



Field Guides Tour Report

GUATEMALA THANKSGIVING & TEMPLES OF TIKAL

Nov 19, 2011 to Nov 28, 2011

Jesse Fagan



Volcanoes, some of them still active, dominate the Guatemala highlands, and give us some stunning scenery to enjoy between birds. (Photo by guide Jesse Fagan)

Another great trip to Guatemala with a fun, energetic, and ideal group. We started (after a slight delay at the airport in Guate, "just another 40 minutes!") our adventures in Tikal NP with Miguel, our local guide. We spent two nights at this location, a Classic-period Mayan site with some of the best remaining primary forest in Central America. We enjoyed the birding, especially easy and at a relaxed pace, but we saw so much! Our highlights in the Peten included Orange-breasted Falcon back on Temple IV, those colorful and friendly Gray-necked Wood-Rails, a splendid Gray-throated Chat at Cerro Cahui, and great birds along the entrance road to Tikal: White-whiskered Puffbird, (Northern) Royal Flycatcher, and a female Pale-billed Woodpecker! Oh, and we did finally get those Ocellated Turkeys, whew!

From Tikal, we flew back to the Pacific slope with stops at Antigua (the historic, colonial city), Finca Las Nubes (a 150 year-old operating coffee plantation), and Lake Atitlan (said by some to be the most beautiful lake in the world). In between, we made a day trip to Fuentes Georginas, where we cleaned up on Pink-headed Warbler (or is it Frosty-headed Warbler?), Wine-throated Hummingbird, and, finally, a very nice Blue-throated Motmot. Our Thanksgiving dinner in the plantation home at Finca Las Nubes was elegant and memorable. Thanks to Bitty, Mario, and his staff for their hard work and attention to detail. It was splendid.

And thanks to my group. I hope you got to see what I find so rich and beautiful about Guatemala: culture, birds, coffee, and those amazing views.

Abrazos.

--Jesse Fagan aka Mot

For more information about this tour, including future departures, please visit our website at www.fieldguides.com

KEYS FOR THIS LIST

One of the following keys may be shown in brackets for individual species as appropriate: * = heard only, I = introduced, E = endemic, N = nesting, a = austral migrant, b = boreal migrant

BIRDS

Tinamidae (Tinamous)

GREAT TINAMOU (*Tinamus major*) – Heard both days at Tikal. These tinamous are tough to see! [*]

Anatidae (Ducks, Geese, and Waterfowl)

BLUE-WINGED TEAL (*Anas discors*) – There were a few female-plumaged individuals on Lake Atitlan.

Cracidae (Guans, Chachalacas, and Curassows)

PLAIN CHACHALACA (*Ortalis vetula*) – Seen well at Tikal NP. They were literally in the parking lot.

CRESTED GUAN (*Penelope purpurascens*) – Fernando at Finca Las Nubes spotted one that sat for prolonged, scope studies. Very nice.

Phasianidae (Pheasants, Grouse, and Allies)

OCELLATED TURKEY (*Meleagris ocellata*) – Whew! Finally caught up with a group of 15 or so individuals near our lodge at Tikal. Were the guides sweating this one? No way!

Podicipedidae (Grebes)

PIED-BILLED GREBE (*Podilymbus podiceps*) – Three on lake Peten Itza.

Fregatidae (Frigatebirds)

MAGNIFICENT FRIGATEBIRD (*Fregata magnificens*) – Incredible to see this species (a female) flying over Temple IV in Tikal! Miguel said it is only the second one he has seen in the park. I believe it may have been flying across the Yucatan. It was headed due east towards Belize.



A pair of friendly Gray-necked Wood-Rails strutted around like runway models on the trail at Tikal. (Photo by guide Jesse Fagan)

Ardeidae (Herons, Egrets, and Bitterns)

GREAT BLUE HERON (*Ardea herodias*) – One around the edge of Lake Atitlan near Laguna Lodge.

GREAT EGRET (*Ardea alba*) – Not many, but one was flying over Finca Las Nubes during some low cloud cover.

CATTLE EGRET (*Bubulcus ibis*)

GREEN HERON (*Butorides virescens*) – One was being incredible still at the small pond near our lodge at Tikal. It eventually speared something in the water.

BOAT-BILLED HERON (*Cochlearius cochlearius*) – A real treat was seeing this species with young at the waterhole in Tikal NP. This species feeds at night, and the function of its bill is still a mystery, though it may use it to dig up freshwater crabs. A write-in for the checklist!

