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5 In search of a meaningful classification for Amazonian marmosets: should dwarf marmosets be
6 considered *Mico* congenetics?

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16 The criteria to classify the diversity of Neotropical Primates have recently taken the discussion
17 boards due to the reappraisal on the phylogenetic relationship of some groups. Such controversial
18 and arbitrary decisions, however, can hamper conservation actions in as much as it becomes
19 difficult to prioritise and set meaningful targets. It is the case for dwarf marmosets from Central
20 Amazonia. Today, the classification of dwarf marmosets in *Mico* or *Callibella* genus has not been
21 satisfactorily settled. Aiming to contribute to the taxonomic and conservation assessment of dwarf
22 marmosets, we conducted new data collection during 3-year fieldwork in the Aripuanã River, where
23 the species was discovered. We present the first phylogenomic analysis of the evolutionary
24 relationships between marmosets, new data from mitochondrial DNA and morphology, as well new
25 records to clarify geographic distribution. With this new evidence, we support dwarf marmosets as
26 the genus *Callibella*. We further discuss the implications for the conservation of this marmoset.

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56 **Introduction**

57

58 Since the last two main proposals for the classification of Neotropical primates
59 (Groves 2001; Rylands *et al.* 2000), several new classification schemes at the genus
60 level have been presented for some groups (Byrne *et al.* 2016; Lynch-Alfaro *et al.*
61 2012a; Rylands *et al.* 2016; Schneider *et al.* 2012). The reason for such debate is
62 primarily rooted in the field of molecular phylogenetics, which, in addition to often
63 unveiling a much greater diversity of lineages than initially suspected, provides a
64 timescale on which this diversification occurred. Consequently, divergence time has
65 been widely adopted as an argument to support the classification of lineages of
66 Neotropical primates, following the proposal of Goodman *et al.* (1998).

67 However, the use of the divergence time as a key criterion for taxonomic
68 classification in the genus level of Neotropical Primates has been discussed in recent
69 publications (Garbino 2015; Gutiérrez & Marinho-Filho 2017). These authors argue that
70 divergence time, as well as geographic distribution, is not a diagnostic character and
71 should not be used as the sole criterion in the taxonomic classification.

72 The recent taxonomic reclassifications at the genus level in Neotropical Primates,
73 however, are based on a robust molecular phylogeny that synthesizes a number of
74 ecological, morphological and biogeographic parameters previously identified in the
75 studied groups (*see* Alfaro *et al.* 2012, ByrneBuchanan-Smith & Hardie 1997; Hardie &
76 Buchanan-Smith 1997; Heymann 1990, Kobayashi 1995). The most recent proposals
77 were put forward by Byrne *et al.* (2016) for the titi monkeys (formerly the genus
78 *Callicebus*, currently the genera *Callicebus*, *Cheracebus* and *Plecturocebus*), and by
79 Buckner *et al.* (2015) and Rylands *et al.* (2016) for the tamarins (formerly the genus
80 *Saguinus*, currently the genera *Saguinus* and *Leontocebus*).

81 Byrne *et al.* (2016) reconstructed the phylogenetic relationships of the titi
82 monkeys and proposed a new genus for the *torquatus* species group (*Cheracebus*) and
83 for the *donacophilus* and *moloch* species groups (*Plecturocebus*), retaining only the
84 group *personatus* in the genus *Callicebus* Thomas, 1903. In the same way, Buckner *et*
85 *al.* (2015) presented a phylogenetic and biogeographical analysis that support the
86 splitting of the large and small-bodied tamarin lineages, proposing the use of a distinct

87 generic name, *Leontocebus* Wagner, 1839, for the *nigricollis* group. Rylands *et al.*
88 (2016) reviewed the taxonomy of the tamarins and supported previous molecular and
89 biogeographic analyses (Buckner *et al.* 2015; Matauschek *et al.* 2011), classifying the
90 small-bodied species (*nigricollis* group) in the genus *Leontocebus* Wagner, 1839 and
91 retaining the large-bodied species in the genus *Saguinus* Hoffmannsegg, 1807.

92 Although these authors follow an age-driven classification scheme, other
93 parameters were argued to support those proposals such as the differences in
94 morphology and ecology. For example, the widespread sympatry of species of the
95 *nigricollis* and *mystax* groups (Buckner *et al.* 2015; Rylands *et al.* 2016), with members
96 of the two species groups commonly forming mixed groups and using different forest
97 strata to forage (Buchanan-Smith & Hardie 1997; Hardie & Buchanan-Smith 1997;
98 Heymann 1990). In addition, Byrne *et al.* 2016 argue that the morphology—especially
99 cranial morphology, body size and pelage (Hershkovitz 1977; Kobayashi 1995)—and
100 the sympatric distribution of the *torquatus* and *molocho* groups – explained by its
101 ecological differences – also support their classification in distinct genera (Byrne *et al.*
102 2016).

