

# **BRAZILIAN HIGHLIGHTS**

**NOVEMBER 4 – 20, 2006**

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List compiled by Andrew Whittaker

Our 2006 Brazilian Highlights tour started with a bang, when our first stop yielded a newly discovered *Formicivora* antwren that has yet to be named. This antwren, which is clearly a close relative of the Marsh Antwren of Paraná and Santa Catarina, is known only from the state of São Paulo, and was considered endangered from the moment of its discovery two years ago. We held our collective breath as a pair of these handsome birds paraded around the low marsh vegetation in front of us.

The next day found us birding *restinga* forest in coastal São Paulo. Here, in addition to scope studies of the endangered Red-tailed Parrot, the rarely seen Buff-bellied Puffbird, and the always dazzling Brazilian Tanager, we were treated to the unforgettable scene of more than 20 species mobbing a Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl. Among the mobbers were stunning Green-headed Tanagers, Blue Manakins, Ochre-collared Piculets, Long-billed Wrens, and wonderful Azure Jays.

On to Intervales State Park, a true gem and a highlight of any birding trip. This World Heritage Site protects a vast area of Atlantic rainforest that abounds with birds. We were ecstatic to find an abundance of seeding bamboo, which provides a highly ephemeral yet irresistible lure to a number of nomadic bamboo specialist birds, some of which are among the most difficult Atlantic Forest endemics to find under other circumstances. Our high expectations were paid in full with the rarest bird of the trip, a Purple-winged Ground-Dove. Our view was brief, but considering that there are only a handful of documented records in the past 20 years, we were fortunate indeed. The bamboo was also alive with other more expected endemics, including Buff-fronted and Temminck's Seedeaters, and Uniform Finches.

The bamboo birds represented just the tip of the proverbial iceberg, and, despite a freak cold front and resultant rains, highlights were many. Tops among them were magnificent views of the extremely rare Helmeted Woodpecker and breathtaking scope views of a male Blue-bellied Parrot. Antbirds ruled, as evidenced by the stunning, in-our-face views of White-bearded, Tufted, Large-tailed, and Spot-backed antshrikes. However, an incredibly responsive pair of Giant Antshrikes parading around in the open stole the antbird show, and provided an unforgettable experience.

Intervales also started our lucky tapaculo streak with an amazingly responsive Slaty Bristlefront (foraging at our feet), White-breasted Tapaculo, and the recently described (2006) but long-known *Scytalopus notorius* (aka the Mouse-colored Tapaculo), a bird whose English name has yet to be finalized. Our friendly local guide Luis had previously located nests of both Variegated Antpitta and Atlantic Royal Flycatcher, so we enjoyed wonderful studies of both rarely seen species.

Other memorable moments included stellar views of Mantled Hawk, Black-throated Piping-Guan, Red-ruffed Fruitcrow, Hooded Berryeater, Rufous-capped Motmot, Squamate Antbird, and both Saw-billed Hermit and stunning Plovercrests on leks. Night excursions were also very productive, capped by a male Long-trained Nightjar—with its impressive tail streamers—flying within a few feet of us, then landing within 30 feet for incredible scope views. A wonderfully responsive pair of Rusty-barred Owls and both Common (Gray) Potoo and Short-tailed (Chestnut-banded) Nighthawks also showed well.

Then it was on to Minas Gerais state where we started at Serra do Cipó National Park. The lush alpine vegetation of the Espinhaço Mountains was breathtaking, with spectacular flowers attracting not only our attention but also two stunning hummers, the endemic Hyacinth Visorbearer and the minute, but long-tailed Horned Sungem, both of which gave repeated close views. Unfortunately, strong winds, cold weather, and mist hampered our efforts to track down the Cipo Canastero, and despite much work only a few people managed views. Other specialties of the region, including Cinereous Warbling-Finches, Collared Crescent-chest, and Gray-backed Tachuri were much better behaved, and offered excellent views.

Our drive to São Roque (our base for exploring Serra da Canastra) was broken up by lunch at a wonderful *churrascaria* (Brazilian barbeque) where we were served an ample and tasty feast. A birding stop in a nearby park rewarded us

with the rare and enigmatic Three-toed Jacamar, which provided the requisite good bird fix to sustain us through the rest of the drive.

Our next few days were spent exploring Serra de Canastra National Park, a delightful region of grassy plateaus dissected by crystal-clear streams and spectacular cascading waterfalls. An extensive fire a few months prior to our visit had transformed the park into a spectacular blaze of color with a myriad of exotic flowers and a fresh green carpet of grasses and sedges, a botanist's delight! On our first day we were lucky to enjoy fantastic close encounters with a pair of one of the world's rarest ducks, the Brazilian Merganser. We had exceptionally close studies, to the point of being able to track their foraging beneath the surface in the clear waters of the stream.

Mammals are always a highlight of a trip to Canastra, and this time was no exception. The first of our many giant anteaters was found sleeping within a huge, hollowed-out termitarium, and we also had great views of both maned wolf and the rare pampas deer. Bird highlights included magnificent male Blue Finches, Black-masked Finch, the rarely seen Ochre-breasted Pipit, Campo Miner, and the tiny Sharp-tailed Grass-Tyrant. Meanwhile, displaying male Cock-tailed Tyrants had us in hysterics as they hovered like tiny helicopters over the grasslands. Hummingbird feeders at our hotel were swarming with the likes of Stripe-breasted Starthroats, Swallow-tailed Hummingbirds, Fork-tailed Woodnymphs, and Sapphire-spangled Emeralds.

Our final destination was the beautiful Serra da Caraça and its 200-year-old monastery set in truly breathtaking surroundings. A combination of its rocky *serras* (peaks reaching 6000 feet), pockets of Atlantic rainforest, *cerrado* and gallery forest along crystal-clear streams makes this a magically peaceful location. Birding was excellent, and among our many prizes were the stunning Swallow-tailed Cotingas, swirling flocks of thousands of Biscutate Swifts, Red-eyed Thornbird, Serra Antwren, Cinnamon-vented Piha, and spectacular flocks of the colorful endemic Gilt-edged and Brassy-breasted tanagers. However, it would be difficult for anything to top the thrill of watching elegant maned wolves materializing out of the darkness onto the steps of the ancient monastery to feed on meat provided by the Fathers.

All in all, a very congenial group of birders enjoyed a bunch of really exciting birding highlights, including almost 400 species and an impressive number of 131 Brazilian/regional endemics, not to mention superb mammals, numerous wonderful meals, great Brazilian ice cream, and lots of fun, too.

