

VICTOR EMANUEL NATURE TOURS, INC.

GRAND VENEZUELA
February 17 – March 6, 2007
Leader: Steve Hilty

A final dinner review of highlights and best birds or experiences of our trip revealed, as expected, a diverse array of comments, but there was almost unanimous support for one event—a defining moment, perhaps, of what nature travel in new and exotic lands brings to those who take the time to look. That moment was when a lovely pair of Pearl Kites came to sit and watch us (or so it seemed) in the desert. We have no inkling of what triggered their arrival or what thoughts, if any, fired across the neuronal synapses in their tiny brains as they watched our gathering, but we do know that, for us, it was one of those rare moments when the lives of birds and humans seem to transcend boundaries.

Deserts everywhere are magical at dawn, for it is a time when birds are active and songful, and cool breezes caress and give life to a spare land that stands in sharp focus. At dawn, desert air is crisp and clean, not tortured by withering heat and deceptive images sculptured in shimmering waves of light. It is a time when sounds are clear and minds eager with anticipation, even urgency, because we know that soon the moment will be lost. Soon a white-hot sun will draw up the last drops of morning dew, silence the morning chorus, and lend strength to fickle winds that bring dull haze and grit to a land that waits colorless and silent in withering midday heat.

We were mindful of this “dawn” urgency because we knew these moments would not last. So, while we were busily trying to see a furtive White-whiskered Spinetail that moved with tantalizing stealth in a dense shrub, two kites, unbeknownst to us, came to perch on adjacent cardon cactuses that stood like sentinels on the opposite roadside. With backs turned and attentions distracted, we were unaware of the presence of these ethereal creatures until someone turned and noticed them, whereupon we immediately lost interest in the spinetail, not incidentally one of the most dramatically marked of its genus. But the spinetail, with its perverse habits and furtive nature, was no match for this sight of the angelic kites—lovely creatures exuding a kind of charisma and disarming fearlessness as they sat so close, contemplating us from atop thorny perches. Fluffing, turning their heads, occasionally preening, and forever peering down at us through dark red eyes and visual acuity beyond human imagination, it was as if they were attempting to comprehend the mass of shuffling creatures beneath them. We stared back through Zeiss- and Leica-equipped eyes.

Did they know, or could they comprehend what they were seeing? Were they merely curious, or were we intruders to be regarded amicably until contrary evidence was presented? It was, in all regards, one of those rare moments in nature when humans and the birds that they so admire seemed joined in harmony and spirit, in unspoken communication. The kites remained, in kind, to regard their human beholders too,

oblivious to the clatter of cameras and rude unfastening of Velcro, and it was as if neither party wished to break this momentary bond. A Troupial calling on the hillside behind and a Pale-headed Jacamar's shimmery trill in a nearby wash reminded us that this desert had many treasures, but still the kites held us, fixed us with their gazes, and we, in turn, remained transfixed, holding onto this wonderful moment. More than ten minutes passed. Then, without a sound, without warning, the pair took wing, silently, effortlessly moving up the valley.

What else topped our list of nature moments? A half-dozen Agami Herons one morning; a steep descent into the display arena of perhaps 20 Andean Cocks-of-the-rock; exquisitely coiffed Vermilion Cardinals in a desert valley (something about that desert morning); the play of light and dancing colors on a Golden-tailed Starfrontlet; the anticipation and eventual tentative appearance of a Plain-flanked Rail, now (sadly) one of Venezuela's rarest and most endangered species; an exquisite Crested Quetzal in an Andean cloud forest; a Great Potoo mute and immobile on a tree branch; the rush of color and noise of Red-and-green Macaws passing overhead; and perhaps even the near-whisper-quiet emergence of Band-tailed Nighthawks flicking over a llanos river at dusk. All this beauty, at times, seemed to run on a separate, if parallel track, to that of Venezuela's friendly, if brash, human population that seems more concerned with despoiling its environment, or at least ignoring it, than living in harmony with it. Only in the quiet open spaces of the llanos did humans and wildlife seem to coexist with something approaching harmony.

Venezuela is a large and complicated country, complex with humans and their myriad activities, and complex in the myriad habitats and great wealth of birds and wildlife. No single trip can plumb all of the living corridors of life of this remarkable nation, for each region of the country offers new vistas, new wildlife, and new experiences. We hope that you enjoyed this "grand" sample and that you'll want to see more.

This list contains all of the birds and mammals (to the best of my recollection) seen on our 2007 Grand Venezuela tour.