103 The taxonomic classification of robust and gracile capuchins is another
104 controversial debate. The variation in size and shape of the body and crania of
105 capuchins supported a taxonomic classification of robust and gracile species in two
106 subgenera (Silva-Jr. 2001), a rank defended by Gutiérrez & Marinho-Filho (2017).
107 Differences in group size, home range, densities and habitat use were identified where
108 gracile (*Cebus*) and robust (*Sapajus*) capuchins are sympatric (Lynch-Alfaro *et al.*
109 2012a). These morphological and ecological differences of robust and gracile capuchins
110 monkeys (Lynch-Alfaro *et al.* 2012a) agree with the biogeographical analyses presented
111 in Lynch-Alfaro *et al.* (2012b) to advocate placing species of these two groups into the
112 genera *Sapajus* and *Cebus*, respectively. This taxonomic classification was largely
113 adopted thereafter (e.g. Bezerra *et al.* 2014; Martins *et al.* 2015; Robinson *et al.* 2016;
114 Young & Heard-Booth 2016; Fedigan 2017. The divergence time between the *Sapajus*
115 and *Cebus* clades was estimated at 6.2 Ma (Lynch-Alfaro *et al.*, 2012b) and the
116 widespread sympatry was explained by a rapid diversification during the Pliocene
117 followed by expansion and invasion by the Atlantic Forest *Sapajus* of the Amazon

118 basin, where currently species of the two genera occur in sympatry (Lynch-Alfaro *et al.*,
119 2012b).

120 The Amazon marmosets (*Mico*, *Cebuella* and *Callibella*) remain among
121 phylogenetically least studied Neotropical Primates and the classification of this clade is
122 controversial. In the early 1990s, all marmosets (Atlantic Forest + Amazon) were
123 included in the genus *Callithrix*. However, the first molecular studies of Neotropical
124 primates revealed the pygmy marmoset (*Cebuella*, Gray, 1870) more closely related to
125 the Amazon marmosets (Canavez *et al.* 1999; Chaves *et al.* 1999; Tagliaro *et al.* 1997),
126 than to Atlantic forest marmosets *Callithrix* Erxleben, 1777. Thereafter, (Rylands *et al.*
127 2000) proposed a classification scheme for Amazon marmosets where *Cebuella* was
128 maintained as a valid monophyletic genus and the genus *Mico* Lesson, 1840, was
129 revalidated for the Amazonian marmosets of the “*argentata* group”. The Atlantic
130 marmosets, the “*jacchus* group”, were maintained in the genus *Callithrix*.

131 van Roosmalen *et al.* (1998) described a “new and distinctive” dwarf marmoset
132 (*Callithrix humilis*) based on the external morphology of an adult male kept as a pet.
133 Since the description of van Roosmalen *et al.* (1998), the classification of this
134 diminutive marmoset is under debate. The first change in classification came about from
135 the proposal of Rylands *et al.* (2000) with the species reclassified as *Mico humilis*.
136 Three years later, van Roosmalen & van Roosmalen (2003) analysed two additional
137 individuals, and for the first time assessed the phylogenetic relationship of *M. humilis* to
138 other Amazonian marmosets using the mitochondrial control region. The authors
139 concluded that these three dwarf marmosets were distinct enough from *Mico* and
140 *Cebuella* to justify placing them in their own genus: *Callibella*. In the meantime, Aguiar
141 & Lacher (2003) presented a craniometric analysis to reinforce the distinctiveness of
142 dwarf marmosets and to support the classification of *M. humilis* in the genus *Callibella*.

143 Groves (2001, 2005) adopted an age-related molecular classification based on
144 Goodman *et al.* (1998) and included *Mico*, *Cebuella* and *Callithrix* and *Callibella* as
145 subgenera of *Callithrix*. Rylands *et al.* (2009) kept *Callibella* as a genus, following the
146 criteria proposed by Rylands *et al.* (2000) where *Cebuella* and *Mico* were recognised as
147 distinct genera. Recently, Schneider *et al.* (2012) combined the mitochondrial control
148 region with four nuclear regions containing *Alu* elements and argued that dwarf

149 marmosets are *Mico* congenetics. Garbino (2015a) also supported the classification of
150 dwarf marmosets as *M. humilis* based on an phylogenetic analysis of a morphological
151 data set.

152 In fact, the genus-level classification of *Callibella humilis* was based on little
153 material available for analysis and little information from the field. Almost two decades
154 after its description, the classification of dwarf marmosets remains controversial. Here,
155 we presented the first phylogenomic assessment of evolutionary relationship among
156 Amazonian marmosets' genera and a reappraisal of the classification of dwarf marmoset
157 arguing for the use of the genus *Callibella*. We included an entirely new dataset
158 obtained thorough fieldwork, and present the following information in our analysis: (1)
159 skull morphology, (2) body-size, (3) updated geographic distribution and the overlap to
160 *Mico marcai*. In addition, we provided an important start point for its conservation
161 assessment based on threats and phylogeny by calculating its EDGE score (Isaac *et al.*
162 2007).

163

164 **Material and Methods**

165

166 *Surveys*

167

168 In this study, we conducted five field expeditions between January 2012 and
169 February 2015 in the Marmelos–Aripuanã interfluve (Fig. 1). Data collections were
170 carried out using existing trails. We recorded the number of individuals sighted, and if
171 the dwarf marmosets were associated with other primates. In 2015, we opened 10
172 transects in upland forests with an average length of 3.07 ± 0.63 km and 1 m width
173 keeping a minimum distance of 2 km between adjacent transects. We placed the
174 transects randomly in the study areas, totalling an effort of 271.6 km surveyed. The
175 transects were travelled twice a day by two observers moving at a speed of 1.5 km/h,
176 during the early morning from 7 to 11hs, and the afternoon from 14 to 17hs. We defined
177 an interval of two paused days after travelling each transect to reduce the impact of the
178 observers' presence on the primates' behaviour. When a group of marmosets was
179 detected, we counted the number of individuals to estimate the encounter rate. We

180 present new records of dwarf marmosets (*C. humilis*) and compare the sighting rate with
181 the sympatric Marca's marmoset (*Mico marcai*). Finally, we estimate the extent of
182 occurrence based on the new data collected in this study.

