



## Field Guides Tour Report

### MONTANE ECUADOR

Jun 10, 2011 to Jun 19, 2011

Mitch Lysinger

The June 2011 Montane trip once again tagged in with a long list of birds. Some birds were rare and/or hard to find, others not so tough, but we can be certain of one thing: most were seen well, this is for sure! Weather was a mixed bag with relatively dry conditions in the west, but much rain in the east... pretty usual for this time of the year. As usual the scenery was sensational, not to mention the food! We were also lucky to have such a great driver and companion in Edgar; he found us some good birds along the way as well.

Top birds of the trip vary, but here are some that I thought got the adrenaline pumping: male and female Torrent Ducks; six Andean Condors at one time!; Rufous-bellied Seedsnipe right from the bus; Rufous-banded Owl right at San Isidro; that long-tailed male Swallow-tailed Nightjar; Andean Potoo for spotlight, inflight views; Black-tailed Trainbearer and Sword-billed Hummingbird -- talk about one extreme to another; a full-blown male Golden-headed Quetzal at a nest hole at Tandayapa; Andean Motmot as a breakfast regular... not on the plate though, in the front yard; scope views at a pair of Coppery-chested Jacamars; that clown-like Toucan Barbet; Gray-breasted and Plate-billed mountain-toucans; stunning Crimson-mantled Woodpeckers; Scaled Antpitta at Tandayapa's blind; White-bellied Antpitta coming to worms at San Isidro; perky Rufous-headed Pygmy-Tyrants in the Guacamayos; some gorgeous fruiteaters, including scope views at males of Scaled and Black-chested; Andean Cock-of-the-Rock at a lek and nesting; males of Golden-winged and Club-winged manakins at leks; a pair of the hard-to-find Beautiful Jay; stunning White-capped and Grass-green tanagers; some great looks at Black-chested Mountain-Tanager at Yanacocha; last minute Golden-crowned Honeycreepers; and that copperative little Chestnut-capped Brush-Finch that popped out into the open at San Isidro.

Thank all of you for making this trip such a joy to lead and I hope we cross paths soon... bird-on!

--Mitch

We have more information about this itinerary and future departures on our web page for [Montane Ecuador](#).

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#### 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

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### BIRDS

#### Anatidae (Ducks, Geese, and Waterfowl)

**TORRENT DUCK** (*Merganetta armata colombiana*) – We had individual birds this trip of a species that you usually find in pairs. First we had a nicely scope male from the bridge at the Rio Cosanga, and then the next day we found a female further down the same river nearer to Baeza.

**YELLOW-BILLED PINTAIL (SOUTH GEORGIA)** (*Anas georgica georgica*) – A few small rafts of them on Papallacta Lake.

**ANDEAN TEAL** (*Anas andium*) – Two birds taking a nap at the Papallacta reservoir.

#### Cracidae (Guans, Chachalacas, and Curassows)

**WATTLED GUAN** (*Aburria aburri*) [\*]

**SICKLE-WINGED GUAN** (*Chamaepetes goudotii*) – Outstanding scope studies of an adult at Mindo Loma as we waited out the rain and enjoyed the flurry of hummingbirds.

#### Ardeidae (Hérons, Egrets, and Bitterns)

**CATTLE EGRET (IBIS)** (*Bubulcus ibis ibis*) – With cows in the west!

Cathartidae (New World Vultures)

**BLACK VULTURE** (*Coragyps atratus*) – This and the next species were most common as usual in the west.

**TURKEY VULTURE** (*Cathartes aura*)

**ANDEAN CONDOR** (*Vultur gryphus*) – One of the big (and I do mean BIG) last minute highlights when we pulled out no less than six individuals as we made our way down the into the central valley from the windy and rainy Papallacta Pass. What a rush! They soared by slowly, so folks had the luxury of following them in the scope. The curtain was coming down quickly for this one, but we stayed focused and got them!

Accipitridae (Hawks, Eagles, and Kites)

**HOOK-BILLED KITE (HOOK-BILLED)** (*Chondrohierax uncinatus uncinatus*) – What looked, against the sky, to be a dark-morph male when it soared over not far from Bellavista.

**BLACK-CHESTED BUZZARD-EAGLE** (*Geranoaetus melanoleucus australis*) – One adult being harassed on our first morning at Yanacocha by a Variable Hawk.

**ROADSIDE HAWK** (*Buteo magnirostris magnirostris*) – The common hawk on the slopes... the one with the rufous panels in the wings.

**VARIABLE HAWK (VARIABLE)** (*Buteo polyosoma polyosoma*) – Most common in the high, treeless paramos; we saw light, gray and dark morphs very well and even got to see them 'kiting' as they hunted for rabbits.

Falconidae (Falcons and Caracaras)

**CARUNCULATED CARACARA** (*Phalcoboenus carunculatus*) – A few of this handsome caracara in the paramos.

**AMERICAN KESTREL (COLOMBIAN)** (*Falco sparverius aequatorialis*) – A few in the drier central valley.

**PEREGRINE FALCON** (*Falco peregrinus*) – One surprised us, as one of the first birds of the trip, during our first birding stop on our way up to Yanacocha. This one certainly belonged to the local, resident population.

Rallidae (Rails, Gallinules, and Coots)

**SLATE-COLORED COOT** (*Fulica ardesiaca*) – One bird floating around up on Papallacta Lake.

Charadriidae (Plovers and Lapwings)

**SOUTHERN LAPWING (NORTHERN)** (*Vanellus chilensis cayennensis*) – A couple of them up in the pastures along the road above San Isidro where they have moved in from the lowlands and have been successfully breeding for years.

Thinocoridae (Seedsnipes)

**RUFOUS-BELLIED SEEDSNIPE** (*Attagis gayi latreillii*) – Wow! I thought we might be in trouble when it came to trying to find this one as I had heard rumors of the resident pair being shot. But rumors can be rumors! Once up to the top Martha's sharp eyes got onto one immediately, allowing superb views, even from the bus. Lucky for us too, because the weather was pretty rotten!

Laridae (Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers)

**ANDEAN GULL** (*Chroicocephalus serranus*) – Excellent studies at a few adults in a recently plowed field not far from the Papallacta Pass. Remember that we took note of the dark under the wings?

Columbidae (Pigeons and Doves)

**ROCK PIGEON** (*Columba livia*) – Shocking views in urban areas... [II]

**BAND-TAILED PIGEON (WHITE-NECKED)** (*Patagioenas fasciata albilinea*) – The common highland pigeon.

**PLUMBEOUS PIGEON** (*Patagioenas plumbea*) [\*]

**RUDDY PIGEON** (*Patagioenas subvinacea*) – Mostly heard only, but we had one quick flyby that was probably this species near Baeza. [\*]

**EARED DOVE** (*Zenaida auriculata hypoleuca*) – The South American version of the Mourning Dove.

**COMMON GROUND-DOVE** (*Columbina passerina quitensis*) – Views had brief views of this one near my house in Tumbaco, where it is fairly common much of the time.

**WHITE-TIPPED DOVE (DECOLOR)** (*Leptotila verreauxi decolor*) – Quick views in the west.

**PALLID DOVE** (*Leptotila pallida*) – Very nice scope studies at a few birds at Milpe, where they seem to be not too hard to find of late; seems to be increasingly common hear.

**WHITE-THROATED QUAIL-DOVE** (*Geotrygon frenata bourcierii*) – Aside from hearing them over the course of the trip, some of actually had one fly across the road right in front of us in the west.