LIST OF SPECIES:

*Red-legged Tinamou	<i>Crypturellus erythropus</i>
*Little Tinamou	<i>Crypturellus soui</i>
*Brown Tinamou	<i>Crypturellus obsoletus</i>
Pied-billed Grebe	<i>Podilymbus podiceps</i>
Brown Pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>
Neotropic Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax olivaceus</i>
Anhinga	<i>Anhinga anhinga</i>
Magnificent Frigatebird	<i>Fregata magnificens</i>
Whistling Heron	<i>Syrigma sibilatrix</i>
Capped Heron	<i>Pilherodius pileatus</i>

Cocoi Heron	<i>Ardea cocoi</i>
Great Egret	<i>Casmerodius albus</i>
Reddish Egret	<i>Egretta rufescens</i>
Tricolored Heron	<i>Hydranassa tricolor</i>
Little Blue Heron	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>
Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>
Cattle Egret	<i>Bulbulcus ibis</i>
Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striatus</i>
Green Heron	<i>Butorides virescens</i>
<u>Agami Heron</u>	<i>Agami agami</i>
Black-crowned Night-Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	<i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>
Boat-billed Heron	<i>Cochlearius cochlearius</i>
Rufescent Tiger-Heron	<i>Tigrisoma lineatus</i>
<u>Pinneated Bittern</u>	<i>Botaurus pinnatus</i>
Wood Stork	<i>Mycteria Americana</i>
Maguari Stork	<i>Euxenura maguari</i>
<u>Jabiru</u>	<i>Jabiru mycteria</i>
Buff-necked Ibis	<i>Theristicus caudatus</i>
<u>Sharp-tailed Ibis</u>	<i>Cercibis oxycerca</i>
Green Ibis	<i>Mesembrinibis cayennensis</i>
Bare-faced Ibis	<i>Phimosus infuscatus</i>
White Ibis	<i>Eudocimus albus</i>
Scarlet Ibis	<i>Eudocimus ruber</i>
Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>
Roseate Spoonbill	<i>Ajaia ajaja</i>
American (Caribbean) Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i>
<u>Horned Screamer</u>	<i>Anhima cornuta</i>
Fulvous Whistling-Duck	<i>Dendrocygna bicolor</i>
White-faced Whistling-Duck	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>
Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	<i>Dendrocygna autumnalis</i>
<u>Orinoco Goose</u>	<i>Neochen jubata</i>
Muscovy Duck	<i>Cairina moschata</i>
Brazilian Duck	<i>Amazonetta brasiliensis</i>
<u>Torrent Duck</u>	<i>Merganetta armata</i>
Andean Teal	<i>Anas flavirostris</i>
White-cheeked Pintail	<i>Anas bahamensis</i>
Blue-winged Teal	<i>Anas discors</i>
Black Vulture	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>
Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>
Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture	<i>Cathartes burrovianus</i>
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>
Hook-billed Kite	<i>Chondrohierax uncinatus</i>

Swallow-tailed Kite	<i>Elanoides forficatus</i>
<u>Pearl Kite</u>	<i>Gampsonyx swainsonii</i>
White-tailed Kite	<i>Elanus leucurus</i>
Snail Kite	<i>Rostrhamus sociabilis</i>
Crane Hawk	<i>Geranospiza caerulescens</i>
White Hawk	<i>Leucopternis albicollis</i>
Common Black-Hawk	<i>Buteogallus anthracinus</i>
Great Black-Hawk	<i>Buteogallus urubitinga</i>
Savanna Hawk	<i>Buteogallus meridionalis</i>
Harris' Hawk	<i>Parabuteo uncinatus</i>
Black-collared Hawk	<i>Busarellus nigricollis</i>
Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle	<i>Geranoaetus melanoleucus</i>
Gray Hawk	<i>Buteo (Asturinus)nitidus</i>
Roadside Hawk	<i>Buteo magnirostris</i>
Broad-winged Hawk	<i>Buteo platypterus</i>
White-rumped Hawk	<i>Buteo leucorrhous</i>
White-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo albicaudatus</i>
<u>Black-and-white Hawk-Eagle</u>	<i>Spizastur melanoleucus</i>
Northern Crested-Caracara	<i>Polyborus cheriway</i>
Yellow-headed Caracara	<i>Milvago chimachima</i>
Laughing Falcon	<i>Herpetotheres cachinnans</i>
<u>Collared Forest-Falcon</u>	<i>Micrastur semitorquatus</i>
American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>
Merlin	<i>Falco columbarius</i>
Bat Falcon	<i>Falco rufigularis</i>
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>
Rufous-vented Chachalaca	<i>Ortalis ruficauda</i>
*Band-tailed Guan	<i>Penelope argyrotis</i>
*Wattled Guan	<i>Aburria aburri</i>
<u>Yellow-knobbed Curassow</u>	<i>Crax daubentoni</i>
<u>Crested Bobwhite</u>	<i>Colinus cristatus</i>
Hoatzin	<i>Opisthocomus hoazin</i>
Limpkin	<i>Aramus guarauna</i>
RUSTY-FLANKED CRAKE (endemic)	<i>Laterallus levraudi</i>
PLAIN-FLANKED RAIL (endemic)	<i>Rallus wetmorei</i>
Gray-necked Wood-Rail	<i>Aramides axillaries</i>
Purple Gallinule	<i>Porphyryla martinica</i>
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>
<u>Sunbittern</u>	<i>Eurypyga helias</i>
Wattled Jacana	<i>Jacana jacana</i>
Black-necked Stilt	<i>Himantopus mexicanus</i>
Double-striped Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus bistriatus</i>
Pied Plover	<i>Hoploxypterus cayanus</i>