183

184 *Morphometrics*

185

186 We examined 104 specimens (skins and skulls) from scientific collections,
187 including 16 specimens recently collected in a broad study of the taxonomy,
188 biogeography and conservation of marmosets from Aripuanã River basin (Silva *et al.*
189 2013) (permit SISBIO numbers 13507 and 6493-1). For each collected specimen, we
190 recorded sex, age category, body mass and standard mammalian measurements (head-
191 body length, tail, foot and ear) in the field. The specimens were stored in the
192 mammalian collection of the Museu Paraense Emílio Goeldi (MPEG), Belém, Brazil.

193 Only adult specimens, determined by the complete erupted dentition and by the
194 complete fusion of the spheno-occipital and spheno-ethmoidal sutures, were used for
195 craniometrics. We used digital callipers (precision 0.01 mm) to obtain craniometric
196 variables following (Hershkovitz 1977). We analysed the data using a Principal
197 Component Analysis in R 3.3.3 (R Core Development Team 2017). This analysis
198 captures the multidimensionality of the cranium measurements and reduces it into few
199 principal components, i.e., axis. Here we used the first two axes to represent the
200 cranium metrics of specimens in two dimensions to test if there are discrete
201 morphological groups that correspond to the different marmosets genera. Additionally,
202 we present an anatomical description of the skull of *C. humilis* and compared with its
203 sympatric Marca's marmoset (*M. marcai*).

204

205 *Molecular analyses*

206

207 For molecular phylogenetic analyses, we extracted whole genomic DNA from
208 tissue samples using standard phenol-chloroform extraction protocol of Sambrook *et al.*
209 (1989). We amplified the complete mitochondrial cytochrome b gene by polymerase
210 chain reaction (PCR) with the primers MonkeyGluF1 (5'-

211 CCATGACTAATGATATGAAAARCC-3') and MonkeyProR1 (5'-
212 AGAATSTCAGCTTTGGGTGTTG-3') (Boubli *et al.* submitted). PCR products were
213 purified using ExoSap (Werle *et al.* 1994) and subjected to fluorescent dye-terminator
214 (ddNTP) sequencing following the manufacturer's recommended protocol for BigDye
215 sequencing chemistry (Applied Biosystems) and using the primers MonkeyCytbF2 (5'-
216 GGATCAARYAAYCCRTCAGG-3'), MonkeyCytbR1 (5'-
217 GCBCCTCAGAADGATATTTG-3') and MonkeyCytbR2 (5'-
218 CGTAGRATTGCRTATGCRAA-3') (Boubli *et al.* submitted). Subsequent to the cycle
219 sequencing reaction, the products were precipitated with 100% Ethanol / 125 mM
220 EDTA solution, resuspended in Hi-Di formamide, and resolved on an ABI 3130xl
221 automatic sequencer (Applied Biosystems). Sequences were assembled, edited, aligned
222 and trimmed using the software Geneious v8.1.8; alignment was done using MUSCLE
223 (Edgar 2004) plugin and conferred visually.

224 We also performed a partial representational genome sequencing using the double
225 digest RAD sequencing protocol (ddRAD) (Peterson *et al.* 2012). The standard protocol
226 was adapted to allow simultaneous digestion and adaptor ligation, and for use on the
227 IonTorrent PGM (<https://github.com/legalLab>). Briefly, 200 ng of genomic DNA of
228 each individual was digested with SdaI and Csp6I restriction enzymes (Fermentas) and
229 the IonTorrent P and A adaptors were linked to the digested fragments, all in one step.
230 The fragments were enriched via PCR. The A adaptor is a "Y divergent" (Coyne *et al.*
231 2004), resulting in the enrichment of only those ddRAD fragments with one P1 and one
232 A adaptor. Furthermore, the A adaptor contains a unique molecular barcode for
233 identification of individuals. Following the PCR enrichment, we selected fragments in
234 the range of 320 to 400 bp using the Pippin Prep (Sage Science). Based on the analysis
235 of *complete* primate genomes deposited in Genbank, we expected to observe ~ 12,000
236 ddRAD fragments in the range of 320 to 400 bp. This information was then used to
237 optimise the number of individuals to be analysed in each run of the IonTorrent PGM.
238 The complete ddRAD protocol, scripts for estimating the number of ddRAD fragments
239 in a given size range, and scripts for extracting ddRAD fragments from published
240 genomes are available on GitHub (<https://github.com/legalLab>).

241 To construct our phylogenetic trees we included fresh or dried tissues from C.

242 *humilis* (n=2 [5]), *Cebuella* cf. *niveiventris* (n=1), *Cebuella* aff. *pygmaea* (n=1), *Mico*
243 *argentatus* (n=1), *M. humeralifer* (n=1), *M. intermedius* (n=1), *M. marcai* (n=1), *M.*
244 *mauesi* (n=1) and *Callithrix jacchus* (n=1); *Callimico goeldii* (n=1) and *Saguinus*
245 *bicolor* (n=1) were included as outgroups. For mitochondrial DNA analyses, we
246 collected 1140 bp of the cytochrome *b* gene. For phylogenomic analyses, we analysed
247 340,593 nucleotides representing 1063 loci. Bayesian time tree was estimated in the
248 program BEAST v2.4.2 (Drummond *et al.* 2012) via constraining the divergence of
249 *Saguinus bicolor* from the callithrichid clade at 14.89 mya, and *Callimico goeldii* from
250 other callithrichids at 10.68 mya. We assumed normally distributed secondary
251 calibrations, with means and standard deviations of divergence times obtained from
252 (Perelman *et al.* 2011). We also estimated phylogenetic relationships within the
253 maximum likelihood framework implemented in RAxML (Stamatakis 2014), and the
254 Bayesian framework implemented in ExaBayes (Aberer *et al.* 2014).

