

# **ECUADOR: TINALANDIA PRE-TRIP**

**FEBRUARY 25 – MARCH 2, 2008**

**LEADER: PAUL GREENFIELD**

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### BRIEF TRIP REPORT

Morning walks before breakfast at eight, relaxing around the dining terrace while watching birds at the fruit feeders, and one mid-afternoon overlooking the Río Baba—these were all part of this year's Tinalandia Pre-trip. We took advantage of the opportunity to see many bird species under varied conditions—walking forest trails, birding forest edge habitat along pastures, roadsides, gardens, and even an old golf course—to familiarize ourselves with many Neotropical bird families, and see several avian specialties, while enjoying excellent food and comfortable accommodations.

Tinalandia is the ideal place to begin one's incursion into the complex world of birding in Ecuador (and South America, for that matter), and is the perfect complement to our Northwestern Andean Slopes tour. We ultimately saw many species that were not encountered on the main tour, and saw, repeatedly and closely, many other species that were seen briefly or heard only on the Northwestern Andean Slopes tour. Our spectacular sighting of White-throated Crake is a good example; one beautiful individual came out and fed leisurely in the open for nearly 10 minutes at the edge of Tinalandia's tiny lily pond, offering the best views of that species anyone could ever hope for.

Our first pre-breakfast walk amassed over 50 species before we even took our seats at the table! And actually enjoying our excellent meals was a constant challenge, as Red-headed Barbets, Lemon-rumped and Dusky-faced tanagers, Pale-mandibled Araçari, Ecuadorian Thrush, Green Honeycreepers, and Orange-billed Sparrow came to the feeders just below us, and mixed feeding flocks foraged through the trees above. We were thrilled to watch a close pair of Guayaquil Woodpeckers working over bamboo on our first morning, and a pair of Rufous Motmots that flushed from their nest-building activity each time we walked to the dining quarters. We saw many species well, including superb views of a pair of Collared Trogons, Masked Water-Tyrant, Pacific Hornero, Rufous-tailed Jacamar, and Chocó Warbler, not to forget the spectacular Blue-necked Tanagers and Yellow-tufted Dacnises among the many other colorful species seen.

Our day at Río Palenque brought a new set of good things, and one of our first sightings there was of an excellent family group of Rufous-headed Chachalacas, affording us, as the morning's mist withdrew, wonderful studies of this threatened Tumbesian endemic species, as a threesome sat quietly in a nearby fruiting tree. Minutes later we were enthralled by a foraging pair of Chocó endemic Orange-fronted Barbets as they fed on fruit, unabashed by our closeness to them. We watched a pair of Golden-hooded Tanagers building a nest in a small, close palm, just as Baron's and Stripe-throated hermits visited nearby *Heliconia* flowers and Western White-tailed Trogon hawked fruit from a nearby tree.

In addition to enjoying these two sites, our transects up and down the western slope of the Andes en route to and from our prime destination brought new Andean species, including an impressive Giant Hummingbird, Black-tailed Trainbearer, Crimson-mantled Woodpecker,

Tufted Tit-Tyrant, Hooded Siskin, Blue-and-yellow Tanager, and Ash-breasted Sierra-Finch among others. During our stops along the lower Andean slopes we picked up beautiful close pairs of Ornate Flycatchers and White-capped Dippers, enjoyed excellent views of Scale-crested Pygmy-Tyrant with exposed crest and all, and had great and close looks at Russet Antshrike, along with some impressive mixed foraging flocks.

As we climbed the winding highway on our final ascent to the interandean valley and towards Quito, anticipation was building for what was to come, while many fine memories of a successful pre-trip flashed before me.

