Fork-tailed Flycatcher Tyrannus savanna: a new bird record for the Galápagos Islands, Ecuador

Fork-tailed Flycatcher *Tyrannus* savana is widely distributed from central Argentina to southern Mexico^{1,4}. In mainland Ecuador, it is a non-breeding visitor mainly to the Amazon lowlands, often found with Eastern Kingbirds *T. tyrannus*, with a few scattered records in the Andes and coastal zone^{1,5}.

On 16 November 2012, at 17h12, RI photographed an unusual bird apparently healthy judging by its behaviour and fresh plumage, perched atop grasses (Poaceae) at Cerro Brujo beach (00°46'3.20"S 89°27'28.71"W), on San Cristóbal, Galápagos. It was identified as *T. savana* due to its very long, deeply forked tail, black head and nape, yellow coronal patch, contrasting pearly grey back, dusky wings and white underparts. The photograph (Fig. 1) subsequently permitted GJU to confirm the identification.

This is the first record of *T. savana* from the Galápagos bringing the number of bird species recorded in the islands (including vagrants and introductions)^{2,3,6} to 157.

Acknowledgements

We thank the Galápagos National Park Service and Charles Darwin Foundation; Corina Gallardo Nelson commented on an early version of the manuscript; Juan Freile and David Wiedenfeld provided information and comments; and Patricia Jaramillo helped in other ways. The manuscript is dedicated to the memory of Christine Nelson Gallardo. This is contribution no. 2068 of the Charles Darwin Foundation for the Galápagos Islands.



Figure I. Fork-tailed Flycatcher Tyrannus savana, Cerro Brujo beach, San Cristóbal, Galápagos, Ecuador, 16 November 2012 (Roger Iverson)

References

- Chapman, F. M. (1926) The distribution of bird-life in Ecuador. Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist. 55: 1–784.
- Jiménez-Uzcátegui, G.,
 Milstead, B., Márquez,
 C., Zabala, J., Buitrón, P.,
 Llerena, A., Salazar, S. &
 Fessl, B. (2007) Galápagos
 vertebrates: endangered
 status and conservation
 actions. In: Galápagos Report
 2006–2007. Puerto Ayora:
 Charles Darwin Foundation,
 Galápagos National Park
 Service & Galápagos
 National Institute.
- 3. Jiménez-Uzcátegui, G.,
 Wiedenfeld, D. A., Vargas,
 F. H. & Snell, H. L. (2013)
 CDF checklist of Galápagos
 birds. Puerto Ayora: Charles
 Darwin Foundation. http://
 checklists.datazone.
 darwinfoundation.org/
 vertebrates/aves/ (accessed
 28 January 2013).

- Meyer de Schauensee, R. (1966) The species of birds of South America and their distribution. Narberth, PA: Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia.
- Ridgely, R. S. & Greenfield, P. J. (2001) The birds of Ecuador. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.
- Wiedenfeld, D. A. (2006) Aves, the Galapagos Islands, Ecuador. Checklist 2: 1–27.

Gustavo Jiménez-Uzcátegui

Charles Darwin Research Station, Puerto Ayora, Galápagos, Ecuador. E-mail: gustavo.jimenez@fcdarwin. org.ec.

Roger Iverson

2900 Michigan Street, Bellingham, WA 98226, USA. E-mail: randl. iverson@comcast.net.

Received 5 February 2013; final revision accepted 20 June 2013; published online 10 March 2014