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**Colombia: Central and Western Andes & the Cauca Valley**  
**Nov. 8-22, 2014 Species List**  
**Gustavo Canas Valle, guide from Neblina Forest,**  
**Peg Abbott, escort of Naturalist Journeys,**  
**with 9 travelers: Nancy, Robert, Bev, Bob, Torrey, Chan, Cliff, Don, and Cindy**

This tour started in Cali, Colombia and finished in Pereira. We birded several key reserves to sample different slopes of the western and central branches of the Andes, situated in the “coffee triangle” area of the Cauca River Valley. In addition to birding we enjoyed history, some excellent local food, and seeing rural parts of the country. Our guide was Gustavo Canas Valle of Neblina Forest Colombia, with Peg Abbott of Naturalist Journeys / Caligo Ventures hosting the group. November was an excellent time of year for bird activity, freshened by the rains. The start of breeding season for some species, and a great time for mixed flocks at all locations. Without a guide with a thorough knowledge of calls, our results would have been greatly hindered, thank you Gustavo! This was a first year scouting trip and definitely will be repeated! A full trip report can be found online.

**(E) = endemic species** (HO) = heard only (LO) = leader only

Itinerary

(Nov. 8, arrival in Cali)

Nov. 9 – KM 18 above Cali

Nov. 10 – El Vinculo and Sonso Lagoon

Nov. 11 – Yotoco Reserve / Drive to Armenia

Nov. 12 – El El Paraíso National Monument / Birding and Hacienda tour

Nov. 13 – Petroglyph Site / Armenia Botanic Garden / Museum

Nov. 14 – Armenia Airport area / Drive to Montezuma

Nov. 15, 16, 17 – Montezuma

Nov. 18 – Otun Quimbaya Reserve

Nov. 19, 20 – Rio Blanco

Nov. 21 – Los Nevados

Nov. 22 – Departures

**BIRDS**

(HO) **Great Tinamou** (*Tinamus major*) – Very distinctly heard at El Vínculo Reserve, at close range, and not long after followed by a Little Tinamou farther along the trail. No visual, but a clear vocalization.

(HO) **Little Tinamou** (*Crypturellus soui*) – Heard at a number of locations.

**Highland Tinamou** or **Bonaparte's tinamou** (*Nothocercus bonapartei*) – Robert, Nancy, and our local guide driving (those on this day in the front seat of our vehicle) had a chance encounter with this secretive species as we drove up the 4WD “adventure” road above Montezuma, a great find!

**Fulvous Whistling-Duck** (*Dendrocygna bicolor*)– Seen on our day to Sonso Lagoon, and then again on the following day while in travel through the valley.

**Black-bellied Whistling-Duck** (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*)– Three flew overhead as we enjoyed the view from the top of the hill at Vinculo, with the Western Cordillera and the whole agricultural mosaic of the Cauca Valley behind them we delighted that they alerted us with calls enabling us to get a view.

**Torrent Duck** (*Merganetta armata*)– Peg spotted a female that hopped up to preen on a rock in the rushing river we paused at while exploring a reserve on the Otun River. Great scope views. Cliff, Chan and Gustavo during their last morning together saw finally a young male with an adult female close at the Otun River close to our Hotel.

**Andean Teal** (*Anas andium*) – Seen on our final day returning from “del Ruiz” Volcano and Los Nevados NP, at the small lake near the entry gate.

**White-cheeked Pintail** (*Anas bahamensis*)– A female with five or six  $\frac{3}{4}$  size young was a treat at our quick roadside stop at a lake near the town famous as the central factory for both Nescafé and the higher end Buen Café production in Chinchiná.

**Blue-winged Teal** (*Anas discors*)– Two individuals seen in the lower elevation pond visited our final day.

*(LO) Cinnamon Teal* (*Anas cyanoptera*)– *One male, still bright, against the causeway that broke the highland lake at the Los Nevados entry in two parts, Peg spotted it and before she could line up the scope thick mist rolled in and we could not stay for it to clear. Thus leader only on this one!*

**Ruddy (Andean Ruddy) Duck** (*Oxyura jamaicensis ferruginea*) – Our first sighting at the lagoon at the entry to Los Nevados National Park and reserve, characteristic with its cocked-up tail, scope view.

**(E) Cauca Guan** (*Penelope perspicax*) – Our welcome committee at Otun Quimbaya Reserve, in the tall exotic ash plantation, trees from China that they seem to love. We saw five or six here, and then a few more as we walked and then drove up the road that follows the Otun River. Endemic!

**(E) Colombian Chachalaca** (*Ortalis columbiana*) – We had wonderful views of this species, alerted by their calls just as we unloaded from our bus at El Vinculo Reserve. We had trouble at first with them in very dense trees, but once atop the view point one posed for photographs, plucking fruit from a flat-topped tree, and two below were equally in view, preening and surveying the valley below (as were we). Endemic!

**Andean Guan** (*Penelope montagnii*) – Keen-eyed Bev is to thank for this sighting. Many of us were focused on looking for antpittas at close range. She saw motion of a mixed flock and looked out, picked up the guan and we were able to watch two of them in the scope.

*(HO) Crested Bobwhite* (*Colinus cristatus*) – *Heard only, on two walks from the lovely inn we stayed at outside of Armenia. Loud!*

**(E) Chestnut Wood-Quail** (*Odontophorus hyperythrus*)– Seen on the road coming out our first day at KM18 above Cali. We hopped out of the bus and our tall ones had a good view. Some saw it from the bus, others got only a glimpse but a wood-quail is always a good sighting and this was one of our first endemics.

**Pied-billed Grebe** (*Podilymbus podiceps*) – Seen at the Chinchiná ponds near Manizales on a stop our last afternoon.

**Neotropic Cormorant** (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*) – Seen on most of our travel days in and around small ponds of the coffee region. We had many together at the lower elevation lake our final day, preening. A mix of adult and juveniles.

**Striated Heron** (*Butorides striatus*) – A few individuals seen both days of the trip that we stopped at wetland sites.

**Cattle Egret** (*Bubulcus ibis*) – Very common around livestock.

**Cocoi Heron** (*Ardea cocoi*) – One individual seen well at Sonso Lagoon entry area along the Cauca River.

**Great Egret** (*Ardea alba*) – Seen at Sonso Lagoon area and on one of the travel days.

**Snowy Egret** (*Egretta thula*) – More common than other egrets, seen on several days when in range of wetland habitats.

**Glossy Ibis** (*Plegadis falcinellus*) – Seen on two days, much less common than Bare-faced.

**Bare-faced Ibis** (*Phimosus infuscatus*) – Seen quite frequently in the valley areas with wetland areas. Tallied on six days.

**Buff-necked Ibis** (*Theristicus caudatus*) – Great bold and big birds of this family, we enjoyed seeing them strutting around the grounds of the Hotel next to El Paraíso National Monument early one morning. Also seen on the day we visited Sonso Lagoon and vicinity.

**Turkey Vulture** (*Cathartes aura*) – Seen as individuals, on three of our days, mainly in the Cauca Valley.

**Black Vulture** (*Cathartes burrovianus*) – Seen daily, common.

**Osprey** (*Pandion haliaetus*) – We all had good looks at one the Sonso Lagoon day, and then two others were sighted on travel days around water features of the valley.

**Snail Kite** (*Rostrhamus sociabilis*) – Seen by a few of the group on our Sonso Lagoon day.

**Plain-breasted Hawk** (*Accipiter ventralis*) – We had good looks at this accipiter as it circled not too high above us as we walked along the Otun River.

**Barred Hawk** (*Morphnarchus princeps*) – We watched a pair circle above us walking the road at Montezuma, getting good looks, and then Peg sighted another one from the grassy lawn around the Visitor Center where we had breakfast and lunch the day we visited Otun Quimbaya.

**Roadside Hawk** (*Rupornis magnirostris*) – The raptor we saw (and heard) most often, seen on six days of the tour.

**Black-chested Buzzard Eagle** (*Geranoaetus melanoleucus*) – Peg had eyes to the sky as we puffed our way up the road exploring higher elevations in search of parakeets and other species at Los Nevados National Park. It was at first distant but then came our way, affording good views. One individual.

*(HO) Collared Forest Falcon* (*Micrastur semitorquatus*) – Heard only, in very dense forest in the Yotoco Reserve, where huge trees occur as a relic of vast forests that once covered the Cauca Valley.

**Northern Crested Caracara** (*Caracara cheriway*) – A pair preening and posing atop planted pines near the boutique hotel Solar de La Luna we enjoyed so much out of Armenia. This was the second morning walk through neighboring farmlands.