255

256 *EDGE analyses*

257

258 Evolutionary Distinct, Globally Endangered (EDGE) analyses (Isaac *et al.*, 2007)
259 were carried out using a custom script written in the statistical language R (R Core
260 Development Team 2017). We calculated the evolutionary distinctness (ED) score using
261 the *ecol.distinct* function in the package *picante* (Kembel *et al.* 2010) with the
262 ddRADseq phylogeny estimated in BEAST as input. EDGE scores for each taxon were
263 then calculated using formula (1) of Isaac *et al.* (2007) and the current Red List
264 extinction risk category of each taxon.

265

266 **Results**

267

268 *Surveys*

269

270 We detected nine groups of *C. humilis* with a total of 18 individuals (mean=2.0
271 individuals/group, sd=1.12). The number of individuals sighted per group ranged from 1
272 to 5 and the estimated encounter rate was 0.033 groups/km and 0.066 individuals/km.

273 Comparatively, the number of sighted individuals per group of the sympatric *Mico*
274 *marcai* ranged from 1 to 11 (mean=4.56 individual/group, sd=2.42, N=41), in an
275 encounter rate of 0.11 groups/km and 0.50 individuals/km. Both species were found
276 travelling together on two situations; however, it is unclear if they forage in mixed
277 groups. We had three other occasional records of *Callibella humilis* in this area. The
278 localities where we found the dwarf marmosets represent a range extension of its
279 distribution (Fig. 1). On the left bank of Aripuanã River, we recorded the species close
280 to the mouth of Roosevelt River (see Garbino *et al.* 2013) in a secondary forest limited
281 by cassava crops. On this occasion, FES was looking for evidence of *Mico marcai* using
282 a recording of long calls of *Mico emiliae*. An adult male of *C. humilis* came straight
283 toward the researcher, while issuing long calls. The other sightings in this region were
284 in a secondary forest between the lower Roosevelt River and the BR-230
285 Transamazonica highway. We also recorded *C. humilis* on the both banks of the lower
286 Manicoré River (Fig. 1). Our records thus, extend the range of *C. humilis* to the left
287 bank of Manicoré River, but further surveys will clarify its presence throughout the
288 interfluvium Manicoré-Marmelos. We have no records of the species south of the Campos
289 Amazônicos National Park, but further surveys in the south of this region will clarify if,
290 in fact, the savanna vegetation of this region delimits the southern occurrence of this
291 species (see Garbino *et al.* 2013). The extent of occurrence was estimated in 29,164km².
292

293 *Morphological analyses*

294

295 Principal Component Analysis of the 11 craniometric characters clearly
296 differentiates the three genera of Amazon marmosets – *Cebuella*, *Callibella*, and *Mico* –
297 from each other (Fig. 2, Table S1). The first two components explained 96.5% of the
298 total variation of the data, with most of this variation explained by the first axis
299 (95.4%). Each cluster contains only allopatric species. The sympatric *Callibella* and
300 *Mico* are clearly discriminated along the first principal axis of the morphospace, while
301 less differentiation is evident between the allopatric *Callibella* and *Cebuella* along both
302 the first and second principal components (Fig. 2, Table S2). The species of the genus
303 *Mico* broadly overlap in morphospace (Fig. 2), therefore, the majority of variance in

304 shape and size is partitioned between the genera *Callibella* and *Mico* rather than among
305 species within the genus *Mico*. Comparison of specific features of skull anatomy of
306 *Callibella humilis* and *Mico marcai*, two sympatric marmosets, therefore reflects
307 differences in anatomical features of the supraspecific taxa *Callibella* and *Mico* (Fig.
308 S1).

309 The surface of the parietal bone of *M. marcai* has a lower convexity, especially in
310 the areas of the occipital and frontal angles, giving a flatter appearance (Fig. S1). In
311 *Callibella*, a muscular line clearly delimited the middle third of the surface of the
312 parietal bone. This line is positioned in a caudal-rostral direction, being continuous and
313 rougher in the frontal bones (Fig. S1). In both species, a temporal line reaches the super
314 ciliary arch marking the point of insertion of the temporalis muscle (Fig. S1). This
315 muscle is smaller in *Callibella*, cover approximately 2/3 of the parietal bone and a small
316 portion of the lateral surface of the frontal bone. In *Mico marcai*, the same muscle
317 occupies virtually the entire parietal bone and nearly half the lateral-dorsal surface of
318 the frontal bone. The external occipital protuberance, positioned in the middle third of
319 the occipital bone, is wider and prominent in *M. marcai* and more longilinus laterally
320 in *Callibella* (Fig. S1).

321

322 *Molecular analyses*

323

324 In the time tree phylogenomic analyses, *Callibella* and *Mico* were sister taxa with
325 100% posterior probability and an estimated 2.37 mya divergence; the age of the root of
326 *Mico* was estimated at 1.30 mya (Fig. 3). Similarly, in the analyses of the mitochondrial
327 cytochrome b gene, *Callibella* and *Mico* were sister taxa with 100% posterior
328 probability and an estimated 2.33 mya divergence; the age of the root of *Mico* was
329 estimated at 1.05 mya (Fig. S2). The same set of highly supported relationships were
330 observed in the maximum likelihood (RAxML) and Bayesian inference (ExaBayes)
331 analyses. The cytochrome b and ddRADseq analyses differed in the relationships of
332 species of the genus *Mico*, however, the sister taxon relationship of the discordant
333 individual–*M. intermedius* FES09–to the clade comprising *M. humeralifer* and *M.*
334 *mauesi* is poorly supported.

