

**AMAZON RIVER CRUISE:
A BIRDING AND NATURAL HISTORY
ODYSSEY**

JANUARY 8-18, 2015

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By Steve Hilty

Our January 2015 Amazon River Cruise on the Río Amazon, Rio Ucayali, and various tributaries of these rivers was another very enjoyable and successful journey through northeastern Peru. During our weeklong trip we did experience some rain almost every day except the last two days of the trip. The rain did not interfere with our planned activities, except on one morning when we were delayed until about 9 a.m. and on another morning when we were forced to return to the mother ship for about an hour. Most days were partly cloudy to cloudy and pleasant. Water levels were high this year, as is normal, but still 2–3 meters below peak levels, which were clearly indicated by watermarks on trees. High water permitted easy access even to small creeks. This is an advantage for birding and an important reason for visiting at this time of year.

Among the highlights of our trip, top honors surely go to the Razor-billed Curassow, with the wonderful Spectacled Owl a close second; others included the remarkable number of Great Potoos seen (as well as one Common Potoo), Blue-and-yellow Macaws, and almost a dozen male Plum-throated Cotingas. There were, of course, large numbers of raptors almost daily, many parakeets and parrots, some cute tody-flycatchers, and a great mix of river edge and river island species including Lesser Wagtail-Tyrants, Black-and-white Antbirds, Orange-fronted Plushcrows, kingfishers, and many more. We also saw a good cross section of mammals of western Amazonia: Night Monkeys and six or seven other primates, as well as sloths, and both Pink and Gray river dolphins daily.

The great complexity and diversity of a rainforest avifauna is, perhaps, better illustrated in western Amazonia than anywhere else in the world. Our daily routine generally included early morning and mid-afternoon ship departures to explore small creeks, or work along the forested riverbanks of the Amazon and Ucayali. After spending a week searching for some of the avifaunal pieces in this greatest of all natural jigsaw puzzles, we hopefully came away with a better appreciation of how this diversity fits together. And, not all the pieces were in the forest. There is a rich and varied river island fauna. There was a sprinkling of long distance migrants (e.g. Eastern Kingbird, Barn Swallow), and there were both white water (muddy really), and black water streams. Each of these components contributes, in various ways, to the overall diversity of birds in Amazonia. In a large and diverse avifauna such as that of the Iquitos area much of one's enjoyment comes from the sum of visiting the many different habitats in which birds live and in observing their behaviors and their unusual, often novel songs, duets, and breeding activities. To this end we tried to visit as wide a variety of habitats and microhabitats as possible including river islands, *várzea* forest, and moriche palms among others.

Our ship's crew did a great job of feeding us and looking after us, even bringing cool towels into the field, and the coolers, both shipboard and on the skiffs, were always well-stocked with cold water. Muddy boots were cleaned and dried after a brief land-based excursion (by one boat group) and another to the village, and on several evenings the ship's band played during happy (or was it "Harpy") hour. The week went quickly and a lot of adventure and learning were compressed into a relatively short span of time. Steve presented three lectures, and Segundo presented a lecture on Amazonian village life. Johnnie gave a couple of updates on our ship position, and David kept the group apprised of forthcoming activities. Contrasting our first day along the coast with the utterly different Amazon experience, one begins to appreciate the tremendous diversity of habitats and wildlife that Peru offers

to those who are willing to spend the time and effort to visit them. We thank all of you for participating in this cruise and hope to see you again soon.

Itinerary:

Jan 8 (Thursday), Arrival in Lima

Jan 9 (Friday), Day along the coast from Lima to the Pantanos de Villa (marshes) and small village of Pucusana; late afternoon return to Lima

Jan 10 (Saturday). Late morning departure from Lima to Iquitos, where we went directly to the Fitzcaraldo Restaurant. Before and after lunch we spent a few moments birding (yes, in light rain!) immediately across the street at the waterfront. We embarked from Iquitos c. 4:30 p.m.) for the short ride northward where we enter the true Amazon River and then gradually set course southward and upriver.

Jan 11 (Sunday). Early departure for small village (Comunidad Huaysi) and the Río Tahuayo (a tributary of the Río Amazon). The river provided a good introduction to birds of western Amazonia. After lunch and siesta we disembarked on another skiff trip for our first afternoon birding session on the Cocha (lake) Lucero Pata, which is an old oxbow of a portion of the Río Amazon.

Jan 12 (Monday). We passed the junction of the Río Marañón during the early morning hours night and were then on the Río Ucayali for the rest of the day. We remained aboard the ship for the first three hours today as a light rain. Mid-morning we departed for Cocha Carmen on Río Ucayali. Our afternoon excursion was on a small creek called the Caño Huacaráyco, which was flooded regrowth/successional and secondary forest (a non-climax) and led to a large lake with a rookery of hundreds of egrets and cormorants. Tonight (sometime around 2-3 in the morning) we passed the town of Requena, which is the only town of any size in this area.

Jan 13 (Tuesday). We visited a river mouth area early this morning and were then forced back to the ship by rain but within an hour we were out again to continue working along some river-edge and cleared pastureland just above the town of Genaro Herrera before moving upstream a short distance to the Caño (Creek) Supay. We spend the late afternoon on the Río Yanallpa, (apparently pronounced Yanashpa), one of the narrowest creeks we visited.

Jan 14 (Wednesday). Morning outing on Río Dorado, a blackwater river and a major tributary of the Ucayali and one of the two wildest rivers that we visit on this cruise. We returned to the Dorado River in the afternoon and the visited an adjacent lake just before dusk. Highlights included Horned Screamers (close), several primates, a female Amazonian Umbrellabird and a variety of smaller birds.

Jan 15 (Thursday). Morning on Río Zapote which proved once again that this is probably the premier river for raptors. A small Amerindian settlement is located a few minutes above the river mouth and for not hunting in the area above the village the community receives compensation from us (and other groups) that visit here in return for not hunting. They do fish here on the river, however. This is the furthest upriver that we reach on this cruise. Highlights were Monk Saki monkeys and sightings of Scarlet Macaw, Blue-and-yellow Macaw, and Chestnut-fronted Macaw. This afternoon we retraced our route back downriver a short distance and then visited the Río Faucett. Staying until after dark we were able to see a Spectacled Owl and Common Potoo and listen to an amazingly loud chorus of Goliath Tree Frogs before returning after dark.

Jan 16 (Friday). Morning visit to Río Yarapa (the upper end of this loop river) on the extreme lower end and south bank of the Río Ucayali. Late morning part of our collective groups disembarked for a visit to an Amerindian village (Paranapura Village), while the balance of us (in one boat) returned again to the Yarapa, continuing further up a side branch of this loop river. For our afternoon visit we stopped briefly at a river edge site with early successional vegetation that is known as "Centro America." We found Black-and-white Antbirds and Lesser Wagtail-Tyrants here and some White-bellied Spinetails that proved elusive. Pre-dinner music ("Harpy" hour) by Johnny Elastic and his Rubber Band (or any of several other names for his band) and our final dinner and crew introductions followed the final evening meal.

Jan. 17. (Saturday). Early morning pre-breakfast birding run to a river island zone near Iquitos. Highlights included Red-and-white Spinetail, White-bellied Spinetail, Lesser Wagtail-Tyrant, River Tyrannulet (first of the trip), Black-and-white Antbird, assorted Red-capped Cardinals and for one group also a Parker's Spinetail (also seen previously).