**Yellow-headed Caracara** (*Milvago chimachima*) – We first encounter the characteristic screams of this common raptor of the drier areas, as we pulled into the parking lot of the hotel next to El Paraíso National Monument, the Hacienda of the tragic love story of Maria, famous among Colombian literature.

**American Kestrel** (*Falco sparverius*) – One spotted in the Cauca Valley in travel between El Vinculo and Sonso Lagoon on day two.

**Bat Falcon** (*Falco ruficularis*) – We had an absolutely stunning view of this cheeky little raptor, in Montezuma, perched prominently on a snag against a background of vast cloud forest.

**Common Gallinule** (*Gallinula galeata*) – Sonso Lagoon in irrigation canals and also in the lower elevation lake near Manizales our final day.

**Purple Gallinule** (*Porphyrio martinica*) – One individual in an irrigation canal as we exited Sonso Lagoon.

**Southern Lapwing** (*Vanellus chilensis*) – We first encountered these at the hotel next to El Paraíso National Monument, a pair obviously nesting somewhere on the grounds as they were vocal and aggressive. One stalked Nancy in a low, threatening pose – we cleared out quickly for them to proceed!

**Black-necked Stilt** (*Himantopus mexicanus*) – seen well on both days we encountered wetland habitat of size, about a dozen spotted each day.

**Spotted Sandpiper** (*Actitis macularia*) – One floating on a log passing down the fast-moving current of the Cauca River was an entertaining sighting. We picked up a few others on travel days where we encountered small wetlands.

**Wattled Jacana** (*Jacana jacana*) – A few individuals, mostly adults but one juvenile, were found with effort at Sonso Lagoon. Great to see the yellow in their wings in flight, such a startling pattern.

**Ruddy Ground Dove** (*Columbina talpacoti*) – Very common, seen on eight days of the journey.

**Rock Pigeon** (*Columba livia*) – Seen in all large cities and some agricultural towns.

**Band-tailed Pigeon** (*Patagioenas fasciata*) – Seen on our first day in the forests of KM 18 near Cali.

**Pale-vented Pigeon** (*Patagioenas cayennensis*) – Seen on three days of our journey, best looks at the Botanic Garden of Armenia where we enjoyed a walk mid-day.

**Plumbeous Pigeon** (*Patagioenas plumbea*) – Seen well at Montezuma, particularly on our last morning when we found several emerging from night roosts, sunning atop trees near the Lodge.

**Eared Dove** (*Zenaida auriculata*) – Very common and tame, seen on eight days of the journey.

**White-tipped Dove** (*Leptotila verreauxi*) – Seen well our first three days in and around Cali and Armenia, and then heard on three other days.

**Golden-plumed Parakeet** (*Leptosittaca branickii*) – On our first day at Rio Blanco a flock zipped by overhead, but on the final morning walk we got into a flock that was feeding, much more accommodating. Views were good, but our photographers struggled with light as they remained high. Bev and Robert were then lucky and had the flock descend to eye-level as they returned to the Lodge. Endangered species of Andean parakeet.

**Scarlet-fronted Parakeet** (*Aratinga wagleri*) – Seen on five days of the journey, our best views were birds feeding just overhead as we walked up the road from breakfast our morning at Otun Quimbaya.

**Spectacled Parrotlet** (*Forpus conspicillatus*) – We had wonderful views of an individual nesting in one of the bamboo struts of the ramada atop the Mirador view point of El Vinculo Reserve. In and around Cali and Armenia we had flocks and good views on five different days.

**Barred Parakeet** (*Bolborhynchus lineola*) – We had a flock veer overhead briefly our first day walking KM 18, then got another chance to see them on the road walking downhill at Montezuma (Choco or western side of the Western Cordillera).

**(LO) Rufous-fronted Parakeet (E)** (*Bolborhynchus ferrugineifrons*) – *Not for lack of effort this was a leader only bird, Peg spied two make a quick flight amid thick shrubbery, and Gustavo scouting ahead had one perched in front of him, hopping out of a dense shrub for a moment. They seemed present but paired up, quiet and focused on feeding, so despite waiting quite some time, and being alert while checking for other species, the group did not get a chance at this high-elevation species.*

**Rusty-faced Parrot** (*Hapalopsittaca amazonina*) – Great scope views of a flock perched at some distance, then the following day at Rio Blanco again we had one perch very close while working mixed flocks on the ridge. This is the *H. amazonina velezi* subspecies of this colorful parrot restricted to northwestern South America. One of the specialty parrots of this trip.

**Blue-headed Parrot** (*Pionus menstruus*) – Seen on our first four days in the western part of the Andes (KM 18, Yotoco), and also near Armenia at El Paraíso National Monument.

**Scaly-naped Parrot** (*Amazona mercenaria*) – Widespread, we saw them three times in a flock flying, but did not get a close study of this parrot as we did with the others.

**Mealy Parrot** (*Amazona farinosa*) – A trio was seen flying towards us at Montezuma Reserve.

**Orange-winged Parrot** (*Amazona amazonica*) – Seen on the trail at El Vínculo Reserve our second day.

**Dwarf Cuckoo** (*Coccyzua pumila*) – Cliff and Bev had a real treat as they were perched in chairs overlooking the marvelous view from our boutique hotel near Armenia. An individual came into shrubs right below. We had been on the prowl for this species and this lucky duo observed it well, connected that it was our target bird after the great views, as they checked out the field guide. The

rest of us heard it on three other days, a sneaky species! Rare bird and not well represented in photographs online.

**Squirrel Cuckoo** (*Piaya cayana*) – We had quick looks on six days of our tour, the first flying over an open view of lush forest a real treat. Bob was happy to get a good look just after our coffee break atop the ridge of Rio Blanco, the day for him this intense birding “all came together”.

**Smooth-billed Ani** (*Crotophaga ani*) – Seen regularly in open areas of agricultural and along roadsides.

**Striped Cuckoo** (*Tapera naevia*) – We heard this loud but often elusive species on three days, but finally got good looks from the area of our lovely hotel near Armenia, that had a good view of brushy habitat below us.

**(?HO) Tropical Screech Owl** (*Megascops choliba*) – *Robert recorded this species in the middle of the night, uttering its call repeatedly. We did not have the chance to confirm, but likely this was it – by match up of the sound, at La Florida. Good to mention here to check next time!*

**White-throated Screech Owl** (*Megascops albogularis*) – Seen very well on night walk with our local guide at Rio Blanco.

**(HO) Rufous-banded Owl** (*Strix rufipes*) – *Heard repeatedly at Rio Blanco, but this one could not be lured out of very thick forest across from the lodge.*

**(HO) Cloud Forest Pygmy Owl** (*Glaucidium nubicola*) – *This is a sound we heard often, but uttered by Gustavo to draw in birds. At Km 18, one answered his call.*

**Rufous-bellied Nighthawk** (*Lurocalis rufiventris*) – Quick looks at this species as it flew about the lights of our lodge and over the first pasture of the entry at Rio Blanco, sunrise and sunset good times to check.

**(HO) Pauraque** (*Nyctidromus albicollis*) – *Heard from Montezuma, but after our early morning jaunts we never rallied for a night walk to find it!*

**Band-winged Nightjar** (*Systellura longirostris*) – Shorter winged flyby than the Rufous-bellied Nighthawk, not a stellar look but present at Rio Blanco.

**Chestnut-collared Swift** (*Streptoprocne rutila*) – A small group seen mixed with White-chested Swifts our first day above KM 18.

**White-collared Swift** (*Streptoprocne zonaris*) – This large swift was widespread and noted at four locations.

**White-chested Swift** (*Cypseloides lemosi*) – Seen our first day at KM 18.

**Lesser Swallow-tailed Swift** (*Panyptyla cayennensis*) – Seen on one day in Montezuma.

**White-necked Jacobin** (*Florisuga mellivora*) – Very common hummingbird encountered at feeders and in the forest at three mountain locations. Its gaudy plumage was one of the few that all learned quickly, helpful in the daily species sorting process!

**White-whiskered Hermit** (*Phaethornis yaruqui*) – Bev had a close encounter with this species at Yotoco Reserve, feeding right in front of her on heliconias.

**Green Hermit** (*Phaethornis guy*) – This was the main species we encountered along the trail while walking in the Botanic Garden of Armenia. Males were highly vocal on territory and we got great looks.

**White-tipped Sicklebill** (*Eutoxeres aquila*) – This bird showed up at a large heleconia while many of us were engrossed in keeping up with identification of a large mixed flock. We waited quite some time for it to return, but the flock kept us distracted. A few standing close got good looks. Montezuma.

**Wedge-billed Hummingbird** (*Schistes geoffroyi*) – Seen in the lower gardens of Rio Blanco where we stopped for a pitstop and to view species at this lower elevation. Gustavo showed us how they feed by stealing nectar, often following work done by resident flowerpiercers! Range restricted!

