NW-Venezuela

January 2008

The Northern Cordillera, the Llanos, The Andes and the Maracaibo Basin

Report of a birding trip by

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Itinerary

Wed	Jan 09: Arrival
Thu	Jan 10: Colonia Tovar, Pie de Cerro & Henri Pittier NP
Fri	Jan 11: Henri Pittier NP: Choroni Pass
Sat	Jan 12: Henri Pittier NP: Turiamo Road
Sun	Jan 13: Henri Pittier NP: Rancho Grande; drive to San Fernando de Apure
Mon-Wed	Jan 14-16: The llanos of Hato El Frio
Thu	Jan 17: Drive to La Aguada in the Andes' foothills
Fri	Jan 18: La Aguada; afternoon drive to Santo Domingo
Sat	Jan 19: Andes foothills near S. Domingo: Rio Barragan & San Isidro tunnel road
Sun	Jan 20: The Andes: Las Tapias & Sierra Nevada NP; drive to Tabay
Mon	Jan 21: The Andes: La Mucuy
Tue	Jan 22: Western slope of the Andes: La Carbonera & La Azulita

Wed	Jan 23: La Azulita area: Limones & Bolivia
Thu	Jan 24: Rio Zumbador & Rio Frio; drive to Menegrande
Fri	Jan 25: Mount Misoa & Mecocal; drive to Maracaibo
Sat	Jan 26: Campo Boscan & lower foothills of Perija mountains
Sun	Jan 27: Higher foothills of Perija Mountains
Mon	Jan 28: Campo Boscan & mangroves near Maracaibo
Tue	Jan 29: Departure

Introduction:

Text and Photographs:

Text of this trip report has been mainly written by Rob Goldbach, while most of the pictures included were made by Eric Janssen. All pictures were taken during this trip.

Trip organisation and costs:

Inspired by the low dollar rate (1€ equalling US\$ 150) and an e-mail of Jurgen Beckers of Trogon Trips (see <u>http://home.scarlet.be/~tse98017/index.html</u>), announcing a 20-days trip to NW Venezuela for the attractive rate of US\$ 2650 (less than € 1700), I decided to sign up for this trip. The fare covered all expenses, i.e. hotels/guesthouses, meals, drinks, transport by 4WD Toyota landcruiser, entrance fees, an internal flight, and last-but-not-least, the guiding skills of David Geale. All four other participants (2 Dutch, 1 Canadian and 1 US) had visited South America before, and hence were familiar with the common and widespread species.



Itinerary:

The Toyota Landcruiser

Venezuela hosts a nice variety of South American avifauna, including approximately (depending on degree of splitting) 49 endemic species. The country is way too large to be covered in a single journey, and the birding sites visited during this trip were all located in the NW part of the country. Within a limited time span of 20 days we followed an itinerary which brought us into a good blend of habitats. Firstly the famous Henri Pittier National Park was visited, which is situated in the middle of the coastal range (highest point 2400 m), and still encompasses vast areas of cloud forest. Next we staid a few days at Hato El Frio, an eco-ranch situated in the middle of the Orinoco Llanos. From here the trip went to La Aguada, in the middle elevation (1500 -1750 m) mountains of the Andes. After that the paramo of the higher Andes (3500⁺ m) were visited, followed by the cloud forests near La Mucuy at 2200 -2700 m. Near La Azulita we spent a couple of days on the wet northern slope of the Andes, which harboured again a very different avifauna. Through the lower foothills the journey continued northwards visiting various sites in the Maracaibo Basin. Finally the low plains of Campo Boscan, west of Maracaibo, were explored as well as the foothills of the Perija Mountains near the Columbian border. In all aspects the bird trip was a great success, and hence Trogon Trips (and surely David Geale) is highly recommended. Helped considerably by fine weather throughout, with hardly any rainfall, *the trip total of 561 species (including 14 heard only's) was much higher than expected*.

Trip Highlights:

- Red Siskin (2 pairs of this critically endangered species; on a site not disclosed here);
- Both Northern and Horned Screamers;
- Good views of threatened and/or range restricted parrots: Rusty-faced Parrot, Saffron-headed Parrot, Blood-eared Parakeet and Rose-headed Parakeet;
- (Endemic) skulkers such as Antthrushes (3 species), Caracas Tapaculo and Merida Tapaculo;
- Scarce and localized birds such as Pale-headed Jacamar, Little Nightjar, Great Potoo, Chestnut Piculet, Black-throated Spinetail, Black-backed Antshrike, Spotted Nightingale-Thrush & Orinoco Saltator;
- 4 Fruiteaters seen, including endemic Handsome;
- Some unexpected rarities as Streak-capped Spinetail, Dwarf Cuckoo and Lesser Scaup;
- Impressive raptors and scavengers, incl. Ornate Hawk-Eagle, Black-&-Chestnut Eagle, Andean Condor and King Vulture;
- 46 species of Tanager, incl. endemic or restricted-range ones such as Grey-capped Hemispingus, Fulvous-headed Tanager, Rufous-cheeked Tanager and Chestnut-breasted Chlorophonia;
- A fine blend of wintering warblers including goodies such as Cerulean Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler and Mourning Warbler;
- Good selection of other key species, incl. 19 parrots, 6 toucan(et)s, 3 quetzals, 35 hummers, 88 (tyrant) flycatchers, 8 manakins, 11 spinetails & 10 woodcreepers;
- Multiple day counts of over 100 species, including a record 145 species on the second day in the Llanos.

Serious dips:

- Short-tailed Antthrush: taped in to close distance but remained glimpsed/heard only;
- Moustached Puffbird: only seen flushed in a split second;
- Guttulate Foliage-gleaner: heard only;
- Antpitta's: not very active in dry season and 3 species heard only;
- Merida Wren: always difficult in dry season;
- Bearded Helmetcrest: difficult in dry season, requires extensive stalking at a (boring) garden.

Food, Health & Safety:

Venezuelan food is not really haute cuisine (lomo, pollo, pasta, pizza), though in general tasty and mostly safe. We often took breakfast in the field, i.e. yoghurt with cereals, processed within a couple of minutes. Dinners were either at our hotel or at a nearby restaurant. A couple of good beer marks (Polar Ice, Solera, Brahma) are widely available. Do not drink unbottled water or non-cooked vegetables.

Malaria does not widely occur in Venezuela, and we did not take any prophylaxis. There were hardly any mosquitoes but in the lowland areas (Los Llanos) chiggers were a nuisance. Insect repellent sprayed on socks helped, but was not fully effective. Despite the country's deviant politics, with Hugo Chavez as president, Venezuela is a very safe

country, people are friendly, while the roads and travel connections are of good and reliable quality. Larger cities have good quality supermarkets. Odd economic state measures caused that milk was virtually not available as most was exported (too low fixed prices for the internal market). Also petrol was cheaper than production costs: filling a 50 L tank costed 50,000 Venezuelan Bolivars (Bs), i.e. 1 US \$!

Weather:

The visit took place in the dry season. We experienced only some short (expected) showers on a single day (La Azulita, northern slope of Andes). Most days started sunny with some overcast conditions in the afternoon, especially in the mountains. Maximum day temperatures at higher elevations were mostly between 20 and 25 degrees, in the lowlands (Llanos) up to 35 degrees.

Books used:

- A Guide to the Birds of Venezuela: Rodolphe Meyer de Schauensee and William H. Phelps; first edition, 1978;
- Birds of Venezuela, by Steven L. Hilty, principal illustrators John A Gwynne and Guy Tudor, 2002. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press (USA and Canada) & London, UK: A & C Black (UK and Europe).



Eric Janssen at the Choroni Pass

Day-by-day account:

Wed January 09 Arrival Day

Flying in with different airlines we eventually met at hotel Plazamar at Macuto, situated near the airport along the seashore and thus avoiding the Caracas metropole. Here we inspected the area and recorded a.o. **Red-crested Woodpecker**, **Ruddy-breasted Seedeaters** and **Carib Grackles**, as well as some seabirds. Ann arrived in the middle of the night, without her luggage, after a major delay of her flight from Trinidad.



Thu January 10

Colonia Tovar, Pie de Cerro & Henri Pittier NP

We left early, at 5 am, to make a first (breakfast) stop near Colonia Tovar in the mountains, where we quickly found both local endemics, Caracas Tapaculo and Black-throated Spinetail. Other birds of interest here were Yellow-bellied Chat-tyrant and Black-crested Warbler. A next stop was in the secundary forests of Pie de Cerro, where, during and after picnic lunch, we saw the first Scarlet-fronted and Brown-throated Parakeets, a Scaled Piculet, Fulvousheaded Tanager and heard Rosy Thrush-tanager. Next we proceeded to the Henri Pittier NP, where we were not allowed to enter the fenced Rancho Grande reserve, although we had reserved our visit. Hence, we birded along the narrow road at altitude 1500 m, walking down a stretch of 1.5 km. This turned out to be very productive: within 2 hours we saw – besides the more common and widespread birds - goodies such as Groove-billed Toucanet, Violet-chested Hummingbird, Rufous-lored Tyrannulet, Plain-brown Woodcreeper, Green Jay, Cerulean Warbler, Fulvous-headed Tanager, and even a Handsome Fruiteater, a scarce endemic! The latter was already chosen bird-of-the-trip, but this decision was later overruled when even more important birds showed up. We heard 2 Guttulate Foliage-gleaners, which were a bit ignored by us not realising these were the only ones of the trip. The total score for the day was 85 species. We stayed in hotel Vladimir, at Maracay.