#### ITINERARY

Feb. 25 – Arrival in Quito

Feb. 26 – Panamerican Highway to Tinalandia (Chiriboga Road was blocked by landslide); stops at Tolontag (central valley), Tandapi and the lower Chiriboga Road (2800-800m) /overnight Tinalandia Mostly overcast

Feb. 27 – Tinalandia grounds all day (700-800m) /overnight Tinalandia Overcast – rained out in the afternoon

Feb. 28 – Río Palenque (200m) day trip /overnight Tinalandia Mostly overcast w/ some sun with heavy rain on return trip

Feb. 29 – Tinalandia grounds all day (700-800m) /overnight Tinalandia Mostly overcast

Mar. 01 – Tinalandia am; Return to Quito via Panamerican Highway; stops along lower Chiriboga Road and Tandapi side-road Mostly overcast

#### THE SPECIES LIST

##### TINAMOUS: TINAMIDAE

Little Tinamou (*Crypturellus soui*)—Heard on two mornings at Tinalandia

##### CORMORANTS: PHALACROCORACIDAE

Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*)—Only 1 was seen in flight at Río Palenque

##### HERONS & BITTERNS: ARDEIDAE

Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*)—Only small numbers were seen this trip around Tinalandia

##### AMERICAN VULTURES: CATHARTIDAE

Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*)—Generally very common throughout—seen on all days

Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*)—Not as common as previous species—also seen daily

##### KITES, EAGLES & HAWKS: ACCIPITRIDAE

Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*)—15 were seen at Tinalandia on 27 Feb.; then another was seen two days later

Plain-breasted Hawk (*Accipiter ventralis*)—A single bird was seen soaring along the Tandapi side-road

Roadside Hawk (*Buteo magnirostris*)—Singles were seen twice at Tinalandia including one in really excellent light!

Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus*)—1 was seen soaring along the Tandapi side-road

#### FALCONS & CARACARAS: FALCONIDAE

- Barred Forest-Falcon (*Micrastur ruficollis*)—1 bird was heard and seen briefly, twice, on two early mornings at Tinalandia (right by our cabins)
- American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*)—3 birds were seen in the central valley on our first morning (including a pair perched atop the “giant” hummingbird monument)
- Bat Falcon (*Falco ruficularis*)—1 bird seen briefly flying fast at Río Silanche; then a perched bird was scoped at Tinalandia

#### CURASSOWS & GUANS: CRACIDAE

- Rufous-headed Chachalaca** (*Ortalis erythroptera*)—Superb family group was watched, first in fog, then in perfect light (4 birds in all were there—we scoped 3); this is a threatened Tumbesian endemic species

#### NEW WORLD QUAILS: ODONTOPHORIDAE

- Rufous-fronted Wood-Quail (*Odontophorus erythrops*)—Heard only, at Río Palenque and on one day at Tinalandia
- Dark-backed Wood-Quail (*Odontophorus melanonotus*)—Heard only along the lower Chiriboga Road on our first day

#### RAILS, GALLINULES & COOTS: RALLIDAE

- White-throated Crake** (*Laterallus albigularis*)—Superb looks at 1 that came out to stroll along edge of vegetation at Tinalandia’s lily pond

#### SANDPIPERS & ALLIES: SCOLOPACIDAE

- Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularia*)—Single birds were seen twice only, along streams on the lower Chiriboga Road on our first and last days

#### PIGEONS & DOVES: COLUMBIDAE

- Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*)—Seen around a few villages and towns
- Pale-vented Pigeon (*Columba cayennensis*)—At least 1 was seen and heard at Río Palenque
- Plumbeous Pigeon (*Columba plumbea*)—Heard only, on one day at Tinalandia
- Ruddy Pigeon (*Columba subvinacea*)—A pair offered scope views (red irides seen clearly) at Tinalandia
- Eared Dove (*Zenaida auriculata*)—Common mostly around Quito and in the highlands
- Common Ground-Dove (*Columbina passerina*)—3 flying birds were seen briefly at Tolontag, our highland stop on Day 1
- Ecuadorian Ground-Dove** (*Colombina buckleyi*)—At least 6 were seen at Río Palenque
- Blue Ground-Dove (*Claravis pretiosa*)—Heard only, several times at Río Palenque
- White-tipped Dove (*Leptotila verreauxi*)—1 seen at Tinalandia (not a Pallid Dove) and 2 at Río Palenque
- Pallid Dove** (*Leptotia palida*)—2 were seen well at Tinalandia; heard only at Río Palenque

#### PARROTS & MACAWS: PSITTACIDAE

- Red-masked Parakeet** (*Aratinga erythrogenys*)—A distant, calling flock of 15 or so were seen in flight at Tinalandia (probably a first record of the species for this site!)
- Maroon-tailed Parakeet (*Pyrhura melanura*)—Small flocks, some 15 birds in all were seen, at Tinalandia, including a wonderful close perched individual.

