

## Ecuador: Rainforest & Andes

*September 5, 2009 to September 19, 2009*

Guided by  
Mitch Lysinger

I just love leading this tour - the habitats are so diverse and breath taking, and bundles of new birds seem to be around every corner! Ecuador can't be beat for large numbers of species to be found in such a small area, and we made the most of this richness during our two weeks. Northern Ecuador can be a rainy place any time of the year - especially in the east - but good weather prevailed; rarely were we sent scurrying for cover. Thinking back over the highlight episodes of the trip, I can't help but remember some major events, like these: great canopy tower experiences (on both slopes) with an incredible variety of tanagers, toucans, cotingas and other canopy species; four species of antpittas at our feet between our visits to Paz de Las Aves and San Isidro (who would have ever thought that antpittas could be so confiding?!); plenty of ethereal, early morning birding strolls on the lush Andean slopes where cloud forests roll as far as one can see; and waves of screeching, squawking parrots, parakeets and parrotlets at the lowland clay licks.

There are always some individual bird highlights that deserve a special spotlight, so here are some what I thought stood out as I read back over my bedraggled checklist: Boat-billed Heron on a day roost; an awesome - and scoped - Collared Forest-Falcon; Hoatzin, just because it's a goofy and characteristic bird of the eastern lowlands that folks loved seeing; that unexpected Sungrebe perched over the water along the Napo; an easy Rufous-bellied Seedeater right near the bus; what must have numbered into the thousands of screeching and yelping parrots and parakeets at two active clay licks, with the likes of Scarlet-shouldered Parrotlet and Blue-headed Parrot; a mesmerizing male Lyre-tailed Nightjar perched at eye-level right next to the road, and the next morning a male Swallow-tailed!; Ocellated Poorwill through scope during the day; roosting Tropical Screech-Owls and Crested Owls; that incredible, pre-dawn Andean Potoo perched up for killer, spotlight views; White-chested and Spot-fronted Swifts near San Isidro; hummingbirds galore - over 50 species seen - including such beauties (and rarities) as Sword-billed Hummer, Velvet-purple Coronet, and Mountain Avocetbill; males of both Golden-headed and Crested Quetzals in the same scope view!!!; fantastic studies at Green-and-rufous kingfisher - a very much desired bird for some; terrific jacamar encounters with the likes of Yellow-billed, Coppery-chested, and Purplish; Lanceolated Monklet only a few meters away; awesome Toucan Barbets at banana feeders; 11 species of ramphastids (toucans), with that Plate-billed Mountain-Toucan stealing the show; those gorgeous Crimson-mantled Woodpeckers in the highlands and the Cream-colored and Rufous-headed in the lowlands; more furnariids ('LBJ's') than most folks probably care to remember, but how about the handsome Orange-fronted Plushcrown, Streaked Tuftedcheek and Point-tailed Palmcreeper; 16 species of woodcreepers seen well, including the awesome Long-billed; San Isidro's resident pair of Chestnut-crowned and White-bellied Antpittas that came hopping right up to us; a scoped and singing Rusty-belted Tapaculo; Orange-breasted Fruiteaters at Paz de las Aves; 9 species of manakins, like that cute little male Western Striped in the scope and the spectacular Club-winged; more flycatchers than most will ever digest; Paramo Pipit only feet away the high grasslands; scope views of singing Scaly-breasted and Musician Wrens; more tanagers than we could have ever hoped for, with the likes of Glistening-green, Flame-faced, and Vermilion; and that handsome little Plushcap with a flock at San Isidro.

This is also a trip where mammals vie for a considerable amount of the attention, like in the eastern lowlands where those comical monkeys really put on some entertaining shows. The Olingo is an

uncommon sight that we turned up in the west at Septimo, and probably rarest of all, that Dwarf Brocket Deer at San Isidro.

One of the neatest features of this trip, as well, are all of the wonderful folks we got to share the trip with: Oscar, Angel (both of them!), and Edgar in particular. All of these guys, in their own ways, really helped mold our trip into a successful one. I send my thanks to all of you for making this tour such a joy to lead and I hope we cross paths again on another birding adventure... Bird-on! Mitch.

*List total: 632 bird taxa and 13 mammal taxa*

*If marked to left of list, \* = heard only, I = introduced, E = endemic,  
N = nesting, a = austral migrant, b = boreal migrant*

*ecu09b-ml*

### **Tinamidae**

- \* GREAT TINAMOU (*Tinamus major*)
- \* CINEREOUS TINAMOU (*Crypturellus cinereus*)
- \* LITTLE TINAMOU (*Crypturellus soui*)
- UNDULATED TINAMOU (*Crypturellus undulatus*)  
*Angel, our native guide at Sacha, did a fine job of pushing one across a transverse trail near the main boardwalk for quick, but nice views.*
- \* VARIEGATED TINAMOU (*Crypturellus variegatus*)

### **Ardeidae**

- COCOI HERON (*Ardea cocoi*)  
*A single bird out along the Napo one morning... the one next to the three Great Egrets.*
- GREAT EGRET (*Ardea alba*)  
*Well hey... the three white ones next to the Cocoi Heron! Seriously though, we had this one numerous times, but most interestingly when Melinda spotted one perched in a tall tree at my house in the central valley!*
- SNOWY EGRET (*Egretta thula*)  
*A singleton along the Napo.*
- CATTLE EGRET (*Bubulcus ibis ibis*)  
*Our most interesting encounter with a species that doesn't usually get much of a write-up was when several groups came over us at Septimo and dove in unison to sound like a distant large jet! I'd never heard them do this before.*
- STRIATED HERON (*Butorides striata*)  
*A flyby out along the Napo was our only one.*
- BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON (*Nycticorax nycticorax*)  
*One beautiful adult perched up along the edge of Pilchecochoa - Sacha's lake - as we paddled out for the last time.*
- BOAT-BILLED HERON (*Cochlearius cochlearius*)  
*Angel spotted one - on a day roost - for superb studies along the Orquidea stream.*
- RUFESCENT TIGER-HERON (*Tigrisoma lineatum*)  
*A heron of quiet, blackwater areas here in Ecuador. We had nice looks at one that landed on a diagonal trunk right in the open along the Orquidea stream.*
- \* ZIGZAG HERON (*Zebrilus undulatus*)  
*We were close a time or two, but they just never came in for the kill.*

### **Anatidae**

- TORRENT DUCK (*Merganetta armata colombiana*)  
*Jan spotted our first one - a female - along the Papallacta River at Guango. Later on along the Cosanga River near San Isidro we had a male on a rock for quick views.*
- SPECKLED (ANDEAN) TEAL (*Anas flavirostris andium*)  
*The common and relatively dull-colored teal of the paramo zone that we had nice scope views of on the high elevation lakes.*
- YELLOW-BILLED PINTAIL (*Anas georgica georgica*)  
*Also pretty common in the paramo on high elevation lakes. This one is larger than the previous species, more cinnamon in color... and has a bright yellow bill!*

### **Cathartidae**

- BLACK VULTURE (*Coragyps atratus*)  
*This and the next species were common in many habitats during our trip, as usual.*
- TURKEY VULTURE (*Cathartes aura*)
- GREATER YELLOW-HEADED VULTURE (*Cathartes melambrotus*)  
*Larger and blacker than the Turkey Vulture, and tends to be more common over forest in the Amazon lowlands and lower foothills. We had some nice looks at them in flight and perched around Sacha.*
- KING VULTURE (*Sarcoramphus papa*)  
*Pretty good looks at a bird in flight from the motor canoe as we approached the Sacha dock out along the Napo; a really fancy looking vulture.*

### **Pandionidae**

OSPREY (*Pandion haliaetus*)

*A few along the Napo.*

### **Accipitridae**

SWALLOW-TAILED KITE (*Elanoides forficatus*)

*Always an elegant sight!*

SLENDER-BILLED KITE (*Rostrhamus hamatus*)

*Seen numerous times around Sacha, but best when we had one perched right over the Anaconda stream as we paddled along through blackwater.*

DOUBLE-TOOTHED KITE (*Harpagus bidentatus*)

*Best seen when we observed a pair in the process of nest building at the metal towers; we even saw them place the first stick!*

PLUMBEOUS KITE (*Ictinia plumbea*)

*Plenty around Sacha, and seen best from the towers.*

PLAIN-BREASTED HAWK (*Accipiter ventralis*)

*Glimpsed at San Isidro.*

SLATE-COLORED HAWK (*Leucopternis schistaceus*)

*Dave spotted our first one from the tower through the scope, and then Oscar put one in the scope along the boardwalk for outstanding views of this really handsome hawk.*

BLACK-CHESTED BUZZARD-EAGLE (*Geranoaetus melanoleucus australis*)

*Wonderful studies at a flying, and then close perched, adult through the scope on our way up to the Papallacta Pass.*

ROADSIDE HAWK (*Buteo magnirostris magnirostris*)

*Most common around Sacha, but unusually scarce this trip. The hawk with the obvious rufous primaries.*

WHITE-RUMPED HAWK (*Buteo leucorrhous*)

*We finally scored one of these in the montane zone when we tracked down a perched and calling bird along the forested roadside at San Isidro.*

SHORT-TAILED HAWK (*Buteo brachyurus*)

*Soaring dark and light morph birds in the eastern foothills.*

**a** WHITE-THROATED HAWK (*Buteo albigula*)

*One definite bird soaring by at San Isidro, where it is quite a rare visitor.*

PUNA (VARIABLE) HAWK (*Buteo poecilochrous*)

*Fairly common in the high paramo. We saw dark and light morph birds.*

**\*** ORNATE HAWK-EAGLE (*Spizaetus ornatus*)

*Never did find a window through canopy to see the calling bird that was soaring overhead!*

### **Falconidae**

BLACK CARACARA (*Daptrius ater*)

*Common out along the Napo and from the wooden tower at Sacha. The all black caracara with the white rump and orange face.*

CARUNCULATED CARACARA (*Phalcoboenus carunculatus*)

*Good looks at this well marked caracara in the highlands near the Papallacta Pass.*

YELLOW-HEADED CARACARA (*Milvago chimachima*)

*Seen a few times flying by out along the Napo.*

BARRED FOREST-FALCON (*Micrastur ruficollis*)

*Eric had fantastic views of one at Angel Paz's while we dug around in the undergrowth for skulkers!*

**\*** PLUMBEOUS FOREST-FALCON (*Micrastur plumbeus*)

*We heard what was presumably this species at Septimo.*

COLLARED FOREST-FALCON (*Micrastur semitorquatus semitorquatus*)

*Stunning scope studies at a vocalizing bird right from the dining room at San Isidro on our first morning there... awesome! Forest-falcons can be a real headache to see well, but luck was on our side with this one.*

AMERICAN KESTREL (*Falco sparverius*)  
*Common in the drier central valley.*

BAT FALCON (*Falco rufigularis*)  
*Wonderful scope views of a pair from the wooden tower at Sacha.*

### **Cracidae**

SPECKLED CHACHALACA (*Ortalis guttata*)  
*A loud and conspicuous bird out near the Napo at Sacha.*

SPIX'S GUAN (*Penelope jacquacu*)  
*We had brushes with this large guan most days at Sacha, but only once really had decent views when we scoped one sitting high in the canopy, where we could see its red dewlap.*

SICKLE-WINGED GUAN (*Chamaepetes goudotii*)  
*At arm's length at Angel Paz's where they come in to feed on bananas like pets!*

### **Odontophoridae**

MARbled WOOD-QUAIL (*Odontophorus gujanensis*)  
*Seen briefly at extremely close range when a couple of them blasted off from almost underfoot! It soon became obvious that they were constructing a nest right along the Providencia trail... the terra firme trail right across the Napo from Sacha.*

\* RUFous-FRONTED WOOD-QUAIL (*Odontophorus erythrops*)

DARK-BACKED WOOD-QUAIL (*Odontophorus melanonotus*)  
*Just about everybody had cracking views at a pair when we positioned ourselves just in time to see them trot across the trail at Paz de las Aves. Wood-quails are notoriously hard birds to see, so this was a real treat.*

### **Opisthocomidae**

HOATZIN (*Opisthocomus hoazin*)  
*A bird that seems to be perpetually off balance... and constantly confused; must have some sort of evolutionary advantage! they probably get away with all of this because they are distasteful due to their gut, which ferments vegetation. We had many fine studies at this goofy, yet attractive lake-edge species at Sacha.*

### **Rallidae**

\* CHESTNUT-HEADED CRAKE (*Anurolimnas castaneiceps*)  
*We heard them so close, but just could not reel them in.*

\* RUFous-SIDED CRAKE (*Laterallus melanophaius*)

\* GRAY-NECKED WOOD-RAIL (*Aramides cajanea*)

### **Heliornithidae**

SUNGREBE (*Heliornis fulica*)  
*Not an easy bird at Sacha, but we had them on two occasions. The first one Melinda spotted but before I realized what she had, I diverted the group's attention away to a Lesser Kiskadee... sorry. But hey, as fate would have it, Bob Coffman saved my hide a couple of days later and found one out along the Napo for excellent studies of it out of the water, and neat to see those feet... hey, that rhymes!*

### **Scolopacidae**

b SPOTTED SANDPIPER (*Actitis macularia*)  
*Fairly common out along the Napo.*

GREATER YELLOWLEGS (*Tringa melanoleuca*)  
*A lone bird out on a Napo sandbar.*

### **Thinocoridae**

RUFous-BELLIED SEEDSNIPE (*Attagis gayi latreillii*)  
*Bob Crowe deserved birder of the day for finding this for us, saving us a potentially miserable hike in foul conditions in the high, treeless paramo zone... nice going! I couldn't believe our luck when it just strolled around for pretty nice looks from the bus when the fog cleared a bit.*

### **Laridae**

ANDEAN GULL (*Larus serranus*)  
*Good looks at this high elevation gull in a freshly plowed field on our way up to the Papallacta Pass.*

### **Sternidae**

YELLOW-BILLED TERN (*Sterna superciliaris*)  
*Pretty common on sandbars along the Napo.*

**Columbidae**

I ROCK PIGEON (*Columba livia*)

SCALED PIGEON (*Patagioenas speciosa*)  
*A couple of fast flyovers along the Loreto rd.*