Fri January 11

Henri Pittier NP: Choroni Pass

Again early departure (5.30 am) from the hotel to reach the Chorioni Pass (1800 m) in Henri Pittier NP at dawn. Here we enjoyed breakfast and next walked slowly 1 km down the road. Here we recorded a number of scarce and endemic birds including **Band-tailed Guans**, **Blood-eared Parakeets**, the first **Green-rumped Parrotlets**, **Red-billed Parrots**, **Ornate Hawk-Eagle** (adult), **Flavescent Flycatcher**, **Golden-breasted Fruiteaters**, **Scalloped Antthrush** (seen!), **Ochre-breasted Brush-Finch**, a good variety of tanagers including **Rufous-cheeked** and **Black-capped** Tanagers and **Blue-naped Chlorophonias**. We also saw several **Collared Trogons**, but the **White-tipped Quetzal** remained a heard-only today. In the afternoon we returned to Rancho Grande, found the gate closed but decided to sneek in, climbing over or around the fence.



Rancho Grande at Henri Pittier NP

We birded from 2 -5 pm around the deserted research station building and along the trail, and this yielded a.o. Venezuelan **Bristle-tyrant**, Scale-Pygmy-tyrant, crested Crested Spinetail, Grey-throated Leaftosser, Southern Nightingale-wren, and (only for some of us) Short-tailed Antthrush. Climbing out over the fence again we were caught by a warden of the reserve, but we were able to keep him friendly and he was even willling to make an appointment for the day after tomorrow to open the gate at 6.30 am.

Sat January 12

Sun

January 13

Henri Pittier NP: Turiamo road & Seashore

Again a very productive day at Henri Pittier, now visiting some sites along the Turiamo Road, ultimately reaching the (mangrove-fringed) seashore. Heading north, we made several short stops, a.o. along a small river where we noted a.o. a couple of **Fasciated Tiger-herons**, both **Ringed** and **Amazone Kingfishers** and a nice variety of tanagers. Our first major stop was at the "manakin site". Here, a long though slow walk (06.30 -10.30 h) along a side road yielded **Lance-tailed Manakins**, **Venezuelan Flycatchers**, **Rufous-winged Antwrens**, **Black-crested Antshrikes** and **White-eared Conebills**. We also added, in addition to the many species seen before, **King Vulture**, **Zone-tailed Hawk**, **Two-banded Puffbird** (split from Russet-throated Puffbird), and **Fuscous Flycatcher**. We also found some new hummers (**Stripe-throated** and **Pale-bellied Hermits**, **White-vented Plumeleteer**). Arriving at the coastline we saw only few seabirds (**Brown Pelican**, **Magnificent Frigatebird**, **Brown Booby**, **Royal Tern**, **Laughing Gull**, **Neotropic Cormorant**), and – after long searching – in the mangroves the first **Glaucous Tanagers**.

A final (and bird-productive) walk here was in the secondary forest and fields near the local rubbish dump. On the way back to Maracay we made a (belated lunch) stop (2.00 - 4.30 pm) for Bearded Bellbird, but in vain.

Henri Pittier NP: Rancho Grande; drive to San Fernando

At 6.30 am, despite the appointment two days ago, there was no warden at the Rancho Grande gate and again we had to enter in a less formal way... The first bird we heard was a **Plainbacked Antpitta**. We walked the trail into the forest for the skulkers and for finding White-tipped Queztal. We enjoyed prolonged "crippling" views of several **Black-faced Antthrushes** as well as **Grey-throated Leaftossers**, but **Short-tailed Antthrush** again remained a no-show.

Also the quetzal turned out to be hard to see, despite hearing birds calling from different locations. Eventually we had brief views of several fly-by **White-tipped Quetzals** of bvr (better view required) level. Returning to the research station building we met a group of (not that fanatic) birders who, of course, meantime had enjoyed splendid views of a female Quetzal, just from the roof of the building ("dummest farmers have the biggest potatoes"). Further birds of interest included **Ornate Hawk-eagle** (adult), **Violet-fronted Brilliant**, **Scaled Piculet**, **Groove-billed Toucanet**, **Blood-eared Parakeet**, **Venezuelan Bristle-tyrant** (now much better views), **Chestnut-crowned Becard** and **Green Honeycreeper**.

At 11.30h we departed for the long way to San Fernando de Apure, situated in the Llanos, with a lunch stop at the vast artificial lake just SE of Maracay. Here we saw a first variety of wetland birds (herons, egrets, etc) including Least Grebe, Osprey, Green Kingfisher, Purple Gallinule, Wattled Jacana, and Pied Water-tyrant. En route towards San Fernando, where we arrived at 6.30 pm, we saw few interesting birds: Crane Hawk, Aplomado Falcon, a first Rufescent Tiger-heron, a single Glaucous Tanager. Stay at hotel Don Sancho, with a castle-like appearance from the road.

Mon January 14

Llanos of Hato El Frio

Including a breakfast stop it took almost 2.5 hours to arrive at Hato El Frio, near Mantecal, where we soon saw some of the local specialties during a pre-lunch walk: Hoatzins, Scarlet Macaws, Sunbittern, White-bearded Flycatchers (endemic), White-winged Becard, Pale-breasted and Yellow-chinned Spinetails, Straight-billed Woodcreeper, Bicolored Wrens, Oriole Blackbirds and the first Orinocan Saltators.

From 15.30 -19.00 we made a first (4wd drive car with open roof) excursion into the Llanos, which, in our opinion, can compete with the Panatal. Indeed we saw an impressive diversity and number of (wetland) birds of which only a selection is mentioned here: 6 Ibis species including



Scarlet Ibises in the llanos near Hato el Frio

Sharp-tailed and Scarlet Ibis, almost all of the expected herons and egrets, Roseate Spoonbill, Jabirus, Maguari Storks, Great Potoo (on its day roost), Snail Kites, Savanna Hawks, Black-collared Hawks, Harris' Hawks, Lesser Yellow-headed Vultures, Double-striped Thick-knee, Scarlet Macaws, Russet-throated Puffbird, White-headed Marsh-Tyrant, River

Tyrannulet and **Hooded Tanagers**. Capybara's and Spectacled Caymans were abundant. Returning after sunset we saw **Lesser** and **Nacunda Nighthawks**, **Pauraques** and another **Great Potoo**. Total day count: 124 species.

Tue January 15

Llanos of Hato El Frio

Up early again for the 1 hour drive, through the Llanos, to the gallery forests along Rio Apure, where, after some short stops, we arrived at 7 am. At the river we saw a family of 6 Giant Otters and also 4 Amazon River Dolphins! **Pale-headed Jacamar** was one of the target birds, and after some searching we saw in total no less than 5. Other good birds this morning included **Great**



Pale-headed Jacamars

Black Hawk, Aplomado Falcon, Slate-headed Tody-Tyrant, Pale-tipped Inezia, Buffbreasted Wren and Pileated Finch. After lunch we made a second drive along another track into the Llanos, and between 3.30 and 7.15 pm we recorded – in addition to the many common species a.o. Boat-billed Heron, White-tailed Nightjar, White-tailed Goldenthroat and Amazonian Scrub-Flycatcher. The total day count was a staggering 145 species!



Some characteristic species of Hato el Frio: Burrowing Owl, Sharp-tailed Ibis, Two-banded Puffbird and White-bearded Flycatcher

Wed January 16

Llanos of Hato El Frio

Our third day in the Llanos. Two of the target species of today were Horned Screamer and Rustybacked Spinetail. At 6.30 am we departed to reach the screamer site one hour later. We found immediately the local pair of **Horned Screamers**, standing on a treetop. The second target bird took longer though. We scanned the small forest at the screamer site, found several interesting birds incl. **Crane Hawk**, **Rufous-tailed Jacamar**, **Yellow-crowned Parrot**, **Yellow-breasted** (aka **Ochre-lored**) **Flycatcher**, **Black-crested Antshrike**, and **Northern Waterthrush**, had nice encounters with Red Howler Monkeys, but no sign of the spinetail. Fortunately, just before leaving the forest we discovered a pair of **Rusty-backed Spinetails**, allowing great views. After lunch and some birding around the hato buildings, we made a late afternoon/evening drive into the Llanos again, with the purpose to stay out till after dark for nighthawks. We were rather



Red Howler monkey and Horned Screamer; both pictures made by Eric Janssen

successful as we saw in total 5 species: Lesser Nighthawk (1), Band-tailed Nighthawk (no less than 25), Pauraque (50), White-tailed Nightjar (15), and – last but not least- the hoped for Little (or Todd's) Nightjar (1)!

