Capuchinbird

The **capuchinbird** or **calfbird** (*Perissocephalus tricolor*) is a large passerine bird of the family Cotingidae. It is monotypic within the genus *Perissocephalus*. It is found in humid forests (up to 1,400 metres (4,600 ft) but mostly below 600 m) in north-eastern South America, almost entirely north of the Amazon River and east of Rio Negro (Colombia, Venezuela, Brazil and The Guianas).

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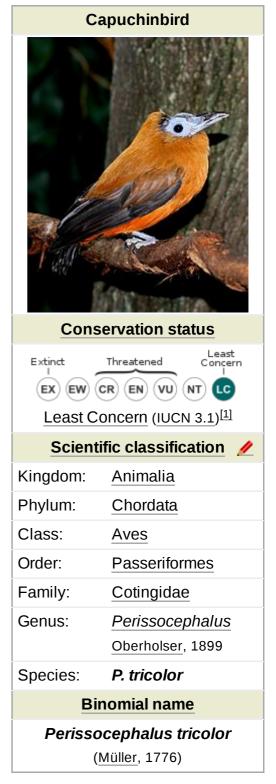
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Description

The capuchinbird is a large thick-set <u>suboscine</u> passerine with a relatively heavy bill. Adults weigh between 340 and 420 grams (12 and 15 oz) and are typically around 40 centimetres (16 in) long, making it the largest suboscine passerine, apart from the <u>Amazonian</u> and <u>long-wattled umbrellabirds</u> – indeed, females average larger than any female umbrellabird. Its <u>plumage</u> is overall rich brown, approaching orange on the belly and undertail <u>coverts</u>, and the <u>remiges</u> and short tail are black. The most distinctive feature is its bare, almost <u>vulture</u>-like head covered in dull blue skin. Juveniles resemble adults, with the exception of some <u>downy feathers</u> on the head. [3]

Ecology

They gather in <u>leks</u> where they "sing". The "song" is very odd and difficult to describe accurately, although some have compared it to the distant sound of a <u>chainsaw</u> or (as indicated by its alternative name "calfbird") a <u>cow</u> mooing. The nest is small and rather scanty and is normally found in close proximity to the lek. Capuchinbirds eat mainly fruits and insects. [3]



Status

The capuchinbird has a very wide distribution and although it is an uncommon bird, its total population is estimated to be large. The population may be in slight decline because of deforestation, but not at a fast enough rate for it to be considered threatened, so the International Union for Conservation of Nature has rated its conservation status as being of "least concern". [1]

References

- 1. <u>BirdLife International</u> (2012). "*Perissocephalus tricolor*" (https://www.iucnredlist.org/details/227 00943/0). *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*. **2012**. Retrieved 26 November 2013.
- 2. del Hoyo, J. Elliott, A. & Christie, D. (editors). (2004) *Handbook of the Birds of the World. Volume 9: Cotingas to Pipits and Wagtails*. Lynx Edicions. **ISBN 84-87334-69-5**
- 3. Ridgely, Robert S.; Tudor, Guy (2009). *Field Guide to the Songbirds of South America: Vol. II, The Suboscine Passerines* (https://books.google.com/books?id=_y4FMhURra0C&pg=PA775).

 University of Texas Press. p. 775–776. ISBN 978-0-292-71748-0.

External links

- Recordings of *Perissocephalus tricolor*. (http://www.xeno-canto.org/browse.php?query=Perissocephalus) Xeno-canto.
- Capuchinbird at The Internet Bird Collection. (http://ibc.lynxeds.com/species/capuchinbird-peris socephalus-tricolor)

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