

**Segunda Reunión del Memorando de Entendimiento sobre la
Conservación de Aves Migratorias de Pastizales del Sur de
Sudamérica y de sus Hábitats**

(24 – 25 julio de 2018, Florianópolis, Brasil)

UNEP/CMS/MOS2/GRB/Inf.2

**HOJAS INFORMATIVAS SOBRE LAS ESPECIES INCLUIDAS EN EL
MEMORANDO DE ENTENDIMIENTO SOBRE AVES DE PASTIZAL**

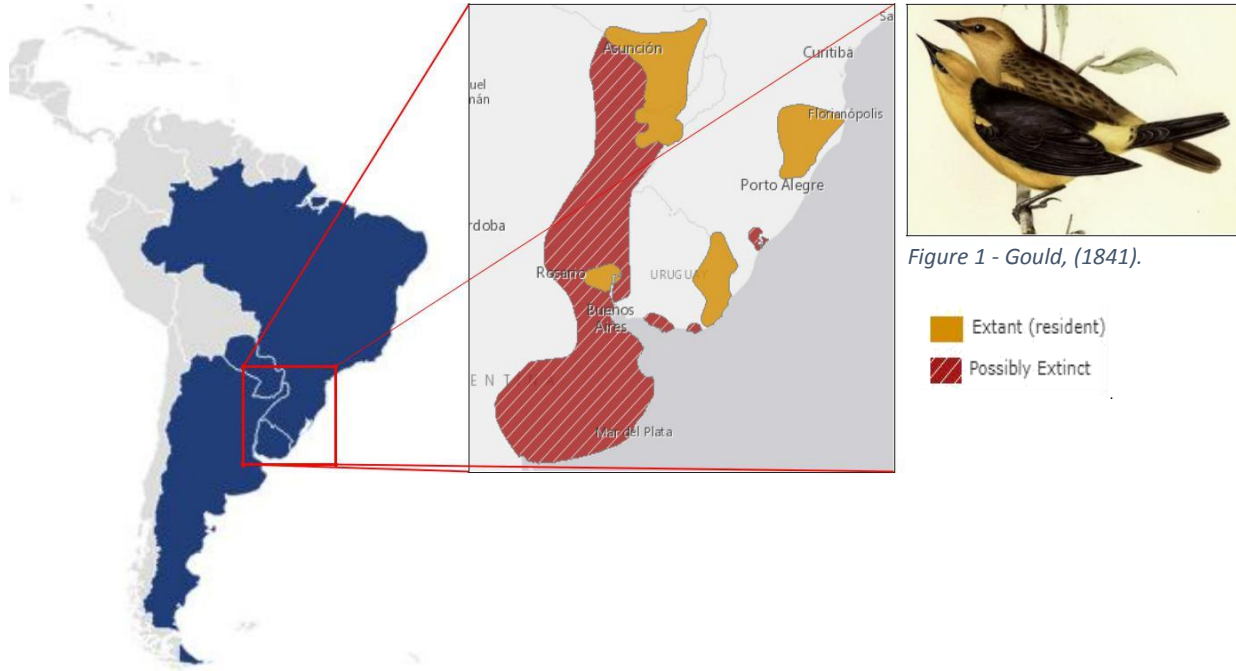
(Preparado por la Secretaria)



SOUTH AMERICAN MOU GRASSLAND BIRDS FACTSHEETS

Factsheet Summarizing Information on all Species of the 'Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Southern South American Migratory Grassland Bird Species and their Habitats'.

