

# **ECUADOR: AMAZONIA AT NAPO WILDLIFE CENTER**

**AUGUST 6-13, 2006**

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## ECUADOR: AMAZONIA AT NAPO WILDLIFE CENTER FIELD

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The Napo Wildlife Center experience took hold of us from the instant we crossed that natural line drawn between the swift and powerful, silty tobacco-brown waters of the Rio Napo and those of the still, “Darjeerling” black waters that meander their way along the Añanguyacu, the densely forested stream that runs out of Añangucocha—the broad lake where NWC is so artfully constructed. It is from this point that we switched over from our large, motorized canoe that had taken us along a strange crisscrossed route for over two hours from the frontier town of Coca, to our small paddle-driven dugout for a silent two-hour float through the mysterious and lush *varzea* and riverine habitat to the lodge.

Our initiation into this world was as varied and unpredictable as is everything about the marvelous Amazon rainforest. A Slender-billed Kite stared down at us, over a half-dozen White-throated and Channel-billed toucans plucked orange fruit high in the canopy, Common and Great potoos seemed glued almost unrecognizably stump-like to their respective branches, a band of Black-headed Parrots clowned about in a cecropia tree while uttering their musical but distinctly un-birdlike calls, two Blue-crowned Trogons decoyed in above us, a pair of White-chinned Jacamars sallied out to pick off unsuspecting butterflies, and the huffing and crashing about as our first crazy-looking Hoatzins greeted us, each in their own way. We finally entered Añangucocha as the sun was setting over the lake with a salmon-pink glow that literally warmed our hearts—and the lights of the NWC lodge began to ignite, thus setting the stage for an unforgettable weeklong show that had only just begun.

Our first morning was spent over 130 feet above the dark floor of the rainforest in the forest canopy tower where we leisurely searched the treetops and airspace for those species often hard to see from so far down below. Our efforts were well rewarded with scope views of Black-faced Hawk, Red-and-green Macaw, Black-and-white Hawk-Eagle, spectacularly close portrait views of the scarce Yellow-shouldered Grosbeak and charming White-browed Purpletuft, shining Spangled and Plum-throated cotingas, an active family group of Short-billed Honeycreepers, Rufous-throated Sapphire, and 14 Casqued Oropendolas, along with soaring Black and, later, Ornate hawk-eagles. A family group of Blue-and-yellow Macaws, enticed by an imitation of their raucous squawks, flew close circles around us granting the most spectacular looks anyone could ever ask for! Our return to this tower a few days later was just as productive and unforgettable, with scope views of perched Black-and-white Hawk-Eagle!

Early morning and afternoon dugout canoe trips along the Añanguyacu and the Cariañangu stream brought new experiences at every turn, whether it was a large troop of feeding squirrel monkeys or white-fronted capuchin monkeys that remained close and unabashed as we floated almost arm’s-reach away, or special close looks at a Green-and-rufous Kingfisher perched alongside us as it focused intently into the deep tea-colored waters just below; the unbelievable looks at an adult Zigzag Heron that called in obligingly at dusk and sat quietly for the longest time are memories that will endure while stellar views of Dot-backed, Plumbeous, and Silvered antbirds were favorites for all of us.

## NWC Field Check-List

Walking various forest trails added another dimension to an already sensory overloaded multi-dimensional experience. Watching with binoculars and telescopes glued on a stunning Wire-tailed Manakin at surprisingly close quarters as it perched leisurely, while seemingly contemplating its surroundings as one might admire one's own back patio, had to have been the most incredible look at that species ever witnessed! There were so many encounters like this one: Yellow-billed Jacamar, Citron-bellied Attila, Banded Antbird, and even a small troop of the very localized primate—golden-mantled tamarin—as three curious individuals backed down a liana they were traversing to get a better look at us! The ear-shattering cacophony of countless parakeets and parrots at the forest “saladero” was an unforgettable experience, with point-blank views at the beautiful Orange-cheeked Parrot and what seemed like every Cobalt-winged Parakeet in the entire Amazon Basin, topped off by the entire flock blasting right at and past us as they were scared off by an approaching raptor.

Each of us will remember other experiences that made our trip special, and perhaps tied to all of them is the wonderful lodge itself and the Añangu community who form most of its staff—the trip would not have been what it was if not for them. Thanks to all, especially the talented and knowledgeable Giovanni and all who made our stay so successful, the cold drinks awaiting us at the dock after each excursion (and hot chocolate when it rained!), the incredibly comfortable quarters, and the joy and pride which radiated from each and every NWC staff member.