### Psittacidae (Parrots)

**MAROON-TAILED PARAKEET** (*Pyrrhura melanura pacifica*) – Very nice scope views at a small group when they came in and landed above our heads in a dead tree at Milpe.

**RED-BILLED PARROT** (*Pionus sordidus corallinus*) – The mostly commonly seen and heard parrot on both slopes.

**SPECKLE-FACED PARROT** (*Pionus tumultuosus seniloides*) – Tremendous scope studies at a group of them along the roadside at San Isidro.

**BRONZE-WINGED PARROT** (*Pionus chalcopterus*) – Never could get them perched at Milpe.

**SCALY-NAPED PARROT** (*Amazona mercenaria*) – On the wing in the Guacamayos near San Isidro; this is a toughie to find perched most of the time.

### Cuculidae (Cuckoos)

**SQUIRREL CUCKOO (NIGRICRISSE)** (*Piaya cayana nigricrisa*) – The west-slope form with the greenish orbital area that we saw around Milpe, for instance.

**SQUIRREL CUCKOO (AMAZONIAN)** (*Piaya cayana mesura*) – This east-slope form has the red skin around the eye.

**SMOOTH-BILLED ANI** (*Crotophaga ani*) – Fairly common on both slopes.

### Strigidae (Owls)

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

**RUFOUS-BANDED OWL** (*Ciccaba albitarsis*) – After a few unfruitful tries down the road at San Isidro, we finally scored big when we spotlighted one right at the lodge entrance!

### Caprimulgidae (Nightjars and Allies)

**RUFOUS-BELLIED NIGHTHAWK** (*Lurocalis rufiventris*) – Multiple views of them zooming around at dawn and dusk at San Isidro and in the Guacamayos. It was nice to get the spotlight on them to see the rich color underneath.

**SWALLOW-TAILED NIGHTJAR** (*Uropsalis segmentata segmentata*) – Mesmerizing views of long-tailed males drifting about overhead in the Guacamayos!

**LYRE-TAILED NIGHTJAR** (*Uropsalis lyra lyra*) – Sort of a bitter-sweet experience near Tandayapa one evening when we did actually manage to get one long-tailed male to fly over, but it didn't stay in view long enough for all to see well; instead it decided to sing out of sight on a concealed perch. But I guess we can't complain when the female came flying up right in front of us for excellent, spotlight looks.

### Nyctibiidae (Potoos)

**ANDEAN POTOO** (*Nyctibius maculosus*) – After our first failed attempt in the Guacamayos, we gave it another shot at San Isidro, and actually got one to fly right up in front of us for spotlight views.

### Apodidae (Swifts)

**WHITE-CHESTED SWIFT** (*Cypseloides lemosi*) – A few of this stream-lined swift streaming over in the Guacamayos.

**WHITE-CHINNED SWIFT** (*Cypseloides cryptus*) – A thick-set swift that we saw (and heard calling) as they zoomed over the Guacamayos.

**SPOT-FRONTED SWIFT** (*Cypseloides cherriei*) – A few calling and high-flying birds in the Guacamayos.

**CHESTNUT-COLLARED SWIFT** (*Streptoprocne rutila brunnitorques*) – We had some nice views at a few groups of this swift species in good enough light to see the chestnut.

**WHITE-COLLARED SWIFT** (*Streptoprocne zonaris*) – The largest swift, with the white collar!

**GRAY-RUMPED SWIFT (ASH-RUMPED)** (*Chaetura cinereiventris occidentalis*) – A few of this Chimney Swift relative at Milpe.

**LESSER SWALLOW-TAILED SWIFT** (*Panyptila cayennensis cayennensis*) – Also seen flying over at Milpe.

### Trochilidae (Hummingbirds)

**WHITE-NECKED JACOBIN** (*Florisuga mellivora*) – At about its highest elevational range, where we saw a male at Tandayapa's feeders.

**WHITE-WHISKERED HERMIT** (*Phaethornis yaruqui*) – Fairly common at Milpe's feeders.

**TAWNY-BELLIED HERMIT** (*Phaethornis syrmatophorus*) [\*]

**WEDGE-BILLED HUMMINGBIRD** (*Schistes geoffroyi albogularis*) – Excellent scope studies at a singing male along Tandayapa's trails. This one rarely visits feeders, so it was nice to track it down for such nice views.

**BROWN VIOLETEAR** (*Colibri delphinae*) – Pretty common at Tandayapa's feeders. This one can be seasonal at the

feeders, so we hit it right.

- GREEN VIOLETEAR (ANDEAN)** (*Colibri thalassinus cyanotus*) – It was nice to have all three possible violetears at Tandayapa's feeders for the sake of comparison. This was the smaller of the two green-colored ones without the blue in the chin or belly.
- SPARKLING VIOLETEAR** (*Colibri coruscans coruscans*) – The largest of the violetears, and the one with the blue chin-strap and belly.
- GORGETED SUNANGEL** (*Heliangelus strophianus*) – We had some good looks at a few of this mid-elevation sunangel on the west-slope around the Bellavista. This was the one with the big white chest band.
- TOURMALINE SUNANGEL** (*Heliangelus exortis*) – The abundant hummer at Guango's; males mostly dark with a rosy throat and females with a white throat.
- GREEN THORNTAIL** (*Discosura conversii*) – Fairly common at Milpe's feeders... the one with the white rump band.
- SPECKLED HUMMINGBIRD** (*Adelomyia melanogenys*) – Most common at San Isidro's feeders.
- LONG-TAILED SYLPH** (*Agelaiocercus kingi mocoa*) – I think the two sylph species really took top honors in the hummingbird department, and how couldn't they? Those males, with the long, glittering tails, are just crippling! We had this species in the east at Guango and San Isidro.
- VIOLET-TAILED SYLPH** (*Agelaiocercus coelestis coelestis*) – The west-slope sylph species, which we had dazzling views at a few times at the feeders.
- BLACK-TAILED TRAINBEARER** (*Lesbia victoriae victoriae*) – Tremendous studies of long-tailed males in the highlands... wow!
- TYRIAN METALTAIL** (*Metallura tyrianthina*) – A small and common hummer of the highlands on both slopes. We had very nice, and repeated studies, at them at Yanacocha's and Guango's feeders.
- VIRIDIAN METALTAIL** (*Metallura williami primolinus*) – Replaces the previous species at higher elevations. We were able to call them up out of the treeline growth in the paramo for nice views.
- SAPPHIRE-VENTED PUFFLEG (SAPPHIRE-VENTED)** (*Eriocnemis luciani luciani*) – The puffleg with the bluish crown and purple vent that we saw wonderfully at Yanacocha's feeders.
- GOLDEN-BREASTED PUFFLEG** (*Eriocnemis mosquera*) – Less common at Yanacocha's feeders than the previous species, but still fairly common. This one lacks the bluish crown and rich vent color, but has the orange wash across the breast.
- SHINING SUNBEAM** (*Aglaeactis cupripennis cupripennis*) – The all orange hummingbird that we saw well feeding at flowers near the parking lot at Yanacocha.
- BRONZY INCA** (*Coeligena coeligena obscura*) – An east-slope specialty that shows up commonly at San Isidro's feeders.
- BROWN INCA** (*Coeligena wilsoni*) – Not hitting the feeders much during our visit in the west, but some caught glimpses of them a time or two at Tandayapa.
- COLLARED INCA** (*Coeligena torquata*) – The common Inca species that looks as if it is wearing a tuxedo. We had many fine studies of males and females at San Isidro's feeders.
- BUFF-WINGED STARFRONTLET** (*Coeligena lutetiae*) – The only hummer of the trip with the large buffy wing patches. We had them for nice views at Guango and also at Yanacocha, where they are particularly abundant.
- MOUNTAIN VELVETBREAST** (*Lafresnaya lafresnaya saul*) – We had a few female plumaged birds sneaking into the feeders at Yanacocha, where they are always more wary than other species. The one with the decurved bill and white in the tail.
- SWORD-BILLED HUMMINGBIRD** (*Ensifera ensifera*) – How could you ever get tired of seeing such an unbelievable hummingbird species?! This one used to be tricky to find before the advent of the feeder stations, but now it is pretty regular and wows visitors on a daily basis. We had fantastic studies of them at Yanacocha and Guango.
- GREAT SAPPHIREWING** (*Pterophanes cyanopterus cyanopterus*) – The second bulkiest hummingbird species, which happens to be a common bird at Yanacocha's feeders.
- BUFF-TAILED CORONET** (*Boissonneaua flavescens flavescens*) – The nominate east-slope form with the larger and paler patches in the tail. We had a few at Guango's feeders.
- BUFF-TAILED CORONET** (*Boissonneaua flavescens tinochlora*) – Very common at the feeders in the west, this form has the slightly darker buff in the tail.
- CHESTNUT-BREASTED CORONET** (*Boissonneaua matthewsii*) – A common and dominant species at Guango's and San Isidro's feeders.
- VELVET-PURPLE CORONET** (*Boissonneaua jardini*) – This species must have the most amazing combination of mind-blowing, iridescent colors of any hummingbird species! We had awesome studies of them at Mindo Loma's feeders.