BAND-TAILED PIGEON (*Patagioenas fasciata albilinea*)  
*Surprisingly, only seen once as a brief and distant flyby. This is usually a very common species in the highlands, but at times they seem to vanish... not sure where they go, maybe some sort of north-south migration?*

PALE-VENTED PIGEON (*Patagioenas cayennensis*)  
*A common, but quite colorful pigeon of humid lowlands along lake and river edges. We had some very nice studies at Sacha.*

PLUMBEOUS PIGEON (*Patagioenas plumbea*)  
*The mostly gray pigeon that we saw well on both slopes.*

RUDDY PIGEON (*Patagioenas subvinacea*)  
*Heard throughout much of the trip, but finally seen really well through the scope from the wooden tower at Sacha.*

DUSKY PIGEON (*Patagioenas goodsoni*)  
*I think of this Choco endemic as sort of a mix - plumage-wise - between the Plumbeous and Ruddy Pigeons; it has a mostly gray head and breast, but very rich rufous wings. We had nice scope views of a pair in the fruiting fig next to the Silanche tower.*

EARED DOVE (*Zenaida auriculata hypoleuca*)  
*Common in the central valley. The replacement species in South America for the Mourning Dove.*

COMMON GROUND-DOVE (*Columbina passerina quitensis*)  
*One seen at my house in the central valley as it flew off.*

WHITE-TIPPED DOVE (*Leptotila verreauxi decolor*)  
*Known to many. We had nice looks at this species on the west slope.*

GRAY-FRONTED DOVE (*Leptotila rufaxilla*)  
*Seen by most as it fed in the undergrowth of a Napo river island at Sacha.*

\* PALLID DOVE (*Leptotila pallida*)

**Psittacidae**

RED-BELLIED MACAW (*Orthopsittaca manilata*)  
*Macaws were extremely scarce this trip, but we did have some fair looks at a couple of groups of this species when they flew over the Shipati stream across the Napo from Sacha.*

DUSKY-HEADED PARAKEET (*Aratinga weddellii*)  
*We had mixed luck with the parrots and parakeets at the salt licks near Sacha this trip. For some reason the parrots at the outer lick - that this species visits - weren't hitting the usual spot visible from established blind, but rather seemed to prefer the clay lick right along the edge of the Napo only accessible from the motor canoe, which worked out just fine for us since we had splendid looks at all of the regular species. The Dusky-headed Parakeets were in attendance in fine numbers, gobbling up their share of clay.*

MAROON-TAILED PARAKEET (*Pyrrhura melanura pacifica*)  
*The near endemic, west slope form that we had excellent scope views of from the Silanche tower as they fed on palm fruits.*

MAROON-TAILED PARAKEET (*Pyrrhura melanura melanura*)  
*The eastern lowland form that we saw around Sacha.*

BARRED PARAKEET (*Bolborhynchus lineola tigrinus*)  
*Seen as little black specs blasting by overhead at San Isidro, which is how us birders often only see them; I've only seen them perched on few occasions.*

COBALT-WINGED PARAKEET (*Brotogeris cyanoptera*)

*The inforest parrot salt lick was also a mixed bag this trip, but we did have fabulous studies at this most common species as well as nice scope views of the Scarlet-shouldered; we heard and glimpsed the Orange-cheeked Parrot nearby, but it never came to the lick. Jan had a particularly nice time with the parakeets here - watching them hit the lick once - while we birded up on the ridge behind.*

SCARLET-SHOULDERED PARROTLET (*Touit huetii*)

*Excellent scope studies at this gorgeous and hard to find little psittacid at the inforest salt lick.*

SPOT-WINGED PARROTLET (*Touit stictoptera*)

*Seen as flybys along the Loreto rd.*

BLACK-HEADED PARROT (*Pionites melanocephala*)

*Finally on our last full day at Sacha when we scoped them from the main boardwalk; they weren't hanging around the towers this trip.*

ORANGE-CHEEKED PARROT (*Pionopsitta barrabandi*)

*Heard and seen only very briefly when they flew off near the inforest salt lick.*

BLUE-HEADED PARROT (*Pionus menstruus*)

*Seen in the lowlands of both slopes, but we had our best views when they visited the outer salt lick right along the Napo.*

\* RED-BILLED PARROT (*Pionus sordidus corallinus*)

*We saw their shapes flying over, but they really sort of have to go down as heard!*

SPECKLE-FACED (WHITE-CAPPED) PARROT (*Pionus tumultuosus seniloides*)

*Flybys at San Isidro, where on one occasion, we could see the paler bills.*

BRONZE-WINGED PARROT (*Pionus chalcopterus*)

*A beautiful royal blue parrot that we had some fine studies of in the west.*

YELLOW-CROWNED PARROT (*Amazona ochrocephala*)

*One of the attending, large Amazon parrots at the outer salt licks... the one with the darker green plumage, big yellow crown patch, and the one that says, "Oh wow!"*

ORANGE-WINGED PARROT (*Amazona amazonica*)

*A few few pairs were seen as flyovers at Sacha.*

MEALY PARROT (*Amazona farinosa*)

*The common, large and loud Amazon parrot out at the Napo Salt lick.*

**Cuculidae**

SQUIRREL CUCKOO (*Piaya cayana*)

*A the long mostly rufous cuckoo that we saw many times over the course of the trip.*

LITTLE CUCKOO (*Piaya minuta*)

*Quick but pretty good looks at one along the edges of Pilchecochoa at Sacha.*

GREATER ANI (*Crotophaga major*)

*The largest of the anis, and also certainly the most colorful, with those iridescent purples and blues! We had smashing views of them numerous times at Sacha.*

SMOOTH-BILLED ANI (*Crotophaga ani*)

*The common ani on both slopes.*

**Strigidae**

TROPICAL SCREECH-OWL (*Megascops choliba*)

*Nice to have that pair staked out at the Sacha dock along the Napo during the day for point-blank, scope views!*

\* COLOMBIAN SCREECH-OWL (*Megascops colombianus*)

TAWNY-BELLIED SCREECH-OWL (*Megascops watsonii*)

*A quick run out behind the cabins at Sacha - pre-dinner - awarded us with pretty nice looks at responsive individual of this species.*

GREAT HORNED OWL (*Bubo virginianus*)

*Dave spotted this one for us for scope views up in the paramo.*

MOTTLED OWL (*Ciccaba virgata*)

*Getting up early and then going owling can get to be like burning the candle at both ends. Dave and I decided to do just this at Septimo, and scored big with good looks at this sneaky owl after chasing it a bit.*

"BLACK-BANDED OWL" TYPE (*Ciccaba* sp.)

*The resident bird at San Isidro showed itself our first night there. Still hoping to piece together what it is!*

CRESTED OWL (*Lophotrix cristata*)

*Splendid views at a pair on a day roost not far from Sacha's cabins was a hoot!*

\* FERRUGINOUS PYGMY-OWL (*Glaucidium brasilianum*)

### **Nyctibiidae**

GREAT POTOO (*Nyctibius grandis*)

*Very nice looks at an adult with a young as they perched on the nest - essentially a thick branch! - along the Napo during our canoe ride down to Sacha.*

ANDEAN POTOO (*Nyctibius maculosus*)

*One of my favorites of the trip when we got one in the spotlight in the Guacamayos one chilly dawn... I think I saw a chilly dog up there too... Seriously though, this is a tough to find species that were lucky to see so well. A big thanks to Edgar for alerting us that he saw something big flying around over there!*

COMMON POTOO (*Nyctibius griseus*)

*Dave's sharp spotting nabbed us this one on a day roost at Septimo.*

### **Caprimulgidae**

RUFIOUS-BELLIED NIGHTHAWK (*Lurocalis rufiventris*)

*Good looks at them zooming around San Isidro during crepuscular hours.*

PAURAQUE (*Nyctidromus albicollis*)

*Nicely on Pilchecocho, pre-dawn.*

OCCELLATED POORWILL (*Nyctiphrynus ocellatus*)

*One of the bigger surprises of the the trip when a fellow birding group called us over for scope views at bird they had flushed off of a day roost. We are not usually able to get to this species proper habitat on this tour during the right nightbirding hours, so it was a real bonus.*

LYRE-TAILED NIGHTJAR (*Uropsalis lyra lyra*)

*No fancy statistics necessary here: this was the hands-down favorite bird of the trip, and it isn't much of a mystery why! We got a full-blown male in the spotlight as it perched right at eye level on our first try. Amazing how it got in under all of our noses without even a hint of movement!*

SWALLOW-TAILED NIGHTJAR (*Uropsalis segmentata segmentata*)

*During our pre-dawn attempt we first found a young bird on what I presume was a nest up on a slope, then we called in a male and female for quick, but still pretty good, flyby views; Guacamayos.*

LADDER-TAILED NIGHTJAR (*Hydropsalis climacocerca*)

*Very nice comparative studies at the paler male and duller brown female right from the motor canoe along the Napo.*

### **Apodidae**

WHITE-CHESTED SWIFT (*Cypseloides lemosi*)

*Yeah, I know, swifts can be a real headache and even a snore if you aren't really keen on the minute differences. But once you have some experience under your belt, they actually begin to look, act, and sound pretty distinct! This was the leaner, longer-winged swift with the deeply notched (slightly forked!) tail that we had a few times in the Guacamayos.*

SPOT-FRONTED SWIFT (*Cypseloides cherriei*)

*We saw a group of this species circling overhead along the Loreto rd. While visually these seem to look a lot like some other chunky swifts, we nailed the id with sound... nothing sounds like them.*

CHESTNUT-COLLARED SWIFT (*Streptoprocne rutila brunnitorques*)

*The most common and low-flying of the chunky swifts in the San Isidro/Guacamayos area.*

WHITE-COLLARED SWIFT (*Streptoprocne zonaris*)

*The common large swift that we saw in the lowlands and highlands.*



GRAY-RUMPED SWIFT (*Chaetura cinereiventris occidentalis*)

*Common over the Silanche tower; has a more concolor rump than the eastern form.*

GRAY-RUMPED SWIFT (*Chaetura cinereiventris sclateri*)

*A few around Sacha; has the paler rump.*

SHORT-TAILED SWIFT (*Chaetura brachyura*)

*The swift of the eastern foothills and lowlands with the very cropped off tail and thicker secondaries.*

FORK-TAILED PALM-SWIFT (*Tachornis squamata*)

*The common, small swift around Sacha with the pointy tail.*

LESSER SWALLOW-TAILED SWIFT (*Panyptila cayennensis*)

*Seen best over the Silanche tower; a close relative of the White-throated Swift some of you might know well from the States.*

### **Trochilidae**

\* WHITE-TIPPED SICKLEBILL (*Eutoxeres aquila*)

RUFIOUS-BREASTED HERMIT (*Glaucis hirsuta*)

*Quick looks for some at Sacha in the swampy forests.*

PALE-TAILED BARBTHROAT (*Threnetes niger leucurus*)

*Seen quickly along the Shipati stream, across the Napo from Sacha.*

WHITE-WHISKERED HERMIT (*Phaethornis yaruqui*)

*Common at Septimo's and Milpe's feeders... now that is a really long bill!*

\* WHITE-BEARDED HERMIT (*Phaethornis hispidus*)

GREAT-BILLED HERMIT (*Phaethornis malaris*)

*Scope views of this noisy hummer at lek near the inforest parrot salt lick.*

TAWNY-BELLIED HERMIT (*Phaethornis syrmatophorus*)

*Seen best at Paz de las Aves when one repeatedly hit the feeder, something this species seldom does at other sites.*

\* STRAIGHT-BILLED HERMIT (*Phaethornis bourcieri*)

STRIPE-THROATED HERMIT (*Phaethornis striigularis*)

*While I was away at the bus fetching my laser pointer, you guys successfully found and identified this small hummer at the flowers beneath the Silanche tower. Nice goin'!*

GREEN-FRONTED LANCEBILL (*Doryfera ludovicae ludovicae*)

*We had some fun watching an individual of this species catch insects - a typical habit of this one - over the rushing Hollin River along the Loreto rd.*

WHITE-NECKED JACOBIN (*Florisuga mellivora*)

*A real class-act hummer! We had plenty of fine studies at them during their visits to the feeders on the west slope.*

BROWN VIOLET-EAR (*Colibri delphinae*)

*Not a real stunner as hummers go, but it has its moments! We had nice looks at them a few times at Septimo's feeders on our first day.*

GREEN VIOLET-EAR (*Colibri thalassinus cyanotus*)

*The smaller violetear with the duller plumage; most common around San Isidro where they seem seasonal.*

SPARKLING VIOLET-EAR (*Colibri coruscans coruscans*)

*The larger and more brilliantly-plumaged violetear; this one has the really intense blue/violet 'ears', chin and belly. Common at San Isidro.*

BLACK-BELLIED THORNTAIL (*Popelairia langsdorffi*)

*Not an easy bird to pin down in the eastern lowlands, but we had fine views of a female from the wooden tower at Sacha... and then had the nest pointed out to us, perched right over our heads in the same tree!*

GREEN THORNTAIL (*Discosura conversii*)

*The thorn tail species of the west that we had incredible views of at Milpe's feeders... those long-tailed males were ridiculous! I think its get-up would make a good butler's outfit...*

BLUE-TAILED (WESTERN) EMERALD (*Chlorostilbon mellisugus melanorhynchus*)