## ITINERARY

- August 6 —Arrival in Quito
- August 7 —Morning flight (11:30AM) from Quito to Coca; transfer in “chiva” bus to the Napo River landing; 2 1/2 hour motor canoe trip downstream to NWC landing area; afternoon paddle/float along Añanguyacu (caño) to NWC lodge on shores of Añangucocha (lake)
- August 8 —Early (5:30)AM paddle across Añangucocha to the Napo Trail landing, and walk to forest canopy tower ; rest of AM birding from the tower. Lunch at the lodge. PM paddle down the Añanguyacu; early evening return to the lodge
- August 9 —Early AM paddle down the Añanguyacu; transfer to motor canoes and short boat trip to Napo “saladero”; then canoe transfer to Napo landing area and walk to forest “saladero;” after box lunch, walk along community trail; PM return up Añanguyacu to lodge
- August 10 —Early (6:30)AM paddle to head of Tiputini Trail; all morning birding Tiputini Trail; rainy afternoon birding leisurely from lodge tower
- August 11 —Early (6:00)AM paddle down the Añangucocha to Napo Trail landing; birding along trail and up in tower ; mid-morning back along Napo trail to the Napo River and community trail (box lunch); after lunch walk along community trail and return birding along Añanguyacu; late afternoon birding along Carañangu stream; return to lodge early evening
- August 12 —Early (6:00)AM departure via Carañangu stream: return down Añanguyacu, transfer to motor canoes and return to Coca; flight to Quito
- August 13 —Group continues on to Southern Andes Extension this morning

## THE SPECIES LIST

## NWC Field Check-List

This list follows "The Birds of Ecuador" by Ridgely & Greenfield (2001)

### TINAMOUS: TINAMIDAE

Great Tinamou (*Tinamus major*)—Heard only once from forest tower (Aug. 8)

**Cinereous Tinamou** (*Crypturellus cinereus*)—1 actually seen(!) pretty well near forest "saladero;" otherwise heard sporadically in terra firme forest

Little Tinamou (*Crypturellus soui*)—Heard once along Tiputini trail

Undulated Tinamou (*Crypturellus undulatus*)—1 seen along bank of Añanguyacu on Aug. 12; heard often in varzea habitats

**Variiegated Tinamou** (*Crypturellus variegatus*)—1 seen at very close range near forest "saladero" while searching for an uncooperative tapaculo

### HERONS & BITTERNs: ARDEIDAE

Great Egret (*Ardea alba*)—Only 1 seen finally along the Río Napo on Aug. 12

Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*)—Generally small numbers (1-6) on sandbars along the Río Napo

Striated Heron (*Butorides striatus*)—Singles (3 in all) along banks of the Río Napo

Black-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*)—1 seen flying along shores of Añangucocha (Aug. 11)

Boat-billed Heron (*Cochlearius cochlearius*)—Small numbers seen regularly along Añangucocha mostly

Rufescent Tiger-Heron (*Tigrisoma lineatum*)—Common and VERY confiding along Añanguyacu

**Zigzag Heron** (*Zebrilus undulatus*)—Finally, after missing it on two evenings, excellent close looks at 1 adult along Cariañangu stream

### AMERICAN VULTURES: CATHARTIDAE

Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*)—Common; seen daily

Greater Yellow-headed Vulture (*Cathartes melambrotus*)—The "regular" forest-based vulture in the area; Excellent perched and soaring views included

King Vulture (*Sarcoramphus papa*)—3 soaring birds seen in good light from forest tower

### KITES, EAGLES & HAWKS: ACCIPITRIDAE

Snail Kite (*Rostrhamus sociabilis*)—1 juvenile bird hanging around Añanguyacu; where did the others go?

Slender-billed Kite (*Rostrhamus hamatus*)—Pairs and up to 5-6 seen on three days; heard daily

Double-toothed Kite (*Harpagus bidentatus*)—3 separate sightings including a bird following a troop of White-fronted Capuchin monkeys at the Napo "saladero"

Plumbeous Kite (*Ictinia plumbea*)—small numbers seen perched and soaring around on four separate days

Crane Hawk (*Geranospiza caerulescens*)—1 bird flying overhead on Aug. 9

Slate-colored Hawk (*Leucopternis schistaceus*)—Nice looks at perched and flying birds (at least 4 sightings) mainly from forest canopy tower

**Black-faced Hawk** (*Leucopternis melanops*)—A perched (most of the morning) individual scoped from forest canopy tower

Roadside Hawk (*Buteo magnirostris*)—Singles seen only twice (same bird?) from forest canopy tower

**Black-and-white Hawk-Eagle** (*Spizastur melanoleucus*)—First seen on Aug. 8 soaring rather

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distantly from forest canopy tower; then scoped somewhat distantly but nicely while perched from the same tower on Aug. 11

Black Hawk-Eagle (*Spizaetus tyrannus*)—Two separate sightings (same as previous species) from the forest canopy tower

Ornate Hawk-Eagle (*Spizaetus ornatus*)—fairly distant soaring bird seen from Forest canopy tower on Aug. 11

FALCONS & CARACARAS: FALCONIDAE

Black Caracara (*Daptrius ater*)—Several seen; best perched along Añanguyacu

**Red-throated Caracara** (*Ibycter americanus*)—Wonderful close pair from forest canopy tower (Its crazy call caused a tremendous stir in several species of oropendolas); another seen on Aug. 12

Yellow-headed Caracara (*Milvago chimachima*)—6 seen along the Río Napo on our boat trip to NWC, others also seen along napo river on other days

Laughing Falcon (*Herpetotheres cachinnans*)—At least 1 bird calling and scoped from forest canopy tower

Bat Falcon (*Falco ruficularis*)—1 bird flying and perched around the lodge; **excellent** scope views from lodge canopy tower

CURASSOWS & GUANS: CRACIDAE

Speckled Chachalaca (*Ortalis guttata*)—Heard and several seen; always in trees and shrubs near water

Blue-throated Piping-Guan (*Pipile cumanensis*)—1 seen well along Añanguyacu near lodge

