

Panama: Birding, Nature & History | Species List

January 20 - 28, 2020 | Compiled by James P. Smith



With guide James P. Smith and participants Ron, Marlene, Jerry, Hallie, Kathe, Larry, Judy, Rick, Vivienne, Anne, Patrick and Kathy

RE= Regional endemic

(E)= Endemic

(HO)= Distinctive enough to be counted as heard only

(LO)= Leader only

Summary:

This journey gave us a fabulous introduction to Panama. We began in the bird-rich gardens of our airport hotel, traversing by the coastal flats of Old Panama City to then spend five nights in the unique environs of the world-famous Canopy Tower. Our local guides for the next week were two of Panama's best, Alex and Tino, who worked tirelessly to find some of Panama's most difficult forest-dwelling species. Early in the trip we covered the humid forested lowlands in the immediate vicinity of the Panama Canal before transferring to the cooler, dryer altitudes of Canopy Lodge nestled in the beautiful foothills just above the small town of El Valle de Anton. We enjoyed largely favorable weather throughout though did get caught in a couple of heavy showers as the remnants of the rainy season dragged well into late January. Trip highlights were far too many to list here, but some moments certainly stood out, especially when it came to birds of prey and antbirds! A bevy of rare raptors included Gray-headed Kite, Barred Hawk, Black and Ornate Hawk-eagles, Slaty-backed and Collared Forest-Falcons and Aplomado Falcon. Deep in the forest understory we found 'antbirds' getting to grips with some rare, skulkers including Moustached Antwren, Ocellated Antbird and Streak-chested Antpitta. Towards the end of the tour, the highly successful stake-out for the White-tipped Sicklebill at Cerro Gaital was unforgettable as was Tino's skill and patience as he whistled in an incredibly cute Tody Motmot at Canopy Adventure. The impressive list that follows is testament to the effort put in by the group as a whole and teamwork with our skilled local leadership.

BIRDS (265 species recorded):

TINAMOUS: Tinamidae (1)

Great Tinamou *Tinamus major*— One of the joys of sleeping at the Canopy Tower was waking up every morning to the sounds of calling Great Tinamous from the surrounding forest. Alex then treated us to closeup views of one by the Pipeline Road on Jan 22nd, and, as if that wasn't enough, then produced spotlight views of two individuals on the night safari on Semaphore Hill – not too shabby!

DUCKS, GEESE, AND SWANS: Anatidae (2)

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna autumnalis*— Seen only on the Chagres River / Gatun Lake

cruise on Jan 23rd but some fairly large flocks totaling over 100 birds.

Blue-winged Teal *Spatula discors*— One very lonely looking female resting right in the middle on the Panama Canal, and a male at rest with Black-bellied Whistling Ducks both on the Chagres River / Gatun Lake cruise on Jan 23rd.

GUANS AND CURASSOWS: Cracidae (1)

Gray-headed Chachalaca *Ortalis cinereiceps*— Scarce in the early part of the trip and best seen on and around the feeders at Canopy Lodge where it was present in small numbers every day.

FRIGATEBIRDS: Fregatidae (1)

Magnificent Frigatebird *Fregata magnificens*— A nice sequence of sightings beginning with several over Old Panama on the 21st, and at least six during the Chagres River / Gatun Lake cruise on Jan 23rd. Far less expected was a single passing high over the Las Minas road near Canopy Lodge as it crossed the narrow land mass from the Caribbean Ocean to the Pacific Ocean!

CORMORANTS: Phalacrocoracidae (1)

Neotropic Cormorant *Phalacrocorax brasilianus*— Small numbers present at Old Panama and Ammo Dump ponds on the 21st and on the Chagres River / Gatun Lake cruise on Jan 23rd.

ANHINGAS: Anhingidae (1)

Anhinga *Anhinga anhinga*— Not common but we did have good views on the Chagres River / Gatun Lake cruise and on the ponds at Old Gamboa road on Jan 23rd.