Southern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus chilensis</i>
Collared Plover	<i>Charadrius collaris</i>
South American Snipe	<i>Gallinago paraguaiiae</i>
Short-billed Dowitcher	<i>Limnodromus griseus</i>
Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>
Greater Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>
Lesser Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa flavipes</i>
Solitary Sandpiper	<i>Tringa solitaria</i>
Spotted Sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularia</i>
Least Sandpiper	<i>Calidris minutilla</i>
Stilt Sandpiper	<i>Calidris himantopus</i>
Laughing Gull	<i>Larus atricilla</i>
Gull-billed Tern	<i>Sterna nilotica</i>
Royal Tern	<i>Sterna maxima</i>
Yellow-billed Tern	<i>Sterna superciliaris</i>
Large-billed Tern	<i>Phaetusa simplex</i>
Black Skimmer	<i>Rynchops niger</i>
Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>
Bare-eyed Pigeon	<i>Columba corensis</i>
Band-tailed Pigeon	<i>Columba fasciata</i>
Pale-vented Pigeon	<i>Columba cayennensis</i>
Ruddy Pigeon	<i>Columba subvinacea</i>
Eared Dove	<i>Zenaida auriculata</i>
Common Ground-Dove	<i>Columbina passerina</i>
Plain-breasted Ground-Dove	<i>Columbina minuta</i>
Ruddy Ground-Dove	<i>Columbina talpacoti</i>
Scaled Dove	<i>Scardafella squammata</i>
White-tipped Dove	<i>Leptotila verreauxi</i>
*Lined Quail-Dove	<i>Geotrygon linearis</i>
<u>Military Macaw</u>	<i>Ara militaris</i>
Scarlet Macaw	<i>Ara macao</i>
<u>Red-and-green Macaw</u>	<i>Ara chloroptera</i>
Chestnut-fronted Macaw	<i>Ara severa</i>
Scarlet-fronted Parakeet	<i>Aratinga wagleri</i>
Brown-throated Parakeet	<i>Aratinga pertinax</i>
VENEZUELAN PARAKEET (Endemic)	<i>Pyrrhura leucotis emma</i>
BLOOD-EARED PARAKEET (Endemic)	<i>Pyrrhura hoematotis</i>
*ROSE-CROWNED PARAKEET (Endemic)	<i>Pyrrhura rhodocephalus</i>
Green-rumped Parrotlet	<i>Forpus passerinus</i>
Orange-chinned Parakeet	<i>Forpus jugularis</i>
*Lilac-tailed Parrotlet	<i>Touit batavica</i>

Saffron-headed Parrot	<i>Pionopsitta pyrrhina</i>
Blue-headed Parrot	<i>Pionus menstruus</i>
Red-lored Parrot	<i>Amazona autumnalis</i>
Yellow-crowned Parrot	<i>Amazona ochrocephala</i>
Orange-winged Parrot	<i>Amazona amazonica</i>
Squirrel Cuckoo	<i>Piaya cayana</i>
Little Cuckoo	<i>Piaya minuta</i>
Greater Ani	<i>Crotophaga major</i>
Smooth-billed Ani	<i>Crotophaga ani</i>
Groove-billed Ani	<i>Crotophaga sulcirostris</i>
*Striped Cuckoo	<i>Tapera naevia</i>
Pavonine Cuckoo	<i>Dromococcyx pavoninus</i>
Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>
Great Horned Owl	<i>Bubo virginianus</i>
Black-and-white Owl	<i>Ciccaba nigrolineata</i>
Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl	<i>Glaucidium brasilianum</i>
Burrowing Owl	<i>Speotyto cunicularia</i>
Great Potoo	<i>Nyctibius grandis</i>
Short-tailed Nighthawk	<i>Lurocalis semitorquatus</i>
Nacunda Nighthawk	<i>Podager nacunda</i>
Band-tailed Nighthawk	<i>Nyctiprognis leucopyga</i>
Pauraque	<i>Caprimulgus albicollis</i>
Chestnut-collared Swift	<i>Cypseloides natterii</i>
White-collared Swift	<i>Streptoprocne zonaris</i>
Gray-rumped Swift	<i>Chaetura cinereiventris</i>
Vaux's Swift	<i>Chaetura vauxi</i>
Short-tailed Swift	<i>Chaetura brachyura</i>
*White-tipped Swift	<i>Aeronautes montivagus</i>
PYGMY PALM-SWIFT (Endemic to Maracaibo Basin)	<i>Tachornis furcata</i>
Rufous-bellied Hermit	<i>Glaucis hirsuta</i>
Pale-bellied Hermit	<i>Phaethornis anthophilus</i>
Sooty-capped Hermit	<i>Phaethornis augusti</i>
Stripe-throated (Little) Hermit	<i>Phaethornis striigularis</i>
Gray-chinned Hermit	<i>Phaethornis griseogularis</i>
Lazuline Sabrewing	<i>Campylopterus falcatus</i>
Green Violetear	<i>Colibri thalassinus</i>
Black-throated Mango	<i>Anthracothorax nigricollis</i>
Ruby-topaz Hummingbird	<i>Chrysolampis mosquitus</i>
Violet-headed Hummingbird	<i>Klais guimeti</i>
Spangled Coquette	<i>Lophornis stictolophus</i>
Blue-tailed Emerald	<i>Chlorostilbon mellisugus</i>
GREEN-TAILED EMERALD (Endemic)	<i>Chlorostilbon aliciae</i>