RAILS, GALLINULES & COOTS: RALLIDAE

Rufous-sided Crake (*Laterallus melanophaius*)—Heard only from lake-edge vegetation

Gray-necked Wood-Rail (*Aramides cajanea*)—Heard only back in varzea edge along Añanguyacu

FINFOOTS: HELIORNITHIDAE

Sungrebe (*Heliornis fulica*)—3-4 seen along Añanguyacu in afternoon on Aug. 8 including one close-up sleeping bird; another swimming out into Añangucocha on foggy morning of Aug. 12 departure

LIMPKINS: ARAMIDAE

Limpkin (*Aramus guarauna*)—Quite a few sightings with up to 5 birds seen at once; mainly lake edge and along Añanguyacu

SANDPIPERS, SNIPES & PHALAROPES: SCOLOPACIDAE

Greater Yellowlegs (*Tringa melanoleuca*)—1 bird on sandbar seen from forest “saladero” landing

Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularia*)—2 sightings along the Río Napo

Pectoral Sandpiper (*Calidris melanotos*)—19 birds on sandbank on the Rio Napo on Aug. 11 across from community trail; another 8 in flight along Rio Napo en route to Coca

LAPWINGS & PLOVERS: CHARADRIIDAE

Southern Lapwing (*Vanellus chilensis*)—1 bird seen at Coca airstrip upon arrival

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Collared Plover (*Charadrius collaris*)—1 bird seen as a fly-by along Rio Napo on return trip

GULLS & TERNS: LARIDAE

Yellow-billed Tern (*Sterna superciliaris*)—Fairly common (from 3-6) seen along the Río Napo on all river excursions

PIGEONS & DOVES: COLUMBIDAE

Pale-vented Pigeon (*Patagioenas*[*Columba*] *cayennensis*)—Generally small numbers seen regularly around Añangucocha

Ruddy Pigeon (*Patagioenas*[*Columba*] *subvinacea*)—Heard only on two days along Napo Trail and Añanguyacu

Plumbeous Pigeon (*Patagioenas*[*Columba*] *plumbea*)—Heard often; 3 seen (scoped) from forest canopy tower and again at Rio Napo landing—note: light iris

**Gray-fronted Dove** (*Leptotila rufaxilla*)—1 scoped at close range on nest along Tiputini Trail; others heard occasionally

PARROTS & MACAWS: PSITTACIDAE

**Blue-and-yellow Macaw** (*Ara ararauna*)—Fairly common and seen almost daily; but spectacular looks at trio flying around us at forest canopy tower can't be beat!!

Scarlet Macaw (*Ara macao*)—Heard only (only faint silhouette could be perceived through the trees) along Tiputini Trail

**Red-and-green Macaw** (*Ara chloroptera*)—1 perched bird scoped from forest canopy tower; a species that is becoming more and more scarce throughout its range

Chestnut-fronted Macaw (*Ara severa*)—Several fly-bys; two hung around the forest canopy tower during our two morning visits affording great scope looks

Red-bellied Macaw (*Orthopsittaca manilata*)—Fairly common in varzea areas and flying over other habitats; recorded daily

Dusky-headed Parakeet (*Aratinga weddellii*)—Some 30 or so at the Napo “saladero”

Cobalt-winged Parakeet (*Brotogeris cyanoptera*)—The most common psittacid in the area; very large numbers seen at close range (almost hit us!!) at forest “saladero”

**Black-headed Parrot** (*Pionites melanocephala*)—Nice looks at 3 (of a group of 5) feeding and arriving on along Añanguyacu on Aug. 7; at least one more from the forest canopy tower

**Orange-cheeked Parrot** (*Pionopsitta barrabandi*)—1 quick fly-by from forest canopy tower; then GREAT close looks at 5 from blind at forest “saladero”

Blue-headed Parrot (*Pionus menstruus*)—Only a group of 20 seen around Napo “saladero”, but did not come in close

Yellow-crowned Amazon (*Amazona ochrocephala*)—Pair seen as fly-bys; then some 10 seen around Napo “saladero”

Mealy Amazon (*Amazona farinosa*)—Several seen on three separate days; forest canopy tower and also at Napo “saladero” though they never came in for close look

CUCKOOS & ANIS: CUCULIDAE

Squirrel Cuckoo (*Piaya cayana*)—3 seen in all; the most commonly seen *Piaya* throughout Ecuador

**Black-bellied Cuckoo** (*Piaya melanogaster*)—Nice looks at 1 in the canopy of varzea edge along Añanguyacu (Aug. 8)—a strange habitat for this terra firme-loving species

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Little Cuckoo (*Piaya minuta*)—1 briefly seen flying into rank vegetation along Añanguyacu (Aug. 8)

Greater Ani (*Crotophaga major*)—Common in vegetation along water's edge

Smooth-billed Ani (*Crotophaga ani*)—Small numbers seen at lodge and in mainly altered habitats

HOATZIN: OPISTHOCOMIDAE

**Hoatzin** (*Opisthocomus hoazin*)—This bizarre, primitive-looking bird (always a favorite) is common around lake and streams though not always so easy to see

TYPICAL OWLS: STRIGIDAE

Tropical Screech-Owl (*Megascops[Otus] choliba*)—Heard on several nights at NWC lodge

Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl (*Glaucidium brasilianum*)—1 calling bird scoped along the community trail; others heard on all but one day

POTOOS: NYCTIBIIDAE

Great Potoo (*Nyctibius grandis*)—1 bird “glued” to his same perch; another also seen looking typically stumplike, both along the Añanguyacu

Common Potoo (*Nyctibius griseus*)—1 seen perched on horizontal branch over head along Añanguyacu on 7 Aug.