**BOOTED RACKET-TAIL** (*Ocreatus underwoodii melananthus*) – Males and females were most common at Tandayapa's feeders... an Andean classic!

**PURPLE-BIBBED WHITETIP** (*Urosticte benjamini*) – In smaller numbers at Tandayapa's feeders, where we had some nice views of those attractive males.

**FAWN-BREASTED BRILLIANT** (*Heliodoxa rubinoides*) – Seen well on both slopes, but most common at San Isidro's feeders.

**GREEN-CROWNED BRILLIANT** (*Heliodoxa jacula jamesoni*) – Fabulous studies of males and females at Tandayapa's and Milpe's feeders.

**EMPRESS BRILLIANT** (*Heliodoxa imperatrix*) – Another species that was hard to find before the hummingbird feeders took off. Now they are most readily seen at Mindo Loma, where we had some fine studies of those gorgeous males.

**GIANT HUMMINGBIRD** (*Patagona gigas peruviana*) – A took some waiting, but one of the resident birds at my house in the central valley (Tumbaco) came in for nice views.

**WHITE-BELLIED WOODSTAR** (*Chaetocercus mulsant*) – A common little pot-bellied hummer that we saw many of at Guango's feeders.

**PURPLE-THROATED WOODSTAR** (*Calliphlox mitchellii*) – Most common at Mindo Loma's feeders in the west.

**WESTERN EMERALD** (*Chlorostilbon melanorhynchus melanorhynchus*) – We had staggering views of males at Tandayapa's feeders.

**GREEN-CROWNED WOODNYMPH (GREEN-CROWNED)** (*Thalurania fannyi verticeps*) – The male of this species has the most spectacular metallic shades of green and purple... wow! We had crippling views of them at Milpe's feeders.

**ANDEAN EMERALD** (*Amazilia franciae viridiceps*) – The hummer with the snow-white belly and aqua-colored crown that we saw commonly at Tandayapa's feeders.

**RUFIOUS-TAILED HUMMINGBIRD (RUFIOUS-TAILED)** (*Amazilia tzacatl jucunda*) – The only hummer with the orange bill and rufous tail that we saw repeatedly in the west at the feeders.

#### Trogonidae (Trogons)

**GOLDEN-HEADED QUETZAL** (*Pharomachrus auriceps auriceps*) – I think we were all thrilled to have had such awesome scope views of the male poking out of that nest hole at Tandayapa!

**MASKED TROGON** (*Trogon personatus personatus*) – We had our first looks at this east-slope, subtropical race right after getting off of the bus upon our arrival to San Isidro.

**MASKED TROGON** (*Trogon personatus assimilis*) – The west-slope form that we saw near Tandayapa.

**MASKED TROGON** (*Trogon personatus temperatus*) – A male that seemed to be moving with a flock under rainy conditions at Guango. This is the upper elevation subspecies that inhabits temperate forests.

#### Momotidae (Motmots)

**ANDEAN MOTMOT** (*Momotus aequatorialis*) – Now an official split from the Blue-crowned Motmot; this one inhabits montane forests on the east-slope of the Andes. This one turned out to be a regular breakfast event at San Isidro where they came in at dawn to feed on insects near the dining room.

#### Galbulidae (Jacamars)

**COPPERY-CHESTED JACAMAR** (*Galbula pastazae*) – Very nice scope views at a pair on the south slope of the Guacamayos... sort of salvaged our rainy day there!

#### Capitonidae (New World Barbets)

**RED-HEADED BARBET** (*Eubucco bourcierii aequatorialis*) – We called our first one in - a male - at Tandayapa for excellent views! They ended up being regular with the flocks there this trip.

#### Semnornithidae (Toucan-Barbets)

**TOUCAN BARBET** (*Semnornis ramphastinus ramphastinus*) – The Toucan Barbet, along with the Prong-billed of Central America, have recently been awarded their own family, the "Toucan-Barbets". This species always looks to me as if it is wearing a clown suit! We were really lucky to have one fly right in on our first attempt for scope views at Tandayapa; this can be a tough bird to pry in sometimes.

#### Ramphastidae (Toucans)

**EMERALD TOUCANET (ANDEAN)** (*Aulacorhynchus prasinus albivitta*) – We had slightly better than fleeting views at San Isidro along the forested roadside when one perched up for most to get onto.

**CRIMSON-RUMPED TOUCANET** (*Aulacorhynchus haematopygus sexnotatus*) – Very nice looks at one right over our



heads upon our arrival to Tandayapa Lodge on our first afternoon.

**GRAY-BREASTED MOUNTAIN-TOUCAN** (*Andigena hypoglauca hypoglauca*) – We had to battle the rain on the east-slope, especially at Guango, but did manage to connect with a pair of this lovely toucan species right near the lodge during a flurry of bird activity! The scope views were about as good as it gets.

**PLATE-BILLED MOUNTAIN-TOUCAN** (*Andigena laminirostris*) – We enjoyed a couple of encounters with this showy species along the old Nono-Mindo rd.

**BLACK-BILLED MOUNTAIN-TOUCAN** (*Andigena nigrirostris spilorhynchus*) [\*]

**CHOCO TOUCAN** (*Ramphastos brevis*) [\*]

#### *Picidae (Woodpeckers)*

**SMOKY-BROWN WOODPECKER** (*Picoides fumigatus fumigatus*) – This mid-elevation species was seen well on both slopes.

**GOLDEN-OLIVE WOODPECKER** (*Colaptes rubiginosus*) – Seen best at Tandayapa Lodge, where we had one calling near a nest hole.