1. *Xanthopsar flavus* – En: Saffron-Cowled Blackbird; Sp: Tordo Amarillo



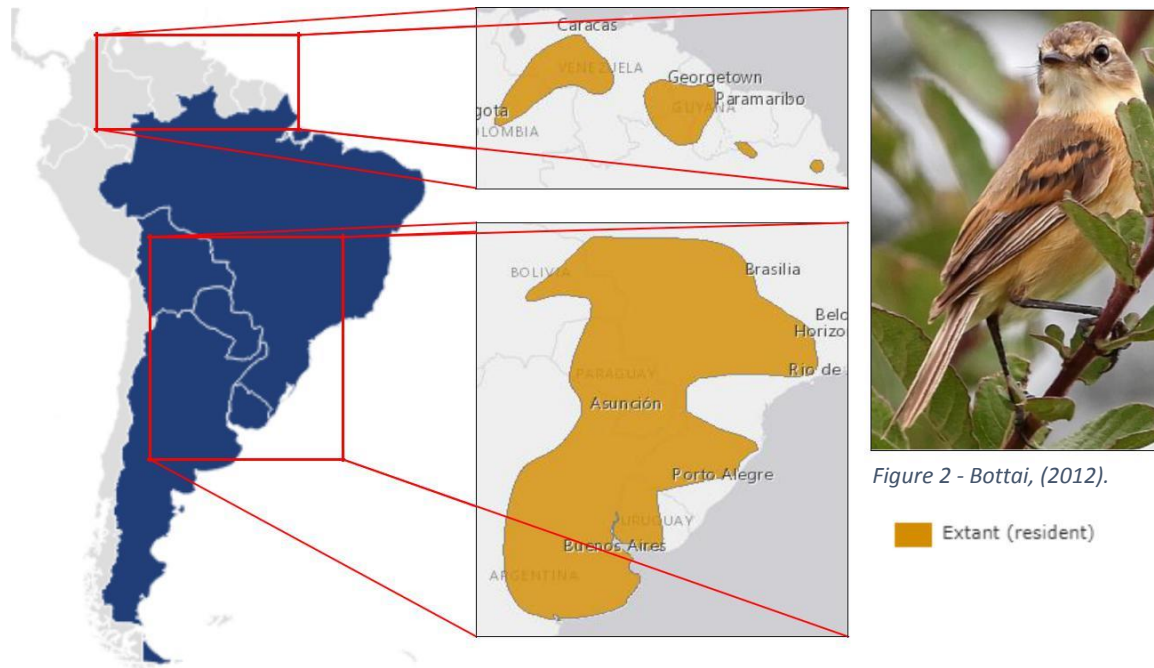
CMS Appendix: I & II
 ICUN Red List: **Vulnerable**

- **Population:** with a loss of 80.4% between 1988 and 2012, there are currently around 1,500-7,000 mature individuals, an ongoing rapid decline is expected in the future.
- **Threats:** anthropogenic impacts on grasslands and marshes/marshy valleys (in Brazil and Uruguay), cattle trampling, trapping, brood-parasitism, afforestation and wetland drainage.
- **Ecology:** it occurs in agricultural or wetlands surrounded by short grass, breeding in dry upland terrain or marsh vegetation and building its nests in herbaceous plants, it forages on dry dirt.
- **Conservation status:** MoU signed by Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay. Occurring in protected areas and protected by law in Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay, experimental reintroductions.
- **Conservation measures:** assess range and numbers, research nest failure rates, protect traditional sites, enforce burning and trade restrictions and develop an action plan for reserve networks.
- **Range:** S. Brazil, S. Paraguay, Uruguay with a local abundance in north-east Argentina. Paraguay's estimated pop is 2-3,000, Argentina 500-1,000 and strongholds in SE Uruguay.

2. *Sporophila zelichi* (now listed under *S. palustris*) – En: Marsh Seed eater; Sp: Semillero Palustre

See factsheet no.7. Now listed under *Sporophila palustris* according to the HBW and BirdLife International - 'Illustrated Checklist of the Birds of the World, Vol 1'.

3. *Polystictus pectoralis pectoralis* – En: Bearded Tachuri; Sp: Tachurí Barbado