Then followed a mid-morning drive through the Belen market at Iquitos, and a museum visit before good-bys as our group separated, some to Lima and others for the Northern Peru extension. For those continuing onto the post-trip extension to Tarapoto we retired to the luxurious Plaza Hotel for lunch and a short wait before our late afternoon flight (c. 4:00 p.m.) flight to Tarapoto. And that is another story and a new collection of cloud forest birds.

KEY:

Asterisk (*) = heard only

Boldface red: North American breeders

Boldface black: rare or infrequently seen or of interest for other reasons

SH - Steve Hilty; DA - David Ascanio

Note: the words “caño” and quebrada” are largely interchangeable and equivalent to “creek” or small stream in English]

[] = enclosed in brackets if seen only by SH or DA or by Segundo or Johnnie

BIRD LIST: (Taxonomy follows Clements checklist with updates)

Screamers, Anhimidae

Horned Screamer, *Anhima cornuta*, heard and seen almost daily; from 2 to a dozen

Ducks & Geese, Anatidae

Muscovy Duck, *Cairina moschata*, 2-10+ seen almost all days (most sightings were of pairs; one nest found (ca. 0.3 m above water level) in hollow trunk and with 8 white eggs; nest on the lake adjacent to Río Dorado

Guans and Chachalacas, Cracidae

Speckled Chachalaca, *Ortalis guttata*, seen three times and also heard

Razor-billed Curassow, *Mitu tuberosum*, 1 adult perched up in a tree along Río Dorado for all to see; beautiful views by both boat groups; one of the top birds of the trip

Cormorants, Phalacrocoracidae

Neotropic Cormorant, *Phalacrocorax brasilianus*, daily but mostly in modest numbers

Anhinga, Anhingidae

Anhinga, *Anhinga anhinga*, singles seen on two or three days

Hérons & Egrets, Ardeidae

Cocoi Heron, *Ardea cocoi*, several seen along Río Zapote; a few elsewhere

Great Egret, *Ardea alba*, 2-50+ daily along rivers; one or two high-flying groups moving southward (due to rising water levels?)

Snowy Egret, *Egretta thula*, small numbers daily; “rafting” downriver on logs

Striated Heron, *Butorides striatus*, singles; in numbers up to 20-30 a day in some areas; commonest heron

Capped Heron, *Pilherodius pileatus*, mostly singles; seen daily along rivers

Black-crowned Night-Heron, *Nycticorax nycticorax*, one over island vegetation at Iquitos the lat morning

Ibises & Spoonbills, Threskiornithidae

Green Ibis, *Mesembrinibis cayennensis*, heard several times at dawn or dusk; seen on three occasions

New World Vultures, Cathartidae

Black Vulture, *Coragyps atratus*, daily; large numbers around Iquitos; small nos. elsewhere

Turkey Vulture, *Cathartes aura*, small numbers daily; all of the ones we saw were residents told by narrow whitish nape band

Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture, *Cathartes burrovianus*, Iquitos and in grassy open areas along rivers where typically soars/glides low; fairly common; up to a dozen on some days

Greater Yellow-headed Vulture, *Cathartes melambrotus*, only a few on this trip (soars higher than Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture and always over forested areas); we saw 2-3 over Río Zapote

King Vulture, *Sarcoramphus papa*, one seen

Osprey, Pandionidae

Osprey, *Pandion haliaetus*, 1-2 seen most days; in western hemisphere known to breed only in North America; all S American birds are non-breeder but some are present year-round

Hawk & Eagles, Accipitridae

Hook-billed Kite, *Chondrohierax uncinatus*, seen on at least 3 days; some great overhead views of soaring birds

Gray-headed Kite, *Leptodon cayanensis*, 1 seen along Caño Zapote

Black Hawk-Eagle, *Spizaetus tyrannus*, 1 seen over Caño Yanallpa (by one of our boat groups)

Black-collared Hawk, *Busarellus nigricollis*, up to 15 or more daily; this “fishing” hawk is one of commonest raptors along river and creek edges of western Amazonia

Snail Kite, *Rostrhamus sociabilis*, one migrating flock of 55-60 seen by one boat party over Río Dorado; birds flying steadily southward; 1 also seen over Río Zapote

Slender-billed Kite, *Rostrhamus sociabilis*, 2-6+ seen on most days; perched and soaring very high

Double-toothed Kite, *Harpagus bidentatus*, one seen on Caño Zapote by one boat party

Plumbeous Kite, *Ictinia plumbea*, seen every day; perched and showing long wings protruding and also in flight

Crane Hawk, *Geranospiza caeruleascens*, singles or pairs seen on three days

Slate-colored Hawk, *Leucopternis schistaceus*, 1-6+ seen on most days; common in swampy forest

Great Black Hawk, *Buteogallus urubitinga*, adults and a several immatures almost daily along riverbanks and creeks

Roadside Hawk, *Buteo magnirostris*, almost daily along river edges; the “Riverside” hawk

Short-tailed Hawk, *Buteo brachyurus*, 1 seen perch in tree near shore of Río Ucayali above Genaro Herrera

Rails and Gallinules, Rallidae

Purple Gallinule, *Porphyrio martinica*, one seen from the Iquitos waterfront the day of arrival; another upriver

Azure Gallinule, *Porphyrio flavirostris*, seen three times; especially well seen on the evening of the 12th when we flushed one bird and then a second bird twice; the first bird was seen perched up in grass by some of our group

Finfoots & Sungrebe, Heliornithidae

*Sungrebe, *Heliornis fulica*, heard most days but despite much effort neither group saw this bird

Plovers & Lapwings, Charadriidae

Southern Lapwing, *Vanellus chilensis*, 1 near Genaro Herrera

Pied Lapwing, *Vanellus cayanus*, 8+ near Genaro Herrera (in grassy pastures)

Jacanas, Jacanidae

Wattled Jacana, *Jacana jacana*, daily but mostly singles and pairs or a few scattered birds in loose groups

Sandpipers & allies, Scolopacidae

Spotted Sandpiper, *Actitis macularius*, scattered individuals were seen on at least three days

Gulls & Terns, Laridae

Yellow-billed Tern, *Sternula superciliaris*, few on Río Amazon but varying numbers up to 20-30 daily on Río Ucayali; none seen around Iquitos

Large-billed Tern, *Phaetusa simplex*, 20-50+ daily on Río Amazon and Río Ucayali with various groups massed on driftwood or fallen branches along rivers and creeks

Pigeons & Doves, Columbidae

Rock Pigeon, *Columba livia*, Iquitos

Pale-vented Pigeon, *Patagioenas cayennensis*, one to several daily; perched up mostly in semiopen

Ruddy Pigeon, *Columba subvinacea*, singles heard a few times; one or two seen

Ruddy Ground-Dove, *Columba talpacoti*, a few seen in disturbed areas and river edge vegetation the first two days (especially near Amerindian villages) and the last day

White-tipped Dove, *Leptotila verreauxi*, one seen the first morning in river edge scrub; primarily found around islands (not inside forest)

Gray-fronted Dove, *Leptotila rufaxilla*, mostly heard; one seen

Hoatzin, Opisthocomidae

Hoatzin, *Opisthocomus hoazin*, seen on three days; mainly around quiet lake edges well away from river traffic; one of the Amazon's oddest birds

Cuckoos, Cuculidae

Little Cuckoo, *Piaya minuta*, seen twice

Squirrel Cuckoo, *Piaya cayana*, seen on five days; generally fairly common

Pheasant Cuckoo, *Dromococcyx phasianellus*, remarkably we saw this species three times (a first for this tour); always a good find!

