

**NORTHWESTERN PERU:
DESERTS AND THE MARAÑÓN
VALLEY AT JAEN**

JANUARY 15–22, 2016

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NORTHWESTERN PERU PRE-TRIP JANUARY 15–22, 2016

By Steve Hilty

I enjoy all the trips I lead, but a few trips make a little bigger impression than others, and this trip stands out in numerous ways. It is notable for the remarkable number of endemic and marquee species that can be found here, and also for the large number of birds with unresolved taxonomic issues. The taxonomic conundrums are a reflection of stark habitat differences and mountain barriers that occur over short geographical distances, as well as a lack of ornithological work here. This trip also is notable for the remarkable number of field breakfasts and lunches, which, in our case, were expertly prepared by two cooks and an assistant who prepared meals for us on four of our six days. Finally, the route we covered is notable for the variety of habitats and elevations explored in just a few days. We also added a very interesting visit to the Túcume Museum and archaeological site on our last day, a site that provided some historical context into early northwestern Peru civilization in the areas we visited.

A few of the bird and mammal highlights would certainly have to include the Comb Ducks (a surprise); Chilean Flamingo (another surprise); the large gathering of Peruvian Thick-knees seen so closely; the Henna-hooded Foliage-gleaners (several seen so well); the lovely Marañon Crescentchest; a lively Yellow-cheeked Becard; a busy colony of Chestnut-collared Swallows; some shy Speckle-breasted Wrens; and the remarkable abundance of Long-tailed Mockingbirds in the arid Pacific lowlands. There also was a beautiful Sechuran Fox that seemed to pose for us, and the “wild” but much habituated Collared Peccary that casually wandered under our dining table at the Chaparrí Lodge and then continued on as if this was a perfectly normal thing to do. The “rare” White-winged Guans around the Chaparrí Lodge seemed almost equally blasé.

This is a great little trip, with some terrific wildlife and wonderfully scenic canyons to hike. And, for anybody with an interest in taxonomy, the juxtaposition of so many races and/or “species” that have yet to be worked out makes this area seem like a gigantic, life-size picture puzzle just waiting for you to fit all the pieces together. Add in a little anthropological history and it really is like no other trip I’ve ever led.

ITINERARY:

January 15: arrival in Lima

January 16: 5:30 a.m. flight to Chiclayo (sea level); morning en route to the **Chaparrí Reserve** (<300 m) and lodge with birding en route. Afternoon at the Chaparrí Reserve

January 17: Early morning departure for **Sacupe Forest** reservation about two hours east of the Chaparrí Reserve. Mid-day visit to the Tinajones impoundment, and afternoon

birding in **Bosque Pómac** (near Batan Grande). Late afternoon drive to city of Olmos.

January 18: **Quebrada Frejolillo** (Limon) known to birders as the “White-winged Guan canyon” (ca. 300 m elevation at the canyon entrance); six hour hike (about 9 in miles round-trip) up a lovely semi-arid canyon. Late afternoon stop at small marsh between villages of Filoque Uno and Filoque Dos, a site now of less interest because of a restaurant built at the edge of, if not actually out into, the marsh.

January 19: Olmos to **Abra (Limon) Porculla** (ca. 1650-1700 m el); morning at **Abra Porculla**; fairly long and hot afternoon drive (about three hours) to city of Jaen (ca. 750 m)

January 20: The **Coipa Road** (ca. 500-650 m) north of Jaen in morning; lunch in small town of **Tamborapa** lunch actually prepared by our cooks); afternoon birding along the **Río Tabaconas** (road borders river) from about 500 m to 720 m elevation; this river passes through the town of Tamborapa (and at the time I thought the river was called the Río Tabaconas but checking maps I see the river name is slightly different).

January 21: Seven hour drive from **Jaen to Chiclayo** for late afternoon flight to Lima. Mid-day stop for lunch and visit to the **Túcume Museum** (a new museum) and archaeological site for study of the pre-Inca Túcume culture (about 1000-1450 A.D.). Museum is at the edge of the town of **Túcume**.