## **Itinerary:**

11/04 - USA to São Paulo

11/05 - arrival in São Paulo, drive to near Biritiba Mirim for birding; then continued onto our hotel in Itanhaém

11/06 – birding a.m. near Itanhaém; then we drove to Intervales State Park, with lunch en route, followed by late afternoon birding

11/07 – Intervales State Park

11/08 – Intervales State Park

11/09 – Intervales State Park

11/10 – Returning to São Paulo, flight to Belo Horizonte and drive up to Serra do Cipó National Park. Birding on grounds of hotel.

11/11 – all day birding at Serra do Cipó National Park

11/12- early a.m. birding at Serra do Cipó, followed by drive to Serra da Canastra National Park, with birding stops en route.

11/13 - Canastra National Park

11/14 – Canastra National Park

11/15 – Canastra National Park

11/16 - Waterfalls reserve early a.m., then drive to Serra do Caraça with lunch in Belo Horizonte. Late afternoon birding at Caraça.

11/17 - Caraça Park

11/18 – Caraça Park

11/19 – early a.m. birding at Caraça; then drive to Belo Horizonte for homebound flights via São Paulo. Arrival back home 20 November.

## **Voted top five birds of the tour:**

- 1- Long-trained Nightjar
- 2- Brazilian Merganser
- 3- Large-tailed Antshrike
- 4- Rusty Barred Owl
- 5- Cipo Canastero

Key;

CI - Serra do Cipó National Park and vicinity

CN - Canastra National Park and vicinity including the marsh

CA - Caraça Natural Park and vicinity including the marsh outside the park

IN - Intervales State Park

IT - Itanhaém region  
\* - species was heard only

**E** – species endemic to the biogeographical region including and southeastern Brazil (including northern Argentina, mostly Misiones and eastern Paraguay).

**e** – subspecies endemic to this biogeographical region (see below). Many of these taxa are geographically isolated from (and morphologically and vocally distinct from) other forms currently considered to be conspecific. All of these represent potential “splits”, and many are already treated as specifically distinct by some taxonomists.

## **Birds:**

### **RHEAS (Rheidae)**

Greater Rhea (*Rhea americana*) – CN

### **TINAMOUS (Tinamidae)**

Solitary Tinamou (*Tinamous solitarius*) (**E**)\* – IN (Alas, heard only, even though we had found a seemingly abandoned nest with 4 spectacular glossy blue eggs.)

Brown Tinamou (*Crypturellus obsoletus*) – IT \* IN, CA\* (Excellent, point-blank, prolonged views of a bird on the road at Intervales.)

Yellow-legged Tinamou (*C. noctivagus*) (**E**)\* – IT

Red-winged Tinamou (*Rhynchotus rufescens*) – CN (Great views of a flying bird showing off its bright rufous flight feathers.)

Spotted Nothura (*Nothura maculosa*) – CN (This buffy form (*minor*) was seen well, thanks to good spotting by Ruth. We had another great look when a pale-morph male coaxed his 5 tiny young across the road in front of the van.)

Lesser Nothura (*N. minor*) (**E**)\* – CN

## **CORMORANTS (Phalacrocoracidae)**

Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*) – Near the Gurulhos airport

## **HERONS, EGRETS & BITTERNs (Ardeidae)**

Whistling Heron (*Syrigma sibilatrix*) – IT, CI, CA

Great Egret (*Ardea alba*) – all sites

Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*) – all sites

Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*) – all sites

Striated Heron (*Butoroides striatus*) – IT, CN, CA

Black-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) – CN

## **STORKS (Ciconiidae)**

Wood Stork (*Mycteria americana*) – CN

## **IBISES & SPOONBILLS (Threskiornithidae)**

Buff-necked Ibis (*Theristicus caudatus*) – CN

## **DUCKS, GEESE & SWANS (Anatidae)**

White-faced Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna viduata*) – CN

Moscowy Duck (*Cairina moschata*) – CN

Brazilian Teal (*Amazonetta brasiliensis*) – CN, CA

**Brazilian Merganser (*Mergus octosetaceus*) (E) – CN (SPECTACULAR**  
scope\_studies of two adults as they fished in the crystal-clear stream and

hauled out on rocks. The light was superb, allowing us to appreciate the metallic green gloss to the head. We also watched a calling bird engaged in a head bobbing display. It was a real privilege to be treated to such great studies of one of the world's rarest waterfowl!)

### **NEW WORLD VULTURES (Cathartidae)**

Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*) – All sites

Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*) – All sites

Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture (*Cathartes burrovianus*) – IT, CN

King Vulture (*Sarcoramphus papa*) – CN, CA

### **HAWKS, EAGLES & KITES (Accipitridae)**

Gray-headed Kite (*Leptodon cayanensis*) – IN

Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*) – IN

White-tailed Kite (*Elanus leucurus*) – CN

Snail Kite (*Rostrhamus sociabilis*) – IT (A migrating flock of 35.)

Rufous-thighed Kite (*Harpagus diodon*) – IN

Rufous-thighed Hawk (*Accipiter erythronemius*) – IN

Mantled Hawk (*Leucopternis polionota*) (E) – IN (Repeated excellent views of both perched and flying birds.)

Savanna Hawk (*Buteogallus meridionalis*) – CN, CI

Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle (*Geranoaetus melanoeucus*) – CN (Spectacular studies of a close soaring bird at Canastra.)

Roadside Hawk (*Buteo magnirostris*) – All sites

Short-tailed Hawk (*Buteo brachyurus*) – Belo Horizonte , CN

White-tailed Hawk (*Buteo albicaudatus*) – CN

Black Hawk-Eagle (*Spizaetus tyrannus*)\* – IN

### **FALCONS & CARACARAS (Falconidae)**

Southern Crested Caracará (*Caracará plancus*) – All sites

Yellow-headed Caracará (*Milvago chimachima*) – All sites

Barred Forest-Falcon (*Micrastur ruficollis*) (e) – IN (This is the brown backed nominate form, which has a rufous neck collar. It has slightly different vocalizations from the widespread gray-backed forms, from which it is also geographically isolated. Therefore, a future split is possible.)

American Kestrel (*Falcon sparverius*) – IT, CI, CN,

Aplomado Falcon (*Falcon femoralis*) – CN (Nice scope studies.)

### **GUANS, CHACHALACAS & ALLIES (Cracidae)**

Dusky-legged Guan ( *Penelope obscura* ) (e) – IN, CA, CA

### **NEW WORLD QUAILS (Odontophoridae)**

Spot-winged Wood-Quail ( *Odontophoros capueira* ) (E)\* – IN

### **RAILS, GALLINULES & COOTS (Rallidae)**

Rufous-sided Crake ( *Laterallus melanophaius* )\* – CU

Gray-breasted Crake ( *L. exillus*)\* – IT

Red-and-white Crake (*L. leucopyrrhus*)\* – IN (Despite much effort they remained hidden and mostly silent.)