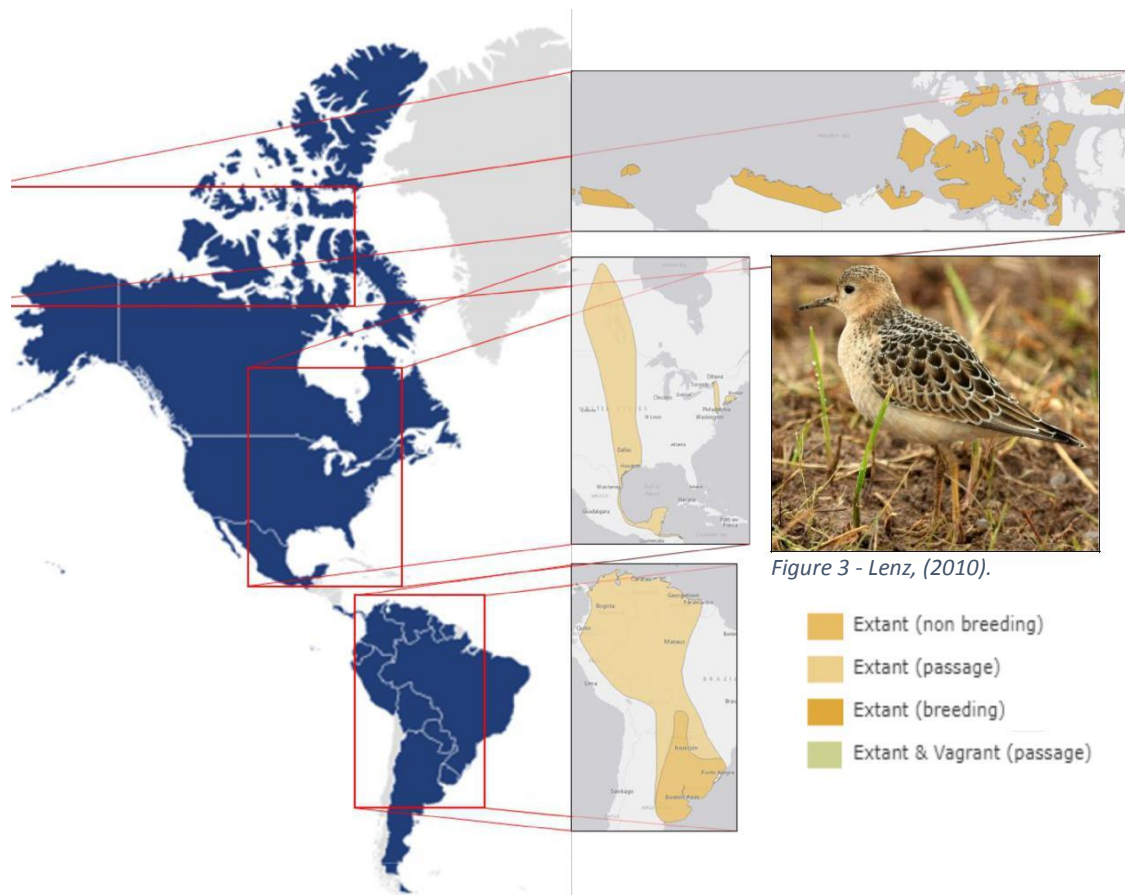


CMS Appendix: II

ICUN Red List: **Near Threatened**

- **Population:** it remains of yet un-quantified, although it has been described as ‘uncommon and patchily distributed’ and is suspected to be in decline.
- **Threats:** the conversion of grasslands in Brazil, Paraguay and Argentina for cattle-ranching and forestry plantations such as *Eucalyptus*.
- **Ecology:** it inhabits a variety of grassland types and shrubby vegetation with the presence of water being an important factor.
- **Conservation status:** it occurs in protected areas i.e. national parks and reserves.
- **Conservation measures:** remove the incentives to agriculture, survey and monitor populations to determine a global population estimate and effectively manage its protected areas.
- **Range:** it has many localized populations in Colombia, Venezuela, north Brazil, Paraguay, south Uruguay and east Bolivia and it is an austral summer visitor to central-east Argentina.

4. *Tryngites subruficollis* (now: *Calidris subruficollis*) – En: Buff-breasted Sandpiper;
Sp: Correlimos Canelo



CMS Appendix: I & II

ICUN Red List: **Near Threatened**

- **Population:** during the 1890-1900's it was in the millions, there are currently around 15,300-56,000 individuals and a moderate ongoing decline is expected.
- **Threats:** severe overhunting, habitat loss/degradation, oil/gas extraction, climate change and wind turbine collisions.
- **Ecology:** it breeds in the Arctic on tundra with scant vegetation and is not found near the sea. It depends heavily on livestock grazing in its wintering grounds to create short grassland.
- **Conservation status:** a conservation plan exists listing priority actions for the species, on-going field surveys in Texas and Nebraska, a range-wide tracking study and site conservation.
- **Conservation measures:** implement priority actions in the conservation plan, determine the population size and trends, identify migration routes and conserve key breeding locations.
- **Range:** USA Alaska, Canada Devon Island, East Russia, Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay.

