

ECUADOR: THE NORTHWESTERN ANDEAN SLOPES

NOVEMBER 8 – 16, 2008

LEADERS: PAUL GREENFIELD & DAVID WOLF

COMPILED BY: PAUL GREENFIELD

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

ECUADOR: THE NORTHWESTERN ANDEAN SLOPES

November 8-16, 2008

Leaders: Paul Greenfield and David Wolf



Orange-breasted Fruiteater at nest

© David Wolf

BRIEF TRIP REPORT BY PAUL GREENFIELD

What a wonderful way to spend a week! It certainly seemed like much more—we saw so much. The western slopes of Pichincha Volcano continue to prove its ranking as one of the world's "hottest" birding "hot-spots," and the general ease and optimum conditions in which we were able to observe some of the most important species of this region continues to amaze. Lodging at only one location is especially comfortable and, with great birding relatively close by, always a real plus.

There were so many highlights that it's hard to single out the best of them—the collective hummingbird watching experience cannot be beat...anywhere! Thirty-eight species were recorded this time, all but one or two seen repeatedly, closely, and beautifully by all of us: Great Sapphirewing, Sword-billed Hummingbird, Golden-breasted Puffleg, Velvet-purple Coronet, Empress Brilliant, Violet-tailed Sylph, Purple-bibbed Whitetip, Booted Racket-tail, Hoary Puffleg, and Purple-chested Hummingbird to name only a few. Then there were the tanagers (44 in all!), with perhaps the most memorable episode taking place from the canopy tower at Rio Silanche Bird Sanctuary as we watched species after species take turns feeding at a sprig of unimpressive brownish berries...what a parade: Gray-and-gold, Emerald, Bay-headed, Rufous-winged, Blue-necked, Blue-whiskered, Tawny-crested, and Scarlet-browed tanagers and—not to forget—Blue, Yellow-tufted, Scarlet-thighed, and Scarlet-breasted dacnises!

Yes, this is indeed a tour of polychromatic bursts...and two of the most multicolored and sought after denizens of this mega-diverse bioregion are the Toucan Barbet and Plate-billed Mountain-Toucan; of course, we had wonderful views of both of these exquisite species. But, as in all parts of our planet, there also exists a fair share of frustrating, cryptically-colored, and hard to find species that are highly prized if found, and Ecuador has become famous for having the best conditions anywhere for seeing some of the best of them. Much of this fame is brought to us thanks to a humble local “campesino” named Angel Paz who devised a method, on his own, to feed several of these skulkers in what has become one of the most highly anticipated “shows” in all of South America. We joined Angel for a most unforgettable morning where we not only reveled in the true presence of our target birds—Giant, Moustached, and Yellow-breasted antpittas, along with displaying male Cock-of-the-rock, a nesting Olivaceous Piha, and a spectacular multi-species hummingbird session—but we also recorded some unexpected “firsts”: first western Ecuador record of Orange-breasted Falcon, and the first recorded nest (found a day earlier) of Orange-breasted Fruiteater (see cover photo), plus the first nestling of this species ever seen...what a thrill!

Our Northwestern Andean Slopes tour offers the opportunity to see many important regional endemic species in a short space of time and distance, and under some of the finest viewing conditions that exist. The birding experiences were so varied: peering at Esmeraldas Antbird through dense undergrowth; finally admiring and photographing an obliging Chocó Trogon after at long last coaxing it to come in; some of us even getting decent looks at a calling Ocellated Tapaculo that was so close, yet impossible to see for the rest of us; watching a pair of brilliant Grass-green Tanagers as they came down along the roadside; watching mesmerized as everything from warblers and foliage-gleaners to toucanets fed on moths point-blank; or juice-testing some local fruity specialties while watching tanagers, euphonias, and other species come in to fruit feeders at only a few feet away. These experiences and so much more formed part of this November’s trip, and it is always a pleasure to share this with you.

ITINERARY

Nov. 08 – Arrival Quito

Nov. 09 – Early departure from Quito; to Yanacocha until midday; drive along the Calacalí-La Independencia Highway—with stop near Nanagelito—to Séptimo Paraíso (3300-1500m)

Nov. 10 – Dawn at the “Y” de Mindo and walk down Mindo entrance road; midday around the Séptimo Paraíso hummingbird feeders; afternoon to Mirador Río Blanco (1700-1000m)

Nov. 11 – Río Silanche Bird Sanctuary (600m)—all day

Nov. 12 – AM at Milpe Bird Sanctuary (1100m); Séptimo Paraíso hummingbird feeders at midday; afternoon along the Mindo entrance road (1600-1500m)

Nov. 13 – Paz Antpitta Reserve (1700); lunch and PM at Milpe Bird Sanctuary (1100m)

Nov. 14 – AM lower Ecoroute (1700-2000m); midday at Séptimo Paraíso; PM at Milpe Garden Reserve (1100m)

Nov. 15 – Return to Quito via Ecoroute; stops at Bellavista and Pacha Quinde (Tony & Barbara’s place)

Nov. 16 – Departure home or continue on to Tinalandia post-trip

THE SPECIES LIST

Abbreviations:

