



## **Yellow-Tailed Woolly Monkey (*Oreonax flavicauda*: Humboldt 1812) Altitudinal Range Extension, Uchiza, Perú**

Authors: Allgas, Néstor, Shanee, Sam, Peralta, Ana, and Shanee, Noga

Source: Neotropical Primates, 21(2) : 206-208

Published By: Conservation International

URL: <https://doi.org/10.1896/044.021.0211>

---

BioOne Complete ([complete.BioOne.org](https://complete.bioone.org)) is a full-text database of 200 subscribed and open-access titles in the biological, ecological, and environmental sciences published by nonprofit societies, associations, museums, institutions, and presses.

Your use of this PDF, the BioOne Complete website, and all posted and associated content indicates your acceptance of BioOne's Terms of Use, available at [www.bioone.org/terms-of-use](https://www.bioone.org/terms-of-use).

Usage of BioOne Complete content is strictly limited to personal, educational, and non - commercial use. Commercial inquiries or rights and permissions requests should be directed to the individual publisher as copyright holder.

---

BioOne sees sustainable scholarly publishing as an inherently collaborative enterprise connecting authors, nonprofit publishers, academic institutions, research libraries, and research funders in the common goal of maximizing access to critical research.

**YELLOW-TAILED WOOLLY MONKEY (*OREONAX FLAVICAUDA*: HUMBOLDT 1812) ALTITUDINAL RANGE EXTENSION, UCHIZA, PERÚ**

*Néstor Allgas*  
*Sam Shanee*  
*Ana Peralta*  
*Noga Shanee*

The yellow-tailed woolly monkey (*Oreonax flavicauda*) is endemic to a small area of montane cloud forest dominated by *Ficus* spp. in the Peruvian departments of Amazonas and San Martin (Leo Luna 1980) and neighboring areas of the departments of Huánuco and La Libertad (Graves & O’Neil, 1980; Parker & Barkley, 1981; Shanee, 2011). This species is listed as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (2008, A4c) and Endangered on Appendix 1 of CITES (2005). The main threats to *O. flavicauda* are massive deforestation for agriculture, subsistence hunting, logging and mining (deLuycker, 2007; Leo Luna, 1980; Shanee, 2011). In many areas habitat loss has forced this species into small forest fragments (Shanee et al., 2007; Shanee, 2011).

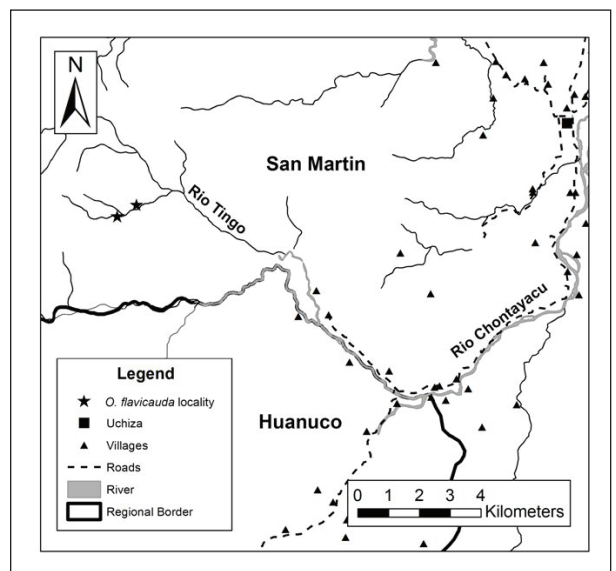


Figure 1. Map of observation locality.

Table 1. Minimum altitudes where *O. flavicauda* has been observed in previous studies.

Altitude (m a.s.l.)	Study sites	Source
1,084	Tingo de Uchiza, San Martín	This study
1,560	Shunte, San Martín	Shanee (2011)
> 1,600	Pucatambo, Amazonas	Leo Luna (1980)
1,505	Bosque de Protección Alto Mayo	DeLuyker (2007)
2,400	Ongón, La Libertad	Parker & Barkley (1981)
1,670	Abra Patricia, Amazonas	Graves and O'Neil (1980)
1,550	Pucatambo, Amazonas	Thomas (1927)
2,220	Cordillera de Colán, Amazonas	Butchart et al (1995)

On the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of January 2013, while carrying out distribution surveys of the Andean night monkey (*Aotus miconax*), we encountered a group of *O. flavicauda* 14.5 km west of the city of Uchiza in San Martín department in an area known locally as Tingo de Uchiza (S 8°28'47.04", W 76°35'24.90"), just north of the border with Huánuco (Fig 1.). The group was found along an existing 1.1 km trail at altitudes between 1,084 and 1,373 m. a.s.l., just under 500 m lower than previous observations (Table 1). We observed the group feeding on fruiting figs (*Ficus* spp.) for 25 minutes before they crossed a small stream which feeds the Rio Trisneja where we were unable to follow. The group consisted of 12 individuals, including two females with infants.