5. *Sporophila cinnamomea* – En: Chestnut Seedeater; Sp: Semillero Castaño

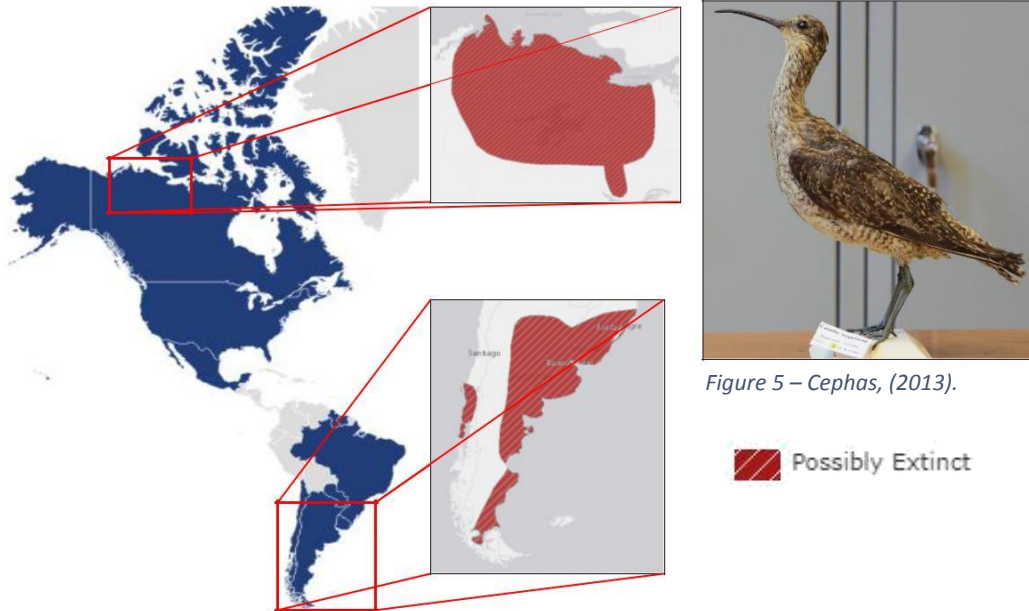


CMS Appendix: I & II

ICUN Red List: **Vulnerable**

- **Population:** an estimate of between 2,500-9,999 individuals, an ongoing rapid decline is suspected.
- **Threats:** trapping pressures, habitat conversion, afforestation on valley bottoms, pesticide and contaminant accumulation in marshes, agriculture, invasive grasses and annual burning.
- **Ecology:** it is a grassland species, favoring tall, dense grasses. In Uruguay, it inhabits drier sites than without periodic inundation.
- **Conservation status:** an MoU signed by Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay, trapping bans in Argentina and Uruguay, it breeds in National Parks and has legal protection in Paraguay and Brazil.
- **Conservation measures:** locate breeding and wintering sites, survey for breeding populations, develop action plans, remove afforestation incentives and establish reserve networks.
- **Range:** it breeds in north east Argentina, west and south-east Uruguay and Paraguay and south Brazil. Migrants have been recorded in Argentina, Paraguay with presumed wintering in Brazil.