335

336 *EDGE analyses*

337

338 The Evolutionary Distinct, Globally Endangered (EDGE) score (Isaac *et al.*,
339 2007) for *Callibella humilis* was 3.30, while EDGE scores for species of the sister
340 genus *Mico* varied from 0.80 to 1.05. Only *Callimico goeldi* had a greater EDGE score
341 at 4.70.

342

343 **Discussion**

344

345 *The criteria for the classification of Amazon marmosets*

346

347 The divergence times estimated for the three Amazon marmosets clades is smaller
348 than the majority of intergeneric divergences in Neotropical primates (Goodman *et al.*,
349 1998; Lynch-Alfaro *et al.*, 2012a; Byrne *et al.*, 2016; Rylands *et al.*, 2016). *Callibella*
350 diverged from *Mico* approximately 2.3 Mya, while the main in-group diversification of
351 the extant *Mico* species was estimated in 1.3 Mya. However, the estimated 1 million
352 years separating the divergence of *Callibella* and *Mico* ancestors, and the beginning of
353 diversification of *Mico*, together with morphological differences between them—both in
354 size and shape—reinforce the distinctness of *Callibella*.

355 *Callibella humilis* has a much smaller and lighter body than in *Mico* species and
356 only slightly larger and heavier than *Cebuella pygmaea*, the smallest Neotropical
357 Primate (see Table S2). In addition, *Callibella humilis* also live in smaller social groups
358 and apparently has a lower densities when compared with its sympatric *Mico marcai*. In
359 primates, differences in morphology are associated with differences in resource use, i.e.
360 morphology reflects niche use (ecomorphology) (Rosenberger 1992; Bicca-Marques
361 1999; Meloro *et al.* 2013). While niche occupation of *C. humilis* and *M. marcai* remains
362 largely uncharacterized—both species are widely sympatric—their sympatry must be
363 made possible by minimal realised niche overlap. Similarly to other Neotropical
364 Primates currently classified as different genera (e.g. *Leontocebus* and *Saguinus*;
365 *Cheracebus* and *Plecturocebus*), character displacement minimising realised niche

366 overlap, and thus interspecific competition, would be a process that reinforces the
367 divergence between *Callibella* and *Mico*.

368 Since the late 1990's, the classification of marmosets has been in flux, in part due
369 to lack of or conflicting phylogenetic hypotheses, and in part due to differing
370 philosophical approaches to classification. In 1998, *C. humilis* was described as a
371 species of the genus *Callithrix*. This was prior to the proposal by Rylands *et al.* (2000)
372 that the generic name *Mico* is used for Amazonian marmosets found east of the Madeira
373 River, and that the pygmy marmosets found west of the Madeira River be placed in the
374 genus *Cebuella* (Tagliaro *et al.* 1997; Canavez *et al.* 1999; Chaves *et al.* 1999). In 2003,
375 van Roosmalen and colleagues reanalysed the data of Tagliaro *et al.* (1997) including
376 sequence data of "*Callithrix*" *humilis*. "*Callithrix*" *humilis* was found to be the sister
377 taxon to the genera *Cebuella*+*Mico*, thus the authors reclassified "*Callithrix*" *humilis* in
378 the genus *Callibella*. The primatological community largely did not follow this new
379 classification, culminating with an analysis of mitochondrial and nuclear DNA data by
380 Schneider and colleagues in 2012. Schneider *et al.* (2012) then argue for the inclusion
381 of *C. humilis* in the genus *Mico*, to which it was sister, based on an estimated time of
382 divergence of slightly less than 2.5 my between *C. humilis* and other species of the
383 genus *Mico*, which is more recent than the age of the root of diversification of the
384 genera *Callithrix*, or *Saguinus*. This argument effectively follows the proposal of
385 Goodman *et al.* (1998), who suggest that taxa sharing a last common ancestor less than
386 4 mya should be classified as members of the same genus.

387 However, strict divergence time-based criteria, such as that proposed by Goodman
388 *et al.* (1998), do not convey any other information besides divergence time. We are of
389 the opinion that the genus can and should convey other evolutionary information such
390 as morphological and/or ecological divergence/distinctness, and as such become the
391 first identifiable entities in biodiversity studies (Dubois 1988; Vences *et al.* 2013).
392 Vences *et al.* (2013) pointed out that the attempts to fit inherent biological meaning for
393 taxa of the same supraspecific Linnaean ranks are unrealistic; instead, only species can
394 be considered equivalent to each other because they correspond to the same level of
395 biological organisation. The authors then suggest that an adopted classification scheme
396 should also bring the information that will facilitate the communication between

397 scientists and between those and the lay public.

398 The generic name is an irreplaceable part of the Latin binomial attributed to all
399 species in the Linnaean binomial, being the first identifiable entity (Dubois 1988;
400 Vences *et al.* 2013). The few publications on the genus concept (Lemen & Freeman
401 1984; Dubois 1988; Garbino 2015b; Talavera *et al.* 2013) in contrast to the vast body of
402 literature focusing on species and species concepts indicate how imperative is the
403 discussion of a classification system that best conveys the evolutionary history of a
404 higher-level taxon.