Gray-necked Wood-Rail (*Aramides cajanea*) – IT\*, CN (Seen well below hotel)

Slaty-breasted Wood-Rail (*Aramides saracura*) (E) – IT, CA

Ash-throated Crake (*Porzana albicollis*)\* – CN, CA

Blackish Rail (*Pardirallus nigricans*) – CN\*, CA (Finally seen exceptionally well at the duck pool.)

Common Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*) – IT, CN

### **SERIEMAS (Cariamidae)**

Red-legged Seriema (*Cariama cristata*) – CN (Excellent studies of multiple pairs.)

### **JACANAS (Jacanidae)**

Wattled jacana (*Jacana jacana*) – CN

### **PLOVERS & LAPWINGS (Charadriidae)**

Southern Lapwing (*Vanellus chilensis*) – all sites

Semi Palmated Plover (*Charadrius semipalmatus*) – IT

### **SANDPIPERS & ALLIES (Scolopacidae)**

Lesser Yellow Legs (*Tringa flavipes*) – CN

Solitary Sandpiper (*T. solitaria*) – CN

Upland Sandpiper (*Batramia longicauda*) – CN

## **GULLS & TERNS (*Laridae*)**

Kelp Gull (*Larus dominicanus*) – IT

## **DOVES & PIGEONS (*Columbidae*)**

Feral Pigeon (*Columba livia*) – All sites

Picazuro Pigeon (*Patagioenas picazuro*) – All sites

Pale-vented Pigeon (*Patagioenas cayennensis*) – IT, CI, CN

Plumbeous Pigeon (*Patagioenas plumbea*) – IN\*, CA

Eared Dove (*Zenaida auriculata*) – IT, CI, CN

Ruddy-Ground-Dove (*Columbina talpacoti*) – IT, CI, CA, CN

Scaled Dove (*Columbina squammata*) – CI

Purple-winged Ground-Dove (*Claravis godefrida*) (E) – IN (Unfortunately, seen only in flight after I heard its voice from a stand of seeding bamboo. This species is considered endangered, with only a few records in the last 20 years. Without question, it was one of the rarest birds of the trip.)

White-tipped Dove (*Leptotila verreauxi*) – IT, CN, CI

Gray-fronted Dove (*Leptotila rufaxilla*)<sup>\*</sup> – IT, IN

Ruddy Quail- Dove (*Geotrygon montana*) – IN

## **PARROTS, MACAWS & ALLIES (*Psittacidae*)**

White-eyed Parakeet (*Aratinga leucophthalmus*) – CI, CN, CA

Peach-fronted Parakeet (*Aratinga aurea*) – CI, CN

Golden-capped Parakeet (*A. auricapillus*) (E) – CN

Maroon-bellied Parakeet (*Pyrrhura frontalis*) – IT, IN, CN (Spectacular scope studies!)

Blue-winged Parrotlet (*Forpus xanthopterygius*) – IT, IN, CN

Yellow-chevroned Parakeet (*Brotogeris chiriri*) – CN

Plain Parakeet (*B. tircica*) (E) – IT, IN

Pileated [Red-capped] Parrot (*Pionopsitta pileata*) (E) – IN

Scaly-headed Parrot (*Pionus maximiliani*) – All sites

Red-tailed Parrot (*Amazonas brasiliensis*) (E) – IT (Nice scope studies of this endangered, endemic parrot.)

Turquoise fronted Parrot (*A. aestiva*) – CN

Blue-bellied Parrot (*Triclaria malachitacea*) (E) – IN ( One of the trip highlights for your leader to get a magnificent male bird perched in the scope showing off its blue belly! This species is rarely seen, and it is even rarer to see one perched.)

### **CUCKOOS (Cuculidae)**

Squirrel Cuckoo (*Piaya cayana*) – All sites

Smooth-billed Ani (*Crotophaga ani*) – CI, CN, CA

Guira Cuckoo (*Guira guira*) – CI, CN, CA

Striped Cuckoo (*Tapera naevia*)\* – IN

### **TYPICAL OWLS (Strigidae)**

Tropical Screech-Owl (*Megascops choliba*) – IN (Great to see one low on a daytime roost in palms.)

Variable (Black-capped) Screech Owl (*M. atricapillus*) (E)\* – IN (This is the bird that we heard that came into the Buff-fronted Owl tape.)

Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl (*Glaucidium brasilianum*) – IT, CA

Burrowing Owl (*Athene cunicularia*) – IT, CN, CA

Rusty-barred Owl (*Strix hylophila*) (E) – IN (Stunning views of a responsive pair.)

Mottled Owl (*Cicaba virigata*)\* – IN

Tawny-browed Owl (*Pulsatrix koeniswaldiana*) (E)\* – IN

### **POTOOS (Nyctibiidae)**

Gray Potoo (*Nyctibius griseus*) – IN (What a lovely voice!)

### **NIHTJARS & ALLIES (Caprimulgidae)**

Short-tailed Nighthawk (*Lurocalis semitorquatus nattereri*) – IN (Stunning close studies as it came into my imitations. Some authors have split this complex into as many as three species, with birds from this region going by the name of “Chestnut-banded Nighthawk”. Each of the various subspecies is vocally and morphologically distinct, indicating that a split may be justified.):  
Least Nighthawk (*Chordiles pusillus*) – CN

Lesser Nighthawk (*C. acutipennis*) – CN

Long-trained Nightjar (*Macropsalis forcipata*) (E)– IN (Another true highlight: a stunning male flying past at point-blank range with those enormous tail streamers, followed by scope-filling views as it perched on the ground just 15 m from us!)

Ocellated Porwill (*Nyctiprynus ocellatus*) – CA (Poor flight views.)

### **SWIFTS (Apodidae)**

Sooty Swift (*Cypseloides fumigatus*) (E) – IN, CN (Good views at the waterfall.)

Great Dusky Swift (*C. senex*) – CN (Good views of birds coming into the waterfall, followed by scope views of birds perched behind the sheet of water.)

White-collared Swift (*Streptoprocne zonaris*) – IN, CI, CN, CA

Biscutate Swift (*S. biscutata*) (E) – IN, CA (Who will ever forget the countless thousands above the monastery as a prelude to the storm?).

Gray-rumped Swift (*Chaetura cinereiventris*) – IT

Sick's Swift (*Chaetura meridionalis*) (E) – CN (Named after Helmut Sick, the Brazilian ornithologist who worked on their breeding biology. Formerly treated as a subspecies of Ashy tailed Swift, which ceased to be recognized as a valid species when it was discovered that the type specimen was actually a misidentified Vaux's Swift. Sick's Swift is morphologically and vocally closer to Chimney Swift than it is to Vaux's Swift.)

## **HUMMINGBIRDS (Trochilidae)**

Saw-billed Hermit (*Ramphodon naevius*) (E)– IN (Excellent studies of this distinctive hummer.)

