Rhynchotus rufescens* *heard only* [ER]:

## SCREAMERS Anhimidae

**Southern Screamer** *Chauna torquata* [ER] \*:

## DUCKS, GEESE & SWANS Anatidae

**White-faced Whistling Duck** *Dendrocygna viduata* [BA; ER] \*:

**Fulvous Whistling Duck** *Dendrocygna bicolor* [BA; ER] \*:

**Brazilian Teal** *Amazonetta brasiliensis* [BA; ER]:

**Ringed Teal** *Callonetta leucophrys* [BA; ER]:

**Yellow-billed Teal** *Anas flavirostris* [ER]:

**Silver Teal** *Anas versicolor* [BA; ER]:

**Rosy-billed Pochard** *Netta peposaca* [BA; ER]:

## GREBES Podicipedidae

**White-tufted Grebe** *Podilymbus podiceps* [BA]:

## STORKS Ciconiidae

**Maguari Stork** *Ciconia maguari* [ER]:

**Jabiru** *Jabiru mycteria* [ER]:

**Wood Stork** *Mycteria americana* [ER]:

## IBISES, SPOONBILLS Threskiornithidae

**White-faced Ibis** *Plegadis chihi* [BA; ER] \*:

**Roseate Spoonbill** *Platalea ajaja* [ER]:

## HERONS, BITTERNS Ardeidae

**Black-crowned Night Heron** *Nycticorax nycticorax* [ER]:

**Cocoi Heron** *Ardea cocoi* [BA; ER]:

**Great Egret** *Ardea alba* [BA; ER]:

**Whistling Heron** *Syrigma sibilatrix* [ER]:

**Snowy Egret** *Egretta thula* [ER]:

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<sup>1</sup> **First sighting ever for DJS**; **E** = Argentina endemic species; \* = photo available

CORMORANTS, SHAGS Phalacrocoracidae  
**Neotropic Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax brasilianus* [ER]:

NEW WORLD VULTURES Cathartidae  
**Black Vulture** *Coragyps atratus* [ER]:

KITES, HAWKS & EAGLES Accipitridae  
**Snail Kite** *Rostrhamus sociabilis* [ER]:  
**Long-winged Harrier** *Circus buffoni* [ER]:  
**Roadside Hawk** *Buteo magnirostris* [O]:  
**White-tailed Hawk** *Buteo albicaudatus* [ER]:

CARACARAS, FALCONS Falconidae  
**Southern [Crested] Caracara** *Caracara plancus* [ER]:  
**Chimango Caracara** *Milvago chimango* [ER]:  
**American Kestrel** *Falco sparverius* [ER]:

RAILS, CRAKES & COOTS Rallidae  
**Gray-necked Wood Rail** *Aramides cajanea* [BA]:  
**Plumbeous Rail** *Pardirallus sanguinolentus* [O]:  
**Common Moorhen** *Gallinula chloropus* [BA; ER]:  
**Red-gartered Coot** *Fulica armillata* [BA]:

LIMPKIN Aramidae  
**Limpkin** *Aramus guarauna* [BA] \*:

STILTS, AVOCETS Recurvirostridae  
**Black-necked (White-backed) Stilt** *Himantopus mexicanus melanurus* [ER]:

PLOVERS Charadriidae  
**Southern Lapwing** *Vanellus chilensis* [ER]:  
**American Golden-Plover** *Pluvialis dominica* [ER]:

JACANAS Jacanidae  
**Wattled Jacana** *Jacana jacana* [BA; ER]:

SANDPIPERS, SNIPES Scolopacidae  
**Lesser Yellowlegs** *Tringa flavipes* [ER]:  
**Buff-breasted Sandpiper** *Tryngites subruficollis* [ER]:

PIGEONS, DOVES Columbidae  
**Rock Pigeon** *Columba livia* [BA]:  
**Picazuro Pigeon** *Patagioenas picazuro* [BA; ER]:  
**Eared Dove** *Zenaida auriculata* [BA; ER]:  
**Picui Ground Dove** *Columbina picui* [BA; ER; O]:  
**White-tipped Dove** *Leptotila verreauxi chalcauchenia* [ER]:

PARROTS Psittacidae  
**Monk Parakeet** *Myiopsitta monachus* [BA; ER; O]:

CUCKOOS Cuculidae  
**Guira Cuckoo** *Guira guira* [BA; ER]:  
**Dark-billed Cuckoo** *Coccyzus melacoryphus* [ER]:

OWLS Strigidae  
**Burrowing Owl** *Athene cunicularia* [ER] \*:

