

Victor Emanuel Nature Tours, Inc.

BARRANCA DEL COBRE MEXICO'S COPPER CANYON

March 26 – April 3, 2006

Leader: Brian Gibbons

Our 2006 Copper Canyon tour was the best for birds I have ever experienced—194 species. Day after day produced memorable sightings and dining pleasures. Our first morning was a great introduction to a few tropical birds of Western Mexico. We saw everything we could have hoped for there and had great looks at most of these birds. The Mexican Parrotlet had me worried, but it put on an appearance as we were on our way out. Purplish-backed Jay, Black-throated Magpie-Jay, Gray Hawk, Grayish Saltator, and others brightened the list of Parque Sinaloa birds.

The El Fuerte area had many highlights too. Unexpected birds were the order here; vagrant Northern Jacana, great looks at White-fronted Parrot, across the river views of Rufous-bellied Chachalaca, Sinaloa Wren, and several different Bare-throated Tiger-Herons made our two days in El Fuerte memorable. Black-vented Oriole was a nice addition too. Shrimp, guacamole, and grilled bass were trip highlights from the alimentary side of El Fuerte. The sun phenomena we noticed after seeing the west Mexican endemic White-naped Swifts right above town was exciting as well; it was called a halo. Parahelia are spots on either side of the sun (sun dogs). All of these occur at 22 degrees from the sun.

The first leg of the train was the most memorable for me—bridges, tunnels, and spectacular vistas. The amazing canyon scenery hosted at least a couple of Common Black-Hawks. Our next stop was Bahuichivo, for a couple of days at the Paraiso del Oso. These days were just as productive as our lowland birding. From the courtyard came hummingbird highlights with Berylline, Magnificent, and Rufous. The creek out back proved productive. White-striped Woodcreepers, Tufted Flycatchers, and a nesting pair of Mountain Pygmy-Owls were great. We all witnessed the tiny female Calliope Hummingbird bathing in the creek by landing in the middle of a pool and scooting across. Our trip to Cerro Gallegos was crowned by a pair of Military Macaws that flew past, below us, as we were about to enjoy our superb fajitas. Along the way we saw Crescent-chested Warbler, Mountain Trogon, Olive Warbler, White-eared Hummingbird, and Grace's Warbler, to name a few.

Our next stop was Creel. This was my first time to stay at the Cabañas Cañon del Cobre, and I hope it will not be my last. Besides the great food, the hummingbird show was spectacular. The sharing lesson seemed to take better here with these feisty birds than with the ones at Paraiso del Oso. Blue-throateds ruled the roost, but many Magnificents and White-eareds were able to feed at will, often in threes and fours. The Calliope and Broad-tailed kept low profiles, and snuck in and out regularly.

The next morning would be more productive than I could have ever imagined. It started with the appearance of a nice pair of Evening Grosbeaks in the yard, the first time I had ever seen them in Mexico. I was resigned to not see the Eared Quetzal again. I had passed through its habitat at least nine times in the last decade. I wasn't going to see it this time. That moment, after turning

off the tape and still hearing the call, was magical. I couldn't believe it. There, up the hill in front of us, was an Eared Quetzal squeal-chucking, still unseen. Soon enough he investigated the calls and came into view; how sweet. We all got good scope views which included the whiskers around its auriculars that give the bird its name. This was my lifer and the trip highlight for me, as some of you might have guessed.

Other birds peppered the morning to keep it from being a complete letdown after the quetzal. Crescent-chested Warbler, many singing Red-faced Warblers and Slate-throated Redstarts, and the surprise Striped Sparrow along the creek kept us sharp for the rest of the day. The next morning in Choguita, the Striped Sparrows were where they were supposed to be, and we had great scope views.

There is one little piece of business that we must address. I am going to have to invoke a little-used clause to Rule Number One 1.22.A.a. This states that when a grave injustice has taken place in assigning the bird of the trip, the leader has the right to change the official bird of the trip to whatever he sees fit. In this case, I believe you all know what is coming. The official bird of the trip is now declared as the Eared Quetzal! Just kidding; Military Macaw is a very fitting bird of the trip. I just wish everyone had seen them!