PELICANS: Pelicanidae (1)

Brown Pelican *Pelecanus occidentalis*— Plentiful around the tidal flats at Old Panama on the 21st and on the Chagres River / Gatun Lake cruise on Jan 23rd.

HERONS AND EGRETS: Ardeidae (12)

Rufescent Tiger-Heron *Tigrisoma lineatum*— The Ammo Dump ponds proved to be key for this species with fabulous views of one trying to swallow a disproportionately large fish on the 21st, that as well as spotting a nest pair at the same place. The next day, at the same place, we also had close views of a 'tiger-striped' juvenile, so radically different to the adults that thoughts of a bittern sprang to mind until Alex straightened out the identification!

Great Blue Heron *Ardea herodias*— A familiar, but somewhat uncommon wintering species, first spotted by Larry on the flats at Old Panama on the 21st. Others were found at the Ammo Dump ponds on the 21st and on the Chagres River / Gatun Lake cruise on Jan 23rd.

Cocoi Heron *Ardea cocoi*— Only seen on the Chagres River / Gatun Lake cruise on Jan 23rd though we did have exceptional views of this beautiful large heron at several points in the trip.

Great Egret *Ardea alba*— Most abundant at Old Panama and on the Chagres River / Gatun Lake cruise. Seen on four days of the tour.

Snowy Egret *Egretta thula*— Less common than Great Egret though still present in numbers at Old Panama and on the Chagres River / Gatun Lake cruise.

Little Blue Heron *Egretta caerulea*— Present in small numbers at Old Panama on the 21st and on the Chagres River / Gatun Lake on the 23rd but noted only two days of the tour.

Tricolored Heron *Egretta tricolor*— Three individuals seen on the Chagres River / Gatun Lake cruise on Jan 23rd were only sightings for the whole tour.

Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*— Seen only on the Chagres River / Gatun Lake cruise in the Canopy Tower area but rather more frequent in the vicinity of Canopy Lodge where Tino nick-named them “Forest Egrets”!

Green Heron *Butorides virescens*— Several individuals seen on the Chagres River cruise on Jan 23rd and a single, reliably present on the small pond at Canopy Lodge.

Striated Heron *Butorides striatus*— Not always easy to separate from the very closely related Green Heron, we had great comparisons between the two species on the Chagres River / Gatun Lake cruise and on the Old Gamboa Road on the 23rd.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron *Nyctanassa violacea*— Just one for the tour, a single scoped on the tidal flats at Old Panama on Jan 21st.

Boat-billed Heron *Cochlearius cochlearius*— Wonderful scope views of a small day-time roost of about five birds on the Old Gamboa Road on Jan 23rd.

IBIS AND SPOONBILLS: Threskiornithidae (1)

White Ibis *Eudocimus albus*— Fairly plentiful on the tidal flats at Old Panama on Jan 21st and a couple of mottled, molting immatures in flight over the Chagres River / Gatun Lake on Jan 23rd.

NEW WORLD VULTURES: Cathartidae (3)

Black Vulture *Coragyps atratus*— Daily and often abundant throughout the tour with great ‘kettles’ of both common vultures along the Pan American Highway on travel days.

Turkey Vulture *Cathartes aura*— Daily and common throughout the tour, often giving fantastic views from the top of the Canopy Tower with birds cruising by at eye level.

Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture *Cathartes burrovianus*— One was foraging alongside the Panama Canal near the Ammo Dump ponds on Jan 21st. Alex got pretty excited about this uncommon Turkey Vulture look-alike and made sure that we all connected with a sighting.

OSPREY: Pandionidae (1)

Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*— Only seen in the Panama Canal area with a single on the 21st and about three on the Chagres River / Gatun Lake cruise on Jan 23rd.

HAWKS, EAGLES AND KITES: Accipitridae (12)

Gray-headed Kite *Leptodon cayanensis*— Impeccable timing as a pair of this uncommon lowland raptor flew right over our boat during the Chagres River / Gatun Lake cruise on Jan 23rd.