Greater Ani, *Crotophaga major*, daily in numbers (flocks) up to 20-50 birds

Smooth-billed Ani, *Crotophaga ani*, common; daily in settled areas and along open grassy areas along riverbanks and river islands

Owls, Strigidae

Spectacled Owl, *Pulsatrix perspicillata*, 1 (of 2) seen by everyone; then the pair seen together a few minutes later; great views and another first for this trip

Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl, *Glaucidium brasilianum*, 1 seen

Nightjars & Allies, Caprimulgidae

Sand-colored Nighthawk, *Chordeiles rupestris*, group of ca. 200+ seen flying past cruise ship at dawn (predawn) early in trip; one seen later

Ladder-tailed Nightjar, *Hydropsalis climacocerca*, males and/or females flushed and seen perched several times with everyone getting great views

Potoos, Nyctibiidae

Great Potoo, *Nyctibius griseus*, we probably set a record for the largest number of Great Potoo sightings; DA spotlighted 3 from ship the first night; then singles were seen on two additional days including one during the day

Common Potoo, *Nyctibius griseus*, 1 seen by part of group on the Caño Faucett

Swifts, Apodidae

Chimney Swift, *Chaetura pelagica*, flock 3 seen over Caño Yanallpa; medium-sized dark swifts with minimal contrast on rump and upper tail surface; mostly dark below; we have begun to see this species (once we have learned to recognize it) more regularly

Short-tailed Swift, *Chaetura brachyura*, remarkably only 1 was seen

Lesser Swallow-tailed Swift, *Panyptila cayennensis*, pair seen on the 12th; uncommon in this area

Fork-tailed (Neotropical) Palm-Swift, *Tachornis (Reinarda) squamata*, daily over all rivers; usually in vicinity of *Mauritia* palms (where they nest)

Hummingbirds, Trochilidae

Hermit sp., several sightings of birds in flight but none identified

Black-throated Mango, *Anthracothorax nigricollis*, one female and one male seen

Blue-tailed Emerald, *Chlorostilbon mellisugus*, 1M seen

Blue-chinned Sapphire, *Chlorostilbon (Chlorestes) notata*, males seen at least twice

Olive-spotted Hummingbird, *Leucippus chlorocercus*, we had several sightings of this bird; some fairly close others much further away; remarkably dull little river island specialist and often the only hummer in this scrub habitat

Glittering-throated Emerald, *Amazilia fimbriata*, we saw singles or twos on at least 3 days

Trogons, Trogonidae

Black-tailed Trogon, *Trogon melanurus*, heard and seen daily; a common trogon in this flooded forest (várzea) region of the lower Ucayali region

Green-backed Trogon (a split from White-tailed Trogon), *Trogon viridis*, seen twice early in trip; surely one of the more misleading names for such a beautiful bird

Blue-crowned Trogon, *Trogon curucui*, one seen

Collared Trogon, *Trogon collaris*, only one seen near end of trip

Motmots, Momotidae

*Amazonian (formerly Blue-crowned) Motmot, *Momotus momota*, heard along Caño Yanallpa

Kingfishers, Alcedinidae

Ringed Kingfisher, *Ceryle torquata*, daily; commonest kingfisher (at least the most conspicuous)

Amazon Kingfisher, *Chloroceryle amazona*, daily; somewhat fewer than previous species

Green Kingfisher, *Chloroceryle americana*, seen on most days

Green-and-rufous Kingfisher, *Chloroceryle inda*, one seen perched by part of group; 3-4 others seen flying over creeks or along creek borders where dashes into cover
Pygmy Kingfisher, *Chloroceryle aenea*, one seen very well perched inside forest; a couple others seen flying

Puffbirds, Bucconidae

Black-fronted Nunbird, *Monasa nigrifrons*, common and seen daily
Swallow-winged Puffbird, *Chelidoptera tenebrosa*, small numbers daily (except last day);

Jacamars, Galbulidae

White-eared Jacamar, *Galbalcyrhynchus leucotis*, most numerous jacamar; pairs and families of up to 4 individuals seen repeatedly each day
Bluish-fronted Jacamar, *Galbula cyanescens*, singles and pairs seen on at least four days and also heard several times; birds on both sides of Ucayali are believed to be this species but potential or actual overlap with very similar White-chinned Jacamar (*G. tombacea*) is possible

Barbets, Capitonidae

Scarlet-crowned Barbet, *Capito aurovirens*, common and seen almost daily in canopy of river edge trees

Toucans, Ramphastidae

Lettered Araçari, *Pteroglossus inscriptus*, seen on at least 4 days
Chestnut-eared Araçari, *Pteroglossus castanotis*, almost daily although usually only one or two groups; this is THE river edge Araçari
Ivory-billed Araçari, *Pteroglossus azara*, 1 seen along Río Yanallpa
White-throated (Cuvier's) Toucan, *Ramphastos cuvieri*, one seen on the 16th
Channel-billed Toucan, *Ramphastos vitellinus*, a couple seen on Río Dorado; these large *Ramphastos* toucans are rather uncommon in this area (and may suffer from some persecution)

Woodpeckers, Picidae

Plain-breasted Piculet, *Picumnus castelnau*, singles on three days; river edges and disturbed creekside vegetation; not rare but confined to river islands and river edges where found in younger vegetation
Yellow-tufted Woodpecker, *Melanerpes cruentatus*, seen on at least half of days; often in groups on high stubs
Little Woodpecker, *Veniliornis passerinus*, river islands and river banks where seen in early successional vegetation including cane (*Gynerium*) and sapling; in western Amazonia almost exclusively a “river island” and disturbed river edge species; seen on four days
Red-stained Woodpecker, *Veniliornis affinis*, one bird high up in tree on Caño Yanallpa; responded well to playback but remained high and difficult to see
Spot-breasted Woodpecker, *Colaptes (Chrysoptilus) punctigula*, singles or pairs on river islands and younger river bank vegetation on virtually every day; a beautiful species that afforded us several opportunities to view it to advantage
Chestnut Woodpecker, *Celeus elegans*, we saw this lovely woodpecker on two days
Cream-colored Woodpecker, *Celeus flavus*, singles and pairs on three days; one of the handsomest *Celeus* woodpeckers; excellent view (and photos) along Río Dorado
Ringed Woodpecker, *Celeus torquatus*, a pair along Río Yarapa the last morning; one of the two was seen fairly well but very high up in a tree and fairly distant; everywhere a low-density species due to its large foraging/home range; consequently often difficult to find with any regularity
Crimson-crested Woodpecker, *Campephilus melanoleucos*, males or females seen four times; female told from female of previous species by broad white facial stripe and “suspenders” that button (meet) in mid-back

Falcons and Caracaras, Falconidae

Black Caracara, *Daptrius ater*, pairs seen only on a couple days; river edge bird
Red-throated Caracara, *Ibycter americanus*, group of three seen on Río Dorado that may have been contemplating an attack on a large wasp nest (flew in and perched close to nest); a species in decline over much of its range and especially in Central America where it is virtually gone
Yellow-headed Caracara, *Milvago chimachima*, daily along rivers and larger creeks; common
Laughing Falcon, *Herpetotheres cachinnans*, seen on three days; also heard another time; a snake-eating specialist
Bat Falcon, *Falco rufigularis*, singles seen twice
Peregrine Falcon, *Falco peregrinus*, one bird seen perched on top of a building in Lima en route to airport