405 Thus while the *Callibella* and *Mico* lineages began to diverge at approximately
406 2.3 mya (Fig. 3), which is less than the minimal 4 my divergence suggested for the
407 diverge of genera by Goodman *et al.* (1998), the *Callibella* and *Mico* lineages are
408 morphological and ecologically distinct and divergent. The molecular phylogeny in line
409 with the morphological and ecological distinctions supported the classification in
410 different genera of previously congeneric species occurring in sympatry (Byrne *et al.*
411 2016; Lynch-Alfaro *et al.* 2012a; Rylands *et al.* 2016). In Neotropical primates,
412 sympatry occurs between species belonging to different genera, where species of the
413 different genera are characterised by different morphologies and different ecological
414 requirement (Rylands 1989; Ferrari & Martins 1992). Our morphological analyses
415 support the findings of Aguiar & Lacher (2003, 2009) in that *C. humilis* is divergent and
416 distinct from species of the genus *Mico*. As such, the sympatric distribution between *C.*
417 *humilis* and *M. marcai* is probably possible due to differences in their realised niche, as
418 found in other Neotropical Primates recently classified in different genera (Byrne *et al.*
419 2016; Lynch-Alfaro *et al.* 2012a; Rylands *et al.* 2016). However, several issues should
420 be investigated to clarify this assumption, such as feeding ecology, home range, use of
421 the forest strata and formation of mixed-species group. Considering this evidence, and
422 adhering to the school of thought that genus should convey information on the
423 evolutionary history in the higher-level taxon, we propose the following classification
424 for the marmosets:

425 1 – *Callibella* van Roosmalen and van Roosmalen, 2003: as a monotypic genus
426 occurring east of the Madeira River in the Marmelos-Aripuanã interfluve, its area of
427 occurrence apparently being entirely within the distribution area of *Mico marcai*.

428 2 – *Mico* Lesson, 1840: with 13 valid species occurring east of the Madeira River in the
 429 Madeira-Tocantins interfluve, with *M. melanurus* also occurring in the Bolivian basin
 430 (headwaters of the Madeira River).

431 3 – *Cebuella* Gray, 1823: a monotypic genus occurring west of the Madeira River.
 432 *Cebuella pygmaea* is morphologically similar to *C. humilis* (Fig. 2) and is sister to the
 433 *Callibella*+*Mico* clade having diverged from the ancestor of this clade at approximately
 434 4.3 mya (Fig. 3).

435 4 – *Callithrix* Erxleben, 1777: with six valid species, all occurring the Atlantic
 436 Rainforest. Species of *Callithrix* are morphologically similar to those of *Mico* (Fig. 2).
 437 *Callithrix* is the sister taxon to the clade comprising the three Amazonian genera
 438 (*Callibella*, *Mico* and *Cebuella*), and diverged from them approximately 4.9 mya (Fig.
 439 3).

440

441 *The Conservation of dwarf marmosets (Callibella humilis)*

442

443 Our field surveys revealed that dwarf marmosets are not restricted to a tiny area
 444 between the mouths of Aripuanã and Manicoré Rivers as argued by van Roosmalen *et*
 445 *al.* 2003). These primates can be found further west, on the left bank of the Manicoré
 446 River, and further south, on the left margin of lower Roosevelt River. Our surveys point
 447 to a complete overlap of the distribution of *C. humilis* and *M. marcai* (Silva *et al.* in
 448 prep.), with an extent of occurrence at least ten times as large as the area suggested by
 449 van Roosmalen & van Roosmalen (2003).

450 *Callibella humilis* was confirmed in only two legally protected areas: Juma
 451 Reserve of Sustainable Development and Campos Amazônicos National Park. The first
 452 has 590,000 ha, delimiting an area on both banks of the Aripuanã River; however, the
 453 species is presented only in the sector of the left bank of Aripuanã River. The second
 454 protected area in Aripuanã-Marmelos interfluve is the Campos Amazônicos National
 455 Park, but just a small northern portion of this park encompassed the dwarf marmoset's
 456 distribution. Most of the vegetation in that region is composed of open Cerrado patches
 457 with *Campinaranas*—a dense low canopy forest grown over weathered sandy soils. It is
 458 unlikely that *C. humilis* will occur in this habitat, thus the northern portion of the

459 Campos Amazônicos National Park most likely represents the southern distributional
460 limit for *C. humilis*.

461 Assessing the conservation status of *C. humilis* is a challenge, although an
462 imperative matter that urges at least two stages: systematic surveys and threat
463 assessment. The only indirect inference of its population was provided by van
464 Roosmalen and van Roosmalen (2003) based on the home range size and group size.
465 However, in our surveys, the difficulty to sighting the species in the dense forest
466 because of its diminutive size and cryptic behaviour resulted in the low encounter rate
467 of *C. humilis* (0.066 individuals/km). We suggest, therefore, the use of combined
468 methods, especially linear transects and playbacks, to increase the number of sightings
469 of dwarf marmosets in the wild (Plumptre *et al.* 2013; Gestich *et al.* 2016) to get a
470 reliable estimate of its abundance and density.