Snail Kite *Rostrhamus sociabilis*— A super concentration of 20 – 25 offered exceptional views around the ‘monkey islands’ on the Chagres River / Gatun Lake cruise on Jan 23rd.

Double-toothed Kite *Harpagus bidentatus*— Alex’s exceptional bird finding skills were on full display on the very first afternoon by finding a perched pair from the ‘birdmobile’ at the base of Semaphore Hill on Jan 21st. Later in the tour, we came across a pair soaring and displaying over the woodland at Cerro Gaital near Canopy Lodge.

Common Black Hawk *Buteogallus anthracinus*— One, possibly two immatures were seen at fairly close range as we walked the mangrove fringe during our morning at Old Panama on Jan 21st. Kathe spotted another from the vehicle, this time an adult, as we transferred along the Pan American Highway from Canopy Lodge to Canopy Tower.

Barred Hawk *Morphnarchus princeps*— Good, prolonged views of this rare resident as it soared over Cerro Gaital near Canopy Lodge on Jan 27th. Tino had actually heard it calling before he spotted it and identified it (without hesitation) based on its call notes!

Roadside Hawk *Rupornis magnirostris*— Good scope views of one resting just off the Pipeline Road on Jan 22nd and another seen from the vehicle in a small park in El Valle on the 27th.

Gray-lined Hawk *Buteo nitidus*— An uncommon lowland raptor, seen all-too-briefly directly over the boat on the Chagres River / Gatun Lake cruise on Jan 23rd.

Broad-winged Hawk *Buteo platypterus*— The best views were of a single soaring bird over woodland at La Mesa near Canopy Lodge on the 26th with others by the Chagres River on Jan 23rd, and Cerro Cariguana on the 26th.

Short-tailed Hawk *Buteo brachyurus*— Rather scarce during our tour with two singles (one light, one dark morph) seen along the Pan American highway as we transferred to the Canopy Lodge. We had much better views as a group as we watched a light morph hovering and quartering below the escarpment of Cerro Cariguana on the 26th.

Zone-tailed Hawk *Buteo albicaudatus*— Good views of this uncommon *buteo* observed ‘sparring’ with Turkey Vultures over the ponds at Old Gamboa Road on the 23rd.

Black Hawk-Eagle *Spizaetus tyrannus*— Remarkable! One passed right in front of our vehicle as we crossed the Centennial Bridge (spanning the Panama Canal) as we embarked on the long drive to Canopy Lodge. Luckily for us, Alex was still on board at that point allowing for an immediate and certain identification!

Ornate Hawk-Eagle *Spizaetus ornatus*— Alex heard, saw, and then pointed out a high flying, displaying adult which went on to display for some time over the Pipeline Road on Jan 24th.

RAILS, CRAKES AND COOTS: Rallidae (4)

White-throated Crake *Laterallus albigularis*— (HO) A rather vocal little crake heard multiple times at the Ammo Dump ponds on the 22nd, and once on the Chagres River cruise on Jan 23rd. Alas, we never came close to an actual sighting.

Gray-cowled Wood-Rail *Aramides cajaneus*— A very good trip for seeing this large but furtive *rallid*. After single at the Old Gamboa Road on the 23rd we encountered wood-rails daily at Canopy Lodge. They were often along the river, but also visited the feeders and gardens at times.

Purple Gallinule *Porphyrio martinica*— This handsome species was seen on four days of the tour with the most being of on the Chagres River / Gatun Lake cruise on Jan 23rd, when over 20 individuals were noted but also regularly at the Ammon Dump ponds.

Common Gallinule *Gallinula galeata*— Far less ‘common’ in fact than its purple cousin and only found on the on the Chagres River / Gatun Lake cruise on Jan 23rd.

LIMPKIN: Aramidae (1)

Limpkin *Aramus guarauna*— Excellent views of about four around the ‘monkey islands’ on the Chagres River / Gatun Lake cruise on Jan 23rd

PLOVERS AND LAPWINGS: Charadriidae (2)

Southern Lapwing *Vanellus chilensis*— Good numbers, some of them close to our observation point overlooking the expansive mudflats at Old Panama on Jan 21st.