Parrots & Parakeets, Psittacidae (18 species recorded)

Rose-fronted Parakeet, *Pyrrhura roseifrons*, one flock of about 18 seen flying across a small clearing near

Genaro Herrera; red frontlet visible and overall a remarkably colorful species

White-eyed Parakeet, *Aratinga leucophthalma*, seen mainly in early morning when noisy groups were seen flying overhead

Dusky-headed Parakeet, *Aratinga weddellii*, daily along rivers; much more numerous than previous species

Chestnut-fronted Macaw, *Ara severus*, a single perched along Río Zapote; a pair later

Scarlet Macaw, *Ara macao*, one Río Zapote; pairs or singles were also seen a couple other times

Blue-and-yellow Macaw, *Ara ararauna*, pairs or 4s or 5s at several sites; at least 12-14 or more over Río Dorado

Red-bellied Macaw, *Orthopsittaca manilata*, scattered pairs or small groups on several mornings

Blue-winged Parrotlet, *Forpus xanthopterygius*, pairs or threes in a few places

White-winged Parakeet, *Brotogeris versicolurus*, multiple flocks of 10s and 20s and up to 100s daily along all creeks; dazzling flocks are a characteristic part of avifauna in this region; this species is an integral part of the western Amazonian river edge experience; in early morning flocks fly rather high and in dense swarms that recall a swarm of insects at a distance

Cobalt-winged Parakeet, *Brotogeris cyanoptera*, numerous flocks daily most of which were seen in flight; quite similar to next species (see) which is largely confined to river edges and islands

Tui Parakeet, *Brotogeris sanctithomae*, pairs or small groups almost daily along river; a river edge bird; distinguished by yellow forehead and reddish bill and white eyes (but at a distance much like Cobalt-winged Parakeet)

Black-headed Parrot, *Pionites melanocephalus*, 4 along Río Dorado perched for a few minutes in high tree close to river; heard along Río Zapote

Short-tailed Parrot, *Graydidascalus brachyurus*, a noisy bird seen in pairs or more often small groups every day along tall riverine forest and riverine bands of *Cecropia*; noisy and screechy but only a few seen perched

Blue-headed Parrot, *Pionus menstruus*, seen only a few times; mainly singles or pairs in flight high overhead (surprisingly low numbers); deep mostly "below the horizontal" wing beats

Festive Parrot, *Amazona festiva*, we saw more of this species on this trip than on previous trips; especially good views along the Río Dorado; red back stripe often not visible but we were able to see it a few times; mainly Dorado and Zapote Creek

Yellow-crowned Parrot, *Amazona ochrocephala*, pairs seen on the 12th and 15th

Mealy Parrot, *Amazona farinosa*, a few seen or heard on several mornings; large green parrot with deep throaty voice; largest *Amazona* parrot; not seen perched to my recollection

Orange-winged Parrot, *Amazona amazonica*, commonest *Amazona* parrots with a 10-50 or more seen on most mornings; pairs or threes within larger flocks

Antbirds, Thamnophilidae

Great Antshrike, *Taraba major*, seen the first morning along Río Tahuayo; another pair the last morning Río Yarapa

Black-crested Antshrike, *Sakesphorus canadensis*, pair at mouth of Yanallpa (in heat of afternoon when it became very hot for a few minutes)

Barred Antshrike, *Thamnophilus doliatus*, heard and/or seen on several mornings

Castelnau's Antshrike, *Thamnophilus cryptoleucus*, a surprise this trip when both boat parties observed a pair along the Caño Huacarayco in the late afternoon; a river edge/island bird of other vegetation growth

Amazonian Antshrike, *Thamnophilus amazonicus*, one seen the first morning

Spot-winged Antshrike, *Pygiptila stellaris*, male along Río Yarapa

Pygmy Antwren, *Myrmotherula brachyura*, often heard; one male was seen well in the afternoon along the Caño Supay

Amazonian Streaked-Antwren, *Myrmotherula multistriata*, pairs along river a time or two; one pair along Caño Supay

Peruvian Warbling-Antbird, *Hypocnemis peruviana*, pair seen along Caño Supay by one boat party

Band-tailed Antbird, *Hypocnemoides maculicauda*, nice views of this species by all parties

Black-tailed Antbird, *Cercomacra melanurus*, a pair found the first morning along Río Tahuayo and eventually seen by both boat parties; a **very local swamp forest and black-water species**; we have not been successful in locating this bird every year

*Gray Antbird, *Cercomacra cinerascens*, one heard along Caño Huacarayco in late afternoon

*Ash-breasted Antbird, *Myrmoborus leucophrys*, 1 heard along Río Tahuayo; bird responded somewhat but we were unable to see it

Black-and-white Antbird, *Myrmochanes hemileucus*, a couple seen the last afternoon along banks of Amazon (“Centro America”); then seen repeatedly near Iquitos the last morning; a species found in *Tessaria* sp. and other early succession plants on river islands and adjacent river banks

Black-throated Antbird, *Myrmeciza atrothorax*, one seen along Caño Huacarayco; widespread bird but often frustratingly difficult to see in the grass where it lives

Plumbeous Antbird, *Myrmeciza hyperythra*, great views of this species by all boat parties on more than one occasion

*Bicolored Antbird, *Gymnopithys leucaspis*, one heard by one boat party but not seen

Ovenbird and allies, Furnariidae

Woodcreepers (subfamily Dendrocolaptinae); now merged within Furnariidae

Cinnamon-throated Woodcreeper, *Dendrozetetes rufifigula*, enigmatic woodcreeper that looks and often acts more like a foliage-gleaner than a woodcreeper; seen on numerous occasions

Long-billed Woodcreeper, *Nasica longirostris*, several seen beautifully on two or three days; also heard often; mainly a várzea species in Amazonia

Amazonia Barred-Woodcreeper, *Dendrocolaptes certhia*, one seen (unusual on this cruise to see this interior forest species)

Strong-billed Woodcreeper, *Xiphocolaptes promeropirhynchus*, one seen (uncommon here)

Striped Woodcreeper, *Xiphorhynchus obsoletus*, common várzea and river edge bird; we saw it two or three times and heard it regularly in low dark undergrowth of shady little creeks

Buff-throated Woodcreeper, *Xiphorhynchus guttatus*, not much vocalization from this species this trip; only a couple seen

Straight-billed Woodcreeper, *Dendroplex picus*, like Striped Woodcreeper a common species found low along creeks and rivers; we saw it a few times

Zimmer’s Woodcreeper, *Xiphorhynchus kienerii*, this range-restricted species was by both groups along Caño Huacarayco; local in distribution; much like Straight-billed Woodcreeper and the two are best told by voice rather than plumage (Zimmer’s marginally browner)

Slender-billed Xenops, *Xenops tenuirostris*, pair along Río Dorado were highly responsive to playback and approached relatively close (for this species); uncommon and infrequently seen or identified with confidence

Pale-legged Hornero, *Furnarius leucopus*, one seen the first morning was apparently the only one of the trip

Pale-billed (Bay) Hornero, *Furnarius torridus*, heard several times (and in several places) along the Caño Huacarayco but only seen flying across the creek by one boat party