Other species worthwhile mentioning included **Yellow-crowned Night-heron** (the only of the whole trip), **Boat-billed Herons**, and a fly-by **Long-winged Harrier**.

Thu January 17

Drive to La Aguada

Originally a boat trip was planned for this morning on the small river near Hato El Cedral but the low water level made this endeavour impossible (thus missing good chances for Agami Heron and Green-and-rufous Kingfisher). But our early arrival at La Aguada, several hours ahead of schedule, was a welcome compensation, as we recorded some very special birds which we did not see the following day. Before reaching La Aguada we took a short walk (9-10 am) along the river border at La Ye, where we saw only few birds (Scaled Piculet, Crimson-crested Woodpecker, Two-banded Puffbird, Hoatzin, Greater Ani, Pale-tipped Inezia), we drove to Socopo where we started the steep climb (the car did a terrific job here) uphill to La Aguada at 13.30 h. Reaching the forest we made a first birding stop and this yielded a.o. Black-and-Chestnut Eagle and King Vultures. Walking further up the track we found some other very good birds: a pair of Orange-breasted Falcons, Saffron-headed Parrots, Black-mandibled Toucans, Golden-tailed Sapphires, Copper-rumped Hummingbird, Slaty-caped Flycatcher, Golden-faced and Sooty-headed Tyrannulets, and Purple Honeycreeper. We reached the Posada Palo Quemado (altitude 1250 m) at 4.30 pm, and having witnessed the scenery we decided to stay at this rather basic but well located hostel instead of driving down to Socopo again.



La Aguada

This would also allow us a very early start tomorrow. Continuing birding along the track beyond the posada produced some additional good species, such as **Red-headed Barbet**, **Yellow-billed Toucanets**, **Scaled Pigeons**, and **Black-hooded Thrushes**. Also we saw **Band-tailed Guans** and heard **Wattled Guan**. After dusk and dinner we made a short drive along the track, the highlight being (crippling views of) a **Tropical Screech-Owl**, perched 1 meter from the vehicle.

Fri January 18

La Aguada & Drive to Santo Domingo

Up early (06.30 am) again to continue birding in the forested mountains of La Aguada. We made a walk of 1.5 km along the track which descended from approx. 1700 m down to 1250 m into a valley. We quickly added new trip birds such as **Many-banded Aracari** (not yet reported from this area), **Bronze-winged** and **Mealy Parrots**, **Golden-headed Manakins**, **White-ruffed Manakins**, even a **Striped Manakin**. Additonal new trip ticks included **Violaceous Jays**, **Whiskered Wrens** and **Black-faced Tanagers**, and we saw again **Yellow-billed Toucanets** and **Black-mandibled Toucans**, **Grey-throated Leaftosser** and heard **Channel-billed Toucans**. Furthermore we heard a **Northern Helmeted Curassow** and 2 **Barred Forest-Falcons** but we could not see them.

At 1 pm, after a quick picnic lunch, we left La Aguada, driving the long way to Santa Domingo, situated higher in the Andes. Some 25 km before Santo Domingo we drove up a side road (Rio Barragan Road) and spent 1.5 hr birding there. Here we noted a.o. **Lined Quail-Dove**, **Steely-vented Hummingbird**, **Giant Cowbird** and a good variation of tanagers. At Santa Domingo (altitude 2500 m) we stayed at Posada la Alumbre, where locals met that evening for a rather noisy and belated Christmas celebration.

Sat January 19 Santo Domingo: San Isidro tunnel road & Cock-of-the-Rock site Early morning we drove down again to another side road, referred to as San Isidro tunnel road. Here, in a forested area, we birded from 06.30 -12.15 h. Birds recorded here and noteworthy mentioning included Grey-chinned Hermit, Booted Racket-tails, Variegated Bristle-tyrant, Scale-crested Pygmy-Tyrant, Flavescent Flycatcher, Black-and-white Becard, Goldenbreasted Fruiteaters (at least 5), White-crowned Manakin (female), Golden-winged Manakin (5), Spotted Barbtail, Green Jay, Spotted Nightingale-Thrush, Andean Solitaire (2, seen!), a good list of tanagers (Saffron-crowned and Beryl-spangled being new trip ticks) incl. Blue-naped Chlorophonia. Also we found a Rufous-rumped Antwren, quite a scarce bird.



Andean Cock-of-the-Rock

at Posada la Alumbre in Santo Domingo.

In the afternoon we visited the "Cock-ofthe-Rock" site, indicating already one of the target species. Spread over the forest and on a lek we counted at least 30 Andean Cock-of-the-Rocks, always a joy to see. Furthermore we had nice encounters with **Band-tailed Guan**. **Plain-breasted** Hawk. **Red-headed** Barbets, Crested Quetzal (1), Cliff Flycatchers, Red-ruffed Fruitcrow (5), Montane Woodcreeper, again Spotted Nightingale-Thrush and Andean

Solitaire (both skulkers seen), and Subtropical Caciques. Overnight again

Sun Januarv 20 The Andes: Las Tapias & Sierra Nevada NP; drive to Tabay Today we visited the real High Andes, first a site near Las Tapias (bamboo and elfin forest at the treeline), next sites for Merida Wren and Bearded Helmetcrest, and finally a long stay around the Laguna Mucubaji in the Sierra Nevada NP (at 3600 m asl). The early morning walk (7 -8.30 am) at Las Tapias was cold but quite rewarding: Here we quickly found new trip birds such as Andean Guan, Orange-throated Sunangel, Brown-backed Chat-tyrant, Streak-throated Bush-tyrant, Slaty Brush-Finch, Super-ciliaried Hemispingus, Lacrimose Mountain-Tanager, Blue-and-black Tanager, Merida Flowerpiercer, White-sided Flowerpiercer, Masked Flowerpiercer, and, very briefly, Black-collared Jay. This was a very productive and promising start, but the rest of the day we had to work hard for relatively few species. We visited a site for Merida Wren, but despite intensive searching and listening we left empty handed (Tyrian Metaltail and Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle appeared the only birds present here). The hummingbird feeders and garden of a nearby hostel produced another Orange-throated Sunangel as well as Tyrian Metaltail. In the nearby stream we saw White-capped Dippers. Our next stop was at the Laguna Mucubaji, in Sierra Nevada NP. Here Speckled (Andean) Teals



Laguna Mucubaji at 3600 m above sea level

and a male **Blue-winged Teal** were present, as well as a female **Lesser Scaup** (!), a rare vagrant in Venezuela (with less than 10 records).

Early afternoon, we visited a small settlement with some flowering gardens, one of the better sites for Bearded Helmetcrest. We spent about two hours here, walking and stalking near the gardens, but in vain (dry season is the off season for this species). We found only few other interesting birds here such as Andean Tit-Spinetail, Pale-legged Hornero, Bar-winged Cinclodes and Plumbeous Sierra-Finch. Hence, we decided to return to the Laguna Mucubaji area, and here, after long searching we finally found an Ochre-browed Thistletail.

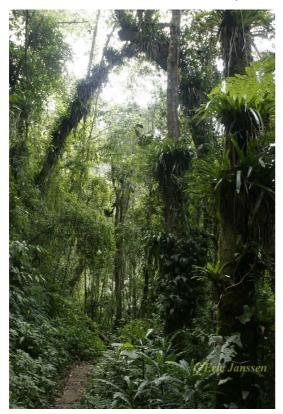
At 5 pm we departed the paramo zone descending again to reach Tabay, 15 km north of Merida, in the early evening (hotel Casagrande; 1600 m).



Mon January 21

The Andes: La Mucuy

Today we birded along the famous Pico Humboldt trail, winding through the cloud forest zone of the Sierra Nevada NP and eventually leading to one of the highest mountains in Venezuela. This



trail starts at an ornithological station near the small village of La Mucuy, 2 km from Tabay. Starting at 7 am at 2200 m we reached, slowly birding, an altitude of 2700 m. We encountered a really overwhelming number of good bird species and this day was rated by us as one of the top 5 days of the trip. Besides the many widespread forest birds we recorded over 25 new trip birds (9 endemic!) including Emerald Toucanet, Golden-headed Quetzal, Rose-headed Parakeet, Rusty-faced Parrot (yes!), Speckle-Parrot. Golden Starfrontlet. faced Merida Sunangel. **Black-capped**, White-banded and Venezuelan Tyrannulets, Spinetail, Rufous Pearled Treerunner, Strong-billed and Black-Woodcreepers, banded Merida Tapaculo (crippling views!), Mountain Wren, Moustached, Slaty and Chestnut-capped Brush-Finches, Whitefronted Whitestart, Russet-crowned Warbler, **Grey-capped** Hemispingus, Oleaginous Hemispingus, Chestnut-breasted Chlorophonia and Yellow-billed Cacique. Although the forests here host 5 species of antpitta, we only heard (many) Chestnut-crowned Antpitta, probably as it was in

the middle of the dry season. Having said this, completely satisfied we left the forest at 5 pm. Overnight in hotel Casagrande, near Tabay.

