

Documented record of *Circus buffoni* (Birds, Accipitridae) in Comandatuba Island, Una, Bahia, Brazil.

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Antonio Silveira R. Santos Environmental Program: The Last Noah's Ark, www.aultimaarcadenoe.com.br

> Mauricio de Oliveira Arantes Biologist Institute Ecotuba oliveiraarantes@gmail.com

Victor Chahin Student, birdwatcher and nature photographer victorchahin@uol.com.br

**Abstract**. The authors present records of Circus buffoni (Gmelin, 1788) or Long-winged Harrier in Comandatuba Island, Una, Bahia, Brazil, oct/12/2011. Perhaps the first image record of this bird in this region.

The Long-winged Harrier (*Circus buffoni* Gmelin, 1788)) in Portuguese gavião-dobanhado, belongs to the family ACCIPITRIDRAE Vigors, 1824 (CBRO, 2011). It is a predator that leaves in primarily areas of wetlands (swamp bird), hence its popular name, and endemic in the Americas, occurring in Venezuela and Guyana to Argentina and Chile, locally in eastern Brazil, Amapá, Pará (Marajó), Espirito Santo, Rio de Janeiro, where it is rare, and central Brazil (Mato Grosso and west of Sao Paulo, and more frequent in the south of the country (Para, Rio Grande do Sul (SICK 1997). There are also references in Colombia, Trinidad, Bolivia and that of Chile (Brown & Amadon, 1989). To the northeast of Brazil there are few findings, but no details. Indeed, the map distribution of the species in the excellent Field Guide to Birds of North America Collins (MATA et alls, 2006), their occurrence is not consisting largely of the northeast, including the coast of Bahia.

It is unusual bird, flying over its territory hunting at low heights, and that is usually identified by their white parts and the lower face. However, such features may be lacking in young and as dark (dark phase) of the species (SICK, ob.cit; MATA, ob.cit, and Brown & Amadon, 1989), and the fact that fly often, like the *Cathartes*, makes the hawk-plated looks like with *Buteo albonotatus*, especially in low light, which can hinder their identification in the field. Also, added the fact that there are few documented records of your voice, this species isn`t known and observed, for both biologists and birdwatchers. Hence, the importance of making public their records.

As a result of studies and surveys conducted of birds on Comandatuba Island municipality of Una, Bahia State, Brazil, from February 2004 (Santos, 2011), sets of the authors (AS and MO), this species had been observed one of them (MO).

On October 12, 2011, in the afternoon around 16:30 pm, in the area north of the Hotel Transamerica in Comandatuba Island (15  $^{\circ}$  20  $^{\circ}$ 08.62 "S/38  $^{\circ}$  59'00 .24"), in a restinga low, consisting primarily of palm known locally as "caxandós" (Allagoptera arenaria) away from the beach about 100 meter, when the three authors walked the trail parallel to the beach, *Circus buffoni* was observed flying over the area about 8 meters in circles, apparently hunting. Seeing that the authors were about 30 meters, took off and walked away. The authors didn't have the



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perfect opportunity to note the characteristics that identify the species, because the weather was cloudy and low light, beyond what it was all very fast. However, the bird was photographed by raptor one of the authors (VC), pictured below, which helped to identify later. At first it was thought in *Buteo albonotatus*, but the picture showed, when it increased a little, white face, which caused doubts, thinking on the possibility of being even *Circus buffoni*. The photo was sent by one of the authors (AS), the biologist Fábio Olmos, who identified the bird *Circus buffoni*, with what everyone agreed.

So *Circus buffoni* has been registered and confirmed for the Comandatuba Island, passing place on the list, with observation of its two authors (SANTOS, 2011), and, as said, being a rare species with few records to the northeast Brazil, besides the fact has not yet been documented (photos, videos and recording your voice) to the region, promote our record solve this simple note.

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