KEY: in approximate order of visitation

Heard = heard only

CH = Chaparri Lodge

Sacupe Reserve and Tinajones Reservoir

Batan Grande (Bosque del Pomac Historical Sanctuary)

Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo or Limon

Abra Porculla (1780-1800 m on road between Olmos and Jaen)

JA = Jaen area (750-800 m) including Coipa road and Tamborapa Valley

Species marked in boldface blue = of special interest

BIRDS: Note 1) the taxonomic status of many species on this tour route remains uncertain. For updates on a particular species visit the following web site: [SACC checklist or ://www.museum.lsu.edu/~Remsen/SACCBaseline.html](http://www.museum.lsu.edu/~Remsen/SACCBaseline.html); 2) also be aware that the International Ornithological Congress (IOC) maintains a separate list and the names and taxonomy used by that group may differ somewhat from the SACC, which represents a regional committee under the larger umbrella IOC organization; 3) in species in which a trinomial scientific name is given, the subspecies shown is (in many cases) a potential split representing, also, a full species

TINAMIDAE, *Tinamous*,

*Tataupa Tinamou, *Crypturellus tataupa*, JA (hd very close but would not respond)

ANATIDAE: Ducks & Geese

Comb Duck, *Sarkidiornis melanotos*, 4 in rice paddies along lower Río Tabaconas
White-cheeked Pintail, *Anas bahamensis*, 5 at Tinajones Reservoir

CRACIDAE: Guans and Allies

White-winged Guan, *Penelope albipennis*, Chaparrí (where introduced but free-flying and breeding) **Endemic**

PODICIPEDIDAE: Grebes

Great Grebe, *Podiceps major*, Tinajones Reservoir; 3-4

CICONIIDAE: Storks

Wood Stork, *Mycteria americana*, 25+ at Tinajones Reservoir

PHALACROCORACIDAE: Cormorants

Neotropic Cormorant, *Phalacrocorax brasilianus*, Tinajones Reservoir (200+ loafing on rocks at reservoir)

Flamingos

Chilean Flamingo, *Phoenicopterus chilensis*, 1 at Tinajones Reservoir (an adult bird although not pink enough to be a breeding bird)

ARDEIDAE: Herons & Egrets

Cocoi Heron, *Ardea cocoi*, Tinajones Reservoir; 1 seen

Great Egret, *Ardea alba*, Tinajones Reservoir and rice paddies around Jaen (seen on 4 days)

Snowy Egret, *Egretta thula*, large mixed rookery at Pitipo with active nests

Little Blue Heron, *Egretta caerulea*, Chapparrí (Tinajones Reservoir)

Cattle Egret, *Bubulcus ibis*, widespread including at the Pitipo rookery

Striated Heron, *Butorides striatus*, 1 at small marsh near Filoque; several in rice fields north of Jaen

Black-crowned Night-Heron, *Nycticorax nycticorax*, 3+ in rice paddies north of Jaen

CATHARTIDAE: New World Vultures

Black Vulture, *Coragyps atratus*, daily

Turkey Vulture, *Cathartes aura*, daily

PANDIONIDAE: OSPREY

Osprey, *Pandion haliaetus*, 1 at Tinajones Reservoir

ACCIPITRIDAE: Hawks & Eagles

Pearl Kite, *Gampsonyx swainsonii*, Pómac Forest Reserve (2 seen)

Savanna Hawk, *Buteogallus meridionalis*, 4 at Tinajones Reservoir

Roadside Hawk, *Rupornis (Buteo) magnirostris*, north of Jaen on Coipa Road and Río Tabaconas

Harris's Hawk, *Parabuteo unicinctus*, Chaparrí; Casupe forest
Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle, *Geranoaetus melanoleucus*, Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo; 3
adults seen circling together

RALLIDAE: Rails Gallinules & Coots

Purple Gallinule, *Porphyrio martinicus*, 2 in rice paddies along Río Tabaconas
Common Gallinule, *Gallinula (chloropus) galeata*, Tinajones Reservoir; Filoque marsh;
Río Tabaconas rice paddies
Slate-colored Coot, *Fulica ardesiaca*, 12-156 at the Tinajones Reservoir