Black-bellied Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*— About 25, some of them close to shore at the expansive mudflats at Old Panama on Jan 21st.

JACANAS: Jacanidae (1)

Wattled Jacana *Jacana jacana*— Found on four days of the trip and plentiful at the Ammo Dump ponds where had a fine opportunity to observe adults and their white-breasted young at varying ages. Abundant on the Chagres River / Gatun Lake cruise on Jan 23rd with over 40 counted.

SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES: Scolopacidae (4)

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*— Careful sorting through the multitudes of gulls and shorebirds produced half-a-dozen or so whimbrel, a couple of them close to the footpath by the mudflats at Old Panama on Jan 21st.

Short-billed Dowitcher *Limnodromus griseus*— Large numbers, perhaps upwards of 600 birds roosting on the expansive mudflats at Old Panama on Jan 21st.

Spotted Sandpiper *Actitis macularius*— About 5 scattered around the mudflats at Old Panama on Jan 21st and at least two seen on from the boat on Chagres River on Jan 23rd, all of them in 'spotless' non-breeding plumage.

Willet *Tringa semipalmata*— A concentration of about 60 roosting on the mudflats at Old Panama on Jan 21st.

GULLS AND TERNS: Laridae (4)

Laughing Gull *Leucophaeus atricilla*— Fairly abundant on roosting on the mudflats at Old Panama on Jan 21st some of the adults already showing signs of being fully hooded and in breeding condition.

Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus*— An adult showing characteristics of the British/NW European form (*L.f. graellsii*) resting with roosting Laughing Gulls at Old Panama on Jan 21st. This was the only true vagrant that we discovered on the tour with very few documented records for Panama. However most of the records that do exist come from Old Panama and Panama City and given its increase in the Nearctic, records from Panama look set to increase in future.

Royal Tern *Thalasseus maximus*— The larger size and bright orange bill was clearly evident on two roosting birds as we picked them out from thousands of Sandwich Terns on the mudflats at Old Panama on Jan 21st.

Sandwich Tern *Thalasseus sandvichensis*— A minimum of 2,500 on roosting with Laughing Gulls on the mudflats at Old Panama on Jan 21st, an impressive spectacle to say the least.

PIGEONS AND DOVES: Columbidae (7)

Rock Pigeon *Columba livia*— Puzzlingly scarce and only seen (or at least noticed) on just the one day during the transfer from Canopy Tower to Canopy Lodge.

Pale-vented Pigeon *Patagioenas cayennensis*— Fairly plentiful at numerous lowland sites ranging from the Riande Airport Hotel to Canopy Tower and the Old Gamboa Road.

Scaled Pigeon *Patagioenas speciosa*— Good scope views of this large, heavy pigeon from the upper deck of the Canopy Tower on Jan 25th.

Short-billed Pigeon *Patagioenas nigrirostris*— (HO) Just the one heard and none seen, on the Old Gamboa Road on Jan 23rd.

Ruddy Ground-Dove *Columbina talpacoti*— A common Central American species seen on the grounds of the Riande Airport Hotel and the Gamboa Resort as well as Las Minas.

White-tipped Dove *Leptotila verreauxi*— Small numbers seen on six days of the tour, most easily in the grounds of Canopy Lodge.

Gray-chested Dove *Leptotila cassinii*— (LO) two on the trail leading to the compost pile at Canopy Lodge on the 28th.

CUCKOOS AND ANIS: Cuculidae (4)

Greater Ani *Crotophaga major*— Lovely views of this large, pale-eyed ani on the Chagres River cruise on Jan 23rd

Smooth-billed Ani *Crotophaga ani*— Small gatherings seen on five days of the tour at sites such as the Ammo Dump ponds and El Valle.

Squirrel Cuckoo *Piaya cayana*— A good tour for this species with 2 – 6 found on five days of the tour.

