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Documented record of Chestnut-bellied guan *Penelope ochrogaster* Pelzelin, 1870 (Birds, CRACIDAE) in Barão de Melgaço, Mato Grosso, Brazil.

## **Documented record of Chestnut-bellied guan *Penelope ochrogaster* Pelzelin, 1870 (Birds, CRACIDAE) in Barão de Melgaço, Mato Grosso, Brazil.**

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**Abstract.** The author presents records of *Penelope ochrogaster*, or Chestnut-bellied guan in Barão de Melgaço, Mato Grosso, Brazil, 17/5/2008. A rare image and song records of this bird.

The Chestnut-bellied guan (*Penelope ochrogaster* pelzelini, 1870), Portuguese jacu-de-barriga-castanha, is a bird of the family CRACIDAE Rafinesque, 1815 (CBRO, 2011), which occurrence through the west of Minas Gerais and Goiás, Mato Grosso, Morte River, Poconé (Sick, 1997; OLMOS, 1998, for Poconé). There are also records in Tocantins State Park in Canton (Pinheiro, 2009) and around the Bananal Island (OLMOS 2003), wetland and river basin of San Francisco (Antas 2006), with high population density in PRNP-SESC Pantanal in Porto Cercado (Antas 2004). All places in Brazil.

Like almost all species of this family, the Chestnut-bellied guan bird is much hunted, although forbidden hunting in Brazil, which makes it difficult to find places where it can be seen easily, even in its restricted range.

It is endemic to the Brazilian "cerrado" (savanna), and is on the list of threatened birds, included in the category Vulnerable (VU), mainly due to the disappearance of their habitat (IUCN, 2011, COLLAR et.alls, 1992, BirdLife International (2011)). Therefore it's very popular with birdwatchers (or birders), and his sighting, and especially his record pictures and sound important facts.

As a result of observations, studies and surveys conducted in Barão de Melgaço, Mato Grosso, Brazil, we were three times in the region (04 and 07/08/04, 08/05/06 and 15 to 19 / 05/08), staying in hostels in Mutum River, where we made many observations and documented records of wildlife in general, especially the birds, and found 208 species of birds (SANTOS, 2011).

In the second and third time we were staying at the Pousada Mutum (16 ° 20'43 .25 "S/55 ° 51'47 .50" O), where there was a family with five individuals of *Penelope ochrogaster* living in the gardens area. Although wild, the birds sometimes coming close to the people, when on May 17, 2008, in particular, the group was filmed and recorded the vocalization (photos video below). Video available on the internet and vocalization (ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM: The Last Noah's Ark, 2011).

We did not find this species in other parts of the region, which shows the importance of that "family" that lives in the hostel area.

The region where the recording was made is very interesting because it dominates the



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"savanna" (savannah), is the river that flows in Mutum swamp area, which lakes, while it is in the transition area between typical Cerrado of Pantanal Matogrossense and the Amazon forest, where we saw of the latter biome, species like *Melanerpes cruentatus* and *Zibrilus undulatus*.

Thus, because the restricted distribution and rarity of *Penelope ochrogaster* we decided to publish this simple note, documented our record in that region, to provide more data to protect the species.

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### Photos cited



Photos - *Penelope ochrogaster* (photos of video, by author)

(Translated from Portuguese by the author, with help of Google on line translate)

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