BURHINIDAE: Thick-knees

Peruvian Thick-knee, *Burhinus superciliaris*, Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo (group of 20
seen at point blank range in open gravel area of a river bed; also 3 seen predawn as
we departed the Chaparrí Lodge

RECURVIROSTRIDAE: Stilts

Black-necked Stilt, *Himantopus mexicanus*, 25+ at the Tinajones Reservoir; a few also in
rice paddies between Chiclayo and Olmos

LARIDAE: Gulls

Gray-headed Gull, *Chroicocephalus (Larus) cirrocephalus*, Tinajones Reservoir; ca. 40+
birds circling and also standing on mudflats

COLUMBIDAE: Pigeons & Doves

Ecuadorian Ground-Dove, *Columbina buckleyi*, 1 seen quite well but relatively briefly
as it walked along a rice paddy dike near the Río Tabaconas; gray tail and gray
median band on crown and nape and noticeably pinkish (more so than in BOP
illustration)

Croaking Ground-Dove, *Columbina cruziana*, widespread in arid Pacific region and
middle Marañón (south of Jaen)

Blue Ground-Dove *Claravis pretiosa*, 1 female seen along the Coipa Road north of
Jaen; 2 males and a female seen in trees boarding a rice paddy along the Río
Tabaconas

White-tipped Dove, *Leptotila verreauxi*, widespread

*Ochre-bellied Dove, *Leptotila ochraceiventris*, Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo Pacific
Dove; heard here but we never saw it; a three-note vocalization

West Peruvian Dove, *Zenaida meloda*, widespread in arid Pacific; also called Pacific
Dove

Eared Dove, *Zenaida auriculata*, widespread in drier lowland areas

CUCULIDAE: Cuckoos & Anis

Squirrel Cuckoo, *Piaya cayana*, 2 seen on the Coipa Road north of Jaen

*Striped Cuckoo, *Tapera naevia*, heard en route to Chaparrí; also heard south of Jaen

Groove-billed Ani, *Crotophaga sulcirostris*, arid lower elevations throughout; daily

STRIGIDAE: Typical Owls

Pacific Pygmy-Owl, *Glaucidium peruanum*, notable (in boldface) because of the abundance of these small owls here; quite common in arid lowlands with 2 seen en route to the Chaparrí Lodge; at least 3-4 seen the next day at Casupe and the Pómac Bosque; also heard and 1 seen in Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo ; in all sites these owls were seen in areas with some taller trees (e.g. taller than low desert scrub)
Burrowing Owl, *Athene cunicularia*, 2 pairs at nest holes at the Túcume archaeological site; 3 along a dike and field near the Pómac Bosque

CAPRIMULGIDAE: Nightjars & Allies

Lesser Nighthawk, *Chordeiles acutipennis*, 5-6 birds flying around together at one site during our predawn departure on the rocky road out of the Chaparrí Lodge area; these also were difficult to see well in our lights
Scrub Nightjar, *Caprimulgus anthonyi*, 3-4 flushed from rocky road during predawn departure from Chaparrí; another flushed almost from our feet during our walk up the Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo trail; none of these were seen perched nor seen particularly well

APODIDAE: Swifts

Chestnut-collared Swift, *Streptoprocne rutila*, group of 10+ in Río Tabaconas valley; seen close and quite well
[White-collared Swift, *Streptoprocne zonaris*, Peruvian guide Juan may have seen this species in the Tamborapa Valley; not seen by Hilty or clients]
Short-tailed Swift, *Chaetura brachyura ocybetes*, 1 (along with several unidentified swifts) seen in the Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo; this form has been treated as a separate species Tumbes Swift