Tue January 22

Western slope of the Andes: La Carbonera & La Azulita

Today we went up and down the western ridge of the Andes, near Merida. A first stop was made near the highest point (2500 m), to visit the hummingbird feeders in the gardens of hotel La Bravera. Sipping our coffee we recorded 8 species of hummers: **Sparkling Violetear**, **Tyrian Metaltail**, **Mountain Velvetbreast**, **Bronzy** and **Collared Incas**, **Long-tailed Sylph**, **Bufftailed Coronet** and **Orange-throated Sunangel**.

Near La Carbonera we walked down the "main" road which winds through a piece of primary cloud forest. We did not see many new trip birds (actually only Hook-billed Kite) but we enjoyed again nice views of the local gems: Emerald Toucanet, Crested Quetzal, Green Jay, Andean Solitaire, Venezuelan Tyrannulet (common!), Golden-winged Manakin, Moustached Brush-Finch, and mixed tanager flocks.

At 12.30 h we reached La Azulita, a typical Andean village, were we took lunch, and next checked in at the Posada La Neblina, a slightly run down but charming hostel, well situated some 10 km from La Azulita. A walk along a track near this hostel produced some lekking **Grey-chinned Hermits** (many calling but hard to find), **Ruddy Pigeon** and a variety of flycatchers. We heard several **Stripe-breasted Spinetails** and ultimately glimpsed one. Back around the hostel we recorded **Sooty-capped Hermit**, **Chestnut-collared**, **Grey-rumped** and **Short-tailed Swifts**, **Mourning Warbler** and **Lesser Seed-finch**. Overnight at Posada La Neblina (900 m).



Hummers at La Bravera: Orange-throated Sunangel (twice) and Collared Inca

Wed January 23

La Azulita: Limones & Bolivia

In the morning we visited Limones, encompassing some foothills covered with primary forest (some small remainders), secondary forest and meadows. Here we found a.o. Grey-headed Kite, White-rumped Hawk, Bronze-winged Parrot, White-necked Puffbird, Black-chested Jay, Citron-throated Toucan, both Slate-headed and Black-headed Tody-flycatcher, Lemon-browed Flycatcher, Crimson-backed Tanagers (common, also the next few days) and Orange-crowned Oriole. An immature Andean Condor and a flock of 12 Saffron-headed Parrots were unexpected bonuses while the Swallow-tailed Kites also added to the scene.



Limones, on the western slope of the Andes

In the afternoon we visited Bolivia, a vast ranch with a variation of habitats, its claim of fame being the high number of parrots breeding here. Indeed we recorded no less than 7 species here: **Military Macaw, Chestnut-fronted Macaw, Red-lored Parrot, Orange-winged Parrot, Scarlet-fronted Parakeet, Orange-chinned Parakeet**, and **Green-rumped Parrotlet**. In addition we saw a.o. **Laughing Falcon, Citron-throated Toucan, Collared Aracari, Yellow-**



crowned Tyrannulet, Cinereous Becard, Golden-rumped Euphonia and Torrent Tyrannulet. Overnight asgain at Posada La Neblina (900 m).

Citron-throated Toucan

Thu January 24

Rio Zumbador & Rio Frio; drive to Menegrande

Today we visited two rather narrow river valleys leading from the flat Maracaibo basin into the lower mountains, some 150 km south of Maracaibo. Both valleys still contained primary forest although some active deforestation was going on. At Rio Zumbador (06.45 -10.30 am) we saw a



number of species. good many flycatchers, hummers etc. Worthwhile mentioning (new trip ticks or high profile birds) are Rufous-vented Chachalacas (of the local subspecies: with white terminal tail band), King Vultures (no less than 5), Citron-throated Toucans, **Bronze-winged** Parrots, Lesser Elaenia, Plain-brown Woodcreeper, several North American warblers including **Bay-breasted** and

Rufous-vented Chachalaca

Prothonotary, Yellow-backed and Orange-crowned Orioles.

The Rio Frio valley was visited from 11.30-15.00h, and here, for the first time, some rainfall disturbed birding for some time, the shower being gone in about 1 hour. Here we found similar species as at Rio Zumbador but now also **Andean Condors**, **Rose-headed Parakeets** and **Ruddy Pigeon**. Here we changed drivers, as the wife of Evencio was taken into hospital with acute Dengue. Our new driver for the rest of the trip was Giovanni. On the way to Maracaibo we made a short stop at the small town of Tucani, where we quickly found the local specialty: **Pygmy Palm Swifts**. We stayed overnight at Hotel Costa Oriental at Menegrande.

Fri January 25



White-whiskered Spinetail

Mount Misoa & Mecocal

In the morning we made a walk (06.45 – 10.30 am) along a track through a patch of forest near the summit of Misoa, an isolated mountain (altitude 900 m) near Menegrande. Here we recorded **King Vultures, Russet-throated Puffbird, Ochre-bellied Flycatchers, Black-crowned Tytira, White-ruffed** and **White-bearded Manakins**, and some tanagers including **Trinidad Euphonia**. After quite some searching we finally got a **Golden-winged Sparrow** in view.

At 10.30h we drove in the direction of Maracaibo and made a stop (2 - 5 pm) in the dry, thorny scrub habitat near Mecocal. This was quite rewarding as we found a very different set of species: Chestnut Shining-green Hummingbird, Piculets. Maracaibo Tody-flycatchers, Northern Scrub Flycatchers, Slender-billed Inezias, Pale-legged Horneros, White-whiskered Spinetails and Blackcrested Antshrikes. We dipped on Black-backed Antshrike, but would have a next chance in the Perija mountains (see January 28). Late afternoon we drove to Maracaibo where we stayed in the hotel Aeropuerto and met the local guide for the next two

days, Gustavo Leon (phone +58 (0) 414 -6149942; Maracaibo).

Sat January 26



Shining-green Hummingbird

Campo Boscan & lower foothills of Perija mountains

Early up again, using a greasy roadside breakfast, to reach the vast plains of Campo Boscan at 7 am. Campo Boscan in some aspects is reminiscent to the Llanos, but drier and more covered with woods. We saw many wetland birds as found in the Llanos and worth mentioning are both Striated and Green Heron (in one view), Capped Heron and Jabiru (also on nest)., Inside Campo Boscan we visited an area called La Modelo. During a long walk we recorded here **Russet-throated** Puffbird, Yellow-crowned **Parrots**

(abundant), **Ruby-topaz Hummingbird**, **Shining-green Hummingbirds**, **Wire-tailed Manakins**, and **Panama Flycatchers**.

At 11 am we left for the Perija mountains, and here, in the lower foothills we walked in and along a river bed fringed with gallery forest (1.30 -5 pm). A good variety of birds was encountered here including Keel-billed Toucan, Violaceous Trogons, Blue-headed Parrots (a bit delayed trip tick), Brown-capped Tyrannulet, Olivaceous Flatbills, Black-backed Antshrikes, White-bellied Antbird, Black-chested Jays, and Grey-headed Tanager.

We saw 8 species of hummers of which the White-chinned Sapphire was were new.

Total day count 110 species. Stay at hotel Don Felipe, Villa del Rosario, somewhere between Maracaibo and the Perija.



Panama Flycatcher at Campo Boscan



Violaceous Trogon

Sun January 27

Higher foothills of the Perija Mountains

Today we went to a higher area in the foothills of the Perija mountains, in a wetter habitat than yesterday. Between 06.45 – 13.00 h we made two walks along the Rio Piche, ending at approx. 1700 m. Here we found a few new trip birds or even lifers such as **Red-and-green Macaw**, **Coppery Emerald**, **Western Slaty Antshrike**, **Rufous-capped Warbler**, **Red-crowned Ant-tanager**, **Blue-back Grosbeak**. We also saw a **Streak-capped Spinetail**, a major rarity with only a few records in Venezuela. Some of us had brief views of a **Moustached Puffbird**. Other



Ruddy-tailed Flycatcher

(Maracaibo) where we said goodbye to Gustavo.

birds worthwhile mentioning were Keelbilled Toucan. **Russet-throated** Puffbird. Violaceous Trogon. Becard, **Bright-rumped** Cinereous Attila, Royal Flycatcher (2, crippling view of 1 with his crest raised). Ruddytailed Flvcatcher. **Plain-brown** Woodcreeper, and a good choice of tanagers including Grey-capped and Black-headed.

On the way back to Maracaibo we made a short visit again to Campo Boscan, and here we ticked a.o. Ferruginous Pygmyowl (eventually seen), Pearly-vented Tody-tyrant and Slender-billed Inezia. Overnight in hotel Aeropuerto

Mon January 28

Campo Boscan & mangroves near Maracaibo

This was our final birding day and therefore we had a very precise wishlist: Northern Screamer, Dwarf Cuckoo, White-necked Xenopsaris, Buffy Hummingbird and Tocuyo Sparrow. Much to our surprise we would succeed almost completely (we only failed to find the sparrow). After spending the first one hour at the sparrow site, we visited from 08.00 -12.20 h we the marshy areas of Hacienda La Zuliana, in Campo Boscan. Here we quickly found a pair of **White-naped Xenopsaris**. The nearby marsh should be the best place for Northern Screamer. By scrutinous scanning of the marsh we found a pair of **Horned Screamers**. Only during our second visit, later in the morning, and by splitting up in two teams, did we eventually find a pair of **Northern Screamers**, a bit hidden in the higher vegetation of the marsh, and only 100 meter from their horned relatives.