Pacific Parrotlet (*Forpus coelestes*)—At least a pair was seen at Tinalandia on two days; several others were seen and heard at Río Palenque

Blue-headed Parrot (*Pionus menstruus*)—Heard, plus 3 were seen at Río Palenque

Red-billed Parrot (*Pionus sordidus*)—At least 15 were seen in flight along the lower Chiriboga Road on our last day

Bronze-winged Parrot (*Pionus chalcopterus*)—Heard only at Río Palenque; a pair was seen in flight at Tinalandia

#### CUCKOOS: CUCULIDAE

Squirrel Cuckoo (*Piaya cayana*)—Recorded by voice or sight daily: excellent views of several birds at Tinalandia on 27 Feb.

Smooth-billed Ani (*Crotophaga ani*)—3 were seen in open areas at Río Palenque

#### TYPICAL OWLS: STRIGIDAE

Black-and-white Owl (*Strix nigrolineata*)—Possibly this heard only one late afternoon at Tinalandia

#### NIGHTJARS & ALLIES: CAPRIMULGIDAE

Short-tailed Nighthawk (*Lurocalis semitorquatus*)—1 was seen in flight on our first morning at Tinalandia

#### SWIFTS: APODIDAE

White-collared Swift (*Streptoprocne zonaris*)—This spectacular and large swift was seen on three days; large and noisy flocks

Gray-rumped Swift (*Chaetura cinereiventris*)—Fair numbers were seen at Río Palenque and a small band was later seen at Tinalandia

#### HUMMINGBIRD: TROCHILIDAE

Band-tailed Barbthroat (*Threnetes ruckeri*)— At least 2 were seen at *Heliconia* shrubs at Río Palenque

**Baron's Hermit** (*Phaethornis baroni*)—1 bird was seen excellently at Río Palenque

Stripe-throated Hermit (*Phaethornis striigularis*)—3 of this tiny hermit were seen at Río Palenque

Sparkling Violetear (*Colibri coruscans*)—Super common at Tolontag, in the central valley

Green Thorntail (*Popelairia conversii*)—1 female was seen high in the canopy at Tinalandia

Green-crowned Woodnymph (*Thalurania fannyi*)—1 male was seen at Río Palenque; a female was later seen at Tinalandia

Rufous-tailed Hummingbird (*Amazilia tzacatl*)—The most common lowland species of the west in gardens and open areas; seen daily

Green-crowned Brilliant (*Heliodoxa jacula*)—The main species seen at Tinalandia this trip

**Giant Hummingbird** (*Patagona gigas*)—1 beauty came in (Juan brought him!) at Tolontag

Booted Racket-tail (*Ocreatus underwoodii*)—1 female was seen along the lower Chiriboga Road

**Black-tailed Trainbearer** (*Lesbia victoriae*)—At least 3 were seen repeatedly at Tolontag; a sure favorite!

Purple-crowned Fairy (*Heliothryx barroti*)—A female was seen at Río Palenque

#### QUETZALS & TROGONS: TROGONIDAE

Chocó Trogon (*Trogon comptus*)—Heard only at Tinalandia (not responsive). Also called White-eyed Trogon by some authors

Western White-tailed Trogon (*Trogon chionurus*)—2 excellent males were seen at Río Palenque. Often considered one species (White-tailed Trogon) together with Amazonian White-tailed Trogon

Collared Trogon (*Trogon collaris*)—Wonderful pairs at Río Palenque and Tinalandia; also a Female was seen at Tinalandia

Ecuadorian Trogon (*Trogon mesurus*)—Heard only at Río Palenque (came close, but . . .). Considered a race of Black-tailed Trogon by some authors

#### MOTMOTS: MOMOTIDAE

Rufous Motmot (*Baryphthengus martii*)—A pair (nest building) and singles were seen well at Tinalandia; heard only at Río Palenque

#### JACAMARS: GALBULIDAE

Rufous-tailed Jacamar (*Galbula ruficauda*)—Mostly heard at Tinalandia and Río Palenque, though 1 bird offered fine scope views at Tinalandia

#### BARBETS: CAPITONIDAE

**Orange-fronted Barbet** (*Capito squamatus*)—A marvellous pair of this Chocó endemic was seen feeding at close quarters at Río Palenque; unsurpassable views!