NIGHTHAWKS & NIGHTJARS: CAPRIMULGIDAE

Short-tailed Nighthawk (*Lurocalis semitorquatus*)—Group of 5 flying over Añanguyacu on 9 Aug.

Pauraque (*Nyctidromus albicollis*)—Heard basically every night and dawn; one seen very well at close range in lakeside vegetation near the lodge

SWIFTS: APODIDAE

White-collared Swift (*Streptoprocne zonaris*)—Several small bands (up to 15) flying overhead, especially seen from forest canopy tower

Short-tailed Swift (*Chaetura brachyura*)—A fairly common swift seen on several days; short stubby body (appears tail-less)

Gray-rumped Swift (*Chaetura cinereiventris*)—Groups of 6-10 individuals seen in their characteristic rapid, bat-like flight on 10-11 Aug.

Pale-rumped Swift (*Chaetura egregia*)—\*

Neotropical Palm-Swift (*Tachornis squamata*)—Very common with large numbers seen daily

HUMMINGBIRDS: TROCHILIDAE

Rufous-breasted Hermit (*Glaucis hirsuta*)—At least 1 bird seen rapidly while feeding along Añanguyacu

Great-billed Hermit (*Phaethornis malaris*)—Heard only near the forest “saladero”

**Reddish Hermit** (*Phaethornis ruber*)—Excellent close looks at this minute species, perched just overhead along Añanguyacu on Aug. 8

White-necked Jacobin (*Florisuga mellivora*)—At least 2 individuals seen (twice) feeding in flowering canopy tree from forest canopy tower

**Black-bellied Thorntail** (*Popelairia langsdorffi*)—1 male seen rather briefly feeding on pink canopy flowers from forest canopy tower on two days

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Blue-tailed Emerald (*Chlorostilbon mellisugus*)—1 male scoped from forest canopy tower

Fork-tailed Woodnymph (*Thalurania furcata*)—1 female seen briefly but well on Aug. 11

**Rufous-throated Sapphire** (*Hylocharis sapphirina*)—2 males of this rare species (in Ecuador) at pink canopy flowers from forest canopy tower; nice scope views too.

Glittering-throated Emerald (*Amazilia fimbriata*)—Only 1 of this rather common species seen at the Napo landing area on Aug. 11

Black-eared Fairy (*Heliothryx aurita*)—At least 1 individual seen well several times from forest canopy tower; another seen along Añanguyacu on our last morning

TROGONS & QUETZALS: TROGONIDAE

Black-tailed Trogon (*Trogon melanurus*)—2 single birds seen in subcanopy; Añanguyacu and Napo Trail, others heard

Amazonian White-tailed Trogon (*Trogon viridis*)—2 single birds seen in subcanopy; Añanguyacu

**Blue-crowned Trogon** (*Trogon violaceus*)—A responsive pair called in along Añanguyacu affording nice looks; the least common of the NWC trogons

KINGFISHERS: ALCEDINIDAE

Ringed Kingfisher (*Ceryle torquata*)—Common and conspicuous daily along Añanguyacu mostly

Amazon Kingfisher (*Chloroceryle amazona*)—5- 6 sightings of this fairly large kingfisher along Añanguyacu mostly

Green Kingfisher (*Chloroceryle americana*)—3 sightings of this miniature of Amazon Kingfisher in more open habitat along Añanguyacu

**Green-and-rufous Kingfisher** (*Chloroceryle inda*)—This normally uncommon species is rather common at NWC—at least 14 (!) sightings including very close views

**American Pygmy Kingfisher** (*Chloroceryle aenea*)—Adorable, though not often seen; 2 individuals seen along Añanguyacu including unbelievable close looks

MOTMOTS: MOMOTIDAE

Blue-crowned Motmot (*Momotus momota*)—Heard only, along Napo Trail on two days

JACAMARS: GALBULIDAE

White-eared Jacamar (*Galbalcyrrhynchus leucotis*)—A nice family group (?) was seen around the Napo River landing area on three visits with up to 7 birds being seen; an amazing and adorable little species

**Yellow-billed Jacamar** (*Galbula albirostris*)—Another adorable jacamar; fine, close looks at 1 along the Tiputini Trail

White-chinned Jacamar (*Galbula tombacea*)—Singles and pairs seen and heard almost daily along Añanguyacu including close views

**Purplish Jacamar** (*Galbula chalcothorax*)—Fine scope views of 1 calling bird along the Napo Trail on Aug. 11

PUFFBIRDS: BUCCONIDAE

Chestnut-capped Puffbird (*Bucco macrodactylus*)—1 seen (fairly high in subcanopy along

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Añanguyacu on our last morning

**Brown Nunlet** (*Nonnula brunnea*)—A pair of this inconspicuous understory species with a small mixed foraging flock near forest “saladero” on Aug. 9

Black-fronted Nunbird (*Monasa nigrifrons*)—Fairly common; 1-5 heard and or seen on at least four days