Golden-tailed Sapphire	<i>Chrysuronia oenone</i>
Buffy Hummingbird	<i>Leucippus fallax</i>
Rufous-tailed Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia tzacatl</i>
Glittering-throated Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia fimbriata</i>
Steely-vented Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia saucerrottei</i>
Copper-rumped Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia tobaci</i>
White-vented Plumeleteer	<i>Chalybura buffoni</i>
Speckled Hummingbird	<i>Adelomyia melanogenys</i>
Violet-fronted Brilliant	<i>Heliodoxa leadbeateri</i>
Buff-tailed Coronet	<i>Boissonneaua flavescens</i>
Collared Inca	<i>Coeligena torquata</i>
Golden-tailed Starfrontlet	<i>Coeligena eos</i>
Longuemare's Sunangel	<i>Heliangelus clarisse</i>
Orange-throated Sunangel	<i>Heliangelus mavors</i>
Booted Racket-tail	<i>Ocreatus underwoodii</i> ;
Tyrian Metaltail	<i>Metallura tyrianthina</i>
Long-tailed Sylph	<i>Agelaiocercus kingi</i>
Gorgeted Woodstar	<i>Chaetocercus heliodor</i>
Rufous-shafted Woodstar	<i>Chaetocercus jourdani</i>
Collared Trogon	<i>Trogon collaris</i>
Masked Trogon	<i>Trogon personatus</i>
Crested Quetzal	<i>Pharomachrus antisianus</i>
White-tipped Quetzal	<i>Pharomachrus fulgidus</i>
Ringed Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle torquata</i>
Amazon Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle amazona</i>
Green Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle americana</i>
Green-and-rufous Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle inda</i>
American Pygmy Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle aenea</i>
PALE-HEADED JACAMAR (near Endemic)	<i>Brachygalba goeringi</i>
Rufous-tailed Jacamar	<i>Galbula ruficauda</i>
Russet-throated Puffbird	<i>Bucco ruficollis</i>
Emerald Toucanet	<i>Aulacorhynchus prasinus</i>
GROOVE-BILLED TOUCANET (Endemic)	<i>Aulacorhynchus sulcatus</i>
Yellow-billed Toucanet	<i>Aulacorhynchus calorhynchus</i>
Collared Aracari	<i>Pteroglossus torquatus</i>
Channel-billed Toucan	<i>Ramphastos vitellinus</i>
Black-mandibled Toucan	<i>Ramphastos tucanus</i>
Scaled Piculet	<i>Picumnus squamulatus</i>
Red-crowned Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes rubricapillus</i>
Smoky-brown Woodpecker	<i>Veniliornis fumigatus</i>
Red-rumped Woodpecker	<i>Veniliornis kirkii</i>
Golden-olive Woodpecker	<i>Piculus rubiginosus</i>

Crimson-mantled Woodpecker	<i>Piculus rivolii</i>
Lineated Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus lineatus</i>
Crimson-crested Woodpecker	<i>Campephilus melanoleucos</i>
Bar-winged Cinclodes	<i>Cinclodes fuscus</i>
Caribbean Hornero	<i>Furnarius longirostris</i>
Andean Tit-Spinetail	<i>Leptasthenura andicola</i>
White-whiskered Spinetail	<i>Poecilurus candei</i>
Rufous Spinetail	<i>Synallaxis unirufa</i>
BLACK-THROATED SPINETAIL (Endemic)	<i>Synallaxis castanea</i>
Azara's Spinetail	<i>Synallaxis azarae</i>
Pale-breasted Spinetail	<i>Synallaxis albescens</i>
Stripe-breasted Spinetail	<i>Synallaxis cinnamomea</i>
Crested Spinetail	<i>Cranioleuca subcristata</i>
Rusty-backed Spinetail	<i>Cranioleuca vulpine</i>
Yellow-chinned Spinetail	<i>Certhiaxis cinnamomea</i>
OCHRE-BROWED THISTLETAIL (Endemic)	<i>Schizoeaca coryi</i>
Streak-backed Canastero	<i>Asthenes wyatti</i>
Plain Thornbird	<i>Phacellodomus rufifrons</i>
Spotted Barbtail	<i>Premnoplex brunnescens</i>
Plain Xenops	<i>Xenops rutilans</i>
Streaked Xenops	<i>Xenops rutilans</i>
Montane Foliage-gleaner	<i>Anabacerthia striaticollis</i>
Streaked Tuftedcheek	<i>Pseudocolaptes boissonneautii</i>
*GUTTULATED FOLIAGE-GLEANER (Endemic)	<i>Syndactyla guttulata</i>
Buff-fronted Foliage-gleaner	<i>Philydor rufus</i>
*Gray-throated Leaf-tosser	<i>Sclerurus albigularis</i>
Plain-brown Woodcreeper	<i>Dendrocincla fuliginosa</i>
Olivaceous Woodcreeper	<i>Sittasomus griseicapillus</i>
Strong-billed Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphocolaptes promeropirhynchus</i>
Black-banded Woodcreeper	<i>Dendrocolaptes Picumnus</i>
Striped Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphorhynchus obsoletus</i>
Cocoa Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphorhynchus susurrans</i>
Straight-billed Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphorhynchus picus</i>
Streak-headed Woodcreeper	<i>Lepidocolaptes souleyetii</i>
Montane Woodcreeper	<i>Lepidocolaptes lacrymiger</i>
Red-billed Scythebill	<i>Campylorhamphus trochilirostris</i>
Great Antshrike	<i>Taraba major</i>
Black-crested Antshrike	<i>Sakesphorus canadensis</i>
Black-backed Antshrike	<i>Sakesphorus melanonotus</i>
Barred Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus doliatus</i>

