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## Documented record of *Melanerpes cactorum* in Laguna del Diario, Maldonado, Uruguay.

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**Resumen.** El autor ha documentado en fotos y video *Melanerpes cactorum*, or White-fronted Woodpecker, or Carpintero del cardón, en Laguna Del Diario, Departamento Maldoando, Uruguay, 22 de Diciembre de 2011. Especie endémica de Sudamérica. Tal vez el primer registro para la region.

According the literature about birds consulted (below), *Melanerpes cactorum*, or White-fronted Woodpecker, is a small bird of (Picidae family), endemic of South America, with distribution restricted to SE Peru, Bolivia, western Paraguay W and C of Argentina and Mato Grosso do Sul state of Brazil, and Uruguay . Although considered common species, it is difficult to find.

In Uruguay is restricted to the west (AZPIROZ,2012). But as reported by us (personal communications) the Uruguayan biologist Santiago Carvalho "it is a species rare and with restricted range west of Uruguay with some isolated records in the South in the resort Punta Negra in Maldonado" .

On December, 22, 2011, I had the opportunity to observe one individual, perhaps a female, foraging in a natural area near the Laguna del Diario, Maldonado Department of Uruguay (34° 54'08 .79 "S/54 ° 00'55 .69" W). I recorded by video and photos (see the end). And photos and video available on [www.ultimaarcadenoe.com.br](http://www.ultimaarcadenoe.com.br), sector "Records by species" in ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM: THE LAST'S ARK (PROGRAMA AMBIENTAL: A ÚLTIMA ARCA DE NOÉ,2013; IBC,2013, Youtube,2013). The observations were made in morning about 9am.

Perhaps this is the first record of this species for the region of Laguna del Diario.

Due to increasing degradation of natural environments and the rarity of records of this species in Uruguay, I believe that this documented record in this simple note, can add some more data on this bird, and help your population study.

### References

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Photos (by the author)