**CRIMSON-MANTLED WOODPECKER** (*Colaptes rivolii brevirostris*) – Seen best by most around San Isidro, where they hang around the lodge. One of the flashiest woodpecker species in Ecuador.

**POWERFUL WOODPECKER** (*Campephilus pollens pollens*) [\*]

#### *Furnariidae (Ovenbirds and Woodcreepers)*

**TAWNY-THROATED LEAFTOSSER** (*Sclerurus mexicanus*) – Nice looks at a responsive bird along Tandayapa's trails.

**STOUT-BILLED CINCLODES** (*Cinclodes excelsior excelsior*) – The larger of the two cinclodes species in Ecuador's highlands. On our last clean-up day in the paramo, this was one of our many finds, when we had two running around along the roadside.

**CHESTNUT-WINGED CINCLODES** (*Cinclodes albidiventris*) – The Bar-winged Cinclodes went three ways after a recent split; this northern form ended up as Chestnut-winged. We pulled this one out of the hat in the paramo as well on our last day. This species is considerably more petite than the Stout-billed, and has a much smaller bill.

**PALE-LEGGED HORNERO (PACIFIC)** (*Furnarius leucopus cinnamomeus*) – Split out from the true Pale-egged Hornero in the book and called the Pacific Hornero. We called up a noisy group for nice views near Mindo.

**ANDEAN TIT-SPINETAIL** (*Leptasthenura andicola andicola*) – This one sort of got away from us in the paramo. [\*]

**AZARA'S SPINETAIL** (*Synallaxis azarae media*) – Nice views at this wide-ranging species at San Isidro.

**RUFOUS SPINETAIL** (*Synallaxis unirufa unirufa*) – This one danced around practically at our feet in some roadside growth at San Isidro. Getting in the binoculars was out of the question much of the time, but we did see it well naked eye!

**WHITE-BROWED SPINETAIL** (*Hellmayrea gularis*) – One sneaking about on mossy branches at Yanacocha.

**RED-FACED SPINETAIL** (*Cranioleuca erythrops erythrops*) – Common with the flocks around Tandayapa, where we called one in soon after breakfast.

**MANY-STRIPED CANASTERO** (*Asthenes flammulata flammulata*) – We popped one up after playing some of its song in the shrubby paramo zone on our last day.

**WHITE-CHINNED THISTLETAIL** (*Asthenes fuliginosa*) – Excellent studies at two birds that came charging in up in the paramo.

**SPOTTED BARBTAIL** (*Premnoplex brunnescens brunnescens*) – Glimpsed by some at Tandayapa, but really a heard only. [\*]

**PEARLED TREERUNNER** (*Margarornis squamiger perlatus*) – One of the most handsome of this family with that bright rufous back and lean white spots underneath. This one is common with middle and upper elevation flocks.

**STREAKED TUFTEDCHEEK** (*Pseudocolaptes boissonneautii*) – Scarce this trip, but we did connect with one during some flock activity along the old Nono-Mindo rd. as it fed about in moss clumps.

**SCALY-THROATED FOLIAGE-GLEANER (SPOT-BREASTED)** (*Anabacerthia variegaticeps temporalis*) – Most common with the flocks around Milpe, where we had them a few times; the one with the orange brow-stripe and spectacle.

**MONTANE FOLIAGE-GLEANER** (*Anabacerthia striaticollis montana*) [\*]

**LINEATED FOLIAGE-GLEANER** (*Syndactyla subalaris*) – A few times in the west with mixed flocks; the foliage-gleaner with the whitish throat.

**BUFF-FRONTED FOLIAGE-GLEANER** (*Philydor rufum*) – Really nice looks at a pair at Milpe when they blasted into

right over our heads.

**TYRANNINE WOODCREEPER** (*Dendrocincla tyrannina tyrannina*) [\*]

**PLAIN-BROWN WOODCREEPER (PLAIN-BROWN)** (*Dendrocincla fuliginosa ridgwayi*) – We called in a responsive bird along the primary part of the forest trail at Milpe. This was the woodcreeper with the all brown plumage.

**STRONG-BILLED WOODCREEPER (ANDEAN/NORTHERN)** (*Xiphocolaptes promeropirhynchus promeropirhynchus*) – More common than usual. We enjoyed some fantastic studies at this hulk of a woodcreeper on both slopes.

**SPOTTED WOODCREEPER (BERLEPSCH'S)** (*Xiphorhynchus erythropygius aequatorialis*) – Most common with the insectivorous flocks at Milpe.

**OLIVE-BACKED WOODCREEPER** (*Xiphorhynchus triangularis triangularis*) – Replaces the previous species on the easy-slope. We had this one for the first time when they came to feed on insects that had fallen at the lights the night before at San Isidro.

**MONTANE WOODCREEPER** (*Lepidocolaptes lacrymiger aequatorialis*) – The most common woodcreeper with flocks at mid-elevations, and also the most cleanly marked.

**BROWN-BILLED SCYTHERBILL** (*Campylorhamphus pusillus*) – It just wouldn't come in for the kill, despite having come much closer from quite a distance. [\*]

#### *Thamnophilidae (Typical Antbirds)*

**RUSSET ANTSHRIKE (TAWNY)** (*Thamnistes anabatinus intermedius*) – Scope views - not an easy feat! - of this canopy antshrike at Milpe as it moved with an insectivorous flock. The one with the really heavy bill and orange tone to the plumage.

**LONG-TAILED ANT BIRD** (*Drymophila caudata caudata*) – We enjoyed a few really nice episodes with this streaky, bamboo-dweller at San Isidro, like that male that popped out into view right below the Mirador room during a rain-out!

**WHITE-BACKED FIRE-EYE** (*Pyriglena leuconota castanoptera*) [\*]

**IMMACULATE ANT BIRD** (*Myrmeciza immaculata macrorhyncha*) – Sensational studies at a pair at Tandayapa's bird blind... close enough to touch, had there not been a mesh in between!

#### *Formicariidae (Antthrushes)*

**RUFOUS-BREASTED ANTTHRUSH** (*Formicarius rufipectus*) – George and I got really quick looks at one that had been strutting along the trail at Tandayapa.

#### *Grallariidae (Antpittas)*

**SCALED ANTPITTA** (*Grallaria guatemalensis*) – I had never seen this species visiting the blind at Tandayapa, but there it was, just as Iain had advertised! You just don't get better views. What made the entire build-up more exciting was that we ended up "chasing" one in along the trail before getting to the blind for the real top-notch views.

**CHESTNUT-CROWNED ANTPITTA** (*Grallaria ruficapilla ruficapilla*) [\*]

**CHESTNUT-NAPED ANTPITTA** (*Grallaria nuchalis*) [\*]

**WHITE-BELLIED ANTPITTA** (*Grallaria hypoleuca*) – San Isidro's current answer to the whole worm feeding phenomenon. This individual has been pretty reliable down below the dining room for a few years now, and can be a really tough species to see well under normal birding conditions, so a real thrill to see so well... and within only minutes.

**RUFOUS ANTPITTA** (*Grallaria rufula rufula*) – Another one of the prize birds of the trip that we got early on when we called one into view a couple of times at Yanacocha.

**TAWNY ANTPITTA** (*Grallaria quitensis quitensis*) – How about under the picnic table at Yanacocha? What these antpittas will do these days for a couple of worms!

