

ECUADOR: NORTHWESTERN ANDEAN SLOPES

November 15-23, 2009



Plate-billed Mountain-Toucan

© Paul J. Greenfield

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By Paul Greenfield

For a trip that is blessed with just so many highlights, it is often difficult to single out one specific event or set of events that stood out above and beyond the rest. The hummingbirds in general, at every place we visited, held us mesmerized with repeated close looks at intense interaction, sparkle, glitter, and glare. In all fairness, it is impossible to ignore our first morning at Yanacocha, for instance, and the insuperable views we all had of species like the unbelievably bizarre Sword-billed Hummingbird, Great Sapphirewing, Buff-winged Starfrontlet, Sapphire-vented and Golden-breasted pufflegs, and Tyrian Metaltail. But, to that same end, as we dropped in elevation, more and different “hummers” just kept on coming: White-whiskered and Tawny-bellied hermits, Green Thorntail, Andean Emerald, Purple-chested Hummingbird, the scarce Empress Brilliant, Buff-tailed and the stunning Velvet-purple coronets, Brown and Collared incas, Gorgeted Sunangel, Purple-bibbed Whitetip, Booted Racket-tail, Violet-tailed Sylph, and Wedge-billed Hummingbird, along with Purple-throated and Little woodstars—to name only some of the species we gloated over on a daily basis!

Our second morning brought us literally face-to-face with perhaps a dozen forest denizens, at a most unlikely hot-spot, where species after species paraded by us as they ignored our presence (and that of a handful of taxis, buses, and passers-by) to feast on a dawn banquet of moths that had gathered there during the night. I would describe this unique birding experience as a combination of “relaxed intensity” together with some of the best, closest, and most satisfying looks one could ever hope to get of such species as Golden-headed Quetzal; Strong-billed and Montane woodcreepers; Golden-crowned Flycatcher; One-colored Becard; Brown-capped Vireo; Orange-bellied Euphonia; Tropical Parula; Slate-throated Whitestart; Dusky Bush-Tanager; Golden, Beryl-spangled, and Black-capped tanagers; Fawn-breasted Tanager; Blue-winged Mountain-Tanager; and Tricolored Brush-Finch. After about an hour we continued our birding along the Mindo entrance road where we picked up additional species at every turn.

Our following morning visit to the Paz Antpitta Reserve was magical indeed; after a winding pre-dawn drive to the site and a rather steep descent to a forest blind, we began by watching three noisy, scarlet, male Andean Cocks-of-the-rock at their display lek. This was followed by exceptionally close looks at a pair of Sickle-winged Guans that fed on fruit placed out for their pleasure, and ours! We continued, now more focused on the main reason for our presence here: our search for at least three species of antpittas—true skulkers of the forest floor of this lush, mountainous region. Our host, Mr. Angel Paz—a friendly local farmer, who rather recently “saw the light” and began befriending birds and protecting the very habitat he had been bent on slashing and burning some years before—quietly searched for these rarities, whistling and calling out to them by their individual Christian names, “María!,” “Cariño!,” “Susana!,” “Willy!”...and each of them, one by one, at different locations (down along the river, at a stump set up at a staging area, in dense cover alongside the trail), came out to feed on giant earthworm morsels prepared especially for them. By mid-morning, as we headed back for an enjoyable breakfast of bolòn de verde, empanadas, fruit salad and café, we were met with a string of nectar feeders and yet another spectacular hummingbird show.

And, as a special bonus, a rather large mixed foraging flock came through: Toucan Barbet, Orange-breasted Fruiteater, Uniform Antshrike, Long-tailed Antbird, Flame-faced and Metallic-green tanagers, and Black-winged Saltator were among the many species observed.

How can I omit at least some reference to our first morning's visit along the Paseo del Quinde Ecoroute a couple of days later? After our successful quest for the spectacular Chocó-Andean endemic, Plate-billed Mountain-Toucan, a few minutes earlier, we slipped into the forest in search of yet another mystical Andean specialty. A somewhat distant call brought our attention to a pair of Ocellated Tapaculos from deep in the understory, and we followed a narrow trail back away from the road to where we felt we might have a chance to get at least a glimpse of one of these intricately plumaged creatures. It took some time before the calling birds moved closer to us, and little by little we were able to see this exotic species through dense *Chusquea* bamboo and moss-laden trunks and branches as it ran about without moving a single leaf! All the while a curious group of Turquoise Jays scolded from above.

These were just a few of the memorable experiences we enjoyed during the first days of our Northwestern Andean Slopes tour, but perhaps there is one special highlight that does stand out after all—our morning at Río Silanche Bird Sanctuary, a remnant patch of protected forest that is mostly isolated by sad evidence of typical land use methods that have become so prevalent in the Neotropics: vast plantations of oil palm, heart-of-palm, and balsa trees. We arrived fairly early that morning, serenaded by some varied bird song as we organized ourselves at the reserve parking lot. As had been much the norm for this trip, due to a strangely prolonged and abnormal dry spell that has pounded Ecuador during what should be the beginning months of the rainy season, bird-song died out quickly and it was anybody's guess as to whether we would have any luck at finding some of the special bird species we were seeking on this day. We walked just a short distance over to the canopy tower (a forty-five-foot-high construction that looks out over the forest) set on an elevated portion of the reserve and proceeded to wait for some action. Little came, and at just about the time when our group began to get impatient and start contemplating a Plan "B," it all began to happen.

It started slowly, with a bird here, another one there...nothing fancy yet, but slowly activity grew. A Laughing Falcon began to call; Steve played back some tape and the bird came flying in and landed in the large neighboring tree to afford us splendid views. We rather quickly had to forget about this wonderful sight, as a mixed foraging flock began to make its presence known...and from there on, it was non-stop for the next three hours! Being up in the canopy was just perfect for viewing species that are often real neck-breakers, but the viewing was 360° so we were constantly redirecting ourselves, from the fruiting *Cecropia* trees on one side, the large *Ficus* on the other, the dead snag to our left, and so on. It was basically like a "Big Sit," birding from a 10²-meter platform; and what birding it was. Included among the 80+ species we recorded there were Barred Puffbird; Orange-fronted Barbet; Pale-mandibled Araçari; Olivaceous Piculet; Spotted Woodcreeper; Checker-throated and Dot-winged antwrens; Black-capped Pygmy-Tyrant; Black-headed Tody-Flycatcher; Cinnamon Becard; Black-tipped Cotinga; Slate-throated Gnatcatcher; Lesser Greenlet; Orange-bellied Euphonia; Guira, White-shouldered, Lemon-rumped, Gray-and-gold, Blue-whiskered, Emerald, Bay-headed, Rufous-winged, Blue-necked, and Golden-hooded tanagers; Yellow-tufted, Scarlet-thighed, Blue, and Scarlet-breasted dacnises; Green and Purple honeycreepers; and Swallow Tanager.