TROCHILIDAE: Hummingbirds

Gray-chinned Hermit, *Phaethornis griseogularis*, 1 seen at Casupe (1100 m el); 2 at Abra Porculla; 1 on the Coipa road (latter seen only by Hilty); this subspecies also a possible candidate for a taxonomic split
Long-billed Starthroat, *Heliomaster longirostris*, 1 seen at the Chaparrí Lodge
Purple-collared Woodstar, *Myrtis fanny*, 1 female near the Chaparrí Lodge; another female seen on the Seminario road above Jaen
Tumbes Hummingbird, *Leucippus baeri*, Chaparrí Lodge (only 1 seen); very plain
Amazonian Hummingbird, *Amazilia amazilia*, several seen the first four days of trip including at Chaparrí; Bosque Pómac; Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo; and Seminario Road near Jaen
Andean Emerald, *Amazilia franciae*, 1 seen on the Seminario Road near Jaen (700 m el); a surprise to see this species here in such an arid zone because northward in Ecuador and Colombia it is mainly a humid/wet forest montane (cloud forest) species

PICIDAE: Woodpeckers & Allies

Ecuadorian Piculet, *Picumnus sclateri*, 1 of a pair seen very well and for an extended period of time in low woody second growth at Abra Porculla

Scarlet-backed Woodpecker, *Veniliornis callonotus*, Chaparrí; two in Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo ; one along the Río Tabaconas
Golden-olive Woodpecker, *Piculus rubiginosus*, Chaparrí; Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo and one along the Coipa Road (the side trail late in morning)

FALCONIDAE: Falcons & Caracaras

Crested Caracara, *Caracara cheriway*, Tinajones Reserve; this is the “northern” form with *C. plancus* being used for Southern Caracara;
American Kestrel, *Falco sparverius*, widespread and 1 to several seen daily

PSITTACIDAE: Parrots & Parakeets

Pacific Parrotlet, *Forpus coelestis*, widespread in arid Pacific (Chaparrí area; Sacupe; Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo and Jaen
Red-masked Parakeet, *Psittacara erythrogenys*, high flying groups seen the first three days (none seen perched); Chaparrí; Sacupe; Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo where we saw a couple groups numbering 35-40 birds overhead

THAMNOPHILIDAE: Typical Antbirds

Chapman’s Antshrike, *Thamnophilus zarumae*, heard at Sacupe; pair seen well at Abra Porculla (1650 m)
Collared Antshrike, *Sakesphorus bernardi piurae*, seen at Chaparrí (where birds quite habituated to people); also several at Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo; and again at Abra Porculla
Northern Slaty-Antshrike, *Thamnophilus punctatus leucogaster*, Coipa Road north of Jaen (this race has been treated as a separate species Marañón Slaty-Antshrike but vocal analysis does not support this)

RHINOCRYPTIDAE: Tapaculos

Marañón Crescent-chest, *Melanopareia maranonica*, we found 2 along the upper Coipa road; the first proved difficult to see; the second was seen very well; little difference in the voices of this and the next species but plumage differences are diagnostic
Elegant Crescent-chest, *Melanopareia elegans*, seen well at the Chaparrí Loge the first afternoon; also heard in the Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo canyon

FORMICARIIDAE: Ground Antbirds

*Chestnut-crowned Antpitta, *Grallaria ruficapilla*, heard at Abra Porculla

FURNARIIDAE: Ovenbirds & Woodcreepers

Streak-headed Woodcreeper, *Lepidocolaptes souleyetii*, Chaparrí; Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo (where we saw 6-8)
Pale-legged Hornero, *Furnarius leucopus cinnamomeus*, common in all coastal areas; by some regarded as a separate species Pacific Hornero *F. cinnamomeus* because of pale eyes and disjunct range; it is separated from main Amazonian populations and from coastal populations in northern South America)

Rufous-necked Foliage-gleaner, *Syndactyla ruficollis*, 1 seen by Suzi Cole at Sacupe; heard by the rest of us; quite sneaky in dense brush

Henna-hooded Foliage-gleaner, *Hylocryptus erythrocephalus*, pair seen well at Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo; then again at Abra Porculla; rather shy and retiring species and worth boldface print if for no other reason that because of its interesting name

Line-cheeked Spinetail, *Cranioleuca antisimensis*, a couple pair at Abra Porculla

Azara's Spinetail, *Synallaxis azarae*, pair seen well at Abra Porculla

Necklaced Spinetail, *Synallaxis stictothorax*, seen around Chaparrí and Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo

[Chinchipe Spinetail, *Synallaxis stictothorax chinchipenis*, JA (much like previous species but with bolder streaks; this streaked one a potential split but not yet recognized as a separate species)]