Cathartidae (New World Vultures)

BLACK VULTURE (*Coragyps atratus*)

TURKEY VULTURE (*Cathartes aura*)

Accipitridae (Hawks, Eagles, and Kites)

HOOK-BILLED KITE (*Chondrohierax uncinatus*) – We had three quick flybys over the forest at Tikal NP.

CRANE HAWK (*Geranospiza caerulescens*) – A real treat was seeing this species zip over us while birding the dry forest at Tikal NP. It's long tail and orange legs were pretty obvious despite the poor lighting.

GREAT BLACK-HAWK (*Buteogallus urubitinga*) – Great, but distant views of an adult soaring over the ridge at Finca Las Nubes. The white rump really stood out.

ROADSIDE HAWK (*Buteo magnirostris*) – The most common raptor on tour, especially at Tikal NP.

- BROAD-WINGED HAWK** (*Buteo platypterus*) – One flew by us at the lookout at Finca Las Nubes.
- GRAY HAWK** (*Buteo nitidus*) – Nice close views of an adult perched in a tree as we drove up the entrance road to Finca Las Nubes.
- SHORT-TAILED HAWK** (*Buteo brachyurus*) – We had both LM and DM calling and displaying together as we drove down the mountain at Finca Las Nubes.
- RED-TAILED HAWK** (*Buteo jamaicensis*) – Two LM (light morphs) at Finca El Pilar near Antigua.
- BLACK HAWK-EAGLE** (*Spizaetus tyrannus*) – Wow. A highlight of the trip. We had this one circling right overhead. A great bird.

Falconidae (Falcons and Caracaras)

- CRESTED CARACARA** (*Caracara cheriway*) – One on the drive to Finca Las Nubes.
- LAUGHING FALCON** (*Herpetotheres cachinnans*) – We nailed this one really well. It was perched along the entrance road to Tikal, but not before we heard it "laughing."
- ORANGE-BREASTED FALCON** (*Falco deiroleucus*) – Yes! Back again on Temple IV.

Rallidae (Rails, Gallinules, and Coots)

- RUDDY CRAKE** (*Laterallus ruber*) [*]
- GRAY-NECKED WOOD-RAIL** (*Aramides cajanea*) – An extremely friendly pair at Tikal NP. ;-)
- AMERICAN COOT** (*Fulica americana*) – Several on Peten Itza and a number on Lake Atitlan.

Charadriidae (Plovers and Lapwings)

- SEMIPALMATED PLOVER** (*Charadrius semipalmatus*) – Flores airport runway.
- KILLDEER** (*Charadrius vociferus*) – Flores airport runway.

Recurvirostridae (Stilts and Avocets)

- BLACK-NECKED STILT** (*Himantopus mexicanus*)

Jacanidae (Jacanas)

- NORTHERN JACANA** (*Jacana spinosa*) – One was at the small pond near our lodge in Tikal NP.

Laridae (Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers)

- LAUGHING GULL** (*Leucophaeus atricilla*) – One on Lake Atitlan.

Columbidae (Pigeons and Doves)

- ROCK PIGEON** (*Columba livia*)
- RED-BILLED PIGEON** (*Patagioenas flavirostris*) – A few around Tikal NP and again at Finca Las Nubes.
- BAND-TAILED PIGEON** (*Patagioenas fasciata*) – We saw four birds fly by while birding at Finca El Pilar.
- WHITE-WINGED DOVE** (*Zenaida asiatica*)
- INCA DOVE** (*Columbina inca*) – A trio at Finca El Pilar.
- WHITE-TIPPED DOVE** (*Leptotila verreauxi*) – A few heard and one seen in flight at Tikal were our only ones.
- GRAY-HEADED DOVE** (*Leptotila plumbeiceps*) – One was seen well by a few us while birding at Tikal.

Psittacidae (Parrots)

- PACIFIC PARAKEET** (*Aratinga strenua*) – A number of small groups were seen in flight during our stay at Finca Las Nubes. Tough to see them perched.
- OLIVE-THROATED PARAKEET** (*Aratinga nana*) – We watched several feeding on fruit in small tree near the road. The "olive" throat is more brownish, but they were still nice to look at.
- ORANGE-FRONTED PARAKEET** (*Aratinga canicularis*)
- BARRED PARAKEET** (*Bolborhynchus lineola*) – A pair heard high-over Finca Las Nubes. [*]



The entrance road to Tikal offered up some great birds, including this cooperative Royal Flycatcher. (Photo by guide Jesse Fagan)

WHITE-CROWNED PARROT (*Pionus senilis*) – Fairly common around Tikal NP.

