Sounds and courtship displays of the peruvian sheartail, chilean woodstar, oasis hummingbird, and a hybrid male peruvian sheartail × chilean woodstar

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We describe the songs and courtship displays of three closely related hummingbirds, the Peruvian Sheartail (Thaumastura cora), Oasis Hummingbird (Rhodopis vesper), and the endangered Chilean Woodstar (Eulidia yarrellii). The Peruvian Sheartail and Oasis Hummingbird sing complex multisyllabic songs, while the Chilean Woodstar's song is monosyllabic and simple. Like North American "bee" hummingbirds (within the tribe Mellisugini), the Chilean Woodstar and Oasis Hummingbird perform stereotypical close-range shuttle displays and larger display dives. The Peruvian Sheartail also performs shuttle and dive displays but their kinematics are variable and they are less distinct from each other. The greatly elongated tail of the Peruvian Sheartail is split widely during display, such that the five rectrices (R1-R5), including R1 and R2 of each side of the tail, project laterally, apparently as a visual signal. Like most other "bee" hummingbirds, all three species produce sounds during their displ