*Seen briefly in the central valley at my house.*

- GREEN-CROWNED WOODNYMPH (*Thalurania fannyi verticeps*)  
*An absolutely stunning hummer that we had arm's length encounters with at Milpe.*
- RUFIOUS-TAILED HUMMINGBIRD (*Amazilia tzacatl*)  
*Known to many, and common at the feeders in the west.*
- ANDEAN EMERALD (*Agyrtria franciae viridiceps*)  
*The hummer with the immaculate white underparts; common at Septimo's feeders.*
- PURPLE-CHESTED HUMMINGBIRD (*Polyerata rosenbergi*)  
*A Choco endemic that was readily seen at Silanche; we had some close encounters around the flowers below the tower.*
- ECUADORIAN PIEDTAIL (*Phlogophilus hemileucurus*)  
*Seen as a quick flyby along the Loreto rd.; heard frequently.*
- SPECKLED HUMMINGBIRD (*Adelomyia melanogenys*)  
*Especially abundant at San Isidro's feeders.*
- FAWN-BREASTED BRILLIANT (*Heliodoxa rubinoides*)  
*Common at the feeders on both slopes.*
- VIOLET-FRONTED BRILLIANT (*Heliodoxa leadbeateri*)  
*Quick views at female in the Guacamayos when she visited a bromeliad flower.*
- EMPRESS BRILLIANT (*Heliodoxa imperatrix*)  
*Another mid-elevation Choco endemic. This used to be a really hard bird to find, but the feeders have made things a lot easier, making it just about guaranteed! We had our most stunning views - in good light - at Paz de las Aves.*
- GREEN-CROWNED BRILLIANT (*Heliodoxa jacula*)  
*Abundant at Milpe's feeders.*
- WHITE-TAILED HILLSTAR (*Urochroa bougueri leucura*)  
*The east slope race that we scoped at a small waterfall in the Guacamayos.*
- CHESTNUT-BREASTED CORONET (*Boissonneaua matthewsii*)  
*Abundant at Guango's and San Isidro's feeders.*
- BUFF-TAILED CORONET (*Boissonneaua flavescens flavescens*)  
*The nominate race with the larger pale spots in the tail; I've never seen it away from a feeder.*
- BUFF-TAILED CORONET (*Boissonneaua flavescens tinochlora*)  
*Most common at the feeders at Paz de las Aves and Mindo Loma.*
- VELVET-PURPLE CORONET (*Boissonneaua jardini*)  
*Arguably one of the most blindingly beautiful hummers around! We had awesome looks at them in perfect light at Paz de las Aves.*
- SHINING SUNBEAM (*Aglaeactis cupripennis cupripennis*)  
*We finally caught up with this one for nice looks in the central valley - on our last possible day! - as we birded our way up to the Papallacta Pass.*
- MOUNTAIN VELVETBREAST (*Lafresnaya lafresnayi saul*)  
*Females at Yanacocha, but one really nice male at Guango's feeders. The one with the decurved bill.*
- BRONZY INCA (*Coeligena coeligena obscura*)  
*Common at San Isidro's feeders. Not a real looker, but we were able to squeeze out every bit of color in good light.*
- BROWN INCA (*Coeligena wilsoni*)  
*The mostly brown hummer with the large white spots on the sides of the neck; fairly common at Septimo's feeders.*
- COLLARED INCA (*Coeligena torquata*)  
*The hummer that sports a tuxedo!*
- BUFF-WINGED STARFRONTLET (*Coeligena lutetiae*)  
*Most common at Yanacocha's feeders. The largish hummer with the long, straight bill and buff wing patches.*

**SWORD-BILLED HUMMINGBIRD** (*Ensifera ensifera*)

*Fancy colors are great, but does any hummer demand as much respect as this one? Once a fairly difficult bird to track down for good looks, this species now graces the feeders at Yanacocha and Guango every few minutes!*

**GREAT SAPPHIREWING** (*Pterophanes cyanopterus cyanopterus*)

*The second largest hummer that we saw at the feeders at Yanacocha.*

**GIANT HUMMINGBIRD** (*Patagona gigas peruviana*)

*I'm not sure that 'Giant' is exactly the right word... how about 'Biggest'? Yeah, it certainly is larger than any other, and wingbeats can be counted - mentally! - but I think of giant as implying something like the size of a thrush! Now I'm really starting to sound like George Carlin. As far as hummers go, this is one impressively large species. We had perfect scope views of one at my house in the central valley.*

**GORGATED SUNANGEL** (*Heliangelus strophianus*)

*Seen pretty well near Bellavista at some roadside flowers; almost an Ecuadorian endemic.*

**TOURMALINE SUNANGEL** (*Heliangelus exortis*)

*The most abundant hummer at Guango.*

**GLOWING PUFFLEG** (*Eriocnemis vestitus*)

*We hit it right at Guango and had this one coming to the feeders for exceptional views. Just love that glowing, lime-green rump!*

**SAPPHIRE-VENTED PUFFLEG** (*Eriocnemis luciani luciani*)

*Common at the feeders at Yanacocha. This was the puffleg with the blue in the crown and purple vent.*

**GOLDEN-BREASTED PUFFLEG** (*Eriocnemis mosquera*)

*Most common at the far feeders at Yanacocha. We had them very nicely for direct comparison with the previous species.*

**PURPLE-BIBBED WHITETIP** (*Urosticte benjamini benjamini*)

*Common at Septiom's and Milpe's feeders.*

**BOOTED RACKET-TAIL** (*Ocreatus underwoodii*)

*An andean classic hummingbird. We had stunning encounters at Septimo's feeders.*

**BLACK-TAILED TRAINBEARER** (*Lesbia victoriae victoriae*)

*Seen best at the hummingbird feeder at my house in the central valley. South America's longest hummer... tail-aided, of course!*

**TYRIAN METALTAIL** (*Metallura tyrianthina*)

*Common at Yanacocha's and Guango's feeders.*

**VIRIDIAN METALTAIL** (*Metallura williami primolinus*)

*The higher elevation cousin of the previous species that we saw in the Papallacta Pass area.*

**BLUE-MANTLED THORNBILL** (*Chalcostigma stanleyi stanleyi*)

*Pretty good looks for most in the high paramo shrubbery when one came in and fed long the ground.*

**MOUNTAIN AVOCETBILL** (*Opisthoprora euryptera*)

*Only found within a narrow elevational band on the east slope, this is one of the most interesting hummers that visits the feeders at Guango. A mostly forest understory based bird, the Mountain Avocetbill can be easily overlooked due to their often reclusive nature. We had tremendous studies at one that hit the feeders a couple of times... nice luck, because they don't always hit!*

**LONG-TAILED SYLPH** (*Aglaiocercus kingi*)

*Plenty of long looks at this long-tailed species at both Guango and San Isidro.*

**VIOLET-TAILED SYLPH** (*Aglaiocercus coelestis coelestis*)

*A west-slope bird that replaces the previous species, and equally pleasing to the eye!*

**PURPLE-CROWNED FAIRY** (*Heliothryx barroti*)

*Fine views of one bird in the west at Silanche from the tower.*

**LONG-BILLED STARTHROAT** (*Heliomaster longirostris*)

*One perched up in the open on a high snag along the Anaconda stream.*

**PURPLE-THROATED WOODSTAR** (*Calliphlox mitchellii*)

*We had our best studies of males at Paz de las Aves' feeders... wow!*

WHITE-BELLIED WOODSTAR (*Chaetocercus mulsant*)  
*Most common at Guango's feeders.*

### **Trogonidae**

WHITE-TAILED TROGON (*Trogon viridis*)

*Seen well on both slopes, and some authorities, such as Bob Ridgely, split them out as two species.*

VIOLACEOUS TROGON (*Trogon violaceus*)

*One of our first birds at Sacha when we scoped a male near the Napo dock.*

CHOCO TROGON (*Trogon comptus*)

*Tremendous views at a pair of this white-eyed species from the Silanche tower; they were quite vocal this trip.*

COLLARED TROGON (*Trogon collaris virginalis*)

*Seen very well along the trail at Silanche when we called in a pair.*

MASKED TROGON (*Trogon personatus*)

*Much like the previous species in overall plumage, but the bars on the tail are much finer; this one also tends to replace the Collared at higher elevations as well. Surprisingly, seen only on one day on the west-slope; usually the resident pair at San Isidro hangs around the cabins.*

\* BLACK-THROATED TROGON (*Trogon rufus*)

*Seen briefly as flybys, but really a heard only.*

BLACK-TAILED TROGON (*Trogon melanurus*)

*After much work and breaking our necks, we finally got one to perch in a window that allowed nice scope views for all along the Providencia trail.*

CRESTED QUETZAL (*Pharomachrus antisianus*)

*I don't think any of us will soon forget the two spectacular males of both species - the Crested and Golden-headed - right next to each other for frame-filling, scope views and unbelievable comparisons. I don't recall ever having them like this before! San Isidro.*

GOLDEN-HEADED QUETZAL (*Pharomachrus auriceps auriceps*)

*We had our first looks at this one on the west-slope at Paz de las Aves, but nothing could beat those looks we had later on at San Isidro... see previous species!*

### **Alcedinidae**

RINGED KINGFISHER (*Ceryle torquatus*)

*The large kingfisher we saw many times in the Sacha area.*

AMAZON KINGFISHER (*Chloroceryle amazona*)

*Sort of like a giant Green Kingfisher; we had good at this one out along the Napo.*

GREEN KINGFISHER (*Chloroceryle americana*)

*Seen best along the Shipati stream across the Napo from Sacha.*

GREEN-AND-RUFOUS KINGFISHER (*Chloroceryle inda*)

*A dream come true for many, and we had them in flying colors - well perched colors - along Orquidea stream at Sacha. What a stunning kingfisher. I was getting nervous that we were headed for a miss on this one, but we finally got it on our last real strong push for it.*

### **Momotidae**

BLUE-CROWNED MOTMOT (*Momotus momota*)

*Brief views along the Anaconda stream.*

\* HIGHLAND MOTMOT (*Momotus aequatorialis aequatorialis*)

RUFOUS MOTMOT (*Baryphthengus martii*)

*Patsy spotted this one for us along the Septimo entrance road for pretty decent scope views.*

BROAD-BILLED MOTMOT (*Electron platyrhynchum pyrrholaemum*)

*Really nice scope views of a bird along the parrot salt lick trail. Remember noting how it had much less rufous underneath, than the true Rufous Motmot?*

### **Galbulidae**

WHITE-EARED JACAMAR (*Galbalcyrhynchus leucotis*)

*Common along river edges and in riparian forests around Sacha, and a really nice looking jacamar with that salmon colored bill and white ear-patch.*

BROWN JACAMAR (*Brachygalba lugubris*)

*Initially, I think a few folks were confused since they didn't realize that we were looking for something that was going to be on the same magnitude as a small hummer! But once we got this straightened out, we were fine. We saw them pretty well from the motor canoe from where, unfortunately, it's pretty hard to use a scope!*

YELLOW-BILLED JACAMAR (*Galbula albirostris*)

*We called one in for fantastic scope views along the ridge trail behind the inforest parrot clay lick. A nice terra firme forest specialty.*

COPPERY-CHESTED JACAMAR (*Galbula pastazae*)

*After chasing this one around a bit along th Loreto rd., we ended up with very nice scope studies. This species' range is mostly restricted to Ecuador, where it is an eastern foothill specialty.*

WHITE-CHINNED JACAMAR (*Galbula tombacea*)

*A jacamar of inundated forest, that we very well along the Anaconda stream at Sacha.*

PURPLISH JACAMAR (*Galbula chalcothorax*)

*We finally outsmarted a pair when I got them to fly in right over my head while the rest of you waited in a strategic position along the Napo River edge at Sacha. A split from the Bronzy Jacamar of more eastern Amazonia.*

**Bucconidae**

WHITE-NECKED PUFFBIRD (*Notharchus macrorhynchos*)

*After a few poor vantage points, we finally found the angle for nice scope views along the Providencia trail. This is a large and handsome puffbird of the canopy.*

\* CHESTNUT-CAPPED PUFFBIRD (*Bucco macrodactylus*)

LANCEOLATED MONKLET (*Micromonacha lanceolata*)

*Oscar spotted one for us low down in the midstory for excellent scope views on our first morning at Sacha; not an easy one to find and see so well. Nice!*

BLACK-FRONTED NUNBIRD (*Monasa nigrifrons*)

*Common out along the Napo.*

WHITE-FRONTED NUNBIRD (*Monasa morphoeus*)

*More confined to taller forest, than the previous species. We had many nice views of them around Sacha.*

SWALLOW-WING (*Chelidoptera tenebrosa*)

*Most common out along the Napo.*

**Capitonidae**

SCARLET-CROWNED BARBET (*Capito aurovirens*)

*Great looks at a pair through the scope near the Napo at Sacha. This was as good of a barbet trip as we could have hoped for; we saw all of the possible species really well.*

ORANGE-FRONTED BARBET (*Capito squamatus*)

*Knee-buckling studies a few times from the tower at Silanche, where they were coming in to raid at the fig tree at eye-level!*

GILDED BARBET (*Capito auratus*)

*The common barbet in the eastern lowlands.*

LEMON-THROATED BARBET (*Eubucco richardsoni*)

*Pretty good looks at a male along the Shipati stream when Angel spotted up in a tall tree, perched right in the open as it vocalized. This is usually one of the more difficult barbets to find on this trip, but we were in the right place at the right time.*

RED-HEADED BARBET (*Eubucco bourcierii*)

*Pretty common with the flocks in the west.*

TOUCAN BARBET (*Semnornis ramphastinus ramphastinus*)

*It was a real thrill to have found them so easily on our first day as we worked down the upper stretches of the old Nono-Mindo rd., but the views we had later on a Paz de las Aves were unbeatable! One of the more interesting, and must-see, species of the the mid-elevation Choco zone, even though it looks like a clown!*

**Ramphastidae**

ANDEAN TOUCANET (*Aulacorhynchus albivitta albivitta*)

*Split out from the Emerald Toucanet by some authorities. We had good looks on occasion at San Isidro.*

CRIMSON-RUMPED TOUCANET (*Aulacorhynchus haematopygus sexnotatus*)

*Right at the banana feeders at Paz de las Aves!*

LETTERED ARACARI (*Pteroglossus inscriptus*)

*We only ran into this small aracari species one for brief views along the Napo at Sacha.*

IVORY-BILLED ARACARI (*Pteroglossus azara*)

*Readily seen from the metal towers at Sacha, and a fancy bird, reminding me of neapolitan ice-cream... you know, with those three solid block of color!*

\* CHESTNUT-EARED ARACARI (*Pteroglossus castanotis*)

COLLARED (PALE-MANDIBLED) ARACARI (*Pteroglossus torquatus erythropygius*)

*Brilliant views a few times on the west-slope at Milpe and Silanche.*

MANY-BANDED ARACARI (*Pteroglossus pluricinctus*)