We had a wonderful trip and I am glad each of you was able to join me on our Barranca del Cobre tour in 2006. I look forward to birding with you again. Oh, by the way, where's Gus?

ITINERARY

March 26th - Arrival in Los Mochis, trip introduction and dinner.

March 27th – Parque Sinaloa, Los Mochis, Sinaloa; Drive to El Fuerte, afternoon town tour and birding along the El Fuerte River until dusk. Night at La Choza.

March 28th – Birding the El Fuerte River Valley. In the afternoon we visited Presa Miguel Hidalgo.

March 29th – Birding around the El Fuerte Train Station, train to Bahuichivo and transfer to Paraiso del Oso in Cerocahui, Chihuahua. Evening birding around the grounds and down to the stream.

March 30th – Van to Cerro Gallegos and the Urique canyon overlook birding along the way. Afternoon around Paraiso del Oso.

March 31st – Birding behind the Paraiso del Oso along the creek trail. Transfer to Bahuichivo train station for the train to Creel with a brief stop at Divisadero. We looked at Lago Arareco on the way to Cabañas Cañon del Cobre.

April 1st – Birding hike to Cascada Cusarare with lunch at the falls. Afternoon trip to Creel for a little shopping and sight-seeing and a stop to visit a Tarahumara cave dwelling.

April 2nd – Our first birding stop was in the small community of Choguita (the Striped Sparrow spot). Lunch at Casa Carolina in La Junta and continue on to Chihuahua.

April 3rd – Departures for points north

Unusual or especially memorable observations are underlined.
Mexican endemics and near-endemics are **boldfaced**.

BIRDS:

Least Grebe (*Tachybaptus dominicus*) – A couple in the river near El Fuerte
Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*) – A couple in Lago Arareco near Creel
American White Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchus*) – Presa Miguel Hidalgo
Double-crested Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) – Common along the Rio El Fuerte
Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*) – Common along the Rio El Fuerte
Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*) – Seen around El Fuerte and a couple near Paraiso del Oso
Great Egret (*Ardea alba*) – Several seen around El Fuerte
Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*) – Three along the river near El Fuerte
Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*) – Near El Fuerte
Green Heron (*Butorides virescens*) – One sneaking through the oxbow near the river
Black-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) – Seen along the river in a couple of places
Bare-throated Tiger-Heron (*Tigrisoma mexicanum*) – Several seen along the river and in the oxbow,
amazing looks, all adults
White-faced Ibis (*Plegadis chihi*) – A few in the agricultural fields between Los Mochis and El Fuerte
Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*) – A pair seen from Parque Sinaloa
American Wigeon (*Anas Americana*) – A few in the river near El Fuerte
Gadwall (*Anas strepera*) – The most common duck in the Rio el Fuerte
Green-winged Teal (*Anas carolinensis*) – Eight in the Rio El Fuerte
Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos diazi*) – “Mexican Duck” A couple seen along the river and several seen in
the flooded orchard at Casa Carolina
Cinnamon Teal (*Anas cyanoptera*) – Several beauties seen along the river
Northern Shoveler (*Anas clypeata*) – One in the roadside ditch near La Junta
Lesser Scaup (*Aythya affinis*) – A few at Lago Arareco
Bufflehead (*Bucephala albeola*) – Four seen at Lago Arareco
Ruddy Duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) – Several seen at Lago Arareco
Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*) – Common seen daily
Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*) – Common seen daily
Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) – Fairly common along Rio El Fuerte
Sharp-shinned Hawk (*Accipiter striatus*) – two seen in the El Fuerte area
Cooper’s Hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*) – One seen in El Fuerte and a few seen in the mountains
Gray Hawk (*Asturina nitida*) – Several seen in the lowlands, Parque Sinaloa and El Fuerte
Common Black Hawk (*Buteogallus anthracinus*) – A few seen from the train between El Fuerte to
Bahuichivo
Short-tailed Hawk (*Buteo brachyurus*) – One soaring over Cerocahui, light morph
Swainson’s Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) – A few seen flying with TVs near Casa Carolina
Zone-tailed Hawk (*Buteo albonotatus*) – One seen by some folks during our first basket-buying stop
on the way to Cerro Gallegos
Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) – Several seen in the mountains
Crested Caracara (*Caracara cheriway*) – Common around El Fuerte
American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) – Several seen on the trip from Creel to Chihuahua
Merlin (*Falco columbarius*) – One flashed past chasing House Finches in Parque Sinaloa. Another
was seen by all along the river in El Fuerte
Rufous-bellied Chachalaca (*Ortalis wagleri*) – Four seen along the Rio El Fuerte
Quail species – We had a single flyby near the Rio El Fuerte (Gambell’s or Elegant)
Common Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*) – A few seen along the river