Rufous-fronted Thornbird, *Phacellodomus rufifrons*, seen in Jaen area and northward along Coipa road

TYRANNIDAE: Tyrant Flycatchers (60 species)

Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet, *Camptostoma obsoletum*, seen almost daily (except for Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo)

Mouse-colored Tyrannulet, *Phaeomyias murina tumbezana*, widely distribute; we saw this Tumbes form around Chaparrí; also in Jaen area; this form now regarded by some as a separate species Tumbebian Tyrannulet but not yet formally recognized by SACC (South American checklist committee); differs in voice and plumage

*Pacific Elaenia, *Myiopagis subplacens*, marked as heard at Sacupe but never seen

Tawny-crowned Pygmy-Tyrant, *Euscarthmus meloryphus fulviceps*, all areas and common everywhere in dense scrub; this subspecies (southwestern Ecuador and western Peru) differs in voice and plumage from other populations in South America)

Gray-and-white Tyrannulet, *Pseudelaenia leucospodia*, Chaparrí (common); Pómac Bosque; Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo and Coipa Road near Jaen

Common Tody-Flycatcher, *Todirostrum cinereum*, Seminario Road north of Jaen

Yellow-olive Flycatcher, *Tolmomyias sulphureus aequatorialis*, pair seen well at Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo

Bran-colored Flycatcher, *Myiophobus fasciatus rufescens*, seen at either Abra Porculla or Seminario Road (not marked on my list as to which site)

Tropical Pewee, *Contopus cinereus punensis*, seen at Chaparrí; Sacupe; and Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo; treated as a separate species Tumbes Pewee *Contopus punensis* by some

Smoke-colored Pewee, *Contopus fumigatus*, 1 seen a bit distantly in scope along the Sacupe Road; this may (or may not) be unusual here

Vermilion Flycatcher, *Pyrocephalus rubinus*, all areas

Tumbes Tyrant, *Tumbezia salvini*, 1 at Chaparrí; 2 at Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo

Endemic; and a pretty little flycatcher that reminds me a bit of the *Stigmatura* group (wagtail-tyrants)

Piura Chat-Tyrant, *Ochthoeca piurae*, Abra Porculla (at least 3 seen including 2 of them very well; **Endemic**)

Short-tailed Field-Tyrant, *Muscigralla brevicauda*, 1 en route to Chaparrí; a little flycatcher on stilts
Rufous Flycatcher, *Myiarchus semirufus*, BG; **Endemic**; it was quite common in Bosque Pómac
Sooty-crowned Flycatcher, *Myiarchus phaeocephalus*, Chapparrí; Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo; Jaen
Brown-crested Flycatcher, *Myiarchus tyrannulus*, Jaen
Baird's Flycatcher, *Myiodynastes bairdii*, Chapparrí; Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo
Great Kiskadee, *Pitangus sulphuratus*, around Jaen
Tropical Kingbird *Tyrannus melancholicus*, Abra Porculla; Jaen
Snowy-throated Kingbird, *Tyrannus neivieularis*, Chaparrí (up to 6 seen including a couple right around the dining area)
Yellow-cheeked Becard *Pachyramphus xanthogenys*, Jaen (500m); 1 male seen along a forested track in a valley at lower end of Coipa Road; not sure how uncommon it is in this area (maybe expected) but it was fun to see it and it sure responded well to a little playback

VIREONIDAE: Vireos & Allies

Red-eyed Vireo, *Vireo olivaceus* (*chivi*), Jaen; also heard in Saucopé area; simple two-note song apparently of the resident *pectoralis* form; and heard at Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo
Rufous-browed Peppershrike, *Cyclarhis gujanensis*, Abra Porculla; Jaen

CORVIDAE: Jays

Green Jay, *Cyanocorax yncas longirostris* in arid areas around Jaen; by some treated as a species (Inca Jay) separate from Green Jay *C. luxosus* of Middle America and Texas
White-tailed Jay, *Cyanocorax mystacalis*, Chapparrí; Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo; what a great looking bird

HIRUNDINIDAE: Swallows & Martins

Gray-breasted Martin, *Progne chalybea*, towns and most lowland sites; common
Southern Rough-winged Swallow, *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*, Río Tabaconas (3-4 seen)
Chestnut-collared Swallow, *Petrochelidon rufocollaris*, large colony under bridge about an hour east of Chiclayo and they were busy!