471 In the last IUCN assessment (2015, <http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2015-1.RLTS.T41584A70616233.en>), *Callibella humilis*—listed as *Mico humilis* apud
472 Schneider *et al.* (2012)—was evaluated as Vulnerable D2. The Conservation status of
473 *Callibella humilis* was considered as Least Concern in the national assessment under the
474 justification that there is no evidence of any major threats (Röhe 2015). In our opinion,
475 the arguments for listing *C. humilis* as Least Concern does not reflect the real
476 conservation status of the species, or are, at least, premature. We defend a careful
477 categorization based on further population and occurrence data. Considering the current
478 IUCN category for *Callibella humilis*, its EDGE score (3.30) is the second highest
479 ranked for Amazonian primate after *Callimico goeldii*, with only 18% of all other
480 mammals having higher EDGE score. *Callibella humilis* is a unique taxon as manifested
481 by its phylogenetic uniqueness and its morphological distinctness. As such, the species
482 and its habitat are worthy of focused conservation efforts.

484

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486

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616 [conservacao/7196-mamiferos-callibella-humilis-sagui.html](http://www.icmbio.gov.br/portal/biodiversidade/fauna-brasileira/estado-de-conservacao/7196-mamiferos-callibella-humilis-sagui.html)
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- 675

676

Figure and Tables legends

677 Fig. 1 The records of *Callibella humilis* in the literature and in this study. The dark grey
678 area is the estimated geographical range of the species considered in the last assessment
679 of the conservation status.

680 Fig. 2 Plots of scores for the first two principal components from principal component
681 analysis of cranial variables in Callitrichinae.

682 Fig. 3 Phylogenomic trees obtained through maximum likelihood and Bayesian
683 inference of nuclear DNA (DDRadseq) from *Callibella*, *Mico*, *Callithrix* and *Cebuella*
684 species. Each external branch represents an individual and the support probability value
685 is given on each branch.

686 Table S1 Scores and contributions of each cranial variable in the first two principal
687 components of a principal component analysis of Callitrichinae

688 Table S2 A comparison of mean measurements recorded for *Callibella humilis* and
689 *Mico* sp. with values available for marmosets from previous studies.
690

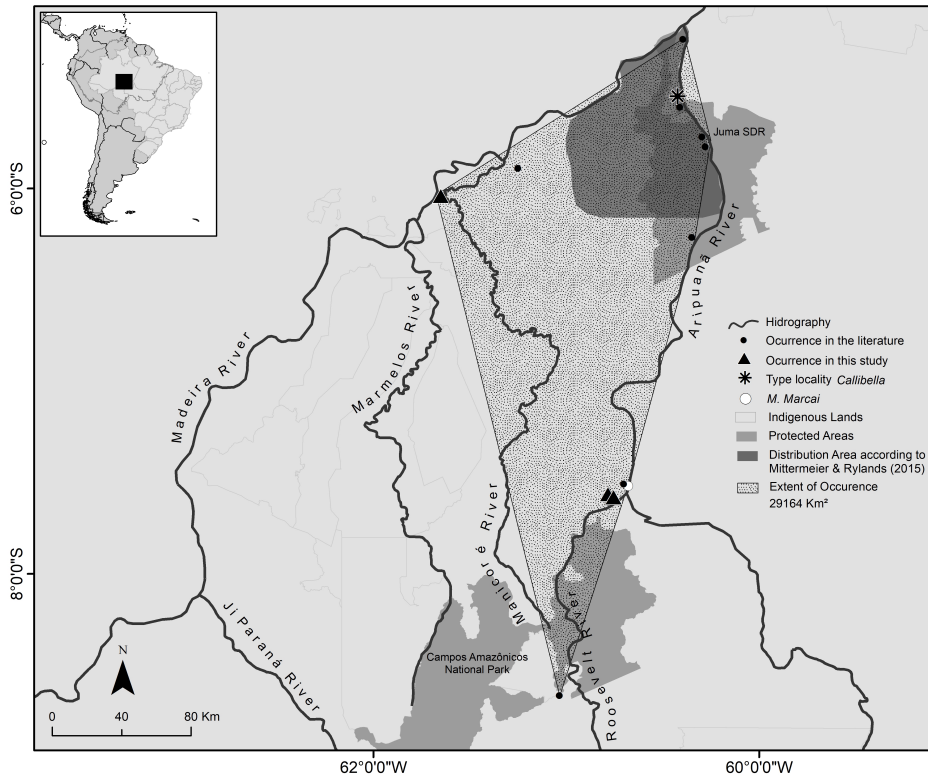
691 Fig. S1 Anatomical comparison of the skull of *Callibella humilis* (right) and its
692 sympatric *Mico marcai* (left) skull.

693 Fig. S2 Phylogenetic trees obtained through maximum likelihood and Bayesian
694 inference from Cytochrome b sequences of *Callibella humilis*, *Mico* spp. and *Cebuella*
695 *pygmaea*. Each terminal branch represents an individual and the support probability
696 value is given on each branch.