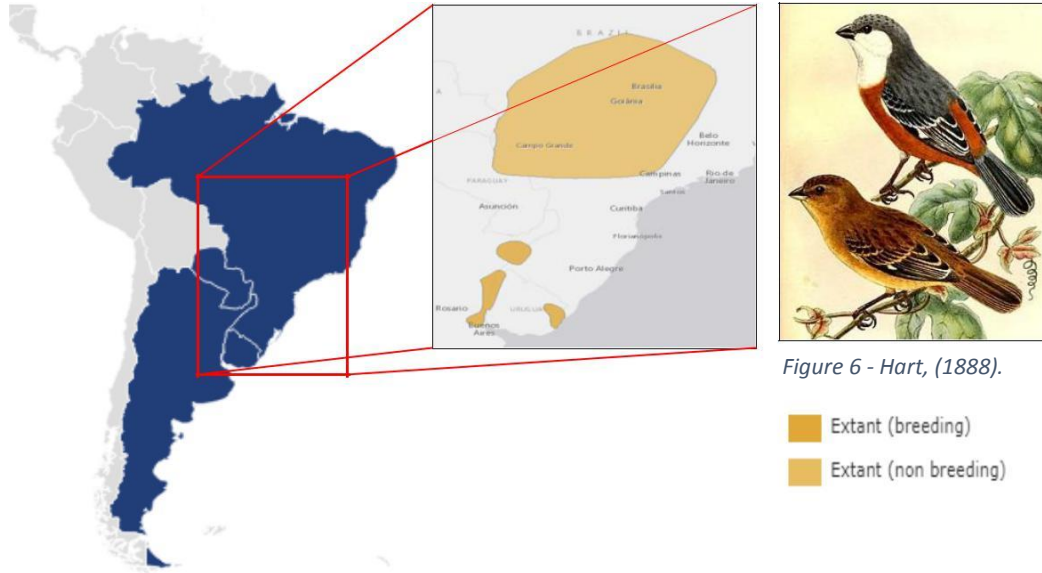
6. *Numenius borealis* – En: Eskimo Curlew; Sp: Zarapito Boreal



CMS Appendix: I and II (in Ap II as part of the Family Scolopacidae)
ICUN Red List: **Critically Endangered**

- **Population:** there are fewer than 50 in existence, with no confirmed sightings since the early 1960's.
- **Threats:** hunting in North America drove the species to near-extinction, it did not recover after it was outlawed, possibly due to the loss of prairies to agriculture, and wildfire suppression.
- **Ecology:** it bred in treeless arctic tundra comprising of grassy meadows and migrated to ericaceous heath, pastures and intertidal flats. Wintering in wet pampas grasslands.
- **Conservation status:** CITES Ap I. Protected in the USA, Canada, Argentina and Mexico, breeding surveys and a species recovery plan is in place.
- **Conservation measures:** assess historical sites, survey heath tundra and breeding grounds, initiate development projects, investigate sightings, expand prairie habitat and employ burnings.
- **Range:** it bred in Canada, and perhaps Alaska and migrated to Argentina and possibly Uruguay and Paraguay, Brazil and Chile. Returning along the Pacific coast, through Central America.

7. *Sporophila palustris* (inc. *S. zelichi*) – En: Marsh Seedeater; Sp: Semillero Palustre



CMS Appendix: I & II

ICUN Red List: **Endangered**

- **Population:** currently around 600-1,700 (mature) individuals with a rapid and ongoing population decline suspected.
- **Threats:** trapping, cattle grazed breeding sites, afforestation, pesticides, drainage and agricultural plantations.
- **Ecology:** it breeds during the austral summer in grassland or marsh habitats, nesting in-between terrestrial and aquatic habitats.
- **Conservation status:** a CMS MoU, legal protection in Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay, a trapping ban in Argentina and Uruguay, it breeds in reserves/national parks and is subject to monitoring.
- **Conservation measures:** survey S. Paraguay for breeding populations, develop an action plan, protect key sites, remove afforestation incentives, enforce trapping ban.
- **Range:** breeds in Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay and possibly south-east Paraguay and winters in Brazil and perhaps north-east Paraguay, but there are very few records.