Lesser Horner, *Furnarius minor*, a specialist of driftwood on sandy river islands; seen in short grass pasture near town of Genaro Herrera (sand bars are all flooded now)

Orange-fronted Plushcrown, *Metopothrix aurantiaca*, cute and warblerlike in appearance despite genetic affinities with the furnariids; generally in younger creekside vegetation but also occasionally fairly high in more mature trees along creeks; seen on several mornings; usually fairly high where not so easy to see

Parker’s Spinetail, *Cranioleuca vulpecula*, a species found primarily in dense cane on river islands and river banks; usually responsive to song playback; we saw once up the Ucayali and again the last morning (1 boat party) near Iquitos; always hard to see well; named in honor of Theodore Parker who formerly worked for VENT and died tragically in a plane crash in Ecuador in the early 1990s

Yellow-chinned Spinetail, *Certhiaxis cinnamomeus*, cute pair early morning not far above Genaro Herrera; decidedly uncommon and local in nw Peru

Red-and-white Spinetail, *Certhiaxis mustelina*, common even with high water; various pairs seen daily; river island bird that favors grass and bushes

Dark-breasted Spinetail, *Synallaxis albigularis*, seen three or four times; mainly river islands and river banks with grass and shrubs

White-bellied Spinetail, *Synallaxis propinqua*, river island species that almost always proves difficult to see; our best views were the last morning near Iquitos but it was also seen briefly up the Amazon (near the site known as “Centro America”)

Tyrant Flycatchers, Tyrannidae

Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet, *Camptostoma obsoletum*, seen once or twice; Caño Supay; slightly bushy crest and cocked tail but otherwise undistinguished

Mouse-colored Tyrannulet, *Phaeomyias murina*, pair in river edge vegetation in early morning and not far above town of Gerardo Herrera

Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet, *Tyrannous elates*, heard daily uttering its “free beer” call; we saw it a few times but it is better remembered by its call

Yellow-crowned Elena, *Myiopagis flavivertex*, a couple seen along small flooded streams; a loud explosive call for such a small and insignificant-looking bird; only seen the first two days; Caño Supay and Río Yarapa and possibly elsewhere

Lesser Wagtail-Tyrant, *Stigmatura napensis*, pair seen the last afternoon before our return to Iquitos (Centro America site) and again the last morning near Iquitos; a charismatic river island specialist of *Tessaria* sp. and *Salix* sp. shrubs

Spotted Tody-Tyrant, *Todirostrum maculatum*, we saw pairs (and also heard them) in river edge and creekside shrubbery on almost every morning or afternoon

Yellow-browed Tody-Flycatcher, *Todirostrum chrysocrotaphum*, two or three were seen including a couple along the Caño Huacarayco; a tiny bird that looks like a large bumblebee high in canopy; not rare but difficult to spot

Olivaceous Flatbill, *Rhynchocyclus olivaceus*, pair seen along Río Yarapa the last morning; seen by both boat parties (one being the late-morning group that did not go to the village); first time we've recorded this species; widespread but uncommon

Gray-crowned Flycatcher, *Tolmomyias poliocephalus*, seen along Río Yarapa the last morning; very high in canopy tree but came to DA's playback; late morning boat group

Fuscous Flycatcher, *Cnemotriccus fuscatus*, one seen in dense vegetation along a small creek on the first morning by SH group a rather nondescript flycatcher with longish tail and flat head that lives in wet shrubby undergrowth

Drab Water Tyrant, *Ochthornis littoralis*, along riverbank almost daily

White-headed Marsh-Tyrant, *Arundinicola leucocephala*, pairs seen several times in marshy places where males perch on low shrubs where they are conspicuous with blackish bodies and white heads

Cinnamon Attila, *Attila cinnamomeus*, heard and seen along the Río Tahuayo the first morning; flooded forest and swampy areas; heard a few other times

Dull-capped (White-eyed) Attila, *Attila bolivianus*, harder to see than previous species but also quite vocal; seen along Caño Huacarayco in late evening; now officially called (again) Dull-capped Attila (pronounce name *at-TIL-a*) by SACC but the more appropriate name should probably be White-eyed Attila

Short-crested Flycatcher, *Myiarchus ferox*, heard almost daily in young river edge vegetation; seen two or three times; a typical *Myiarchus* in appearance

Lesser Kiskadee, *Pitangus (Philohydor) lictor*, daily along creeks where usually low and close to water; voice (a burry "squeeze-me ba-by") utterly unlike that of Great Kiskadee

Great Kiskadee, *Pitangus sulphuratus*, daily along rivers and creeks at various heights

Boat-billed Flycatcher, *Megarynchus pitangua*, seen or heard several times

Social Flycatcher, *Myiozetetes similis*, seen daily; THE common small flycatcher with a kiskadee look-alike head pattern

Gray-capped Flycatcher, *Myiozetetes granadensis*, only seen once during this trip

Streaked Flycatcher, *Myiodynastes maculatus*, only seen the first morning in river edge vegetation; brownish resident race

Piratic Flycatcher, *Legatus leucophaeus*, its loud whistles were heard almost every morning; it was seen best in scattered trees in pastureland above town of Gerardo Herrera

Sulphury Flycatcher, *Tyrannopsis sulphurea*, pair seen in Moriche Palms along banks of Ucayali; only a single sighting; a Tropical Kingbird look-alike but almost always in or near moriche palms)

Tropical Kingbird, *Tyrannus melancholicus*, daily; common and conspicuous; at this time of year most are residents; austral migrants (from Argentina and Brazil) augment local populations from ca. Apr to Sept

Eastern Kingbird, *Tyrannus tyrannus*, we saw singles and then several smallish flocks totaling 25+ birds; these birds winter in western Amazonia and will soon gather in much larger groups to migrate northward

Cotingas, Cotingidae

Amazonian Umbrellabird, *Cephalopterus ornatus*, one female seen on Río Dorado; another female seen the last morning along Río Yarapa (but this latter one not seen particularly well)

Plum-throated Cotinga, *Cotinga maynana*, during the week we saw at least a dozen and perhaps as many as 15 males (little blue spots in the canopy!); brownish females were seen as well although less frequently; this species is typical of *várzea* forest and river edge trees where they sit up in display (the display is mainly just sitting and showing off their dazzling color in early morning sunlight) each morning

Bare-necked Fruitcrow, *Gymnoderus foetidus*, seen almost daily; no large movements and mainly single males or females crossing high overhead; seen perched a couple times

Manakins, Pipridae

*Dwarf Tyrant-Manakin, *Tyrannetes stolzmanni*, 1 heard the last day (not seen)

Tityras & allies, Tityridae

Black-tailed Tityra, *Tityra cayana*, seen most days (often pairs)

Black-crowned Tityra, *Tityra inquisitor*, only a single male seen

Masked Tityra, *Tityra semifasciata*, singles or pairs seen on two days

Várzea Schiffornis, *Schiffornis major*, heard and/or seen on five different days; seen perched a couple times but most often just flying back and forth by the skiffs after playback; formerly called Greater Manakin

Cinereous Becard, *Pachyramphus rufus*, males seen twice in river edge scrub

Chestnut-crowned Becard, *Pachyramphus castaneus*, seen the first morning on Río Tahuayo and last morning along the Caño Yarapa

White-winged Becard, *Pachyramphus polychopterus*, a female was seen on the Caño Supay but we forgot to mark this on the checklist

Pink-throated Becard, *Pachyramphus minor*, lovely pair seen close by both boat parties along the Río Zapote