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

#### *Rhinocryptidae (Tapaculos)*

**OCELLATED TAPACULO** (*Acropternis orthonyx infuscatus*) [\*]

**BLACKISH TAPACULO** (*Scytalopus latrans latrans*) – I think as a group we felt lucky to have even caught the quick looks that we did of this one along the Guacamayos trail when it came sneaking past a couple of times.

**LONG-TAILED TAPACULO** (*Scytalopus micropterus*) [\*]

**NARINO TAPACULO** (*Scytalopus vicinior*) [\*]

**SPILLMANN'S TAPACULO** (*Scytalopus spillmanni*) – Can't tapaculos be just oh-so frustrating to see?! [\*]

#### *Tyrannidae (Tyrant Flycatchers)*

**SOUTHERN BEARDLESS-TYRANNULET (SOUTHERN)** (*Camptostoma obsoletum sclateri*) – The bushy-crested little flycatcher that we saw at my yard in the central valley.

**WHITE-TAILED TYRANNULET** (*Mecocerculus poecilocercus*) – The common tyrannulet with mixed flocks on both slopes at mid-elevations.

**WHITE-BANDED TYRANNULET** (*Mecocerculus stictopterus stictopterus*) – Easily recognized by the bold white brow and wingbars. Tends to replace the previous species in the temperate zone, such as around Guango.

**WHITE-THROATED TYRANNULET** (*Mecocerculus leucophrys rufomarginatis*) – An aberrant species of the genus with respect to its size, posture and behavior. This one, for instance, does not hop along branches like a wood-warbler. We ran into this one with high elevation flocks at Tandayapa and near the Papallacta Pass.

**SULPHUR-BELLIED TYRANNULET** (*Mecocerculus minor*) – Pretty common around San Isidro with the canopy flocks, where we enjoyed some nice views.

**TUFTED TIT-TYRANT** (*Anairetes parulus aequatorialis*) – This sprite little flycatcher was seen well when we called in at least a pair in the central valley shrubbery. That black curly crest is quite a plumage feature!

**WHITE-CRESTED ELAENIA (WHITE-CRESTED)** (*Elaenia albiceps griseigularis*) – Barbara and George got onto this one before it got away in the central valley.

**TORRENT TYRANNULET** (*Serpophaga cinerea cinerea*) – The all gray-and-black tyrannulet that is found almost exclusively next to rivers and streams. We had good looks at them a couple of times towards the end of our trip.

**STREAK-NECKED FLYCATCHER** (*Mionectes striaticollis*) – Not really obvious this trip, but we did stumble onto them a time or two in the east.

**RUFOUS-BREASTED FLYCATCHER** (*Leptopogon rufipectus*) – Some very nice views of this east-slope species, especially in that mega-diverse flycatcher flock that we slammed into along the roadside at San Isidro!

**VARIEGATED BRISTLE-TYRANT** (*Phylloscartes poecilotis*) – We had a lucky stroke when we hit the flock with the bristle-tyrants as they moved through at a more manageable height; much of the time you have to struggle with them as they forage near the tops of large, canopy trees. This time we hit them as they fed through some secondary forest just below the cabins, for excellent views of both species. This was the one with the pale mandible and buffy wingbars.

**MARBLE-FACED BRISTLE-TYRANT** (*Phylloscartes ophthalmicus ophthalmicus*) – Seen with the previous species. This was the one with the all dark bill and thin yellowish wingbars.

**ASHY-HEADED TYRANNULET** (*Phyllomyias cinereiceps*) – Nice scope views at a vocalizing bird with our textbook flycatcher flock at San Isidro.

**CHOCO TYRANNULET** (*Zimmerius albigularis*) – Split from the Golden-faced Tyrannulet by the SACC committee; the two look a lot alike but have very different calls. This one is a very common bird on the west slope, from middle elevations down into the lowlands. We had them well at Milpe, right at the station.

**GOLDEN-FACED TYRANNULET** (*Zimmerius chrysops chrysops*) – Seen well on our last day during some clean-up work near Baeza.

**ORNATE FLYCATCHER** (*Myiobatrachus ornatus*) – And ornate it is! We had them many times for fine views in the west.

**BRONZE-OLIVE PYGMY-TYRANT** (*Pseudotriccus pelzelni*) – Most had at least naked eye views of the one that played with us along the trail below the cabins at San Isidro.... he was tough to see well though.

**RUFOUS-HEADED PYGMY-TYRANT** (*Pseudotriccus ruficeps*) – Knee-buckling studies at a responsive pair along the Guacamayos trail!

**SCALE-CRESTED PYGMY-TYRANT** (*Lophotriccus pileatus*) [\*]

**RUFOUS-CROWNED TODY-FLYCATCHER** (*Poecilatriccus ruficeps*) – Common in the bamboo stands at San Isidro, such as right around the cabins, where many folks got their best looks. Has been also known as Rufous-crowned Tody-Tyrant.

**CINNAMON FLYCATCHER** (*Pyrrhomyias cinnamomeus pyrrhopterus*) – Common at middle elevation, usually at forest edges. This is another really nifty looking little tyrannid.

**HANDSOME FLYCATCHER** (*Nephelomyias pulcher*) – Common this trip with the flocks in the San Isidro area, and we had some very good looks at them. The one with the grayish head, peach wash on the chest and buffy wingbars.

**FLAVESCENT FLYCATCHER** (*Myiophobus flavicans flavicans*) [\*]

**OLIVE-CHESTED FLYCATCHER** (*Myiophobus cryptoxanthus*) – George, Joshua and I had good looks at one on the south slope of the Guacamayos just before the rain set in... again!

**SMOKE-COLORED PEWEE** (*Contopus fumigatus*) – Common at middle elevations, such as around San Isidro, where they usually perch near the top of a tall tree and sally out for insects... "pipping" much of the time!

**BLACK PHOEBE (WHITE-WINGED)** (*Sayornis nigricans angustirostris*) – Many folks noticed how dark this form is



when compared to forms up north - right on the mark!

**VERMILION FLYCATCHER (VERMILION)** (*Pyrocephalus rubinus piurae*) – We had males and females in my yard in Tumbaco, in the central valley one morning.

**WHITE-BROWED GROUND-TYRANT** (*Muscisaxicola albilora*) – Often found in recently plowed fields in the highlands, this austral migrant has a clean and narrow white eyebrow and overall crisper aspect than the Plain-capped. [a]

**PLAIN-CAPPED GROUND-TYRANT** (*Muscisaxicola alpinus alpinus*) – This northern form is split out in the "Birds of Ecuador" as the Paramo Ground-Tyrant. We had a few of them right up near the seedsnipe spot on our last day.

**SMOKY BUSH-TYRANT** (*Myiotheretes fumigatus fumigatus*) – Right up at the Guacamayos Pass, where they frequently perch on the wires near the antennas.

**MASKED WATER-TYRANT** (*Fluvicola nengeta atripennis*) – We beckoned up a responsive pair near Mindo for an amazing wing-display performance!

**CROWNED CHAT-TYRANT (CROWNED)** (*Ochthoeca frontalis frontalis*) [\*]

**YELLOW-BELLIED CHAT-TYRANT** (*Ochthoeca diadema gratiosa*) – We heard them numerous times, but they weren't interested. [\*]

**SLATY-BACKED CHAT-TYRANT (SLATY-BACKED)** (*Ochthoeca cinnamomeiventris cinnamomeiventris*) – Responsive and seen well along the Guacamayos trail.

**BROWN-BACKED CHAT-TYRANT** (*Ochthoeca fumicolor brunneifrons*) – Common in the paramos, and the highest occurring chat-tyrant in Ecuador.