WHITE-FRONTED PARROT (*Amazona albifrons*) – Tikal NP. Less common than some of the other parrots.

RED-LORED PARROT (*Amazona autumnalis*) – Pretty common at Tikal NP. We saw a number of small groups and pairs in flight, but also perched individuals. I'm not going to mention that someone in our group had a bit more "experience" with this species. Hey, is that Polly???

MEALY PARROT (*Amazona farinosa*) – Heard a few times, but seen once in the deep forest, perched in a tall tree, near Temple IV.

YELLOW-NAPED PARROT (*Amazona auropalliata*) – Great work, team. We had 6 individuals perched in a tall cieba tree as we left Finca Las Nubes for Lake Atitlan. Awesome.

Cuculidae (Cuckoos)

SQUIRREL CUCKOO (MIDDLE AMERICA) (*Piaya cayana thermophila*) – Seen nearly everyday of the tour.

Strigidae (Owls)

FERRUGINOUS PYGMY-OWL (*Glaucidium brasilianum*) – Dianne spotted this small owl in a shade tree at Finca Las Nubes. It stayed around for a long time.

MOTTLED OWL (*Ciccaba virgata*) – Frustrating, but we had this species both evenings at Tikal NP in flight mainly. It was heard really well!

FULVOUS OWL (*Strix fulvescens*) – An amazing evening seeing this species in the upper forest at Finca Las Nubes. That is one special bird!

Caprimulgidae (Nightjars and Allies)

LESSER NIGHTHAWK (*Chordeiles acutipennis*) – Two over Finca Las Nubes was a new species for the site.

COMMON PAURAQUE (*Nyctidromus albicollis*) – A number were in the road as we left early in the morning from Finca Las Nubes.

MEXICAN WHIP-POOR-WILL (*Caprimulgus arizonae vermiculatus*) – We had an exciting moment with this species as it blasted near us while owling on the deck at Finca Las Nubes. It gave us several quick passes. This was a recent split from the northern migratory Whip-poor-will of the eastern US.

Apodidae (Swifts)

WHITE-COLLARED SWIFT (*Streptoprocne zonaris*) – The second largest swift in the world! It has a wingspan of nearly 21 inches.

VAUX'S SWIFT (*Chaetura vauxi*) – Common, seen everyday. This is the one that looks very much like a Chimney Swift, but is smaller and non-migratory in NCA.

LESSER SWALLOW-TAILED SWIFT (*Panyptila cayennensis*) – A few seen high over the forest at Tikal NP.

Trochilidae (Hummingbirds)

LONG-BILLED HERMIT (*Phaethornis longirostris*) – One was feeding at the heliconia flowers near our cabins in Tikal NP.

LITTLE HERMIT (*Phaethornis longuemareus*) – Also called "Stripe-throated" Hermit. This tiny hermit was seen pretty well at different locations in Tikal.

GREEN VIOLETEAR (*Colibri thalassinus*) – A highland hummer found on the Pacific slope. We had it nicely at Finca El Pilar (singing like crazy) and again at Lake Atitlan.

PURPLE-CROWNED FAIRY (*Heliothryx barroti*) – Great looks at a female that came into the pygmy-owl tape near the cabins at Tikal. We had one other on our walk.

MAGNIFICENT HUMMINGBIRD (*Eugenes fulgens*) – Seen at the feeders at Finca El Pilar.

GREEN-THROATED MOUNTAIN-GEM (*Lampornis viridipallens*) – Just a single female at Finca Las Nubes. All too briefly.

SLENDER SHEARTAIL (*Doricha enicura*) – An NCA endemic and a rare hummingbird. We had two males on our hike above Lake Atitlan. Great find!



The long thin bill of a Rufous-tailed Jacamar is perfect for keeping stinging insects away from vital areas around the face until they can be beaten into submission and consumed. (Photo by guide Jesse Fagan)

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD (*Archilochus colubris*) – These winter visitors were numerous at Finca El Pilar.

WINE-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD (*Atthis ellioti*) – One of the highlights of the trip was watching this little guy defend his territory by belting out a song and flaring his gorget. Dare I say, "cute?"

CANIVET'S EMERALD (*Chlorostilbon canivetii*) – Seen on our first day at Tikal NP.

RUFOUS SABREWING (*Campylopterus rufus*) – This NCA endemic was seen very well at the Pilar feeders.

VIOLET SABREWING (*Campylopterus hemileucurus*)
– Ditto previous species, except this one is not an NCA endemic.