The habitat was similar to that described by previous researchers (Shanee, 2011; Shanee & Shanee, 2011) with high humidity (up to 99% relative humidity at 14.7°C). Forests in this area are dominated by Moraceae (*Ficus* spp.) and Cecropiaceae (*Cecropia* spp.) as well as Fabaceae (*Inga* spp. and *Erythrina* spp.), Icacinaceae (*Citronella* spp. and *Styloceras* spp.) with a high density of epiphytes. Our observations were made in a long thin canyon with steep sides that culminated in the 400 m high *Velo de Plata* waterfall. It is possible that the extremely humid and cool microclimate created by the local topography and the effect of the waterfall have allowed the higher altitude forest type, which is home to *O. flavicauda*, to establish itself at these lower altitudes.

Local villagers stated that *O. flavicauda* is common in the area, which they had mistakenly identified as howler monkeys (*Alouatta* sp.). When informed about the species endemism and Critically Endangered status they showed a lot of interest in conserving the species. The Municipality of Uchiza is currently working with the San Martín Regional Government to create a new Regional Conservation Area (*Area de Conservación Regional*) which covers the area where our observations were made. More time will need to be spent in this area to see how much lower the species distribution reaches in this and other similar areas. With the current high rates of habitat loss throughout this species

distribution area, any additional areas of habitat suitable for them are of importance for its conservation.

## References

- Butchart, S. H. M., Barnes, R., Davies, C.W.N., Fernández, M. and Seddon, N., 1995. Observations of two threatened primates in the Peruvian Andes. *Primate Cons.* 16: 15–19.
- DeLuyker, A. M., 2007. Notes on the Yellow-Tailed Woolly Monkey (*Oreonax flavicauda*) and Its Status in the Protected Forest of Alto Mayo, Northern Peru. *Primate Cons.* 22: 41–47.
- Graves, G. R. and O'Neill, J. P., 1980. Notes on the Yellow-Tailed Woolly Monkey (*Lagothrix flavicauda*) of Peru. *J. of Mammal.* 61: 345–357.
- Luna, M. L., 1980. First Field Study of the Yellow-tailed Woolly Monkey. *Oryx* 15: 386–389.
- Parker, T.A. and Barkley, L.J., 1981. New Locality for the Yellow-tailed Woolly Monkey. *Oryx* 16: 71–72.
- Shanee, N., Shanee, S. and Maldonado, A. M., 2007. Conservation assessment and planning for the yellow tailed woolly monkey (*Oreonax flavicauda*) in Peru. *Wildlife Biol. Prac.* 3: 73–82.
- Shanee, S., 2011. Distribution Survey and Threat Assessment of the Yellow-tailed Woolly Monkey (*Oreonax flavicauda*; Humboldt 1812), Northeastern Peru. *Int. J. Primatol.* 32: 691–707.
- Shanee, S. and Shanee, N., 2011. Observations of terrestrial behavior in the Peruvian night Monkey (*Aotus miconax*) in an anthropogenic landscape, La Esperanza, Perú. *Neotrop. Primates.* 18: 55–58.
- Thomas, O., 1927. A remarkable new monkey from Peru. *Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist.* Ser. 9, 19: 156–157.

Néstor Allgas, Asociación Neotropical Primate Conservation (ANPC) Perú, 1187 Carretera Fernando Belaunde Terry, La Esperanza, Yambrasbamba, Perú y Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos, Facultad de Ciencias Biológicas, Av. Universitaria/Av. Germán Amézcaga s/n, Edificio Jorge Basadre, Ciudad Universitaria, Lima, Perú. E-mail: <nestor.allgas@gmail.com>, Sam Shanee, ANPC

and Neotropical Primate Conservation, 23 Portland Road, Manchester, United Kingdom , M32, **Ana Peralta**, ANPC y Grupo Vida Silvestre, Av. Rinconada s/n, Pachacamac, Lima, Perú, y **Noga Shanee**, ANPC y Neotropical Primate Conservation, 23 Portland Road, Manchester, United Kingdom , M32.

---

---

---