We finally decided to climb down the tower and explore a couple of forest trails which ended up being pretty intense, as a fairly large mixed understory foraging flock entertained us before lunch; among the species were Cinnamon Woodpecker, Black-striped Woodcreeper, Spot-crowned Antvireo, White-flanked and Slaty antwrens, and Tawny-crested Tanager. Before our early departure, we picked up another handful of important species as we birded the roadside to the edge of the reserve. Northwestern Ecuador offers great and varied birding and fine viewing opportunities, and this November trip was no exception. Sharing this experience with all of you, and especially having Steve Hilty along, made it very special for me.

ITINERARY

Nov. 15 – Arrival Quito

Nov. 16 – Early departure from Quito; to Yanacocha Reserve until midday; drive via upper “Paseo del Quinde” Ecoroute to Tandayapa—highway to Séptimo Paraíso (3300-1500m)

Nov. 17 – Dawn at the “Y” de Mindo and walk down Mindo entrance road; midday around the Séptimo Paraíso hummingbird feeders; afternoon to Mirador Río Blanco & El Siete (1700-1000m)

Nov. 18 – Paz Antpitta Reserve (1700); midday at Séptimo Paraíso; afternoon walk along Mindo entrance Rd. below Séptimo Paraíso with a stop at ‘Miramelinda’

Nov. 19 – Morning at Milpe Bird Sanctuary (1100m); midday at Séptimo Paraíso; afternoon along Milpe entrance road

Nov. 20 – AM along lower “Paseo del Quinde” Ecoroute (1700-2000m); midday at Séptimo Paraíso; afternoon at Mindo Loma (1500m)

Nov. 21 – Day-trip to Río Silanche Bird Sanctuary (tower, trails and roadside); Dale and Tina birded Séptimo Paraíso grounds

Nov. 22 – Return to Quito via lower “Paseo del Quinde”; stop at Bellavista Lodge; return to Quito; fairwell dinner

Nov. 23 – Departure home

THE SPECIES LIST

Abbreviations:

Yanacocha = YC

Séptimo Paraíso = SP

“Y” de Mindo = Y

Mirador Río Blanco = MRB

Río Silanche Bird Sanctuary = RS

Milpe Bird Sanctuary and area = MS

Paz Antpitta Reserve = AP

Paseo del Quinde Ecoroute = E

Mindo entrance road = ME

Mindo Loma = ML

Bellavista = B

TINAMOUS: TINAMIDAE

Little Tinamou (*Crypturellus soui*)—Heard only at RS

CORMORANTS: PHALACROCORACIDAE

Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*)—1 was spotted perched along the Río Blanco from MRB

HERONS & BITTERNS: ARDEIDAE

Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*)—Rather large numbers on all but our first field day; mostly flying to and from their nearby roosts

AMERICAN VULTURES: CATHARTIDAE

Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*)—Quite common throughout—on all but our first field day
Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*)—Fairly common; seen on all but our first field day

KITES, EAGLES & HAWKS: ACCIPITRIDAE

Hook-billed Kite (*Chondrohierax uncinatus*)—1 captivating melanistic (basically all black) bird was seen soaring along the E on 20 Nov.; this individual (confirmed by photographs taken by Ben Wilson) showed tail with one broad white medium band, an equally broad black sub-terminal band with a narrow white tip; base of tail also black as with entire body and under-wing, including primaries mainly all black.

Tiny Hawk (*Accipiter superciliosus*)—1 beautiful male was scoped along the MS entrance road in the late afternoon as it perched and preened high in a bare tree, initially being harrassed by swallows

Plain-breasted Hawk (*Accipiter ventralis*)—1 bird was seen briefly as it dove off its perch and flew past a few of our group at YC

Bicolored Hawk (*Accipiter bicolor*)—1 perched bird was scoped along the lower ME at 'Miramelinda'

Barred Hawk (*Leucopternis princeps*)—1 perched bird was seen well by Caroline and Dale at AP

Roadside Hawk (*Bureo magirostris*)—1-2 seen along ME and MS; Heard only at AP

Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus*)—2 were seen along ME; heard only at AP

FALCONS & CARACARAS: FALCONIDAE

Laughing Falcon (*Herpetotheres cachinnans*)—1 was scoped distantly along the Río Blanco at MRB; then seen beautifully from canopy tower at RS when called right in to nearby tree for long satisfying looks!

American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*)—1 handsome male was seen perched on a fence post *en route* to YC

CURASSOWS & GUANS: CRACIDAE

Wattled Guan (*Aburria aburri*)—Heard only from SP grounds on 20 Nov.

Sickle-winged Guan (*Chamaepetes goudotii*)—Great views of 2 while feeding on fruit at AP; then another was seen at B

NEW WORLD QUAILS: ODONTOPHORIDAE

Rufous-fronted Wood-Quail (*Odontophorus erythrops*)—Heard only at RS

Dark-backed Wood-Quail (*Odontophorus melanonotus*)—Heard only from Y

PIGEONS & DOVES: COLUMBIDAE

Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*)—Seen around Quito and other towns and villages

Band-tailed Pigeon (*Patagioenas fasciatus*)—Generally small numbers were seen on all but our day at RS; a rather common species of the Andean slopes
Plumbeous Pigeon (*Columba plumbea*)—Quite a few were seen (including good scope views to confirm light colored iris) and heard on all but two days
Ruddy Pigeon (*Columba subvinacea*)—2 were seen (including good scope views to confirm the dark/red iris color) along the ME; also 1 scoped and others heard at RS
Dusky Pigeon (*Columba goodsoni*)—Heard several times and at close range (2 flew over canopy tower) at RS; a Chocó endemic
Eared Dove (*Zenaida auriculata*)—Common species in and around Quito; several were seen
White-tipped Dove (*Leptotila verreauxi*)—Singles were seen along the E on two separate days
White-throated Quail-Dove (*Geotrygon frenata*)—First, heard at AP; 1 foraging bird was seen well from terrace at ML