**Brown Violetear** (*Colibri delphinae*) – Seen well on our first day at KM 18.

**Green Violetear** (*Colibri thalassinus*) – Best seen at Rio Blanco on all our days there, coming into flowers and feeders. It made a very distinctive sound so was easy to track.

**Sparkling Violetear** (*Colibri coruscans*) – Seen only our first day at KM 18, coming into the feeders.

**Purple-crowned Fairy** (*Heliodytes barroti*) – Seen at KM 18 and Yotoco Reserve, feeding in the canopy.

**Black-throated Mango** (*Anthracothorax nigricollis*) – We first encountered this large hummingbird, in which the female wears a striking center stripe line, at the feeders at the Armenia Botanic Garden. We then encountered males and females at Montezuma.

**Tourmaline Sunangel** (*Heliangelus exortis*) – We met this gorgeous hummingbird at Montezuma, and enjoyed seeing it again at Rio Blanco.

**Speckled Hummingbird** (*Adelomyia melanogenys*) – Seen at KM 18 and at Rio Blanco, one frequented one of the antpitta areas.

**Long-tailed Sylph** (*Agelaiocercus kingi*) – This stunning bird was seen at KM 18 and Rio Blanco.

**Violet-tailed Sylph** (*Agelaiocercus coelestis*) – This iridescent gem was seen well each day at Montezuma.

**(E) Buffy (Bearded) Helmetcrest** (*Oxygogon stuebelii*) – We found this species just where Gustavo expected, feeding in the deep magenta-colored high elevation flower at Los Nevados National Park. We had superb views at very close range. Don wandered out the short trail to the weather station and had another at equally close range. Wow! Endemic!

**Tyrian Metaltail** (*Metallura tyrianthina*) – We had excellent looks at this species, while waiting to find another specialty of the high country atop the communication tower area of Montezuma. We found it again at high elevation at Los Nevados NP.

**Viridian Metaltail** (*Metallura williami*) – From the porch of the Visitor Center of Los Nevados, we got a great view of this species in flowers just below us.

**Glowing Puffleg** (*Eriocnemis vestita*) – Seen at close range at the top of the road at Montezuma, in open terrain across from the communications towers.

**Bronzy Inca** (*Coeligena coeligena*) – Seen at KM 18 and again at Rio Blanco. As it came into the feeders at Rio Blanco, we could study its geometry in comparison to its cousin, the Collared Inca, during Gustavo's excellent afternoon hummingbird workshop.

**Collared Inca** (*Coeligena torquata*) – As gaudy as the Jacobin, we enjoyed time with this species at Montezuma as well as at Rio Blanco. It was one of the more common species when encountered.

**Buff-winged Starfrontlet** (*Coeligena lutetiae*) – Two distinct wing patches in flight alerted us to the presence of this species in the mix at Rio Blanco.

**Mountain Velvetbreast** (*Lafresnaya lafresnayi*) – Seen only at Rio Blanco.

**Sword-billed Hummingbird** (*Ensifera ensifera*) – Peg, Cliff and Nancy were sitting in chairs at the end of the Rio Blanco porch when this incredible species made a quick visit to the Fuchsia flowers, then went over to a shrub with longer tubed, pink and white flowers of *Brugmansia arborea*. Peg snapped a photo to document, and though we tried for a second look with the others, it never reappeared.

**Buff-tailed Coronet** (*Boissonneaua flavescens*) – By far the most numerous species at the feeders at Rio Blanco. We admired the habit they have of landing with open wings, a characteristic emphasized when interaction with several individuals vying for the same perch or feed.

**Booted Racket-tail** (*Ocreatus underwoodii*) – A trip favorite for several of our group, we saw them in the forest and at feeders, where we could study the "boots".

**White-tailed Hillstar** (*Urochroa bougueri*) – A hard to find hummingbird normally elsewhere, but quite numerous at Montezuma. The white remains hidden when perched and is quite startling when they decide to move. Range restricted!

**Fawn-breasted Brilliant** (*Heliodoxa rubinoides*) – One of the paler species, we learned to appreciate its fine details at KM 18 and again at Rio Blanco.

**Empress Brilliant** (*Heliodoxa imperatrix*) – Seen on all of our days at Montezuma, a very striking species. Females with their speckled tummies were easy to spot.

**Long-billed Starthroat** (*Heliomaster longirostris*) – Seen well on our first day, at KM 18.

**White-bellied Woodstar** (*Chaetocercus mulsant*) – Common at Rio Blanco. Also seen at the botanic garden feeders at Armenia.

**Purple-throated Woodstar** (*Calliphlox mitchellii*) – These small bee-like hummingbirds with their cocked tails were numerous at Montezuma. We first encountered them at KM 18.

**Green-crowned Wood-nymph** (*Thalurania fannyi*) – We saw only a few individuals, at KM 18, and on one of our days at Montezuma.

**Andean Emerald** (*Amazilia franciae*) – Don admired their shining white underside and the distinct contrast with iridescent back and head. They were numerous at Montezuma, but also seen at KM 18 and Yotoco Reserve.

**Rufous-tailed Hummingbird** (*Amazilia tzacatl*) – One of the most widespread species of our tour, we saw them on 8 days at varied locations.

**Steely-vented Hummingbird** (*Amazilia saucerottei*) – Common in the first part of our tour, Cauca Valley and the Western Andes.

**Indigo-capped Hummingbird (E)** (*Amazilia cyanifrons*) – This bird frequented the same flowers for so long that we could check its i.d. with a scope, in the clearing of the Howler Monkey sighting at Yocoto Reserve.

**Blue-headed Sapphire** (*Hylocharis grayi*) – Seen our first day only, at KM 18. Range restricted!

**Purple-bibbed Whitetip** (*Urostitte benjamini*) – This beauty showed up in frequently at the feeders at Montezuma, great to study its behavior and flight.

*(HO) Golden-headed Quetzal* (*Pharomachrus auriceps*) – *Heard on one day at Montezuma.*

**Crested Quetzal** (*Pharomachrus antisianus*) – A great treat was seeing this species well as it came through the feeding area we stopped at for afternoon coffee our first day at KM 18.

**Collared Trogon** (*Trogon collaris*) – Seen well on our walk at Otun Quimbaya, both male and female.

**Masked Trogon** (*Trogon personatus*) – Encountered at close range at Montezuma. One female seemed totally oblivious to our group and seemed to pose for photos.

**Ringed Kingfisher** (*Megaceryle torquata*) – Seen on four days of our journey, along the major rivers and wetlands.

**Whooping Motmot** (*Momotus subrufescens*) – Seen on the small trail we walked just ahead of our hacienda tour at El Paraíso National Monument.

**Andean (Highland) Motmot** (*Momotus aequatorialis*) – Our first significant encounter with this species was barely at the range of the normal split for elevation at the Armenia Botanic Garden, where we had great views. Seen also at Montezuma and at Rio Blanco....

*(HO) Lanceolated Monklet* (*Micromonacha lanceolata*) – *We heard this species while walking with Michelle at Montezuma, but could not entice it in. Likely it was perched and spying on us but in thick understory conditions it remained impossible to find.*

**Red-headed Barbet** (*Eubucco bourcierii*) – We had a great introduction to this species walking the road at KM 18, then were delighted it came into the feeders where we enjoyed afternoon coffee – what a species to have at close range! It was also fairly common at Montezuma, heard and seen at that location on both days.

*(HO) Toucan Barbet* (*Semnornis ramphastinus*) – *We hoped for good views but we only heard them, each time at quite a distance from our trail at Montezuma.*

**Andean (Emerald) Toucanet** (*Aulacorhynchus albivitta*) – Seen well at Montezuma on two different days. An injured youngster that Peg nicknamed Squeaky for its begging noise captured our hearts at Rio Blanco, where the guide seemed to be an animal whisperer, really great with rescuing those in need. The bird had a bad leg but was eating well and likely to become quite the character around the place!

**Crimson-rumped Toucanet** (*Aulacorhynchus haematopygus*) – Seen in an open area of the road we walked at KM 18 where we could see across into thick forest.

**Black-billed Mountain Toucan** (*Andigena nigrirostris*) – A great sighting for us just above the lodge in Rio Blanco in dense trees, two individuals.

**Grayish Piculet (E)** (*Picumnus granadensis*)– While Cliff and Gustavo had great looks on their day to visit an Idea Wild project ahead of our tour, the rest of us got only quick looks in a mixed flock above Yotoco's main house, at the edge of the farm field where we had quite a bit of activity after an afternoon rain shower.