Scale-throated Hermit (*Phaethornis eurynome*) (E) – IT, IN, CA

Dusky-throated Hermit (*P. squalidus*) (E) – (Nice find, with great studies of lekking males.)

Planalto Hermit (*Phaethornis pretrei*) – CI, CN, CA

Reddish Hermit (*P. ruber*) – IT

Sombre Hummingbird (*Campylopterus cirrochloris*) (E) – CN

Swallow-tailed Hummingbird (*Eupetomena macrourus*) – IT, CN, CA

Black Jacobin (*Florisuga fuscus*) (E) – IT, IN, CA

White-vented Violet Violet-ear (*Colibri serrirostris*) – CI, CN, CA

Purple-breasted Plovercrest (*Stephanoxis lalandi*) (E)– IN (Stunning studies of spectacular males at a lek. This subspecies, *loddigesii*, is distinctly different from the nominate form (found further north) and has been considered to represent another species by some authors. We could clearly see the morphological differences: purple-blue crown (versus green in nominate), and black breast (versus purple in nominate) with much broader white borders than nominate birds.)

Glittering-bellied Emerald (*Chlorostilbon aureoventris*)– IT, CI, CN, CA

Fork-tailed Woodnymph (*Thalurania furcata*) – CN,

Violet-capped Woodnymph (*Thalurania glaucopis*) (E) – IN, CA

White-throated Hummingbird (*Leucochloris albicollis*)– IN, CA

White-chinned Sapphire (*Hylocharis cyanus*) – IT

White-tailed Goldenthrout (*Polytmus guainumbi*) – CN

Versicolored Emerald (*Agyrtia versicolor*) – IN,

Sapphire-spangled Emerald (*Polyerata lactea*) – CN

Glittering-throated Emerald (*Polyerata fimbriata*) – IT, IN, CA

Hyacinth Visorbearer (*Augastes scutatus*) (E) – CI (Stunning males in our faces!)

Horned Sungem (*Heliactin bilopha*) – CI (Superb studies of this hard-to-see, tiny hummer, with a magnificent male and multiple females feeding on the tiny yellow flowers.)

Stripe-breasted Starthroat (*Heliomaster squamosus*) (E) – CN (Great looks of birds at feeders!)

## **TROGONS (Trogonidae)**

White-tailed Trogon (*Trogon viridis*) – IN

Black-throated Trogon (*Trogon rufus*) – IN

Surucua Trogon (*Trogon surrucura*) (E)– IN

## **KINGFISHERS (Alcedinidae)**

Amazon Kingfisher (*Chloroceryle aenea*) – CN

## **JACAMARS (Galbulidae)**

Three-toed Jacamar (*Jacamaralcyon tridactyla*) (E) – CO (Stunning studies of a group of 5 birds.)

## **PUFFBIRDS (Bucconidae)**

Buff-bellied Puffbird (*Notharchus swainsoni*) (E) – IT (Great scope studies of this endemic, which was recently split from White-necked Puffbird.)

White-eared Puffbird (*Nystalus chacuru*) – CN

Crescent-chested Puffbird (*Malacoptila striata*) (E)\* – IN

## **TOUCANS (Ramphastidae)**

Saffron Toucanet ( *Pteroglossus bailloni* ) (E) – IN

Spot-billed Toucanet (*Selenidera maculirostris*)\* – IN

Channel-billed Toucan (*Ramphastos vitellinus ariel*) – IT, IN

Red-breasted Toucan (*Ramphastos dicolorus*) (E) – IN

Toco Toucan ( *Ramphastos toco* ) – CI, CN

## **WOODPECKERS & ALLIES (Picidae)**

White-barred Piculet (*Picumnus cirratus*) (E) – CN, CI

Ochre-collared Piculet (*Picumnus temminckii*) (E) – IT, IN

White Woodpecker (*Melanerpes candidus*)\* – CN

Yellow-fronted Woodpecker (*Melanerpes flavifrons*) (E) – IN

White-spotted Woodpecker (*Veniliornis spilogaster*)\* – IT, IN

Yellow-eared Woodpecker (*Veniliornis maculifrons*) (E)\* – CA

Yellow-browed Woodpecker (*Piculus aurulentus*) (E) – CA

Green-barred Woodpecker (*Colaptes melanochloros*) – IN, CN, CA

Campo Flicker (*Colaptes campestris*) – IN, CI, CN, CA

Blond-crested Woodpecker (*Celeus flavescens*)\* – IN

Lineated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus lineatus*)\* – CA

Helmeted Woodpecker (*D. galeatus*) (E) – IN (The trip highlight for me was being able to show this extremely rare and secretive woodpecker to everyone. It took some time, but it was well worth the effort. . This species has been seen by very few people.)

Robust Woodpecker (*Campephilus robustus*) (E)\* – IN

## **OVENBIRDS (Furnariidae)**

Campo Miner (*Geobates poecilopterus*) – CN (Given that there were no recent burns, we were lucky to find this odd bird, whose presence is usually tightly linked with recently burned grasslands.)

Rufous Hornero (*Furnarius rufus*) – All sites

Tail-banded Hornero (*F. figulus*) – CA (Good spotting Jeannie!)

Sooty-fronted Spinetail (*Synallaxis frontalis*) – CI

Pale-breasted Spinetail (*Synallaxis albescens*) – CI

Spix's Spinetail (*Synallaxis spixi*) – IN\*, CN, CA\*

Rufous-capped Spinetail (*Synallaxis ruficapilla*) (E) – IN, CN, CA

Gray-bellied Spinetail (*Synallaxis cinerascens*) (E) – IN, CN\*

Pallid Spinetail (*Cranioleuca pallida*) (E) – IN\* CA

Yellow-chinned Spinetail (*Certhiaxis cinnamomea*) – CN, CA

Cipo Canastero (*Asthenes luizae*) (E) – CI (Alas, hard to see this year. Heard by all, but despite much effort, seen by only a lucky few.)

Rufous-fronted Thornbird (*Phacellodomus rufifrons*) – CN, CI

Red-eyed Thornbird (*Phacellodomus erythrophthalmus*) (E) – IN, CA (We had excellent studies of both the nominate form with the orange eye, by its nest at Caraça, and of the red-eyed, ferruginous-breasted subspecies *ferrugineigula* at Intervalles. Brazilian ornithologists are in the process of splitting the two forms into separate species, both of which are endemic to Brazil.)

Firewood-Gatherer (*Anumbius annumbi*) – CN

Streaked Xenops (*Xenops rutilans*) – CN, CA

Buff-browed Foliage-gleaner (*Syndactyla rufosuperciliata*) – IN, CA\*

Planalto Foliage-gleaner (*S. dimidiatus*) – CN (Recently transferred to *Syndactyla* from *Phylidor*.)