Red-headed Barbet (*Eubucco bourcierii*)—Repeated sightings over four days of this stunning species; superb views at Tinalandia fruit feeders

#### TOUCANS: RAMPHASTIDAE

Crimson-rumped Toucanet (*Aulacorhynchus haematopygus*)—Singles were seen twice at Tinalandia

**Pale-mandibled Araçari** (*Pteroglossua erythropygius*)—This Ecuadorian endemic species was seen at Tinalandia/ Río Silanche; spectacular at Tinalandia fruit feeders

#### WOODPECKERS: PICIDAE

Olivaceous Piculet (*Picumnus olivaceus*)—2 were seen at Río Palenque; another was found at Tinalandia

Crimson-mantled Woodpecker (*Piculus rivolii*)—At least 2 were seen fairly well at Tolontag

Golden-olive Woodpecker (*Piculus rubiginosus*)—1-4 were seen daily

Lineated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus lineatus*)—At least 3 were seen at Tinalandia; heard only at Río Palenque

Black-cheeked Woodpecker (*Melanerpes pucherani*)—A pair was seen beautifully at Tinalandia; another was seen at Río Palenque; others heard at these same sites

Red-rumped Woodpecker (*Veniliornis kirkii*)—Quite a few were seen; at least 6 at Tinalandia; another 2 at Río Palenque

**Guayaquil Woodpecker** (*Campephilus guayaquilensis*)—Excellent close looks at two pairs of this basically Ecuadorian endemic species—both sightings at Tinalandia

#### OVENBIRDS: FURNARIIDAE

Pacific Hornero (*Furnarius cinnamomeus*)—A common and comical resident seen daily. Considered a race of Pale-legged Hornero by some authors

Slaty Spinetail (*Synallaxis brachyura*)—First heard only along the lower Chiriboga Road; a pair was glimpsed at Tinalandia; quite silent and unresponsive this trip

Red-faced Spinetail (*Cranioleuca erythropus*)—Quite a few were seen along the lower Chiriboga Road and at Tinalandia. Best views were of a pair nest-building at Tinalandia

Scaly-throated Foliage-gleaner (*Anabacerthia variegaticeps*)—1 was glimpsed with a mixed foraging forest flock at Tinalandia on 29 Feb.

Buff-fronted Foliage-gleaner (*Philydor rufus*)—At least 1 was seen with a mixed foraging flock along the lower Chiriboga Road on our first day

Streak-capped Treehunter (*Thripadectes virgaticeps*)—1 individual was seen briefly along with a mixed foraging flock along the lower Chiriboga Road on our first day

Plain Xenops (*Xenops minutus*)—1 was seen well with a mixed foraging flock at Tinalandia

#### WOODCREEPERS: DENDROCOLAPTIDAE

Plain-brown Woodcreeper (*Dendrocincla fuliginosa*)—Singles were seen on two days at Tinalandia and at Río Palenque

Wedge-billed Woodcreeper (*Glyphorhynchus spirurus*)—1 was seen well at Río Palenque

Spotted Woodcreeper (*Xiphorhynchus erythropygius*)—Fairly common at Tinalandia; heard only at Río Palenque

Streak-headed Woodcreeper (*Lepidocolaptes souleyetii*)—Fairly common at Tinalandia (at least 4 seen daily); at least 2 were seen at Río Palenque

