

Unión de Ornitólogos del Perú



Boletín

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Avefría Andina (*Vanellus resplendens*).  
Foto: Frank Suárez.

# First documented records of Red-faced Parrot (*Hapalopsittaca pyrrhops*) from Peru

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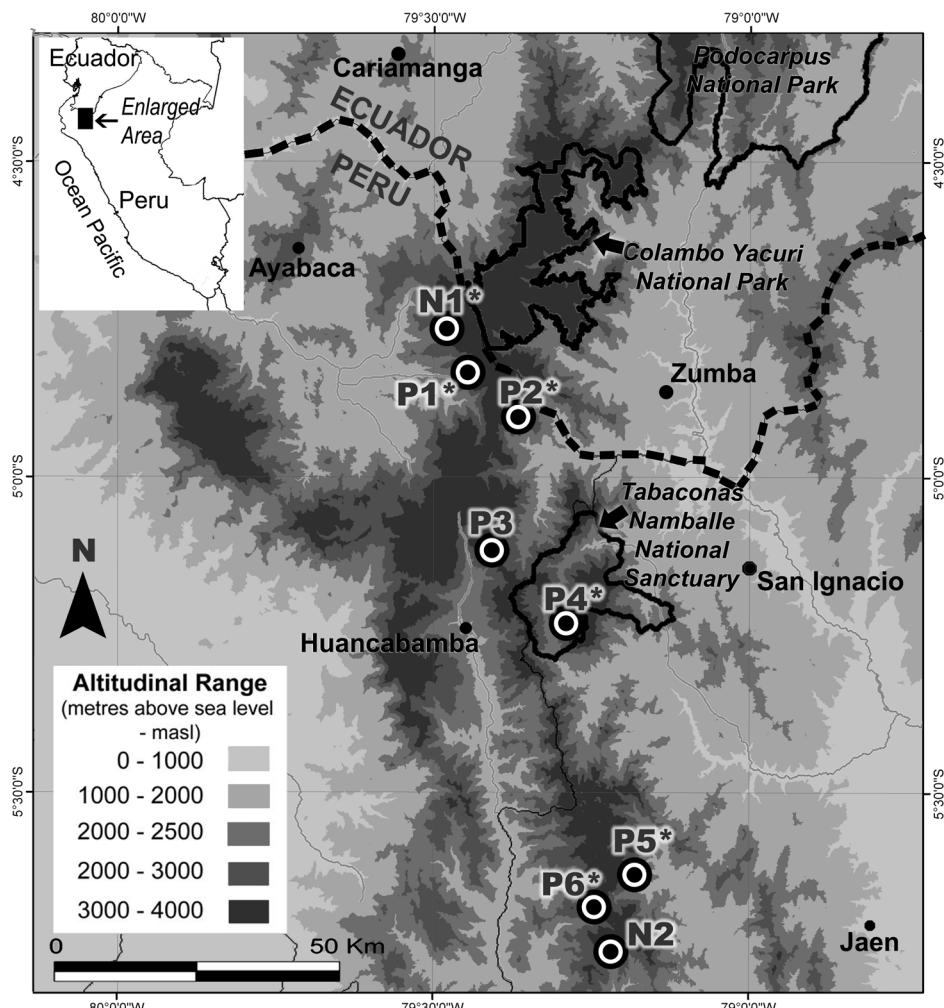
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The Red-faced Parrot (*Hapalopsittaca pyrrhops*) is confined to the eastern Andes of southern Ecuador (provinces of Morona-Santiago, Azuay and Loja) and adjacent ranges of northwestern Peru (departments of Piura and north Cajamarca) (BirdLife International 2015a, Schulenberg *et al.* 2010). The species inhabits very wet, upper montane cloud-forest and low, open forest and shrubby growth adjacent to páramo, between 2500-3500 m. Red-faced parrots are found in fragmented and degraded forest near pasture, and there is evidence that suggests tolerance of (if not preference for) secondary habitat (Juniper & Parr 1998). These parrots are usually solitary, or found in pairs and small groups of up to five individuals, sometimes up to 20 (Toyne & Flanagan 1997, Jacobs & Walker 1999). This Parrot is restricted to the Southern Central Andes Endemic Area (Stattersfield *et al.* 1998) and is currently threatened by habitat loss and is categorized as Vulnerable (Collar *et al.* 1992; BirdLife International 2015a).