Yanacocha = YC
Nanegalito restaurant stop = N
Séptimo Paraíso = SP
“Y” de Mindo = Y
Mirador Río Blanco = MRB
Río Silanche Bird Sanctuary = RS
Milpe Bird Sanctuary = MS
Milpe Garden Sanctuary = MG
Paz Antpitta Reserve = AP
Paseo del Quinde Ecoroute = E
Mindo entrance road = ME
Bellavista = B
Pacha Quinde = PQ

TINAMOUS: TINAMIDAE

Tawny-breasted Tinamou (*Nothocercus julius*)—Two birds heard only at YC
Little Tinamou (*Crypturellus soui*)—Heard only at RS

HERONS & BITTERNS: ARDEIDAE

Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*)—Varying numbers seen every day

AMERICAN VULTURES: CATHARTIDAE

Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*)—Very common throughout—on all but two days
Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*)—Seen on all but first day

KITES, EAGLES & HAWKS: ACCIPITRIDAE

Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*)—small numbers (3-4) were seen; RS , M
Plain-breasted Hawk (*Accipiter ventralis*)—1 was seen soaring distantly at YC
Barred Hawk (*Leucopternis princeps*)—Singles seen soaring at ME, AP; best at MS
Roadside Hawk (*Bureo magnirostris*)—1-2 seen at RS, and E (one two days)
Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus*)—Singles were seen on all but first day and also not at RS
Variable Hawk (*Buteo polyosoma*)—Aka Red-backed Hawk by some autors. 2 were seen at YC

FALCONS & CARACARAS: FALCONIDAE

Barred Forest-Falcon (*Micrastur ruficollis*)—Heard only at AP
American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*)—1 was seen at AP
Orange-breasted Falcon (*Falco deiroleucus*)—A first record for western Ecuador; 1 was seen circling over the reserve at AP

CURASSOWS & GUANS: CRACIDAE

Wattled Guan (*Aburria aburri*)—Heard only at SP on 11/14

NEW WORLD QUAILS: ODONTOPHORIDAE

Rufous-fronted Wood-Quail (*Odontophorus erythrops*)—Heard only at RS
Dark-backed Wood-Quail (*Odontophorus melanonotus*)—Heard only along the lower E

PIGEONS & DOVES: COLUMBIDAE

Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*)—Seen in Quito

Band-tailed Pigeon (*Columba fasciata*)—Generally common in montane regions

Plumbeous Pigeon (*Columba plumbea*)—1 was scoped at PQ (others heard along E)

Ruddy Pigeon (*Columba subvinacea*)—Beautiful scope views of 3 at RS; also scoped at MS; also heard at lower elevations

Dusky Pigeon (*Columba goodsoni*)—2 birds were scoped briefly at RS from canopy tower

Eared Dove (*Zenaida auriculata*)—Common mostly in and around Quito

White-tipped Dove (*Leptotila verreauxi*)—Singles were seen at MS, SP and E

Pallid Dove (*Leptotila pallida*)—Close views of 1 at MRB; heard at RS

White-throated Quail-Dove (*Geotrygon frenata*)—Heard only at AP

PARROTS & MACAWS: PSITTACIDAE

Maroon-tailed Parakeet (*Pyrhura melanura*)—Small band were seen flying by at RS and near MS

Barred Parakeet (*Bolborhynchus lineola*)—A band of 15 were seen high flying overhead along ME

Rose-faced Parrot (*Pionopsitta pulchra*)—Heard only, close-by at RS

Blue-headed Parrot (*Pionus menstruus*)—5 were seen flying by from canopy tower at RS

Red-billed Parrot (*Pionus sordidus*)—Band of 10 were seen along ME

White-capped Parrot (*Pionus seniloides*)—Aka Speckle-faced Parrot (*P. Tumultuosus*) by some authors. A few were seen distantly and heard at YC; 2 may have been seen at PQ

Bronze-winged Parrot (*Pionus chalcopterus*)—Quite a few were seen at RS, MS (four days)

CUCKOOS: CUCULIDAE

Squirrel Cuckoo (*Piaya cayana*)—1 was seen briefly at RS; 1 was seen well at MS; also heard

Smooth-billed Ani (*Crotophaga ani*)—Only a few were seen along the highway, west of Mindo

TYPICAL OWLS: STRIGIDAE

Mottled Owl (*Strix virgata*)—Heard only one night at SP

OILBIRD: STEATORNITHIDAE

Oilbird (*Steatornis caripensis*)—Noisy band of some 10 birds were mostly heard, but also seen by some of the group on one or two nights at SP (we attempted an organized effort to see them, but they did not return, until most everyone left)

SWIFTS: APODIDAE

Chestnut-collared Swift (*Streptoprocne rutila*)—A large band was seen distantly from MG

White-collared Swift (*Streptoprocne zonaris*)—This spectacular large swift was seen on most days

HUMMINGBIRD: TROCHILIDAE

White-whiskered Hermit (*Phaethornis yaruqui*)—A common Chocó endemic species seen on many days and often at feeders

Tawny-bellied Hermit (*Phaethornis syrmatophorus*)—Singles seen by some of the group at AP, SP and PQ