**Acorn Woodpecker** (*Melanerpes formicivorus*) – Seen on the optional early morning walk from the boutique hotel near Armenia. As oaks do not go much farther south, this was a nice species to record in Colombia at the southern end of their range.

**Red-crowned Woodpecker** (*Melanerpes rubricapillus*) – We first got good looks at this species at the entrance to the Botanic Garden of Armenia, and then had them on the grounds of our hotel at El Paraiso National Monument.

**Yellow-vented Woodpecker** (*Veniliornis dignus*) – Seen well in one of the multiple mixed flocks we encountered at Rio Blanco in what seemed to be a bird blitz. It was in the vicinity of Crimson-mantled Woodpecker, in the same flock.

**Bar-bellied Woodpecker** (*Veniliornis nigriceps*) – Another woodpecker of the Rio Blanco mixed flock bird blitz!

**Crimson-mantled Woodpecker** (*Piculus rivolii*) – This was another trip favorite, seemingly such an odd color for a woodpecker. We had great looks on three occasions at Rio Blanco.

**Lineated Woodpecker** (*Dryocopus lineatus*) – Seen at El Vinculo, and heard at El Paraíso National Monument.

**Powerful Woodpecker** (*Campephilus pollens*)– Don spotted a female in a mixed flock near the first creek at Montezuma, and then Bev picked up another just below the Andean Guan sighting at Rio Blanco.

**Bar-crested Antshrike** (*Thamnophilus multistriatus*) – first encountered at El Vinculo on the edge of the farm field. We had great looks then on our morning walk at El Paraíso NM, and encountered them again at the Botanic Gardens and on a travel day at one of our two police check stops of the tour.

**Uniform Antshrike** (*Thamnophilus unicolor*) – Seen well at close range in a mixed flock at KM 18 our first day, below us in lush understory.

**Dot-winged Antwren** (*Microrhophias quixensis*) – Seen in a mixed flock at Montezuma.

**Long-tailed Antbird** (*Drymophila caudata*) – Seen and heard above the lodge at Rio Blanco.

**Chestnut-backed Antbird** (*Myrmeciza exsul*) – Seen at El Vinculo.

*(HO) Chestnut-crowned Gnateater* (*Conopophaga castaneiceps*) – *This species remained elusive just off the trail in thick forest above the open viewing area of El Vinculo.*

*(HO) Scaled Antpitta* (*Grallaria guatemalensis*) – *Heard with our local guide Louis, at KM 18.*

**Chestnut-crowned Antpitta** (*Grallaria ruficapilla*) – Seen well at the antpitta feeding stations at Rio Blanco, and heard as we walked the road throughout the day. One of the most common antpittas there.

**Bicolored Antpitta** (*Grallaria rufocinerea*) – Heard in the forest, and seen at the second of three antpitta feeding stations at Rio Blanco. Wonderful to get good looks and watch their antics!

*(HO) Chestnut-naped Antpitta* (*Grallaria nuchalis*) – *Heard only at Rio Blanco.*

*(HO) Yellow-breasted Antpitta* (*Grallaria flavotincta*)– *Heard only at Montezuma.*

*(LO) Rufous Antpitta* (*Grallaria rufula*) – *Seen in a small mixed flock that seemed to indicate ants were about, through a narrow window adjacent to where the group awaited for Ocellated Tapaculo. Only Peg got a view of this one, known to be in the area but rare to come into the feeding stations of Rio Blanco.*

**Tawny Antpitta** (*Grallaria quitensis*)– Cindy spotted the first of this species below the road we walked on at Los Nevados National Park, then another teased us at close range from the road. Finally we

were relaxing with coffee on the porch of the Visitor Center there when one walked right up a small trail and out into the open, pausing for just a few seconds, long enough for quick looks and photos!

**(E) Brown-banded Antpitta** (*Grallaria milleri*)– A shy sweet creature to behold, at one of the feeding stations, shy but accommodating. Endemic!

**Slate-crowned Antpitta** (*Grallaricula nana*) - This small antpitta was shyer than Chestnut-crowned or Bicolored, and left when they appeared. We made two tries so that all could see it, and got very good views. Don had a good advantage with his height and helped several others to spot it.

*(HO) Ocellated Tapaculo* (*Acropternis orthonyx*) – *Heard only despite efforts to see it, at both Montezuma and at very close range in Rio Blanco.*

**Ash-colored Tapaculo** (*Myornis senilis*)– At Rio Blanco we got views of this species, one of the few tapaculos of the trip. The female is brown and both have a “proper” length tail, likely one of the easier to see being common, heard often.

*(HO) Blackish Tapaculo* (*Scytalopus latrans*) – *Heard throughout the day on both days at Rio Blanco.*

**(E) Stiles Tapaculo** (*Scytalopus stilesi*) – Robert spotted this species moving low through vegetation quite near the reserve headquarters, and several joined in the view. Its persistent call was helpful to finding it. Otun Quimbaya. Endemic!

*(HO) Spillman’s Tapaculo* (*Scytalopus spillmanni*) – *Heard repeatedly at Montezuma and at Rio Blanco.*

*(HO) Paramo Tapaculo* (*Scytalopus canus*) – *Heard only, Los Nevados National Park*

*(HO) Alto Pisones Tapaculo (E) ( Scytalopus sp. Nov. )– Heard only, Monteuma.*

*(HO) Narino Tapaculo* (*Scytalopus vicini*)– *Heard at KM 18, Montezuma and Rio Blanco. Range restricted!.*

**Chestnut-winged Cinclodes** (*Cinclodes albidiventris*) – Seen on our day to Los Nevados, just two individuals at the start of our birding.

**Stout-billed Cinclodes** (*Cinclodes excelsior*) – The more common of the two species of cinclodes spotted at Los Nevados. They were nesting and we saw several coming and going out of holes in the banks, sounds of nestlings begging.

**Andean Tit Spinetail** (*Leptasthenura andicola*) – Los Nevados.

**Azara’s Spinetail** (*Synallaxis azarae*) – Our best looks were returning downhill from a walk at Rio Blanco, photos were possible of this often elusive species. We heard it at KM 18 and Montezuma, but here we were able to make a connection.

**Pale-breasted Spinetail** (*Synallaxis albescens*) – We saw this species on three days and heard it another, all in and around the Cauca Valley at the start of the tour. Best sighting was a pair at El Vínculo, walking through scrub bushes behind the viewpoint where the parakeets entertained us.

**Rufous Spinetail** (*Synallaxis unirufa*) – Lovely rich colored species, one individual seen at both Montezuma and then again at Rio Blanco, one day at each location.

**Red-faced Spinetail** (*Cranioleuca erythropis*) – Seen only on our first day at KM 18.

**Many-striped Canastero** (*Asthenes flammulata*) – Los Nevados only. Range restricted!

**White-chinned Thistletail** (*Schizoeaca fuliginosa*) – This species seemed to want our attention, calling and peering out from a shrub crown in two locations as we watched for the helmetcrest hummingbird high in Los Nevados NP.

**Spotted Barbtail** (*Premnoplex brunnescens*) – Seen in a mixed flock our first day at KM 18.

**Fulvous-dotted Treerunner** (*Margarornis stellatus*) – Seen in a mixed flock at higher elevation, our first day at Montezuma.

**Pearled Treerunner** (*Margarornis squamiger*) – This beautiful species was actually quite common at Rio Blanco, with several in each mixed flock. Against the epiphytes and mosses its clean plumage and bold spotting were easy to spot, and we had them each day while at Rio Blanco.

**Streaked Tuftedcheek** (*Pseudocolaptes boissonneautii*) – This was a great find, not easy to see and we managed to get good looks in one mixed flock at Rio Blanco. Peg's photos show it puffing out its "cheeks", fun!

**Scaly-throated Foliage-gleaner** (*Anabacerthia variegaticeps*) – Luckily we had time to really view this species to identify it while at Montezuma, not always an easy task in such lush forest.

**Montane Foliage-gleaner** (*Anabacerthia striaticollis*) – Seen sorting through bromeliads at KM 18, and then again our first day at Rio Blanco.

**Lineated Foliage-gleaner** (*Syndactyla subalaris*) – Seen only our first day at KM 18.

**Flammulated Treehunter** (*Thripadectes flammulatus*) – A large and powerful looking member of its clan, we had one or two in three different mixed flocks during our time at Rio Blanco. The deep rust tail and really large bill were diagnostic. Range restricted!

**Plain Xenops** (*Xenops minutus*) – We had very good looks at this species at the field edge above Yotoco Reserve where we waited out a short rain, and were rewarded with a lot of bird activity.