AZURE-CROWNED HUMMINGBIRD (*Amazilia cyanocephala*) – Pretty common at the Pilar feeders where we could see the azure crowns on a few of the higher perched birds.

BERYLLINE HUMMINGBIRD (*Amazilia beryllina devillei*) – This subspecies in NCA is completely emerald green below with the white "leggings" that we saw very well at Pilar feeders.

BLUE-TAILED HUMMINGBIRD (*Amazilia cyanura guatemalae*) – One briefly in the pygmy-owl flock at Finca Las Nubes cabins.

RUFOUS-TAILED HUMMINGBIRD (*Amazilia tzacatl*)
– A few seen around Tikal NP.

CINNAMON HUMMINGBIRD (*Amazilia rutila*) – This one was around the plantation house and cabins at Finca Las Nubes.

WHITE-EARED HUMMINGBIRD (*Hylocharis leucotis*) – One male was seen very nicely at Fuentes Georginas. This is a common highland hummingbird.



With a very restricted range in the highlands of southern Mexico, El Salvador and Guatemala, the rare Belted Flycatcher is considered near-threatened. This is one of three of these gems that we saw well near Lake Atitlan. (Photo by guide Jesse Fagan)

Trogonidae (Trogons)

RESPLENDENT QUETZAL (*Pharomachrus mocinno*) – A fair look at a perched female and a flying male. We heard them quite a lot, however, at Finca Las Nubes. The national bird of Guatemala!

SLATY-TAILED TROGON (*Trogon massena*) – Tikal NP. This was the large, red-bellied-type.

BLACK-HEADED TROGON (*Trogon melanocephalus*) – Also, fairly common at Tikal NP.

GARTERED TROGON (*Trogon caligatus*) – The old name for this species was Violaceous Trogon. We had just a couple at Tikal where they seemed outnumbered by the Black-headed.

COLLARED TROGON (*Trogon collaris*) – Great looks in the scope while birding the forest trails at Finca El Pilar.

Momotidae (Motmots)

BLUE-THROATED MOTMOT (*Aspatha gularis*) – Finally! We caught up with this NCA endemic while heading down from Fuentes Georginas. Very nice bird.

BLUE-CROWNED MOTMOT (LESSON'S) (*Momotus coeruliceps lessonii*) – Heard a few times, but seen well while entering the forest at Cerro Cahui in the Peten.

Bucconidae (Puffbirds)

WHITE-WHISKERED PUFFBIRD (*Malacoptila panamensis*) – Wonderful views of a responsive bird along the entrance road at Tikal.

Galbulidae (Jacamars)

RUFOUS-TAILED JACAMAR (*Galbula ruficauda*) – Seen a couple of times at Tikal NP. Once just over our heads where it sat for ages.

Ramphastidae (Toucans)

EMERALD TOUCANET (EMERALD) (*Aulacorhynchus prasinus stenorhabdus*) – Seen nicely at Finca Las Nubes in the lower forest. The subspecies here has white throats and an all yellow maxilla.

COLLARED ARACARI (*Pteroglossus torquatus*)

KEEL-BILLED TOUCAN (*Ramphastos sulfuratus*) – This stunning bird was seen on all our days at Tikal where it is fairly common.

Picidae (Woodpeckers)

ACORN WOODPECKER (*Melanerpes formicivorus lineatus*) – At Finca El Pilar.

GOLDEN-FRONTED WOODPECKER (EAST MEXICO) (*Melanerpes aurifrons dubius*) – The subspecies at Tikal NP.

GOLDEN-FRONTED WOODPECKER (EAST MEXICO) (*Melanerpes aurifrons santacruzi*) – The subspecies on the Pacific slope that show golden orange napes.

HAIRY WOODPECKER (*Picoides villosus sanctorum*) [*]

GOLDEN-OLIVE WOODPECKER (*Colaptes rubiginosus*)

NORTHERN FLICKER (GUATEMALAN) (*Colaptes auratus mexicanoides*) – This red-shafted type is an NCA endemic. It has extensive tawny brown on the crown and nape, also much heavier black barring on the back.

CHESTNUT-COLORED WOODPECKER (*Celeus castaneus*) – A nice looking woodpecker we saw well at Tikal along the old runway.

LINEATED WOODPECKER (*Dryocopus lineatus*)

PALE-BILLED WOODPECKER (*Campephilus guatemalensis*) – Hard to beat the look we had of a female along the entrance road to Tikal. Splendid!

Furnariidae (Ovenbirds and Woodcreepers)

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

RUDDY FOLIAGE-GLEANER (*Automolus rubiginosus*) [*]

PLAIN XENOPS (*Xenops minutus*) – Sadly we found one on the grill of our car (not sure how it faired in the end). We had a few others in the forest at Tikal.