American Coot (*Fulica americana*) – Common around water

Northern Jacana (*Jacana spinosa*) – 2 immatures seen along the river, a vagrant this far north

Greater Yellowlegs (*Tringa melanoleuca*) – One seen at the dam overlook at Presa Miguel Hidalgo

Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularia*) – A few seen along the river

Ring-billed Gull (*Larus delawarensis*) – Presa Miguel Hidalgo

Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*) – Common in most towns

Red-billed Pigeon (*Columba flavirostris*) – Parque Sinaloa

Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*) – A couple seen on wires on the outskirts of Chihuahua

Mourning Dove (*Zenaida macroura*) – Seen in the mountains in a couple of locations

White-winged Dove (*Zenaida asiatica*) – Common in a variety of locales

Common Ground-Dove (*Columbina passerina*) – A few near El Fuerte

Ruddy Ground-Dove (*Columbina talpacoti*) – Parque Sinaloa, nice scope view

Inca Dove (*Columbina inca*) – Common in all habitats visited

White-tipped Dove (*Leptotila verreauxi*) – One flashed past near the river

Military Macaw (*Ara militaris*) – A spectacular pair flew below the Cerro Gallegos overlook – Bird of the trip (for some Elaine and I are holding out)

Mexican Parrotlet (*Forpus cyanopygius*) – Great scope views, Parque Sinaloa

White-fronted Parrot (*Amazona albifrons*) – Several pairs around the Rio El Fuerte including a pair dining on Cottonwood seed pods right overhead

Groove-billed Ani (*Crotophaga sulcirostris*) – Parque Sinaloa and El Fuerte area

Greater Roadrunner (*Geococcyx californianus*) – Ferranc spotted one along the road near Casa Carolina

Whiskered Screech-Owl (*Otus trichopsis*) – Three calling birds along the creek behind Paraiso del Oso, we never did spy one

Mountain Pygmy-Owl (*Glaucidium gnoma*) – Amazing pair at nest hole in a dead Arizona cypress along the creek behind Paraiso del Oso

White-naped Swift (*Streptoprocne semicollaris*) – A few hundred birds seen on two different days over El Fuerte, great find

White-throated Swift (*Aeronautes saxatalis*) – Seen on two days up in the mountains

Broad-billed hummingbird (*Cynanthus latirostris*) – Common in the lowlands

White-eared Hummingbird (*Hylocharis leucotis*) – A few on the trip to Cerro Gallegos and amazing studies at the Cabanas Canon del Cobre

Violet-crowned Hummingbird (*Agyrtria violiceps*) – Common in El Fuerte, a great study of a female constructing a nest at Parque Sinaloa

Berylline Hummingbird (*Saucerottia beryllina*) – Great looks in the courtyard at Paraiso del Oso

Blue-throated Hummingbird (*Lampornis clemenciae*) – Fantastic looks at the feeders at Cabanas Canon del Cobre

Magnificent Hummingbird (*Eugenes fulgens*) – Great studies at Paraiso del Oso and the Cabanas Canon del Cobre

Plain-capped Starthroat (*Helimaster constantii*) – Superb views of one bird at Posada Hidalgo in El Fuerte

Black-chinned Hummingbird (*Archilochus alexandri*) – A few at the feeders at Posada Hidalgo

Calliope Hummingbird (*Stellula calliope*) – A female taking a bath in the creek behind Paraiso del Oso was fun to watch as she did the breast stroke, a striking male visited the feeders at Cabañas Cañon del Cobre

Broad-tailed Hummingbird (*Selasphorus platycercus*) – On the trip to Cerro Gallegos and good looks at Cabañas Cañon del Cobre

Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus*) – At the feeders of Paraiso del Oso

Mountain Trogon (*Trogon mexicanus*) – A stunning bird along the road to Cerro Gallegos

Eared Quetzal (*Euptilotis neoxenus*) – What can I say, my lifer! This was a stunning success on the Cascada Cusarare hike!!