#### TYPICAL ANTBIRDS: THAMNOPHILIDAE

Great Antshrike (*Tabara major*)—Heard only at Río Palenque

Western Slaty-Antshrike (*Thamnophilus atrinucha*)—Heard only at Tinalandia; 1 male was seen quite well at Río Palenque in mid-story tangles

**Russet Antshrike** (*Thamnistes anabatinus*)—Excellent close looks at a pair with a mixed foraging flock along the lower Chiriboga Road on our last morning

Plain Antwren (*Dysithamnus mentalis*)—1 was seen at Río Palenque

Pacific Antwren (*Myrmotherula pacifica*)—2 were seen in hedge vegetation at Tinalandia; rather silent this trip

Slaty Antwren (*Myrmotherula schisticolor*)—At least 1 was seen with a mixed foraging forest flock along the upper trail at Tinalandia

White-backed Fire-eye (*Pyriglena leuconota*)—Heard only in forest understory at Tinalandia

Chestnut-backed Antbird (*Myrmecisa exsul*)—A pair was seen well in edge vegetation at Río Palenque, also heard at Tinalandia

#### MANAKINS: PIPRIDAE

White-bearded Manakin (*Manacus manacus*)—2 males were seen at Río Palenque (not very obvious this trip)

#### TYRANT FLYCATCHERS: TYRANNIDAE

Sooty-headed Tyrannulet (*Phyllomyias griseiceps*)—At least 4 of this vocal, but inconspicuous species were seen at Tinalandia (others heard)

Golden-faced Tyrannulet (*Zimmerius chrysops*)—At least 6 were seen; at Tinalandia and Río Palenque

Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet (*Camptostoma obsoletum*)—Generally, a fairly common and widespread species; At least 3 were seen at Tinalandia; also heard there and at Río Palenque

Yellow Tyrannulet (*Capsiempis flaveola*)—A pair was seen well in bamboo at Río Palenque

Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet (*Tyrannulus elatus*)—2 were seen, both at Tinalandia and Río Palenque; others heard

Yellow-bellied Elaenia (*Elaenia flavogaster*)—At least 1 was seen at Tinalandia

Lesser Elaenia (*Elaenia chiriquensis*)—1 was seen at Tinalandia (there aren't too many records of this species here)

Ochre-bellied Flycatcher (*Mionectes oleagineus*)—1 was seen near the station at Río Palenque

Slaty-capped Flycatcher (*Leptopogon striaticollis*)—Several were seen w/ mixed foraging flocks; along the lower Chiriboga Road, and mostly at Tinalandia

Marble-faced Bristle-Tyrant (*Pogonotriccus ophthalmicus*)—Singles were seen at both Río Palenque and Tinalandia

**Tufted Tit-Tyrant** (*Anairetes parulus*)—3, of this adorable species were seen well at Tolontag on our first morning

Scale-crested Pygmy-Tyrant (*Lophotriccus pileatus*)—An often heard species; excellent looks at 2 separate birds along the lower Chiriboga Road, also 1 was seen at Tinalandia

Common Tody-Flycatcher (*Todirostrum cinereum*)—Several were seen at Tinalandia over three days; cute!!

Ornate Flycatcher (*Myiotriccus ornatus*)—A pair of this charming species was seen at Tandapi on our first afternoon

Bran-colored Flycatcher (*Myiophobus fasciatus*)—2 were seen on our first day at Tinalandia

Sulphur-rumped Flycatcher (*Myiobius sulphureipygius*)—1 was seen with small mixed foraging flock at Río Palenque

Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*)—2 were seen on our first day at Tandapi and along the lower Chiriboga Road; another was seen at Río Palenque (always high on bare snags)

Eastern Wood-Pewee (*Contopus virens*)—Heard only the first two days; 2 were later seen well at Tinalandia (in fresh plumage—ready for spring migration)

Western Wood-Pewee (*Contopus sordidulus*)—Only a few (3) of this boreal migrant were seen and heard—all at Tinalandia

Smoke-colored Pewee (*Contopus fumigatus*)—Only 1 was seen this trip, along the lower Chiriboga Road

Black Phoebe (*Sayornis nigricans*)—Several seen, regular at Tinalandia dining area, and always near water

Masked Water-Tyrant (*Fluvicola nengeta*)—A regular at Tinalandia (great looks!); 1 was seen at Río Palenque entrance

**Sooty-crowned Flycatcher** (*Myiarchus phaeocephalus*)—These were the two 2 unidentified *Myiarchus* flycatchers that were seen at Tinalandia (27 Feb.); both showed rather uncontrasting crests and were larger than the following species. This species must be spreading northward

Dusky-capped Flycatcher (*Myiarchus tuberculifer*)—Several were seen in lowlands and foothills—best views were at Tinalandia on 29 Feb.