PARROTS & MACAWS: PSITTACIDAE

Red-masked Parakeet (*Aratinga erythrogenys*)—A pair was seen flying and calling high overhead at RS; a *near-threatened* Tumbesian endemic species
Blue-headed Parrot (*Pionus menstruus*)—1 calling bird was seen briefly and in poor light flying above the canopy tower at RS
Red-billed Parrot (*Pionus sordidus*)—Small bands of 6 or so were seen at ME and Mindo Loma; 2 were also seen along the E on our last day
Bronze-winged Parrot (*Pionus chalcopterus*)—3 or so were seen at MS (Ben got decent photos and saw a perched group of 5 there); also heard only at RS

CUCKOOS: CUCULIDAE

Squirrel Cuckoo (*Piaya cayana*)—Singles were seen at AP and along the E and on two days; on our last day, one bird was singing its not often heard song
Little Cuckoo (*Piaya minuta*)—1 bird was seen quite well in canopy at MS (not the typical habitat for this species)
Smooth-billed Ani (*Crotophaga ani*)—4 were seen briefly in the MS area

TYPICAL OWLS: STRIGIDAE

Colombian Screech-Owl (*Megascops colombianus*)—Heard only at SP
Mottled Owl (*Ciccaba virgata*)—This rather widespread species was seen beautifully at SP

OILBIRD: STEATORNITHIDAE

Oilbird (*Steatornis caripensis*)—2 birds were seen briefly [feeding?] on palm fruit at SP on 20 Nov.

POTOOS: NYCTIBIDAE

Common Potoo (*Nyctibius griseus*)—1 was seen well at its day roost on two days (heard on a third) at SP

SWIFTS: APODIDAE

Chestnut-collared Swift (*Streptoprocne rutila*)—2 were seen briefly from the canopy tower at RS
White-collared Swift (*Streptoprocne zonaris*)—This spectacular large swift was seen in fair numbers on all but two days

Gray-rumped Swift (*Chaetura cinereiventris*)—20 or so were seen from the canopy tower at RS, though light was not favorable
Lesser Swallow-tailed Swift (*Panyptila cayennensis*)—2 were seen by some of the group from the canopy tower at RS

HUMMINGBIRD: TROCHILIDAE

Band-tailed Barbthroat (*Threnetes ruckeri*)—1 was seen well as it fed on *Heliconia* flowers
In understory at RS
White-whiskered Hermit (*Phaethornis yaruqui*)—A common Chocó endemic species seen on 4 days; often close looks at feeders, also at *Heliconia* flowers at RS
Tawny-bellied Hermit (*Phaethornis syrmatorphorus*)—4 were seen in all; at SP feeders and gardens, AP feeders, and B feeders
White-necked Jacobin (*Florisuga mellivora*)—3 were consistent visitors at SP feeders, and 1 was seen at MS
Brown Violetear (*Colibri delphinae*)—Only 1 was seen briefly by Caroline at SP feeders
Green Violetear (*Colibri thalassinus*)—1 was seen a few times at B feeders
Sparkling Violetear (*Colibri coruscans*)—Singles were seen at 'El Siete', AP and B feeders; a common garden species in Quito
Green Thorntail (*Popelairia conversii*)—Quite common at MRB and MS; 2 were seen at RS
Western Emerald (*Chlorostilbon melanorhynchus*)—A considered a race of Blue-tailed Emerald (*Ch. mellisugus*) by some authors. At least 1 shining male was seen at 'mora' shrubs at AP
Green-crowned Woodnymph (*Thalurania fannyi*)—Generally common throughout the area at lower elevations; seen on all but 2 days; stunning looks at various feeding stations
Rufous-tailed Hummingbird (*Amazilia tzacatl*)—The most common lowland species of the west, in gardens and open areas; spreading to feeders at some higher elevations
Andean Emerald (*Amazilia franciae*)—Rather common at feeders throughout the trip; seen on all but the last two days
Purple-chested Hummingbird (*Amazilia rosenbergi*)—At least a pair was seen closely around the canopy tower at RS
Speckled Hummingbird (*Adelomyia melanogenys*)—Quite a few were seen at various locations, perhaps best at AP and B
Fawn-breasted Brilliant (*Heliodoxa rubinoides*)—Fairly common, especially at feeders in the subtropics; SP, AP, ML and B
Empress Brilliant (*Heliodoxa emperatrix*)—This spectacular, scarce Chocó-Andean endemic was seen well at feeders at SP, AP (in spectacular light), and ML
Green-crowned Brilliant (*Heliodoxa jacula*)—Quite common generally; seen at feeders at SP, AP, MS (where most common)
Buff-tailed Coronet (*Boissonneaua flavescens*)—Quite common in the subtropics, with few at SP, 3 beautifully observed at AP, the species was common at ML and was dominant and very common at B feeders
Velvet-purple Coronet (*Boissonneaua jardini*)—This breathtaking Chocó-Andean endemic species was seen at SP, AP (in wonderful light) and quite common at ML
Mountain Velvetbreast (*Lafresnaya lafesnayi*)—1 female was seen briefly near YC feeders
Brown Inca (*Coeligena wilsoni*)—Quite common this trip; mostly seen at feeders on four days (SP, AP, and ML)
Collared Inca (*Coeligena torquata*)—At least 5 or so were seen along E; especially at B
Buff-winged Starfrontlet (*Coeligena lutetiae*)—Very common and conspicuous at YC

Sword-billed Hummingbird (*Ensifera ensifera*)—At least 3 of this unbelievably bizarre species were seen beautifully at YC feeders; another individual surprised us briefly along the E below B (a first record for the area) on 22 Nov.

Great Sapphirewing (*Pterophanes cyanopterus*)—Large and spectacular; close views of this, the World's second largest hummingbird, at YC (6-7 in all)

Gorgeted Sunangel (*Heliangelus strophanus*)—2 were seen along E at around 2000m; then at least 7 were seen at B feeders

Sapphire-vented Puffleg (*Eriocnemis luciani*)—Very common at YC, especially feeders

Golden-breasted Puffleg (*Eriocnemis mosquera*)—2-3 of this rather scarce Andean species were seen well at YC feeders

Purple-bibbed Whitetip (*Urosticte benjamini*)—Quite a few of this naturally scarce Chocó-Andean endemic were seen at feeders at SP, AP, and "El Siete"

Booted Racket-tail (*Ocreatus underwoodii*)—Not terribly common this trip, though up to 10 were seen at feeders at SP, AP, and "El 7"; 1 female was seen along the E

Tyrian Metaltail (*Metallura tyrianthina*)—At least 3 were seen at YC

Violet-tailed Sylph (*Agelaiocercus coelestis*)—This Chocó-Andean specialty with its male's stunning tail was common at feeders throughout the subtropical zone

Wedge-billed Hummingbird (*Augastes geoffroyi*)—Incredible looks at 1 at Y; another was seen briefly at AP