*One of the most common aracaris around Sacha; the one with the two breast bands.*

PLATE-BILLED MOUNTAIN-TOUCAN (*Andigena laminirostris*)

*Awesome studies at one when it came out and sang right in front of us along the upper stretches of the old Nono-Mindo rd. Another key, mid-elevation Choco endemic that you hate to leave without seeing!*

GOLDEN-COLLARED TOUCANET (*Selenidera reinwardtii*)

*Seen by about half of the group in the late morning during a flurry of activity along the trails behind Sacha. What an incredible bird!*

CHOCO TOUCAN (*Ramphastos brevis*)

*Many fine studies of them at Milpe and Sacha, where we caught at fruiting trees.*

CHANNEL-BILLED TOUCAN (*Ramphastos vitellinus culminatus*)

*The smaller of the two large, look-alike toucans at Sacha; this one is the 'croaker'. We had fine studies at many but, but in particular that we caught in the scope as it sang from the metal towers.*

BLACK-MANDIBLED TOUCAN (*Ramphastos ambiguus swainsonii*)

*This western form is often split out and called the Chestnut-mandibled Toucan. We had perfect, eye-level views at a large feeding group from the Silanche tower when they came in to feed on fig fruits.*

RED-BILLED TOUCAN (*Ramphastos tucanus cuvieri*)

*This form is also known as White-throated, or Cuvier's Toucan, depending on how you split them out. This is the larger of the two big toucans at Sacha, and the 'yelper' of the two. We had multiple fine views of them from the Sacha towers.*

### ***Picidae***

BLACK-CHEEKED WOODPECKER (*Melanerpes pucherani*)

*Nice looks at this flashy woodpecker from the Silanche tower.*

YELLOW-TUFTED WOODPECKER (*Melanerpes cruentatus*)

*Sort of the east-slope counterpart of the previous species. This really boldly-patterned species was seen very well at Sacha from the metal towers.*

YELLOW-VENTED WOODPECKER (*Veniliornis dignus*)

*We were lucky to have found this one with a flock on the west-slope - where they are harder to find - because we never connected with them in the east.*

SMOKY-BROWN WOODPECKER (*Veniliornis fumigatus fumigatus*)

*Melinda spotted our first one in the west; but we all caught up with it in the east in the Guacamayos when we found one with a mixed flock.*

LITTLE WOODPECKER (*Veniliornis passerinus*)

*Good looks at a responsive bird along the Napo near the parrot salt licks; the riparian forest representative of this species in the Amazon.*

GOLDEN-OLIVE WOODPECKER (*Piculus rubiginosus*)

*Pretty common with the mixed flocks in the west; we saw them best around Septimo and along the Milpe rd.*

CRIMSON-MANTLED WOODPECKER (*Piculus rivolii brevirostris*)

*Nothing less than crippling, with those bright red tones on the back. We had our first views on our first day along the upper Nono-Mindo rd.*

SPOT-BREASTED WOODPECKER (*Colaptes punctigula*)

*Very nice scope views along the Napo River at Sacha.*

CINNAMON WOODPECKER (*Celeus loricatus*)

*It took a few flybys of calling it in, but it finally hit an unobstructed Cecropia tree from the Silanche tower for killer looks... a real looker.*

CHESTNUT WOODPECKER (*Celeus elegans*)

*This chunky and all rich, rufous woodpecker was seen well a few times at Sacha, such as right over our heads from the canoe along the Orquidea stream.*

CREAM-COLORED WOODPECKER (*Celeus flavus*)

*'Ole Blondie' performed well for us at Sacha when we called one in along the Anaconda stream.*

RUFOUS-HEADED WOODPECKER (*Celeus spectabilis*)

*One of the less predictable woodpeckers of the trip, and one that was very poorly known in Ecuador until recently; kind of funny really, since it is a bird of mostly secondary, re-growing woodlands, but it is pretty skittish, and knows how to stay out of sight. We had pretty luck calling one in near the parrot salt licks along the Napo.*

\* LINEATED WOODPECKER (*Dryocopus lineatus fuscipennis*)

CRIMSON-CRESTED WOODPECKER (*Campephilus melanoleucos*)

*This large relative of the Ivory-billed, was seen well a few times at Sacha.*

\* GUAYAQUIL WOODPECKER (*Campephilus guayaquilensis*)

### ***Furnariidae***

BAR-WINGED CINCLODES (*Cinclodes fuscus albidiventris*)

*The smaller bodied - and billed - cinclodes of Ecuador's paramos. We had them scurrying around in the high grasslands near the Papallacta Pass.*

STOUT-BILLED CINCLODES (*Cinclodes excelsior excelsior*)

*The larger cousin of the previous species, with the hefty body and thicker, slightly decurved bill; also common in the paramos around the Papallacta Pass.*

PALE-LEGGED (PACIFIC) HORNERO (*Furnarius leucopus cinnamomeus*)

*A bird with real personality... ya just gotta love how they prance around and belt out their arresting song! Note that this pacific form is split out from the birds east of the Andes in the Birds of Ecuador.*

ANDEAN TIT-SPINETAIL (*Leptasthenura andicola andicola*)

*Seen in the high temperate forests near the Papallacta Pass... and what a looker this one is.*

RUFOUS SPINETAIL (*Synallaxis unirufa unirufa*)

*Seen well by most along the old Nono-Mindo rd.*

AZARA'S SPINETAIL (*Synallaxis azarae media*)

*We called one right up out of the undergrowth along the old Nono-Mindo rd.*

\* SLATY SPINETAIL (*Synallaxis brachyura nigrofumosa*)

\* WHITE-BROWED SPINETAIL (*Hellmayrea gularis*)

RED-FACED SPINETAIL (*Cranioleuca erythropteryx erythropteryx*)

*We had nice looks at this arboreal spinetail in the Milpe and Mindo areas where they move with flocks.*

\* WHITE-CHINNED THISTLETAIL (*Schizoeaca fuliginosa fuliginosa*)

MANY-STRIPED CANASTERO (*Asthenes flammulata flammulata*)

*Another good paramo furnariid that we had little trouble finding, and one of the neater looking canasteros, I think!*

ORANGE-FRONTED PLUSHCROWN (*Metopothrix aurantiacus*)

*It took us right up until the last day to nail this one down at the Sacha, Napo dock! But we did it, and ended up with perfect scope views as they brought in sticks to beef up their nest... a bit of overkill really since they already seem to have plenty of nests that seem larger than they really need for a warbler-sized bird. I've taken to labeling them as stick hogs...*

PEARLED TREERUNNER (*Margarornis squamiger perlatus*)

*Plenty with the mixed flocks in the subtropical zone.*

STREAKED XENOPS (*Xenops rutilans*)

*A pretty common furnariid with the flocks around Silanche.*

MONTANE FOLIAGE-GLEANER (*Anabacerthia striaticollis montana*)

*Fairly common with the flocks on the east-slope in the Guacamayos.*

SCALY-THROATED FOLIAGE-GLEANER (*Anabacerthia variegaticeps temporalis*)

*The west slope relative of the previous species. We saw this one in the flocks in the Mindo and Milpe areas.*

STREAKED TUFTEDCHEEK (*Pseudocolaptes boissonneautii*)

*One of the most striking members of this family, with all of its rich rufous, bold streaks, and big white ear-patches. It was a fun to watch them probe about in the epiphytes as they moved with large mixed flocks.*

*Another one that Dave spotted for us!*

\* BLACK-BILLED TREEHUNTER (*Thripadectes melanorhynchus*)

STREAK-CAPPED TREEHUNTER (*Thripadectes virgaticeps*)

*We called one across the road a few times at Septimo for fair views.*

LINEATED FOLIAGE-GLEANER (*Syndactyla subalaris*)

*A few with the flocks at Septimo.*

POINT-TAILED PALMCREEPER (*Berlepschia rikeri*)

*Real nice scope views of a responsive bird along Sacha's main boardwalk as it perched up in nice light. One of the prettier furnariids, in my opinion.*

STRIPED WOODHAUNTER (*Hyloctistes subulatus subulatus*)

*Eric and I had quick looks at one in a flock across the Napo as it fed in some dead leaf clusters.*

BUFF-FRONTED FOLIAGE-GLEANER (*Philydor rufus*)

*Very nice looks at this handsome foliage-gleaner at Septimo as it moved with a mixed flock.*

\* CINNAMON-RUMPED FOLIAGE-GLEANER (*Philydor pyrrhodes*)

*Totally uncooperative this trip!*

\* OLIVE-BACKED FOLIAGE-GLEANER (*Automolus infuscatus*)

SCALY-THROATED LEAFTOSSER (*Sclerurus guatemalensis*)

*A first for me around Silanche, where I have suspected they must be! We had a very responsive - even if somewhat ballistic - pair in the understory below the tower.*

### **Dendrocolaptidae**

TYRANNINE WOODCREEPER (*Dendrocincla tyrannina tyrannina*)

*This was simply an incredible trip for woodcreepers; to have done any better we would have had to see them all! We snagged this montane forest species right along the entrance road into Septimo for excellent views.*

PLAIN-BROWN WOODCREEPER (*Dendrocincla fuliginosa*)

*Pretty common in the lowland forests of both slopes. This species is one known to follow army antswarms, and we witnessed this firsthand at Sacha.*

OLIVACEOUS WOODCREEPER (*Sittasomus griseicapillus*)

*Good looks at this small woodcreeper along the Loreto rd.*

WEDGE-BILLED WOODCREEPER (*Glyphorhynchus spirurus*)

*The most petite of all woodcreepers, and common on both slopes, especially at Sacha.*

LONG-BILLED WOODCREEPER (*Nasica longirostris*)

*After nearly seeing this species well from the paddle canoe at Sacha, we finally caught up with it along the main boardwalk for scope views as it fed in some tall trees. What a bill!*

CINNAMON-THROATED WOODCREEPER (*Dendrexetastes rufigula*)

*Very nice scope views from the metal towers at Sacha.*

STRONG-BILLED WOODCREEPER (*Xiphocolaptes promeropirhynchus promeropirhynchus*)

*A really hefty woodcreeper, and one we had nice views of at Septimo and San Isidro.*

AMAZONIAN BARRED-WOODCREEPER (*Dendrocolaptes certhia*)

*We pulled this one out of an army antswarm at Sacha for excellent studies.*



STRAIGHT-BILLED WOODCREEPER (*Xiphorhynchus picus*)

*Common right around the 'barbeque dock' at Sacha.*

STRIPED WOODCREEPER (*Xiphorhynchus obsoletus*)

*Good looks at this varzea forest species along the Orquidea stream at Sacha.*

SPIX'S WOODCREEPER (*Xiphorhynchus spixii*)

*It took a few rounds, but we finally got one to sit still long enough to soak in its delicate plumage pattern near the parrot salt licks.*

BUFF-THROATED WOODCREEPER (*Xiphorhynchus guttatus*)

*A common bird around Sacha, that vocalizes frequently.*

BLACK-STRIPED WOODCREEPER (*Xiphorhynchus lachrymosus*)

*A flashy and boldly-pattered woodcreeper that we had really nice studies of from the Silanche tower.*

SPOTTED WOODCREEPER (*Xiphorhynchus erythropygius aequatorialis*)

*Pretty common with the flocks around Septimo and Milpe. The one that sounds kind like a high-pitched horse.*

OLIVE-BACKED WOODCREEPER (*Xiphorhynchus triangularis triangularis*)

*The east slope representative of the previous species that we saw well at San Isidro.*

MONTANE WOODCREEPER (*Lepidocolaptes lacrymiger aequatorialis*)

*The common woodcreeper of the montane zone on both slopes, especially with flocks.*

### **Thamnophilidae**

FASCIATED ANTSHRIKE (*Cymbilaimus lineatus*)

*Stellar views of a male that we called in to a vine tangle right over our heads along the Providencia trail.*

LINED ANTSHRIKE (*Thamnophilus tenuipunctatus tenuifasciatus*)

*The male looks like he's wearing a jailbird outfit We had nice looks at him along the Loreto rd.*

UNIFORM ANTSHRIKE (*Thamnophilus unicolor unicolor*)

*I think everybody ended up with nice looks at either the male or female (or both) during some understory birding at Septimo. This is a sneaky one that knows how to elude us birders.*

\* PLAIN-WINGED ANTSHRIKE (*Thamnophilus schistaceus*)

MOUSE-COLORED ANTSHRIKE (*Thamnophilus murinus*)

*Some saw the male, but it was the female that we threw into the scope a couple of times along the ridge trail behind the parrot salt licks. This species is found almost exclusively in higher terra firme forest.*

WESTERN SLATY-ANTSHRIKE (*Thamnophilus atrinucha*)

*One cooperative pair at Silanche.*

SPOT-WINGED ANTSHRIKE (*Pygoptila stellaris*)

*A pair with a mixed flock was a nice grab. Remember that this was the one with the big, chunky bill, and short tail that we saw feeding in the subcanopy across the Napo from Sacha.*

RUSSET ANTSHRIKE (*Thamnistes anabatinus intermedius*)

*Right at eye-level in a close tree from the Silanche tower. At first glance this one even looks a bit more like a foliage-gleaner, but the thick and hooked antshrike bill gives it away.*

\* SPOT-CROWNED ANTSHRIKE (*Dysithamnus puncticeps*)

DUSKY-THROATED ANTSHRIKE (*Thamnomanes ardesiacus*)

*Plenty of nice studies at perched birds moving with flocks at Sacha. This is an understory antshrike that is usually the 'big-mouth' of the flocks.*

CINEREOUS ANTSHRIKE (*Thamnomanes caesius*)

*Much like the previous species, but found mostly in terra firme forest. We had them across the Napo from Sacha with a mixed flock.*

MOUSTACHED ANTWREN (*Myrmotherula ignota ignota*)

*Seen really well in a mixed canopy flock at Silanche. This one was once considered to more closely allied to the Pygmy Antwren, but is now known to be a member of the Moustached Antwren complex by virtue of song and plumage. Some authorities even split this western form out and call it, Griscom's Antwren.*

\* MOUSTACHED (SHORT-BILLED) ANTWREN (*Myrmotherula ignota obscura*)