Green-fronted Lancebill (*Doryfera ludovicae*)—1 was seen nicely along the E

White-necked Jacobin (*Florisuga mellivora*)—4 were seen in all; SP and MS
Green Violetear (*Colibri thalassinus*)—Fairly common at feeders; SP, AP
Sparkling Violetear (*Colibri coruscans*)—Singles seen on three days; SP and PQ
Green Thorntail (*Popelairia conversii*)—Quite common at MRB, MS, MG
Western Emerald (*Chlorostilbon melanorhynchus*)—Aka Blue-tailed Emerald (*Ch. mellisugus*). 5 stunning males were seen at PQ feeders
Green-crowned Woodnymph (*Thalurania fannyi*)—Common throughout except along E
Rufous-tailed Hummingbird (*Amazilia tzacatl*)—The most common lowland species of the west in gardens and open areas; spreading to feeders at higher elevations
Andean Emerald (*Amazilia franciae*)—Rather common at feeders throughout the trip. Not at RS
Purple-chested Hummingbird (*Amazilia rosenbergi*)—1 was watched closely by some of us at RS
Speckled Hummingbird (*Adelomyia melanogenys*)—Several seen at AP, also 1 along E; common at PQ
Fawn-breasted Brilliant (*Heliodoxa rubinoides*)—Quite a few seen at feeders in the subtropics; SP, AP, PQ, etc.
Empress Brilliant (*Heliodoxa imperatrix*)—This spectacular, scarce Chocó-Andean endemic was seen well at several places (always at feeders), though best at AP
Green-crowned Brilliant (*Heliodoxa jacula*)—Quite common, SP, AP, ME, MG
Buff-tailed Coronet (*Boissonneaua flavescens*)—2 were seen closely at AP; common at PQ
Velvet-purple Coronet (*Boissonneaua jardini*)—This stunning Chocó-Andean endemic species was seen sporadically at SP (only 1); at least 2 were seen beautifully at AP
Shining Sunbeam (*Aglaeactis cupripennis*)—5 were seen at YC
Brown Inca (*Coeligena wilsoni*)—Between 2-5 were seen at feeders on five days
Collared Inca (*Coeligena torquata*)—1 was seen along E; 6 or so were seen at PQ
Buff-winged Starfrontlet (*Coeligena lutetiae*)—Common and bold at YC
Sword-billed Hummingbird (*Ensifera ensifera*)—At least 4 of this unbelievably bizarre species were seen beautifully at YC feeders
Great Sapphirewing (*Pterophanes cyanopterus*)—Large and spectacular; close views of this, the World's second largest hummingbird, at YC (8 in all)
Gorgeted Sunangel (*Heliangelus strophianus*)—1 was seen at YC (a rare seasonal visitor to this site). Then close-up views of 4 at B and PQ
Sapphire-vented Puffleg (*Eriocnemis luciani*)—The common puffleg at YC
Golden-breasted Puffleg (*Eriocnemis mosquera*)—4-5 of this rather scarce Andean species were seen closely at YC feeders
Hoary Puffleg (*Haplophaedia lugens*)—1 of this scarce Chocó-Andean Endemic was seen at a PQ feeder
Purple-bibbed Whitetip (*Urosticte benjamini*)—Quite a few seen for such a naturally scarce species (bless those feeders!!); seen at SP, AP and PQ
Booted Racket-tail (*Ocreatus underwoodii*)—This species is always a favorite! Rather common at feeders, on all but our day to RS
Green-tailed trainbearer (*Iesbia nuna*)—A pair was seen feeding at *Verbena* flowers at PQ
Tyrian Metaltail (*Metallura tyrianthina*)—Only 2 were seen well at YC
Violet-tailed Sylph (*Aglaiocercus coelestis*)—This Chocó-Andean specialty with its male's stunning tail was common at feeders throughout the area
Wedge-billed Hummingbird (*Augastes geoffroyi*)—Singles were seen, always away from feeders, at ME, AP and PQ

Purple-crowned Fairy (*Heliodytes barroti*)—Quite a few were seen this trip (9 in all) in the lowlands and foothills; RS, MS, MG

Purple-throated Woodstar (*Callifloxa mitchellii*)— Another Chocó-Andean specialty; quite common and seen well at feeders on all but our third day

White-bellied Woodstar (*Chaetocercus mulsant*)—1 female was seen at SP feeders (11/14)

Little Woodstar (*Chaetocercus bombus*)—2 (1 juvenile male, 1 female) were seen repeatedly at PQ

QUETZALS & TROGONS: TROGONIDAE

Western White-tailed Trogon (*Trogon chionurus*)—Aka White-tailed Trogon (*T. Viridis*) by some authors. 2 were seen well at RS

Chocó Trogon (*Trogon comptus*)— Aka White-eyed Trogon by some authors. After quite a lot of work, a stunning pair came in close for spectacular views; MS

Collared Trogon (*Trogon collaris*)—4 seen in all; RS, MS, and best, a pair at MG

Crested Quetzal (*Pharomachrus antisianus*)—Heard only along E on 11/15

Golden-headed Quetzal (*Pharomachrus auriceps*)—A few were seen: 2 were glimpsed at ME on our first visit there; then 2 males were seen well there on our second visit; 1 was seen at AP (others heard)

KINGFISHERS: ALCEDINIDAE

Green Kingfisher (*Chloroceryle americana*)—1 was seen along the river at RS

MOTMOTS: MOMOTIDAE

Rufous Motmot (*Baryphthengus martii*)—Heard mostly; singles seen at RS and MG

Broad-billed Motmot (*Electron platyrhynchum*)—Excellent views at RS and MS

BARBETS: CAPITONIDAE

Red-headed Barbet (*Eubucco bourcierii*)—Many were seen this trip (11+); SP, RS, MS, AP