Purple-crowned Fairy (*Heliathyx barroti*)—Single birds were seen at MS and briefly at RS

Purple-throated Woodstar (*Calliflox mitchellii*)—Another Chocó-Andean specialty; seen well at feeders on all but 2 days; most common at SP (12+ seen there)

Little Woodstar (*Chaetocercus bombus*)—1 female of this rather scarce species was seen well at 'El Siete' feeders

QUETZALS & TROGONS: TROGONIDAE

Western White-tailed Trogon (*Trogon chionurus*)—Aka White-tailed Trogon (*T. Viridis*) by some authors. Heard only at RS

Chocó Trogon (*Trogon comptus*)—Aka White-eyed Trogon by some authors. A female, and then a male were seen at MS

Masked Trogon (*Trogon personatus*)—Excellent views of several females and a few males were enjoyed by all; first along the upper E on our first day; another was seen along ME on our second morning; 2 females and a male were seen on the E on 20 Nov. and 2 more were seen there again on 22 Nov.

Golden-headed Quetzal (*Pharomachrus auriceps*)—Males were seen on three days (heard on another); 1 along ME; 2 at large fruiting tree at AP; 5 along the lower E

MOTMOTS: MOMOTIDAE

Rufous Motmot (*Baryphthengus martii*)—Heard daily around SP, also at MS; 1 was seen briefly at RS

Broad-billed Motmot (*Electron platyrhynchum*)—Singles were seen at AP and MS; also heard only at RS

JACAMARS: GALBULIDAE

Rufous-tailed Jacamar (*Galbula ruficauda*)—1 was seen well, but briefly in tangles along the roadside at RS

PUFFBIRDS: BUCCONIDAE

Barred Puffbird (*Nystalus radiatus*)—Heard only along the ME; another seen nicely from the canopy tower at RS; mistaken for a pygmy-owl by a slew of harrassing birds
White-whiskered Puffbird (*Malacoptila panamensis*)—1 was seen with understory flock at RS

BARBETS: CAPITONIDAE

Orange-fronted Barbet (*Capito squamatus*)—One nice pair (at least) was seen well from the canopy tower at RS; feeding on *Cecropia* fruit
Red-headed Barbet (*Eubucco bourcierii*)—A pair was seen briefly along the lower part of ME; another pair were seen at RS; also heard only at MS
Toucan Barbet (*Semnornis ramphastinus*)—2 of this gaudy Chocó-Andean endemic were seen at AP; another 3 were seen closer along the lower part of E (others heard only)

TOUCANS: RAMPHASTIDAE

Crimson-rumped Toucanet (*Aulacorhynchus haematopygus*)—5 were seen at AP; another 2 or so were found at MS
Plate-billed Mountain-Toucan (*Andigena laminirostris*)—3 were seen well along the lower E on 20 Nov.; then another 2 were seen there on our last day; a very special Chocó-Andean endemic, almost completely endemic to Ecuador
Pale-mandibled Araçari (*Pteroglossua erythropygius*)—Considered a race of Collared Araçari (*P. torquatus*) by some authors. Quite a few seen, including great looks: ME, MS and RS
Chocó Toucan (*Ramphastos brevis*)—2 calling birds were scoped at a distance at MS (also heard only along ME and at RS)
Chestnut-mandibled Toucan (*Ramphastos swainsonii*)—1 was seen briefly but fairly close by as it flew in overhead to a large tree along the road at RS

WOODPECKERS: PICIDAE

Olivaceous Piculet (*Picumnus olivaceus*)—1 was seen mobbing a Barred Puffbird (thought it was a pygmy-owl) from canopy tower at RS
Black-cheeked Woodpecker (*Melanerpes pucherani*)—2 were seen beautifully at MRB feeders; 3 more were seen cloely from the canopy tower at RS
Smoky-brown Woodpecker (*Veniliornis funigatus*)—A nice pair was seen with a mixed foraging flock at MS
Red-rumped Woodpecker (*Veniliornis kirkii*)—1 was seen along roadside forest at RS
Golden-olive Woodpecker (*Piculus rubiginosus*)—Singles were seen at MS and RS
Crimson-mantled Woodpecker (*Piculus rivolii*)—This is a stunning woodpecker! 1 was seen along the upper E on our first afternoon; 2 more were seen along the lower E on our last day
Cinnamon Woodpecker (*Celeus loricatus*)—1 was seen with a large mixed understory foraging flock at RS
Lineated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus lineatus*)—At least 2 were seen well at RS
Powerful Woodpecker (*Campephilus pollens*)—A pair was seen by Tina at SP on 20 Nov. ; a male was also seen there the following day by Dale; heard only along the E on our last day
Guayaquil Woodpecker (*Campephilus gayaquilensis*)— Heard only at MS

OVENBIRDS: FURNARIIDAE

Pacific Hornero (*Furnarius cinnamomeus*)— Considered a race of Pale-legged Hornero (*F. leucopus*) by some authors. A few (4 in all) of this comical Tumbesian endemic were seen at lower elevations, ME, RS and somewhat surprisingly along the lower E

Azara's Spinetail (*Synallaxis azarae*)—Only a few were calling this trip. 1 was seen along the lower E on 20 Nov. and 2 more (including a juvenile plumaged bird) were there on our last field day

Slaty Spinetail (*Synallaxis brachyura*)—Heard only along ME on two days (hardly vocal this trip)

White-browed Spinetail (*Hellmayrea gularis*)—A pair was seen well at YC

Red-faced Spinetail (*Cranioleuca erythrops*)—Several were seen at ME, SP, AP, MS and along lower E

Pearled Treerunner (*Margarornis squamiger*)—Excellent close looks of 8 or so in all along the lower E with mixed foraging flocks on our two visits 20 and 22 Nov.

Streaked Tuftedcheek (*Pseudocolaptes boissonnautii*)—At least 3 were seen quite well along the lower E on our last day

Scaly-throated Foliage-gleaner (*Anabacerthia variagaticeps*)—2-3 were seen at and around MS with mixed foraging flocks

Buff-fronted Foliage-gleaner (*Philydor rufus*)—At least 1 was seen at AP

Striped treehunter (*Thripadectes holostictus*)—At least 1 was seen in dense vegetation along the lower E on 22 Nov.