White-fronted Nunbird (*Monasa morphoeus*)—Quite a few of this terra firme species seen this time; Napo Trail, Tiputini Trail, and Añanguyacu; this species is a forest flock leader

Swallow-wing (*Chelidoptera tenebrosa*)—Common on bare snags along the Rio Napo banks

NEW WORLD BARBETS: CAPITONIDAE

Scarlet-crowned Barbet (*Capito aurovirens*)—Striking varzea species seen fairly often and very well mostly along Añanguyacu on most days

Gilded Barbet (*Capito auratus*)—Several sightings (mostly pairs) of this attractive terra firme species

TOUCANS: RAMPHASTIDAE

Chestnut-eared Aracari (*Pteroglossus castanotis*)—Heard only this time from Napo landing area

Many-banded Aracari (*Pteroglossus pluricinctus*)—The most common aracari in the area; scoped and seen almost daily; best from forest canopy tower

Lettered Aracari (*Pteroglossus inscriptus*)—Small group of 3-4 scoped from forest canopy tower

Ivory-billed Aracari (*Pteroglossus flavirostris*)—Fairly common, including excellent scoped views; mainly from forest canopy tower

Channel-billed Toucan (*Ramphastos vitellinus*)—Heard only on a few occasions; several seen, including scoped views from forest canopy tower

White-throated Toucan (*Ramphastos tucanus*)—Also called Red-billed Toucan by some authors. Common, seen and heard daily; the largest toucan in Ecuador

WOODPECKERS: PICIDAE

Cream-colored Woodpecker (*Celeus flavus*)—Nice family group of 3 called in close to forest canopy tower then seen later as they fed leisurely in large flowering tree

Ringed Woodpecker (*Celeus torquatus*)—Heard only from forest canopy tower; non-responsive

Rufous-headed Woodpecker (*Celeus spectabilis*)—1 bird unfortunately only glimpsed as it decoyed to tape but under cover; seen best perhaps in flight; Napo landing area

Lineated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus lineatus*)—Several seen and/or heard daily

Yellow-tufted Woodpecker (*Melanerpes cruentatus*)—Only 3 of this beautiful and usually common species, but seen at amazingly close range—spectacular!

Little Woodpecker (*Veniliornis passerinus*)—At least 1 along Añangu community trail

Crimson-crested Woodpecker (*Campephilus melanoleucos*)—The common, large woodpecker in the area; mostly females seen

OVENBIRDS: FURNARIIDAE

Chestnut-winged Hookbill (*Ancistrops strigilatus*)—1 seen with mixed flock near forest “saladero”

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**Short-billed Leaf-tosser** (*Sclerurus ruficularis*)—1 seen quite well feeding on the ground along Tiputini Trail

Black-tailed Leaf-tosser (*Sclerurus caudacutus*)—1 heard only along Napo Trail

WOODCREEPERS: DENDROCOLAPTIDAE

Wedge-billed Woodcreeper (*Glyphorhynchus spirurus*)—1 individual only of this normally common species with mixed flock along the Tiputini Trail

Long-billed Woodcreeper (*Nasica longirostris*)—Spectacular; 2 separate birds called in along Añanguyacu on Aug. 8 and 11

Cinnamon-throated Woodcreeper (*Dendrexetastes rufigula*)—At least 2 birds with mixed foraging flock along the Tiputini Trail

Amazonian Barred-Woodcreeper (*Dendrocolaptes certhia*)—Heard along the Napo Trail; then 1 seen well with mixed foraging flock along the Tiputini Trail

Straight-billed Woodcreeper (*Xiphorhynchus picus*)—1 seen well along Añanguyacu

Striped Woodcreeper (*Xiphorhynchus obsoletus*)—Heard only on two days along Añanguyacu

Ocellated Woodcreeper (*Xiphorhynchus ocellatus*)—1 seen well with mixed foraging flock along Tiputini Trail

Elegant Woodcreeper (*Xiphorhynchus elegans*)—2 calling birds seen fairly well along Añanguyacu. There is quite a bit of confusion with the Spix's/Elegant Woodcreeper complex (*X. spixii-elegans*) and this may not be decided for some time to come, but some authors consider the birds found in Ecuador Spix's and other Elegant, and the relationship between these are not clear.

Buff-throated Woodcreeper (*Xiphorhynchus guttatus*)—Heard often and at least 2 birds seen along the Napo and Tiputini Trail

TYPICAL ANT BIRDS: THAMNOPHILIDAE

Fasciated Antshrike (*Cymbilaimus lineatus*)—1 male seen very well along the Tiputini trail

Great Antshrike (*Taraba major*)—A pair was seen well along Añanguyacu

**Castelnau's Antshrike** (*Thamnophilus cryptoleucus*)—1 male of this strictly island-dwelling species was came in to tape recording and was seen well in vegetation at the shore of a river island along the Rio Napo

Plain-winged Antshrike (*Thamnophilus schistaceus*)—Heard only in canopy near the forest "saladero"

Mouse-colored Antshrike (*Thamnophilus murinus*)—1 seen in subcanopy of terra firme forest along the Napo Trail on Aug. 11

Dusky-throated Antshrike (*Thamnomanes ardesiacus*)—A single male and later a pair seen on separate days along the Napo and Tiputini Trails; a typical understory flock leader