Plain Antwreos	<i>Dysithamnus mentalis</i>
VENEZUELAN ANTVIREO (Endemic)	<i>Dysithamnus tucuyensis</i>
Rufous-winged Antwren	<i>Herpsilochmus rufimarginatus</i>
Northern White-fringed Antwren	<i>Formicivora grisea</i>
Slaty Antwren	<i>Myrmotherula schisticolor</i>
White-bellied Antbird	<i>Myrmeciza longipes</i>
*Black-faced Antthrush	<i>Formicarius analis</i>
*Short-tailed Antthrush	<i>Chamaeza campanisona</i>
Chestnut-crowned Antpitta	<i>Grallaria ruficapilla</i>
*Rusty-breasted Antpitta	<i>Grallaria ferrugineipectus</i>
*Slate-crowned Antpitta	<i>Grallaricula nana</i>
*Mérida Tapaculo	<i>Scytalopus meridanus</i>
CARACAS TAPACULO (Endemic)	<i>Scytalopus caracae</i>
Northern White-crowned Tapaculo	<i>Scytalopus bolivianus</i>
Green-and-black Fruiteater	<i>Pipreola riefferii</i>
Golden-breasted Fruiteater	<i>Pipreola aureopectus</i>
Andean Cock-of-the-Rock	<i>Rupicola peruviana</i>
*White-bearded Manakin	<i>Manacus manacus</i>
Lance-tailed Manakin	<i>Chiroxiphia lanceolata</i>
Wire-tailed Manakin	<i>Pipra filicauda</i>
Golden-winged Manakin	<i>Masius chrysopterus</i>
Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet	<i>Camptostoma obsoletum</i>
Mouse-colored Tyrannulet	<i>Phaeomyias murina</i>
Yellow Tyrannulet	<i>Capsiempis flaveola</i>
Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet	<i>Tyrannulus elatus</i>
Forest Elaenia	<i>Myiopagis gaimardii</i>
Yellow-bellied Elaenia	<i>Elaenia flavogaster</i>
Mountain Elaenia	<i>Elaenia frantzii</i>
Torrent Tyrannulet	<i>Serpophaga cinerea</i>
River Tyrannulet	<i>Serpophaga hypoleuca</i>
Slaty-capped Flycatcher	<i>Leptopogon superciliaris</i>
Marble-faced Bristle-Tyrant	<i>Pogonotriccus ophthalmicus</i>
VENEZUELAN BRISTLE-TYRANT (Endemic)	<i>Pogonotriccus venezuelanus</i>
Sooty-headed Tyrannulet	<i>Phyllomyias griseiceps</i>
Tawny-rumped Tyrannulet	<i>Zimmerius uropygialis</i>
Venezuelan Tyrannulet	<i>Zimmerius improbus</i>
Golden-faced Tyrannulet	<i>Zimmerius chrysops</i>
Northern Scrub-Flycatcher	<i>Sublegatus arenarum</i>
White-throated Tyrannulet	<i>Mecocerculus stictopterus</i>
Slender-billed (Tyrannulet) Inezia	<i>Inezia tenuirostris</i>
Pale-tipped (Tyrannulet) Inezia	<i>Inezia subflava</i>
Tawny-crowned Pygmy-Tyrant	<i>Euscarthmus meloryphus</i>