TROGLODYTIDAE: Wrens

House Wren, *Troglodytes aedon*, widespread at all elevations
Fasciated Wren, *Campylorhynchus fasciatus*, Chapparrí; Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo (heard); Abra Porculla; heard near Jaen; another common arid country species
Speckle-breasted Wren, *Thryothorus sclateri*, Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo (great views of this interesting looking wren); also seen at Abra Porculla; heard at Coipa and this one *T. s. sclateri* is sometimes regarded as a separate species Marañon Wren from the others in northern South America
Superciliated Wren, *Thryothorus superciliaris*, generally common in lowland arid Pacific areas; seen at Chaparrí and Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo; a wren with a super loud voice

POLIOPTILIDAE: Gnatcatchers

Tropical Gnatcatcher, *Polioptila plumbea*, arid western slope where apparently most of the ones we were seeing were of the form *P. plumbea bilineata*. Birds around Jaen may have been another subspecies [“Marañon” Gnatcatcher, *Polioptila plumbea major*] but I’m a little confused as to where the range limits of these two forms are and they all looked pretty similar to me; none are, as yet, regarded as a separate species by SACC (South American Checklist Committee)]

TURDIDAE: Thrushes & Allies (10 species)

Plumbeous-backed Thrush, *Turdus reevei*, Casupe; Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo; seemed fairly common
Great Thrush, *Turdus fuscater*, Abra Porculla (only a couple)
Chiguanco Thrush, *Turdus chiguanco*, Abra Porculla (a few more than the previous species)

MIMIDAE: Thrashers & Mockingbirds

Long-tailed Mockingbird, *Mimus longicaudatus*, arid lower elevations mainly on Pacific slope where it was the most numerous bird of the trip; but we saw none around Jaen

PARULIDAE: New World Warblers

Tropical Parula, *Parula pitiayumi*, BG; Chaparrí; Sacupe; Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo
Three-banded Warbler, *Basileuterus trifasciatus*, Sacupe; Abra Porculla
Gray-and-gold Warbler, *Basileuterus fraseri* Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo where pair seen very well; I really like this one
Slate-throated Redstart (Whitestart), *Myioborus miniatus*, Abra Porculla; AP

THRAUPIDAE: Tanagers & Allies (37 species)

Rufous-chested Tanager, *Thlypopsis ornata*, Abra Porculla (pair at 1780 m)
Blue-gray Tanager, *Thraupis episcopus*, almost all areas
Cinereous Conebill, *Conirostrum cinereum*, several seen at Sacupe area
White-lined Tanager *Tachyphonus rufus*, upper Tamborapa Valley (1 male flying across road in front of our vehicle)
Cinereous Conebill, *Conirostrum cinereum*, 5-6 seen in Sacupe area
Cinereous Finch, *Piezorhina cinerea*, Chaparrí; Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo; **Endemic**
Saffron Finch, *Sicalis flaveola*, several en route to Chaparrí; also near Jaen and Tamborapa Road
Sulphur-throated Finch, *Sicalis taczanowskii*, Chaparrí (50+ in skittish flocks); odd little birds that were in these same flocks when I was here in July some years ago; when do they break up to nest?
Blue-black Grassquit, *Volatinia jacarina*, Chaparrí area; near Jaen (Seminario Road) and Tamborapa Valley
Parrot-billed Seedeater, *Sporophila peruviana*, Chapparrí; and Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo; quite common
Chestnut-throated Seedeater, *Sporophila telasco*, Chaparrí; near Jaen (Seminario Road) and Tamborapa Valley; also numerous