Cinereus Antshrike (*Thamnomanes caesius*)—A pair seen near the forest "salader"; a typical understory flock leader

Pygmy Antwren (*Myrmotherula brachyura*)—Heard only along Napo and Tiputini Trails

Plain-throated Antwren (*Myrmotherula huxwelli*)—single males seen twice (also others heard) in understory near forest "saladero" and along Tiputini Trail

White-flanked Antwren (*Myrmotherula axillaris*)—1 male seen well with understory flock near forest "saladero" and a pair seen along Tiputini trail

Gray Antwren (*Myrmotherula menestriesii*)—Several sightings of pairs and a single male in subcanopy along Napo and Tiputini trails as well as near forest "saladero"

**Banded Antbird** (*Dichrozona cincta*)—An adorable little bird; seen well on the ground along the

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Tiputini Trail

Gray Antbird (*Cercomacra cinerascens*)—Heard a few times, always in dense subcanopy vies and tangles

Black-faced Antbird (*Myrmoborus myotherinus*)—Males seen well (scoped at close range!) near forest “saladero”

**Dot-backed Antbird** (*Hylophylax punctulata*)—Nice pair showed up along Añanguyacu during our entrance to NWC; another spectacular male seen along Cariañangu on our last morning

Silvered Antbird (*Sclateria naevia*)—Nice looks at a pair seen closely at dawn along shoreline vegetation along Añanguyacu

Plumbeous Antbird (*Myrmeciza hyperythra*)—Nice looks, first at 1 male along Añanguyacu as we entered towards NWC; then again a 3 in stream-side varzea vegetation along Cariañangu on last morning; others heard

White-shouldered Antbird (*Myrmeciza melanoceps*)—Heard fairly often at Napo landing area and community trail; 1 seen well along community trail area

Lunulated Antbird (*Gymnopithys lunulata*)—Heard only along Napo Trail on Aug. 8

GROUND ANTBIRDS: FORMICARIIDAE

Striated Antthrush (*Chamaeza nobilis*)— Heard only; along the Napo Trail and from forest canopy tower

Ochre-striped Antpitta (*Grallaria dignissima*)—We tried pretty hard for this one, but alas, only heard along Napo Trail

TAPACULOS: RHINOCRYPTIDAE

Rusty-belted Tapaculo (*Liosceles thoracicus*)—Heard only a couple of times, along Napo Trail; unresponsive this time after a fair bout

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS: TYRANNIDAE

**White-lored Tyrannulet** (*Ornithion inerme*)—Nice looks at this rather scarce species in our forest canopy tower tree on Aug. 8

Golden-faced Tyrannulet (*Zimmerius chrysops*)—1 seen from forest canopy tower; Aug. 11

Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet (*Camptostoma obsoletum*)—Heard only briefly near lodge along Añanguyacu

Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet (*Tyrannulus elatus*)—Heard a few times; 1 seen around Napo landing area

Yellow-crowned Elaenia (*Myiopagis flavivertex*)—Heard only on two days along Añanguyacu

**Yellow-browed Tody-Flycatcher** (*Todirostrum chrysocrotaphum*)—1 bird came in close in our forest canopy tree on Aug. 11

Amazonian Royal-Flycatcher (*Onychorhynchus coronatus*)—Heard; It came and went so fast, nobody got to actually see it!; Tiputini Trail

Drab Water-Tyrant (*Ochthornis littoralis*)—A couple of singles and a pair were seen along shores of Río Napo on three days

Cinnamon Attila (*Attila cinnamomeus*)—Heard often in varzea habitats; singles seen well along Añanguyacu, and Tiputini Trail (at edge of preferred habitat)

**Citron-bellied Attila** (*Attila citriniventris*)—Heard along Napo Trail; 2 seen nicely along Tiputini Trail

Grayish Mourner (*Rhytipterna simplex*)—Heard only, from forest canopy tower

Eastern Sirystes (*Sirystes sibilator*)—2 seen at very close range in forest canopy tower tree

## NWC Field Check-List

Great Kiskadee (*Pitangus sulphuratus*)—Only few seen almost daily in more open areas near water; not that conspicuous this time

Lesser Kiskadee (*Philohydor lictor*)—A few seen daily, always near water

Boat-billed Flycatcher (*Megarhynchus pitangua*)—Singles seen mostly from near the Napo landing area

Social Flycatcher (*Myiozetetes similis*)—Only two or so seen along the community trail area

Gray-capped Flycatcher (*Myiozetetes granadensis*)—small numbers seen almost daily, mostly near the Napo landing area

Streaked Flycatcher (*Myiodynastes maculatus*)—A pair seen repeatedly and at close range at a fruiting tree at the Napo landing area. Also, what looked like Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher (*Myiodynastes luteiventris*) was also seen at this same site, though this would be out of season for the species

Variiegated Flycatcher (*Empidonomus varius*)—1 seen (an austral migrant )at the same fruiting tree as the previous account at Napo landing area

Crowned Slaty-Flycatcher (*Griseotyrannus aurantioatrocristatus*)—At least 5 of this austral migrant (excellent scope views too); best from forest canopy tower

Sulphury Flycatcher (*Tyrannopsis sulphurea*)—1 bird seen from the forest canopy tower (not near Moriche Palm!)