Pale-browed Treehunter (*Cichlocolaptes leucophrus*) (E) – IN

Black-capped Foliage-gleaner (*Philydor atricapillus*) (E) – IN

Buff-fronted Foliage-Gleaner (*P. rufus*) – IT, IN, CA

Ochre-breasted Foliage-gleaner (*P. lichensteini*) (E) – IN

White-eyed Foliage-gleaner (*Automolus leucophthalmus*) (E) – IT\*, IN\*, CA

Rufous-breasted Leaf-tosser (*Sclerurus scansor*) (E)\* – IN

Sharp-tailed Streamcreeper (*Lochmias nematura*) – IN, CN

### **WOODCREEPERS (Dentocolaptidae)**

Plain-winged Woodcreeper (*Dentrocinda turdina*) (E)\* – IT

Olivaceous Woodcreeper (*Sittasomus griseicapillus sylviiellus*) (e) – IN, CN, CA (This complex will certainly be split multiple ways in the future, so pay careful attention to each of the places where you have seen “Olivaceous Woodcreeper”.)

White-throated Woodcreeper (*Xiphocolaptes albicollis*) (E) – IN (Amazing studies of a bird bashing a small mouse against a tree trunk with its bill. This could represent one of the few records of any species of woodcreeper preying on a mammal!)

Planalto Woodcreeper (*Dendrocolaptes platyrostris*) – IN

Scaled Woodcreeper (*Lepidocolaptes squamatus*) (E)\* – CA

Lesser Woodcreeper (*Lepidocolaptes fuscus*) (E) – IN, CA

Black-billed Scythebill (*Campylorhamphus falcularius*) (E) – IN (What a cool looking bird with that wild bill shape!)

### **TYPICAL ANTBIRDS (Thamnophilidae)**

Spot-backed Antshrike (*Hypoedaleus guttatus*) (E) – IN (Stunning views!)

Giant Antshrike (*Batara cinerea*) – IN (Great studies of a wonderfully responsive pair.)

Tufted Antshrike (*Mackenziaena severa*) (E) - IN (Great looks!)

Large-tailed Antshrike (*Mackeziaena leachii*) (E) – IN, CA (Several incredible studies of this amazing antbird. Males look like a star-filled night sky!)

White-bearded Antshrike (*Biatas nigropectus*) (E) – IN (Excellent studies of multiple pairs of this, one of the rarest Atlantic forest endemics.)

Variable Antshrike (*Thamnophilus caerulescens*) – All sites

Rufous-winged Antshrike (*Thamnophilus torquatus*) – CN

Spot-breasted Antwreio (*Dysithamnus stictothorax*) (E) – IN

Plain Antwreio (*Dysithamnus metalis*) – IN, CN

Star-throated Antwren (*Myrmotherula gularis*) (E) – IN (One of the best in the genus!)

Unicolored Antwren (*Myrmotherula unicolor*) (E) – IT (We had only brief looks at a female.)

Black-capped Antwren (*Herpsilochmus atricapillus*) – CA

Antwren sp novum (*Formicivora sp novum*) (E) – Biritiba area (Observing a pair of these as-yet-undescribed antwrens provided quite a start to the tour! These birds are clearly closely related to the recently described Marsh Antwren [aka “Parana Antwren”], *Stymphalornis acutirostris*, of Paraná and Santa Catarina. The question is whether they should be recognized at the species-level or subspecies-level. Regardless, both forms belong in the genus *Formicivora*, a move that is supported by vocal, morphological and molecular evidence. Should the newly discovered form be described as a new species, it will likely be called “São Paulo Antwren”.)

Serra Antwren (*Formicivora serrana*) (E) – CN

Ferruginous Antbird (*Drymophila ferruginea*) (E) – IN

Ochre-rumped Antbird (*Drymophila ochropyga*) (E) – IN, CA (Excellent studies of this beauty!)

Bertoni's Antbird (*D. rubricollis*) (E)\* – IN

Dusky-tailed Antbird (*Drymophila malura*) (E) – IN, CA

Streak-capped Antwren (*Terenura maculata*) (E) – IN

White-shouldered Fire-eye (*Pyriglena leucoptera*) (E) – IN, CN, CA

Squamate Antbird (*Myrmeciza squamosa*) (E) – IN (Excellent studies.)

White-bibbed Antbird (*M. loricata*) (E) – CA (Superb studies!)

### **ANTTHRUSHES & ANTPITTAS (Formicariidae)**

Rufous-capped Antthrush (*Formicarius colma*)\* – IN

Cryptic Antthrush (*Chameza meruloides*) (E)\* – IN

Short-tailed Anthrush (*C. campanisona*) (e)\* – IN

Variegated Antpitta (*Grallaria varia imperator*) (e) – IN (Stunning looks of an incubating bird through the scope. This much larger, well-marked race from eastern Brazil is almost certainly a valid species, and most probably will be called the “Imperial Antpitta” when split.)

### **GNATEATERS (Conopophagidae)**

Rufous Gnateater (*Conopophaga lineata*) (E) – SG, IT, CA

### **TAPACULOS (Rhinocryptidae)**

Collared Crescent-chest (*Melanopareia torquata*) - CI, CN\* (Great looks at this very attractive bird. Molecular evidence indicates that birds of this genus

are not closely related to the other tapaculos, and should, in fact, be elevated to separate family status as Melanopareiidae.)

Spotted Bamboowren (*Psilorhamphus guttatus*) (E)\* – IN (We tried hard, but this one remained the only tapaculo on our list that was not seen.)

Slaty Bristlefront (*Merulaxis ater*) (E) – IN (Wow! What views of this neat looking, big tapaculo with the odd forehead feathers. One of my favorite avian voices of the Atlantic rainforests of Brazil.)

Brasilia Tapaculo (*Scytalopus novacapitalis*) (E) – CN (Thanks to great spotting by Ruth, we all got great views of this mouse! A revision of this species is underway by Brazilian ornithologists. Preliminary work suggests that the form from Canastra may represent an as-yet-undescribed species that is different from the populations in the Federal District around Brasilia, which is the type locality for the species.)

White-breasted Tapaculo (*S. indigoticus*) (E) - IN, CA (Great looks at a bird that was lured to our feet.)