Just as we were ready to leave the area, we discovered a **Dwarf Cuckoo**, which showed itself very well.

After lunch we made a visit to the mangrove-fringed coast north of Maracaibo city. Within the mangrove vegetation we quickly found **Mangrove Warbler** (subspecies of Yellow Warbler) and **Bicoloured Conebill**. The female **Masked Duck** was a surprise bird, as was the **Buffy Hummingbird** which perched in front of us. There were also flocks of **Caribbean Flamingoes**, and a few **Carribean Coots**. In a high tide roost of terns and waders we identified **Caspian** and **Royal Terns**, true **Sandwich Terns** as well as their yellow-billed congeners (**Cayenne Terns**). Among the variety of waders we could add **Ruddy Turnstone**, **Short-billed Dowitcher** and **Grey Plover** as final species to our impressive triplist.



Dwarf Cuckoo



Carribean Flamingoes

Bird of the trip: Red Siskin



Bird list

In total 561 species were recorded. Endemics and near-endemics are indicated (E) and (NE), and heard-only's as (H).

1.	Grey Tinamou (H)	Tinamus tao
2.	Highland Tinamou (H)	Nothocercus bonapartei
3.	Little Tinamou (H)	Crypturellus soui
4.	Least Grebe	Tachybaptus dominicus
5.	Brown Booby	Sula leucogaster
6.	Brown Pelican	Pelecanus occidentalis
7.	Neotropic Cormorant	Phalacrocorax brasilianus
8.	Anhinga	Anhinga anhinga
9.	Magnificent Frigatebird	Fregata magnificens
10.	Horned Screamer	Anhima cornuta
11.	Northern Screamer (NE)	Chauna chavaria
12.	Fulvous Whistling-Duck	Dendrocygna bicolor
13.	White-faced Whistling-Duck	Dendrocygna viduata
14.	Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	Dendrocygna autumnalis
15.	Orinoco Goose	Neochen jubata
16.	Andean Teal	Anas andium
17.	Blue-winged Teal	Anas discors
18.	Brazilian Teal	Amazonetta brasiliensis
19.	Masked Duck	Nomonyx dominica
20.	Carribean Flamingo	Phoenicopterus ruber

21.	Rufescent Tiger-Heron	Tigrisoma lineatum
22.	Fasciated Tiger-Heron	Tigrisoma fasciatum
23.	Cocoi Heron	Ardea cocoi
24.	Great Blue Heron	Ardea herodias
25.	Great Egret	Ardea alba
26.	Snowy Egret	Egretta thula
27.	Little Blue Heron	Egretta caerulea
28.	Tricolored Heron	Egretta tricolor
29.	Cattle Egret	Bubulcus ibis
30.	Striated Heron	Butorides striatus
31.	Green Heron	Butorides virescens
32.	Whistling Heron	Syrigma sibilatrix
33.	Capped Heron	Pilherodius pileatus
34.	Black-crowned Night-Heron	Nycticorax nycticorax
35.	Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	Nyctanassa violacea
36.	Boat-billed Heron	Cochlearius cochlearius
37.	Buff-necked Ibis	Theristicus caudatus
38.	Sharp-tailed Ibis	Cercibis oxycerca
39.	Green Ibis	Mesembrinibis cayennensis
40.	Bare-faced Ibis	Phimosus infuscatus
41.	White Ibis	Eudocimus albus
42.	Scarlet Ibis	Eudocimus ruber
43.	Glossy Ibis	Plegadis falcinellus
44.	Roseate Spoonbill	Ajaia ajaja
45.	Wood Stork	Mycteria americana
46.	Maguari Stork	Euxenura maguari
47.	Jabiru	Jabiru mycteria
48.	Andean Condor	Vultur gryphus
49.	King Vulture	Sarcoramphus papa
50.	Black Vulture	Coragyps atratus
51.	Turkey Vulture	Cathartes aura
52.	Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture	Cathartes burrovianus
53.	Osprey	Pandion haliaetus
54.	Grey-headed Kite	Leptodon cayanensis
55.	Hook-billed Kite	Chondrohierax uncinatus
56.	Swallow-tailed Kite	Elanoides forficatus
57.	White-tailed Kite	Elanus leucurus
58.	Snail Kite	Rostrhamus sociabilis
59.	Crane Hawk	Geranospiza caerulescens
60.	Plain-breasted Hawk	Accipiter ventralis
61.	White Hawk	Leucopternis albicollis
62.	Savanna Hawk	Buteogallus meridionalis
63.	Common Black-Hawk	Buteogallus anthracinus
64.	Great Black-Hawk	Buteogallus urubitinga
65.	Harris's Hawk	Parabuteo unicinctus
66.	Black-collared Hawk	Busarellus nigricollis
67.	Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle	Geranoaetus melanoleucus
68.	Grey Hawk	Buteo nitidus
69.	Roadside Hawk	Buteo magnirostris

70.	White-rumped Hawk	Buteo leucorrhous
71.	Broad-winged Hawk	Buteo platypterus
72.	Zone-tailed Hawk	Buteo albonotatus
73.	White-tailed Hawk	Buteo albicaudatus
74.	Ornate Hawk-Eagle	Spizaetus ornatus
75.	Black-and-chestnut Eagle	Oroaetus isidori
76.	Northern Crested Caracara	Caracara cheriway
77.	Yellow-headed Caracara	Milvago chimachima
78.	Barred Forest-Falcon (H)	Micrastur ruficollis
79.	Laughing Falcon	Herpetotheres cachinnans
80.	American Kestrel	Falco sparverius
81.	Aplomado Falcon	Falco femoralis
82.	Bat Falcon	Falco rufigularis
83.	Orange-breasted Falcon	Falcon deiroleucus
84.	Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus
85.	Rufous-vented Chachalaca	Ortalis ruficauda
86.	Band-tailed Guan (NE)	Penelope argyrotis
87.	Andean Guan	Penelope montagnii
88.	Wattled Guan (H)	Aburria aburri
89.	Northern Helmeted-Curassow (H)	Pauxi pauxi
90.	Crested Bobwhite	Colinus cristatus
91.	Sora Rail	Porzana carolina
92.	Gray-necked Wood-Rail	Aramides cajanea
93.	Purple Gallinule	Porphyrula martinica
94.	Moorhen	Gallinula chloropus
95.	Carribean Coot	Fulica caribaea
96.	Sunbittern	Eurypyga helias
97.	Limpkin	Aramus guarauna
98.	Double-striped Thick-knee	Burhinus bistriatus
99.	Southern Lapwing	Vanellus chilensis
	Grey Plover	Pluvialis squatarola
	Pied Plover	Hoploxypterus cayanus
102.		Charadrius collaris
	Black-necked Stilt	Himantopus mexicanus
	Wattled Jacana	Jacana jacana
	Greater Yellowlegs	Tringa melanoleuca
	Lesser Yellowlegs	Tringa flavipes
	Solitary Sandpiper	Tringa solitaria
	Spotted Sandpiper	Actitis macularia
	Ruddy Turnstone	Arenaria interpres
	Least Sandpiper	Calidris minutilla
111.	Stilt Sandpiper	Calidris himantopus
112.	Short-billed Dowitcher	Limnodromus griseus
	Laughing Gull	Larus atricilla
	Caspian Tern	Hydroprogne caspia
	Royal Tern	Sterna maxima
	Sandwich Tern	Sterna sandvicensis
117.	Yellow-billed Tern	Sterna superciliaris
118.	Large-billed Tern	Phaetusa simplex