Belted Kingfisher (*Ceryle alcyon*) – A few seen along creeks and rivers

Green Kingfisher (*Chloroceryle americana*) – A couple along the Rio El Fuerte and one male on the creek behind Paraiso del Oso

Acorn Woodpecker (*Melanerpes formicivorus*) – Common in the mountains

Gila Woodpecker (*Melanerpes uropygialis*) – Common in the lowlands

Red-naped Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus nuchalis*) – A handsome male seen along the stream behind Paraiso del Oso, also seen in the yard at Cabañas Cañon del Cobre

Ladder-backed Woodpecker (*Picoides scalaris*) – Heard only at the El Fuerte train station

Hairy Woodpecker (*Picoides villosus*) – Heard only on the Cascada Cusarare hike

Arizona Woodpecker (*Picoides arizonae*) – Seen on the trip to Cerro Gallegos

Northern Flicker (*Colaptes auratus*) – Mostly red-shafted but one obvious hybrid “orange-shafted” bird in the orchard at Casa Carolina

Gilded Flicker – El Fuerte area

White-striped Woodcreeper (*Lepidocolaptes leucogaster*) – Great looks along the creek behind paraiso del Oso

Northern Beardless Tyrannulet (*Camptostoma imberbe*) – Seen along the river in El Fuerte

Tufted Flycatcher (*Mitrephanes phaeocercus*) – This active flycatcher was seen along the creek behind Paraiso del Oso and around Cascada Cusarare

Greater Pewee (*Contopus pertinax*) – “Jose Maria” was commonly heard in the mountains, a few were seen

Hammond’s Flycatcher (*Empidonax hammondi*) – Several seen along the creek behind Paraiso del Oso

Black Phoebe (*Sayornis nigricans*) – A few seen almost every day

Say’s Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*) – Several seen on the trip from Creel to Chihuahua

Vermilion Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*) – Common around El Fuerte with a few seen in the mountains

Dusky-capped Flycatcher (*Myiarchus tuberculifer*) – A couple seen along the river near El Fuerte and a few seen in the mountains near Paraiso del Oso

Ash-throated Flycatcher (*Myiarchus cinerascens*) – A few seen in the El Fuerte area

Nutting’s Flycatcher (*Myiarchus nuttingi*) – One seen in Parque Sinaloa

Great Kiskadee (*Pitangus sulphuratus*) – Common in the Los Mochis and El Fuerte areas

Social Flycatcher (*Myiozetetes similis*) – Fairly Common in the Los Mochis and El Fuerte areas

Cassin’s Kingbird (*Tyrannus vociferans*) – Seen every day, much sparser in the mountains

Western Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*) – Several seen in the El Fuerte area

Violet-Green Swallow (*Tachycineta thalassina*) – Common in the mountains around Creel, especially around Lago Arareco

Northern Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) – Most numerous in the lowlands

Cliff Swallow (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*) – A few small flocks seen in the El Fuerte area

Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*) – Cerocahui and Creel areas

Ruby-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus calendula*) – Common in the mountains

American Dipper (*Cinclus mexicanus*) – A couple folks saw this at Cascada Cusarare

Rock Wren (*Salpinctes obsoletus*) – One or two seen or heard most days

Canyon Wren (*Catherpes mexicanus*) – Heard and seen every day in the mountains

Happy Wren (*Thryothorus felix*) – Seen at Parque Sinaloa

Sinaloa Wren (*Thryothorus sinaloa*) – One seen along the river at El Fuerte

House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*) – A couple singles seen in the mountains