Toucan Barbet (*Semnornis ramphastinus*)—3 of this stunning, unique Chocó endemic were seen along ME on our first morning there; also heard along E

TOUCANS: RAMPHASTIDAE

Crimson-rumped Toucanet (*Aulacorhynchus haematopygus*)—As many as 8 were seen (some really close at Y!) along ME on our first morning. Also seen at MS

Plate-billed Mountain-Toucan (*Andigena laminirostris*)—This spectacular Chocó-Andean specialty was seen twice along E (also at its nest)

Pale-mandibled Araçari (*Pteroglossua erythropygius*)—Considered a race of Collared Araçari (*P. torquatus*) by some authors, This Ecuadorian endemic species was seen at various sites, including some great close-up views

Chocó Toucan (*Ramphastos brevis*)—Quite a few were seen (15+): around ME, RS, MS

Chestnut-mandibled Toucan (*Ramphastos swainsonii*)—5 were seen, including close views from the canopy tower at RS; also 1 was seen at MG

WOODPECKERS: PICIDAE

Black-cheeked Woodpecker (*Melanerpes pucherani*)—1 was seen at RS

Smoky-brown Woodpecker (*Veniliornis funigatus*)—2 were seen along ME on our first morning there

Red-rumped Woodpecker (*Veniliornis kirkii*)—at least 1 was seen at RS, from the canopy tower

Golden-olive Woodpecker (*Piculus rubiginosus*)—2 were seen at RS; another was seen well at MS

Crimson-mantled Woodpecker (*Piculus rivolii*)—3 were seen on two days along E

Lineated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus lineatus*)—Singles were seen at RS and MS

Powerful Woodpecker (*Campephilus pollens*)—1 male was eventually spotted and scoped, way back in the forest along the lower E

Guayaquil Woodpecker (*Campephilus guayaquilensis*)—A pair was seen nicely at RS; another was found at MS (also heard)

OVENBIRDS: FURNARIIDAE

Pacific Hornero (*Furnarius cinnamomeus*)—Considered a race of Pale-legged Hornero by some authors. A few of this comical Tumbesian endemic were seen at N and in the RS area

Azara's Spinetail (*Synallaxis azarae*)—Heard only along E, but seen only by Ben

Rufous Spinetail (*Synallaxis unirufa*)—Heard on only on one day then 1 was seen well along E

Slaty Spinetail (*Synallaxis brachyura*)—1 was seen at MS; also heard ME and RS

White-browed Spinetail (*Hellmayrea gularis*)—1 was seen by some of the group (also heard) at Y

Red-faced Spinetail (*Cranioleuca erythrops*)—Several seen (15 or so); ME, AP, MS, and lower E (also juvenile bird being fed)

Spotted Barbtail (*Premnoplex brunnescens*)—1 was seen quite well along ME

Pearled Treerunner (*Margarornis squamiger*)—1 was seen at Y; most common along E (7)

Streaked Tuftedcheek (*Pseudocolaptes boissonnautii*)—Singles were seen on two days along E (including very nice looks!)

Scaly-throated Foliage-gleaner (*Anabacerthia variagaticeps*)—Between 1-3 were seen with mixed foraging flocks; ME, MS, AP

Lineated Foliage-gleaner (*Syndactyla subalaris*)—Excellent looks at 2 along ME (responded beautifully to tape-playback); another 2 at MS

Buff-fronted Foliage-gleaner (*Philydor rufus*)—At least 4 along ME; 2 at MS

Streak-capped Treehunter (*Thripadectes virgaticeps*)—1 was seen along the lower E

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

Streaked Xenops (*Xenops rutilans*)—1 was seen well with a mixed foraging flock at RS

Plain-brown Woodcreeper (*Dendrocincla fuliginosa*)—Singles were seen along ME (photo) and at MS

Wedge-billed Woodcreeper (*Glyphorhynchus spirurus*)—1 was seen at MS with a mixed foraging flock

Spotted Woodcreeper (*Xiphorhynchus erythropygius*)—Quite a few seen at ME, RS, MS

Montane Woodcreeper (*Lepidocolaptes lacrymiger*)—Common in the general area

Streak-headed Woodcreeper (*Lepidocolaptes souleyetii*)—2 were seen at RS

Brown-billed Scythebill (*Campylorhamphus trochilirostris*)—1 was seen with a mixed Foraging flock at MS

TYPICAL ANTBIRDS: THAMNOPHILIDAE

Western Slaty-Antshrike (*Thamnophilus atrinucha*)—1 male was seen at RS

Russet Antshrike (*Thamnistes anabatinus*)—1 was seen with mixed foraging flock from the canopy tower at RS

Moustached Antwren (*Myrmotherula ignota*)—Aka Griscom's Antwren by some authors.