## HUMMINGBIRDS Trochilidae

**Glittering-bellied Emerald** *Chlorostilbon aureoventris* [BA; ER]:

**Gilded Hummingbird (Sapphire)** *Hylocharis chrysura* [ER; O]:

## KINGFISHERS Alcedinidae

**Ringed Kingfisher** *Megaceryle torquata* [O]:

## WOODPECKERS Picidae

**White Woodpecker** *Melanerpes candidus* [ER]:

**Checkered Woodpecker** *Veniliornis mixtus* [BA] \*:

**Green-barred Woodpecker** *Colaptes melanochloros* [BA; ER]:

**Campo Flicker** *Colaptes campestris* [ER]:

## OVENBIRDS AND WOODCREEPERS Furnariidae

**Rufous Hornero** *Furnarius rufus* [BA; ER]:

**Straight-billed Reedhaunter** *Limnortyx rectirostris* *beard only* [O]:

**Chotoy Spinetail** *Schoeniophylax phryganophilus* [ER] \*:

**Spix's Spinetail** *Synallaxis spixi* [O]:

**Freckle-breasted Thornbird** *Phacellodomus striaticollis* [O]:

**Firewood-gatherer** *Anumbius annumbi* [ER] \*:

**Brown Cacholote** *Pseudoseisura lophotes* *beard only* [ER]:

**Narrow-billed Woodcreeper** *Lepidocolaptes angustirostris* [BA]:

## TYPICAL ANTBIRDS Thamnophilidae

**Rufous-capped Antshrike** *Thamnophilus ruficapillus* [O]:

## TYRANT FLYCATCHERS Tyrannidae

**Warbling Doradito** *Pseudocolopteryx flaviventris* [ER]:

**Large Elaenia** *Elaenia spectabilis* [BA; O]:

**Small-billed Elaenia** *Elaenia parvirostris* [BA; O]:

**Southern Beardless Tyrannulet** *Camptostoma obsoletum* [O]:

**White-crested Tyrannulet** *Serpophaga subcristata* [ER]:

**Bran-colored Flycatcher** *Myiophobus fasciatus* [ER; O]:

**Vermilion Flycatcher** *Pyrocephalus rubinus* [ER]:

**Spectacled Tyrant** *Hymenops perspicillatus* [ER]:

**White Monjita** *Xolmis irupero* [ER]:

**Swainson's Flycatcher** *Myiarchus swainsoni* [ER]:

**Great Kiskadee** *Pitangus sulphuratus* [BA; ER]:

**Streaked Flycatcher** *Myiodynastes maculatus* [BA; ER]:

**Tropical Kingbird** *Tyrannus melancholicus* [ER; O]:

**Fork-tailed Flycatcher** *Tyrannus savanna* [ER]:

## VIREOS, GREENLETS Vireonidae

**Red-eyed Vireo** *Vireo olivaceus* [BA]:

## SWALLOWS, MARTINS Hirundinidae

**White-rumped Swallow** *Tachycineta leucorrhoa* [ER]:

**Brown-chested Martin** *Progne tapera* [ER]:

**Cliff Swallow** *Petrochelidon pyrrhonota* [ER]:

## WRENS Troglodytidae

**House Wren** *Troglodytes aedon* [BA; ER; O]:

## GNATCATCHERS Polioptilidae

**Masked Gnatcatcher** *Polioptila dumicola* [BA; ER; O]:

## MOCKINGBIRDS, THRASHERS Mimidae

**Chalk-browed Mockingbird** *Mimus saturninus* [BA; ER]:

STARLINGS Sturnidae

**European Starling** *Sturnus vulgaris* [BA]:

THRUSHES Turdidae

**Rufous-bellied Thrush** *Turdus rufiventris* [BA]:

**Creamy-bellied Thrush** *Turdus amaurochalinus* [BA]:

OLD WORLD SPARROWS Passeridae

**House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus* [BA; ER]:

FINCHES Fringillidae

**Hooded Siskin** *Carduelis magellanica* [BA; ER; O]:

WAGTAILS & PIPITS Motacillidae

**Yellowish Pipit** *Anthus lutescens* [ER]:

**Short-billed Pipit** *Anthus furcatus* *heard only* [ER]:

**Hellmayr's Pipit** *Anthus hellmayri* [ER]:

NEW WORLD WARBLERS Parulidae

**Masked Yellowthroat** *Geothlypis aequinoctialis* [O]:

TANAGERS & ALLIES Thraupidae

**Sayaca Tanager** *Thraupis sayaca* [O]:

**Black-and-rufous Warbling Finch** *Poospiza nigrorufa* [BA; O]:

**Saffron Finch** *Sicalis flaveola* [ER] \*:

**Grassland Yellow Finch** *Sicalis luteola* [ER]:

**Great Pampa Finch** *Embernagra platensis* [ER]:

**Red-crested Cardinal** *Paroaria coronata* [BA; ER]:

**Double-collared Seedeater** *Sporophila caerulescens* [BA; ER]:

**Golden-billed Saltator** *Saltator aurantiirostris* [BA; ER]:

BUNTINGS, NEW WORLD SPARROWS & ALLIES Emberizidae

**Grassland Sparrow** *Ammodramus humeralis* [ER]:

**Rufous-collared Sparrow** *Zonotrichia capensis* [BA; ER]:

CARDINALS & ALLIES Cardinalidae

**Glaucous-blue Grosbeak** *Cyanoloxia glaucoerulea* [ER] \*:

OROPENDOLAS, ORIOLES & BLACKBIRDS Icteridae

**White-browed Blackbird** *Sturnella superciliaris* [ER] \*:

**Scarlet-headed Blackbird** *Amblyramphus holosericeus* [ER; O]:

**Yellow-winged Blackbird** *Agelaius thilius* [ER]:

**Chestnut-capped Blackbird** *Chrysomus ruficapillus* [ER]:

**Brown-and-yellow Marshbird** *Pseudoleistes virescens* [ER]:

**Baywing Cowbird** *Agelaioides badius* [BA; O]:

**Shiny Cowbird** *Molothrus bonariensis* [BA; ER]:

Total 114 confirmed species for the trip (including no Argentina endemics as per <http://avibase.bsc-eoc.org> and 4 heard only), of which 14 were 'lifers' for DJS.

## 2. Mammal Trip List

**Coypu** *Myopotamus coypus bonariensis* [ER]:

**Pampas Cavy** *Cavia aperea* [ER; BA]: