

**CLOUD FORESTS OF NORTHERN PERU:
POST-TRIP TO AMAZON RIVER CRUISE
JANUARY 17-24, 2015**

LEADER: STEVE HILTY
LOCAL GUIDES: JOSE ALTAMIRANO (WAQANKI LODGE)
ROBERTO (ABRA PATRICIA AREA)

VICTOR EMANUEL NATURE TOURS, INC.
2525 WALLINGWOOD DRIVE, SUITE 1003
AUSTIN, TX 78746
WWW.VENTBIRD.COM

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By Steve Hilty

This was my fifth visit to this beautiful area and it was the rainiest—and most consistently cold and damp—by far. However, despite the persistently inclement weather, we saw many beautiful birds including an impressive lineup of tanagers and hummingbirds. Everyone will have a personal favorite, maybe the Marvelous Spatuletails, or Johnson's Tody-Tyrant, or the rare Chestnut-crested Cotinga, or the flash of a male Andean Cock-of-the-rock shooting across the road or just perched in full view, or maybe a dazzling Flame-faced Tanager. And don't forget the hummingbirds! The male Fork-tailed Woodnymph at Arenas Blancas was dazzling to behold.

The weather began well enough at the Waqanki Lodge and we spent a pleasant morning there with birds in the clearing and in the old fields, the hummingbird gardens, and the forest. Following lunch we drove westward and into higher elevations at the Abra Patricia Lodge and later at the HUEMBO reserve. Birding always brings surprises, some frustrations, and some exhilarating experiences, and this trip had all of those. That we are even able to visit this beautiful area is a treat because the lodge is relatively new, and the paved road that accesses this remote area is less than thirty years old. Furthermore, thanks to donations and the hard work of many people, the Abra Patricia-Alto Nieve Private Conservation concession now preserves or manages nearly 25,000 acres of this lovely forested region. And, this lies adjacent to the Alto Río Mayo Protection forest, which extends protection to nearly 450,000 acres of pristine highland forest.

I feel privileged to be able to see this area and to experience its many moods (yes, even the chilly damp evenings) and the birds and wildlife that are found here. I hope that you enjoyed it too, although I know it was cold and damp, and almost all of us suffered from a bronchial condition that developed into a head cold and eventually put considerable strain on the lodge toilet paper reserves! I guess it is all part of the experience. The birds were incredible.

The rain followed us all the way back to Tarapoto, and StarPeru (as well as LanPeru) air flights were considerably weather-delayed, resulting in a very late arrival into Lima. We must credit an agent of StarPeru at the tiny Tarapoto airport, however, with considerable foresight in anticipating the delay and arranging to have the luggage of two of us with close connections waiting when we arrived at baggage claim and then fast-tracked directly to the United Airlines check-in (so fast, in fact, that the two of us had to run to keep up with the girl pushing the cart) where our boarding passes were already printed and waiting! We went from baggage claim arrival to check-in, then through security and immigration and to our waiting United Airlines flight in less than 15 minutes (or was it 10 minutes?!). This was surely a record and a remarkable example of VIP treatment. I only wish I had gotten that agent's name at the StarPeru desk in Tarapoto! I hope that the rest of you also had good flights home.

ITINERARY:

Jan 17 (Sat). Late afternoon flight from Iquitos to Tarapoto (department of San Martín) followed by a drive of about 2 hours to Moyobamba and another 10 minutes south to the Waqanki Lodge. Arrival around 8 p.m.

- Jan 18 (Sun). Morning birding at Mishquiyaquillo Reserve (Waqanki Lodge) in morning including some old fields, the parking lot and hummingbird garden and a late morning forest walk accompanied by quiet but imminently competent José Altamirano (son of owner of the reserve). Afternoon drive to Abra Patricia (ca. 2 1/2 hrs). Arrival a little before dusk.
- Jan 19 (Mon): Morning birding (with light rain) around the Owlet Lodge, the entrance road and along the highway. Top honors this morning go to a beautiful Chestnut-crested Cotinga spotted by guide Roberto as it perched up for all to see, as well as to a pair of Yellow-scarfed Tanagers. Other interesting species included a pair of lovely Johnson's (or was it Lulu's?) Tody-Tyrant and Black-throated Tody-Tyrants.
- Jan 20 (Tues). Early morning rain during our drive westward to Pomacochas and the HUEMBO (Spatuletail) Reserve (ca. 2100 m) administered by EOCAN (Asociación Ecosistemas Andinos) about an hour west of the Owlet Lodge. This area is much drier than the Abra Patricia pass area and the rain ended by the time we arrived. Highlights included the Marvelous Spatuletail (repeated visits by an unknown number of males!). Rain followed us back to Abra Patricia. Our afternoon birding was at lower elevation east of Abra Patricia at the Royal Sunangel site.
- Jan 21 (Wed). We began our day of birding this morning at mid-elevation (c. 1850 m) along the main highway east of the Abra Malaga pass and continued downslope to about 1500 m (4900 ft) at the "Tire shop." Birds this morning included Sickle-winged Guan, Yellow-throated Tanager and numerous views of Andean Cocks-of-the-rock. Several good mixed species flocks. Robert and part of group birded in both directions from the lodge in the afternoon during more rain including a brief hard downpour at the Restaurante El Bosque.
- Jan 22 (Thurs). We spent the morning moving steadily down the eastern slope of the Andes and encountered a few small mixed species flocks. Roberto and a few persons birded as far down as the first bridge in the late p.m.
- Jan 23 (Fri). After our 0730 departure from Abra Patricia we drove downslope to a new site known as Arenas Blancas (White Sands). This was an unscouted area and that quickly became apparent. It might have been relatively uneventful during dry weather but the trail was among the worst I've encountered in many years. For our efforts we did see a five species of hummingbirds including two lancebills (although it was difficult to distinguish between them), a surprise Orange-billed Sparrow, and a female Little Tinamou that came to the corn feeder. A large-eared, short-tailed rat of some sort also ate more than its share of the cracked corn too. We had lunch at the Olla de Barro restaurant in Moyobamba (yes, still raining!) and continued on to Tarapoto with a brief stop for oilbirds and more rain following us almost to the little Tarapoto airport.

KEY:

Species only heard = listed with asterisk (*)

Red font = migrants from North America

Boldface font = species of interest because of they are rare or infrequently seen or unexpected; also includes endemics and near endemics (those that just extend across border into Ecuador a short distance)

MM = males; FF = females (M & F respectively for male and female)

MISCELLANEOUS DATA:

Tarapoto: ca. 356 m el (Wikipedia source); population 63,000+; reached from Lima via plane in one hour, or by bus in 28 hours; driest months June through September

Moyobamba: ca. 860 m el (2840 ft); population 70,000+; apparently the first city founded by the Spanish in the Amazonian region of Peru; there was a small, earlier Inca settlement in the area; noted for orchids, caves, waterfalls and hot springs; driest months May through August

Mishquiyaquillo Reserve (also as Mishquiyacu); includes Waqanki Lodge: ca. 900 m

Owlet Lodge at Abra Patricia: ca. 2316 m el (7640 ft); opened 2009; driest months June through August

Marvelous Spatuletail EOCAN Huembo Reserve: ca. 2050 m (estimate) or slightly lower = ca. 6765 ft.

Royal Sunangel site: ca. 2100 m el (ca. 6900 ft)

Km 380-381 sites (Cocks-of-the-rock): ca. 1600 m el (ca. 5280 ft)

Restaurant/tire shop (vulcanizadora): ca. 1350 m el (ca. 4450 ft)

Afluentes: ca. 1200 m el (we did not stop or bird here)

Aguas Verdes bridge: ca. 1050 m el

Arenas Blanca's Reserve, ca. 940 m el (3100 ft)

BIRD LIST:

Tinamous, Tinamidae

Little Tinamou, *Crypturellus soui*, one at the corn feeding station at Arenas Blancas was easily seen by everyone

Ducks, Anatidae

Torrent Duck, *Merganetta armata*, males and females twice or more on rocks in Río Mayo

Guans & Chachalacas, Cracidae

Speckled Chachalaca, *Ortalis guttata*, Waqanki Lodge

Andean Guan, *Penelope montgani*, 1 near the Owlet Lodge (ca. 6500 ft el)

Sickle-winged Guan, *Chamaepetes goudotii*, at least 4 seen; pair from the Restaurante El Bosque to the west of Abra Patricia; others east of the lodge and at lower elevation

Hérons & Egrets, Ardeidae

Great Egret, *Ardea alba*, lowland rice fields near Tarapoto

Snowy Egret, *Egretta thula*, lowland rice fields between Tarapoto and Moyobamba

Cattle Egret, *Bubulcus ibis*, rice fields and near cattle at lower elevations

Vultures, Cathartidae

Black Vulture, *Coragyps atratus*, almost daily; all elevations but few over wet montane forest around Abra Patricia

Turkey Vulture, *Cathartes aura*, daily and at all elevations including regularly in air over Abra Patricia

Hawks & Kites

Swallow-tailed Kite, *Elanoides forficatus*, a couple groups seen the last day in lowlands including one group of ca. 5 between Moyobamba and Tarapoto

Sharp-shinned Hawk, *Accipiter striatus*, 1 at ca. 6000 ft el

Roadside Hawk, *Buteo magnirostris*, several at various sites in mts. and foothills

Broad-winged Hawk, *Buteo platypterus*, 1 in Río Imasa valley (4900 ft. el)

Pigeons & Doves, *Columbidae*

Band-tailed Pigeon, *Patagioenas fasciata*, almost daily in mountains but mainly singles and pairs

Ruddy Ground-Dove, *Columbina talpacoti*, common at Mishquiyaquillo Reserve (Waqanki Lodge)

Blue Ground-Dove, *Claravis pretiosa*, 1-2 seen at Waqanki Lodge area; 2 heard

*White-tipped Dove, *Leptotila verreauxi*, heard at the Huembo site (a triple-note call which is unusual for this species which is everywhere else only a doubled note)

Cuckoos & Anis, *Cuculidae*

*Squirrel Cuckoo, *Piaya cayana*, heard at Waqanki Lodge

Smooth-billed Ani, *Crotophaga ani*, mainly lowland areas

Owls, *Strigidae*

*Band-bellied Owl, *Pulsatrix melanota*, one bird heard at Waqanki Lodge at dawn but unresponsive to playback

Oilbird, *Steatornithidae*

Oilbird, *Steatornis caripensis*, about 30+ seen on narrow sandstone cliffs in deep canyon by road (about 30 minutes east of Moyobamba); these birds are quite easy to see but the canyon is too dark for photography without lighting

Hummingbirds, *Trochilidae* (taxonomic order follows SACC checklist)

White-necked Jacobin, *Florisuga mellivora*, perhaps 3 males and 2-3 females at the Waqanki (Mishquiyaquillo) Reserve feeders; a widespread species

Rufous-breasted Hermit, *Glaucis hirsutus*, one repeatedly at Waqanki (Mishquiyaquillo) Reserve feeders

Green Hermit, *Phaethornis guy*, 1 briefly along roadside at ca. 4900 ft el

Long-tailed Hermit, *Phaethornis superciliosus*, 1 at Waqanki feeders; sometimes this form is regarded as a separate species known as the Great-billed Hermit (*P. malaris*)

Blue-fronted Lancebill, *Doryfera johannae*, several at the Arenas Blancas site but difficult to distinguish from next species; this species has a pale grayish blue rump and blue forehead

Green-fronted Lancebill, *Dorfera ludovicae*, at least 1 or more of this species also at Arenas Blancas feeders; shows stronger bronzy-copper color on hindneck and slightly larger; color of frontlets often difficult to determine;

Green Violetear, *Colibri thalassinus*, several at the Huembo Reserve

Sparkling Violetear, *Colibri coruscans*, Waqanki; Lodge; Owlet Lodge; Huembo; and Arenas Blancas (common and dominant in all areas)

Black-throated Mango, *Anthracothorax nigricollis*, 1 female at Waqanki (Mishquiyaquillo) Reserve feeders

Royal Sunangel, *Heliangelus regalis* (near endemic; recently found in Ecuador), 1M perched near us on a narrow ridge trail; likes to feed at small urn-shaped Ericaceae flowers

Wire-crested Thorntail, *Discosura popelairii*, one female seen very well at Waqanki (Mishquiyaquillo) Reserve

Rufous-crested Coquette, *Lophornis delattrei*, 1 female at Waqanki (Mishquiyaquillo) Reserve

Speckled Hummingbird, *Adelomyia melanogenys*, a few around the Owlet Lodge feeders (also seen at Huembo)

Long-tailed Sylph, *Agelaiocercus kingi*, several MM daily at feeders at Abra Patricia (especially numerous at feeders in front of dining room); no females

Greenish Puffleg, *Haplophaedia aureliae*, 2 along road below Owlet Lodge; more extensively gray from mid-breast to crissum than illustrated in most guides

Emerald-bellied Puffleg, *Eriocnemis alinae*, daily at feeders at Abra Patricia; also at Huembo; seems to have metallic feathers on its belly and sides

Marvelous Spatuletail, *Loddigesia mirabilis* (Endemic), a male(s?) repeatedly at the Huembo feeders with many opportunities to see this remarkable species; difficult to photograph and a little bird with a lot of moving parts

Bronzy Inca, *Coeligena coeligena*, daily at feeders at Abra Patricia and Huembo

Collared Inca, *Coeligena torquata*, feeders at Abra Patricia; also at Huembo; despite its size it is a remarkably timid trap-lining species that yields its place at feeders even to much smaller hummers

Sword-billed Hummingbird, *Ensifera ensifera*, one male came several times to feeders in front of the Owlet Lodge; I think also that there was one female

Chestnut-breasted Hummingbird, *Boissonneaua matthewsii*, abundant at Abra Patricia and Huembo; a large and aggressive hummingbird (the bully on the block) that was omnipresent at feeders; often holds its wings upraised momentarily just as it alights and also regularly clings to a substrate when feeding

Fawn-breasted Brilliant, *Heliodoxa rubinoides*, a rather large heavy-bodied hummer with modest plumage; its best marks are its small pinkish lilac throat patch and cone-shaped head which merges smoothly onto bill; habitually clings to feeders when feeding; not especially aggressive and almost always seen singly at feeders around Abra Patricia

White-bellied Woodstar, *Chaetocercus mulsant*, a male seen a few times at the Owlet Lodge; long bill for size of bird; prominent white flank patches and floating flight resulting from small body size and higher wing beat speed than that of larger hummers; male and female very different

Blue-tailed Emerald, *Chlorostilbon mellisugus*, one male at Waqanki (Mishquiyaquillo) Reserve

Gray-breasted Sabrewing, *Campylopterus largipennis*, numerous at the Waqanki (Mishquiyaquillo) Reserve feeders; 1 also at Arenas Blancas feeders; a large hummer with slow wing beats and prominent white tail corners; typical of forest understory in lowlands and foothills

Fork-tailed Woodnymph, *Thalurania furcata*, 1-2 males at Waqanki (Mishquiyaquillo) Reserve; 1M seen near the Vulcanizadora at 1400 m el; and another male at the Arenas Blancas feeders; surely the "hummingbird star" of the trip for brilliant plumage

White-bellied Hummingbird, *Amazilia chionogaster*, a rather undistinguished and average-looking hummingbird; regular visitor to feeders at Huembo

Andean Emerald, *Amazilia franciae*, two to three of this blue-capped race at Huembo; a hummer with clean-cut pattern and pinkish base to mandible (=lower mandible); fairly widespread at middle elevations in Andes from Colombia to Peru

Sapphire-spangled Emerald, *Amazilia lactea*, several at Waqanki (Mishquiyaquillo) Reserve; generally not as colorful as one might expect from the name; 1 at Arenas Blancas feeders

Golden-tailed Sapphire, *Chrysuronia oenone*, commonest hummingbird at Waqanki (Mishquiyaquillo) Reserve feeders; medium sized with prominent golden rufous tail; males have blue heads; females duller and spotted below; we saw mostly males

Trogon, *Trogonidae*

Blue-crowned Trogon, *Trogon curucui*, pair at Waqanki Lodge area

Barbets, *Capitonidae*

Versicolored Barbet, *Eubucco versicolor steeri*, we saw males twice but with difficulty both times; only brief views

Toucans, *Ramphastidae*

Emerald Toucanet, *Aulacorhynchus prasinus*, 1 seen at mid-elevations (ca. 5000 ft)

Lettered Araçari, *Pteroglossus castanotis*, 1 flying across clearing at Waqanki

Woodpeckers, *Picidae*

Speckle-chested Piculet, *Picumnus steindachneri* (Endemic), 1 at Huembo reserve was seen by 2-3 people; another in the Río Imasa valley was also seen (but in poor light and rain) by part (all?) of group; not particularly well illustrated in *Birds of Peru* which shows this species much darker than it is in life; guide Roberto also saw one in a mixed species flock at ca. 4800 ft el

Golden-olive Woodpecker, *Colaptes rubiginosus*, 1 at ca. 6500 ft. el

Crimson-mantled Woodpecker, *Colaptes rivolii*, pair seen from the Restaurante El Bosque (in light rain)

Parrots & Parakeets, *Psittacidae*

White-eyed Parakeet, *Aratinga leucophthalma*, an early morning flock seen flying over the Waqanki (Mishquiyaquillo) Reserve

Mitred Parakeet, *Aratinga mitrata*, several at our oilbird stop and a few distant birds but they were too distant to actually identify except by range; voices of this species (and White-eyed Parakeet) and Scarlet-fronted Parakeet sound identical to me but the latter two are not known to occur in this area

Cobalt-winged Parakeet, *Brotogeris cyanoptera*, heard at Waqanki (Mishquiyaquillo) Reserve

Red-billed Parrot, *Pionus sordidus*, one seen perched rather close near the “Tire shop” (about 4500 ft el); another pair seen flying overhead in same area

Scaly-naped Parrot, *Amazona mercenarius*, a few high-flying pairs over the Owlet Lodge but not close enough to see well

Typical Antbirds, *Thamnophilidae*

*Stripe-chested Antwren, *Myrmotherula longicauda*, heard at Waqanki

Yellow-breasted Antwren, *Herpsilochmus axillaris*, 2 seen with mixed species flocks at ca. 4500-5500 ft el.

Rusty-backed Antwren, *Formicivora rufa*, male seen in patches of brush in an old pasture a few kilometers west of Moyobamba; quite local in Peru although more widespread in eastern Bolivia and in Brazil; we had great views of this species

Peruvian Warbling-Antbird, *Hypocnemis peruviana*, one seen at Waqanki

Blackish Antbird, *Cercomacra nigrescens aequatorialis*, pair seen briefly at ca. 6000 ft el along roadside; this foothill race differs somewhat in voice from lowland Amazonian birds

Antpittas, *Grallariidae*

*Rusty-breasted Antpitta, *Grallaricula ferruginepectus*, heard twice along road below Owlet Lodge; voice unlike birds from Venezuela and Colombia; no other antpittas heard vocalizing

Tapaculos, *Rhinocryptidae*

*Rufous-vented Tapaculo, *Scytalopus femoralis* (Endemic), heard the first morning around the Owlet lodge

Ovenbirds & Woodcreepers, *Furnariidae* (woodcreepers now included here as subfamily Dendrocolaptinae)

Olive-backed Woodcreeper, *Xiphorhynchus triangularis*, one seen below Owlet Lodge (when Roberto was guiding group)

Streaked Xenops, *Xenops rutilans*, 1 seen at about 5000 ft m el with mixed species flock

Streaked Tuftedcheek, *Pseudocolaptes boissonneautii*, Roberto showed some of you this species one afternoon

Pearled Treerunner, *Margarornis squamiger*, pair seen close to Owllet Lodge the first morning; Robert showed some of you another pair one afternoon

Rufous-fronted Thornbird, *Phacellodomus rufifrons* pair at Waqanki (Mishquiyaquillo) Reserve; local in northern Peru

Flycatchers, *Tyrannidae* (taxonomic order follows SACC checklist)

Mouse-colored Tyrannulet, *Phaeomyias murina*, pair at Waqanki

Yellow-bellied Elaenia, *Elaenia flavogaster*, seen at Waqanki (Mishquiyaquillo) Reserve; also one very wet bird in rain along the Río Imasa

Sierran Elaenia, *Elaenia pallatangae*, singles near the Owllet Lodge; dull plumage with distinct yellow tinge to all of underparts

Torrent Tyrannulet, *Serpophaga cinerea*, pair close to Alto Río Mayo at about 6500 ft el

Streak-necked Flycatcher, *Mionectes striaticollis*, several of these little frugivorous flycatchers were seen at various elevations

Inca Flycatcher, *Leptopogon superciliaris*, seen three times and all sightings were of birds in mixed species flocks; Robert showed some of you this species a couple times in the afternoon

Peruvian Tyrannulet, *Zimmerius viridiflavus* (Endemic), common and seen daily in mountains; a split from Golden-faced Tyrannulet (latter now only north of Río Marañón which is north of where we were on this trip)

Black-throated Tody-Tyrant, *Hemitriccus granadensis*, pair just above parking lot at Owllet Lodge

Johnson's (Lulu's) Tody-Tyrant, *Poecilatriccus lulu* (Endemic), one seen beautifully in a large clearing edge at ca. 2000 m elevation

*Rusty-fronted Tody-Flycatcher, *Poecilatriccus latirostris*, 1 heard in hummingbird garden at Waqanki and the bird responded (somewhat) and moved but we were unable to see it

Cinnamon Flycatcher, *Pyrrhomyias cinnamomeus*, seen only distantly from the Restaurante El Bosque

Flavescent Flycatcher, *Myiophobus flavicans*, family with juvenile in mid-elevation forest

Smoke-colored Pewee, *Contopus fumigatus*, also seen distantly from Restaurante El Bosque³

Black Phoebe, *Sayornis nigricans*, along Alto Río Mayo near upper bridge (just below Owllet Lodge)

Pale-edged Flycatcher, *Myiarchus cephalotes*, pair seen a few times around Owllet Lodge

Boat-billed Flycatcher, *Megarynchus pitangua*, Waqanki Lodge area (one heard & seen)

Social Flycatcher, *Myiozetetes similis*, several at Waqanki (Mishquiyaquillo) Reserve

Streaked Flycatcher, *Myiodynastes maculatus*, 1 (blackish race) at Waqanki

*Piratic Flycatcher, *Legatus leucophaeus*, heard at Waqanki

Tropical Kingbird, *Tyrannus melancholicus*, only at lower elevations but one pair seen at 1900 m elevation (at overlook) the last morning

Cotingas, *Cotingidae*

Green-and-black Fruiteater, *Pipreola riefferii*, males seen a couple times near the Owllet Lodge

Chestnut-crested Cotinga, *Ampelion rufaxilla*, one in scope; just a few hundred meters below the Owllet Lodge; both birds spotted by Roberto (always a good find)

Andean Cock-of-the-rock, *Rupicola peruvianus*, we had great views repeatedly of males and a few females in the 1650 m el (5000+ ft area)

Tityras & Allies

Masked Tityra, *Tityra semifasciata*, 1 seen at lower elevation

White-winged Becard, *Pachyramphus polychopterus*, 1 female seen at Waqanki

Vireos, Vireonidae

Brown-caped Vireo, *Vireo leucophrys*, resembles a Warbling Vireo but tinged yellow below and with brownish cap; we saw a couple or more in mixed species flocks at mid elevations

Rufous-browed Peppershrike, *Cyclarhis gujanensis*, a couple seen the first morning near the Owlet Lodge

Crows & Jays, Corvidae

*White-collared Jay, *Cyanolyca viridicyanus*, heard along highway in front of Owlet Lodge but never seen

Green Jay, *Cyanocorax yncas*, groups seen twice; mid-elevations and again lower at about 4000 ft.

Swallows, Hirundinidae

Blue-and-white Swallow, *Pygochelidon cyanoleuca*, daily in highlands including a pair around the Abra Patricia Lodge

Southern Rough-winged Swallow, *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*, at Waqanki Lodge

Wrens, Troglodytidae

House Wren, *Troglodytes aedon*, Waqanki and Abra Patricia Lodge (seen or heard daily and usually the first bird to sing at dawn and also sometimes the ONLY bird to sing at dawn there)

Bar-winged Wood-Wren, *Henicorhina leucoptera* (near endemic), seen near the Royal Sunangel site at c. 1950 m elevation

Gray-breasted Wood-Wren, *Henicorhina leucophrys*, seen twice in highlands

Dippers, Cinclidae

White-capped Dipper, *Cinclus leucocephalus*, finally seen a couple times after considerable searching Alto Río Mayo at c. 2050 m elevation

Thrushes & Solitaires, Turdidae

Andean Solitaire, *Myadestes ralloides*, two to three seen at mid-elevations (c. 1900 m); distinctive musical song; several were heard

White-eared Solitaire, *Entomodestes leucotis*, 1 seen very well at mid-elevation

Swainson's Thrush, *Catharus fuscaters*, one seen at Waqanki; another higher up and a third in the rain at the Río Imasa

Black-billed Thrush, *Turdus ignobilis*, Waqanki (Mishquiyaquillo) Reserve where this species was quite numerous and nesting

Great Thrush, *Turdus fuscaters*, pairs daily (common) around Abra Patricia and at high elevations along road

New World Warblers, Parulidae

Blackburnian Warbler, *Setophaga fusca*, 1M at ca. 1900 m (with mixed species flock) and 4+ females at ca. 1650 m elevation or lower

Three-striped Warbler, *Basileuterus tristriatus*, group of 5-6 with mixed species flock at ca. 4000 ft el

Canada Warbler, *Cardellina canadensis*, at least 3-4 males and a 1 (or 2?) females all with a huge mixed species flock at ca. 4000 ft el

Slate-throated Redstart, *Myioborus miniatus*, pairs seen at various lower montane elevations (at or below c. 1650 m el) in forest; replaced at higher elevation by next species

Spectacled Redstart, *Myioborus melanocephalus*, pairs seen around the Abra Patricia Lodge and in forest down to ca. 2100 m el.

Tanagers & Allies, *Thraupidae* (taxonomic order follows SACC checklist)

Black-faced Tanager, *Schistochlamys melanopis*, 1 at Waqanki (Mishquiyaquillo) Reserve; another spotted by Roberto higher up in mts (ca. 5500 ft)

Magpie Tanager, *Cissopis leverianus*, 1 distantly at Waqanki

White-capped Tanager, *Sericossypha albocristata*, a flock of 3 of these spectacular birds were seen around the Restaurante El Bosque; spectacular views in scope and later birds came quite close in trees below the restaurant

Oleaginous Hemispingus, *Hemispingus frontalis*, 2-3 across valley from the Restaurante El Bosque (observed in scope by a couple people)

Gray-hooded bush-Tanager, *Cnemoscopus rubrirostris*, another species seen near Restaurant El Bosque and also later near the Owlet Lodge

White-lined Tanager, *Tachyphonus rufus*, female in scope at dawn; pair later at Waqanki

Black-bellied (Huellaga) Tanager, *Ramphocelus melanogaster* (Endemic), common at Waqanki (Mishquiyaquillo) Reserve with great views of a pair near the dining area

Vermilion Tanager, *Calochaetes coccineus*, a more distant pair and later a close pair that offered great views repeatedly; a local species that is confined to a narrow elevational band of cloud forest; one of our top birds of the trip

Blue-winged Mountain-Tanager, *Anisognathus somptuosus*, groups seen quite well a couple times

Yellow-throated Tanager, *Iridosornis analis*, singles and pairs (one responded well to song playback) of this sleek and well-groomed species in the 1600-1800 m zone

Yellow-scarfed Tanager, *Iridosornis reinhardti* (Endemic), pair seen with a mixed species flock at entrance to the Owlet Lodge; another pair (or the same pair again) showed to group in afternoon by Roberto

Orange-eared Tanager, *Chlorochrysa calliparaea*, only 1 bird with a large mixed species flock at about 4000 ft el; not seen by everyone unfortunately

Blue-gray Tanager, *Thraupis episcopus*, Waqanki and other lower elevations

Palm Tanager, *Thraupis palmarum*, Waqanki Lodge

Blue-capped Tanager, *Thraupis cyanocephala*, several in mountains around the Abra Patricia lodge

Golden-naped Tanager, *Tangara ruficervix*, afternoon with Roberto (Restaurante El Bosque?)

Silvery (Silver-backed) Tanager, *Tangara viridicollis*, seen around Owlet lodge and at Huembo Reserve and also down almost to the tire shop area on humid east slope

Blue-and-black Tanager, *Tangara vassorii*, two with a mixed species flock near entrance to Owlet Lodge

Beryl-spangled Tanager, *Tangara nigroviridis*, a relatively numerous species seen at several sites including from the Abra Patricia Lodge down to at least 1650 m

Metallic-green Tanager, *Tangara labradorides*, seen twice at mid-elevations

Turquoise Tanager, *Tangara mexicana*, seen at Waqanki Reserve

Paradise Tanager, *Tangara chilensis*, seen nicely at Waqanki

Saffron-crowned Tanager, *Tangara xanthocephala*, several sightings at mid-elevations in mountains

Flame-faced Tanager, *Tangara parzudakii*, seen at various sites and especially well at the Restaurant El Bosque

Golden Tanager, *Tangara arthus*, only two or three of these beautiful birds were seen in lower zone of around 4500 ft

Blue Dacnis, *Dacnis cayana*, one male at Waqanki

White-sided Flowerpiercer, *Diglossa albilatera*, one female at mid-elevations

Deep-blue Flowerpiercer, *Diglossa glauca*, one striking bird in mts. at lower elevation (about 4000 ft)

Bluish Flowerpiercer, *Diglossa caerulescens*, Roberto showed some of you this species one afternoon in the highlands

Masked Flowerpiercer, *Diglossa cyanea*, seen several times at high elevations
Blue-black Grassquit, *Volatinia jacarina*, a couple males in old brushy field at Waqanki
(Mishquiyaquillo) Reserve
Chestnut-bellied Seedeater, *Sporophila castaneiventris*, at Waqanki
*Chestnut-bellied Seed-Finch, *Oryzoborus angolensis*, 1 heard (unresponsive) at Waqanki
Bananaquit, *Coereba flaveola*, 1 at Waqanki Reserve; another in highlands

[Note that seedeaters (*Sporophila*) and flowerpiercers (*Diglossa*) have now been transferred to the Thraupidae (Tanager family) based on molecular genetic data; see details in SACC checklist]

Finches & Buntings etc, *Emberizidae* [Most South American members of this family have been found to be genetically allied with tanagers]

Orange-billed Sparrow, *Arremon aurantirostris*, 1 bird seen by everyone (?) at the Arenas Blancas “hide”; a surprise to see this species here

Yellow-breasted Brush-Finch, *Atlapetes latinuchus*, one seen near the Abra Patricia Lodge at 2300 m el

Rufous-collared Sparrow, *Zonotrichia capensis*, daily in all areas

Common Chlorospingus (Bush-Tanager), *Chlorospingus (ophthalmicus) flavopectus*, several at mid-elevations in mts.

Ashy-throated Chlorospingus (Bush-Tanager), *Chlorospingus canigularis*, several at ca. 4000 ft el with a large mixed species flock

Cardinals & Allies, *Cardinalidae*

Summer Tanager, *Piranga rubra*, 1 patchy looking male at ca. 4500 ft el

Scarlet Tanager, *Piranga olivacea*, 1 female-plumage bird with patches of red showing; Waqanki

White-winged Tanager, *Piranga leucoptera*, pair spectacularly well at ca. 4500 m elevation

Rose-breasted Grosbeak, *Pheucticus ludovicianus*, 1 female at Waqanki

Blackbirds & Orioles, *Icteridae*

Scarlet-rumped (Subtropical) Cacique, *Cacicus uropygialis*, two seen at c. 500 m elevation; this highland form should eventually be regarded as a species distinct from the lowland form

Yellow-rumped Cacique, *Cacicus cela*, 1 or 2 in foothills

Russet-backed Oropendola, *Psarocolius angustifrons*, a few in foothill zone at ca. 4000 ft.

Siskins and Goldfinches and Euphonias, *Fringillidae*

Blue-naped Chlorophonia, *Chlorophonia cyanea*, 1 male perched up in open just below a Chestnut-crested Cotinga; ca. 6800 ft el.

Olivaceous Siskins, *Spinus olivaceus*, one seen by SH as it flew across the parking lot clearing at Waqanki

MAMMALS:

Tayra, *Eira, barbara*, a male (“Pancho”) seen repeatedly at the banana feeders at Abra Patricia; but reportedly there are at least 5 other Panchos in the area and they succeeded in wrecking one or more hummingbird feeders and the poles holding them every day; it is surprising that the Owllet Lodge staff have not been able (or willing) to install appropriate equipment to prevent the Tayras from climbing and tearing down the feeder poles; only two of the five feeder poles were properly equipped to repel these marauding tayras

Black Agouti, *Dasyprocta fuliginosa*, this is the agouti that was seen around Abra Patricia (and apparently this is the only one that occurs at such a high elevation)
Little gray forest rat with a white belly, one seen at night on our return from the owlet expedition

MIXED SPECIES FLOCKS:

We saw a good number of mixed species flocks on this relatively short trip but most of them contained only 3-5 species. **A large flock (ca. 4600 ft el) and not far above the tire shop was an exception; That mixed species flock contained (in the rain) by my count at least 20-22 species** including: Fork-tailed Woodnymph (1M); Versicolored Barbet (1m); Speckled-chested Piculet (seen only by Roberto); Yellow-breasted Antwren (1-2); Peruvian Tyrannulet; Streak-necked Flycatcher; Slaty-capped Flycatcher 91); an unidentified *Pogonotriccus* sp? flycatcher (or ally); Rufous-browed Peppershrike; Gray-mantled Wren (seen only by Roberto); Bananaquit; Swainson's Thrush; Three-striped Warbler (5-6); Blackburnian Warbler (2); Canada Warbler (4-5); Slate-throated Redstart (2+); Golden Tanager (1-2); Orange-eared Tanager 91); Blue-gray Tanager; White-winged Tanager (2); Ashy-throated Bush-Tanagers (5-6); Russet-backed Oropendola (1). [There also may have been a couple more kinds of tanagers seen by I did not get them on the list.]

HUMMINGBIRDS This was a good (but not exceptional) trip for hummingbirds (those marked in boldface were seen only at the mentioned site)

List of hummingbirds observed at Abra Patricia Lodge; 2300 m (13 species): Chestnut-breasted Coronet; Sparkling Violetear; Emerald-bellied Puffleg; Bronzy Inca; Collared Inca; Long-tailed Sylph (only MM); **Sword-billed Hummingbird; Fawn-breasted Brilliant; Speckled Hummingbird; White-bellied Woodstar**

List of hummingbirds observed at Huembo (EOCAN Spatuletail Reserve), 2050 m (13 species): **Marvelous Spatuletail;** Green Violetear; Sparkling Violetear; Speckled Hummingbird; Chestnut-breasted Coronet; **White-bellied Hummingbird** (2+); Andean Emerald (1); Bronzy Inca; Long-tailed Sylph (only MM); Emerald-bellied Puffleg.

List of hummingbirds observed at Mishquiyaquillo Reserve; 900 m (17 species): **White-necked Jacobin** (MM); Rufous-breasted Hermit; **Long-tailed Hermit** (sometimes split as Great-billed Hermit); Sparkling Violetear; **Black-throated Mango; Rufous-crested Coquette** (only a female); **Blue-tailed Emerald** (1M); Gray-breasted Sabrewing; Fork-tailed Woodnymph; Sapphire-spangled Emerald; **Golden-tailed Sapphire** (20+)

List of hummers at Arenas Blancas: Gray-breasted Sabrewing; Sapphire-spangled Emerald (1m); **Green-fronted Lancebill** (Males and females); **Blue-fronted Lancebill** (apparently 1 or 2 birds that were darker and smaller and showed bluish forecrowns but it was difficult to distinguish this species); Sparkling Violetear; Fork-tailed Woodnymph (1 gorgeous male)

Hummingbirds seen elsewhere (e.g. along highway): **Greenish Puffleg** and **Royal Sunangel**