- PACIFIC ANTWREN (*Myrmotherula pacifica*)  
*Usually not that shy of a bird, but we finally dragged them out of some roadside growth near Silanche for pretty good views.*
- PLAIN-THROATED ANTWREN (*Myrmotherula hauxwelli*)  
*Common in the understory around Sacha.*
- \* CHECKER-THROATED ANTWREN (*Myrmotherula fulviventris*)
- \* RUFOUS-TAILED ANTWREN (*Myrmotherula erythrura*)
- WHITE-FLANKED ANTWREN (*Myrmotherula axillaris*)  
*Seen well in the lowland forests of both slopes with flocks.*
- \* SLATY ANTWREN (*Myrmotherula schisticolor schisticolor*)
- LONG-WINGED ANTWREN (*Myrmotherula longipennis*)  
*Eric and Dave got quick looks at this terra firme, flock bird along the Providencia trail before it got away. The small antwren with the black bib.*
- GRAY ANTWREN (*Myrmotherula menetriesii*)  
*A located pairs for brief looks in the terra firme forests across the river from Sacha. A real devil this trip!*
- \* DOT-WINGED ANTWREN (*Microrhopias quixensis*)
- \* LONG-TAILED ANTBIRD (*Drymophila caudata caudata*)  
*Oh, and we should have seen this!*
- GRAY ANTBIRD (*Cercomacra cinerascens*)  
*Very nice looks at a pair as they foraged right over our heads in some vine tangles along the ridge trail behind the parrot salt licks.*
- \* BLACK ANTBIRD (*Cercomacra serva*)
- \* WHITE-BACKED FIRE-EYE (*Pyriglena leuconota*)
- BLACK-FACED ANTBIRD (*Myrmoborus myotherinus*)  
*One tough to see male at Sacha!*
- PERUVIAN WARBLING-ANTBIRD (*Hypocnemis peruviana*)  
*One cooperative pair along the main boardwalk at Sacha. This complex has been cleaved into about 6 different species.*
- SILVERED ANTBIRD (*Sclateria naevia*)  
*Some really views for about half the group when a called in a male at the upper end of the Anaconda stream at Sacha. The song of this species is really piercing!*
- \* CHESTNUT-BACKED ANTBIRD (*Myrmeciza exsul maculifer*)
- PLUMBEOUS ANTBIRD (*Myrmeciza hyperythra*)  
*Another antbird score along the main boardwalk at Sacha.*
- WHITE-SHOULDERED ANTBIRD (*Myrmeciza melanoceps*)  
*Great looks at a singing male with its white shoulders flared at Sacha.*
- SOOTY ANTBIRD (*Myrmeciza fortis*)  
*Jan had the best looks at this one along the Providencia trail. We heard them a few other times, but they are too hard to see.*
- \* WHITE-PLUMED ANTBIRD (*Pithys albifrons*)
- BICOLORED ANTBIRD (*Gymnopithys leucaspis*)  
*Seen briefly by a few at an antswarm at Sacha.*
- SPOT-BACKED ANTBIRD (*Hylaphylax naevia (várzea)*)  
*Bob Crowe got the first good looks along the Sacha boardwalk, but then most others caught up with it the following day. This was the varzea form, which is probably going to be split out from the terra firme inhabiting birds.*
- DOT-BACKED ANTBIRD (*Hylaphylax punctulata*)  
*Another antbird of swampy forest; we netted great looks at this little on our canoe ride along the Orquidea stream.*

BLACK-SPOTTED BARE-EYE (*Phlegopsis nigromaculata*)

*Seen really by about half the group with an antswarm at Sacha, and then again the next - all in attendance - when we called in a responsive pair across the Napo.*

REDDISH-WINGED BARE-EYE (*Phlegopsis erythroptera*)

*Exceedingly hard to see, but a few folks got into them when they'd come blasting in after a little playback. This was all at our same antswarm behind Sacha.*

### **Formicariidae**

\* RUFIOUS-CAPPED ANTTHRUSH (*Formicarius colma*)

*The eastern lowland antthrushes were a real pain this trip!*

\* BLACK-FACED ANTTHRUSH (*Formicarius analis*)

RUFIOUS-BREASTED ANTTHRUSH (*Formicarius rufipectus carrikeri*)

*Spectacular views at the resident bird at Paz de las Aves. This is the newest addition to Angel's collection of 'tame' birds!*

STRIATED ANTTHRUSH (*Chamaeza nobilis*)

*Glimpsed along the trails behind Sacha... arrr!*

GIANT ANTPITTA (*Grallaria gigantea hylodroma*)

*Seeing "Maria", the matriarchal Giant Antpitta at Angel's, was a snap this trip. Well it usually is, but this time she was standing there waiting for as we blasted down to get into position for the Cock-of-the-Rock lek. We got our insurance looks in poor light, but then later had her much better in perfect light. "Carino" put in a quick appearance as well. This species was lost to science for decades, sort of ironic when you think that its now one of a handful of birds that can be tamed down to stand at your feet!*

\* PLAIN-BACKED ANTPITTA (*Grallaria haplonota*)

CHESTNUT-CROWNED ANTPITTA (*Grallaria ruficapilla ruficapilla*)

*Fantastic looks at the resident bird that runs around - out in the open - near the cabins at San Isidro!*

YELLOW-BREASTED ANTPITTA (*Grallaria flavotincta*)

*Angel got this one, "Willie", to sit right on the feeding rock, just as expected. This species was only first detected in Ecuador in the late 80's.*

WHITE-BELLIED ANTPITTA (*Grallaria hypoleuca*)

*It took only a few minutes to draw this shy species out of the forest for a worm feeding session at San Isidro. A very hard to bird to see otherwise.*

\* RUFIOUS ANTPITTA (*Grallaria rufula rufula*)

\* TAWNY ANTPITTA (*Grallaria quitensis quitensis*)

*A silly miss that we should have seen!*

\* WHITE-LORED ANTPITTA (*Hyllopezus fulviventris*)

\* THRUSH-LIKE ANTPITTA (*Myrmothera campanisona*)

OCHRE-BREASTED ANTPITTA (*Grallaricula flavirostris*)

*Very nice looks at this tennis ball-sized antpitta at Septimo for most.*

\* SLATE-CROWNED ANTPITTA (*Grallaricula nana nana*)

### **Conopophagidae**

CHESTNUT-BELTED GNATEATER (*Conopophaga aurita*)

*Bob Coffman got the best looks in the understory at Sacha.*

### **Rhinocryptidae**

RUSTY-BELTED TAPACULO (*Liosceles thoracicus*)

*Phenomenal scope views of a singing bird along the ridge trail behind the parrot salt licks with minimal effort; this can be a really tricky bird to see well.*

\* NORTHERN WHITE-CROWNED TAPACULO (*Scytalopus atratus confusus*)

BLACKISH TAPACULO (*Scytalopus latrans latrans*)

*Pretty good looks at responsive bird that we pried out of a bamboo patch; San Isidro.*

LONG-TAILED TAPACULO (*Scytalopus micropterus*)

*Overall, we had some really good luck actually seeing some of these toughies well. This was probably the best example when we called one right up out of the undergrowth and got it to sit on a stump right out in the open only a few meters away. All of the times that you just miss them make you really appreciate sightings like this! San Isidro.*

NARINO TAPACULO (*Scytalopus vicini*)

*One nanosecond view when it crossed the trail at Septimo.*

\* SPILLMANN'S TAPACULO (*Scytalopus spillmanni*)

***Cotingidae***

GREEN-AND-BLACK FRUITEATER (*Pipreola riefferii*)

*Fruiteaters are always a thrill to see, because they can be sneaky and they are often very well-adorned. We had exceptional views of this mid-elevation species on both slopes.*

\* BARRED FRUITEATER (*Pipreola arcuata arcuata*)

ORANGE-BREASTED FRUITEATER (*Pipreola jucunda*)

*Patsy got the birder of the day (and maybe even of the week) award when she pulled this one out of the hat, through a tiny window at Paz de las Aves. We had been patiently scouring the tree where we knew it was calling with no luck! But Patsy just calmly said, "I've got it", as if there was nothin' to it! This is really a tough bird to get, so we were fortunate.*

\* BLACK-CHESTED FRUITEATER (*Pipreola lubomirskii*)

SCALED FRUITEATER (*Ampelioides tschudii*)

*Nice scope views of a male along the Septimo entrance road!*

WHITE-BROWED PURPLETUFT (*Iodopleura isabellae*)

*Dave spotted them for us from the wooden tower at Sacha, where we ended up with excellent scope views.*

OLIVACEOUS PIHA (*Snowornis cryptolophus*)

*Like taking candy from a baby these days at Paz de las Aves since he has it coming to the fruit feeders so reliably!*

SCREAMING PIHA (*Lipaugus vociferans*)

*Scope views at singing bird at Sacha. Not much to look at, but a real loud-mouth!*

PLUM-THROATED COTINGA (*Cotinga maynana*)

*What a breath-taking color of turquoise! We saw several from Sacha's towers.*

SPANGLED COTINGA (*Cotinga cayana*)

*Electrifying, and we had plenty of them from the towers at Sacha.*

BARE-NECKED FRUITCROW (*Gymnoderus foetidus*)

*Many of this strange cotinga species from the towers at Sacha.*

PURPLE-THROATED FRUITCROW (*Querula purpurata*)

*Especially nice from the wooden tower at Sacha where they seemed to never leave.*

ANDEAN COCK-OF-THE-ROCK (*Rupicola peruviana sanguinolenta*)

*Numbing views of this classic Andean cotinga relative at Angel Paz's lek where at least 5 males were in attendance, hoping to attract a female!*

***Pipridae***

WHITE-BEARDED MANAKIN (*Manacus manacus*)

*Pretty nice views for most at the dispersed lek at Silanche.*

WIRE-TAILED MANAKIN (*Pipra filicauda*)

*Scope views at a perched male at Sacha was a real treat.*

GOLDEN-HEADED MANAKIN (*Pipra erythrocephala*)

*Top-notch scope studies of displaying males at a lek near inner forest parrot salt lick along the ridge trail.*

BLUE-CROWNED MANAKIN (*Lepidothrix coronata*)

*Very nice looks at full-blown male in the understory along the trail at Silanche.*

GOLDEN-WINGED MANAKIN (*Masius chrysopterus*)

*Nice looks at males on our second day of birding.*

WESTERN STRIPED MANAKIN (*Machaeropterus striolatus*)

*Often quite a difficult bird to find, but we had a relatively easy time when we got one scoped within only a few minutes along the ridge trail behind the parrot salt licks. This one also prefers the higher terra firme forests across the river from Sacha.*

CLUB-WINGED MANAKIN (*Machaeropterus deliciosus*)

*Wonderful and close views through the scope at an incredible male at the usual lek at Milpe.*

ORANGE-CRESTED MANAKIN (*Heterocercus aurantiivertex*)

*We managed to pick one out, after it called back to us, along the Orquidea stream at Sacha.*

WING-BARRED PIPRITES (*Piprites chloris*)

*Nice to look down on a manakin for a change! We had this one from the metal towers when it responded beautifully!*

### **Tyrannidae**

WHITE-LORED TYRANNULET (*Ornithion inerme*)

*Perched right up in plain sight as it sang next to the metal towers. A tough canopy species to see from the forest floor.*

\* SOUTHERN BEARDLESS-TYRANNULET (*Camptostoma obsoletum*)

YELLOW-CROWNED TYRANNULET (*Tyrannulus elatus*)

*Scope views of this monotypic genus at Sacha out along the Napo.*

GRAY ELAENIA (*Myiopagis caniceps*)

*Seen well from the Silanche tower; and easily overlooked, canopy species.*

GREENISH ELAENIA (*Myiopagis viridicata*)

*Dave spotted this obscure tyrannid along the roadside at Milpe. This one is probably invading due to the increased forest clearance.*

YELLOW-BELLIED ELAENIA (*Elaenia flavogaster*)

*We called one up nicely near Silanche. Another drier habitat invader.*

WHITE-CRESTED ELAENIA (*Elaenia albiceps griseigularis*)

*Common at the fruiting myrtle trees near the dining room at San Isidro.*

SIERRAN ELAENIA (*Elaenia pallatangae*)

*A lone, calling bird along the ridge road near Bellavista; we had quick, but pretty decent looks at it.*

TORRENT TYRANNULET (*Serpophaga cinerea cinerea*)

*Right at the Cosanga bridge.*

OCHRE-BELLIED FLYCATCHER (*Mionectes oleagineus*)

*One quick one from the wooden tower.*

STREAK-NECKED FLYCATCHER (*Mionectes striaticollis*)

*Common in the mid-elevation, montane zones of both slopes.*

OLIVE-STRIPED FLYCATCHER (*Mionectes olivaceus*)

*Occurs at lower elevations than the previous species; we had them at Silanche.*

RUFIOUS-BREASTED FLYCATCHER (*Leptopogon rufipectus rufipectus*)

*Several in the flocks at San Isidro.*

SLATY-CAPPED FLYCATCHER (*Leptopogon superciliaris*)

*A prominent member of the mixed flocks on the west-slope.*

\* BRONZE-OLIVE PYGMY-TYRANT (*Pseudotriccus pelzelni*)

\* VARIEGATED BRISTLE-TYRANT (*Pogonotriccus poecilotis poecilotis*)

MARBLE-FACED BRISTLE-TYRANT (*Pogonotriccus ophthalmicus ophthalmicus*)

*We had our best looks at this mid-elevation species at San Isidro, where we enjoyed a pair actively building a nest.*

WHITE-FRONTED TYRANNULET (*Phyllomyias zeledoni*)

*Often lumped with the Rough-legged Tyrannulet of eastern South America. This is an obscure little tyrannid that isn't often encountered, but we connected just right with one along the Loreto rd. for scope views.*