Heard only this time, at close range at RS

Slaty Antwren (*Myrmotherula schisticolor*)—At least 1 of a pair was seen with a mixed understory flock at MS

Dot-winged Antwren (*Microrhopias quixensis*)—A pair was seen well from the canopy tower at RS

Chestnut-backed Antbird (*Myrmeciza exsul*)—Heard only at RS

Esmeraldas Antbird (*Myrmeciza nigricauda*)—1 real skulker was seen well by most of us in undergrowth after quite an episode of playback at MG

ANTTHRUSHES AND ANTPITTAS: FORMICARIIDAE

Black-headed Antthrush (*Formicarius nigricapillus*)—Heard only at RS

Rufous-breasted Antthrush (*Formicarius rufipectus*)—Heard only at SP

Giant Antpitta (*Grallaria gigantea*)—Spectacular!, one of the highlights of this tour. "Cariño" came out in plain sight to feed on worms at AP

Undulated Antpitta (*Grallaria aquamigera*)—Heard only at YC

Moustached Antpitta (*Grallaria alleni*)—2 ("Susan and "José") were seen as they fed on worms below the trail at AP

Chestnut-crowned Antpitta (*Grallaria ruficapillus*)—Heard only on 11/14, the 1 was seen the following day there by a few people, along E

Yellow-breasted Antpitta (*Grallaria flavotincta*)—"Willy" was seen nicely as she fed on worms along the river at AP

Rufous Antpitta (*Grallaria rufula*)—Heard only several times at YC

TAPACULOS: RHINOCRYPTIDAE

Ocellated Tapaculo (*Acropternis orthonyx*)—Heard at close range, and after much effort, several of us got to actually see it(!!) along E (also heard others over two days)

Nariño Tapaculo (*Scytolopus vicinior*)—Heard only at AP and lower E

Spillmann's Tapaculo (*Scytolopus spillmanni*)—Heard only on two days along the E

Blackish [Unicolored] Tapaculo (*Scytalopus [unicolor] latrans*)—Heard only (we were close!) at YC

COTINGA: COTINGIDAE

Green-and-black Fruiteater (*Pipreola riefferii*)—Quite a few seen along E; first 1, then, the following day 6 were seen

Orange-breasted Fruiteater (*Pipreola jucunda*)—Spectacular looks at a pair (one at a time) attending a nest (nest of this species previously unknown!) at AP. We also saw a single chick (also previously unknown to science!!). A trip highlight!!!

Olivaceous Piha (*Snowornis cryptolophus*)—1 bird sitting on its feeble nest at AP

Andean Cock-of-the-Rock (*Rupicola peruviana*)—Some 4 males were seen (several more were present) at their Lek at AP

MANAKINS: PIPRIDAE

Golden-winged Manakin (*Masius chrysopterus*)—4 were seen (males, female and juvenile male) feeding on *Miconia* fruit in the canopy at MS

White-bearded Manakin (*Manacus manacus*)—Single males were seen (others heard) at RS and MS

Club-winged Manakin (*Machaeropterus deliciosus*)—1 male was seen briefly in canopy at MS on 11/12; the 3 were seen there the next day (some display action had begun); also heard along the lower E

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS: TYRANNIDAE

Sooty-headed Tyrannulet (*Phyllomyias griseiceps*)—Pairs were seen at RS and MS

Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet (*Tyrannulus elatus*)—1 was seen perched in treetops at MS

Greenish Elaenia (*Myiopagis viridicata*)—Singles were seen on three days at RS and MS

Sierran Elaenia (*Elaenia pallatangae*)—1 was seen with a mixed foraging flock along E

Brown-capped Tyrannulet (*Ornithion brunneicapillus*)—1 was seen in canopy at RS

Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet (*Camptostoma obsoletum*)—Several seen; ME, RS, MS

White-throated Tyrannulet (*Mecocerculus leucophrys*)—1 or so were seen at YC

White-tailed Tyrannulet (*Mecocerculus poecilocercus*)—Only a few were seen this trip along ME, and on two days along E

White-banded Tyrannulet (*Mecocerculus stictopterus*)—2 were seen with mixed foraging flocks at YC

Golden-faced Tyrannulet (*Zimmerius chrysops*)—Several recorded; RS, MS

Slaty-capped Flycatcher (*Leptopogon striaticollis*)—1-2 were seen on five days; AP, MS, MG, E

Streak-necked Flycatcher (*Mionectes striaticollis*)—At least 4 were seen on two days with mixed foraging flocks; feeding on berries

Ochre-bellied Flycatcher (*Mionectes oleagineus*)—1 was seen at RS

Ornate Flycatcher (*Myiotriccus ornatus*)—Quite a few of this charming and attractive flycatcher were seen on all but two days (including good close looks)

Black-capped Pygmy-Tyrant (*Myiornis atricapillus*)—1 very obliging little guy (one of the World's smallest species) was seen nicely at RS

Scale-crested Pygmy-Tyrant (*Lophotriccus pileatus*)—Good looks at several of this rather skulking species at ME, RS; others heard only

Common Tody-Flycatcher (*Todirostrum cinereum*)—1 was seen at RS along the road

Black-headed Tody-Flycatcher (*Todirostrum nigriceps*)—1 was seen (scoped) at RS

Sulphur-rumped Flycatcher (*Myiobius sulphureipygius*)—1 was seen by Ben with a mixed foraging flock at MS on 11/13

Black-tailed Flycatcher (*Myiobius atricaudus*)—1 was seen with a mixed foraging flock at RS

Ruddy-tailed Flycatcher (*Terenotriccus erythrus*)—1 was seen with a mixed understory flock at RS

Cinnamon Flycatcher (*Pyrrhomyias cinnamomeus*)—3 were seen on our last day along the E

Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*)—1 was seen at RS

Smoke-colored Pewee (*Contopus fumigatus*)—Several seen; along the ME and E

Western Wood-Pewee (*Contopus sordidulus*)—Singles (3) of this boreal migrant were seen and heard—MS, ME and E

Brown-backed Chat-Tyrant (*Ochthoeca fumicolor*)—1 was seen at YC on our first morning

Rusty-margined Flycatcher (*Myiozetetes cayanensis*)—A few (3 in all) were seen in the MS area

Social Flycatcher (*Myiozetetes similis*)—3 in all were seen at MS on two days

Golden-crowned Flycatcher (*Myiodynastes chrysocephalus*)—Some 3 were seen along the ME; best seen at Y

Streaked Flycatcher (*Myiodynastes maculatus*)—5 were seen and well at RS

Boat-billed Flycatcher (*Megarynchus pitangua*)—1 was seen at RS

Snowy-throated Kingbird (*Tyrannus niveigularis*)—1 was seen close-up at MS (a Tumbesian endemic)

Tropical Kingbird (*Tyrannus melancholicus*)—Common; seen on all days

Dusky-capped Flycatcher (*Myarchus tuberculifer*)—Quite common this trip in the subtropics and lowlands

Masked Tityra (*Tityra semifaciata*)—5 were seen at RS; 3 were seen at MS

Cinnamon Becard (*Pachyramphus cinnamomeus*)—Singles seen; at ME (somewhat high for the species) and RS

Black-and-white Becard (*Pachyramphus albogriseus*)—Seen on 4 days; at ME, MS, MG, (5 in all)

One-colored Becard (*Platypsaris homochrous*)—The most widespread becard—seen on 5 days; best views at RS, also seen at ME, MS, AP and MG

SWALLOWS: HIRUNDINIDAE

Gray-breasted Martin (*Progne chalybea*)—3 or so were seen at RS

Blue-and-white Swallow (*Notiochelidon cyanoleuca*)—The most common and widespread swallow in Ecuador; though small numbers were seen this trip

White-thighed Swallow (*Notiochelidon tibialis*)—3 or so were seen in the MS area on two days

Southern Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*)—Several were seen in open areas; RS (along the road) and MS (on two visits there)

DIPPERS: CINCLIDAE

White-capped Dipper (*Cinclus leucocephalus*)—A pair was seen along the stream at AP

WRENS: TROGLODYTIDAE

Rufous Wren (*Cinnycerthia unirufa*)—At least 8 were seen (and well) at YC

Sharp's Wren (*Cinnycerthia olivascens*)—Aka Sepia-brown Wren. At least 2 were seen with a mixed foraging flock along E

Plain-tailed Wren (*Thryothorus euophrys*)—Heard only (from *Chusquea* bamboo) along the E on 11/14 (unresponsive this trip)

Bay Wren (*Thryothorus nigricapillus*)—Heard only at MS

House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*)—Common and seen on all but one day (also heard); especially at SP

White-breasted Wood-Wren (*Henicorhina leucosticta*)—Heard only at RS

Gray-breasted Wood-Wren (*Henicorhina leucophrys*)—Heard often in montane areas; 2 were seen well at MS

Southern Nightingale-Wren (*Microcerculus marginatus*)—Aka Scaly-breasted Wren. 1 was seen briefly at RS; also heard there and at MS

THRUSHES & ALLIES: TURDIDAE

Andean Solitaire (*Myadestes ralloides*)—Heard only; on many days in the Andes

Swainson's Thrush (*Catharus ustulatus*)—Several seen at ME, MS, AP, MG

Great Thrush (*Turdus fuscater*)—A common highland species

Glossy-black Thrush (*Turdus serranus*)—Heard on one day, 1 seen the following day; both along the E

Pale-vented Thrush (*Turdus obsoletus*)—1 was seen well, feeding at *Miconia* trees at MS

Ecuadorian Thrush (*Turdus maculirostris*)—A few were seen this trip, ME, SP, MS (a Tumbesian endemic species)

JAYS & ALLIES: CORVIDAE

Turquoise Jay (*Cyanolyca turcosa*)—2 were seen well along E (a beauty!); others heard
Beautiful Jay (*Cyanolyca pulchra*)—Heard only along E

OLD WORLD SPARROWS: PASSERIDAE

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*)—1 was reported in Quito (very few records from there over the years) by some of the group

VIREOS & ALLIES: VIREONIDAE

Brown-capped Vireo (*Vireo leucophrys*)—At least 6 were seen well at Y and along ME; also seen along E on our last day

Red-eyed Vireo (*Vireo olivaceus*)—Quite common this trip, seen on all but first day; best at Y

Lesser Greenlet (*Hylophilus decurtatus*)—Herd often at RS; at least 1 was seen at MS

SISKINS, CROSSBILLS & ALLIES: FRINGILLIDAE

Thick-billed Euphonia (*Euphonia laniirostris*)—About 6 seen in all; N, ME, MS

Orange-bellied Euphonia (*Euphonia xanthogaster*)—Common and widespread in Ecuador; several seen on all but our first day

Lesser Goldfinch (*Carduelis psaltria*)—1 bird was seen perching quietly at N

NEW WORLD WARBLERS: PARULIDAE

Tropical Parula (*Parula pitiayumi*)—At least 3 were seen at ME; also heard at MS

Blackburnian Warbler (*Dendroica fusca*)—A common boreal migrant to Andean montane areas; seen on most days including some colorful males