Northern Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*) – Most common in the lowlands
 Curve-billed Thrasher (*Toxostoma curvirostre*) – Several seen at a variety of elevations
 Eastern Bluebird (*Sialia sialis*) – Seen in the mountains around Paraiso del Oso
 Western Bluebird (*Sialia mexicana*) – Common along the fence posts around Creel
 Townsend’s Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*) – One heard calling at the Mountain Trogon spot
 Hermit Thrush (*Catharus guttatus*) – A few singles around the Paraiso del Oso
Rufous-backed Robin (*Turdus rufopalliatu*s) – Several seen in Parque Sinaloa
 American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) – Common in the mountains
 Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (*Polyoptila caerulea*) – Several seen in Los Mochis and El Fuerte areas
Black-capped Gnatcatcher (*Polyoptila nigriceps*) – Parque Sinaloa and El Fuerte area
 Bushtit (*Psaltriparus minimus*) – Common in the mountains
 Mexican Chickadee (*Poecile scalaris*) – Seen well a few times in the mountains
 Bridled Titmouse (*Baeolophus wollweberi*) – Seen on two days around the Paraiso del Oso
 White-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta carolinensis*) – A few seen in the mountains
 Brown Creeper (*Certhia americana*) – Several seen on the Cerro Gallegos drive
 Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*) – Several singles in the mountains, first around Paraiso del Oso
 Steller’s Jay (*Cyanocitta stelleri*) – First seen in the mountains on the drive to Cerro Gallegos
Black-throated Magpie-Jay (*Calocitta colliei*) – Parque Sinaloa and El Fuerte area, always a stunning bird
Purplish-backed Jay (*Cyanocorax beecheii*) – Three individuals of this amazing West Mexican endemic in Parque Sinaloa
 Mexican Jay (*Aphelocoma ultramarina*) – Fairly common in the mountains around Paraiso del Oso
 Sinaloa Crow (*Corvus sinaloae*) – Abundant in the El Fuerte River valley
 Chihuahuan Raven (*Corvus cryptoleucus*) – A couple seen along the highway to Chihuahua
 Common Raven (*Corvus corax*) – Fairly Common in the mountains
 European Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) – Yes, unfortunately
 House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) – ditto
 Bell’s Vireo (*Vireo bellii*) – A couple seen along the river in El Fuerte
 Cassin’s Vireo (*Vireo cassinii*) – Parque Sinaloa and one in the mountains
 Plumbeous Vireo (*Vireo plumbeus*) – One along the river near El Fuerte and one in the mountains
 Hutton’s Vireo (*Vireo huttoni*) – Mostly heard only in the mountains
 Warbling Vireo (*Vireo gilvus*) – One seen along the river in El Fuerte
 House Finch (*Carpodacus mexicanus*) – Common, seen every day
 Pine Siskin (*Carduelis pinus*) – Fairly common in the mountains
 Lesser Goldfinch (*Carduelis psaltria*) – Fairly common around Los Mochis and El Fuerte and a couple seen in the mountains
Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus montana*) – A Mexico bird for me! This was an exciting find in the yard at Cabañas Cañon del Cobre
 Olive Warbler (*Peucedramus taeniatus*) – Well seen on the Cerro Gallegos drive
 Orange-crowned Warbler (*Vermivora celata*) – Common everywhere except Creel area
 Nashville Warbler (*Vermivora ruficapilla*) – Several seen in the El Fuerte river valley
 Virginia’s Warbler (*Vermivora virginiae*) – A migrant and a lucky find at Paraiso del Oso, only a couple folks saw this goody
 Lucy’s Warbler (*Vermivora luciae*) – Common along the river near El Fuerte
Crescent-chested Warbler (*Parula superciliosa*) – A couple seen on the trip to Cerro Gallegos and a few more seen on the Cascada Cusarare hike, a good total
 Yellow Warbler (*Dendroica petechia*) – Just one along the river near El Fuerte

Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Dendroica coronata*) – “Audubon’s” and “Myrtle” seen nearly every day, Myrtle was rare

Black-throated Gray Warbler (*Dendroica nigrescens*) – Parque Sinaloa and El Fuerte area

Townsend’s Warbler (*Dedroica townsendi*) – A few seen in the mountains, the most memorable was on the Cascada Cusarare hike when a male dropped to eye-level while scuffling with a Red-faced Warbler

Grace’s Warbler (*Dendroica graciae*) – First seen on the Cerro Gallegos drive

Black-and White Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*) – One seen along the river near El Fuerte