8. *Sporophila hypochroma* – En: Gray and Chestnut Seedeater; Sp: Semillero Culirufo

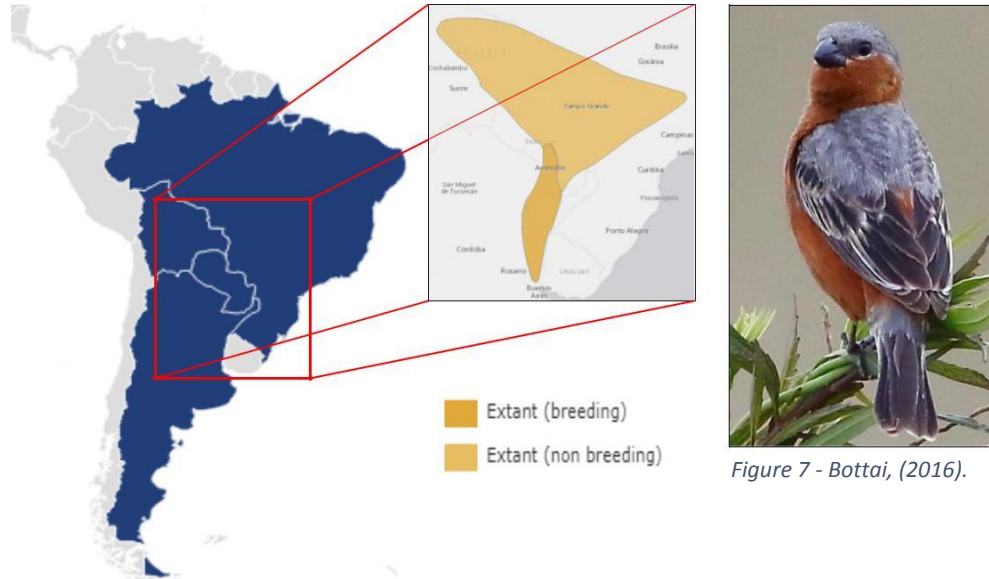


Figure 7 - Bottai, (2016).

CMS Appendix: I & II

ICUN Red List: **Near Threatened**

- **Population:** it remains of yet un-quantified, although it had been described as ‘uncommon and patchily distributed’.
- **Threats:** Grassland destruction for agriculture, intensive cattle grazing, afforestation and pressure from trappers and trade.
- **Ecology:** reported near marshes, seasonally flooded grasslands, pastures, savanna-like areas and it breeds in low seasonally wet grasslands.
- **Conservation measures:** Monitor its population to determine trends, monitor numbers in the wild bird trade and campaign to protect its key native grassland habitats across its range.
- **Range:** presence in north and east Bolivia, south-west Brazil, north-east Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay. Breeding in Argentina, Bolivia and Paraguay and migrating north to winter in Brazil.

9. *Sporophila ruficollis* – En: Dark-Throated Seedeater; Sp: Semillero Gorgioscuro