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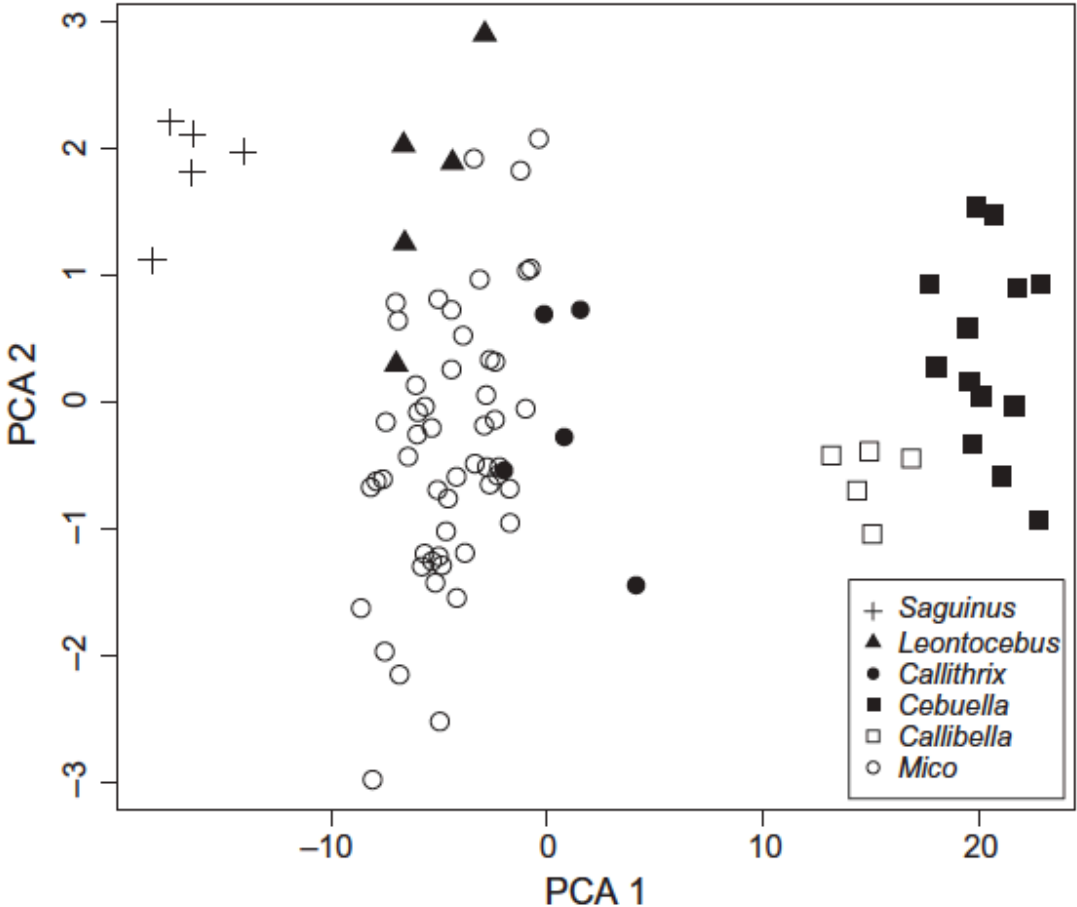
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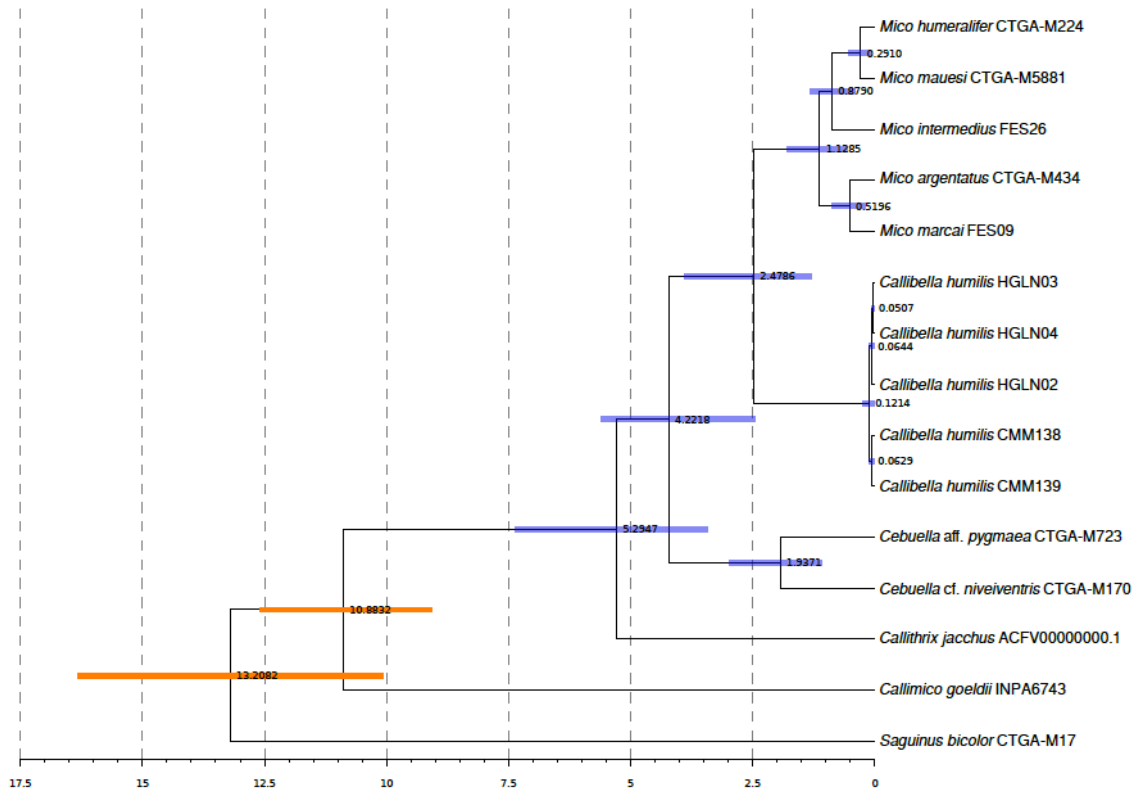
700

701 Figure 1.

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703
704 Figure 2



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706 Figure 3