OLIVACEOUS WOODCREEPER (*Sittasomus griseicapillus*) – Pretty common at Tikal NP.

IVORY-BILLED WOODCREEPER (*Xiphorhynchus flavigaster*)

SPOT-CROWNED WOODCREEPER (*Lepidocolaptes affinis*) – This highland woodcreeper was seen at Pilar.

Thamnophilidae (Typical Antbirds)

BARRED ANTSHRIKE (*Thamnophilus doliatus*) – Nice looks at a pair in the dry forest past the old runway at Tikal NP. The female is tawny brown overall, much differen than the zebra pattern of the male.

Tyrannidae (Tyrant Flycatchers)

YELLOW-BELLIED TYRANNULET (*Ornithion semiflavum*) – This generally canopy species came down for pretty good looks while birding the ruins at Tikal.

NORTHERN BEARDLESS-TYRANNULET (*Camptostoma imberbe*) [*]

GREENISH ELAENIA (*Myiopagis viridicata*) [*]

OCHRE-BELLIED FLYCATCHER (*Mionectes oleagineus*)

SEPIA-CAPPED FLYCATCHER (*Leptopogon amaurocephalus*) – This forest species was seen well at Tikal NP along the entrance road.

PALTRY TYRANNULET (*Zimmerius vilissimus*) – Common around the grounds at Finca Las Nubes.

NORTHERN BENTBILL (*Oncostoma cinereigulare*) [*]

EYE-RINGED FLATBILL (*Rhynchocyclus brevirostris*) – Great looks along the entrance road of Tikal NP.

YELLOW-OLIVE FLYCATCHER (*Tolmomyias sulphurescens*) – Loads in the lowlands around Tikal.

STUB-TAILED SPADEBILL (*Platyrrinchus cancominus*) [*]

ROYAL FLYCATCHER (NORTHERN) (*Onychorhynchus coronatus mexicanus*) – Wonderful, close studies of a bird along the entrance road to Tikal.

RUDDY-TAILED FLYCATCHER (*Terenotriccus erythrurus*) – Ditto above.



The always delightful Pink-headed Warbler made the early morning trip to Fuentes worthwhile! (Photo by guide Jesse Fagan)

BELTED FLYCATCHER (*Xenotriccus callizonus*) – At least three birds were encountered above Lake Atitlan. We got nice looks at one bird that flew around above us. A rare NCA endemic, and a definite highlight of the trip.

TUFTED FLYCATCHER (*Mitrephanes phaeocercus*)

GREATER PEWEE (*Contopus pertinax*) [*]

TROPICAL PEWEE (*Contopus cinereus*) – This one liked to hang out on the wires below the plantation house at Finca Las Nubes. It was seen in a few other places, as well.

YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER (*Empidonax flaviventris*) – Very common wintering visitor to Tikal. Heard more often than seen.

LEAST FLYCATCHER (*Empidonax minimus*) – A few around on both slopes.

HAMMOND'S FLYCATCHER (*Empidonax hammondii*) – Our first was at Finca El Pilar, but we had others at Las Nubes and Fuentes Georginas.

YELLOWISH FLYCATCHER (*Empidonax flavescens*)

BLACK PHOEBE (*Sayornis nigricans*) – There was one hanging around the drying area for the coffee beans near the plantation house at Finca Las Nubes. In Central America and further south, they have much more extensive black below.

BRIGHT-RUMPED ATTLA (*Attila spadiceus*) [*]

DUSKY-CAPPED FLYCATCHER (*Myiarchus tuberculifer*) – Common on both slopes.

GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER (*Myiarchus crinitus*)

BROWN-CRESTED FLYCATCHER (*Myiarchus tyrannulus*)

BOAT-BILLED FLYCATCHER (*Megarynchus pitangua*)

SOCIAL FLYCATCHER (*Myiozetetes similis*) – Seen nearly every day of the tour. Common on both slopes.

TROPICAL KINGBIRD (*Tyrannus melancholicus*) – A common flycatcher often seen sitting on powerlines along the road. Lots seen on our drives.

COUCH'S KINGBIRD (*Tyrannus couchii*) – Seen well in the parking lot at Tikal; though they look identical to TK, so it is better to hear the call, which we did.

WESTERN KINGBIRD (*Tyrannus verticalis*) – At least 25 individuals were hanging out in the coffee plantation near the large waterfall at Finca Las Nubes.