- SOOTY-HEADED TYRANNULET (*Phyllomyias griseiceps*)  
*Tremendous views from the Silanche tower; the one tyrannulet without much in the wing-bar department.*
- BLACK-CAPPED TYRANNULET (*Phyllomyias nigrocapillus nigrocapillus*)  
*Not a common bird in northern Ecuador, but we turned one up along the ridge road near Bellavista. A crisply-marked tyrannulet.*
- ASHY-HEADED TYRANNULET (*Phyllomyias cinereiceps*)  
*Seen well at Septimo.*
- SLENDER-FOOTED TYRANNULET (*Zimmerius gracilipes*)  
*Are your heads starting to spin yet with all of these confusing tyrannulets? At first they all seem to look, and act, alike, but they really are distinctive. We had this one very well from the towers at Sacha.*
- GOLDEN-FACED TYRANNULET (*Zimmerius chrysops*)  
*Common on both slopes in the foothills.*
- WHITE-THROATED TYRANNULET (*Mecocerculus leucophrys rufomarginatus*)  
*A large and very erect-postured member of this genus - we had nice looks near the Papallacta Pass.*
- WHITE-TAILED TYRANNULET (*Mecocerculus poecilocercus*)  
*Common with mid-elevation, canopy flocks.*
- SULPHUR-BELLIED TYRANNULET (*Mecocerculus minor*)  
*Pretty common with the flocks at San Isidro.*
- WHITE-BANDED TYRANNULET (*Mecocerculus stictopterus stictopterus*)  
*The common *Mecocerculus* tyrannulet of the temperate zone; we had our best looks at them in a flock at Yanacocha and Guango. This species is probably the most cleanly-marked of the all of this genus.*
- TUFTED TIT-TYRANT (*Anairetes parulus aequatorialis*)  
*This peppy little guy was seen very well when we popped up a pair in the central valley after a bit of playback.*
- SCALE-CRESTED PYGMY-TYRANT (*Lophotriccus pileatus*)  
*Good looks at one at Silanche for good looks at the scaled crown.*
- RUFIOUS-CROWNED TODY-TYRANT (*Poecilatriccus ruficeps*)  
*A bamboo specialist that we had nice looks at along the roadside at San Isidro, and a really handsome bird.*
- WHITE-EYED TODY-TYRANT (*Hemitriccus zosterops*)  
*I guess its like this in a lot of places... but don't you feel kind of silly busting your head against a tree, doing your best to see some tiny, nondescript flycatcher that you probably won't even remember by list time? Yeah, me too... except that I do remember it by list time and have a hard job trying convince everybody else that they saw it too! But it sure does make birding fun. Well, that was sort of a goofy diatribe (comic relief-session) from left-field... but! We did have nice scope views of this little guy along the ridge trail behind the parrot salt licks. This is without doubt, the longest monologue that this species has ever gotten, but it gives me a chuckle or two during late-night writing gigs.*
- BLACK-HEADED TODY-FLYCATCHER (*Todirostrum nigriceps*)  
*A flashy canopy flycatcher that we saw really well from the canopy tower at Silanche. I just love how nature decided to cram so much color and vibrancy into such an easily overlooked organism!*
- COMMON TODY-FLYCATCHER (*Todirostrum cinereum sclateri*)  
*Silanche area.*
- YELLOW-BROWED TODY-FLYCATCHER (*Todirostrum chrysocrotaphum*)  
*A tody-flycatcher with an attitude. We called in one, who meant business, at the wooden tower at Sacha.*
- RUFIOUS-TAILED FLATBILL (*Ramphotrigon ruficauda*)  
*Oscar and I were shocked to have found this one right along the Napo River. Why? Because it is a pretty strict inhabitant of deep swampy forest, such as along the boardwalk, or along the Anaconda stream. Who knows? Maybe it was a young bird looking for a territory. At any rate, we had some pretty swell scope views of it as it called away as if off at summer camp!*
- YELLOW-MARGINED FLYCATCHER (*Tolmomyias assimilis flavotectus*)  
*Nicely from the tower at Silanche.*

YELLOW-MARGINED (ZIMMER'S) FLYCATCHER (*Tolmomyias assimilis obscuriceps*)

*Split from the previous species, this Amazonian bird is really quite different. We called one up for prime views at the wooden tower at Sacha.*

GRAY-CROWNED FLYCATCHER (*Tolmomyias poliocephalus*)

*This is really a tough genus to come to terms with since they look so typically confusing, but we nailed them down pretty well this trip, noting their different vocalizations, habitats, and even subtle plumage characteristics. We had smashing views of this one from the metal towers at Sacha.*

YELLOW-BREASTED (OCHRE-LORED) FLYCATCHER (*Tolmomyias flaviventris*)

*Seen well out along the Napo at Sacha.*

ORNATE FLYCATCHER (*Myiotriccus ornatus*)

*A beautiful little flycatcher of Andean slopes that we saw well in the west.*

FLAVESCENT FLYCATCHER (*Myiophobus flavicans flavicans*)

*Fairly common around San Isidro.*

OLIVE-CHESTED FLYCATCHER (*Myiophobus cryptoxanthus*)

*Loreto rd., when we called one out of the shrubbery at dawn.*

RUDDY-TAILED FLYCATCHER (*Terenotriccus erythrurus*)

*One seen briefly along the Providencia trail.*

CINNAMON FLYCATCHER (*Pyrrhomyias cinnamomea pyrrhoptera*)

*A common but attractive little tyrannid that often perches out in the open in clearings.*

CLIFF FLYCATCHER (*Hirundinea ferruginea*)

*A nice turnout of them along the Loreto rd.*

SMOKE-COLORED PEWEE (*Contopus fumigatus*)

*Common in the highlands. Once considered conspecific with the Greater Pewee.*

WESTERN WOOD-PEWEE (*Contopus sordidulus*)

*This one tends to prefer the slopes, while the Eastern is found mainly in the eastern lowlands.*

BLACK PHOEBE (*Sayornis nigricans angustirostris*)

*Common along streams.*

VERMILION FLYCATCHER (*Pyrocephalus rubinus piurae*)

*Some nice ones in the drier, central valley.*

CROWNED CHAT-TYRANT (*Ochthoeca frontalis frontalis*)

*Patsy saw briefly at Yanacocha.*

SLATY-BACKED CHAT-TYRANT (*Ochthoeca cinnamomeiventris cinnamomeiventris*)

*We saw this one at a beautiful little waterfall in the Guacamayos, not far from San Isidro - this species shows a predilection for running water.*

RUFOUS-BREASTED CHAT-TYRANT (*Ochthoeca rufipectoralis obfuscata*)

*In the canopy at Yanacocha.*

BROWN-BACKED CHAT-TYRANT (*Ochthoeca fuscicolor brunneifrons*)

*The common chat-tyrant of high temperate forests, and paramo.*

DRAB WATER-TYRANT (*Ochthornis littoralis*)

*A few of this river-edge species out along the Napo River.*

STREAK-THROATED BUSH-TYRANT (*Myiotheretes striaticollis striaticollis*)

*Fantastic studies in the drier central valley of this striking and large tyrant.*

PLAIN-CAPPED GROUND-TYRANT (*Muscisaxicola alpinus alpinus*)

*Called Paramo Ground-Tyrant in the Birds of Ecuador - we only managed fair looks at them up in the highlands.*

MASKED WATER-TYRANT (*Fluvicola nengeta*)

*A pair put on a little private show when they launched into their wing display not far from Silanche.*

CINNAMON ATTILA (*Attila cinnamomeus*)

*Far all to see well along the Anaconda stream at Sacha.*

\* BRIGHT-RUMPED ATTILA (*Attila spadiceus*)

- SIRYSTES (*Sirystes sibilator*)  
*Perfect studies from Sacha's wooden tower - like a chunky Myiarchus, but without the yellow. It's name is of Greek derivation, and means pipe player... even though it looks like the bird has doubled as a pipe cleaner!*
- \* GRAYISH MOURNER (*Rhytipterna simplex*)  
 DUSKY-CAPPED FLYCATCHER (*Myiarchus tuberculifer*)  
*Common on the lower slopes and lowlands.*
- SHORT-CRESTED FLYCATCHER (*Myiarchus ferox*)  
*Pretty common in more open habitats at Sacha.*
- PALE-EDGED FLYCATCHER (*Myiarchus cephalotes cephalotes*)  
*The east slope Myiarchus present around San Isidro.*
- LESSER KISKADEE (*Philohydor lictor*)  
*Pretty common in the lower growth around the lake edges at Sacha. Slimmer than the Great.*
- GREAT KISKADEE (*Pitangus sulphuratus*)  
*A voice known throughout the neotropics.*
- BOAT-BILLED FLYCATCHER (*Megarhynchus pitangua*)  
*Like a Great Kiskadee on steroids! This one is largely a fruit eater.*
- RUSTY-MARGINED FLYCATCHER (*Myiozetetes cayanensis hellmayri*)  
*Common in the humid lowlands and foothills of the west.*
- SOCIAL FLYCATCHER (*Myiozetetes similis*)  
*Most common right around the lake at Sacha.*
- GRAY-CAPPED FLYCATCHER (*Myiozetetes granadensis*)  
*Also pretty common at Sacha. This one has that funny head shape we mentioned.*
- DUSKY-CHESTED FLYCATCHER (*Myiozetetes luteiventris*)  
*This forest-based, canopy flycatcher gave us some nice views from the towers at Sacha.*
- LEMON-BROWED FLYCATCHER (*Conopias cinchoneti cinchoneti*)  
*Nice and close scope views of a family group that crossed the road in the Guacamayos.*
- GOLDEN-CROWNED FLYCATCHER (*Myiodynastes chrysocephalus minor*)  
*Common around Septimo, and an especially loud voice.*
- STREAKED FLYCATCHER (*Myiodynastes maculatus*)  
*Particularly common this trip on both slopes.*
- PIRATIC FLYCATCHER (*Legatus leucophaeus*)  
*It was nice to see this one perched next to the next species for nice comparative studies, this being the smaller, less cleanly marked bird.*
- a** VARIEGATED FLYCATCHER (*Empidonomus varius*)  
*Right out at the Napo, and perched next to the Piratic. Nice to see the rufous in this species' tail as well.*
- a** CROWNED SLATY FLYCATCHER (*Griseotyrannus aurantioatrocristatus*)  
*One of the most conspicuous birds from the canopy towers at Sacha.*
- TROPICAL KINGBIRD (*Tyrannus melancholicus melancholicus*)  
*Common in cleared habitats from the lowlands all the way up to the montane zones.*
- b** EASTERN KINGBIRD (*Tyrannus tyrannus*)  
*One migrating group flew over along the Napo at Sacha; I think Dave and I were the only ones to catch this.*
- CHESTNUT-CROWNED BECARD (*Pachyramphus castaneus*)  
*One seen pretty well as it perched high in some overhead trees along the Shipati.*
- YELLOW-CHEEKED BECARD (*Pachyramphus xanthogenys*)  
*Fine studies of this east-slope specialty on two consecutive days in the Guacamayos and along the Loreto rd.*
- BARRED BECARD (*Pachyramphus versicolor versicolor*)  
*Good looks at this small and chunky becard at San Isidro. Those bars can be hard to discern.*
- CINNAMON BECARD (*Pachyramphus cinnamomeus cinnamomeus*)  
*Fairly common right on the grounds at Septimo. and at Milpe.*



WHITE-WINGED BECARD (*Pachyramphus polychopterus*)

*Very nice looks at a male with a flock at Septimo, which pertains to the very gray, black, and white, western race; we saw the black-and-white eastern form at Sacha.*

BLACK-AND-WHITE BECARD (*Pachyramphus albogriseus*)

*Very briefly on our last day in the west.*

\* BLACK-CAPPED BECARD (*Pachyramphus marginatus*)

ONE-COLORED BECARD (*Pachyramphus homochrous*)

*This species must undertake what seems like a north-south migration. During our visit they were still pretty common around Milpe and Silanche; other times they are completely gone.*

BLACK-TAILED TITYRA (*Tityra cayana*)

*A few from the towers at Sacha.*

MASKED TITYRA (*Tityra semifasciata*)

*Seen on both slopes in the foothills.*

### **Hirundinidae**

BROWN-CHESTED MARTIN (*Progne tapera*)

*Right around Coca along the Napo River.*

GRAY-BREASTED MARTIN (*Progne chalybea*)

*We had our best looks at them as they perched out along the lake at Sacha.*

WHITE-WINGED SWALLOW (*Tachycineta albiventer*)

*Common along the Napo River and on Lake Pilchecocha.*

BLUE-AND-WHITE SWALLOW (*Notiochelidon cyanoleuca*)

*The common highland swallow.*

BROWN-BELLIED SWALLOW (*Notiochelidon murina murina*)

*This species tends to replace the previous one at very high elevations such as around the Papallacta Pass and at Yanacocha.*

WHITE-BANDED SWALLOW (*Atticora fasciata*)

*An attractive and common swallow of Amazonian waterways.*

WHITE-THIGHED SWALLOW (*Neochelidon tibialis minima*)

*The small, mostly dark swallow that we had perched on the wires at Milpe.*

SOUTHERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW (*Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*)

*Common on the slopes.*

### **Motacillidae**

PARAMO PIPIT (*Anthus bogotensis bogotensis*)

*We called one right out into the open to within only feet away, not far from Yanacocha. A memorable sighting of this species.*

### **Cinclidae**

WHITE-CAPPED DIPPER (*Cinclus leucocephalus leuconotus*)

*We had sort of tough luck with this one, but at least a good number of folks got onto the ones that zoomed by at Paz de las Aves as we made our way down to the river.*

### **Troglodytidae**

BLACK-CAPPED DONACOBIUS (*Donacobius atricapilla*)

*A common marsh bird on Pilchecocha, where we had a couple of pairs - and what a beauty!*

\* BAND-BACKED WREN (*Campylorhynchus zonatus*)

THRUSH-LIKE WREN (*Campylorhynchus turdinus*)

*We had our best looks across the river from Sacha when we called in a pair at the head of the inner parrot salt lick trail for scope views.*

RUFIOUS WREN (*Cinnycerthia unirufa unirufa*)

*One close, small family group for great looks at Yanacocha.*

\* SHARPE'S (SEPIA-BROWN) WREN (*Cinnycerthia olivascens olivascens*)

PLAIN-TAILED WREN (*Thryothorus euophrys*)

*A very easy grab when we lured a responsive bird out of some thick bamboo at San Isidro; this is yet another bamboo specialist.*

\* CORAYA WREN (*Thryothorus coraya*)