**Streaked Xenops** (*Xenops rutilans*) – Seen on two days in mixed flocks at Rio Blanco.

**Tyrannine Woodcreeper** (*Dendrocincla tyrannina*) – One individual flew in quite close to us at Rio Blanco, as we were viewing a lot of different species. With luck it stayed around and several of the group got good photos.

**Wedge-billed Woodcreeper** (*Glyphorhynchus spirurus*) – Seen on one day while at Montezuma.

**Strong-billed Woodcreeper** (*Xiphocolaptes promeropirhynchus*) – Seen well on two days, one of the easier to identify due to its proportions, but impressive for sure. Don spotted one angling up a tree at Otun Quimbaya and we had a second chance while at Rio Blanco.

**Olive-backed Woodcreeper** (*Xiphorhynchus triangularis*) – Seen on one day while at Montezuma.

**Streak-headed Woodcreeper** (*Lepidocolaptes souleyetii*) – Seen well on the tree down from the balcony off the hotel restaurant outside of Armenia – the first afternoon we arrived there in time for sunset over the Andes with drinks in hand, and birds – nice!

**Montane Woodcreeper** (*Lepidocolaptes lacrymiger*) - Seen by everyone very well at Otun Quimbaya, also at KM 18 and Rio Blanco.

**Sooty-headed Tyrannulet** (*Phyllomyias griseiceps*) – Seen on three of our days, at three lush forest sites: Yotoco, Montezuma, and Rio Bravo.

**Forest Elaenia** (*Myiopagis gaimardii*)– Seen and heard at El Vinculo, in the open area where the Howler Monkey perched above us as we birded.

**Yellow-bellied Elaenia** (*Elaenia flavogaster*) – One of the more common flycatchers in the first part of our trip that highlighted the Cauca Valley and lower elevation montane, with gardens and agricultural areas. Seen on a total of five days of our tour.

**Brown-capped Tyrannulet** (*Ornithion brunnelcapillus*)– Seen only our first day at KM 18.

**White-tailed Tyrannulet** (*Mecocerculus poecilocercus*)– Also seen only our first day, at KM 18.

**White-banded Tyrannulet** (*Mecocerculus stictopterus*) – One individual, seen in a mixed flock in Montezuma.

**White-throated Tyrannulet** (*Mecocerculus leucophrys*)– This very amicable flycatcher came to see us in the dawn light as we waited for high elevation parakeets on the road to Los Nevados National Park. We saw several pair this last day of the journey.

**Torrent Tyrannulet** (*Serpophaga cinerea*)– We made a special effort to see this species along the Otun River, as we returned to town from the reserve, stopping at a local residence with a small pond, we got great looks of four in total.

**Mouse-colored Tyrannulet** (*Phaeomyias murina*)– We saw this drab member of the clan on two days, El Vinculo and again at Montezuma. It was less common than Golden-faced, but we saw individuals in several spots each day that we recorded them.

**Golden-faced Tyrannulet** (*Zimmerius chrysops*)— The most common and widespread of the tyrannulets we encountered, noted on five of the days at five different locations.

**Streak-necked Flycatcher** (*Mionectes striaticollis*)— Seen at Montezuma by some of the group, and then again at Rio Blanco.

**Rufous-breasted Flycatcher** (*Leptopogon rufipectus*)— Seen on our day at Otun Quimbaya, in the mixed flock where we rested ahead of returning to the Visitor Center, alongside locals waiting for the Chiva bus.

**Choco Tyrannulet** (*Zimmerius albigularis*) - This bird seemed to replace the niche of Golden-faced at Montezuma, which sits on the west, or Choco side, of the western cordillera of the Andes. (This species is a split from Golden-breasted Tyrannulet.)

**Ornate Flycatcher** (*Myiobrycon ornatus*)— This tiny flycatcher has a loud, startling call, alerting us to its presence on two days at Montezuma.

**Black-throated Tody-Tyrant** (*Hemitriccus granadensis*)— Seen by some of the group on our first day at Montezuma.

**Rufous-crowned Tody Flycatcher** (*Poecilatriccus ruficeps*)— We had good looks at close range by working hard on this one – it occurred in a mixed flock that hung around while we waited for the Ocellated Tapaculo to show above the lodge at Rio Blanco, past the second antpitta feeding station.

**Common Tody Flycatcher** (*Todirostrum cinereum*)— This bird was indeed common, but a favorite of the group. We noted its presence on seven days of the journey.

**Yellow-margined Flycatcher** (*Tolmomyias assimilis*) – Seen in a mixed flock at Montezuma mid to lower elevation above the lodge.

**Cinnamon Flycatcher** (*Pyrrhomyias cinnamoma*) – From our arrival at Montezuma forward, we saw this species daily, often very close and confiding. In Colombia the wings and highlights are quite dark, a smoky gray to black, striking!

**Handsome Flycatcher** (*Myiophobus pulcher*)— We got good looks, though be it high in the canopy, of this species our first day at Montezuma.

*(LO) Flavescent Flycatcher (Myiophobus flavicans)— Only Peg had a good look at this species as we waited with locals stopped for the Chiva bus, just below the bridge over the Otun River where we saw the Torrent Duck. It sat quietly in thick branches, while attention was on a Black-billed Peppershrike. Two new species at once...*

**Alder Flycatcher** (*Empidonax alnorum*) – We had an *Empidonax* we wrested with on Day two, leaving it as “sp.” And then had another go at it on the Otun Quimbaya road, this time in good light and closer range, where we could study the bill and other features.

**Smoke-colored Pewee** (*Contopus furmigatus*) – Seen perched out in the open in the wide view above the lodge at Rio Blanco.

**Eastern Wood Pewee** (*Contopus virens*)— Seen on Day Four, at the Botanic Gardens of Armenia.

**Black Phoebe** (*Sayornis nigricans*) – The first individuals we saw were collecting bugs around our lights at the hotel next to El El Paraíso National Monument. We saw them there, and then on five other days.

**Vermilion Flycatcher** (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*) – Always a treat, we saw this species frequently, noting a very dark red color. We had them in view from the open-air restaurant we liked so well at the hotel next to *Maria's* hacienda. In total we found them on six days.

**Pied Water Tyrant** (*Fluvicola pica*) – Seen only at a distance on small shrubs that bordered Sonso Lagoon.

**Yellow-bellied Chat Tyrant** (*Ochthoec diadema*) – Rio Blanca in the mixed flock seen as we tried for Ocellated Tapaculo which was calling

**Yellow-bellied Chat Tyrant** (*Ochthoeca diadema*) – Seen at Rio Blanco, its clean eyebrows gleaming in low light as it worked with a mixed flock below us (the Ocellated Tapaculo waiting spot – in a mixed flock that kept us busy..)

**Brown-backed Chat Tyrant** (*Ochthoeca furnicolor*) – high altitude, several individuals seen on our day to Ruiz Volcano

**Rusty-margined Flycatcher** (*Myiozetetes cayenensis*) – This miniature Great Kiskadee look-alike was loud, present and easy to see, particularly on the first part of our tour. Seen on eight days, all the locations of heading east to the central Andes, at Otun and Rio Blanco.

**Great Kiskadee** (*Pitangus sulphuratus*) – This species was quite common in the Cauca Valley, seen on the first six days of the tour. We then saw it on travel days going east to Otun, and returning to the valley and airport at the close of the Los Nevados day, at the small pond we stopped at to find some ducks and water species.

**Lesser Kiskadee** (*Pitangus lictor*) – Seen only at Sonso Lagoon.

**Golden-crowned Flycatcher** (*Myiodynastes chrysocephaus*) – We saw this our first day quite well, at KM 18 as we watched a vocal pair above us. We had another on the day we walked up the road that paralleled the Rio Otun.

**Tropical Kingbird** (*Tyrannus melancholicus*) – Another tropical icon, we saw this species daily except on our forest walks at Rio Blanco. Common in forest edge environments, cities, and agricultural landscapes.

**Fork-tailed Flycatcher** (*Tyrannus savanna*) – Seen on three days of our journey, one the second day near Sonso Lagoon, one near the airport in Armenia, and one on a travel day returning from Montezuma.

**Dusky-capped Flycatcher** (*Myiarchus tuberculifer*) – Seen on two days of the journey, the Botanic Gardens of Armenia, and at Otun Quimbaya.

**(E) Apical Flycatcher** (*Myiarchus apicalis*) – We got good looks at this endemic species with its sharp contrast and white tail tips, at the field edge above the forest at Yotoco, and then again the next day at El Vinculo. Endemic.

**Pale-edged Flycatcher** (*Myiarchus cephalotes*) – Seen on two days of the trip, at Montezuma and again at Rio Blanco.

**Cattle Tyrant** (*Machetornis rixosa*) – Our first was seen just below us as we went birding ahead of the tour at Maria's hacienda of El El Paraíso National Monument, and then we found them on two other days, one on the drive to Montezuma through the valley, and the other a travel day in agricultural areas.