Pipridae (Manakins)

RED-CAPPED MANAKIN (*Pipra mentalis*) – Nice looks at male and female along the entrance road to Tikal.

Tityridae (Tityras and Allies)

BLACK-CROWNED TITYRA (*Tityra inquisitor*) – A female seen at Tikal NP.

MASKED TITYRA (*Tityra semifasciata*)

THRUSH-LIKE SCHIFFORNIS (*Schiffornis turdina*) – A very responsive bird was seen along the entrance road to Tikal. Its call is an emphatic, "Heeey there, Ricky!"

ROSE-THROATED BECARD (*Pachyramphus aglaiae*)

Vireonidae (Vireos)

WHITE-EYED VIREO (*Vireo griseus*) – Very common winter visitor to the Peten.

MANGROVE VIREO (*Vireo pallens*) – Despite the name, on the Caribbean slope this species is also found in dry forest. We saw a pair along the old runway at Tikal.

YELLOW-THROATED VIREO (*Vireo flavifrons*)

BLUE-HEADED VIREO (*Vireo solitarius*) – A few times on the Pacific slope.

HUTTON'S VIREO (*Vireo huttoni*) – Seen at Finca El Pilar.

WARBLING VIREO (EASTERN) (*Vireo gilvus gilvus*) [*]

LESSER GREENLET (*Hylophilus decurtatus*) – Common at Tikal NP. It is also found on the Pacific slope, but we didn't encounter it there.

Corvidae (Crows, Jays, and Magpies)

WHITE-THROATED MAGPIE-JAY (*Calocitta formosa*) – A great bird, that is thankfully seen numerous times on the Pacific slope. Endemic to the Pacific slope from S Mexico to NW Costa Rica.

BROWN JAY (*Psilorhinus morio*) – Very common, and noisy, at Tikal NP.

BUSHY-CRESTED JAY (*Cyanocorax melanocyaneus*)

STELLER'S JAY (CENTRAL AMERICAN) (*Cyanocitta stelleri ridgwayi*) – If you are familiar with Stellar's Jay from the western US, then you will be surprised to find how different birds in NCA look. [*]

UNICOLORED JAY (*Aphelocoma unicolor*) – A good bird which we found a trio at Fuentes Georginas.

Hirundinidae (Swallows)

NORTHERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*)

NORTHERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW (RIDGWAY'S) (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis ridgwayi*) – This subspecies is found around the ruins at Tikal where it is common. It is darker overall than the previous subspecies.

MANGROVE SWALLOW (*Tachycineta albilinea*) – One was seen on the dock at lake Peten Itza.

VIOLET-GREEN SWALLOW (*Tachycineta thalassina*) – A very good bird (an immature) for the Pacific slope and a new one for Finca Las Nubes. Nice work.

BARN SWALLOW (*Hirundo rustica*)

Troglodytidae (Wrens)

BAND-BACKED WREN (*Campylorhynchus zonatus*) – A pair in the Peten near Flores was a good find, but we had them again at Finca El Pilar, where common.

RUFOUS-NAPED WREN (WEST MEXICO) (*Campylorhynchus rufinucha nigricaudatus*)

SPOT-BREASTED WREN (*Pheugopedius maculipectus*)

PLAIN WREN (*Cantorchilus modestus*) [*]

CAROLINA WREN (WHITE-BROWED) (*Thryothorus ludovicianus albinucha*) – Hard to believe this is not considered a separate species. It looks and sounds so different from northern populations.

HOUSE WREN (SOUTHERN) (*Troglodytes aedon musculus*)

RUFOUS-BROWED WREN (*Troglodytes rufociliatus*) – This is an NCA endemic. We really worked to see it at Finca El Pilar, and it was encountered again at Fuentes Georginas.

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

Poliophtilidae (Gnatcatchers)

LONG-BILLED GNATWREN (*Ramphocaenus melanurus*) – Its long trill call was heard a few times at Tikal, where we eventually did manage to see one.

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER (*Poliophtila caerulea*) – Common winter visitor at Tikal NP.

TROPICAL GNATCATCHER (*Poliophtila plumbea*) [*]

Turdidae (Thrushes and Allies)

EASTERN BLUEBIRD (*Sialia sialis*) – Sometimes people are surprised to know this is the same species they find back home. We had several birds at Finca El Pilar.

BROWN-BACKED SOLITAIRE (*Myadestes occidentalis*) – Its song sounds like cascading wind chimes, one of the first truly tropical sounds we encounter when venturing south.