**DUSKY-CAPPED FLYCATCHER** (*Myiarchus tuberculifer*) – Common around Milpe.

**PALE-EDGED FLYCATCHER** (*Myiarchus cephalotes cephalotes*) – The common east-slope *Myiarchus* flycatcher at middle elevations. We had them repeatedly for nice studies at San Isidro.

**RUSTY-MARGINED FLYCATCHER** (*Myiozetetes cayanensis hellmayri*) – We called up a pair during a quick stop near Mindo.

**GOLDEN-CROWNED FLYCATCHER** (*Myiodynastes chrysocephalus minor*) – Common on both slopes... but that golden crown can be hard to see!

**TROPICAL KINGBIRD** (*Tyrannus melancholicus melancholicus*) – Seen on all but the first day of the trip.

#### Cotingidae (Cotingas)

**GREEN-AND-BLACK FRUITEATER** (*Pipreola riefferii*) – The fruiteater with the red bill and legs, and dark eye. We connected with this handsome a species a few times on both slopes.

**BARRED FRUITEATER** (*Pipreola arcuata arcuata*) [\*]

**BLACK-CHESTED FRUITEATER** (*Pipreola lubomirskii*) – I could not believe our luck when we landed nice scope studies of a male in nice sunlight on our first try while birding down the road at San Isidro!

**SCALED FRUITEATER** (*Ampelioides tshudii*) – A real fancy fruiteater. We had some excellent scope views at a male along the trail at Tandayapa when we located a calling bird.

**RED-CRESTED COTINGA** (*Ampelion rubrocristatus*) – During a stop up near Papallacta to see a couple of Andean Teal, we lucked out and caught some nice views, through the scope, at a pair of this high elevation cotinga.

**ANDEAN COCK-OF-THE-ROCK** (*Rupicola peruvianus sanguinolentus*) – We were all blown away when we enjoyed some fantastic scope views at displaying males along the old Nono-Mindo rd. on our first afternoon... wow! As if this wasn't enough, Tandayapa had a nesting female in one of their cabins for full-frame scope studies!

**DUSKY PIHA** (*Lipaugus fuscocinereus*) [\*]

#### Pipridae (Manakins)

**GOLDEN-WINGED MANAKIN** (*Masius chrysopterus*) – The views we had at a calling male made the hike up the steep trail at Tandayapa well worth it!

**CLUB-WINGED MANAKIN** (*Machaeropterus deliciosus*) – The lek at Milpe came through for us with colorful displaying males only a short hike from the bus. Apparently it has been proven that the wing noise made by this species is the fastest mechanical noise made by any organism.

#### Tityridae (Tityras and Allies)

**BARRED BECARD** (*Pachyramphus versicolor versicolor*) – One responsive bird at Tandayapa.

**CINNAMON BECARD** (*Pachyramphus cinnamomeus cinnamomeus*) – We had our best vies at this west-slope species along the trail at Milpe, where they were quite responsive.

**WHITE-WINGED BECARD** (*Pachyramphus polychopterus dorsalis*) – One responsive male right from the deck at

Tandayapa.

Vireonidae (Vireos)

**BROWN-CAPPED VIREO** (*Vireo leucophrys*) – Common with the flocks on both slopes.

**OLIVACEOUS GREENLET** (*Hylophilus olivaceus*) [\*]

**LESSER GREENLET (GRAY-HEADED)** (*Hylophilus decurtatus minor*) [\*]

**BLACK-BILLED PEPPERSHRIKE** (*Cyclarhis nigrirostris nigrirostris*) – Peppershrikes can be maddeningly hard to see, even if singing on a fixed perch, but we had nice views at one of the resident birds at San Isidro as it foraged about.

Corvidae (Crows, Jays, and Magpies)

**BEAUTIFUL JAY** (*Cyanolyca pulchra*) – Edgar - our faithful driver - heard it first as we drove down the old Nono-Mindo rd. on our first afternoon; he and I have spent a lot of time looking for this range-restricted, west-slope species! I couldn't believe our luck when we jumped out and clinched excellent views with minimal effort. YESSS!

**TURQUOISE JAY** (*Cyanolyca turcosa*) – Some top-notch studies of this sexy jay were had on the east-slope... especially at Guango!

**GREEN JAY (INCA)** (*Cyanocorax yncas yncas*) – Common and noisy around San Isidro where family groups mill around all day long. This South American form is often split out as the Inca Jay.

Hirundinidae (Swallows)

**BLUE-AND-WHITE SWALLOW (CYANOLEUCA)** (*Pygochelidon cyanoleuca cyanoleuca*) – Common at middle elevations.

**BROWN-BELLIED SWALLOW** (*Orochelidon murina murina*) – Replaces the previous species at higher elevations, such as in the paramo and around Yanacocha. This was the all dark swallow with the all brown underside and greenish back.

**WHITE-THIGHED SWALLOW** (*Atticora tibialis minima*) – A few of this all dark swallow at Milpe.

**SOUTHERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW** (*Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*) – Seen best at Milpe; the one with the paler rump.

Troglodytidae (Wrens)

**RUFOUS WREN** (*Cinnycerthia unirufa unirufa*) – Really nice studies at a family group at Yanacocha.

**SHARPE'S WREN** (*Cinnycerthia olivascens olivascens*) – This one replaces the previous the previous at lower, subtropical elevations, although there is often some slight overlap. We pulled in some responsive birds at San Isidro for nice views.

**PLAIN-TAILED WREN** (*Pheugopedius euophrys*) – Memorable views at a responsive pair one afternoon along the roadside at San Isidro.

**WHISKERED WREN** (*Pheugopedius mystacalis*) [\*]

**HOUSE WREN (SOUTHERN)** (*Troglodytes aedon albicans*) – Seen well in the west.

**MOUNTAIN WREN** (*Troglodytes solstitialis solstitialis*) – Most common right around San Isidro.

**SEDGE WREN (POLYGLOTTUS GROUP)** (*Cistothorus platensis aequatorialis*) [\*]

**GRAY-BREASTED WOOD-WREN** (*Henicorhina leucophrys leucophrys*) – Heard or seen on everyday of the trip. This species is abundant at middle elevations, but not always easy to see, but enjoyed some good views around San Isidro.

Turdidae (Thrushes and Allies)

**ANDEAN SOLITAIRE** (*Myadestes raloides*) – Seen a couple of times well on the trip, perhaps best the first time along the trail at Tandayapa.

**PALE-EYED THRUSH** (*Turdus leucops*) – Very nice scope studies at a male at San Isidro as it perched along the road near the cabins.

**ECUADORIAN THRUSH** (*Turdus maculirostris*) – Some had quick looks at the one that popped up at a gas station stop near Milpe.

**GREAT THRUSH** (*Turdus fuscater quindio*) – The largest of the genus, and a very common highland bird.

**GLOSSY-BLACK THRUSH** (*Turdus serranus fuscobrunneus*) – A smaller, darker version of the previous species; this one tends to be more tied to good forest, while the Great can do just fine in urban areas.

Motacillidae (Wagtails and Pipits)

**PARAMO PIPIT** (*Anthus bogotensis bogotensis*) – See well on or first morning as we made our way up to Yanacocha.

Parulidae (New World Warblers)

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

**SLATE-THROATED REDSTART** (*Myioborus miniatus*) – Seen everyday of the trip. This species inhabits humid forests at middle elevations.