**Green-and-Black Fruiteater** (*Pipreola riefferii*) – We had several occasions to observe this bird, often seen in the company of others of its kind. We found them at KM 18, Montezuma, and Rio Blanco, one day at each location and every time they were quite confiding and not difficult to observe.

**Barred Fruiteater** (*Pipreola arcuata*) – One individual seen well, high in a tree that other fruiteaters frequented. Michelle spotted it and we were able to focus in on its patterned breast and details.

**Orange-breasted Fruiteater** (*Pipreola jucunda*) – one female spotted on the road above Montezuma, thanks to keen-eyed Michelle, our local guide. Range restricted!

**Red-crested Cotinga** (*Ampelion rubrocristatus*) – Peg spotted this species, with its characteristic head shape, as we walked up the hill above the lodge in Rio Blanco. She and Bev really worked at trying to get some color in the early morning light and it was difficult. This was our only chance with this one.

**Andean Cock-of-the-Rock** (*Rupicola peruvianus*) – As we drove at good speed back to the lodge at the end of a Montezuma day, from the vehicle Torrie said, "What's that big red bird?" We got out quickly and found at least three males below us flying between trees. Several got good looks of them in flight, and a few peeks at perched birds. A thrill.

**Olivaceous Piha** (*Snowornis cryptolophus*) – Seen well on one day at Montezuma.

**Red-ruffed Fruitcrow** (*Pyroderus scutatus*) – This species truly is common at Otun Quimbaya where we watched several pairs sun and preen in the morning hours, wow!

**Dusky Piha** (*Lipaugus fuscocinereus*) – From our experience one would think of them as a common bird at Rio Blanco, but our local guide assured us this was seasonal, and we were having an exceptional show. We heard their vocalizations, watched chase scenes, and got great scope views. Large and vocal, they were fun to observe. We saw as many as eight one day. Range restricted!

**Golden-winged Manakin** (*Masius chrysopterus*) – Seen on our middle day at Montezuma, vocalizations led us to find them.

**White-bearded Manakin** (*Manacus manacus*) – Both a male and a female were spotted at Otun Quimbaya.

**Barred Becard** (*Pachyramphus versicolor*) – Seen at KM 18 and then in mixed flocks two days while at Rio Blanco. The female was quite confiding.

**Cinnamon Becard** (*Pachyramphus cinnamomeus*) – One individual seen at the Hacienda of Maria at El Paraíso National Monument.

**Black-and-white Becard** (*Pachyramphus albogriseus*) – Seen in a flock our middle day at Montezuma, just one male.

**Black-billed Peppershrike** (*Cyclarhis nigrirostris*) – Seen quite well at Otun Quimbaya, and then another chance while at Rio Bravo.

**Red-eyed Vireo** (*Vireo olivaceus*) – Seen in a mixed flock at Rio Blanco, just one individual.

**Rufous-naped Greenlet** (*Hylophilus semibrunneus*) – Seen on our first day at KM 18 and again at Yotoco Reserve.

**Black-chested Jay** (*Cyanocorax affinis*) – Heard on our middle day at Montezuma, then seen flying over the road our final morning.

**Inca Jay** (*Cyanocorax yncas*) – A pair came through the planted ash and pines of Otun Quimbaya, such vivid colors for a corvid, wonderful!

**Blue-and-white Swallow** (*Pygochelidon cyanoleuca*) – A very common species, seen on nine days of the journey. Best views were of them perched on the tile roof at Otun Quimbaya.

**Brown-bellied Swallow** (*Orochelidon murina*) – Seen on one day at Rio Blanco, and then again at Los Nevados.

**Southern Rough-winged Swallow** (*Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*) – Seen on three days in agricultural areas of the Cauca Valley at the start of our tour.

**Gray-breasted Martin** (*Progne chalybea*) – Seen on our travel day to Montezuma, at a roadside stop.

**Brown-chested Martin** (*Progne tapera*) – Seen by Sonso Lagoon.

**Barn Swallow** (*Hirundo rustica*) – Several individuals seen flying, by Sonso Lagoon.

**House Wren** (*Troglodytes aedon*) – This was fun for Cliff to see and hear a familiar species. We all had good looks, and enjoyed seeing them so much at home with tropical neighbors. Seen on our first seven days.

**Mountain Wren** (*Troglodytes solstitialis*) – Seen very well, feeding in lush vegetation that adorned trees of montane forests. Present two days at Rio Blanco.

**Grass (Sedge) Wren** (*Cistothorus platensis*) – This bird came right out into the open several times on our path above tree line at Los Nevados. Bolder than they often are back home, and with song differentiation.

**Sooty-headed Wren** (*Pheugopedius spadix*) – Heard upon reaching Montezuma, but not seen until our final morning there. Elusive!

**Whiskered Wren** (*Pheugopedius mystacalis*) – We worked hard on this secretive species that was calling loudly as we started our walk up alongside the river of Otun Quimbaya. It did come out several times for quick views and study.

**Sharpe's Wren** (*Cinnycerthia olivascens*) – Quite common at Rio Blanco, a large and vocal wren.

*(HO) White-breasted Wood Wren (Henicorhina leucostictae) – Heard only, our final morning at Montezuma.*

**Gray-breasted Wood Wren (Henicorhina leucophrys)** – We did amazingly well at seeing this often “heard only” species. We saw it on five days and heard it another three.

**Munchique Wood Wren (E) (Henicorhina negreti)** – A prize and reward for the rugged trip in 4WD vehicles spewing fumes to get to the top of Montezuma. While waiting some high elevation hummers this bird alerted us with vocalizations and came out to inspect us, great!

**Tropical Gnatcatcher (Polioptila plumbea)** – Just one individual, found in the garden of our boutique hotel near Aremania, while we were loading luggage.

*(HO) Andean Solitaire (Myadestes ralloides) – Heard only, on four days: KM 18, two days at Montezuma and one at Rio Blanco.*

**Slaty-backed Nightingale Thrush (Catharus fuscater)**– Seen in the mixed flock we observed from a roadside bank at Rio Blanco, waiting for the Ocellated Tapaculo which did not show, we found several other species including this one.

**Swainson’s Thrush (Catharus ustulatus)**– Seen at several locations, the first good looks at Yotoco. We saw them on four days of the journey, often more than one when spotted.

**Black Solitaire (Entomodestes coracinus)** – Over several sightings in mixed flocks, we got good looks at this species, first heard at Yotoco, but then seen well at Montezuma. We worked the middle elevations above the lodge this day, and actually saw at least four individuals.

**Pale-vented Thrush (Turdus obsoletus)** – A common species in the Cauca Valley and uplands, seen on six days of the journey.

**Black-billed Thrush (Turdus ignobilis)** – Due to our time being spent in the mountains to a great deal, this was perhaps more common than Pale-vented, but required close inspection. Also seen on six days of the journey.

**Great Thrush (Turdus fuscater)** – Nemesis bird of Rio Blanco’s antpitta feeding station, we were first excited to find one feeding in thick forest duff at Montezuma. We then found them daily over the last five days of the tour, including up high at the spot we awaited parrots, causing false-alarms...

**Glossy-black Thrush (Turdus serranus)** – Seen at Montezuma, just on one day (males) and then another day, one female.

**Black-capped Hemispingus (Hemispingus atropileus)** – Seen at Montezuma and Rio Blanco, in mixed flocks.

**Supercilliaried Hemispingus (Hemispingus superciliaris)**– Seen on both days at Rio Blanco, one or two individuals in mixed flocks. Close enough for photographs, nice to see them well.

**Oleaginous Hemispingus (Hemispingus frontalis)** – First encountered at KM 18 our first day, then seen at Otun Quimbaya and at Rio Blanco.

**Black-eared Hemispingus (Hemispingus melanotis)** – Just one pair encountered, in a mixed flock our last morning at Rio Blanco.

**Black-headed Hemispingus (Hemispingus verticalis)** – Seen in mixed flocks both full days at Rio Blanco. Cindy had one at close range at the feeders, one day when she returned to relax a bit ahead of the group.

**Gray-hooded Bush Tanager (Cnemoscopus rubrirostris)**– Seen in mixed flocks both full days at Rio Blanco.

**White-shouldered Tanager (Tachyphonus luctuosus)** – One male seen in mixed flock by the first creek crossing, our middle day at Rio Blanco. Also seen on one day at Montezuma.

**Crimson-backed Tanager (Ramphocelus dimidiatus)**– Seen on three days in and around Cauca Valley – a stunning open country bird we very much enjoyed.