Black-and-white Seedeater, *Sporophila luctuosa*, Jaen (Seminario Road); Tamborapa Valley rice paddies (100s)
Yellow-bellied Seedeater, *Sporophila nigricollis*, one male along Río Tabaconas valley road
Variable Seedeater, *Sporophila corvine*, 3-4 seen near Chaparrí
Red-crested Finch, *Coryphospingus cucullatus*, Jaen (Seminario Road); Tamborapa Valley
Bananaquit, *Coereba flaveola*, daily
Streaked Saltator, *Saltator striatipectus flavidicollis*, near Jaen (Seminario Road); Coipa Road north of Jaen
[Black-cowled Saltator, *Saltator nigriceps*](#), Abra Porculla (we saw only one for a brief moment); endemic to saw Ecuador and nw Peru

EMBERIZIDAE: Buntings Sparrows & Allies (33 species)

Tumbes Sparrow, *Rhynchospiza (Aimophila) stolzmanni*, Chapparri; Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo; note the new genus for this bird
Yellow-browed Sparrow, *Ammodramus aurifrons*, 1 at edge of Río Tabaconas rice paddies
Black-capped Sparrow, *Arremon abeillei nigriceps*, Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo with all gray back [[Marañon Black-capped Sparrow, *Arremon abeillei nigriceps*](#), seen in upper Coipa Road (750 m el); with olive green back; but this latter form not recognized as a separate species at present]. Why don't they just call these birds **Arremon** and drop the "sparrow" name?
Gray-browed Brush-Finch, *Arremon torquatus*, Abra Porculla (formerly known as Stripe-headed Brush-Finch but now split into multiple species over its wide range and now quite confusing)
Rufous-collared Sparrow, *Zonotrichia capensis*, only at Abra Porculla
White-headed Brush-Finch, *Atlapetes albiceps*, Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo; Abra Porculla; head pattern quite variable
White-winged Brush-Finch, *Atlapetes leucopterus*, Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo ; Abra Porculla (endemic to the Andes of sw Ecuador and nw Peru; extremely variable facial pattern)
Bay-crowned Brush-Finch, *Atlapetes seebohmi*, Abra Porculla

CARDINALIDAE: Saltators, Cardinals & Allies

Hepatic Tanager, *Piranga lutea*, Sacupe (8-10); Abra Porculla; for taxonomy see K. Burns (Auk 115:621-634;1998) in considering foothills and mountain birds from Costa Rica south through western and northern South America separate from populations of northern Middle America to the southwest U.S (Northern Hepatic-Tanager *P. hepatica*) and from lowland populations of eastern & southern South America (Lowland Hepatic-Tanager *P. flava*). Complicating things the IOU uses another set of names calling *P. lutea* Tooth-billed Tanager; northern birds Hepatic Tanager; and lowland South American birds Red Tanager;. However at present, the SACC and North American Bird committee recognized only a single species
Golden Grosbeak, *Pheucticus chrysogaster*, seen all days except at Abra Porculla; formerly called Golden-bellied Grosbeak

ICTERIDAE: Troupials & Allies

Peruvian Meadowlark, *Sturnella bellicosa*, Chapparrí and Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo
Scrub Blackbird, *Dives warszewiczi*, only seen en route to Chapparrí
Shiny Cowbird, *Molothrus bonariensis*, almost daily
White-edged Oriole, *Icterus graceannae*, Chapparrí; Bosque Pómac; and Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo

FRINGILLIDAE: Siskins Crossbills & Allies

Purple-throated Euphonia, *Euphonia chlorotica*, Jaen (seen on Seminario Road and Coipa Road)
Thick-billed Euphonia, *Euphonia lanirostris*, Bosque Pómac; Quebrada Bosque Frejolillo
Hooded Siskin, *Carduelis magellanica*, two seen in flight at Abra Porculla

PASSERIDAE: Old World Sparrows

House Sparrow, *Passer domesticus*, seen en route to Chapparrí

MAMMALS:

Guayaquil Squirrel, *Sciurus stramineus*, a fairly large and handsome gray and black squirrel with a rufous back and longish upstanding black ears
Sechuran Fox, *Pseudalopex sechurae*, a beautiful animal at Chapparrí (around the lodge); what a lovely animal!
Collared Peccary, *Pecari tajuca*, a half dozen at the lodge; all of them were quite habituated to humans and one even walked under the table while we were eating and then casually moved along acting as if it owned the place (which I guess they once did)