RUDDY-CAPPED NIGHTINGALE-THRUSH (*Catharus frantzii*) – We worked this one like a charm. Seen very well at Fuentes Georginas, right on top of the rock as we had hoped!

WOOD THRUSH (*Hylocichla mustelina*) – Fairly common wintering visitor in Tikal. We had nice looks at one bird near dusk on the trail.

MOUNTAIN THRUSH (*Turdus plebejus*) – A good one to find. It was perched for a long period along the road at Fuentes.

CLAY-COLORED THRUSH (*Turdus grayi*)

RUFOUS-COLLARED ROBIN (*Turdus rufitorques*) – A few around Finca El Pilar. This is an NCA endemic.

Mimidae (Mockingbirds and Thrashers)

GRAY CATBIRD (*Dumetella carolinensis*)

TROPICAL MOCKINGBIRD (*Mimus gilvus*)

BLUE-AND-WHITE MOCKINGBIRD (*Melanotis hypoleucus*) [*]

Ptilogonatidae (Silky-flycatchers)

GRAY SILKY-FLYCATCHER (*Ptilogonys cinereus*) – Mainly in flight.

Peucedramidae (Olive Warbler)

OLIVE WARBLER (*Peucedramus taeniatus*) [*]

Parulidae (New World Warblers)

BLUE-WINGED WARBLER (*Vermivora cyanoptera*) – Just a couple. Seen on both slopes.

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) – One female was seen in Tikal.

TENNESSEE WARBLER (*Oreothlypis peregrina*)

ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER (*Oreothlypis celata*)

CRESCENT-CHESTED WARBLER (*Oreothlypis superciliosa*) [*]

YELLOW WARBLER (*Dendroica petechia*) – Common wintering visitor on both slopes.

CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER (*Dendroica pensylvanica*) – Common on Caribbean side, but we had one male at Finca Las Nubes on the Pacific side where it is a rare winter visitor.

MAGNOLIA WARBLER (*Dendroica magnolia*) – Numerous around Tikal.

BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER (*Dendroica virens*)

TOWNSEND'S WARBLER (*Dendroica townsendi*) – A highland winter visitor on the Pacific slope where it is common.

BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER (*Mniotilta varia*)

AMERICAN REDSTART (*Setophaga ruticilla*)

KENTUCKY WARBLER (*Oporornis formosus*) – Heard often in the forest understory at Tikal, but we managed to get decent looks at a fairly responsive bird.

MACGILLIVRAY'S WARBLER (*Oporornis tolmiei*)

HOODED WARBLER (*Wilsonia citrina*) – The males are striking and always a pleasure to look at. We had a number of them around Tikal.

WILSON'S WARBLER (*Wilsonia pusilla*) – Mr. Wilson, again! Very common in the highlands on the Pacific slope.

RED-FACED WARBLER (*Cardellina rubrifrons*) – Uncommon wintering visitor to the highlands of NCA. We had one at Finca El Pilar.

PINK-HEADED WARBLER (*Ergaticus versicolor*) – Finally! It took us some time, but we eventually found a pair along the entrance road to Fuentes. A striking NCA endemic.

SLATE-THROATED REDSTART (*Myioborus miniatus*) – In Guatemala, the underparts are orange. A distinctive orange that I like to call, "Guatemala Orange."

GOLDEN-CROWNED WARBLER (*Basileuterus culicivorus*)

GOLDEN-BROWED WARBLER (*Basileuterus belli*) – A nice highland warbler that we saw in the humid understory at Finca El Pilar.

Emberizidae (Buntings, Sparrows and Allies)

COMMON BUSH-TANAGER (MIDDLE AMERICA) (*Chlorospingus ophthalmicus postocularis*)

Thraupidae (Tanagers and Allies)

BLUE-GRAY TANAGER (*Thraupis episcopus*)

YELLOW-WINGED TANAGER (*Thraupis abbas*)

AZURE-RUMPED TANAGER (*Tangara cabanisi*) [*]

RED-LEGGED HONEYCREEPER (*Cyanerpes cyaneus*) – Good numbers seen on both slopes. Lots of female-plumaged birds, but they still show the red legs.

GRAYISH SALTATOR (*Saltator coerulescens*) [*]

BLACK-HEADED SALTATOR (*Saltator atriceps*) – Common on both slopes. Their call is like liquid electricity.

Emberizidae (Buntings, Sparrows and Allies)

WHITE-COLLARED SEEDEATER (*Sporophila torqueola*)

CINNAMON-BELLIED FLOWERPIERCER (*Diglossa baritula*) – The nectar thieves were seen nicely at Fuentes Georginas. The nectarivores were starting their breeding cycle in November (at the end of the rainy season) when there is an abundance of flowers.