**SPECTACLED REDSTART** (*Myioborus melanocephalus ruficoronatus*) – Replaces the previous species at higher elevations, all the way up to treeline. We had our first views of this colorful species at Yanacocha on our first day.

**BLACK-CRESTED WARBLER** (*Basileuterus nigrocristatus*) – Common in secondary habitats.

**RUSSET-CROWNED WARBLER** (*Basileuterus coronatus elatus*) – The yellower race of the west which we saw around Tandayapa.

**RUSSET-CROWNED WARBLER** (*Basileuterus coronatus orientalis*) – This east-slope race is grayer below; common around San Isidro.

**THREE-STRIPED WARBLER** (*Basileuterus tristriatus*) [\*]

#### *Coerebidae (Bananaquit)*

**BANANAQUIT** (*Coereba flaveola*) – On our last day near Baeza.

#### *Thraupidae (Tanagers and Allies)*

**WHITE-CAPPED TANAGER** (*Sericossypha albocristata*) – A group hung around San Isidro during our visit this year, which was a real treat. This one seems to be quite nomadic, so can vanish for long periods.

**BLACK-CAPPED HEMISPINGUS (BLACK-CAPPED)** (*Hemispingus atropileus atropileus*) – On our last day during a stop at Guango when we hit the right flock for nice views. The one with the bold pale head stripes.

**SUPERCILIARIED HEMISPINGUS (SUPERCILIARIED)** (*Hemispingus superciliaris nigrifrons*) – A canopy hemispingus, and one that we saw well with the flocks on our first day at Yanacocha.

**OLEAGINOUS HEMISPINGUS** (*Hemispingus frontalis frontalis*) – One seen quite well with a roadside flock at San Isidro.

**BLACK-EARED HEMISPINGUS (BLACK-EARED)** (*Hemispingus melanotis melanotis*) – Common with the understory flocks at San Isidro, especially in stands of bamboo.

**GRAY-HOODED BUSH TANAGER (RUBRIROSTRIS)** (*Cnemoscopus rubrirostris rubrirostris*) – The one with the gray head, yellow belly, and pink bill, that incessantly flicks its tail as it forages. We had excellent views at a group of them at Guango on our last day.

**CINEREOUS CONEBILL** (*Conirostrum cinereum fraseri*) – This rather dull species of conebill was seen well with the flocks on our first day at Yanacocha.

**BLUE-BACKED CONEBILL** (*Conirostrum sitticolor sitticolor*) – Fairly common with flocks in humid temperate forests of both slopes. We had nice looks at them at Yanacocha and Guango.

**CAPPED CONEBILL** (*Conirostrum albifrons atrocyaneum*) – More common at middle elevations. We had males and females at Guango.

**GIANT CONEBILL** (*Oreomanes fraseri*) – The weather didn't do us any favors with this one - with all of the heavy wind and all! - but at least a couple of folks glimpsed it as it crept about up in the high elevations Polylepis woodlands.

#### *Emberizidae (Buntings, Sparrows and Allies)*

**COMMON BUSH-TANAGER (NORTHERN ANDES)** (*Chlorospingus ophthalmicus phaeocephalus*) – Common and noisy around San Isidro.

**DUSKY BUSH-TANAGER** (*Chlorospingus semifuscus semifuscus*) – The all dull gray and olive colored bush-tanager of middle elevations on the west-slope.

#### *Thraupidae (Tanagers and Allies)*

**WHITE-SHOULDERED TANAGER** (*Tachyphonus luctuosus panamensis*) – Males around Milpe.

**FLAME-RUMPED TANAGER (LEMON-RUMPED)** (*Ramphocelus flammigerus icteronotus*) – A common secondary woodland species around Milpe.

**BLUE-GRAY TANAGER** (*Thraupis episcopus quaesita*) – The duller west-slope form.

**BLUE-GRAY TANAGER** (*Thraupis episcopus coelestis*) – This east-slope form has the white shoulder bar and more of a powder blue plumage.

**PALM TANAGER** (*Thraupis palmarum*) – We ran into a couple of this wide ranging species not far from Baeza on our last day.

**BLUE-AND-YELLOW TANAGER** (*Thraupis bonariensis darwini*) – A few of them in the central valley where they

prefer drier scrub forests.

**HOODED MOUNTAIN-TANAGER** (*Buthraupis montana cucullata*) – The large mountain-tanager with the red eye which we saw a few times in the highlands.

**BLACK-CHESTED MOUNTAIN-TANAGER** (*Buthraupis eximia chloronota*) – We lucked into some excellent studies of this high elevation mountain-tanager on our first day at Yanacocha where we could see all of the colorful plumage details.

**LACRIMOSE MOUNTAIN-TANAGER** (*Anisognathus lacrymosus palpebrosus*) – It took some searching in the east, but we finally connected with them for nice views in the Guacamayos.

**SCARLET-BELLIED MOUNTAIN-TANAGER** (*Anisognathus igniventris erythronotus*) – One of the most exquisite mountain-tanagers of them all when seen well! We had them wonderfully - for scope views - Yanacocha.

**BLUE-WINGED MOUNTAIN-TANAGER** (*Anisognathus somptuosus cyanopterus*) – The western form with the black back that we had along the old Nono-Mindo rd.

**BLUE-WINGED MOUNTAIN-TANAGER** (*Anisognathus somptuosus baezae*) – This east-slope form has an olive-green back. This was - and usually is! - one of the most common tanagers around San Isidro.

**GRASS-GREEN TANAGER** (*Chlorornis riefferii riefferii*) – This all green tanager, with the reddish soft part colors, was readily seen in the Guacamayos.

**FAWN-BREASTED TANAGER** (*Pipraeidea melanonota venezuelensis*) – Pretty common around the lodge at San Isidro, especially during the morning flurry of bird activity.

**GOLDEN TANAGER** (*Tangara arthus goodsoni*) – The yellower west-slope form.

**GOLDEN TANAGER** (*Tangara arthus aequatorialis*) – This east-slope form has an orange tinge to its plumage.

**SILVER-THROATED TANAGER** (*Tangara icterocephala*) – Fairly common around Milpe.

**SAFFRON-CROWNED TANAGER** (*Tangara xanthocephala venusta*) – Common with the flocks in the east. This was the one with the mostly yellow head and turquoise-green body.

**FLAME-FACED TANAGER** (*Tangara parzudakii parzudakii*) – This eastern form has the distinct yellow and red in the head.

**FLAME-FACED TANAGER** (*Tangara parzudakii lunigera*) – ...while in the west they head has more of an overall flame color!

**RUFIOUS-THROATED TANAGER** (*Tangara rufigula*) – Nice scope views at a group of them at Milpe was a nice score.

**BAY-HEADED TANAGER** (*Tangara gyrola*) – Seen by a few in the treetops at Milpe.

**SCRUB TANAGER** (*Tangara vitriolina*) – After failing to turn them up at my house in the central valley, a quick, and random, stop nearby yielded an immediate and very cooperative pair.

**GOLDEN-NAPED TANAGER** (*Tangara ruficervix*) – A fairly common tanager on both slopes at middle elevations.

**METALLIC-GREEN TANAGER** (*Tangara labradorides labradorides*) – Most folks had pretty good looks at this one as we made our way down the old Nono-Mindo rd. on our first afternoon.