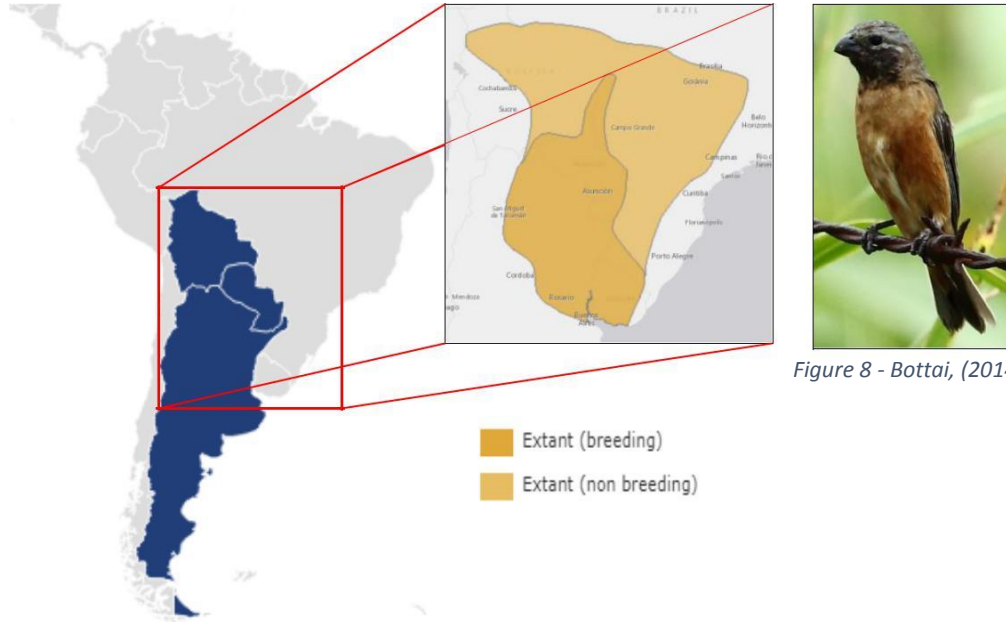


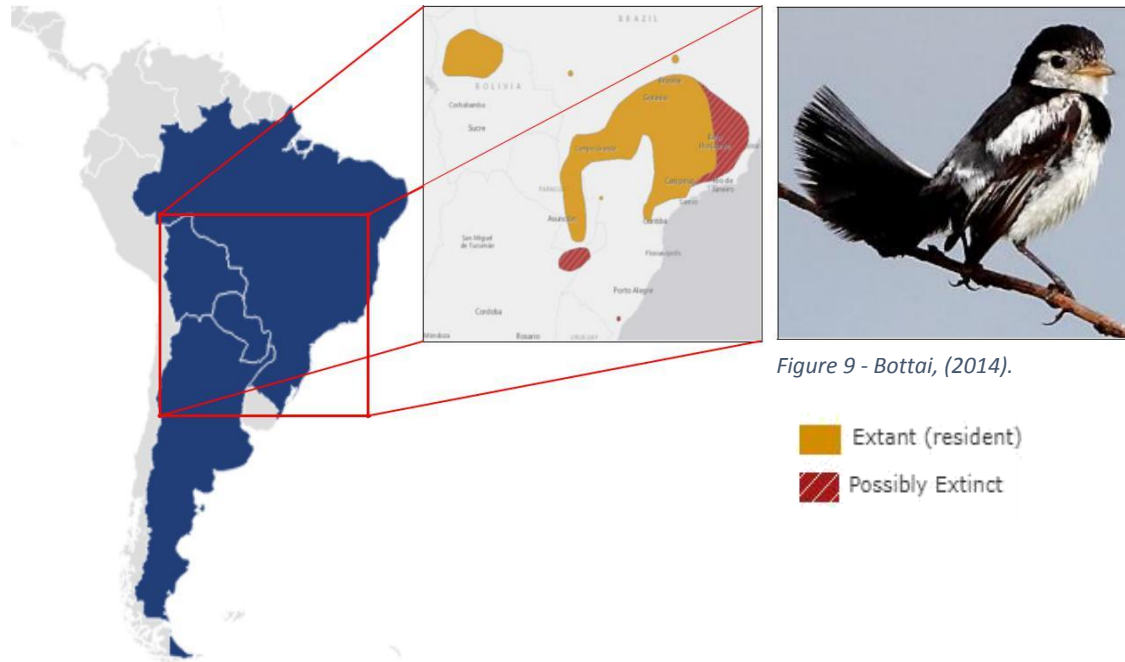
Figure 8 - Bottai, (2014).

CMS Appendix: II

ICUN Red List: **Near Threatened**

- **Population:** it remains of yet unquantified and is described as ‘common but patchily distributed’.
- **Threats:** Conversion of grasslands for agriculture, pesticides, burning on nearby agricultural land,
- **Ecology:** locally common up to 1200m in grasslands and dry savannah.
- **Threats:** the conversion of grasslands for agriculture and plantations, the use of pesticides and annual burning on adjacent agricultural land have detrimental effects on breeding sites. Illegal trapping and trade is also a problem.
- **Conservation measures:** identify habitat requirements, its tolerance of agricultural habitats, determine rates of population decline, monitor its trade and protect key grassland habitats.
- **Range:** occurs in Bolivia, south Brazil, Paraguay, north Uruguay and north Argentina. There has been a clear decline in north-east Argentina. It is common in north Bolivia.