119.	Black Skimmer	Rynchops niger
	Band-tailed Pigeon	Columba fasciata
	Scaled Pigeon	Columba speciosa
	Pale-vented Pigeon	Columba cavennensis
	Ruddy Pigeon	Columba subvinacea
	Plumbeous Pigeon	Columba plumbea
	Eared Dove	Zenaida auriculata
126.	Scaled Dove	Scardafella squammata
	Common Ground-Dove	Columbina passerina
128.	Plain-breasted Ground-Dove	Columbina minuta
129.	Ruddy Ground-Dove	Columbina talpacoti
	Blue Ground-Dove	Claravis pretiosa
131.	White-tipped Dove	Leptotila verreauxi
	Grey-fronted Dove (H)	Leptotila rufaxilla
	Lined Quail-Dove	Geotrygon linearis
	Scarlet Macaw	Ara macao
135.	Red-and-green Macaw	Ara chloroptera
	Military Macaw	Ara militaris
137.	Chestnut-fronted Macaw	Ara severa
138.	Scarlet-fronted Parakeet	Aratinga wagleri
139.	Brown-throated Parakeet	Aratinga pertinax
140.	Blood-eared Parakeet (E)	Pyrrhura hoematotis
141.	Rose-headed Parakeet (E)	Pyrrhura rhodocephala
142.	Green-rumped Parrotlet	Forpus passerinus
143.	Orange-chinned Parakeet	Brotogeris jugularis
144.	Saffron-headed Parrot (NE)	Pionopsitta pyrilia
145.	Rusty-faced Parrot (NE)	Hapalopsittaca amazonina
146.	Blue-headed Parrot	Pionus menstruus
147.	Red-billed Parrot	Pionus sordidus
148.	Speckle-faced Parrot	Pionus tumultuosus
149.	Bronze-winged Parrot	Pionus chalcopterus
150.	Red-lored Parrot	Amazona autumnalis
151.	Yellow-crowned Parrot	Amazona ochrocephala
	Orange-winged Parrot	Amazona amazonica
	Mealy Parrot	Amazona farinosa
-	Dwarf Cuckoo	Coccyzus pumilus
	Squirrel Cuckoo	Piaya cayana
	Greater Ani	Crotophaga major
157.	Smooth-billed Ani	Crotophaga ani
	Groove-billed Ani	Crotophaga sulcirostris
	Striped Cuckoo	Tapera naevia
	Pavonine Cuckoo (H)	Dromococcyx pavoninus
	Hoatzin	Opisthocomus hoazin
	Tropical Screech-Owl	Otus choliba
	Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl	Glaucidium brasilianum
	Burrowing Owl	Athene cunicularia
	Great Potoo	Nyctibius grandis
	Nacunda Nighthawk	Podager nacunda
167.	Band-tailed Nighthawk	Nyctiprogne leucopyga

168.	Pauraque	Nyctidromus albicollis
	Band-winged Nightjar	Caprimulgus longirostris
	White-tailed Nightjar	Caprimulgus cayennensis
	Little (Todd's) Nightjar	Caprimulgus parvulus
	White-collared Swift	Streptoprocne zonaris
173.	Chestnut-collared Swift	Cypseloides rutilus
	Short-tailed Swift	Chaetura brachyura
	Grey-rumped Swift	Chaetura cinereiventris
	White-tipped Swift	Aeronautes montivagus
	Neotropical Palm-Swift	Tachornis squamata
	Pygmy Palm Swift (NE)	Tachornis furcata
	Pale-bellied Hermit	Phaethornis anthophilus
180.	Sooty-capped Hermit	Phaethornis augusti
181.	Stripe-throated Hermit	Phaethornis striigularis
182.	Grey-chinned Hermit	Phaethornis griseogularis
183.	Rufous-breasted Hermit	Glaucis hirsuta
184.	White-necked Jacobin	Florisuga mellivora
185.	Sparkling Violetear	Colibri coruscans
	Black-throated Mango	Anthracothorax nigricollis
187.	Ruby-topaz Hummingbird	Chrysolampis mosquitus
188.	Blue-tailed Emerald	Chlorostilbon mellisugus
189.	Coppery Emerald (NE)	Chlorostilbon russatus
	Blue-crowned Woodnymph	Thalurania colombica
	White-chinned Sapphire	Hylocharis cyanus
192.	Golden-tailed Sapphire	Chrysuronia oenone
193.	White-tailed Goldenthroat	Polytmus guainumbi
194.	Buffy Hummingbird (NE)	Leucippus fallax
195.	Glittering-throated Emerald	Amazilia fimbriata
196.	Steely-vented Hummingbird	Amazilia saucerrottei
197.	Copper-rumped Hummingbird	Amazilia tobaci
198.	Rufous-tailed Hummingbird	Amazilia tzacatl
199.	Shining-green Hummingbird	Lepidopyga goudoti
200.	White-vented Plumeleteer	Chalybura buffonii
201.	Speckled Hummingbird	Adelomyia melanogenys
202.	Violet-fronted Brilliant	Heliodoxa leadbeateri
203.	Violet-chested Hummingbird (E)	Sternoclyta cyanopectus
204.	Mountain Velvetbreast	Lafresnaya lafresnayi
	Bronzy Inca	Coeligena coeligena
	Collared Inca	Coeligena torquata
	Golden(-tailed) Starfrontlet (E)	Coeligena eos
	Buff-tailed Coronet	Boissonneaua flavescens
	Orange-throated Sunangel (NE)	Heliangelus mavors
	Merida Sunangel (E)	Heliangelus spencei
	Booted Racket-tail	Ocreatus underwoodii
	Tyrian Metaltail	Metallura tyrianthina
	Long-tailed Sylph	Aglaiocercus kingi
	Crested Quetzal	Pharomachrus antisianus
	White-tipped Quetzal (NE)	Pharomachrus fulgidus
216.	Golden-headed Quetzal	Pharomachrus auriceps

217.	Collared Trogon	Trogon collaris
	Amazonian Violaceous Trogon	Trogon violaceus
	Belted Kingfisher	Megaceryle alcyon
	Ringed Kingfisher	Megaceryle torquata
	Amazon Kingfisher	Chloroceryle amazona
	Green Kingfisher	Chloroceryle americana
	Pale-headed Jacamar (NE)	Brachygalba goeringi
	Rufous-tailed Jacamar	Galbula ruficauda
225.	White-necked Puffbird	Notharchus hyperrhynchus
226.	Russet-throated Puffbird	Hypnelus ruficollis
227.	Two-banded Puffbird	Hypnelus bicinctus
228.	Moustached Puffbird	Malacoptila mystacalis
229.	Red-headed Barbet	Eubucco bourcierii
230.	Emerald Toucanet	Aulacorhynchus prasinus
231.	Groove-billed Toucanet (E)	Aulacorhynchus sulcatus
232.	Yellow-billed Toucanet	Aulacorhynchus calorhynchus
233.	Many-banded Aracari	Pteroglossus pluricinctus
	Collared Aracari	Pteroglossus torquatus
235.	Channel-billed Toucan (H)	Ramphastos vitellinus
236.	Citron-throated Toucan (NE)	Ramphastos citreolaemus
237.	Black-mandibled Toucan	Ramphastos ambiguous
238.	Keel-billed Toucan	Ramphastos sulfuratus
239.	Chestnut Piculet (NE)	Picumnus cinnamomeus
240.	Scaled Piculet	Picumnus squamulatus
	Golden-olive Woodpecker	Piculus rubiginosus
242.	Lineated Woodpecker	Dryocopus lineatus
243.	Red-crowned Woodpecker	Melanerpes rubricapillus
244.	Red-rumped Woodpecker	Veniliornis kirkii
245.	5 1	Veniliornis fumigatus
	Crimson-crested Woodpecker	Campephilus melanoleucos
	Pale-legged Hornero	Furnarius leucopus
248.	Bar-winged Cinclodes	Cinclodes fuscus
	Andean Tit-Spinetail	Leptasthenura andicola
250.	Azara's Spinetail	Synallaxis azarae
251.	Pale-breasted Spinetail	Synallaxis albescens
252.	Stripe-breasted Spinetail	Synallaxis cinnamomea
253.	White-whiskered Spinetail (NE)	Synallaxis candei
-	Rufous Spinetail	Synallaxis unirufa
	Black-throated Spinetail (E)	Synallaxis castanea
	Yellow-chinned Spinetail	Certhiaxis cinnamomea
	Crested Spinetail	Cranioleuca subcristata
258.	Streak-capped Spinetail (NE)	Cranioleuca hellmayri
259.	Rusty-backed Spinetail	Cranioleuca vulpina
260.	Ochre-browed Thistletail (E)	Schizoeaca coryi
261.	Rufous-fronted Thornbird	Phacellodomus rufifrons
262.	Spotted Barbtail	Premnoplex brunnescens
263.	Streaked Tuftedcheek	Pseudocolaptes boissonneautii
	Pearled Treerunner	Margarornis squamiger
265.	Guttulate Foliage-gleaner (H) (E)	Syndactyla guttulata