**(E) Flame-rumped Tanager** (*Ramphocelus flammigerus*)– Gustavo used this species to talk about the process of speciation, using the field guide to show us how the color varied and we saw this in the field. We had them at KM 18, and then several in the forest and at feeders at Montezuma. Endemic!

**Lemon-rumped Tanager** (*Ramphocelus icteronotus*)– Seen both days at close range at Montezuma.

**Blue-gray Tanager** (*Thraupis episcopus*) – What would a tropical trip be without almost daily sightings of this lovely species? Common with exceptions of not being seen at KM 18, and Rio Blanco and Los Nevados, elsewhere very evident.

**Palm Tanager** (*Thraupis palmarum*) – Seen on the first six days of our journey, but not at Montezuma or Rio Blanco, more common in the lower Cauca Valley at various elevations.

**Blue-capped Tanager** (*Thraupis cyanocephala*)– Seen on four days, two at Montezuma and two at Rio Blanco.

**Black-and-gold Tanager (E)** (*Bangsia melanochlamys*) – We found these our second day at Montezuma and then again our last morning there, in mixed flocks.

**Gold-ringed Tanager (E)** (*Bangsia aureocincta*) – We first found these on the road just before stopping for lunch the first day at Montezuma. Bob spotted them, and several of us got good looks. We found them again the second day, in the company of Black-and-gold Tanagers.

**Hooded Mountain Tanager** (*Buthraupis montana*) – Just one day at Montezuma, in the same high flock we found the Multi-colored Tanager in.

**Lacrimose Mountain Tanager** (*Anisognathus lacrymosus*)– Fairly common, we saw them in mixed flocks, often with the understory species as readily as with the other tanagers. Best looks were in the small garden area of Otun Quimbaya where we waited to return to the lodge.

**Blue-winged Mountain Tanager** (*Anisognathus somptuosus*) – Quite a common bird at Rio Blanco, a regular at the feeders, wow! Our first looks were on day one at KM 18.

**Grass-green Tanager** (*Chlorornis riefferii*) – Seen one day at Montezuma and two days at Rio Blanco, in mixed flocks.

*(HO) Buff-breasted Mountain Tanager (Dubusia taeniata) – Heard only, pointed out by our local guide at Rio Blanco.*

**Purplish-mantled Tanager** (*Iridosornis porphyrocephala*) – We first encountered this lovely creature with Michelle, our local guide and the owner of Montezuma. Its velvet appearance was stunning! We saw them each day while there. Range restricted!

**Fawn-breasted Tanager** (*Pipraeidea melanonota*) – Seen at KM 18 and El Vinculo on the western Andean cordillera.

**(E) Multi-colored Tanager** (*Chlorochrysa nitidissima*) – We did well with this endemic species, seeing it well our first day at KM 18, then at Montezuma, and again at Otun Quimbaya. Three times a charm! Best views were the very first day at close range, with local guide Luis and Gustavo helping us sort through the flocks.

**Golden-naped Tanager** (*Tangara ruficervix*) – Seen well at KM 18 and again at Yotoco, a stunning bird.

**Black-capped Tanager** (*Tangara heinei*)– Seen on first day in mixed flocks, and then again on two days at Rio Blanco where we had veritable explosions of tanagers!

**Scrub Tanager** (*Tangara vitriolina*) – We got excellent looks at this species, both at the boutique hotel by El Paraíso, and at El Vinculo as we enjoyed birding by the Howler Monkey which kept watch over our antics. Seen on seven days of the journey, at varied elevations. Not seen in the latter part of the trip over to Rio Blanco and Los Nevados.

**Blue-necked Tanager** (*Tangara cyanicollis*)– Seen at Yotoco, the Botanic Garden and on the following day, early morning walk from our hotel before the drive to Montezuma.

**Rufous-throated Tanager** (*Tangara rufigula*) – Only one sighting of this species, in a mixed flock our first day at Montezuma.

**Blue-and-black Tanager** (*Tangara vassorii*) – Seen at Montezuma by Peg only, but then picked up by all at Otun Quimbaya and at Rio Blanco we found them to be one of the most numerous tanagers, often approaching at close range.

**Beryl-spangled Tanager** (*Tangara nigroviridis*) – A favorite of many, causing more than a few gasps as the day-glow pattern came into binocular focus. Seen at KM 18 and then at Rio Blanco.

**Metallic-green Tanager** (*Tangara labradorides*) – Seen well on our first day at KM 18 and then not again until Rio Blanco, but above the coffee break place we found them on a ridgeline, at very close range, feeding on small berries, wonderful!

**Bay-headed Tanager** (*Tangara gyrola*) – Seen at Yotoco and at the Armenia Botanic Gardens.

**Saffron-crowned Tanager** (*Tangara xanthocephala*) – Seen at three locations, best looks at KM 18 and then at Rio Blanco.

**Flame-faced Tanager** (*Tangara parzudakii*) – Seen only on one day at Montezuma, below us on fruiting trees, distant but stunning.

**Golden Tanager** (*Tangara arthus*) – A common but very beautiful tanager we all got good looks at. KM 18, Yotoco and Montezuma for a total of five days on our journey.

**Silver-throated Tanager** (*Tangara icterocephala*) – This lovely species was seen in mixed flocks, in the same location both days at Montezuma, by the first stream crossing.

**Turquoise Dacnis (E)** (*Dacnis hartlaubi*) – A pair was feeding in the same tree as the Howler Monkey as we arrived to Yotoco. Later in the morning we had a pair of Green Honeycreeper causing some confusion, but the dacnis pair was only present early in the day. Our only sighting of the tour, despite going to several other locations they are known from.

**Green Honeycreeper** (*Chlorophanes spiza*) – Seen well on four days of our tour, first at KM 18 on day one, and then at El Vinculo, the Botanic Gardens, and on one day at Montezuma.

**Capped Conebill** (*Conirostrum albifrons*) – This beauty was seen both days above the lodge at Rio Blanco, at first very high in the canopy feeding. We were then rewarded for our patience, by them putting on good shows as they gleaned insects at close range.

**Chestnut-bellied Flowerpiercer (E)** (*Diglossa gloriosissima*) – Who will forget the high elevation search for this species? We went as far as we could before guards from the communication facility stopped us (in a friendly way), waiting at a gully where they often fed. A few had a glimpse at one on the walk down, but finally near a clearing we all got good views. We made a real effort on this one!

**White-sided Flowerpiercer** (*Diglossa albilatera*) – This bird came to us, feeding in the hedgerow under the balcony at Rio Blanco.

**Indigo Flowerpiercer** (*Diglossa indigotica*) – One individual seen in a mixed flock at Montezuma.

**Rusty Flowerpiercer** (*Diglossa sittoides*) – Seen our first day at KM 18 at the coffee house at close range, and then again one day at Rio Blanco.

**Bluish Flowerpiercer** (*Diglossa caerulescens*) – Seen in one mixed flock, one day at Rio Blanco.

**Masked Flowerpiercer** (*Diglossopsis cyanea*) – The most regularly seen and numerous of the flowerpiercers we encountered, seen on six days of the journey, including feeder sightings at KM 18 and Rio Blanco.

**Plush-capped Finch** (*Catamblyrhynchus diadema*) – One bright male seen on our final morning at Rio Blanco in a mixed flock, wow! Very exciting as not a frequently seen bird!

**Dusky Bush-Tanager** (*Chlorospingus semifuscus*) – Noisy and obvious, we ran into little gangs of this species each of our three days at Montezuma. They alerted us to other birds flocking with them. Range restricted!

**Ashy-throated Bush-Tanager** (*Chlorospingus canigularis*) – Seen well and at close range but just one day, our first at KM 18.

**Bananaquit** (*Coereba flaveola*) – Seen on five days of our journey, Cauca Valley especially, a common and familiar tropical species.

**Yellow-faced Grassquit** (*Tiaris olivacea*) – We saw this species on several days, but the best was on our walk by the Armenia airport, where a pair was nest building and coming in with huge wads of grass in their mouths, slipping in to the hedge, then flying out to quickly return with another. Fun to see.

**Buff-throated Saltator** (*Saltator maximus*) – Seen just one day at Montezuma, when it came into the banana feeder.

**Black-winged Saltator** (*Saltator atripennis*) – Seen our first day at KM 18, then on a travel day at walking alongside the river at Otun Quimbaya.

**Grayish Saltator** (*Saltator coerulescens*) – Peg and three others saw this species by a water catchment and small feeder near the Visitor Center at Otun Quimbaya.

**Streaked Saltator** (*Saltator striatipectus*) – Seen on four days early on in the trip, in and around the Cauca River Valley.