In Ecuador, a revised estimate of suitable habitat suggests that its total range is likely to be c. 940 km<sup>2</sup>. The species is found in fewer than 15 localities (J. Freile *in litt.* 2012 cited in BirdLife International 2015a): La Libertad, Alto Río Palora, Cajanuma (Ridgely & Greenfield 2001), Arenales, Jimbura, Matanga (Krabbe *et al.* 2001), Cajas (Tinoco & Astudillo undated cited in Birdlife International 2015a), Fasañán

(Freile 2004), El Sauce and Selva Alegre (Jacobs & Walker 1999), Jima and Santa Rita (Chapman 1926), Torré and Huashapamba (Toyne *et al.* 1995), Mazán (King 1989). It is generally local and uncommon, and its population has declined significantly in recent years. An important population inhabits the Cordillera de Chilla, Loja, where it was present at two forest patches surveyed in 1995, at densities of 88 birds/km<sup>2</sup> and 25 birds/km<sup>2</sup>, respectively, with an estimated population size of c.350 at one of them (Jacobs & Walker 1999).

In Peru, *H. pyrrhops* has been reported from five localities in northwestern Peru (Figure 1): three in the department of Piura (Cerro Chinguela, Huancabamba [Parker *et al.* 1985]; Nueva York, Huancabamba; and Aguaminges, Ayabaca [More & Ugarte-Nuñez 2011]); and two localities in the department of Cajamarca (La Cocha, [BirdLife International 2015b] and Lagunas Arrebiatadas, Tabaconas Namballe National Sanctuary [Eckhardt 2003; Barrio 2006]). However, none of these records has been properly documented (Plenge 2015). In this communication, we review all voucher specimens of *H. pyrrhops* for Peru, and report two new localities. We also include the first photographic documentation of *H. pyrrhops* from Peru.



**Figure 1:** Localities for Red-faced Parrot (*Hapalopsittaca pyrrhops*) in northern Peru. (P=previous records, N=new records, \*=records with voucher specimen). N1\*: Tapal, P1\* = Aguamingas, P2\* = Nueva York, P3 = Cerro Chinguela, P4\* = Lagunas Arrebiatadas, P5\* = La Cocha, P6\* = Lanchay and N2 = Pampa Larga.

**Tapal, Ayabaca, Piura** ( $4^{\circ}46'59.19''S / 79^{\circ}27'47.30''W$ , 3199 m): On August 22, 2013 at 17:30, SC observed two individuals vocalizing in flight above the forest canopy. Then later, on August 25, 2013 at 08:50, SC detected a group of five perched individuals in the subcanopy, vocalizing and performing short flights between tree tops. One of them was photographed (Figure 2). This record represents a new locality for the western slope of the Andes and lies 8 km (airline) north of Aguamingas.



**Figure 2:** *Hapalopsittaca pyrrhops* in Tapal, Ayabaca, on 25 August 2013 (Photo: Segundo Crespo).

**Aguamingas, Ayabaca, Piura** ( $04^{\circ}51'10''S / 79^{\circ}26'42''W$ , 2960 m): Locality previously published by More & Ugarte-Nuñez (2011), but the photograph was unpublished (Figure 3).



**Figure 3:** *Hapalopsittaca pyrrhops* in Aguamingas, Ayabaca, on 8 September 2010. (Photo: Alexander More).

**Nueva York, Huancabamba, Piura** ( $04^{\circ}54'27.9''S / 79^{\circ}22'33.5''W$ , 3163 m): On August, 29, 2004, IF, CM, S. Zambrano and K. Eckhardt captured and photographed

(Figure 4) three individuals. One individual was collected and preserved by K. Eckhardt and the specimen deposited at Museo de Historia Natural Javier Prado de Lima (MUSM 30654) (Figure 5).