Boat-billed Flycatcher (*Megarynchus pitangua*)—Several were seen at Tinalandia (daily) and Río Palenque

Rusty-margined Flycatcher (*Myiozetete cayanensis*)—Common generally; though not so numerous this trip; seen daily at Tinalandia and Río Palenque

Gray-capped Flycatcher (*Myiozetete granadensis*)—1 was seen at Tinalandia on 27 Feb.

Golden-crowned Flycatcher (*Myiodynastes chrysocephalus*)—1 was seen in subtropics at Tandapi

Piratic Flycatcher (*Legatus leucophaeus*)—1 was seen (scoped) and heard at Río Palenque

Tropical Kingbird (*Tyrannus melancholicus*)—A common species, seen on all days

Cinnamon Becard (*Pachyramphus cinnamomeus*)—Rather common at both Tinalandia and Río Palenque

One-colored Becard (*Platypsaris homochrous*)—Only 1 female plumaged bird was seen at Tinalandia; a generally common species

Masked Tityra (*Tityra semifaciata*)—Several seen (mostly pairs); Tinalandia, Río Palenque, and Tandapi

#### SWALLOWS: HIRUNDINIDAE

Blue-and-white Swallow (*Notiochelidon cyanoleuca*)—Only moderate numbers of this common and widespread swallow; mostly at Tinalandia

Southern Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*)—Fairly common in open areas in the lowlands and foothills

#### DIPPERS: CINCLIDAE

**White-capped Dipper** (*Cinclus leucocephalus*)—A pair was watched closely along a stream at a small village along the lower Chiriboga Road

#### WRENS: TROGLODYTIDAE

Band-backed Wren (*Campylorhynchus zonatus*)—Noisy and conspicuous, mainly pairs were seen at Tinalandia and Río Palenque

Whiskered Wren (*Thryothorus mysticalis*)—This genuine skulker!! was heard only at Río Palenque

Bay Wren (*Thryothorus nigricapillus*)—Singles were glimpsed at Tinalandia and along the lower Chiriboga Road; its loud vocalizations were heard often

House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*)—Common and seen on most days (heard often)

Southern Nightingale-Wren (*Microcerculus marginatus*)—Heard only, at Tinalandia

#### THRUSHES & ALLIES: TURDIDAE

Swainson's Thrush (*Catharus ustulatus*)—Only 1 was seen well at Tinalandia

Great Thrush (*Turdus fuscater*)—A common highland species (seen on our first day)

Ecuadorian Thrush (*Turdus maculirostris*)—Common throughout on this trip; best seen at Tinalandia fruit feeders (a Tumbesian endemic species)

#### GNATCATCHERS & ALLIES: POLIOPTILIDAE

Tawny-faced Gnatwren (*Microbates cinereiventris*)—Heard only with mixed understory flock at Tinalandia (came in close though)

Long-billed Gnatwren (*Ramphocaenus melanurus*)—Several were heard, and finally 1 was seen fairly well (in viney tangles) and repeatedly (began following us) at Río Palenque

Tropical Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila plumbea*)—1 of these cute little birds was seen at Río Palenque; then a pair was found at Tinalandia

#### VIREOS & ALLIES: VIREONIDAE

Rufous-browed Peppershrike (*Cyclarhis gujanensis*)—Heard only at Río Palenque; this species can be a real skulker sometimes!