Streak-capped Treehunter (*Thripadectes virgaticeps*)—Good close views of apparently the same individual on 4 mornings foraging around the lodge at SP

Plain Xenops (*Xenops minutus*)—1 was seen along the road near MS; 2 were seen well with a mixed foraging flock at RS

Plain-brown Woodcreeper (*Dendrocincla fuliginosa*)—1 was seen at RS along the roadside

Tyrannine Woodcreeper (*Dendrocincla tyrannina*)—1 of this relatively scarce woodcreeper was seen well along the lower E (our lunch stop) with a large mixed foraging flock

Wedge-billed Woodcreeper (*Glyphorhynchus spirurus*)—Several were seen in all; 5 at MS and at least 2 at RS; mainly with a mixed foraging flocks

Strong-billed Woodcreeper (*Xiphocolaptes promeropyrhynchus*)—1 was seen spectacularly close, feeding close-by at Y; singles were also seen at AP, and SP (by Dale)

Black-striped Woodcreeper (*Xiphorhynchus lachrymosus*)—At last 2 were seen (also heard) with a mixed foraging flock at RS

Spotted Woodcreeper (*Xiphorhynchus erythropygius*)—Several were seen at MS and RS (where seen closely from the canopy tower)

Montane Woodcreeper (*Lepidocolaptes lacrymiger*)—The most common woodcreeper of Ecuador's Andean slopes. Between 1-4 were seen at ME, AP, MS, and along the lower E (some superbly close views included)

TYPICAL ANTIBIRDS: THAMNOPHILIDAE

Uniform Antshrike (*Thamnophilus unicolor*)—A pair was seen (also heard) to varying degrees while skulking in thick *Chusquea* bamboo at AP

Western Slaty-Antshrike (*Thamnophilus atrinucha*)—1 male was seen with mixed understory flock at RS

Spot-crowned Antvireo (*Dysithamnus puncticeps*)—A pair (male mostly) was seen quite well (even scoped) with a mixed understory flock at RS

Checker-throated Antwren (*Myrmotherula fulviventris*)—At least 5 in all were seen at RS; from the canopy tower (!) and with a large understory flock
White-flanked Antwren (*Myrmotherula axillaris*)—At least a pair was seen with a large mixed understory flock at RS
Slaty Antwren (*Myrmotherula schisticolor*)—1 female was seen (also scoped) with a large mixed understory flock at RS
Dot-winged Antwren (*Microrhopias quixensis*)—At least 6 were seen—from the canopy tower and with a mixed foraging flock—at RS
Long-tailed Antbird (*Drymophila caudata*)—a beautiful pair of this very attractive antbird was seen well in *Chusquea* bamboo at AP
Dusky Antbird (*Cercomacra tyrannina*)—Heard only at RS
Chestnut-backed Antbird (*Myrmecisa exsul*)—At least 1 was seen briefly in understory at RS (others heard there)

ANTTHRUSHES AND ANTPITTAS: FORMICARIIDAE

Rufous-breasted Antthrush (*Formicarius rufipectus*)—Heard only at SP
Giant Antpitta (*Grallaria gigantea*)—Spectacular! One of the many highlights of this NW Andean Slopes Tour. “Cariño”, “María” and later on, “Manuel” came out in plain sight to feed on worms at AP
Undulated Antpitta (*Grallaria squamigera*)—1 came out briefly along the trail at YC
Moustached Antpitta (*Grallaria alleni*)—Excellent views of “Susana”, better known as “Susan” at AP—another highlight!
Tawny Antpitta (*Grallaria quitensis*)—Heard only in pasture and scrub at YC
Chestnut-crowned Antpitta (*Grallaria ruficapillus*)—Heard only on one day along the lower E
Yellow-breasted Antpitta (*Grallaria flavotincta*)—“Wilomena”, better known as “Willy” was seen beautifully as she waited to be fed (and finally was) along the river at AP; yet another highlight!
Rufous Antpitta (*Grallaria rufula*)—1 was seen a couple of times at YC

TAPACULOS: RHINOCRYPTIDAE

Ocellated Tapaculo (*Acropternis orthonyx*)—Heard only at YC; 1-2 (a pair) birds were seen after much *work* in dense *Chusquea* bamboo-dominated understory along the lower E
Nariño Tapaculo (*Scytolopus vicinior*)—Heard only along ME and the lower E, where there is marginal overlap with the following species
Spillmann’s Tapaculo (*Scytolopus spillmanni*)—Mostly heard on two days along the lower E, but 1 was actually glanced by a few of us, skulking about in dense vegetation along the E
Blackish Tapaculo (*Scytalopus latrans*)—Here considered a separate species from Unicolored Tapaculo (*S. unicolor*)—Heard only at YC

COTINGA: COTINGIDAE

Green-and-black Fruiteater (*Pipreola riefferii*)—Finally nice looks at at least 3 birds with a large mixed foraging flock along the lower E on our last afternoon in the field
Orange-breasted Fruiteater (*Pipreola jucunda*)—Really nice looks at this rather scarce Chocó-Andean endemic at AP
Olivaceous Piha (*Snowornis cryptolophus*)—1 bird was seen by some of our group at a fruiting tree at AP

Black-tipped Cotinga (*Carpodectes hopkei*)—1 stunning male was seen as it came to a fruiting *Cecropia* tree at RS. This Chocó endemic species is getting increasingly rare in the area due to deforestation, so this sighting was a very pleasant surprise and a real plus for Mindo Cloudforest Foundation's Río Silanche Bird Sanctuary!

Andean Cock-of-the-Rock (*Rupicola peruviana*)—1 female on her nest was seen under the bridge at Tandayapa on our first field day; some 3 displaying males were seen well and repeatedly (several more were present) at their Lek at AP

MANAKINS: PIPRIDAE

Golden-winged Manakin (*Masius chrysopterus*)—At least a pair was seen in canopy at MS

White-bearded Manakin (*Manacus manacus*)—At least 3-4 males (and 1 female from the canopy tower) were seen (others heard) at RS parking lot area

Club-winged Manakin (*Machaeropterus deliciosus*)—1 male was seen only briefly in canopy by some of us at MS; Dale and Tina found 1 displaying male at SP on 21 Nov.