266	Lineated Foliage-gleaner	Syndactyla subalaris
	Montane Foliage-gleaner	Anabacerthia striaticollis
	Plain Xenops	Xenops minutus
	Grey-throated Leaftosser	Sclerurus albigularis
	Plain-brown Woodcreeper	Dendrocincla fuliginosa
	Wedge-billed Woodcreeper	Glyphorynchus spirurus
	Olivaceous Woodcreeper	Sittasomus griseicapillus
	Strong-billed Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphocolaptes promeropirhynchus</i>
	Black-banded Woodcreeper	Dendrocolaptes picumnus
	Straight-billed Woodcreeper	Xiphorhynchus picus
	Cocoa Woodcreeper	Xiphorhynchus susurrans
	Olive-backed Woodcreeper	Xiphorhynchus triangularis
	Streak-headed Woodcreeper	Lepidocolaptes souleyetii
	Montane Woodcreeper	Lepidocolaptes lacrymiger
	Great Antshrike (H)	Taraba major
	Black-crested Antshrike	Sakesphorus canadensis
	Black-backed Antshrike (NE)	Sakesphorus melanonotus
	Barred Antshrike	Thamnophilus doliatus
	Western Slaty-Antshrike	Thamnophilus
	Plain Antvireo	Dysithamnus mentalis
286.	Slaty Antwren	Myrmotherula schisticolor
287.	Rufous-winged Antwren	Herpsilochmus rufimarginatus
288.	Northern White-fringed Antwren	Formicivora intermedia
	White-bellied Antbird	Myrmeciza longipes
290.	Black-faced Antthrush	Formicarius analis
291.	Scalloped (Schwartz's) Antthrush (NE)	Chamaeza turdina
292.	Short-tailed Antthrush	Chamaeza campanisona
293.	Plain-backed Antpitta (H)	Grallaria haplonota
294.	Chestnut-crowned Antpitta (H)	Grallaria ruficapilla
295.	Rusty-breasted Antpitta (H)	Grallaricula ferrugineipectus
296.	Merida Tapaculo (E)	Scytalopus meridanus
297.	Caracas Tapaculo (E)	Scytalopus caracae
	North. White-crowned Tapaculo	Scytalopus atratus
	Sooty-headed Tyrannulet	Phyllomyias griseiceps
	Black-capped Tyrannulet	Phyllomyias nigrocapillus
301.	Brown-capped Tyrannulet	Ornithion brunneicapillus
302.	Golden-faced Tyrannulet	Zimmerius chrysops
303.	Venezuelan Tyrannulet (NE)	Zimmerius improbus
	Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet	Camptostoma obsoletum
	Mouse-colored Tyrannulet	Phaeomyias murina
306.	Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet	Tyrannulus elatus
307.	Forest Elaenia	Myiopagis gaimardii
	Greenish Elaenia	Myiopagis viridicata
309.	Yellow-bellied Elaenia	Elaenia flavogaster
310.	Lesser Elaenia	Elaenia chiriquensis
311.	Mountain Elaenia	Elaenia frantzii
312.	Amazonian Scrub-Flycatcher	Sublegatus obscurior
313.	Northern Scrub-Flycatcher (NE)	Sublegatus arenarum
314.	White-throated Tyrannulet	Mecocerculus leucophrys

315.	White-banded Tyrannulet	Mecocerculus stictopterus
	River Tyrannulet	Serpophaga hypoleuca
	Torrent Tyrannulet	Serpophaga cinerea
	Pale-tipped Inezia	Inezia caudata
	Slender-billed Inezia (NE)	Inezia tenuirostris
	Tawny-crowned Pygmy-Tyrant	Euscarthmus meloryphus
321.	Olive-striped Flycatcher	Mionectes olivaceus
322.		Mionectes oleagineus
	Slaty-capped Flycatcher	Leptopogon superciliaris
	Rufous-lored Tyrannulet (E)	Phylloscartes flaviventris
	Variegated Bristle-Tyrant	Pogonotriccus poecilotis
	Marble-faced Bristle-Tyrant	Pogonotriccus ophthalmicus
	Venezuelan Bristle-Tyrant (E)	Pogonotriccus venezuelanus
-	Scale-crested Pygmy-Tyrant	Lophotriccus pileatus
	Pale-eyed Pygmy-Tyrant	Lophotriccus pilaris
	Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrant	Hemitriccus margaritaceiventer
331.	Slate-headed Tody-Flycatcher	Poecilotriccus sylvia
	Common Tody-Flycatcher	Todirostrum cinereum
	Maracaibo Tody-Flycatcher (E)	Todirostrum viridanum
	Black-headed Tody-Flycatcher	Todirostrum nigriceps
	Olivaceous Flatbill	Rhynchocyclus olivaceus
336.	Yellow-olive Flatbill	Tolmomyias sulphurescens
337.		Tolmomyias flaviventris
-	Northern Royal-Flycatcher	Onychorhynchus coronatus
	Ruddy-tailed Flycatcher	Terenotriccus erythrurus
	Flavescent Flycatcher	Myiophobus flavicans
341.	Cinnamon Flycatcher	Pyrrhomyias cinnamomea
342.	Tropical Pewee	Contopus cinereus
343.	Eastern Wood-Pewee	Contopus virens
344.	Smoke-colored Pewee	Contopus fumigatus
345.	Olive-sided Flycatcher	Contopus cooperi
346.	Fuscous Flycatcher	Cnemotriccus fuscatus
	Black Phoebe	Sayornis nigricans
348.	Vermilion Flycatcher	Pyrocephalus rubinus
349.	Brown-backed Chat-Tyrant	Ochthoeca fumicolor
350.	Yellow-bellied Chat-Tyrant	Ochthoeca diadema
351.	Streak-throated Bush-Tyrant	Myiotheretes striaticollis
352.	Smoky Bush-Tyrant	Myiotheretes fumigatus
353.	Cliff Flycatcher	Hirundinea ferruginea
354.	Lemon-browed Flycatcher	Conopias cinchoneti
355.	Cattle Tyrant	Machetornis rixosus
356.	Pied Water-Tyrant	Fluvicola pica
357.	White-headed Marsh-Tyrant	Arundinicola leucocephala
358.	Bright-rumped Attila	Attila spadiceus
359.	Dusky-capped Flycatcher	Myiarchus tuberculifer
360.	Short-crested Flycatcher	Myiarchus ferox
361.	Venezuelan Flycatcher (NE)	Myiarchus venezuelensis
362.	Panama Flycatcher	Myiarchus panamensis
363.	Pale-edged Flycatcher	Myiarchus cephalotes

364	Brown-crested Flycatcher	Myiarchus tyrannulus
	Great Kiskadee	Pitangus sulphuratus
	Lesser Kiskadee	Philohydor lictor
	Boat-billed Flycatcher	Megarynchus pitangua
	White-bearded Flycatcher	Phelpsia inornata
	Social Flycatcher	Myiozetetes similis
	Rusty-margined Flycatcher	Myiozetetes cayanensis
371.	Streaked Flycatcher	Myiodynastes maculatus
	Golden-crowned Flycatcher	Myiodynastes chrysocephalus
	Piratic Flycatcher	Legatus leucophaius
	Tropical Kingbird	Tyrannus melancholicus
	Grey Kingbird	Tyrannus dominicensis
	Fork-tailed Flycatcher	Tyrannus savana
	White-naped Xenopsaris	Xenopsaris albinucha
	Cinnamon Becard	Pachyramphus cinnamomeus
	Barred Becard	Pachyramphus versicolor
	White-winged Becard	Pachyramphus versicerist Pachyramphus polychopterus
	Black-capped Becard	Pachyramphus perjeneprerus Pachyramphus marginatus
	Black-and-white Becard	Pachyramphus albogriseus
	Cinereous Becard	Pachyramphus rufus
	Chestnut-crowned Becard	Pachyramphus castaneus
	Black-crowned Tityra	Tityra inquisitor
	Masked Tityra	Tityra semifasciata
	Green-and-black Fruiteater	Pipreola riefferii
	Golden-breasted Fruiteater (NE)	Pipreola aureopectus
	Handsome Fruiteater (E)	Pipreola formosa
	Barred Fruiteater	Pipreola arcuata
	Red-ruffed Fruitcrow	Pyrodeus scutatus
392.	Andean Cock-of-the-rock	Rupicola peruviana
393.	Golden-winged Manakin	Masius chrysopterus
	White-bearded Manakin	Manacus manacus
395.	Lance-tailed Manakin	Chiroxiphia lanceolata
	Wire-tailed Manakin	Pipra filicauda
397.	Golden-headed Manakin	Pipra erythrocephala
398.	White-crowned Manakin	Dixiphia pipra
399.	White-ruffed Manakin	Corapipa altera
400.	Striped Manakin	Machaeropterus regulus
401.	Rufous-browed Peppershrike	Cyclarhis gujanensis
402.	Red-eyed Vireo	Vireo olivaceus
	Brown-capped Vireo	Vireo leucophrys
404.	Golden-fronted Greenlet	Hylophilus aurantiifrons
405.	Black-collared Jay (NE)	Cyanolyca armillata
406.	Violaceous Jay	Cyanocorax violaceus
407.	Black-chested Jay	Cyanocorax affinis
408.	Green (Inca) Jay	Cyanocorax yncas
409.	Grey-breasted Martin	Progne chalybea
410.	White-winged Swallow	Tachycineta albiventer
411.	Blue-and-white Swallow	Notiochelidon cyanoleuca
412.	Southern Rough-winged Swallow	Stelgidopteryx ruficollis