**Masked Saltator** (*Saltator cinctus*) – A real prize for the tour, seen at the crest of the hill where we parked the bus above Rio Blanco. It stayed for several minutes, working its way through the canopy in a mixed flock. We were alerted by the call and very happy to find this beautiful and unusual species.

**Rufous-collared Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia capensis*) – A vocal and trusty icon of the tropics, “Rufie” was a constant companion in the mountains, seen on 8 days of the journey. They sang and sang, at Rio Blanco just a foot away in the small shrubs around the balcony.

**Plumbeous Sierra Finch** (*Phrygilus unicolor*) – Several individuals, plain male and striped female, seen on our day at Los Nevados, one posing for photos as we waited the Buffy Helmetcrest.

**Saffron Finch** (*Sicalis flaveola*) – Very common, some of our best looks at the Hacienda of Maria fame. Seen on eight days of our journey.

**Blue-black Grassquit** (*Volatinia jacarina*) – Johnny Jump Up we called him, watching a male in earnest display on our walk by the Armenia airport. We saw them other days, but this was the most memorable.

**Slate-colored Seedeater** (*Sporophila schistacea*) – Seen on three days, in and around the Cauca Valley.

**Variable Seedeater** (*Sporophila corvina*) – Seen two days at Montezuma, in and around the feeder area, putting on a show.

**Black-and-white Seedeater** (*Sporophila luctuosa*) – Seen one day at Montezuma, and then again foraging on insects by the pond we stopped at near Manizales our final day.

**Yellow-bellied Seedeater** (*Sporophila nigricollis*) – Seen commonly on three days, in and around the Cauca Valley.

**Ruddy-breasted Seedeater** (*Sporophila minuta*) – Also seen on three days, but best seen by the airport in Armenia, posing atop the fencerow.

**Large-billed Seed-Finch** (*Oryzoborus crassirostris*) – One individual, one making a nest (including sitting in it, facing us and showing off its large grosbeak-like bill) on the early morning walk from our boutique hotel near Armenia.

**Plain-colored Seedeater** (*Catamaenia inornata*) – Abundant at Los Nevados, in large groups sunning themselves atop shrubs.

**Chestnut-capped Brush Finch** (*Arremon brunneinucha*) – A richly colored species that certainly caught our eye, two days at Montezuma.

**(HO) Tanager Finch** (*Oreothraupis arremonops*) – *Heard only, in the small ravine above where the group stopped for picnic lunch, mid-elevation at Montezuma, very loud and distinctive chatter – louder than the Dusky Bush Tanagers in the same area.*

**Pale-naped Brush-Finch** (*Atlapetes pallidinucha*) – One individual, perched on a small shrub gleaming in the sun, up on the ridge above us as we scanned for parakeets at Los Nevados.

**Rufous-naped (Yellow-breasted) Brush Finch** (*Atlapetes latinuchus*) – Good looks our first day at KM 18, then not again.

**Slaty Brush Finch** (*Atlapetes schistaceus*) – Seen on two of our days at Rio Blanco.

**White-naped Brush Finch** (*Atlapetes albinucha*) – Seen at Rio Blanco, one coming in to the feeders by the lodge.

**Stripe-headed Brush Finch** (*Arremon torquatus*) – Rio Blanco only, one seen well at the feeder and another in a mixed flock.

**Summer Tanager** (*Piranga rubra*) – Always nice to see a familiar face amid so many new species, this gorgeous bird can hold its own even in such dazzling company. Seen on seven days of the journey.

**Red-hooded Tanager** (*Piranga rubriceps*) – Persistent Peg spotted this species, as our local guide heard the call. Almost everyone was down the hill for coffee break, but rallied to return, and we were rewarded – a flock of a half dozen or so was feeding on small fruits in the high tree canopy. Related to Summer Tanager, it resembles the color pattern of Western Tanager back home. A nice last bird of our time at Rio Blanco!

**Crested Ant Tanager (E)** (*Habia cristata*) – We were very happy to see this distinctive species with its cardinal-like crest in a mixed flock on several days while at Montezuma.

**Golden-winged Warbler** (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) – One individual in one of the first flocks we worked on while at Montezuma, overshadowed by the first sighting of Crested Ant Tanager, and quickly moving, only a few of the group got to see this one.

**Tropical Parula** (*Setophaga pitiayumi*) – One of the more common and regularly sighted warbler, but individuals only, here and there. Seen on five days of the tour.

**Yellow Warbler** (*Setophaga petechia*) – first encountered at our hotel next to the Hacienda of Maria fame at El El Paraíso National Monument. Seen in that vicinity and in Armenia on three days.

**Blackburnian Warbler** (*Setophaga fusca*) – By far the most common warbler, we saw them often including a few bright males. Seen on nine days of the journey.

*(LO) Cerulean Warbler* (*Setophaga cerulea*) – Only Peg spied this winter-plumaged individual, feeding in a mixed flock where a lot was going on.

**American Redstart** (*Setophaga ruticilla*) – One individual seen just after we viewed the guans on our walk at El Vinculo.

**Black-and-white Warbler** (*Mniotilta varia*) – Individuals were often encountered, seen on nine days of the journey, one or two per day, always in mixed flocks. Gustavo liked Peg's comments about seeing the "dalmation underwear" as an i.d. clincher.

**Olive-crowned Yellowthroat** (*Geothlypis semiflava*) – Seen on a travel day, day six, by several of the group.

**Canada Warbler** (*Cardellina canadensis*) – Seen in mixed flocks in the higher, lush forest areas of KM 18 and Rio Blanco, always as individuals within a larger flock.

**Slate-throated Whitestart (Redstart)** (*Myioborus miniatus*) – Seen on six days of the tour, at one point a pair at very close range that we moved off from to allow them access to a roadside nest.

**Golden-fronted Whitestart** (*Myioborus ornatus*) – What a pretty, and frequently vocal species. Seen at Montezuma and then again on two days at Rio Blanco.

**Black-crested Warbler** (*Basileuterus nigrocristatus*) – Seen in mixed flocks, two days while walking at Rio Blanco.

**Russet-crowned Warbler** (*Basileuterus coronatus*) – We saw this bird and its mid-crown stripe of color our first day at KM 18, which allowed us to recognize it when encountered again on two days at Rio Blanco.

**Three-striped Warbler** (*Basileuterus tristriatus*) – Individuals and pairs seen on three days, Yocoto, Montezuma, and Rio Blanco.

**Chestnut-headed Oropendola** (*Psarocolius wagleri*) – Seen on two of the days we were at Montezuma.

**Northern Mountain Cacique** (*Cacicus leucoramphus*) – Seen on our last morning at Rio Blanco, two individuals.

**Orchard Oriole** (*Icterus spurius*) – One individual posing well on shrubs in the foreground of Sonso Lagoon.

**Yellow Oriole** (*Icterus nigrogularis*) – One individual alongside the Orchard Oriole at Sonso Lagoon.

**Shiny Cowbird** (*Molothrus bonariensis*) – Seen on two days in agricultural areas.

**Yellow-bellied Siskin** (*Carduelis xanthogastra*) – First seen by our boutique hotel near Armenia, and then encountered with scope views atop planted pines of Otun Quimbaya, then in forest areas of

**Thick-billed Euphonia** (*Euphonia lanirostris*) – A widespread tropical species, nice to see here on seven days of the journey, a regular at the Montezuma feeders.

**Orange-bellied Euphonia** (*Euphonia xanthogaster*) – Seen on our middle day at Montezuma, in a mixed flock.

**Blue-naped Chlorophonia** (*Chlorophonia cyanea*) – Seen only on our first day at KM 18.

**Chestnut-breasted Chlorophonia** (*Chlorophonia pyrrhophrys*) – Seen well, on our first day at KM 18, what a beauty! Range restricted!

**Yellow-collared Chlorophonia** (*Chlorophonia flavirostris*) – We all got good looks at this lovely species but it had to vie with the Bat Falcon perched as if Lord of the world for our attentions at Montezuma. Social and feeding on small berries, for a bright bird it remained remarkably camouflaged.

**(I) Tricolored Munia** – (*Lonchura malacca*) – We saw a bright male in the agricultural areas near the Armenia airport. Introduced!

#### **Mammals:**

**Howler Monkey** – We had great looks at a young male resting in an open-growing Cecropia tree at Yotoco Reserve before he ventured off to follow his troop, which we could hear further back in the forest. We also heard them at Otun Quimbaya.

**Agouti** – Seen in the large bamboo thickets along the river our first day at the Cali Zoo, a wild individual.

**Red Squirrel** – Seen at several locations, several had very dark tail tips.

**Gray Fox** – Seen in the creek next to our lovely hotel in Armenia and near the lodge at Rio Blanco, obviously very comfortable there!