Scale-crested Pygmy-Tyrant	<i>Lophotriccus pileatus</i>
Pale-eyed Pygmy-Tyrant	<i>Lophotriccus</i>
Slate-headed Tody-Flycatcher	<i>Todirostrum sylvia</i>
Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrant	<i>Hemitriccus margaritaceiventer</i>
Common Tody-Flycatcher	<i>Todirostrum cinereum</i>
Yellow-olive (Flycatcher) Flatbill	<i>Tolmomyias sulphurescens</i>
Ochre-ored Flatbill (Yellow-breasted Flycatcher)	<i>Tolmomyias flaviventris</i>
Flavescent Flycatcher	<i>Myiophobus flavicans</i>
Bran-colored Flycatcher	<i>Myiophobus fasciatus</i>
Cinnamon Flycatcher	<i>Pyrrhomyias cinnamomea</i>
Cliff Flycatcher	<i>Hirundinea ferruginea</i>
Fuscous Flycatcher	<i>Cnemotriccus fuscatus</i>
Euler's Flycatcher	<i>Lathrotriccus euleri</i>
Olive-sided Flycatcher	<i>Contopus borealis</i>
Smoke-colored Pewee	<i>Contopus fumigatus</i>
Tropical Pewee	<i>Contopus cinereus</i>
Black Phoebe	<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>
Vermillion Flycatcher	<i>Pyrocephalus rubinus</i>
Brown-backed Chat-Tyrant	<i>Ochthoeca fumicolor</i>
Amazonian Black-Tyrant	<i>Knipolegus poecilocercus</i>
Pied Water-Tyrant	<i>Fluvicola pica</i>
White-headed Marsh-Tyrant	<i>Arundinicola leucocephala</i>
Cattle Tyrant	<i>Machetornis rixosus</i>
Dusky-capped Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus tuberculifer</i>
Short-crested Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus ferox</i>
Brown-crested Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus tyrannulus</i>
Lesser Kiskadee	<i>Pitangus lictor</i>
Great Kiskadee	<i>Pitangus sulphuratus</i>
Boat-billed Flycatcher	<i>Megarynchus pitangua</i>
Rusty-margined Flycatcher	<i>Myiozetetes cayanensis</i>
Social Flycatcher	<i>Myiozetetes similis</i>
Golden-crowned Flycatcher	<i>Myiodynastes chrysocephalus</i>
Streaked Flycatcher	<i>Myiodynastes maculates</i>
Piratic Flycatcher	<i>Legatus leucophaeus</i>
WHITE-BEARDED FLYCATCHER (Endemic)	<i>Phelpsia inornata</i>
Variegated Flycatcher	<i>Empidonomus varius</i>
Tropical Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i>
Gray Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus dominicensis</i>
Fork-tailed Flycatcher	<i>Tyrannus savana</i>
Chestnut-crowned Becard	<i>Pachyramphus castaneus</i>
Cinnamon Becard	<i>Pachyramphus cinnamomeus</i>

Cinereous Becard	<i>Pachyramphus rufus</i>
Gray-breasted Martin	<i>Progne chalybea</i>
White-winged Swallow	<i>Tachycineta albiventer</i>
Blue-and-white Swallow	<i>Notiochelidon cyanoleuca</i>
<u>Pale-footed Swallow</u>	<i>Notiochelidon flavipes</i>
Southern Rough-winged Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx ruficollis</i>
Bank Swallow	<i>Riparia riparia</i>
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
*Yellowish Pipit	<i>Anthus lutescens</i>
White-capped Dipper	<i>Cinclus leucocephalus</i>
Black-capped Donacobius	<i>Donacobius atricapillus</i>
Bicolored Wren	<i>Campylorhynchus griseus</i>
Stripe-backed Wren	<i>Campylorhynchus nuchalis</i>
Whiskered Wren	<i>Thryothorus mystacalis</i>
Rufous-breasted Wren	<i>Thryothorus rutilus</i>
Rufous-and-white Wren	<i>Thryothorus rufalbus</i>
Buff-breasted Wren	<i>Thryothorus leucotis</i>
House Wren	<i>Troglodytes aedon</i>
Mountain Wren	<i>Troglodytes solstitialis</i>
MÉRIDA (PÁRAMO) WREN (Endemic)	<i>Cistothorus meridae</i>
Gray-breasted Wood-Wren	<i>Henicorhina leucophrys</i>
*Southern Nightingale Wren	<i>Microcerculus marginatus</i>
Tropical Mockingbird	<i>Mimus gilvus</i>
Andean Solitaire	<i>Myadestes ralloides</i>
*Orange-billed Nightingale-Thrush	<i>Catharus aurantiirostris</i>
*Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrush	<i>Catharus fuscater</i>
Yellow-legged Thrush	<i>Platycichla flavipes</i>
Great Thrush	<i>Turdus fuscater</i>
Glossy-black Thrush	<i>Turdus serranus</i>
<u>Chestnut-bellied Thrush</u>	<i>Turdus fulviventris</i>
Pale-breasted Thrush	<i>Turdus leucomelas</i>
Black-billed Thrush	<i>Turdus ignobilis</i>
Cocoa Thrush	<i>Turdus fumigatus</i>
Bare-eyed Thrush	<i>Turdus nudigenis</i>
*White-necked thrush	<i>Turdus albicollis</i>
Long-billed Gnatwren	<i>Ramphocaenus melanurus</i>
Tropical Gnatcatcher	<i>Polioptila plumbea</i>
Inca Jay	<i>Cyanocorax yncas</i>
Violaceous Jay	<i>Cyanocorax violaceus</i>
<u>Black-collared Jay</u>	<i>Cyanolyca armillata</i>
Brown-capped Vireo	<i>Vireo leucophrys</i>
*Red-eyed Vireo	<i>Vireo olivaceus</i>
Scrub Greenlet	<i>Hylophilus flavipes</i>