CHESTNUT-CAPPED BRUSH-FINCH (*Arremon brunneinucha*)

GREEN-BACKED SPARROW (*Arremonops chloronotus*) – A Yucatan, NCA endemic that we saw well, eventually, along the old runway at Tikal.

WHITE-NAPED BRUSH-FINCH (YELLOW-THROATED) (*Atlapetes albinucha gutturalis*) – In the tall grass near our picnic breakfast spot at Finca El Pilar. In NCA individuals just have yellow throats, unlike Mexican populations that are all yellow below.

PREVOST'S GROUND-SPARROW (*Melospiza biarcuata*) – One of my favorite genera. This is a sharp looking bird. We saw a pair along the shores of Lake Atitlan.

LINCOLN'S SPARROW (*Melospiza lincolni*) – Guatemala is the furthest south that this species spends the winter. It was nice to catch up with one at Finca El Pilar.

RUFOUS-COLLARED SPARROW (*Zonotrichia capensis*)

Cardinalidae (Cardinals and Allies)

SUMMER TANAGER (*Piranga rubra*) – Common on both slopes.

WESTERN TANAGER (*Piranga ludoviciana*) – I was surprised to not find more of this species in the highlands on the Pacific side. We had just one. Odd.

WHITE-WINGED TANAGER (*Piranga leucoptera*) – One of my favorites, especially the males. We had a couple around Finca Las Nubes.

ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*)

GRAY-THROATED CHAT (*Granatellus sallaei*) – This special Yucatan endemic reaches its southern limit in N Belize and N Guatemala. We had a nice male at Cerro Cahui.

BLUE BUNTING (*Cyanocompsa parellina*) – Several skulky individuals at Cerro Cahui.

PAINTED BUNTING (*Passerina ciris*) – One male was across the street from the gas station as we made our way to Lake Atitlan.

Icteridae (Troupials and Allies)

RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD (*Agelaius phoeniceus*)

MELODIOUS BLACKBIRD (*Dives dives*)

GREAT-TAILED GRACKLE (*Quiscalus mexicanus*)

BAR-WINGED ORIOLE (*Icterus maculialatus*) – Great looks at this local NCA endemic feeding in the *Erythrina* trees at Finca El Pilar.

ORCHARD ORIOLE (*Icterus spurius*) – A couple around during our gas station stop near Lake Atitlan.

ALTAMIRA ORIOLE (*Icterus gularis*)

BALTIMORE ORIOLE (*Icterus galbula*) – A very common wintering visitor on both slopes and at all elevations.

YELLOW-BILLED CACIQUE (*Amblycercus holosericeus*) [*]

MONTEZUMA OROPENDOLA (*Psarocolius montezuma*)

Fringillidae (Siskins, Crossbills, and Allies)

SCRUB EUPHONIA (*Euphonia affinis*) [*]

YELLOW-THROATED EUPHONIA (*Euphonia hirundinacea*)

OLIVE-BACKED EUPHONIA (*Euphonia gouldi*) – A colorful euphonia that we had near the Lost World complex at Tikal. It only occurs on the Caribbean slope.

BLUE-CROWNED CHLOROPHONIA (*Chlorophonia occipitalis*) – Way up in the fig tree at Finca Las Nubes!

BLACK-HEADED SISKIN (*Spinus notatus oleaceus*)

LESSER GOLDFINCH (*Spinus psaltria*)

HOODED GROSBEAK (*Coccothraustes abeillei*) – We had it in the scope at Finca El Pilar. It was heard again at Finca Las Nubes.

Passeridae (Old World Sparrows)

HOUSE SPARROW (*Passer domesticus*)

MAMMALS

VIRGINIA OPOSSUM (*Didelphis virginianus*)

YUCATAN HOWLER MONKEY (*Alouatta pigra*) [*]

CENTRAL AMERICAN SPIDER MONKEY (*Ateles geoffroyi*) – Seen several times at Tikal.

MEXICAN GRAY SQUIRREL (*Sciurus aureogaster*)

YUCATAN SQUIRREL (*Sciurus yucatanensis*) – The large squirrel around Tikal.

CENTRAL AMERICAN AGOUTI (*Dasyprocta punctata*)

GRAY FOX (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*) – One crossed the entrance road to Tikal. They are smaller bodied in Central

America.

WHITE-NOSED COATI (*Nasua narica*)

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Totals for the tour: 241 bird taxa and 8 mammal taxa