Tropical Kingbird (*Tyrannus melancholicus*)—Fairly common; seen daily

Black-tailed Tityra (*Tityra cayana*)—Several seen at various locations in the area; scope views included

## COTINGAS: COTINGIDAE

**White-browed Purpletuff** (*Iodopleura isabellae*)—1 wonderful pair seen (scoped too) at very close range on two days from forest canopy tower (came right over to check us out!)

Screaming Piha (*Lipaugis vociferans*)—Heard and 1 scoped along Tiputini Trail

**Plum-throated Cotinga** (*Cotinga maynana*)—1 stunning male was seen a few times from forest canopy tower on Aug. 8

**Spangled Cotinga** (*Cotinga cayana*)—Repeated scope views of at least 3-5 males from forest canopy tower; also a juvenile male there on Aug. 10; others seen on Aug. 11

Bare-necked Fruitcrow (*Gymnoderus foetidus*)—Group of at least 3 seen fairly well from the forest canopy tower

Purple-throated Fruitcrow (*Querula purpurata*)—Heard in a few places, a female came in to imitation of its call along the Tiputini Trail

## MANAKINS: PIPRIDAE

Golden-headed Manakin (*Pipra erythrocephala*)—1 female plumaged bird seen with mixed foraging flock near forest “saladero”

**Wire-tailed Manakin** (*Pipra filicauda*)—Spectacular looks at an extremely accomodating male near forest “saladero”—you could not ask for more!

White-crowned Manakin (*Dixiphia pipra*)—1 male scoped nicely at its lek along Tiputini Trail

Blue-crowned Manakin (*Lepidothrix coronata*)—Nice looks at single males on two days (also scoped) near forest “saladero” and along Napo Trail

Blue-backed Manakin (*Chiroxiphia pareola*)—At least 1 male seen (also scoped) along the Napo Trail

Striped Manakin (*Machaeropterus regulus*)—Heard only; unresponsive along Tiputini Trail

NWC Field Check-List

JAYS: CORVIDAE

Violaceous Jay (*Cyanocorax violaceus*)—Seen and heard daily, generally common though not always seen well; Exceptionally close views upon arrival to Napo landing area of 3 birds that came in to feed in fruiting tree

THRUSHES: TURDIDAE

Black-billed Thrush (*Turdus ignobilis*)—Only 1 bird along the community trail area

MARTINS & SWALLOWS: HIRUNDINIDAE

Brown-chested Martin (*Progne tapera*)—5 or so around the Río Napo dock and bridge in the Coca area; seen on first and last days

Gray-breasted Martin (*Progne chalybea*)—Relatively small numbers (3-5) mainly in the Coca area

White-winged Swallow (*Tachycineta albiventer*)—This attractive swallow was seen daily in small numbers, mainly near the lodge

White-banded Swallow (*Atticora fasciata*)—This very attractive swallow was fairly common along the Río Napo

Southern Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*)—2 birds seen along Rio Napo on Aug. 12

Bank Swallow/Sand Martin (*Riparia riparia*)—Small group of 3 seen along Rio Napo on Aug. 12

WRENS: TROGLODYTIDAE

Black-capped Donacobius (*Donacobius atricapillus*)—This charming and noisy species was common in the aquatic vegetation that border the lake and streams throughout the area

Thrush-like Wren (*Campylorhynchus turdinus*)—Heard near the Napo landing area; later 3 seen along the community trail

Coraya Wren (*Thryothorus coraya*)—At least one seen as it skulked through thick stream-edge vegetation along Añanguyacu

Buff-breasted Wren (*Thryothorus leucotis*)—At least 1 bird seen fairly well from canoe along Añanguyacu on first day

House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*)—Heard around camp on several days

Southern Nightingale-Wren (*Microcerculus marginatus*)—Also known by some authors as Scale-breasted Wren; heard only along Tiputini Trail

GNATCATCHERS: POLIOPTILIDAE

Tropical Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila plumbea*)—1 female seen along Añanguyacu on Aug. 11

TANAGERS & HONEYCREEPERS: THRAUPIDAE

Purple Honeycreeper (*Cyanerpes caeruleus*)—A pair seen with previous species in pink flowering tree from forest canopy tower on Aug. 11

**Short-billed Honeycreeper** (*Cyanerpes nitidus*)—family group of 6 seen extremely well from forest canopy tower on two days

Green Honeycreeper (*Chlorophanes spiza*)—At least a pair seen repeatedly from forest canopy tower on two days

Blue Dacnis (*Dacnis cayana*)—2-3 birds (including a pair) seen beatifully on several occasions from forest canopy tower