Golden-fronted Greenlet	<i>Hylophilus aurantiifrons</i>
Rufous-browed Peppershrike	<i>Cyclarhis gujanensis</i>
Trinidad Euphonia	<i>Euphonia trinitatis</i>
Thick-billed Euphonia	<i>Euphonia lanirostris</i>
Golden-rumped Euphonia	<i>Euphonia cyanocephala</i>
Orange-bellied Euphonia	<i>Euphonia xanthogaster</i>
Blue-naped Chlorophonia	<i>Chlorophonia cyanea</i>
Andean Siskin	<i>Carduelis spinescens</i>
Yellow-bellied Siskin	<i>Carduelis xanthogastra</i>
Lesser Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis psaltria</i>
Golden-winged Warbler	<i>Vermivora chrysoptera</i>
Tennessee Warbler	<i>Vermivora peregrina</i>
Tropical Parula	<i>Parula pitiayumi</i>
Yellow Warbler	<i>Dendroica aestiva</i>
Blackburnian Warbler	<i>Dendroica fusca</i>
Bay-breasted Warbler	<i>Dendroica castanea</i>
Cerulean Warbler	<i>Dendroica cerulea</i>
Black-and-white Warbler	<i>Mniotilta varia</i>
American Redstart	<i>Setophaga ruticilla</i>
Prothonotary Warbler	<i>Protonotaria citrea</i>
Northern Waterthrush	<i>Seiurus noveboracensis</i>
Mourning Warbler	<i>Oporornis philadelphia</i>
Slate-throated Whitestart	<i>Myioborus miniatus</i>
WHITE-FRONTED WHITESTART (Endemic)	<i>Myioborus albifrons</i>
Black-crested Warbler	<i>Basileuterus nigrocristatus</i>
Golden-crowned Warbler	<i>Basileuterus culicivorus</i>
Three-striped Warbler	<i>Basileuterus tristriatus</i>
<u>Flavescent Warbler</u>	<i>Basileuterus flaveolus</i>
Bananaquit	<i>Coereba flaveola</i>
<u>Chestnut-vented Conebill</u>	<i>Coniostrom speciosum</i>
<u>White-eared Conebill</u>	<i>Coniostrom leucogenys</i>
Bicolored Conebill	<i>Coniostrom bicolor</i>
Black-faced Tanager	<i>Schistochlamys melanopis</i>
Magpie Tanager	<i>Cissopis leveriana</i>
Common Bush-Tanager	<i>Chlorospingus ophthalmicus</i>
GRAY-CAPPED HEMISPINGUS (Endemic)	<i>Hemispingus reyi</i>
Oleaginous Hemispingus	<i>Hemispingus frontalis</i>
Guira Tanager	<i>Hemithraupis guira</i>
Hooded Tanager	<i>Nemosia pileata</i>
Gray-headed Tanager	<i>Eucometis penicillata</i>
White-lined Tanager	<i>Tachyphonus rufus</i>