Vireos & Greenlets, Vireonidae

Red-eyed (Chivi) Vireo, *Vireo olivaceus* (or if split *Vireo chivi*, a few scattered birds heard along river edges; a couple were seen but not marked on checklist; this is a resident form with a simple two-note call; some austral (southern) migrants present ca. Apr to Sept

Gray-chested Greenlet, *Hylophilus semicinereus*, heard and seen the first morning near mouth of the Río Tahuayo by one boat party

Crowns & Jays, Corvidae

Violaceous Jay, *Cyanocorax violaceus*, group of four (one juvenile) along the Río Dorado

Swallows & Martins, Hirundinidae

Southern Rough-winged Swallow, *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*, daily; some small groups of half dozen to a dozen also noted; this species is not nesting now (high water) but there is much to learn about its seasonal behavior and habits as is true of many of the commonest species here in western Amazonia; apparently it is resident here

Gray-breasted Martin, *Progne chalybea*, a few pairs and one flock of 50+ in a high dead tree along river edge

Brown-chested Martin, *Progne tapera*, a few seen one morning by one boat party (uncommon resident here)

White-winged Swallow, *Tachycineta albiventer*, daily; common over all rivers and in pairs or little groups of less than a dozen perched on sticks just above the water

Bank Swallow, *Riparia riparia*, a few seen at entrance to Río Dorado and a larger group of 30+ seen at entrance to Río Zapote

Barn Swallow, *Hirundo rustica*, daily in varying-sized flocks but mostly ragged heavily molting juveniles of the previous year; no flocks of more than 20-35 birds; a North America breeder (at least all of these birds)

Wrens, Troglodytidae

Thrush-like Wren, *Campylorhynchus turdinus*, heard most days; pairs seen high in trees a few times; one of the most characteristic bird sounds around Amazonian communities

Coraya Wren, *Phlegopediurus coraya*, pair seen by two boat parties (including the non-village group) along the Río Yarapa the last morning

Buff-breasted Wren, *Thryothorus leucotis*, heard everywhere along creek sides; a few seen with diligent playback

Gnatcatchers, Polioptilidae

Tropical Gnatcatcher, *Polioptila plumbea*, 1 seen along Río Dorado

Donacobius, Donacobiidae

Black-capped Donacobius, *Donacobius atricapilla*, heard and seen every day; wonderful tail-wagging display; now in a family of its own (this species has a checkered taxonomic history that may yet undergo more revision); for comments on an unusual behavior of this species see the hoatzin entry

Thrushes, Turdidae

Hauxwell's Thrush, *Turdus hauxwelli*, one seen along Caño Supay by one boat party

Black-billed Thrush, *Turdus ignobilis*, mainly around Iquitos; a few along Río Tahuayo the first morning; river edges

Tanagers, Thraupidae (many taxonomic changes in this family)

Red-capped Cardinal, *Paroaria gularis*, daily along rivers and creeks and lakes

Hooded Tanager, *Nemosia pileata*, pairs or little groups 3-5 were seen in rather open trees along river banks; recorded on four mornings

Orange-headed Tanager, *Thlypopsis sordida*, a pair seen along the channel of Lucero Pata the first afternoon; two others at mouth of Río Dorado

Gray-headed Tanager, *Eucometis penicillata*, pair briefly along the Río Yarapa the last morning (only one boat party and not seen by all members of that boat)

Masked Crimson Tanager, *Ramphocelus nigrogularis*, stunning plumage and common enough that it was seen almost daily in small groups along river and creek edges; we enjoyed numerous breath-taking views of this species

Silver-beaked Tanager, *Ramphocelus carbo*, daily and more numerous than previous species this year

Blue-gray Tanager, *Thraupis episcopus*, daily; fairly common close to rivers; not nearly as numerous in natural environments as in settled areas and towns

Palm Tanager, *Thraupis palmarum*, only seen a couple times on the trip

Turquoise Tanager, *Tangara mexicana*, cute and numerous enough that we saw them almost daily; mostly treetops

Paradise Tanager, *Tangara chilensis*, singles or groups up to about 6 were seen on four days; a spectacular little tanager than almost always stays very high in trees

Yellow-bellied Dacnis, *Dacnis flaviventer*, we only saw males twice on this trip; unusual because they are usually more numerous; with mixed canopy flocks

Pearly-breasted Conebill, *Conirostrum margaritae*, pair found along the Caño Huacarayco in a band of even-aged *Cecropia* trees (their favorite habitat); responded well to playback singing in response; river island specialist

Caquetá Seedeater, *Sporophila murallae*, mostly single males seen on 3 different days; resident or seasonally present (depends upon sufficient grass seeds) in grassy and marshy areas

Lesson's Seedeater, *Sporophila bouvronides*, a dozen or more males (and presumably females) seen on several occasions; always in flooded grassy areas along riverbanks; notably erratic and nomadic as they wander in search of seed crops

Lined Seedeater, *Sporophila lineola*, one male seen with some Lesson's Seedeaters; according to DA the white crown line can often be absent (as it was on this bird) and is better identified by the clean white sides and flanks; may be uncommon here (or seasonally uncommon; status uncertain?)

Chestnut-bellied Seedeater, *Sporophila castaneiventris*, common and seen daily; river islands and riverbanks

Chestnut-bellied (Lesser) Seed-Finch, *Oryzoborus angolensis*, several seen in grassy river borders

Bananaquit, *Coereba flaveola*, seen twice on the cruise; not common in Amazonia

Grayish Saltator, *Saltator coerulescens*, we saw pairs of this species on most mornings and always in early successional stage vegetation along river edges

Buff-throated Saltator, *Saltator maximus*, a single bird seen by one boat party

Finches & Sparrows etc, Emberizidae

Yellow-browed Sparrow, *Ammodramus aurifrons*, small numbers along river edges and on river islands; seen in Iquitos and most days during the cruise

Blackbirds etc., Icteridae

Oriole Blackbird, *Gymnomystax mexicanus*, river islands and riverbanks throughout trip; gorgeous additions to riverbanks!

Yellow-hooded Blackbird, *Chrysomus icterocephalus*, varying sized groups seen almost every day of the trip; grass and young vegetation along riverbanks

Shiny Cowbird, *Molothrus bonariensis*, scattered birds along river edges and river islands daily; also we saw a few small groups

Giant Cowbird, *Molothrus oryzivorus*, only seen three times; river edges and flying along river border; parasitize mainly the Russet-backed Oropendola (and other large oropendolas)

Orange-backed Troupial, *Icterus croconotus*, singles and pairs were seen the first couple of days; striking oriole

Solitary (Black) Cacique, *Cacicus solitarius*, heard and eventually a couple seen; generally shy and retiring and as indicated by its name it is solitary

Yellow-rumped Cacique, *Cacicus cela*, daily; common; nest colonies with nests clumped together (do you know why! If not you can find out the answer in a chapter I wrote on the nesting behavior of caciques and oropendolas in *Birds of Tropical America-A watcher's Introduction to Behavior and Breeding and Diversity*); one of the commonest birds of the trip

Russet-backed Oropendola, *Psarocolius angustifrons*, daily; very common with conspicuous nest colonies noted everywhere

Crested Oropendola, *Psarocolius decumanus*, as far as I am aware we saw only a single bird

[Olive (Amazonian) Oropendola, *Psarocolius bifasciatus*, one distant bird was seen by SH (others?) from the cruise ship as we moved upriver during the rain the second morning]

Siskins & Goldfinches & Euphonias, Fringillidae

Purple-throated Euphonia, *Euphonia chlorotica*, males or male and female pairs seen a couple times along river edges

Thick-billed Euphonia, *Euphonia laniirostris*, groups seen three times in clumps of mistletoe along river edges

Golden-bellied (White-lored) Euphonia, *Euphonia chrysopasta*, only 1 seen (in mistletoe); usually more numerous

White-vented Euphonia, *Euphonia minuta*, another euphonia that was seen only a couple times; a species that stays high in treetops where it is difficult to see its white under tail coverts; smaller than most other euphonias

LIST OF MAMMALS, HERPS and miscellaneous critters:

Sloths, Bradypodidae

Brown-throated three-toed Sloth, *Bradypus variegatus*, seen on three days; a total of at least six individuals including a couple very close

Marmosets & Tamarins, Callitrichidae

Pygmy Marmoset, *Cebuella pygmaea*, one seen by only one or two people along the Caño Yarapa the last morning (despite much searching no one else in either group was able to see it); the smallest primate in the New World; kept as pets they can be carried in ones shirt pocket; scurry rapidly up and down dense vine tangles and feed by biting small holes in the bark of certain trees causing sap to flow on which they feed; colonies may remain for years in a small area as long as their favored tree sap can be obtained; the pair we observed remained for 10 minutes or more on a branch where one animal searched through the fur of another (apparently) for parasites

Saddleback Tamarin, *Saguinus fasciollis*, we saw at least four or five groups of this charming little primate; a great “leaper” as moves from trunk to trunk and higher up runs along large branches in squirrel-like manner; very cute!

New World Monkeys, Cebidae

Dusky Titi-Monkey, *Callicebus moloch*, we saw only one (in full view but only for a short period of time); we did hear them several times; at dawn families utter a loud raucous *Walk-a Walk-a Wauk-a . . .* vocalization that can be heard for nearly a kilometer to warn neighboring families away

Common Squirrel Monkey, *Saimiri sciureus*, troops seen along banks of creeks on at least four days

Brown Capuchin, *Cebus apella*, groups seen only one or twice; mainly Río Dorado

Monk Saki Monkey, *Pithecia monachus*, we had excellent studies on the Río Zapote of this interesting primate with the long thick hairy tail and heavy body hair; at least eight individuals were seen

Night Monkey (Owl Monkey), *Aotus sp.* (rufous-necked form), three (or four?) were seen in tree hole about 6 m up (from boat) on Caño Yanallpa; very cute little animals with rufous faces and large dark eyes; a nocturnal species that sleeps during the day and forages at night; low hooting calls at night betray its presence

Red Howler Monkey, *Alouatta seniculus*, one group seen in top or a large canopy tree but we did not hear them “howl”

Squirrels

Bolivian Squirrel, *Sciurus ignitus*, only a single sighting (not by any of the guides) of a squirrel that was probably this species

Spiny Rats & Tree Rats, Echimyidae

Amazon Bamboo Rat, *Dactylopsys dactylinus*, one heard (only once) at dusk along Caño Yanallpa; loud call sounds like a “gattling” gun

Yellow-crowned Brush-Tailed Tree Rat, *Isothrix bistrriata*, we had good views of two or three of these interesting little rodents that sit in tree holes and peer out; remarkably confiding and easy to see (if you can spot their holes and Segundo is particularly good at this!)

Sheath-tailed Bats, Emballonuridae

Long-nosed Bat, *Rhynchonycteris naso*, group clinging beneath side of a tree trunk overhanging the Río Yarapa; several other groups flushed; distinctly spotted or freckled with white on their backs

Bulldogs Bats, Noctilionidae

Fishing (or Bulldog) Bat, *Noctilio leporinus* (and possibly other species of fishing bats), seen in evenings and on night excursion; mostly rather low over water; a large bat with distinctly rufous coloring; Caño Dorado mainly (both evenings)

Dolphins

Pink River Dolphin, *Inia geoffrensis*, seen daily especially at mouths of creeks and also well upstream in some moderate-sized creeks; most individuals look distinctly pink when they surface and show only a small knob-like dorsal fin
Gray River Dolphin, *Sotalia fluviatilis*, seen several times and on this trip we saw more of these than the previous species; gray and has narrow and thin dorsal fin; mouths of smaller rivers

Reptiles and Amphibians

Caiman Lizard, *Dracaena sp.* (presumably *guianensis*) (Teiidae), we saw this interesting and remarkably large lizard several times sunning in low vegetation over water; uncommon; feeds heavily on snails

Amazon Green Iguana, *Iguana iguana*, we saw several large grayish adults and equal number of smaller younger green ones

Goliath Tree Frog, *Hyla boan*, one seen (amidst a chorus of them) after dark along the Caño Faucett

We also saw **at least five species of tree frogs** in flooded grass in the vicinity of Cocha Carmen but we have not been able to identify them; one was a small "green: tree frog with a glass belly; another was rather large and yellow; another was tan in color with a long snout and two bordering yellow lines on its snout; another was just small and green

Marine toad, one seen by one boat group

Invertebrates:

Blue Morpho butterflies

Owl butterfly (also known as *Caligo* Butterfly); a crepuscular species

For identification of frogs and herps see: Bartlett, R. D. & P. Bartlett. 2003. *Reptiles & Amphibians of the Amazon. An Ecotourist's Guide*. Univ. Florida press. Or Duellman's *Frogs of Iquitos* (Univ of Kansas Nat. History Mus. Publ.)

PART II. LIST OF BIRDS SEEN IN LIMA-PUCUSANA AREA: January 10, 2013

Dusks & Geese, Anatidae

Cinnamon Teal, *Anus cyanoptera*, Pantanos de Villa; 15+ at Pantanos de Villa

Grebes, Podicipedidae

Pied-billed Grebe, *Podilymbus podiceps*, Pantanos de Villa (1)

Great Grebe, *Podiceps major*, Pantanos de Villa (2)

Boobies, Sulidae

Peruvian Booby, *Sula variegata*, Lima coast (1000+)

Cormorants, Phalacrocoracidae

Neotropic Cormorant, *Phalacrocorax olivaceus*, Lima coast (many)

Red-legged Cormorant, *Phalacrocorax gaimardi*, Pucusana 40+

Guanay Cormorant, *Phalacrocorax bougainvillii*, Lima coast (many)

Pelicans, Pelecanidae

Peruvian Pelican, *Pelecanus thagus*, Lima coast (est. 100+) and especially at Pucusana

Hérons & Egrets, Ardeidae

Great Egret, *Egretta alba*, Lima coast (a few)

Snowy Egret, *Egretta thula*, (a few)

Cattle Egret, *Bulbulcus ibis*, Pantanos de Villa (only a couple)

Black-crowned Night-Heron, *Nyctanassa violacea*, 1 (Pantanos de Villa)

Ibises, Threskiornithidae

Puna Ibis, *Plegadis ridgwayi*, Pantanos de Villa; 1 seen by everyone (migrant from high Andean elevations)

New World Vultures, Cathartidae

Black Vulture, *Coragyps atratus*, many around Pantanos de Villa

Turkey Vulture, *Cathartes aura*, a couple at Pucusana

Hawks and Kites

Harris's Hawk, *Parabuteo unicinctus*, 3 at Pantanos de Villa)

Rails & Coots, Rallidae

Common Gallinule (Moorhen), *Gallinula chloropus*, Pantanos de Villa (a few)

Slate-colored Coot, *Fulica ardesiaca* (includes all Andean forms), Pantanos de Villa (rather small numbers this time; forecrown shield colors (yellow and white and reddish chestnut) could be seen on different individuals

Thick-knees, Burhinidae

Peruvian Thick-knee, *Burhinus superciliaris*, 2 adults seen (with chick) Pantanos de Villa (always a good find as this species is now in severe decline and being forced to occupy marginal sites like golf courses and school yards and city parks)

Oystercatchers, Haematopodidae

American Oystercatcher, *Haematopus palliatus*, 8-10+ on beaches (Pantanos de Villa)

Blackish Oystercatcher, *Haematopus ater*, 8+; Pucusana

Plovers and Lapwings, Charadriidae

Killdeer, *Charadrius vociferus*, 6-8 (Pantanos de Villa marshes) and 60+ in a plowed field near Río Lurín

Sandpipers etc, Scolopacidae

Spotted Sandpiper, *Actitis macularius*, 2 at Pantanos de Villa

Lesser Yellowlegs, *Tringa flavipes*, 1 at Pantanos de Villa marshes

Whimbrel, *Numenius phaeopus*, 1 at Pantanos de Villa marshes

Ruddy Turnstone, *Arenaria interpres*, 40+ at Pucusana

Least Sandpiper, *Calidris minutilla*, 2 Pantanos de Villa

Gulls & Terns, Laridae

Gray-headed (hooded) Gull, *Chroicocephalus* (formerly *Larus*) *cirrocephalus*, >20 (Pantanos de Villa); beach and inland lagoon; none in breeding plumage

Franklin's Gull, *Leucophaeus* (formerly *Larus*) *pipixcan*, est. 2000+ birds massed on beaches and inland lagoons at Pantanos de Villa; nonbreeding plumage but many already with rosy tinge to underparts

Band-tailed (Belcher's) Gull, *Larus belcheri*, est. 50+; all beach and water areas; common

Kelp Gull, *Larus dominicanus*, 1 third-year bird seen along outer coast at Pucusana; not obvious to me why this species is so scarce the last few years

Inca Tern, *Larosterna Inca*, 1000s in Pucusana (where they were everywhere in large numbers)

Sandwich Tern, *Thalasseus sandvicensis*, at least 200+ resting on boats at Pucusana

Royal Tern, *Thalasseus maximus*, a few over ocean at Pantanos de Villa

Elegant Tern, *Thalasseus elegans*, 100s+ on Pantanos de Villa beaches and at Pucusana

Pigeons & Doves, Columbidae

Feral (Rock) Pigeon, *Columba livia*, settled areas

West Peruvian (Pacific) Dove, *Zenaida meloda* (formerly *asiatica*), very common (Lima and all along coast)

Eared Dove, *Zenaida auriculata*, parks and city streets in Lima
Croaking Ground-Dove, *Columbina cruziana*, seen in scopes at the Río Lurín

Cuckoos, Cuculidae

Groove-billed Ani, *Crotophaga sulcirostris*, roadsides in Pantanos de Villa; est. 4 seen

Owls, Strigidae

Burrowing Owl, *Athene cunicularia*, pair at Pantanos de Villa

Hummingbirds, Trochilidae

Amazilia Hummingbird, *Amazilia Amazilia*, a dozen or more seen in Bolivar Park and at the Río Lurín including one bird that was bathing by dipping down into the fast-flowing water

Falcons & Caracaras, Falconidae

American Kestrel, *Falco sparverius*, one or two

Peregrine Falcon, *Falco peregrinus*, 1 on top of building in Lima during our drive to airport

Parrots & Parakeets, Psittacidae

Pacific Parrotlet, *Forpus coelestis*, a few in Bolivar Park were seen by some

Orange-winged Parrot, a very rough-looking escapee was seen in Bolivar Park

Scarlet-fronted Parakeet, *Aratinga wagleri*, one or two flocks over Bolivar Park; these are free-flying escapees from the mountains; not native to Lima

Ovenbirds, Furnariidae

Wren-like Rushbird, *Phleocryptes melanops*, only 1 and we had a difficult time seeing this one; Pantanos de Villa
Surf (Peruvian Seaside) Cinclodes, *Cinclodes taczanowskii*, great views of 1 on rocky coast at Pucusana

Tyrant Flycatchers, Tyrannidae

Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet, *Camptostoma obsoletum*, 1 in Bolivar Park

Many-colored Rush-Tyrant, *Tachuris rubrigastra*, at least 5 seen (very well) at Pantanos de Villa

Vermilion Flycatcher, *Pyrocephalus rubinus*, 15+; mostly dusky in Lima; mostly red outside city

Tropical Kingbird, *Tyrannus melancholicus*, 2 seen

Swallows, Hirundinidae

Blue-and-white Swallow, *Pygochelidon* (formerly *Notiochelidon*) *cyanoleuca*, a few along cliffs in region of Barrio Barranco and Barrio Chorillos immediately south of the Barrio of Miraflores (beach area in Lima); also at Pantanos de Villa

Wrens, Troglodytidae

House Wren, *Troglodytes aedon*, common voice; 4 or more; Lima and Pantanos de Villa (near the beach)

Mockingbirds & Thrashers, Mimidae

Long-tailed Mockingbird, *Mimus longicaudatus*, 8-10+; Bolivar Park and Pantanos de Villa

Tanagers, Thraupidae

Blue-gray Tanager, *Thraupis episcopus*, a couple in Lima area

Cinereous Conebill, *Conirostrum cinereum*, 2 in Bolivar Park (attracted to pygmy-owl playback)

Grassland Yellow-Finch, *Sicalis luteola*, 1 or 2 in scope along Río Lurín

Blue-black Grassquit, *Volatinia jacarina*, 4-5 at Río Lurín

Chestnut-throated Seedeater, *Sporophila telasco*, 30 at Pantanos de Villa and Río Lurín

Bananaquit, *Coereba flaveola*, 1 seen (Bolivar Park)

Streaked Saltator, *Saltator striatipectus*, pair seen along Río Lurín

Blackbirds, Icteridae

Peruvian Meadowlark, *Sturnella bellicose*, 2 at Pantanos de Villa

Scrub Blackbird, *Dives warszewiczi*, several of these noisy birds in Lima and at Pantanos de Villa; much more common now than a decade or two ago

Yellow-hooded Blackbird, *Chrysomus icterocephalus*, 3 in tall reeds just back from beach at Pantanos de Villa

Shiny Cowbird, *Molothrus bonariensis*, 3 (Pantanos de Villa)

Siskins etc., Fringillidae

Hooded Siskin, *Spinus magellanicus*, several in plowed field near Río Lurín

Old World Sparrows, Passeridae

House Sparrow, *Passer domesticus*, Lima (seen by some of the group)

MAMMALS ON LIMA COAST:

South American Sea Lion, *Otaria flavescens*, many loafing on rocks and cliff ledges during our boat trip (these creatures are huge!)

South American Sea Otter, 1 seen in ocean close to rocky headland at Pucusana

White-naped Squirrel, 1 in Bolivar Park where it has been introduced (native to NW Peru)

Peruvian Hairless Dog, a few in Pucusana; not a wild species of course but of particular interest because this animal seems to enjoy some status among the residents of this little fishing village