413.	Barn Swallow	Hirundo rustica
414.	Black-capped Donacobius	Donacobius atricapillus
	Bicolored Wren	Campylorhynchus griseus
416.	Stripe-backed Wren	Campylorhynchus nuchalis
	Whiskered Wren	Thryothorus mystacalis
418.	Rufous-breasted Wren	Thryothorus rutilus
419.	Buff-breasted Wren	Thryothorus leucotis
420.	Rufous-and-white Wren	Thryothorus rufalbus
421.	House Wren	Troglodytes aedon
422.	Mountain Wren	Troglodytes solstitialis
423.	Gray-breasted Wood-Wren	Henicorhina leucophrys
424.	Southern Nightingale-Wren	Microcerculus marginatus
425.	White-capped Dipper	Cinclus leucocephalus
426.	Long-billed Gnatwren	Ramphocaenus melanurus
	Tropical Gnatcatcher	Polioptila plumbea
	Andean Solitaire	Myadestes ralloides
429.	Spotted Nightingale-Thrush	Catharus dryas
	Swainson's Thrush	Catharus ustulatus
431.	Yellow-legged Thrush	Platycichla flavipes
432.	Great Thrush	Turdus fuscater
433.	Glossy-black Thrush	Turdus serranus
434.	Black-hooded Thrush	Turdus olivater
435.	Chestnut-bellied Thrush	Turdus fulviventris
436.	Bare-eyed Thrush	Turdus nudigenis
	Pale-breasted Thrush	Turdus leucomelas
438.	White-necked Thrush	Turdus albicollis
439.	Tropical Mockingbird	Mimus gilvus
440.	Tennessee Warbler	Vermivora peregrina
441.	Tropical Parula	Parula pitiayumi
442.	Yellow Warbler	Dendroica aestiva
443.	Bay-breasted Warbler	Dendroica castanea
444.	Blackpoll Warbler	Dendroica striata
445.	Blackburnian Warbler	Dendroica fusca
446.	Cerulean Warbler	Dendroica cerulea
447.	Black-and-white Warbler	Mniotilta varia
	American Redstart	Setophaga ruticilla
	Prothonotery Warbler	Protonotaria citrea
	Northern Waterthrush	Seiurus noveboracensis
	Mourning Warbler	Oporornis philadelphia
	Masked Yellowthroat	Geothlypis aequinoctialis
	Slate-throated Whitestart	Myioborus miniatus
	White-fronted Whitestart (E)	Myioborus albifrons
	Black-crested Warbler	Basileuterus nigrocristatus
456.	Three-striped Warbler	Basileuterus tristriatus
457.	Golden-crowned Warbler	Basileuterus culicivorus
	Russet-crowned Warbler	Basileuterus coronatus
459.	Rufous-capped Warbler	Basileuterus rufifrons
	Bananaquit	Coereba flaveola
461.	White-eared Conebill (NE)	Conirostrum leucogenys

462.	Bicolored Conebill	Conirostrum bicolor
	Capped Conebill	Conirostrum albifrons
	Black-faced Tanager	Schistochlamys melanopis
	Magpie Tanager	Cissopis leveriana
	Common Bush-Tanager	Chlorospingus ophthalmicus
	Superciliaried Hemispingus	Hemispingus superciliaris
	Oleaginous Hemispingus	Hemispingus frontalis
	Grey-capped Hemispingus (E)	Hemispingus reyi
	Fulvous-headed Tanager	Thlypopsis fulviceps
	Guira Tanager	Hemithraupis guira
472.	Hooded Tanager	Nemosia pileata
	Rosy Thrush-Tanager (H)	Rhodinocichla rosea
	Red-crowned Ant-Tanager	Habia rubica
	Grey-headed Tanager	Eucometis penicillata
476.	White-lined Tanager	Tachyphonus rufus
	White-shouldered Tanager	Tachyphonus luctuosus
478.	Highland Hepatic-Tanager	Piranga lutea
	Summer Tanager	Piranga rubra
480.	White-winged Tanager	Piranga leucoptera
481.	Silver-beaked Tanager	Ramphocelus carbo
482.	Crimson-backed Tanager	Ramphocelus dimidiatus
483.	Blue-gray Tanager	Thraupis episcopus
484.	Glaucous Tanager (NE)	Thraupis glaucocolpa
485.	Palm Tanager	Thraupis palmarum
486.	Blue-capped Tanager	Thraupis cyanocephala
487.	Lacrimose Mountain-Tanager	Anisognathus lacrymosus
488.	Blue-winged Mountain-Tanager	Anisognathus somptuosus
489.	Golden-rumped Euphonia	Euphonia cyanocephala
490.	Thick-billed Euphonia	Euphonia laniirostris
491.		Euphonia xanthogaster
	Trinidad Euphonia (NE)	Euphonia trinitatis
493.	Blue-naped Chlorophonia	Chlorophonia cyanea
	Chestnut-breasted Chlorophonia	Chlorophonia pyrrhophrys
	Golden Tanager	Tangara arthus
	Saffron-crowned Tanager	Tangara xanthocephala
497.	Rufous-cheeked Tanager (E)	Tangara rufigenis
	Beryl-spangled Tanager	Tangara nigroviridis
	Blue-and-black Tanager	Tangara vassorii
	Black-capped Tanager	Tangara heinei
	Black-headed Tanager	Tangara cyanoptera
	Burnished-buff Tanager	Tangara cayana
	Blue-necked Tanager	Tangara cyanicollis
	Speckled Tanager	Tangara guttata
-	Bay-headed Tanager	Tangara gyrola
	Blue Dacnis	Dacnis cayana
	Green Honeycreeper	Chlorophanes spiza
	Purple Honeycreeper	Cyanerpes caeruleus
	Red-legged Honeycreeper	Cyanerpes cyaneus
510.	Bluish Flowerpiercer	Diglossopis caerulescens

511.	Masked Flowerpiercer	Diglossopis cyanea
	Merida Flowerpiercer (E)	Diglossa gloriosa
	White-sided Flowerpiercer	Diglossa albilatera
	Swallow Tanager	Tersina viridis
	Greyish Saltator	Saltator coerulescens
	Buff-throated Saltator	Saltator maximus
517.	Streaked Saltator	Saltator striatipectus
518.	Orinocan Saltator (NE)	Saltator orenocensis
519.	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	Pheucticus ludovicianus
520.	Blue-black Grosbeak	Cyanocompsa cyanoides
521.	Ultramarine Grosbeak	Cyanocompsa brissonii
522.	Red-capped Cardinal	Paroaria gularis
523.	Blue-black Grassquit	Volatinia jacarina
524.	Black-faced Grassquit	Tiaris bicolor
525.	Lesser Seed-Finch	Oryzoborus angolensis
526.	Grey Seedeater	Sporophila intermedia
527.	Yellow-bellied Seedeater	Sporophila nigricollis
528.	Ruddy-breasted Seedeater	Sporophila minuta
529.	Plain-colored Seedeater	Catamenia inornata
530.	Plumbeous Sierra-Finch	Phrygilus unicolor
531.	Saffron Finch	Sicalis flaveola
532.	Orange-fronted Yellow-Finch	Sicalis columbiana
533.	Pileated Finch (NE)	Coryphospingus pileatus
534.	Moustached Brush-Finch	Atlapetes albofrenatus
535.	Ochre-breasted Brush-Finch	Atlapetes semirufus
536.	Slaty Brush-Finch	Atlapetes schistaceus
	Chestnut-capped Brush-Finch	Buarremon brunneinuchus
	Golden-winged Sparrow (NE)	Arremon schlegeli
	Black-striped Sparrow	Arremonops conirostris
	Grassland Sparrow	Ammodramus humeralis
	Yellow-browed Sparrow	Ammodramus aurifrons
	Rufous-collared Sparrow	Zonotrichia capensis
	Yellow-hooded Blackbird	Agelaius icterocephalus
	Eastern Meadowlark	Sturnella magna
	Red-breasted Blackbird	Sturnella militaris
	Carib Grackle	Quiscalus lugubris
547.	Shiny Cowbird	Molothrus bonariensis
	Giant Cowbird	Molothrus oryzivora
	Venezuelan Troupial	Icterus icterus
	Yellow-backed Oriole	Icterus chrysater
551.	Yellow Oriole	Icterus nigrogularis
	Orange-crowned Oriole (NE)	Icterus auricapillus
553.	Oriole Blackbird	Gymnomystax mexicanus
554.	Yellow-rumped Cacique	Cacicus cela
555.	Subtropical Cacique	Cacicus uropygialis
	Yellow-billed Cacique	Amblycercus holosericeus
557.	Crested Oropendola	Psarocolius decumanus
	Russet-backed Oropendola	Psarocolius angustifrons
559.	Red Siskin (NE)	Carduelis cucullata

560. Yellow-bellied Siskin	Carduelis xanthogastra
561. Lesser Goldfinch	Carduelis psaltria

Mammals

Greater Sac-winged Bat Red-tailed Squirrel Capybara Collared Peccary Crab-eating Fox Giant Otter Amazon River Dolphin Wheeping Capuchin Red Howler Monkey Central Am. Spider Monkey White-tailed Deer Saccopteryx bilineata Sciurus granatensis Hydrochaeris hydrochaeris Pecari tajacu Cerdocyon thous Pteronura brasiliensis Inia geoffrensis Cebus olivaceous Alouatta seniculus Ateles geoffroyi Odocoileus virginianus

Reptiles

Day Gecko Common Iguana Savannah Side-necked Turtle Spectacled Caiman Snake (Green) Gonatodus vittatus Iguana iguana Podocnemis vogli Caiman crocodilus Chironius spec.