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS: TYRANNIDAE

Sooty-headed Tyrannulet (*Phyllomyias griseiceps*)—1 was seen foraging quite low at edge at MS; another pair was heard only in canopy at RS

Black-capped Tyrannulet (*Phyllomyias nigrocapillus*)—1 was seen with a large mixed foraging flock along the lower E (our lunch stop)

White-crested Elaenia (*Elaenia albiceps*)—Basically small numbers (between 1-2) were seen along the ME and the E (on our two visits)

Sierran Elaenia (*Elaenia pallatangae*)—Between 1-2 were seen at various sites; ME, AP and E (on our two visits)

Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet (*Camptostoma obsoletum*)—3 were seen along the ME; others heard along the lower E

White-tailed Tyrannulet (*Mecocerculus poecilocercus*)—2 were seen at AP; 1, then 2 or so were found, over two days, along the lower E; always with mixed foraging flocks

White-throated Tyrannulet (*Mecocerculus leucophrys*)—Only 1 was seen with a mixed foraging flock at YC

Tufted Tit-Tyrant (*Anairetes parulus*)—1 of this really cute species was seen well (one of our very first birds of the trip) in a stand of *Polylepis* trees at YC parking area

Torrent Tyrannulet (*Serpophaga cinerea*)—A pair was seen foraging along a rapid stream along the upper E on our first afternoon

Golden-faced Tyrannulet (*Zimmerius chrysops*)—Quite a few were seen; recorded along ME; at least 2 at MS, and 2 or so at RS

Slaty-capped Flycatcher (*Leptopogon striaticollis*)—Several were seen; 2 were recorded at MS; at least 5 at RS (including close looks; another 2 along the lower E on our last field day—always with mixed foraging flocks

Streak-necked Flycatcher (*Mionectes striaticollis*)—1 was seen at AP; 1 along the lower E on 20 Nov. and some 3 more there again on our last day

Ornate Flycatcher (*Myiotriccus ornatus*)—Several of this charming and attractive little flycatcher were seen at AP (2+) and MS (6+)

Black-capped Pygmy-Tyrant (*Myiornis atricapillus*)—This minute creature is certainly one of the World's smallest passerines. 1 was seen beautifully close from the canopy tower at RS others heard at the reserve)

Scale-crested Pygmy-Tyrant (*Lophotriccus pileatus*)—Heard only along the ME; 1 was seen at AP and another was seen at MS (others heard)

Black-headed Tody-Flycatcher (*Todirostrum nigriceps*)—1 beautiful calling bird was seen at point-blank from the canopy tower at RS

Flavescent Flycatcher (*Myiophobus flavicans*)—1 was seen well as it came in to a pygmy-owl call along the lower E

Bran-colored Flycatcher (*Myiophobus fasciatus*)—1 was seen along roadside brush at RS

Cinnamon Flycatcher (*Pyrrhomyias cinnamomeus*)—At least pairs were seen on each of two days along the E; nice close looks too

Acadian Flycatcher (*Empidonax virescens*)—1 was seen well (others heard) at MS

Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*)—Singles were seen at MS and RS

Smoke-colored Pewee (*Contopus fumigatus*)—Singles were seen at AP and along the lower E

Western Wood-Pewee (*Contopus sordidulus*)—At least 2 of this boreal migrant were seen (one heard) at MS and along the lower E; another unidentifiable *Contopus* was seen at MS (perhaps Eastern Wood-Pewee)

Black Phoebe (*Sayornis nigricans*)—At least 2 were found along the upper E (always around water)

Crowned Chat-Tyrant (*Ochthoeca frontalis*)—1 was seen at YC

Slaty-backed Chat-Tyrant (*Ochthoeca cinnamomeiventris*)—A nice pair was seen will along riverside vegetation at AP

Brown-backed Chat-Tyrant (*Ochthoeca fumicolor*)—1 was seen well (though in fog) along the trail at YC

Masked Water-Tyrant (*Fluvicola nengeta*)—2 surprised us at the beginning of the lower E (a new location for the species)

Rusty-margined Flycatcher (*Myiozetetes cayanensis*)—At least 3 were seen at RS

Golden-crowned Flycatcher (*Myiodynastes chrysocephalus*)—Excellent close looks at a pair at Y; others were seen along the lower E on our two visits

Streaked Flycatcher (*Myiodynastes maculatus*)—Quite a few were seen; 1 along the lower ME; 6 or so at RS and at least 2 more along the lower E on our last field day

Snowy-throated Kingbird (*Tyrannus niveigularis*)—1 was seen and studied at the parking lot at MS

Tropical Kingbird (*Tyrannus melancholicus*)—Common; seen on all but our first day

Dusky-capped Flycatcher (*Myarchus tuberculifer*)—Quite a few were seen on all but two days; ME, SP, MS, RS and E

Masked Tityra (*Tityra semifaciata*)—Only 1 male was seen this trip, at RS

Black-crowned Tityra (*Tityra inquisitor*)—1 female and juvenile were scoped at RS

Barred Becard (*Pachyramphus versicolor*)—1 female was seen at AP; at least a pair was also seen along the lower E with a large mixed foraging flock

Cinnamon Becard (*Pachyramphus cinnamomeus*)—Quite a few were seen this trip; 3 along the ME, at least 1 at MS; another at RS and 2 more along the lower E

Black-and-white Becard (*Pachyramphus albogriseus*)—1 female was seen at MS

One-colored Becard (*Pachyramphus homochrous*)—Several were seen; at least 3 along the ME, a few more at AP; and up to 4 at MS

SWALLOWS: HIRUNDINIDAE

Gray-breasted Martin (*Progne chalybea*)—Only 1 individual was seen briefly from the canopy tower at RS

Brown-bellied Swallow (*Notiochelidon murina*)—The highland swallow, seen at YC

Blue-and-white Swallow (*Notiochelidon cyanoleuca*)—The most common and widespread swallow in Ecuador; seen almost daily, though not generally in large numbers this trip

White-thighed Swallow (*Notiochelidon tibialis*)—4 were studied through our scopes at RS, though not so easy to see the white thighs when these cute little guys hunker down
Southern Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*)—A very few were seen in more open areas along the ME; some 10 were recorded at RS

WRENS: TROGLODYTIDAE

Rufous Wren (*Cinnycerthia unirufa*)—4-5 were studied closely as they foraged noisily at YC

Bay Wren (*Thryothorus nigricapillus*)—1 was glimpsed and heard at MS (mainly quiet this trip)

House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*)—Common, seen on most days (also heard); especially at SP

Gray-breasted Wood-Wren (*Henicorhina leucophrys*)—Heard often in montane areas; 1 was seen in dense vegetation at AP

Southern Nightingale-Wren (*Microcerculus marginatus*)—Aka Scaly-breasted Wren by some authors. Heard only at MS and RS

THRUSHES & ALLIES: TURDIDAE

Andean Solitaire (*Myadestes ralloides*)—This species flute-like song was heard mostly on several days; 1 was seen as it sang along the lower E

Swainson's Thrush (*Catharus ustulatus*)—Singles mostly were seen on all but one day

Great Thrush (*Turdus fuscater*)—A common highland species

Glossy-black Thrush (*Turdus serranus*)—1 was seen at fruiting tree at AP; heard only along the lower E