Slaty-capped Shrike-Vireo (*Vireolanus leucotis*)—Heard often at Tinalandia; we never could get on it, though we came close

Brown-capped Vireo (*Vireo leucophrys*)—Only 1 was seen, along the lower Chiriboga Road

Lesser Greenlet (*Hylophilus decurtatus*)—3 were seen well w/ mixed flock, along the lower Chiriboga Road on our last day

#### SISKINS, CROSSBILLS & ALLIES: FRINGILLIDAE

Thick-billed Euphonia (*Euphonia laniirostris*)—Common; Several seen daily, at Tinalandia and Río Palenque

Golden-rumped Euphonia (*Euphonia cyanocephala*)—Heard only at Tolontag

Orange-bellied Euphonia (*Euphonia xanthogaster*)—1 was seen along the lower Chiriboga Road on our first day; a pair was seen at Tinalandia on our last

Hooded Siskin (*Carduelis magellanicus*)—A small group was seen at Tolontag on our first morning

#### NEW WORLD WARBLERS: PARULIDAE

Tropical Parula (*Parula pitiayumi*)—Several seen, Tinalandia and lower Chiriboga Road; best on our first morning at Tinalandia

Blackburnian Warbler (*Dendroica fusca*)—5 of this boreal migrant were seen at Tandapi and along the lower Chiriboga Road (some beautifully plumaged males too)

Slate-throated Whitestart (*Myioborus miniatus*)—A rather common mixed flock participant at lower elevations; seen only on our first and last days

**Gray-and-gold Warbler** (*Basileuterus fraseri*)—1-2 were seen in thick understory at Río Palenque; also heard there. A Tumbesian endemic species

**Chocó Warbler** (*Basileuterus chlorophrys*)—Fine, close views of 2 of this Chocó endemic along the upper trail at Tinalandia; others heard there

Three-striped Warbler (*Basileuterus tristriatus*)—2-3 were seen along the lower Chiriboga Road on our last morning

Buff-rumped Warbler (*Basileuterus fulvicauda*)—Several were seen very well at Tinalandia; a cute little bird with characteristic tail wag

#### BANANAQUIT: COEREBIDAE

Bananaquit (*Coereba flaveola*)—Small numbers (1-2) were seen daily at Tinalandia and at Río Palenque

#### TANAGERS & ALLIES: THRAUPIDAE

Yellow-throated Bush-Tanager (*Chlorospingus flavovirens*)—1 was seen along the lower Chiriboga Road on our last morning

Ashy-throated Bush-Tanager (*Chlorospingus canigularis*)—5 were seen along the lower Chiriboga Road on our last morning

Guira Tanager (*Hemithraupis guira*)—3 were seen at Tinalandia and then best views were of a pair along the lower Chiriboga Road on our last morning

Dusky-faced Tanager (*Mitrospingus cassinii*)—Several seen; best at Tinalandia fruit feeders,

also seen well at Río Palenque

White-shouldered Tanager (*Tachyphonus luctuosus*)—Small family groups were seen at Tinalandia, Río Palenque, and along the lower Chiriboga Road

White-lined Tanager (*Tachyphonus rufus*)—1 juvenile male was seen at Tinalandia

Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*)—Several were seen at Tinalandia and Río Palenque; mostly singles, with adult males, females and juvenile males in various shades of orange to red

White-winged Tanager (*Piranga leucoptera*)—3 were seen along the lower Chiriboga Road on our first day and 1 male was found there on our last

Lemon-rumped Tanager (*Ramphocelus icteronotus*)—Among the most common tanager at lower elevations – seen on all days; very flashy bird!

Blue-gray Tanager (*Thraupis episcopus*)—Very common at lower elevations

Palm Tanager (*Thraupis palmarum*)—Common at lower elevations

Blue-and-yellow Tanager (*Thraupis bonariensis*)—At least 6 were seen at Tolontag

Fawn-breasted Tanager (*Pipraeidea melanonota*)—1 was seen at Tinalandia, another seen beautifully along the lower Chiriboga Road

Golden Tanager (*Tangara arthus*)—Fairly common mixed flock species in the Subtropics; 6 in all seen mostly along the lower Chiriboga Road