Tapaculo sp. #1(*S. speluncae*) (E) – CA (We were rewarded for our hard work with stunning looks of a pair that walked across the trail in front of us and proceeded to sing in full view, at little more than arms-length! The following comments are from K. J. Zimmer: “Taxonomy of the genus *Scytalopus*, inside and outside of Brazil, is in the midst of a thorough revision.. The birds that you all saw at Caraça (as well as others from various portions of the Serra do Espinhaço range of interior Minas Gerais and Bahia) have, for more than a decade, been considered to represent an as-yet-undescribed species that differed from Mouse-colored Tapaculo [*S. speluncae*] of the coastal mountains in being decidedly paler gray (almost whitish) on the throat and breast, and in having different vocalizations. Rapouso et al. (Zootaxa 2006) recently examined the type specimen of *S. speluncae*, which was anomalous in being from interior Minas Gerais, and found that it was actually one of the pale-throated interior birds, and not one of the uniformly slate-colored birds typical of the coastal Serra do Mar. This means that the scientific name of *Scytalopus speluncae* belongs with the previously unnamed interior population. At the same time, the well-known coastal montane birds were found to be lacking any other applicable name. Rapouso et al 2006 decided to rename these birds, which you all saw at Intervalles, as “*Scytalopus notorius*”. What Rapouso et al did not do, was suggest English names for

either species. Although the previously unnamed interior birds have now assumed the name of *S. speluncae*, it makes no sense to also transfer the English name of “Mouse-colored Tapaculo”. This name should either be scrapped, or, retained for the uniformly dark gray coastal birds, which are now named *S. notorius*. At the moment, neither species has a recognized English name. The AOU South American Check-list Committee (SACC) has not yet dealt with this recent split. I will be submitting separate proposals to accept the revised taxonomy, and to apply English names to the two species shortly. Until such time as those proposals to the SACC have been made and voted on, neither species has an official English name, but you can be confident of the Latin names and of their status as separate species. )

Tapaculo sp. #2 (*Scytalopus notorius*) (E) - IN (Great views of this long-known, but just-renamed species. See the above comments from Kevin Zimmer for an explanation of the convoluted history of these birds. This species, which has always been known as “Mouse-colored Tapaculo” (and may ultimately continue to be known by that English name) is a bird of the coastal Serra do Mar mountain range, and is found from Espírito Santo south to Rio Grande do Sul. I know that some of you have seen this bird on previous VENT tours to Southeast Brazil (eg. In Itatiaia NP).)

### **COTINGAS (Cotingidae)**

Swallow-tailed Cotinga (*Phibalura flavirostris*) (E) – CA (This beautiful, and rarely seen cotinga, was certainly worth waiting for! We had tremendous scope studies of a stunning pair. Recent rediscovery of the highly disjunct Andean population in Bolivia has revealed vocal differences that suggest the two populations should be treated as separate species.. If split, the eastern birds would be considered endemic to Brazil.)

Hooded Berryeater (*Carpornis cucullatus*) (E) - IN (Stunning looks at this equally stunning bird.),

Cinnamon-vented Piha (*Lipaugus lanioides*) (E) – IN\*, CA

Bare-throated Bellbird (*Procnias nudicollis*) (E) – IN (What a voice!)

Red-ruffed Fruitcrow (*Pyroderus scutatus*) – IN, CA

Sharpbill (*Oxyruncus cristatus*)\* – IN

## **MANAKINS (Pipridae)**

White-bearded Manakin (*Manacus manacus*) – IT, IN, CN

Blue [Swallow-tailed] Manakin (*Chiroxiphia caudata*) (E) – IT, IN, CA

Pin-tailed Manakin (*Ilicura militaris*) (E) – IN, CA

Serra Do Mar Tyrant Manakin (*Neopelma chrysolophum*) (E) – IN

Wing-barred Piprites (*Piprites chloris*)\* – IN

Greenish Schiffornis (*Schiffornis virescens*) – IN

## **TYRANT FLYCATCHERS (Tyrannidae)**

Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet (*Camptostoma obsoletum*) – all sites

Yellow Tyrannulet (*Campsiempis flaveola*)\* – IN, CA

Gray Elaenia (*Myiopagis caniceps caniceps*) (e) – IN (This subspecies is vocally distinct and exhibits little sexual dimorphism compared to Amazonian birds. A split is very likely.)

Yellow-bellied Elaenia (*Elaenia flavogaster*) – CN, CA

Small-billed Elaenia (*E. parvirostris*) – IN

Olivaceous Elaenia (*Elaenia mesoleuca*) – IT, CN

Plain-crested Elaenia (*Elaenia cristata*) – CI

Highland Elaenia (*Elaenia obscura*) – CN, CA

Sooty Tyrannulet (*Serpophaga nigricans*) – CN, CA

White-crested Tyrannulet (*Serpophaga subcristata*) – CA

Gray-hooded Flycatcher (*Mionectes rufiventris*) (E) – IN, CA

Sepia-capped Flycatcher (*Leptopogon amaurocephalus*) – IT, IN, CN

Mottle-cheeked Tyrannulet (*Phylloscartes ventralis*) – CA

Bay-ringed Tyrannulet (*P. sylviolus*) (E) – IN (Good studies of this localized endemic. We even saw it building a nest.)

Oustalet's Tyrannulet (*P. oustaleti*) (E) – IN

Planalto Tyrannulet (*Phyllomyias fasciatus*) – IN\*, CN, CA,

Rough-legged Tyrannulet (*Phyllomyias burmeisteri*)\* – IN

Gray-capped Tyrannulet (*Phyllomyias griseocapilla*) (E) – IN

Sharp-tailed Grass Tyrant (*Culicivora caudacuta*) - CN (Superb little birds!)

Gray-backed Tachuri (*Polystictus superciliaris*) (E) – CI, CN

Eared Pygmy Tyrant (*Miornis auricularis*) (E) – IN, CA

Drab-breasted Bamboo-Tyrant (*Hermitriccus diops*) (E) – CA

Brown-breasted Bamboo-Tyrant (*H. obsoletus*) (E)\* – IN

Hangnest Tody-Tyrant (*Hermitriccus nidipendulus*) (E) – IN, CA

Ochre-faced Tody-Flycatcher (*Todirostrum plumbeiceps*) (e) – IN, CA

Yellow-lored Tody-Flycatcher (*Todirostrum poliocephalum*) (E) - IT\*, CA

Large-headed Flatbill (*Rhynchocyclus megacephala*) (e)\* – IN

Yellow-olive Flycatcher (*Tolmomyias sulphurescens*) (e) – IN, CA (This complex is soon to be split into multiple species, so make sure you note where

you've seen all of your "Yellow-olive Flycatchers". We saw the nominate subspecies.)

White-throated Spadebill (*Platyrinchus mystaceus*) - IN, CA

Atlantic Royal Flycatcher (*Onychorhynchus swainsoni*) (E) – IN (Another very rare and endangered Atlantic rainforest endemic that we were lucky to see at its nest, even to the point of observing the colorful crown as it preened itself after its bath! Many authors recognize only a single species of "Royal Flycatcher", *O. coronatus*, whose range then extends from Mexico to Argentina. Others recognize as many as four different, allopatrically distributed species: Northern Royal-Flycatcher (*mexicanus* group) of Middle America; Pacific Royal-Flycatcher (*pacifica*) of Pacific Ecuador and Peru; Amazonian Royal-Flycatcher (*coronatus/castelnaui*) of the Amazon and the Guianas; and Atlantic Royal-Flycatcher (*swainsoni*) of the Atlantic Forest. Despite vocal similarities across all forms, the morphological and ecological differences, combined with the range disjunctions, suggest that these are best treated as allospecies.)