## NWC Field Check-List

- Yellow-bellied Dacnis (*Dacnis flaviventer*)—1 male seen and scoped along Tiputini Trail
- Thick-billed Euphonia (*Euphonia laniirostris*)—1 male seen from forest canopy tower on Aug. 11
- White-lored Euphonia (*Euphonia chrysopasta*)—singles (both males and females) seen from forest canopy tower and along Tiputini Trail
- Orange-bellied Euphonia (*Euphonia xanthogaster*)—1 male seen around Napo landing area
- White-vented Euphonia (*Euphonia minuta*)—A pair scoped along Tiputini Trail on Aug. 10
- Rufous-bellied Euphonia (*Euphonia rufiventris*)—A pair and a single male scoped from forest canopy tower on two days
- Turquoise Tanager (*Tangara mexicana*)—Pair scoped along community trail on Aug. 11
- Masked Tanager (*Tangara nigrocincta*)—At least 1 seen along community trail
- Opal-rumped Tanager (*Tangara velia*)—Good looks at 1-2 from forest canopy tower and in out tree on two days
- Opal-crowned Tanager (*Tangara callophrys*)—Fine looks at up to 4 from forest canopy tower and in our tree on two days
- Blue-gray Tanager (*Thraupis episcopus*)—Common lowland species though not real numerous at NWC; several seen on three days; this race with white in the wing
- Palm Tanager (*Thraupis palmarum*)—Similar to Blue-gray Tanager this trip; some people say this is not really a pretty bird!
- Silver-beaked Tanager (*Ramphocelus carbo*)—A generally common Amazonian species, though only small numbers seen at NWC this trip
- Masked Crimson Tanager (*Ramphocelus nigrigularis*)—Spectacularly colorful; small group hung around lodge; also seen elsewhere, always near water
- Red-crowned Ant-Tanager (*Habia rubica*)—1 male seen quite well along Tiputini Trail
- Flame-crested Tanager (*Tachyphonus cristatus*)—1 male scoped from forest canopy tower (Aug. 8)
- Magpie Tanager (*Cissopis leveriana*)—Pairs seen (including scoped views) at Napo landing and along Añangu community trail

## SALTATORS, CARDINALS & ALLIES: CARDINALIDAE

- Grayish Saltator (*Saltator coerulescens*)—Pair seen well from canoe in vegetation on bank on Rio Napo river island
- Yellow-shouldered Grosbeak** (*Parkerthraustes humeralis*)—Excellent and repeated views of a pair of this rather scarce canopy species from forest canopy tower; and even in our tree!

## AMERICAN ORIOLES & BLACKBIRDS: ICTERIDAE

- Yellow-rumped Cacique (*Cacicus cela*)—Very common and noisy; seen daily
- Casqued Oropendola** (*Psarocolius oseryi*)—Fine looks at up to 14 (especially when riled by Red-throated Caracara call) from forest canopy tower on two days
- Crested Oropendola (*Psarocolius decumanus*)—One of the 2 most common oropendolas in the area
- Russet-backed Oropendola (*Psarocolius angustifrons*)—The most common oropendola in the area
- Green Oropendola** (*Psarocolius viridis*)—A pair seen and scoped repeatedly from the forest canopy tower on two days
- Giant Cowbird (*Scaphidura oryzivora*)—3 seen along Rio Napo, near NWC landing area; 6 seen from forest canopy tower on Aug. 8
- Moriche Oriole (*Icterus chryscephalus*)—1 seen from forest canopy tower on Aug. 8

NWC Field Check-List

Orange-backed Troupial (*Icterus croconotus*)—Pair seen well (scoped) at Napo landing area; another seen along Añangu community trail

Oriole Blackbird (*Gymnomystax mexicanus*)—Singles seen on river island along the Río Napo on two days

**MAMMALS & OTHER CREATURES**

SLOTHS: BRADYPODIDAE & MEGALONGYCHIDAE

Brown-throated 3-toed Sloth (*Bradypus variegatus*)—1 seen(scoped) from forest canopy tower on Aug. 11

**Southern 2-toed Sloth** (*Choloepus didactylus*)—1 fine fellow climbing and feeding right above us along Añanguyacu on Aug. 11

MARMOSETS AND TAMARINS: CALLITRICHIDAE

**Golden-mantled Tamarin** (*Saguinus tripartitus*)—Seen a few times; from forest canopy tower and most memorable a great close group crossed near us along the Napo Trail, backing down a liana to have a better look at us

NEW WORLD MONKEYS: CEBIDAE

**Common Squirrel Monkey** (*Saimiri sciureus*)—Several fairly large troops seen; amazingly tame, even sitting right over our canoe while gulping down fruit (them, not us!) on a couple of occasions

**White-fronted Capuchin** (*Cebus albifrons*)—Several fairly large troops seen; also very tame—seemingly moreso every trip

Red Howler Monkey (*Alouatta seniculus*)—At least 6 scoped from forest canopy tower; their characteristic call also heard a few times

**Monk Saki** (*Pithecia monachus*)—A pair of this rather “stand-offish” species watched us and gave an alarm as they moved off fairly quickly, not before giving us pretty good looks

SHEATH-TAILED BATS: EMBALLONURIDAE

Long-nosed Bat (*Rhynchonycteris naso*)—At least 1 flying around the lodge dock on Aug. 8

BULLDOG BATS: NOCTILLIONIDAE

Bulldog [Fishing] Bat (*Noctilio sp.*)—Large numbers flying all around us at dusk along Añanguyacu on two evenings

WEASELS, OTTERS AND ALLIES: MUSTELIDAE

Giant Otter (*Lutra longicaudis*)—Heard only at very close range; would not come in to tape recording; from dense shoreline vegetation along Añanguyacu

**OTHER CREATURES**

**Caimen Lizard** (*Dracaena guianensis*)—Singles seen closely along Añanguyacu on two days

Black Caiman (*Melanosuchus niger*)—Eye-shine seen distantly on the lake

Yellow-spotted Turtle (*Podocnemis unifilis*)—1 seen briefly as we coasted by along Rio Napo

NWC Field Check-List

shoreline