Ecuadorian Thrush (*Turdus maculirostris*)—2 were seen along the ME; 3 more were found at MRB; others heard at MS

GNATCATCHERS: POLIOPTILIDAE

Slate-throated Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila schistaceigula*)—At least 1 of this truly playful little bird was seen fairly closely from the canopy tower at RS

JAYS & ALLIES: CORVIDAE

Turquoise Jay (*Cyanolyca turcosa*)—1 was seen along the upper E on our first afternoon; 3 watched over us as we hunted for Ocellated Tapaculo inside forest along the lower E; another 3 were again seen in the same area on our last field day

Beautiful Jay (*Cyanolyca pulchra*)—Heard only, while we watched our first Turquoise Jay along the upper E

VIREOS & ALLIES: VIREONIDAE

Brown-capped Vireo (*Vireo leucophrys*)—Quite common and seen on four days this trip, including good close studies at various sites; Y, AP and lower E on two days

Red-eyed Vireo (*Vireo olivaceus*)—More common than the previous species; seen on all but one day; excellent close looks at various localities

Lesser Greenlet (*Hylophilus decurtatus*)—1-2 were seen at MS and at least 5 more (including close views) were found at RS; always with mixed foraging flocks

SISKINS, CROSSBILLS & ALLIES: FRINGILLIDAE

Thick-billed Euphonia (*Euphonia lanirostris*)—At least 3 were seen closely at MRB feeders; 5 were seen at MS and 1 was found at Y

Orange-bellied Euphonia (*Euphonia xanthogaster*)—Common and widespread in Ecuador; several seen on all but our first field day

Yellow-collared Chlorophonia (*Chlorophonia flavirostris*)—A few, from a flock of about 15, were seen fairly well (even scoped) along the ME on 17 Nov.

Hooded Siskin (*Carduelis magellanica*)—8 or so were seen briefly, mostly in flight along the road to YC

NEW WORLD WARBLERS: PARULIDAE

Tropical Parula (*Parula pitiayumi*)—Several were seen (at least 11 in all), with several nice close looks. Seen at Y, ME, MS and along the lower E

Blackburnian Warbler (*Dendroica fusca*)—A common boreal migrant to the Andes; seen on only four days this trip; seen at Y, ME, MS and on two days along the lower E

Slate-throated Whitestart (*Myioborus miniatus*)—Some authors call them “Redstarts”, though they show no red. A rather common mixed flock participant at lower elevations. Between 2-5 were seen on all but two days

Spectacled Whitestart (*Myioborus melanocephalus*)—Some authors call them “Redstarts”, though they show no red. A rather common mixed flock participant at upper elevations; only 1 was seen at YC; 6-8 were seen along the upper part of the lower E

Chocó Warbler (*Basileuterus chlorophrys*)—3-4 were seen well with an understory mixed foraging flock at MS. Another Chocó endemic

Black-crested Warbler (*Basileuterus nigrocristatus*)—Singles were seen on two days along the lower E (also heard)

Russet-crowned Warbler (*Basileuterus coronatus*)—First a pair, and then some 5 or so, were seen along the lower E on two days

Three-striped Warbler (*Basileuterus tristriatus*)—1-2 were seen along the lower E; 20 Nov.

Buff-rumped Warbler (*Basileuterus fulvicauda*)—A cute pair was seen nicely at MS

BANANAQUIT: COEREBIDAE

Bananaquit (*Coereba flaveola*)—8 or so were seen in all at ME, MS and RS

TANAGERS & ALLIES: THRAUPIDAE

Cinereous Conebill (*Conirostrum cinereum*)—3 were seen with a mixed foraging flock at YC
Blue-backed Conebill (*Conirostrum sitticolor*)—2 were seen with a mixed foraging flock at YC

Capped Conebill (*Conirostrum albifrons*)—Quite a few (11-12) were seen with mixed foraging flocks along the lower E on two visits; remember the constant tail pumping

Grass-green Tanager (*Chlorornis riefferii*)—First, 2-3 were seen beautifully along the lower E on 20 Nov.; then another 6 were seen there on our last day—a truly stunning bird!!!

Dusky Bush-Tanager (*Chlorospingus semifuscus*)—Relatively common at mid-elevations this trip though super common on our last day, with a large foraging flock; not a real “looker” but a Chocó endemic after all

Yellow-throated Bush-Tanager (*Chlorospingus flavigularis*)—At least 8 were seen at MS

Superciliaried Hemispingus (*Hemispingus superciliaris*)—1 was seen by Tom with a mixed foraging flock at YC (surprisingly absent from that site on this trip)

Guira Tanager (*Hemithraupis guira*)—Fairly close looks at two pairs at MS (best from the canopy tower)

Ochre-breasted Tanager (*Chlorothraupis stolzmanni*)—A large, drab Chocó endemic; 2-3 were seen with mixed foraging flocks at MS

Scarlet-browed Tanager (*Heterospingus xanthopygius*)—4 or so were finally seen in trees along the road at RS

White-shouldered Tanager (*Tachyphonus luctuosus*)—At least 6 were seen (mostly pairs; confusingly dimorphic) at RS

Tawny-crested Tanager (*Tachyphonus delatrii*)—A group of this rather understory tanager were seen with a mixed foraging flock at RS

Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*)—3-4 of this boreal migrant were seen at MS

Lemon-rumped Tanager (*Ramphocelus icteronotus*)—Aka Flame-rumped Tanager (*R. flammigerus*). One of the most common tanagers at lower elevations in the west— seen on all but two days; the male is a knockout!