Bran-colored Flycatcher (*Myiophobus fasciatus*) – IT, CN

Cliff Flycatcher (*Hirundinea ferruginea*) – IN, CN, CI

Euler's Flycatcher (*Lathrotriccus euleri*) – IN \*, CA, CN

Tropical Pewee (*Contopus cinereus*) – CA

Gray Monjita (*Xolmis cinerea*) – CI, CN

White-rumped Monjita (*Xolmis velata*) (E) – CN

Velvety Black-Tyrant (*Knipolegus nigerrimus*) (E) – CA

Crested Black-Tyrant (*Knipolegus lophotes*) – CI, CN, CA

Masked Water-Tyrant (*Fluvicola nengeta*) – all sites (Named by the Brazilians as the "washer woman".)

White-headed Marsh Tyrant (*Arundinicola leucocephala*) – CN, CA

Cock-tailed Tyrant (*Alectrurus tricolor*) -- CN (What great little birds! It was a blast watching the males displaying above the grass like tiny toy helicopters.)

Streamer-tailed Tyrant (*Gubernetes yetapa*) – CN, CA

Yellow-browed Tyrant (*Satrapa icterophrys*) – IT, CN, CA

Long-tailed Tyrant (*Colonia colonus*) – IN, CA

Cattle Tyrant (*Machetornis rixosus*) – IT, IN, CI, CN

Shear-tailed Gray Tyrant (*Muscipipra vetula*) – CA (What a sad sight to see the nesting bird had been killed by that huge electrical storm with high winds.)

Gray-hooded Attila (*Attila rufus*) (E)\* – IN

Rufous-tailed Attila (*A. phoenicurus*) (E) – IN

Eastern Sirystes (*Sirystes sibilator*) - IN, CA

Swainsons Flycatcher (*Myiarchus swainsoni*) – IN

Short-crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus ferox*) – IN, CN, CA

Brown-crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus tyrannulus*) – CI, CN, CA

Great Kiskadee (*Pitangus sulphuratus*) – All sites

Boat-billed Flycatcher (*Megarynchus pitangua*) – IN

Rusty-margined Flycatcher (*Myiozetetes cayanensis*) – CA

Social Flycatcher (*Myiozetetes similis*) – IN, CI, CN

Three-striped Flycatcher (*Conopias trivirgata*) (e) – IN

Streaked Flycatcher (*Myiodynastes maculatus*) – all sites

Piratic Flycatcher (*Legatus leucophaeus*) – IN, CA, CN

White-throated Kingbird (*Tyrannus albogularis*) – CN (It was a surprise to see so many breeding here.)

Tropical Kingbird (*Tyrannus melancholicus*) - all sites

Fork-tailed Flycatcher (*T. savanna*) – IN, CI, CN

Chestnut-crowned Becard (*Pachyramphus castaneus*) – IN, CA

Green-backed Becard (*Pachyramphus viridis*)\* – CA

Crested Becard (*P. validus*) – IN, CN, CA

Black-tailed Tityra (*Tityra cayana braziliensis*) (e) – IN (This form used to be treated as a full species, “Brazilian Tityra”, however, intergrades with nominate are supposed to exist. As we saw, the females are very different morphologically from nominate birds.)

## **SWALLOWS (Hirundinidae)**

Brown-chested Martin (*Progne tapera*) – CI, CN

Gray-breasted Martin (*Progne chalybea*)– IT, IN, CN, CA

Purple Martin (*P. subis*) – CN (One adult male perched on a wire in town.)

White-rumped Swallow (*Tachycineta leucorrhoa*) – IN, CI, CA

White-winged Swallow (*T. albiventer*) – IT

Blue-and-white Swallow (*Pygochelidon cyanoleuca*) – All sites

Tawny-headed Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx fucata*) – CI, CN

Southern Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*) – CN, CI

## **WAGTAILS & PIPITS (Motacillidae)**

Ochre-breasted Pipit (*Anthus nattereri*) (E)- CN (Super scope studies of a perched bird. This is a rare and declining species.)

### **WRENS (Troglodytidae)**

Donacobius (*Donacobius atricapillus*) – CN

Long-billed Wren (*Thryothorus longirostris*) (E) – IT

House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*) – IT, IN, CN,

Grass Wren (*Cistothorus platensis*)\* – CN

### **MOCKINGBIRDS & THRASHERS (Mimidae)**

Chalk-browed Mockingbird (*Mimus saturninus*) – all sites

### **THRUSHES & ALLIES (Turdidae)**

Yellow-legged Thrush (*Platycichla flavipes*)\* – IN

Pale-breasted Thrush (*Turdus leucomelas*) – IT, CI, CN

Creamy-bellied Thrush (*Turdus amaurochalinus*) – all sites

White-necked Thrush (*Turdus albicollis albicollis*) – IN

Rufous-bellied Thrush (*T. rufiventris*) – all sites

### **GNATCATCHERS (Poliophtilidae)**

Long-billed Gnatwren (*Ramphocaenus melanurus*)\* – IN

### **CROWS, JAYS & MAGPIES (Corvidae)**

Azure Jay (*Cyanocorax caeruleus*) (E)– IT

Curl-crested Jay (*Cyanocorax cristatellus*) – CN

### **OLD WORLD SPARROWS (Passeridae)**

House Sparrow ( *Passer domesticus* ) – IN, CI, CN

### **VIREOS & ALLIES (Vireonidae)**

Red-eyed Vireo (*Vireo olivaceus chivi*) - all sites (Some authors treat this as a full species, giving it the name “Chivi Vireo”.)