MacGillivray’s Warbler (*Oporornis tolmiei*) – Parque Sinaloa and along the river near El Fuerte

Common Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*) – First seen in the El Fuerte area also one seen in the yard at Cabañas Cañon del Cobre

Wilson’s Warbler (*Wilsonia pusilla*) – Several seen in the El Fuerte area

Red-faced Warbler (*Cardellina rubrifrons*) – Numerous on the Cascada Cusarare hike, great looks

Painted Redstart (*Myioborus pictus*) – First seen along the creek behind Paraiso del Oso, fairly common in the mountains

Slate-throated Redstart (*Myioborus miniatus*) – Several seen well and heard singing on the Cascada Cusarare hike

Hepatic Tanager (*Piranga flava*) – Three females seen in Parque Sinaloa were unusual, probably migrants, a few more seen in the mountains where they should be

Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*) – Several seen in Parque Sinaloa

White-collared Seedeater (*Sporophila torqueola*) – The “cinnamon-rumped” form of western Mexico, one well seen male along the river at El Fuerte

Spotted Towhee (*Pipilo maculatus*) – One seen along the road on the trip to Cerro Gallegos, one singing along the trail to Cascada Cusarare

Canyon Towhee (*Pipilo fuscus*) – One or two seen almost every day

Rufous-winged Sparrow (*Aimophila carpalis*) – Seen well in the scope at the El Fuerte train station, not everyone got it though

Striped Sparrow (*Oriturus superciliosus*) – Good looks along the trail at Cascada Cusarare the first time I have seen it there, also seen very well at Choguita the “spot”

Chipping Sparrow (*Spizella passerina*) – Common in the mountains

Vesper Sparrow (*Pooecetes gramineus*) – One seen behind Paraiso del Oso, A large flock in the orchard at Casa Carolina

Lark Sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus*) – Several behind Paraiso del Oso, I think Ferenc was the only one who saw these

Lincoln’s Sparrow (*Melospiza lincolnii*) – A few seen along the stream by the Cabañas Cañon del Cobre

White-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*) – Three along the road near Casa Carolina

Dark-eyed Junco (*Junco hyemalis*) – Seen in the mountains around Paraiso del Oso all were Gray-headed subspecies group

Yellow-eyed Junco (*Junco phaeonotus*) – Seen first on the drive to Cerro Gallegos, several seen in the Cusarare area

Grayish Saltator (*Saltator coerulescens*) – Singing Parque Sinaloa also seen near El Fuerte

Northern Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) – A few seen around the El Fuerte train station

Pyrrhuloxia (*Cardinalis sinuatus*) – A beautiful male at the El Fuerte train station

Black-headed Grosbeak (*Pheuticus melanocephalus*) – Several around Paraiso del Oso

Lazuli Bunting (*Passerina amoena*) – A couple females seen, one along the river near El Fuerte and one along the stream behind Paraiso del Oso

Varied Bunting (*Passerina versicolor*) – One male popped up briefly near the River in El Fuerte

Red-winged Blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) – El Fuerte area Paraiso del Oso area

Western Meadowlark (*Sturnella neglecta*) – Several around La Junta, Casa Carolina
Yellow-headed Blackbird (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) – A few flybys on the outskirts of Chihuahua
Brewer's Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) – Seen at Choguita, best seen at the toll booth on the way to Chihuahua
Great-tailed Grackle (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) – Common in the lowlands and around Chihuahua
Brown-headed Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) – Common at the Paraiso del Oso
Streak-backed Oriole (*Icterus pustulatus*) – Parque Sinaloa and El Fuerte area
Hooded Oriole (*Icterus cucullatus*) – One beautiful male at the El Fuerte train station
Bullock's Oriole (*Icterus bullockii*) – One along the Rio El Fuerte
Black-vented Oriole (*Icterus wagleri*) – A couple along the river, great scope views

Total 194 Species!

Leader Only: Long-billed Dowitcher, Band-tailed Pigeon, Great Horned Owl, Cordilleran Flycatcher, Verdin, Green-tailed Towhee, Bronzed Cowbird

Other Fauna

Virginia Opossum

Rock Squirrel

Abert's Squirrel

Sceloperus species (a type of fence lizard)