**Figure 4:** *Hapalopsittaca pyrrhops* in Nueva York, Huancabamba, on 29 August 2004 (Photo: Irma Franke).



**Figure 5:** Two specimens of *Hapalopsittaca pyrrhops* collected in Nueva York, Huancabamba and La Cocha, Sallique, deposited at Museo de Historia Natural Javier Prado de Lima (Photo: Segundo Crespo).

**Cerro Chinguela, Huancabamba, Piura** ( $05^{\circ}07'S$  /  $79^{\circ}23'W$ , 2530-2960 m): This is the first locality from Peru. T. Schulenberg collected one of a pair on 16 October 1977 on the west slope at 2530 m; this specimen was later stolen. In June 1978 T. Parker twice saw pairs in mossy forest high on the west slope (2680-2870 m), and once on the east slope at 2960 m (Parker *et al.* 1985).

**Lagunas Arrebiatadas, Tabaconas Namballe National Sanctuary, Cajamarca** ( $05^{\circ}14'12.9''S$  /  $79^{\circ}16'49.38''W$ , 3260 m): On October, 2009, J. Velásquez collected an

adult female that was deposited at Museo de la Universidad Nacional San Agustín de Arequipa (MUSA 3446) (Figure 6). For this locality, the species has been reported as being rare (Eckhardt 2003) and uncommon (Barrio 2006).



**Figure 6:** *Hapalopsittaca pyrrhops* collected in Lagunas Arrebiatadas, Tabaconas Namballe National Sanctuary, deposited at Museo de la Universidad Nacional San Agustín de Arequipa (Photo: Mauricio Ugarte).

**La Cocha, Sallique, Cajamarca** ( $05^{\circ}38'S$  /  $79^{\circ}11'W$ , 3150 m): On October 15, 1996, a female individual was collected by E. Diaz, prepared by L. Salinas and the specimen deposited at Museo de Historia Natural Javier Prado de Lima (MUSM 20102) (Figure 5).

**Quebrada Lanchay, ca. 8 km ESE Sallique, Cajamarca** ( $5^{\circ}41'12.0''S$  /  $79^{\circ}15'0.00''W$ , 2500-2925 m): On June 16, 1998, a female individual was collected and preserved by R. Faucett and the specimen deposited at Louisiana State University Museum (LSUMZ 169571a) (Figure 7). On July, 3, 1998, M. Sánchez collected a female individual; the specimen was prepared by D. F. Lane (Catalog number 799) (Figure 8). In this locality, the species was considered rare by O' Neill (1998).



**Figure 7:** *Hapalopsittaca pyrrhops* collected in Quebrada Lanchay, Sallique, deposited at Louisiana State University Museum (Photo: Fernando Angulo).



**Figure 8:** Second specimen of *Hapalopsittaca pyrrhops* collected in Quebrada Lanchay, Sallique, deposited at Louisiana State University Museum (Photo: Fernando Angulo).

**Pampa Larga, San Felipe, Cajamarca** ( $05^{\circ}45'15.8''S / 79^{\circ}13'55.6''W$ , 2805 m): The species was recorded on three occasions: On August 22, 2014, SC observed and heard two individuals vocalizing in flight above the forest canopy; the other two observations (August 23 and 26, 2014) included records of individuals vocalizing in the same place near a ravine.

At the moment, it's known at eight localities in northwestern Peru (departments of Piura and Cajamarca). The Red-faced Parrot (*H. pyrrhops*) is formally protected by the Tabaconas-Namballe National Sanctuary (locality Lagunas Arrebiatadas) and the recent Área de Conservación Privada Lagunas y Páramos Andinos San José de Tapal (locality Tapal). Recent proposals for community reserves (legally known as Areas de Conservación Privada) in the department of Piura are in review for future design. These areas include cloud forests and páramos of the local communities of Segunda and Cajas. Overall, this initiative would help to protect

rare and restricted range species and their habitats in Peru. The main threat to the species is deforestation for crop conversion, livestock grazing and selective logging. Knowledge of the population status of this species is badly needed to assess their conservation requirements.

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