Rufous-crowned Greenlet (*Hylophilus poicilotis*) (E) – IN, CN

Gray-eyed Greenlet (*Hylophilus amaurocephalus*) (E) – CA

Rufous-browed Peppershrike (*Cyclarhis gujanensis*) – IN \*, CN\*, CA

### **SISKINS, CROSSBILLS & ALLIES (Fringilidae)**

Hooded Siskin (*Carduelis magellanica*) – CI, CA

### **NEW WORLD WARBLERS (Parulidae)**

Tropical Parula (*Parula pitiayumi*) – IT, IN, CN, CA

Masked Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis aequinoctialis*) – CN, CA

Golden-crowned Warbler (*Basileuterus culicivorus*) – IN, CA

White-bellied Warbler (*Basileuterus hypoleucus*) – CN,

White-rimmed Warbler (*Basileuterus leucoblepharus*) (E)– IN, CA

Flavescent Warbler *B. flaveolus*) – CN

Neotropical River Warbler (*Basileuterus rivularis*)\* – IT

### **BANANAQUIT (Coerebidae)**

Bananaquit ( *Coereba flaveola* ) All sites

### **TANAGERS & ALLIES (Thraupidae)**

Brown Tanager (*Ochesticus abeillei*) (E) – IN

Cinnamon Tanager (*Schistochlamys ruficapillus*) (E) – CI, CN

White-rumped Tanager (*Cypsnagra hirundinacea*) – CI

Magpie Tanager (*Cissopis leveriana*) – IN, CA

Rufous-headed Tanager (*Hemithraupis ruficapilla*) (E) – IT, CA

Olive-green Tanager (*Orthogonys chloricterus*) (E)– IN

Flame-crested Tanager (*Tachyphonus cristatus brunneus*) (e)– IN

Ruby-crowned Tanager (*Tachyphonus coronatus*) (E)– all sites

Black-goggled Tanager (*Trichothraupis melanops*) – IN, CA

Red-crowned Ant-Tanager (*Habia rubica*)\* – IN

Brazilian Tanager (*Ramphocelus bresilius*) (E) – IT, CA

Sayaca Tanager (*Thraupis sayaca*) – all sites

Azure-shouldered Tanager (*Thraupis cyanoptera*) (E) – IN, CA

Golden-chevroned Tanager (*Thraupis ornata*) (E) – IN, CA

Palm Tanager (*Thraupis palmarum*) – all sites

Diademed Tanager (*Stephanophorus diadematus*) (E) – IN

Fawn-breasted Tanager (*Pipraeidae melanonota*)\* – IN

Purple-throated Euphonia (*Euphonia chlorotica*) – CI\*, CN

Violaceous Euphonia (*Euphonia violacea*) – IN, CA

Chestnut-bellied Euphonia (*Euphonia pectoralis*) (E) – IN

Green-headed Tanager (*Tanager seledon*) (E) – IT, IN

Red-necked Tanager (*Tanager cyanocephala*) (E) – IN (Another crippling endemic tanager!)

Brassy-breasted Tanager (*Tangara desmaresti*) (E) – IN, CA

Gilt-edged Tanager (*Tangara cyanoventris*) (E) – CA

Burnished-buff Tanager (*Tangara cayana*) – CI, CN, CA

Chestnut-backed Tanager (*Tangara preciosa*)\* – IN

Blue Dacnis (*Dacnis cayana*) – all sites

Black-legged Dacnis (*D. nigripes*) (E) – IN (Two brief, but good views; first of a pair, then a lone male. A rare, poorly-known bird.)

Swallow-Tanager (*Tersina viridis*) – IN\*, CN

### **BUNTINGS, SPARROWS & ALLIES (Emberizidae)**

Black-masked Finch (*Coryphospiza melanotis*) – CN (Exceptional views of this superb bird. A poorly-known, threatened grassland inhabitant with an odd, patchy distribution.)

Gray Pileated Finch (*Coryphospingus pileatus*) – CI

Blue-black Grassquit (*Volatinia jacarina*) – all sites

Cinereous Warbling Finch (*Poospiza cinerea*) (E) – CI (Excellent studies of this poorly-known endemic.)

Temmink's Seedeater (*Sporophila falcirostris*) (E) – IN (With the bamboo in seed, this bamboo specialist was abundant. We finally saw a nice adult male well.)

Buff-fronted Seedeater (*S. frontalis*) (E) – IN (Another bamboo specialist. This one is heavily prized as a cage bird because of its nice song.)

Tawny-bellied Seedeater (*S. hypoxantha*) – CN

Plumbeous Seedeater (*Sporophila plumbea*)– CN

Yellow-bellied Seedeater (*Sporophila nigricollis*) – CA

Dubois' Seedeater (*Sporophila ardesiaca*) (E) – CN, CA

Double-collared Seedeater (*Sporophila caerulescens*) – IN, CI, CA

Black-bellied Seedeater (*S. melanogaster*) (E) – CN (An unexpected find.)

Capped Seedeater (*S. bouvreuil*) – CN (This was the white bellied form migrating north from Sao Paulo region.)

Saffron Finch (*Sicalis flaveola*)– IT, CN, CA

Stripe-tailed Yellow-Finch (*Sicalis citrina*) – CN (Abundant this year.)

Grassland Yellow Finch (*S. luteola*) – CN

Wedge-tailed Grass-Finch (*Emberizoides herbicola*) – CN

Pale-throated Serra-Finch (*Embernagra longicauda*) (E)\* – CI

Great Pampa-Finch ( *Embernagra platensis*) – CN, CA

Grassland Sparrow (*Ammodramus humeralis* ) CN

Half-collared Sparrow (*Arremon semitorquatus*) (E)\* – IN

Rufous-collared Sparrow (*Zonotrichia capensis*) – all sites

Uniform Finch (*Haplospiza unicolor*) – IN (Yet another bamboo specialist that was abundant due to the seeding of the bamboo.)

### **SALTATORS, CARDINAL & ALLIES (Cardinalidae)**

Black-throated Grosbeak (*Saltator fuliginosus*) (E)\* – IN

Green-winged Saltator (*Saltator similis*) (e) – IT, CN, CA

Black-throated Saltator (*Saltator atricollis*) – CI, CN

Blue Finch (*Porphyrospiza caerulescens*) – CN (Common this trip, including some stunning males.)

### **TROUPIALS & ALLIES (Icteridae)**

Chestnut-capped Blackbird (*Agelaius ruficapillus*) – CN, CA

White-browed Blackbird (*Sturnella superciliaris*) – CN

Shiny Cowbird (*Molothrus bonariensis*) – all sites

Giant Cowbird (*Molothrus oryzivorus*) – IN, CN

Yellow-rumped Cacique (*Cacicus cela*) – CN

Red-rumped Cacique (*Cacicus haemorrhous*) – IT, IN,

Golden-winged Cacique (*Cacicus chrysopterus*) – IN

Crested Oropendola (*Psarocolius decumanus*) – CN, CA

Yellow-rumped Marshbird (*Pseudoleistes guiaruhuro*) – CN, CA

Chopi Blackbird (*Gnorimopsar chopi*) – IN, CN, CA

**TOTAL = 397 species, including a staggering 131 regional and/or Brazilian endemics.**

Mammals & significant others :

Brown Howler Monkey – IN\*

Giant Anteater – CN

Brazilian Cottontail – CN

European Hare – IN (introduced)

Lesser Cavi

Guianan Squirrel – CI, CA

Maned Wolf – CN, CA (Spectacular studies!)

Crab Eating Fox – IN

Pampas Deer – CN

Atlantic Bamboo Rat – IT

Black-tufted-ear Marmoset – Spectacular looks at this cute primate

Tegui Lizard

legless lizard – 2 different species

Brown-headed Racer