Olive-crowned Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis semiflava*)—A very responsive male was seen well at MS entrance area

Slate-throated Whitestart (*Myioborus miniatus*)—Some authors call it “Redstart”, though it shows no red. A rather common mixed flock participant at lower elevations

Spectacled Whitestart (*Myioborus melanocephalus*)—Some authors call it “Redstart”, though it shows no red. A rather common mixed flock participant at upper elevations; 5 were seen at YC and a few more were found along E

Chocó Warbler (*Basileuterus chlorophrys*)—2 were seen well with mixed foraging flock at MS

Russet-crowned Warbler (*Basileuterus coronatus*)—A pair was seen singing away along the E on 11/14

Three-striped Warbler (*Basileuterus tristriatus*)—Several seen; at least 5 at Y and ME; others at MS, etc.

BANANAQUIT: COEREBIDAE

Bananaquit (*Coereba flaveola*)—Several seen; RS and MS (on two visits)

TANAGERS & ALLIES: THRAUPIDAE

Cinereous Conebill (*Conirostrum cinereum*)—Surprisingly, only 1 was seen at YC

Blue-backed Conebill (*Conirostrum sitticolor*)—Several were seen with mixed foraging flocks at YC

Capped Conebill (*Conirostrum albifrons*)—Some 6 were seen along the E on our last day

Grass-green Tanager (*Chlorornis riefferii*)—Pairs were seen on two days along E; best on our last day—stunning!!!

Dusky Bush-Tanager (*Chlorospingus semifuscus*)—Common at all mid-elevations; seen on five days

Superciliaried Hemispingus (*Hemispingus superciliaris*)—3-5 were seen with mixed foraging flocks at YC

Western Hemispingus (*Hemispingus ochraceus*)—Aka Black-eared Hemispingus (*H. melanotis*). At least 2 were seen along the E on our last day

Guira Tanager (*Hemithraupis guira*)—At least 4 were seen at RS; 1 male was seen at MS

Dusky-faced Tanager (*Mitrospingus cassinii*)—2 were seen well at MS

Ochre-breasted Tanager (*Chlorothraupis stolzmanni*)—A large, drab Chocó endemic; at least 10 birds were seen on two days at MS

Scarlet-browed Tanager (*Heterospingus xanthopygius*)—At least 1 male was seen well and repeatedly at RS from the canopy tower

White-shouldered Tanager (*Tachyphonus luctuosus*)—6 were seen (males, and very different-looking females) at RS

Tawny-crested Tanager (*Tachyphonus delatrii*)—10 were seen nicely at RS

White-lined Tanager (*Tachyphonus rufus*)—2 were seen closely at MRB feeders

Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*)—Several of this boreal migrant were seen on three days

Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*)—1 female (another boreal migrant—actually only an uncommon transient to western Ecuador) was seen at RS

White-winged Tanager (*Piranga leucoptera*)—1 male was seen along ME

Lemon-rumped Tanager (*Ramphocelus icteronotus*)—Aka Flame-rumped Tanager (*R. flammigerus*). By far the most common tanager at lower elevations – seen on all but two days; male is very flashy!

Blue-gray Tanager (*Thraupis episcopus*)—Very common at lower elevations; seen on all but one day

Blue-capped Tanager (*Thraupis cyanocephala*)—At least 2 were seen at AP; 3 more were seen on our last day at E

Palm Tanager (*Thraupis palmarum*)—Fairly common at lower elevations; seen on all but two days

Hooded Mountain-Tanager (*Buthraupis montana*)—1 was seen at YC (a seasonal inhabitant of this high elevation forest); then at least 3 were seen along E on 11/14

Scarlet-bellied Mountain-Tanager (*Anisognathus igniventris*)—At least 2 of this stunner were seen at YC

Blue-winged Mountain-Tanager (*Anisognathus somptuosus*)—Fairly common species throughout; seen on 4 days

Gray-and-gold Tanager (*Tangara palmeri*)—At least 2 were seen repeatedly from the canopy tower at RS, feeding on sprigs of fruit in the canopy

Blue-whiskered Tanager (*Tangara johannae*)—2 of this rare, spectacular tanager were seen repeatedly from the canopy tower at RS, feeding on sprigs of fruit in the canopy

Emerald Tanager (*Tangara florida*)—1-2 were seen repeatedly from the canopy tower at RS, feeding on sprigs of fruit in the canopy

Golden Tanager (*Tangara arthus*)—Fairly common with mixed flocks in the Subtropics; seen almost daily; best were 3 or so at MRB fruit feeders

Silver-throated Tanager (*Tangara icterocephala*)—At least 5 were seen at ME; others were seen at MRB (closest looks!), RS, MS, MG

Flame-faced Tanager (*Tangara parzudakii*)—Several of this attractive tanager were seen at MS on two days

Rufous-throated Tanager (*Tangara rufigula*)—Over a dozen of this handsome Chocó endemic species was, mostly seen at MS; also AP

Rufous-winged Tanager (*Tangara lavinia*)—A pair was seen repeatedly from the canopy tower at RS, feeding on sprigs of fruit in the canopy

Bay-headed Tanager (*Tangara gyrola*)—5 or so were seen at RS and another 1-2 were seen at MS

Golden-naped Tanager (*Tangara rufivertex*)—At least 1 was seen high in canopy along ME; another was seen perched in canopy at AP