HOUSE WREN (*Troglodytes aedon albicans*)

*A few around!*

MOUNTAIN WREN (*Troglodytes solstitialis solstitialis*)

*The more forest-based, arboreal relative of the House Wren.*

\* SEDGE (GRASS) WREN (*Cistothorus platensis aequatorialis*)

WHITE-BREASTED WOOD-WREN (*Henicorhina leucosticta*)

*Very nice looks for most at a responsive pair along the trails at Sacha.*

GRAY-BREASTED WOOD-WREN (*Henicorhina leucophrys leucophrys*)

*Seen a couple of times in the subtropical zone, but probably best around San Isidro where they venture out to glean insects around the yard.*

SCALY-BREASTED WREN (*Microcerculus marginatus*)

*Not an easy bird to get, and they drive you crazy, because you them all over the lowlands of both slopes! We called one in along the Providencia trail that popped up and even sat long enough for scope views.*

MUSICIAN WREN (*Cyphorhinus aradus*)

*Another skulking lowland forest wren known and named for its impressive vocalizations. We had little trouble getting one to come in at Sacha for scope views of it singing.*

### ***Turdidae***

ANDEAN SOLITAIRE (*Myadestes ralloides*)

*Most common around San Isidro where they are pretty readily seen around the fruiting myrtle trees.*

\* SLATY-BACKED NIGHTINGALE-THRUSH (*Catharus fuscater fuscater*)

PALE-EYED THRUSH (*Platycichla leucops leucops*)

*It was quick, and I think Bob Polkinghorn and I were the only ones to get onto it at San Isidro before it flitted away!*

GREAT THRUSH (*Turdus fuscater quindio*)

*The common highland thrush, and the largest of its genus.*

GLOSSY-BLACK THRUSH (*Turdus serranus fuscobrunneus*)

*Seen best at the fruiting myrtle bushes at San Isidro. Like a smaller and darker version of a Great Thrush.*

CHESTNUT-BELLIED THRUSH (*Turdus fulviventris*)

*Good scope looks at this American Robin-like thrush in the Guacamayos as it fed on fruits.*

BLACK-BILLED THRUSH (*Turdus ignobilis*)

*Regular in the secondary habitats in the eastern lowlands; we had our best looks right around Sacha.*

LAWRENCE'S THRUSH (*Turdus lawrencii*)

*One of South America's best mimics. WE had scope views of one singing from the wooden tower where could see that bright yellow bill.*

HAUXWELL'S THRUSH (*Turdus hauxwelli*)

*Quick but pretty decent looks for most in the swampy forests along the Sacha boardwalk.*

ECUADORIAN THRUSH (*Turdus maculirostris*)

*A few in the Milpe/Silanche areas.*

### ***Poliophtilidae***

SLATE-THROATED GNATCATCHER (*Poliophtila schistaceigula*)

*One male - briefly, but well - from the Silanche tower.*

### ***Corvidae***

GREEN JAY (*Cyanocorax yncas yncas*)

*The Birds of Ecuador splits this South American form out from the true Green Jay of more northern latitudes. We had plenty of nice looks at this one in the east.*

VIOLACEOUS JAY (*Cyanocorax violaceus*)  
*Common in the eastern lowlands.*

TURQUOISE JAY (*Cyanolyca turcosa*)  
*Seen on our first day during a nice run of 'glamour birds'!*

### **Vireonidae**

BROWN-CAPPED VIREO (*Vireo leucophrys*)  
*The common mid-elevation vireo.*

RED-EYED VIREO (*Vireo olivaceus*)  
*Common in the west, especially from the Silanche tower.*

**b** YELLOW-GREEN VIREO (*Vireo flavoviridis*)  
*A couple were seen from Sacha's wooden tower.*

**\*** DUSKY-CAPPED GREENLET (*Hylophilus hypoxanthus*)

OLIVACEOUS GREENLET (*Hylophilus olivaceus*)  
*Scope views of this east-slope specialty along the Loreto rd. This one really has an explosive song when it gets going.*

LESSER GREENLET (*Hylophilus decurtatus minor*)  
*Common around Silanche with flocks.*

SLATY-CAPPED SHRIKE-VIREO (*Vireolanius leucotis*)  
*Dave spotted this one just before it flew off along the roadside at Silanche.*

BLACK-BILLED PEPPERSHRIKE (*Cyclarhis nigrirostris*)  
*We saw members of the regular family group around the cabins at San Isidro.*

### **Fringillidae**

THICK-BILLED EUPHONIA (*Euphonia laniirostris*)  
*Common from the wooden tower at Sacha.*

GOLDEN-RUMPED EUPHONIA (*Euphonia cyanocephala pelzelni*)  
*A particularly beautiful euphonia that we saw best in the central valley at my house.*

BRONZE-GREEN EUPHONIA (*Euphonia mesochrysa*)  
*Quality views of a responsive male in the Guacamayos.*

WHITE-LORED EUPHONIA (*Euphonia chrysopasta*)  
*At arm's length from the wooden tower at Sacha. Used to be called Golden-bellied Euphonia... now that was really narrowing it down!*

WHITE-VENTED EUPHONIA (*Euphonia minuta*)  
*Good looks at responsive bird from the Silanche tower. An easy euphonia to over look.*

ORANGE-BELLIED EUPHONIA (*Euphonia xanthogaster*)  
*The common euphonia on the slopes and in the lowlands.*

RUFIOUS-BELLIED EUPHONIA (*Euphonia rufiventris*)  
*Also common, and at very close range, from Sacha's canopy towers. The euphonia (male) with the all dark hood.*

BLUE-NAPED CHLOROPHONIA (*Chlorophonia cyanea*)  
*Pretty good looks for most folks along the forested roadside at San Isidro as they fed on melastome fruits. They seem to migrate upslope this time of the year.*

CHESTNUT-BREASTED CHLOROPHONIA (*Chlorophonia pyrrhophrys*)  
*Killer scope views of a male along the San Isidro roadside. What a combination of insane colors!*

HOODED SISKIN (*Carduelis magellanica capitalis*)  
*A few in the central valley.*

OLIVACEOUS SISKIN (*Carduelis olivacea*)  
*Replaces the previous species lower down on the east-slope.*

### **Parulidae**

TROPICAL PARULA (*Parula pitiayumi*)  
*Fairly common with flocks in the west.*

- b** CERULEAN WARBLER (*Dendroica cerulea*)  
*Dave spotted one that some of us got onto briefly along the Loreto rd.*
- OLIVE-CROWNED YELLOWTHROAT (*Geothlypis semiflava semiflava*)  
*We pulled them up out of the pasture grasses pretty easily in the west.*
- SLATE-THROATED REDSTART (*Myioborus miniatus*)  
*This and the next species are common in Andean mixed flocks.*
- SPECTACLED REDSTART (*Myioborus melanocephalus ruficoronatus*)  
*Replaces the previous species at higher elevations, but they do overlap slightly, such as around the cabins at San Isidro.*
- CHOCO WARBLER (*Basileuterus chlorophrys*)  
*Very nice studies at a responsive bird along the trail at Milpe.*
- BLACK-CRESTED WARBLER (*Basileuterus nigrocristatus*)  
*This species prefers more secondary habitats such as along roadsides.*
- RUSSET-CROWNED WARBLER (*Basileuterus coronatus*)  
*Nice looks along the old Nono-Mindo rd. This one has a wonderful dueted song.*
- THREE-STRIPED WARBLER (*Basileuterus tristriatus*)  
*A common warbler of the subtropical zones.*

### **Coeribidae**

- BANANAQUIT (*Coereba flaveola*)  
*Common on both slopes, and even visiting the hummingbird feeders at Milpe.*

### **Thraupidae**

- CINEREOUS CONEBILL (*Conirostrum cinereum fraseri*)  
*First seen well at Yanacocha; the one with the brow and wing spot.*
- BLUE-BACKED CONEBILL (*Conirostrum sitticolor sitticolor*)  
*Superb views of this handsome conebill in the temperate zone at Yanacocha where we had them close and feeding out in the open.*
- CAPPED CONEBILL (*Conirostrum albifrons atrocyaneum*)  
*A few on both slopes where they stayed close to mixed flocks.*
- MAGPIE TANAGER (*Cissopis leveriana*)  
*A lovely tanager, that also happens to be the longest!*
- GRASS-GREEN TANAGER (*Chlorornis riefferii riefferii*)  
*A very distinctive tanager species - and what a stunner! - that we saw once on the subtropical zone along the old Nono-Mindo rd. when it came out and posed right in front of us.*
- COMMON BUSH-TANAGER (*Chlorospingus ophthalmicus phaeocephalus*)  
*Fairly common on the east-slope around San Isidro.*
- DUSKY BUSH-TANAGER (*Chlorospingus semifuscus semifuscus*)  
*This species replaces the Common Bush-Tanager in the north-west.*
- YELLOW-THROATED BUSH-TANAGER (*Chlorospingus flavigularis*)  
*Most common around Milpe where they seem to be every third bird you look at.*
- BLACK-CAPPED HEMISPINGUS (*Hemispingus atropileus atropileus*)  
*Common - if a bit skulking - with the flocks at Guango in the bamboo understory.*
- SUPERCILIARIED HEMISPINGUS (*Hemispingus superciliaris nigrifrons*)  
*Seen well with the canopy flocks at Yanacocha.*
- BLACK-EARED HEMISPINGUS (*Hemispingus melanotis melanotis*)  
*Another mid-elevation bamboo specialist that we saw well at Guango and San Isidro.*
- GUIRA TANAGER (*Hemithraupis guira*)  
*Common in the Silanche area.*
- DUSKY-FACED TANAGER (*Mitrospingus cassinii*)  
*Melinda spotted one that we were able to scope for a few others to see before it got away. This is a strange tanager that spends much of its time sneaking around in the undergrowth; Silanche.*

- OCHRE-BREASTED TANAGER (*Chlorothraupis stolzmanni*)  
*Quick looks for some as they raced around in a flock at Milpe.*
- RUFIOUS-CRESTED TANAGER (*Creurgops verticalis verticalis*)  
*Exceptional looks at one with a flock in the Guacamayos; that rufous crest can be hard to see, and it has to be a male to even have a chance!*
- SCARLET-BROWED TANAGER (*Heterospingus xanthopygius*)  
*A couple of scoped birds at Silanche were a real prize.*
- WHITE-SHOULDERED TANAGER (*Tachyphonus luctuosus*)  
*Common in the Silanche area. The female often throws people off, with the gray head and yellow belly.*
- \* TAWNY-CRESTED TANAGER (*Tachyphonus delatrii*)
- WHITE-LINED TANAGER (*Tachyphonus rufus*)  
*Pretty common on both slopes. This was the tanager that has more of a blackbird aspect to it. Males are mostly black, while the female as all bright rufous.*
- VERMILION TANAGER (*Calochaetes coccineus*)  
*A real east-slope highlight that we connected with in the Guacamayos for nice scope views. What an unbelievably intense - yet simple - combination of colors.*
- MASKED CRIMSON TANAGER (*Ramphocelus nigrogularis*)  
*A flamboyant tanager that we saw well at Sacha.*
- SILVER-BEAKED TANAGER (*Ramphocelus carbo*)  
*Most common around the lake at Sacha, and other secondary woodland areas.*
- FLAME-RUMPED TANAGER (*Ramphocelus flammigerus icteronotus*)  
*Abundant in the lowlands of the west!*
- BLUE-GRAY TANAGER (*Thraupis episcopus quaesita*)  
*The duller race of the west.*
- BLUE-GRAY TANAGER (*Thraupis episcopus coelestis*)  
*This eastern race shows the clean white shoulders.*
- BLUE-CAPPED TANAGER (*Thraupis cyanocephala cyanocephala*)  
*We called this one along the old Nono-Mindo rd. for some pretty decent studies. The colors can be hard to see well if not in good light, but I think we managed to get him to perform nicely enough in the end.*
- BLUE-AND-YELLOW TANAGER (*Thraupis bonariensis darwinii*)  
*This central valley species was seen well by all after a little playback.*
- PALM TANAGER (*Thraupis palmarum*)  
*Common in the foothills and lowlands of both slopes.*
- HOODED MOUNTAIN-TANAGER (*Buthraupis montana cucullata*)  
*Very nice looks on our first day at Yanacocho... big red eye and all.*
- LACRIMOSE MOUNTAIN-TANAGER (*Anisognathus lacrymosus palpebrosus*)  
*Wonderful studies at one at Guango as it fed along with a mixed flock. What an aptly-named bird.*
- SCARLET-BELLIED MOUNTAIN-TANAGER (*Anisognathus igniventris erythrotis*)  
*Another dazzling mountain-tanager up at Yanacocho!*
- BLUE-WINGED MOUNTAIN-TANAGER (*Anisognathus somptuosus*)  
*We could not have seen them any better when they came to the banana feeders at Mindo Loma.*
- BLACK-CHINNED MOUNTAIN-TANAGER (*Anisognathus notabilis*)  
*The real star bird to get at Mindo Loma - and a real tough one to get otherwise - where they visit the same bananas as the previous species, only this is the dominant bird; those Blue-wingeds politely wait their turn!*
- YELLOW-THROATED TANAGER (*Iridosornis analis*)  
*Dave and I had quick looks in the Guacamayos.*
- FAWN-BREASTED TANAGER (*Pipraeidea melanonota venezuelensis*)  
*Finally along the Loreto rd. in the eastern foothills.*

GLISTENING-GREEN TANAGER (*Chlorochrysa phoenicotis*)

*Thank you, Patsy, for initially spotting this tricky bird to find at Milpe. This species has a way of really getting under the leaves and is thus adept at staying out of sight while foraging. Eventually we got one to fly in and sit for scope views. A real west-slope highlight!*

ORANGE-EARED TANAGER (*Chlorochrysa calliparaea bourcieri*)

*A few quick looks at this intensely-colored species in the Guacamayos. The east-slope representative of the previous species.*

TURQUOISE TANAGER (*Tangara mexicana*)

*Right overhead at the wooden tower at Sacha and along the Loreto rd., among other places. Don't tell anybody, but this tanager isn't really turquoise at all!*

GRAY-AND-GOLD TANAGER (*Tangara palmeri*)