Highland Hepatic-Tanager	<i>Piranga lutea</i>
Summer Tanager	<i>Piranga rubra</i>
White-winged Tanager	<i>Piranga leucoptera</i>
Crimson-backed Tanager	<i>Ramphocelus dimidiatus</i>
Silver-beaked Tanager	<i>Ramphocelus carbo</i>
Blue-gray Tanager	<i>Thraupis episcopus</i>
Blue-capped Tanager	<i>Thraupis cyanocephala</i>
Palm Tanager	<i>Thraupis palmarum</i>
Lacrimose Mt.-Tanager	<i>Anisognathus lacrymosus</i>
Blue-winged Mt.-Tanager	<i>Anisognathus somptuosus</i>
Buff-breasted Mt.-tanager	<i>Dubusia taeniata</i>
Fawn-breasted Tanager	<i>Pipraeidea melanonota</i>
Golden Tanager	<i>Tangara arthus</i>
Saffron-crowned Tanager	<i>Tangara xanthocephala</i>
Speckled Tanager	<i>Tangara guttata</i>
Bay-headed Tanager	<i>Tangara gyrola</i>
Burnished-buff Tanager	<i>Tangara cayana</i>
Blue-necked Tanager	<i>Tangara nigricollis</i>
Beryl-spangled Tanager	<i>Tangara nigroviridis</i>
Blue-and-black Tanager	<i>Tangara vassorii</i>
Black-capped Tanager	<i>Tangara heinei</i>
Black-headed Tanager	<i>Tangara cyanoptera</i>
Blue Dacnis	<i>Dacnis cayana</i>
Green Honeycreeper	<i>Chlorophanes spiza</i>
Swallow-Tanager	<i>Tersina viridis</i>
Gray Pileated-Finch	<i>Coryphospingus pileatus</i>
Plumbeous Sierra-Finch	<i>Phrygilus unicolor</i>
Blue-black Grassquit	<i>Volatinia jacarina</i>
Slate-colored Seedeater	<i>Sporophila schistacea</i>
Gray Seedeater	<i>Sporophila intermedia</i>
Yellow-bellied Seedeater	<i>Sporophila nigricollis</i>
Ruddy-breasted Seedeater	<i>Sporophila minuta</i>
Chestnut-bellied Seed-Finch	<i>Oryzoborus angolensis</i>
Plain-colored Seedeater	<i>Catamenia inornata</i>
Black-faced Grassquit	<i>Tiaris bicolor</i>
Rusty Flowerpiercer	<i>Diglossa sittoides</i>
White-sided Flowerpiercer	<i>Diglossa albilatera</i>
MÉRIDA FLOWER PIERCER (Endemic)	<i>Diglossa gloriosa</i>
Bluish Flowerpiercer	<i>Diglossa caerulescens</i>
Masked Flowerpiercer	<i>Diglossa cyanea</i>
Saffron Finch	<i>Sicalis flaveola</i>
Grassland Yellow-Finch	<i>Sicalis luteola</i>
Orange-fronted Yellow-Finch	<i>Sicalis columbiana</i>

Red-capped Cardinal	<i>Paroaria gularis</i>
Moustached Brush-Finch	<i>Atlapetes albofrenatus</i>
Slaty Brush-Finch	<i>Atlapetes schistaceus</i>
Ochre-breasted Brush-Finch	<i>Atlapetes semirufus</i>
Chestnut-capped Brush-Finch	<i>Atlapetes brunneinuchus</i>
Golden-winged Sparrow	<i>Arremon schlegeli</i>
Black-striped Sparrow	<i>Arremon conirostris</i>
Yellow-browed Sparrow	<i>Ammodramus aurifrons</i>
Rufous-collared Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia capensis</i>
Streaked Saltator	<i>Saltator striatipectus</i>
Grayish Saltator	<i>Saltator coerulescens</i>
Buff-throated Saltator	<i>Saltator maximus</i>
<u>Orinocan Saltator</u>	<i>Saltator orenocensis</i>
<u>Vermilion Cardinal</u>	<i>Cardinalis phoeniceus</i>
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	<i>Pheucticus ludovicianus</i>
Ultramarine Grosbeak	<i>Cyanocompsa brissonii</i>
*Blue-black Grosbeak	<i>Cyanocompsa cyanoides</i>
Yellow-hooded Blackbird	<i>Agelaius icterocephalus</i>
Red-breasted Blackbird	<i>Sturnella militaris</i>
Eastern Meadowlark	<i>Sturnella magna</i>
Carib Grackle	<i>Quiscalus lugubris</i>
Shiny Cowbird	<i>Molothrus bonariensis</i>
Giant Cowbird	<i>Molothrus oryzivorus</i>
Yellow-backed Oriole	<i>Icterus chrysater</i>
Yellow Oriole	<i>Icterus nigrogularis</i>
Orange-crowned Oriole	<i>Icterus auricapillus</i>
Venezuelan Troupial	<i>Icterus icterus</i>
Baltimore Oriole	<i>Icterus galbula</i>
Yellow-rumped Cacique	<i>Cacicus cela</i>
Crested Oropendola	<i>Psarocolius decumanus</i>
Russet-backed Oropendola	<i>Psarocolius angustifrons</i>
Oriole Blackbird	<i>Gymnomystax mexicanus</i>

LIST OF MAMMALS:

Three-toed Sloth, *Bradypus variegatu*, (one in state of Carabobo)
Red Howler Monkey, *Alouatta seniculus* (common in llanos)
Crab-eating Fox, *Cerdocyon thous* (a dozen or more)
Crab-eating Raccoon, *Procyon carcivorous* (one at dawn)
White-tailed Deer, *Odocoileus virginianus*
Capybara, *Hydrochaeris hydrochaeris* (thousands)
Red-tailed Squirrel, *Sciurus granadensis* (common)
Sac-winged Bat, *Sarcopteryx canescens* (group of 7 on side of tree)
Pink River Dolphin, *Ingia geoffrensis* (several)

LIST OF REPTILES:

Orinoco Crocodile, *Crododylus intermedius*

Spectacled Cayman, *Caiman crocodyls*

Iguana, *Iguana iguana*

Tegu Lizard, *Tupinambis sp.* (being harassed by a Burrowing Owl!)

Llanos Side-necked Turtle, *Podocnemis sp.* (group of several hundred!)

Anaconda (three)