Silver-throated Tanager (*Tangara icterocephala*)—Only 1 was seen this trip! Along the lower Chiriboga Road

Bay-headed Tanager (*Tangara gyrola*)—Small numbers were seen over most days at both Tinalandia and Río Palenque

Golden-naped Tanager (*Tangara rufivertex*)—Only 1 seen (surprisingly), at Tandapi on our first afternoon

Blue-necked Tanager (*Tangara cyanicollis*)—This fairly common and stunning lowland species was seen beautifully at Tinalandia (4 in all) and at Río Palenque (1)

**Golden-hooded Tanager** (*Tangara larvata*)—A nest-building pair was seen closely at Río Palenque

**Yellow-tufted Dacnis** (*Dacnis egregia*)—This stunning Chocó endemic species was seen well at Tinalandia; at least 3 on 27 Feb. and another male on 1 March

**Green Honeycreeper** (*Chlorophanes spiza*)—Exceptional looks at this fairly common species at both Tinalandia and Río Palenque; best at Tinalandia fruit feeders

Swallow Tanager (*Tersina viridis*)—1 male of this spectacular species was scoped at Río Palenque

#### BUNTINGS, SPARROWS & ALLIES: EMBERIZIDAE

Ash-breasted Sierra-Finch (*Phrygilus plebejus*)—2 were seen at Tolontag on our first morning

Blue-black Grassquit (*Volatinia jacarina*)—A nice breeding pair was seen in hedges along the upper pasture at Tinalandia

Variable Seedeater (*Sporophila corvina*)—Several were seen (not common this trip) at both Tinalandia and Río Palenque

Yellow-bellied Seedeater (*Sporophila nigricollis*)—Several were seen (more than the previous species this trip); Tinalandia, Río Palenque, and the lower Chiriboga Road

Lesser Seed-Finch (*Oryzoborus angolensis*)—1 male was seen at Tinalandia on 29 Feb.

**Tricolored Brush-Finch** (*Atlapetes tricolor*)—At least 1 was seen along the lower Chiriboga Road (a Chocó specialty)

**Orange-billed Sparrow** (*Arremon aurantirostris*)—Repeated excellent looks at single birds foraging away from accustomed forest understory; Tinalandia

Rufous-collared Sparrow (*Zonotrichia capensis*)—Common highland species throughout the Andes

#### SALTATORS, CARDINALS & ALLIES: CARDINALIDAE

Buff-throated Saltator (*Saltator maximus*)—Fairly common in all lowland and foothill areas; seen daily

**Black-winged Saltator** (*Saltator atripennis*)—Several seen; Tinalandia, and along the lower Chiriboga Road where seen the best

Southern Yellow-Grosbeak (*Pheucticus chrysogaster*)—At least 10 were seen on our first morning at Tolontag

Blue-black Grosbeak (*Cyanocompsa cyanooides*)—1 male was seen singing in a tree at the edge of a clearing at Río Palenque

#### CACIQUES, ORIOLES & ALLIES: ICTERIDAE

Shiny Cowbird (*Molothrus bonariensis*)—singles and small groups were seen daily

Scrub Blackbird (*Dives warszewiczi*)—Small to moderate numbers seen this time, basically at Tinalandia

Yellow-tailed Oriole (*Icterus mesomelus*)—2 were seen along the lower Chiriboga Road (this species is spreading in Ecuador) and at least 1 more was seen at Tinalandia above the lily pond

Scarlet-rumped Cacique (*Cacicus uropygialis*)—Heard only on two days, at Tinalandia

#### MAMMAL LIST

##### SQUIRRELS: SCIURIDAE

Neotropical Red-tailed Squirrel (*Sciurus granatensis*)—Our only mammal this trip! Small numbers (1-4) were seen almost daily

#### REPTILES

##### SKINKS: SCINCIDAE

Skink Sp.—1 “lizard” perhaps from this family (many genera involved) at Tinalandia

##### ANOLES: POLYCHROTIDAE

Anole sp.—a few individuals (the same species?) were seen at Tinalandia and Río Palenque; one at Tinalandia was green with a large creamy-white dewlap