**BLUE-NECKED TANAGER** (*Tangara cyanicollis*) – We ran into a patch of them on our last day near Baeza.

**BERYL-SPANGLED TANAGER** (*Tangara nigroviridis*) – One of the more common tanagers at San Isidro... the dark one with much bluish spotting!

**BLUE-AND-BLACK TANAGER** (*Tangara vassorii vassorii*) – Briefly in the Guacamayos.

**BLACK-CAPPED TANAGER** (*Tangara heinei*) – Common around San Isidro, where we had males and females.

**GREEN HONEYCREEPER** (*Chlorophanes spiza*) – Milpe, where we had a male.

**PURPLE HONEYCREEPER** (*Cyanerpes caeruleus*) – One male at Milpe.

**GOLDEN-COLLARED HONEYCREEPER** (*Iridophanes pulcherrimus pulcherrimus*) – It took up until the last day, but we finally tracked them down near Baeza on our last day for nice looks at the beautiful male.

**SWALLOW TANAGER** (*Tersina viridis occidentalis*) – In droves at Milpe where they littered the treetops at times! We had gear studies at both the blue males and the green females.

**GRAYISH SALTATOR (GRAYISH)** (*Saltator coerulescens azarae*) – Joshua spotted one on the last day during some birding near Baeza.

**BUFF-THROATED SALTATOR** (*Saltator maximus maximus*) – A few around Milpe; a wide-ranging bird.

**BLACK-WINGED SALTATOR** (*Saltator atripennis*) – We called them up for nice looks along the old Nono-Mindo rd. near Tandayapa, where they were quite responsive.

*Emberizidae (Buntings, Sparrows and Allies)*



- PLUMBEOUS SIERRA-FINCH** (*Phrygilus unicolor geospizopsis*) – Quite common in the high, treeless paramos at the pass where we had some nice males.
- CHESTNUT-BELLIED SEEDEATER** (*Sporophila castaneiventris*) – Briefly on our last day near Baeza.
- PLAIN-COLORED SEEDEATER** (*Catamenia inornata minor*) – A common grassland bird that we saw a couple of times. This was the one with the salmon colored bill.
- GLOSSY FLOWERPIERCER** (*Diglossa lafresnayii*) – Most common at Yanacocha where they raid the hummingbird feeders; the black flowerpiercer with the blue-gray shoulder.
- BLACK FLOWERPIERCER** (*Diglossa humeralis aterrima*) – Common in central valley scrub.
- WHITE-SIDED FLOWERPIERCER** (*Diglossa albilatera albilatera*) – Seen a couple of times, such as around San Isidro. This was the one that flashed the whitish flanks.
- RUSTY FLOWERPIERCER** (*Diglossa sittoides decorata*) – Good looks at the dull plumaged female as it fed at garden flowers at my house in the central valley.
- DEEP-BLUE FLOWERPIERCER** (*Diglossa glauca tyrianthina*) – We finally dug one of these out during some birding in the Guacamayos; the one with the all rich blue plumage and golden eye.
- BLUISH FLOWERPIERCER** (*Diglossa caerulescens media*) – Common around the lodge at San Isidro, where they feed about singly and with flocks. The one with the dull bluish plumage and burgundy colored eye.
- MASKED FLOWERPIERCER** (*Diglossa cyanea cyanea*) – This was the one with the bright red eye, and the most commonly seen flowerpiercer of the trip.
- CHESTNUT-CAPPED BRUSH-FINCH (CHESTNUT-CAPPED)** (*Arremon brunneinucha frontalis*) – I could not believe our luck when we called one up out of the brush from the Mirador room at San Isidro for spectacular studies... nice way to wait out the rain!
- PALE-NAPED BRUSH-FINCH** (*Atlapetes pallidinucha papallactae*) [\*]
- TRICOLORED BRUSH-FINCH** (*Atlapetes tricolor crassus*) – Responsive and vocal birds during our morning of birding around Tandayapa Lodge. Much like the next species, this one is duller and inhabits lower elevation forests.
- YELLOW-BREASTED BRUSH-FINCH** (*Atlapetes latinuchus spodionotus*) – Part of the Rufous-naped Brush-Finch complex. We had some nice encounters at Yanacocha on our first morning.
- SLATY BRUSH-FINCH** (*Atlapetes schistaceus schistaceus*) – Killer studies of them a few times as they moved with the flocks at Guango... love that rich ferruginous cap and black whisker streak!
- YELLOW-BROWED SPARROW** (*Ammodramus aurifrons aurifrons*) – Finally on our last day when we called one in for nice looks along the Cosanga-Baeza rd.
- RUFOUS-COLLARED SPARROW** (*Zonotrichia capensis costaricensis*) – Quite an attractive little sparrow... poor thing just doesn't get the credit it deserves though since it is so abundant!

#### Cardinalidae (Cardinals and Allies)

- OCHRE-BREASTED TANAGER** (*Chlorothraupis stolzmanni*) – Now allied with the cardinals. I wonder what the common name will end up being, but I'm guessing that "Ochre-breasted Cardinal" won't fly? At any rate, we saw some noisy bunches fairly well in the understory at Milpe.
- GOLDEN-BELLIED GROSBEAK** (*Pheucticus chrysogaster chrysogaster*) – Some wonderful studies at this gorgeous bird in the central valley. Also called "Southern Yellow-Grosbeak".

#### Icteridae (Troupials and Allies)

- SCRUB BLACKBIRD** (*Dives warszewiczi warszewiczi*) – Some had quick views from the bus not far from Milpe as we cruised along the main highway.
- MOUNTAIN CACIQUE (GOLDEN-SHOULDERED)** (*Cacicus chrysnotus leucoramphus*) – The cacique with the yellow shoulders and rump that we saw very well with the flocks on our last clean-up day at Guango.
- SCARLET-RUMPED CACIQUE** (*Cacicus uropygialis*) – We saw the east-slope form that is split out in the "Birds of Ecuador" and called "Subtropical Cacique". The SACC committee re-lumped them, but I have a feeling this won't stick for too long. We had some nice looks at this very vocal species in the San Isidro area.
- RUSSET-BACKED OROPENDOLA** (*Psarocolius angustifrons angustifrons*) – Common in large and noisy groups around San Isidro.

#### Fringillidae (Siskins, Crossbills, and Allies)

- GOLDEN-RUMPED EUPHONIA** (*Euphonia cyanocephala pelzelni*) – Awesome studies at this gaudy euphonia in my yard in the central valley.



**ORANGE-BELLIED EUPHONIA** (*Euphonia xanthogaster*) – Common in the west.

**CHESTNUT-BREASTED CHLOROPHONIA** (*Chlorophonia pyrrhophrys*) – The light wasn't the best, and we had to battle the rain, but we still came away with pretty good looks at this flashy species at San Isidro.

**HOODED SISKIN** (*Spinus magellanicus capitalis*) – Fly-overs in the central valley.

**OLIVACEOUS SISKIN** (*Spinus olivaceus*) – Also seen as fly-overs at San Isidro... why couldn't they just sit for a moment?!

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## **MAMMALS**

**RED-TAILED SQUIRREL** (*Sciurus granatensis*) – Common at mid-elevations.

**BLACK AGOUTI** (*Dasyprocta fuliginosa*) – Seen best when one came to gobble up corn set out for it at San Isidro.

**WHITE-TAILED DEER** (*Odocoileus virginianus*) – On our last day at the Papallacta Pass.

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## **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS**

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**Totals for the tour: 313 bird taxa and 3 mammal taxa**