10. *Alectrurus tricolor* – En: Cock-Tailed Tyrant; Sp: Yetapá Chico



CMS Appendix: I & II

ICUN Red List: **Vulnerable**

- **Population:** around 10,000-19,999 based on known records and it is suspected to be declining rapidly.
- **Threats:** agricultural development, livestock-farming, plantations, mining, frequent burning, afforestation, habitat modification and the introduction of invasive jaragua grasses.
- **Ecology:** it inhabits seasonally wet and dry grasslands, favoring areas of taller vegetation. It has been observed feeding on the ground in recently burnt areas. It is generally insectivorous.
- **Conservation status:** common in National Parks, Protection Areas and Wildlife Sanctuaries. In Paraguay it's protected by law and a tiny population in Paraná, where the species is rare, was monitored.
- **Conservation measures:** surveys to clarify its status, define its seasonal abundance, control dry season burning near protected areas, and encourage farmers to set aside areas of tall grass.
- **Range:** become scarce over N/E Bolivia, central and southern Brazil and north Argentina, but it remains locally common and a stable breeding resident at Estancia Laguna (Argentina).

11. *Alectrurus risora* – En: Strange-Tailed Tyrant; Sp: Yetapá Acollarado

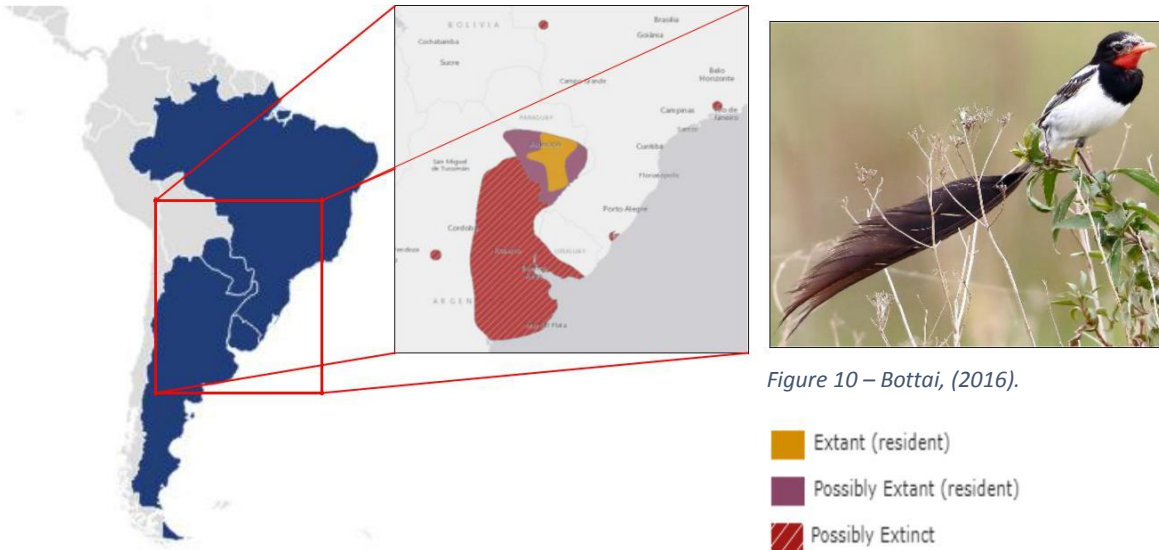


Figure 10 – Bottai, (2016).

CMS Appendix: I & II
ICUN Red List: **Vulnerable**

- **Population:** there are estimated to be around 6,000-15,000 individuals and population numbers are suspected to be declining rapidly.
- **Threats:** agricultural conversion and cattle-grazing on natural grasslands, spring and summer fires for improving pastures, afforestation, the conversion of wetlands, pesticides and fertilizers.
- **Ecology:** it inhabits wet grasslands near or within marshes, requiring relatively tall grasses. It feeds on invertebrates. It has been observed following army ants to forage for insects.
- **Conservation status:** legally protected in Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay. Occurring in reserves established on state or private lands and different management regimes are being studied.
- **Conservation measures:** conduct quantitative censuses, establish a Biosphere Reserve, remove afforestation incentives, implement management plans and search for the species at new sites.
- **Range:** it occurs primarily in south Paraguay and north Argentina, there has perhaps been a catastrophic loss of range in Brazil, where it was formerly an uncommon breeder.

Compiled by Angus Montgomery-Baird (CMS Secretariat)

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