*Scope views of this Choco-endemic species at Silanche.*

PARADISE TANAGER (*Tangara chilensis*)

*This one leaves any onlooker in paradise!*

BLUE-WHISKERED TANAGER (*Tangara johannae*)

*Another Choco endemic that can be a hard one to track down. We had exceptionally nice studies at them from the meta; tower at Silanche.*

GREEN-AND-GOLD TANAGER (*Tangara schrankii*)

*Common from the canopy towers at Sacha, but probably seen best along the Loreto rd. when we caught a small group feeding on Chonta palm fruits.*

GOLDEN TANAGER (*Tangara arthus*)

*A common flock bird at mid-elevations.*

SILVER-THROATED TANAGER (*Tangara icterocephala*)

*A lighter version of the previous species, that occupies lower elevations on the west-slope.*

GOLDEN-EARED TANAGER (*Tangara chrysotis*)

*Another east-slope specialty tanager that we came across a few times in the Guacamayos and Loreto rd. for nice studies.*

SAFFRON-CROWNED TANAGER (*Tangara xanthocephala venusta*)

*A gaudy tanager of mid-elevations around San Isidro and the Guacamayos. Should be called the "Saffron-helmeted" Tanager!*

FLAME-FACED TANAGER (*Tangara parzudakii*)

*We had nice studies of both races in the Andes. Check them out in the book and you'll how different they look. Some have talked of splitting them.*

YELLOW-BELLIED TANAGER (*Tangara xanthogastra*)

*Quick but decent views of a calling bird along the Loreto rd... if you were looking in the right place!*

SPOTTED TANAGER (*Tangara punctata*)

*Fairly common with the tanager flocks in the eastern foothills.*

RUFIOUS-THROATED TANAGER (*Tangara rufigula*)

*We connected with a couple of family groups along the Milpe rd. A west-slope, mid-elevation, Choco endemic.*

BAY-HEADED TANAGER (*Tangara gyrola*)

*A common and wide-ranging neotropical tanager species.*

RUFIOUS-WINGED TANAGER (*Tangara lavinia*)

*A pair for brief but good - and very close - views from the Silanche tower. A tricky one to nail throughout much of its range.*

SCRUB TANAGER (*Tangara vitriolina*)

*Fabulous studies in the central valley not too far from Quito. Despite the rather dull name, the bird is really quite handsome.*

GOLDEN-NAPED TANAGER (*Tangara ruficervix*)

*Seen several times in the Andes, but best at Mindo Loma's banana feeders.*

BLUE-BROWED TANAGER (*Tangara cyanotis lutleyi*)

*We really worked hard to find this one, and it paid off big-time when finally pulled a singing bird out of a large tanager flock in the Guacamayos. I just love getting this one!*

BLUE-NECKED TANAGER (*Tangara cyanicollis*)

*Common on both slopes, but a stunning tanager. Another poorly-named bird: would "Blue-headed" Tanager be more accurate?*

GOLDEN-HOODED TANAGER (*Tangara larvata*)

*One of the last new tanagers of the day at Silanche! We had nice scope views at a feeding group during a check stop on our way out.*

BERYL-SPANGLED TANAGER (*Tangara nigroviridis*)

*Plenty of this glittering species in the highlands.*

BLUE-AND-BLACK TANAGER (*Tangara vassorii vassorii*)

*The highest occurring Tangara here in Ecuador; we had them along the mid-section of the old Nono-Mindo rd. above Bellavista.*

BLACK-CAPPED TANAGER (*Tangara heinei*)

*Common on the east-slope, such as around San Isidro. The turquoise throat of the male is pretty impressive.*

OPAL-RUMPED TANAGER (*Tangara velia*)

*Opal rumps... opal crowns... how can one keep them straight? Nevertheless, we had many fine studies of them from the towers at Sacha!*

OPAL-CROWNED TANAGER (*Tangara callophrys*)

GOLDEN-COLLARED HONEYCREEPER (*Iridophanes pulcherrima pulcherrima*)

*Some had good looks a the pair we located along the forested roadside at San Isidro.*

BLACK-FACED DACNIS (*Dacnis lineata*)

*A few around Sacha, and a really sharp looking bird.*

BLACK-FACED (YELLOW-TUFTED) DACNIS (*Dacnis lineata egregia*)

*This one most certainly deserves to be split from the Amazonian form! We had nice looks at this one on many occasions in the west from the Silanche tower.*

SCARLET-THIGHED DACNIS (*Dacnis venusta*)

*As common as I've ever had them at Silanche; we had some cracking views of the gorgeous male.*

BLUE DACNIS (*Dacnis cayana*)

*Best from the canopy towers at Sacha.*

GREEN HONEYCREEPER (*Chlorophanes spiza*)

*A few in the lowlands - from the towers - on both slopes.*

PURPLE HONEYCREEPER (*Cyanerpes caeruleus*)

*Bright yellow legs and all! We also saw females at San Isidro, where they have either migrated in, or are starting to invade.... invasion of the honeycreepers.*

SWALLOW TANAGER (*Tersina viridis*)

*We had our best looks at this aberrant tanager along the Milpe rd., where they often perch up prominently.*

PLUSH-CAPPED FINCH (*Catamblyrhynchus diadema*)

*Yet another bird that has a thing for bamboo. We picked this beautiful species out of a flock at San Isidro where it fed quietly and methodically, but long enough for excellent looks.*

BLACK-BACKED BUSH-TANAGER (*Urothraupis stolzmanni*)

*We called in a small family group as they fed with a flock at treeline near the Papallacta Pass to within only a few feet.*

### ***Emberizidae***

PLUMBEOUS SIERRA-FINCH (*Phrygilus unicolor geospizopsis*)

*The chunky bluish-gray finch (females streaky) that we had up in the highest reaches of the paramo.*

VARIABLE SEEDEATER (*Sporophila corvina ophthalmica*)

*The very cleanly-marked, black-and-white male that we saw in the west.*

YELLOW-BELLIED SEEDEATER (*Sporophila nigricollis*)

*Littering the roadsides at Silanche!*

- CHESTNUT-BELLIED SEEDEATER (*Sporophila castaneiventris*)  
*Common in the eastern foothills and lowlands.*
- CHESTNUT-BELLIED SEED-FINCH (*Oryzoborus angolensis*)  
*Scope views of a singing male along the Loreto rd.*
- BAND-TAILED SEEDEATER (*Catamenia analis soederstromi*)  
*The seedeater with the yellow bill and obvious (when in flight) white tail-band that we saw in the central valley agricultural zone.*
- PLAIN-COLORED SEEDEATER (*Catamenia inornata minor*)  
*Tends to occur higher, and in more pristine grasslands than the previous species; we had good looks at them as we headed up to the Papallacta Pass.*
- \* RUSTY FLOWERPIERCER (*Diglossa sittoides decorata*)
- WHITE-SIDED FLOWERPIERCER (*Diglossa albilatera albilatera*)  
*Pretty common around the gardens at San Isidro.*
- GLOSSY FLOWERPIERCER (*Diglossa lafresnayii*)  
*Even at the feeders at Yanacocha, where it is one of the most common birds.*
- BLACK FLOWERPIERCER (*Diglossa humeralis aterrima*)  
*The common, all black flowerpiercer of the central valley's semi-humid scrub.*
- DEEP-BLUE (GOLDEN-EYED) FLOWERPIERCER (*Diglossopsis glauca tyrianthina*)  
*The eastern foothill flowerpiercer with the bright yellow eye... ouch! My favorite of this group.*
- BLUISH FLOWERPIERCER (*Diglossopsis caerulea media* (?))  
*A few nice looks on the east-slope at San Isidro.*
- MASKED FLOWERPIERCER (*Diglossopsis cyanea cyanea*)  
*The most common and wide-ranging flowerpiercer in Ecuador's highlands.*
- RED-CAPPED CARDINAL (*Paroaria gularis*)  
*Many encounters with this attractive species along the lake edge at Sacha, and I believe that they were building a nest out by the dock.*
- YELLOW-BREASTED (RUF-NAP) BRUSH-FINCH (*Atlapetes latinuchus spodionotus*)  
*Responsive birds at Yanacocha on our first day, and then again in the central valley on our way up to the pass.*
- SLATY BRUSH-FINCH (*Atlapetes schistaceus schistaceus*)  
*Excellent studies of this spiffy east-slope, temperate forest brush-finch at Guango.*
- TRICOLORED BRUSH-FINCH (*Atlapetes tricolor crassus*)  
*On our full morning of birding at Septimo when we collided with a family group of them along the entrance road, for up close and personal views.*
- WHITE-WINGED BRUSH-FINCH (*Atlapetes leucopterus leucopterus*)  
*Briefly at Paz de las Aves while we tried to enjoy our brunch on the deck!*
- STRIPE-HEADED BRUSH-FINCH (*Buarremon torquatus*)  
*Good looks at a responsive pair at Yanacocha when we pulled them up out of the undergrowth.*
- \* ORANGE-BILLED SPARROW (*Arremon aurantirostris*)
- YELLOW-BROWED SPARROW (*Ammodramus aurifrons*)  
*Seen by some along the Loreto rd. Scarce this trip.*
- RUFIOUS-COLLARED SPARROW (*Zonotrichia capensis*)  
*Especially common around San Isidro.*

### **Cardinalidae**

- GRAYISH SALTATOR (*Saltator coerulescens*)  
*Common and vocal along the upper Loreto rd. We one in the scope at one point.*
- BUFF-THROATED SALTATOR (*Saltator maximus*)  
*Many of this wide-ranging species in the west, but especially common at Silanche.*
- BLACK-WINGED SALTATOR (*Saltator atripennis*)  
*Repeated encounters with this west-slope specialty, such as at Septimo and around Milpe. The head pattern of this one is distinctive.*



GOLDEN-BELLIED GROSBEAK (*Pheucticus chrysogaster chrysogaster*)  
*Quality views of this flashy, central valley bird.*

### **Icteridae**

SCRUB BLACKBIRD (*Dives warszewiczi warszewiczi*)  
*Pretty common along the main highway between Silanche and Mindo where they regularly perch up on wires.*

SHINY COWBIRD (*Molothrus bonariensis*)  
*We had looks at one from the metal towers when it breezed through.*

GIANT COWBIRD (*Scaphidura oryzivora*)  
*Fairly common around Sacha; we had views of them through the scope out along the Napo.*

YELLOW-TAILED ORIOLE (*Icterus mesomelas*)  
*Good thing you guys were watching out the left side of the bus as we drove back up-slope from Silanche, because it scored us this striking oriole species!*

ORANGE-BACKED TROUPIAL (*Icterus croconotus*)  
*It looks just like we said: a bottle of Sunkist! We had them very well through the scope during our decent through the foothills of the east-slope.*

YELLOW-RUMPED CACIQUE (*Cacicus cela*)  
*The common cacique of the eastern lowlands.*

SCARLET-RUMPED CACIQUE (*Cacicus microrhynchus*)  
*A small group seen well from the Silanche tower.*

SUBTROPICAL CACIQUE (*Cacicus uropygialis*)  
*Split from the previous, but the two look very similar; voice and habitat preferences seem to be the main discernible differences. We ran into a group of them in the Guacamayos as they moved with some N. Mountain-Caciques.*

MOUNTAIN CACIQUE (NORTHERN) (*Cacicus chrysonotus leucoramphus*)  
*Seen in the same flock as the previous species. This was the one with the yellow in the shoulders and on the rump.*

CRESTED OROPENDOLA (*Psarocolius decumanus*)  
*The mostly dark oropendola with the pale bill most commonly seen around Sacha.*

RUSSET-BACKED OROPENDOLA (*Psarocolius angustifrons*)  
*The common oropendola; we must have seen up into the hundreds on a daily basis at Sacha.*

ORIOLE BLACKBIRD (*Gymnomystax mexicanus*)  
*Seen by most when one came out and perched on a sandbar along the Napo.*

### **MAMMALS**

FISHING BAT SP. (*Noctilio leporinus*)  
*The large bat that we saw cruising about over Pilchecochoa.*

PYGMY MARMOSET (*Cebuella pygmaea*)  
*Jan had good looks at this and the next species right around the cabins at Sacha, where they roam in and out of camp in search of fruits, insects, and other food items. This species is the smallest new world monkey.*

BLACK-MANTLE TAMARIN (*Saguinus nigricollis*)  
*This small monkey has the white muzzle. One of the local names here is, "bebe leche", which means "milk drinker".*

COMMON SQUIRREL MONKEY (*Saimiri sciureus*)  
*Large groups of them combing the forest canopy for insects and fruit. They are so comical and always a joy to watch, except when they scare away good birds!*

THREE-STRIPED NIGHT MONKEY (*Aotus trivirgatus*)  
*Quick looks at one - mostly the hand, which looked sort of alien-like - on a day hideout along the main boardwalk at Sacha.*

\* RED HOWLER MONKEY (*Alouatta seniculus*)  
*Never did manage to scope any out from the towers.*

WHITE-FRONTED CAPUCHIN (*Cebus albifrons*)

*A few moving with the squirrel monkeys at Sacha. This is a much heftier monkey, and has a prehensile tails.*

BRAZILIAN RABBIT (*Sylvilagus brasiliensis*)

*Scurrying around up in the paramo.*

RED-TAILED SQUIRREL (*Sciurus granatensis*)

*The common squirrel on both slopes. After a little research, this must have also been the strange looking, spotted squirrel that we saw from the Silanche tower as well; there really wasn't anything else possible of this genus.*

BLACK AGOUTI (*Dasyprocta fuliginosa*)

*Common around the cabins at Sacha.*

GREEN ACOUCHY (*Myoprocta pratti*)

*Apparently seen by some on one of the hikes back to the cabins at Sacha. This one is much smaller than the previous species, is paler, and has a discernable tail.*

OLINGO (*Bassaricyon alleni*)

*During a second attempt at some owling at Septimo, we found this nocturnal species instead. This strange looking animal looks sort of like a racoon crossed with a monkey.*

BROCKET DEER SP. (*Mazama rufina*)

*A rare deer, known as the Dwarf Red Brocket Deer. This was the one that we saw right on the side of the road at San Isidro... next to the horses!*