Blue-gray Tanager (*Thraupis episcopus*)—Very common at lower elevations; seen on all but our first day

Palm Tanager (*Thraupis palmarum*)—Fairly common at lower elevations; seen on most days; close views of 2 at Y (a bit high for the species); ME, MS and most common at RS

Scarlet-bellied Mountain-Tanager (*Anisognathus igniventris*)—Wonderful close looks at 1 along the upper E; another was seen along the upper part of the lower E (normally a bit low for the species)

Blue-winged Mountain-Tanager (*Anisognathus somptuosus*)—Quite common species throughout the subtropics; seen on 4 days and beautifully several times

Black-chinned Mountain-Tanager (*Anisognathus notabilis*)—1 was apparently seen by Tom (scoped) under rather foggy conditions along the lower E

Fawn-breasted Tanager (*Pipraeidea melanonota*)—Quite a few seen; 6 or so were seen closely at Y; 1 was seen at AP, 2 more along the lower E

Gray-and-gold Tanager (*Tangara palmeri*)—1 was seen fairly well (scoped) from the canopy tower at a fruiting *Cecropia* tree at RS

Blue-whiskered Tanager (*Tangara johannae*)—At least a pair was seen well (scoped) from the canopy tower at a fruiting *Cecropia* tree at RS

Emerald Tanager (*Tangara florida*)—First, a dull juvenile bird was seen closely at MRB feeders; then at least 2 beautiful adult plumaged birds were seen well (scoped) from the canopy tower at a fruiting *Cecropia* tree at RS

Golden Tanager (*Tangara arthus*)—Quite common with mixed flocks in the Subtropics; seen super well at various locations; Y, MRB, AP, MS and the lower E (on two days)

Silver-throated Tanager (*Tangara icterocephala*)—Only a few were seen, at three locations; best at MRB feeders, also found at MS (3+) and RS (1)

Flame-faced Tanager (*Tangara parzudakii*)—1 of this attractive tanager was seen at Y; at least 2 more at AP, and another 1 was seen along the lower E

Rufous-throated Tanager (*Tangara rufigula*)—8 or so of this special Chocó endemic were seen at MS; including, at last, some good close looks

Bay-headed Tanager (*Tangara gyrola*)—3 or so were seen at MS and another 4 more were seen at RS

Rufous-winged Tanager (*Tangara lavinia*)—At least a pair was seen well from the canopy tower at RS

Golden-naped Tanager (*Tangara ruficervix*)—At least 2 were seen at AP; a spectacular 4 were seen close at ML fruit feeders; at least 2 more were seen along the lower E

Metallic-green Tanager (*Tangara labradorides*)—2 were seen at AP with a large mixed flock

Blue-necked Tanager (*Tangara cyanicollis*)—A common and stunning lowland species; only 2 were seen at RS

Golden-hooded Tanager (*Tangara larvata*)—5 or so were seen well (scoped) from the canopy tower at a fruiting *Cecropia* tree at RS

Beryl-spangled Tanager (*Tangara nigroviridis*)—This beautiful species was pretty common this trip at ME, AP, and along the lower E on our two visits

Blue-and-black Tanager (*Tangara vassorii*)—At least 3 were seen with a large mixed foraging flock along the lower E on our last afternoon in the field

Black-capped Tanager (*Tangara heinei*)—Quite a few seen (6 in all); at Y, AP, and singles were seen twice along the lower E

Yellow-tufted Dacnis (*Dacnis egregia*)—Aka Black-faced Dacnis (*D. lineata*) by some authors. At least 6 of this stunning (males) Chocó endemic were seen (scoped) in a fruiting *Cecropia* tree from the canopy tower at RS (only 1 female was seen)

Scarlet-thighed Dacnis (*Dacnis venusta*)—At least 1 (probably a pair) was seen (scoped) in a fruiting *Cecropia* tree from the canopy tower at RS

Blue Dacnis (*Dacnis cayana*)—At least 3 were seen (scoped) in a fruiting *Cecropia* tree from the canopy tower at RS; the western (*D. c. coerebicolor*) ultramarine blue race

Scarlet-breasted Dacnis (*Dacnis berlepschi*)—At least a pair of this beautiful, rare and globally *vulnerable* species was seen (scoped) in a fruiting *Cecropia* tree from the canopy tower at RS

Green Honeycreeper (*Chlorophanes spiza*)—Some 5 were seen well from the canopy tower at RS

Purple Honeycreeper (*Cyanerpes caeruleus*)—5 or so were seen fairly well from the canopy tower at RS

Swallow Tanager (*Tersina viridis*)—At least pairs were seen along ME on two days and 4-5 at MS; males are a knock-out!

BUNTINGS, SPARROWS & ALLIES: EMBERIZIDAE

Variable Seedeater (*Sporophila corvina*)—Few were seen this trip; single males were found along ME and the RS area

Yellow-bellied Seedeater (*Sporophila nigricollis*)—Several were seen over four days; 1 along ME; at least 6 at AP; 4-5 each at MS and SP

Yellow-faced Grassquit (*Tiaris olivaceus*)—At least a pair was seen in 'mora' plantation at AP; an uncommon and local species in NW Ecuador

White-sided Flowerpiercer (*Diglossa albilatera*)—1 female and then several days later a Male were seen foraging in a flowering *Abutilon* at Y

Glossy Flowerpiercer (*Diglossa lafresnayii*)—Very common and unbelievably tame, especially at hummingbird feeders, at YC

Masked Flowerpiercer (*Diglossopsis cyanea*)— Also very common at hummingbird feeders at YC; several were also seen along the lower E over two days

Rufous-naped Brush-Finch (*Atlapetes latinuchus*)—Aka Yellow-breasted Brush-Finch by some authors. At least 2 were seen at YC; generally somewhat of a skulker

Tricolored Brush-Finch (*Atlapetes tricolor*)—Pairs of this Chocó-Andean specialty were seen at Y (on two visits) and also along the lower E

Black-striped Sparrow (*Arremonops conirostris*)—Heard only at MRB; 1 was seen along the lower ME

Rufous-collared Sparrow (*Zonotrichia capensis*)—A common highland species throughout the Andes; seen on all but one day

SALTATORS, CARDINALS & ALLIES: CARDINALIDAE

Buff-throated Saltator (*Saltator maximus*)—Pairs (at least) were seen on two days, along the ME and at RS

Slate-colored Grosbeak (*Saltator grossus*)—Heard only, inside forest at MS

Black-winged Saltator (*Saltator atripennis*)—3 in all were seen along the ME on two visits
Southern Yellow-Grosbeak (*Pheucticus chrysogaster*)—Aka Golden-bellied Grosbeak by
some authors. Singles were seen at AP and two days along the lower E

CACIQUES, ORIOLES & ALLIES: ICTERIDAE

Giant Cowbird (*Molothrus oryzivorus*)—2 flew overhead along the ME
Scarlet-rumped Cacique (*Cacicus uropygialis*)—Heard only at RS

MAMMAL LIST

OPOSSUMS: MARSUPIALIS

Common Opossum (*Didelphis marsupialis*)—1 was seen crossing the road near SP; note: Virginia
Opossum is not found in Ecuador

SQUIRRELS: SCIURIDAE

Neotropical Red-tailed Squirrel (*Sciurus granatensis*)—Singles (2 at MRB) were seen on all
but our first and last days

RABBITS: LEPORIDAE

Brazilian Rabbit/Tapiti (*Silvilagus brasiliensis*)—At least 5 were seen at and around YC