Metallic-green Tanager (*Tangara labradorides*)—1 was seen along ME on our first morning there

Blue-necked Tanager (*Tangara cyanicollis*)—A common and stunning lowland species; singles were seen nicely at RS and MS

Beryl-spangled Tanager (*Tangara nigroviridis*)—This beauty was seen on several occasions; at least 6-7 along ME; 5 or so along E on our last day

Blue-and-black Tanager (*Tangara vassorii*)—2 or so were seen with a mixed foraging flock along the E on 11/14

Black-capped Tanager (*Tangara heinei*)—A pair was seen a Y; then a female was seen at her nest at AP; another was seen along the lower E

Yellow-tufted Dacnis (*Dacnis egregia*)—Considered a subspecies of Black-faced Dacnis (*D. lineata*) by some authors. At least 3 of this stunning Chocó endemic species was seen beautifully from the canopy tower at RS

Scarlet-thighed Dacnis (*Dacnis venusta*)—1 pair was seen repeatedly from the canopy tower at RS, feeding on sprigs of fruit in the canopy (spectacular male!)

Blue Dacnis (*Dacnis cayana*)—At least a pair was seen repeatedly from the canopy tower at RS—this, the western dark blue *coerebicolor* race

Scarlet-breasted Dacnis (*Dacnis berlepschi*)—At least a stunning male was seen at RS feeding on sprigs of fruit in the canopy; then came closer (female was present too) to the canopy tower—a threatened Chocó endemic

Green Honeycreeper (*Chlorophanes spiza*)—Several seen; RS and MS

Purple Honeycreeper (*Cyanerpes caeruleus*)—1 male was seen from the canopy tower at RS; at least 3 (both males and females) were seen at MS

Swallow Tanager (*Tersina viridis*)—Quite a few seen; ME, MS, MG

Plushcap (*Catamblyrhynchus diadema*)—Aka Plush-capped Finch. 1 was seen well with mixed foraging flock (in bamboo) along E

BUNTINGS, SPARROWS & ALLIES: EMBERIZIDAE

Variable Seedeater (*Sporophila corvina*)—1 male was seen along ME

Yellow-bellied Seedeater (*Sporophila nigricollis*)—Quite a few were seen: N, RS, AP, MS

Yellow-faced Grassquit (*Tiaris olivacea*)—1 male was seen closely at AP

White-sided Flowerpiercer (*Diglossa albilatera*)—5 were seen along the E on our last day
Glossy Flowerpiercer (*Diglossa lafresnayii*)—Very common and unbelievably tame at hummingbird feeders at YC

Black Flowerpiercer (*Diglossa humeralis*)—2 or so were seen at YC

Masked Flowerpiercer (*Diglossopsis cyanea*)—Very common and unbelievably tame at hummingbird feeders at YC; 1 was seen along the E on our last day

Rufous-naped Brush-Finch (*Atlapetes latinuchus*)—Aka Yellow-breasted Brush-Finch by some authors. At least 1 was seen well at YC

Tricolored Brush-Finch (*Atlapetes tricolor*)—Pairs were seen twice at Y; also at MS (a Chocó specialty)

Stripe-headed Brush-Finch (*Buarremon torquatus*)—1 confiding bird foraged along the main trail in front of us at YC

Orange-billed Sparrow (*Arremon aurantirostris*)—1 was seen very closely at MRB feeders; heard at RS

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

SALTATORS, CARDINALS & ALLIES: CARDINALIDAE

Buff-throated Saltator (*Saltator maximus*)—Fairly common at RS and MS

Slate-colored Grosbeak (*Saltator grossus*)—2 were seen well at MS

Black-winged Saltator (*Saltator atripennis*)—1-2 or so were seen at ME, RS and MS

Southern Yellow-Grosbeak (*Pheucticus chrysogaster*)—Aka Golden-bellied Grosbeak. 2 were seen along the E on our last day

CACIQUES, ORIOLES & ALLIES: ICTERIDAE

Giant Cowbird (*Molothrus oryzivorus*)—1 male was seen fairly closely along E on our last day

Scarlet-rumped Cacique (*Cacicus uropygialis*)—At least 3 were seen (and heard) at RS

MAMMAL LIST

RACCOONS & ALLIES: PROCYONIDAE

White-nosed Coati (*Nasua narica*)—1 was seen closely as it rummaged around along the stream at AP

Long-tailed Weasel (*Mustela frenata*)—1 was seen crossing the entrance road at SP

Tayra (*Eira barbara*)—1 spectacular animal was seen in a tree by some of our group; reacting strongly to PJG's high-pitched whistle; began running about, climbing limbs, circling about, dropped to the ground, climbed again, peering out at us . . . then disappeared

SQUIRRELS: SCIURIDAE

Neotropical Red-tailed Squirrel (*Sciurus granatensis*)—A few were seen at different sites; 2 at RS, and singles at MS and AP

RABBITS: LEPORIDAE

Brazilian Rabbit/Tapiti (*Silvilagus brasiliensis*)—2 were seen at YC

OTHER NOTEWORTHY CREATURES

SPINY-LIZARDS: PHRYNOSOMATIDAE

Malachite Spiny-Lizard (*Sceloporus malachiticus*)—Aka Emerald Swift. 1 was seen in forest at MS