



Andean Potoo

Nyctibius maculosus

Andean Potoo
Nyctibius maculosus



The Andean Potoo *Nyctibius maculosus* is known from just a handful of records scattered throughout the Andes from Venezuela to Bolivia, although it has been suggested that it may be locally fairly common¹. The published records are primarily from the eastern side of the Andes with just one in Venezuela (Táchira), three in Colombia (“Bogotá”, Norte de Santander and Nariño in the East Andes), three in eastern Ecuador (Pichincha, Pastaza and Tungurahua), three in Peru (Cajamarca, Pasco and Cuzco), and two from Bolivia (La Paz)^{1,2}, with unpublished records from a number of countries. The bird is typically one of the humid upper subtropical zone between 1,800 and 2,800 m¹.

The individual shown here is probably the first published photo of the species (photographed using a Nikkor 400 mm lens). It was discovered in August 1987 at 2,145 m near Pillahuata, between Paucartambo and Pillcopata on the Cuzco–Manu National Park road, Cuzco department, Peru. This bird, which represents the third and southernmost Peruvian record, was found at mid-day, perched on a *Cecropia* stump where it was seen by birders during the subsequent few weeks.

References

1. Fjeldså, J. & Krabbe, N. (1990) *Birds of the high Andes*. [Copenhagen:] Zoological Museum, University of Copenhagen, and Svendborg: Apollo Books.
2. Hilty, S. L. & Brown, W. L. (1986) *A guide to the birds of Colombia*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

BARRY TREVIS

11 Lemsford Village, Welwyn Garden City, Herts. AL8 7TN, U.K.