Pheasant Cuckoo *Dromococcyx phasianellus*— (HO) One of the more frustrating experiences of the tour as we listened to one calling for a good 15 – 20 minutes near the Discovery Tower on Jan 24th. Try as we might, we couldn't get a single view of this large, intricately patterned cuckoo.

OWLS: Strigidae (4)

Tropical Screech-Owl *Megascops choliba*— (HO) One heard and sound recorded during the pre-dawn hours outside Kathy's room at Canopy Lodge on Jan 26th. Tino later confirmed the identification from the recordings. Other screech-owl like calls emanating from Canopy Lodge ultimately proved to be amphibians when followed to source.

Mottled Owl *Ciccaba virgata*— Lovely scope views of a beautifully camouflaged pair roosting in dense vines at Canopy Adventure on Jan 27th.

Black-and-white Owl *Ciccaba nigrolineata*— (HO) One called for a solid ten minutes on Semaphore Hill during our night safari on Jan 24th but, alas, it couldn't be coaxed into view.

Spectacled Owl *Pulsatrix perspicillata*— A great trip for this rather uncommon owl. We saw three individuals and we saw them all pretty well; one scoped on the Old Gamboa Road on the 23rd, one spotlighted by Alex on the night safari on the 24th and one roosting in a private garden in the in El Valle on Jan 26th.

SWIFTS: Apodidae (3)

Short-tailed Swift *Chaetura brachyuran*— Small numbers of swifts feeding low over the forests in the canal zone area usually proved to be this species. Seen on three days of the tour in the early part of the tour.

Band-rumped Swift *Chaetura spinicaudus*— As difficult as it can be to identify fast moving swifts in flight, this species was confidently claimed at Summit National Park on the 22nd, and on the Chagres River cruise and the Old Gamboa Road on Jan 23rd.

Lesser Swallow-tailed Swift *Panyptila cayennensis*— Nice views of a single flying low over the canopy from the Discovery Tower on Jan 24th.

HUMMINGBIRDS: Trochilidae (13)

White-necked Jacobin *Florisuga mellivora*— Not only a favorite but also the most abundant hummingbird of the trip found in numbers at the Canopy Tower and the feeder spectacle the Rainforest Discover Center.

White-tipped Sicklebill *Eutoxeres aquila*— Rare! What a moment it was when this stunner flew in and settled on a flowering Heliconia by the trail at Cerro Gaital that Tino knew it to frequent – just wow!

Long-billed Hermit *Phaethornis longirostris*— We came across these on five days in the first half of the trip, often at Canopy Tower but also a small concentration of about five around the feeders at the Rainforest Discovery Center.

Green Hermit *Phaethornis guy*— More closely associated with highlands than its Long-billed cousin, we found a pair at Cerro Gaital on the 27th and another at Canopy Lodge on 28th.

Stripe-throated Hermit *Phaethornis strigularis*— Like a feathery cinnamon missile, it was all we could do get our binoculars on this little beast with just three widely scattered singles seen on the Pipeline Road on the 22nd, Rainforest Discovery Center on the 24th and Cerro Gaital on the 27th.

Green Thorntail *Discosura conversii*— Something of a local rarity, this beautiful hummer showed up at Canopy Lodge was seen two days in succession and was much appreciated by Tino and the group alike.

Garden Emerald *Chlorostilbon assimilis*— Fantastic views of a perched male above the road at Cerro Cariguana on the 26th

White-vented Plumeleteer *Chalybura buffonii*— A regular feature at the feeders at Canopy Tower and Canopy Lodge and noted on six days of the tour.

Crowned Woodnymph *Thalurania colombica*— Seemingly at home in the humid lowlands and higher elevations alike we came across this species at the Rainforest Discovery Center, Las Minas and Cerro Gaital.

Blue-chested Hummingbird *Amazilia amabilis*— The Rainforest Discovery Center provided the best views of this species on Jan 24th, but it was also seen at Summit National Park, Old Gamboa Road and Canopy Lodge.

Snowy-bellied Hummingbird *Amazilia edward*— One of the star species at Canopy Lodge and a regular visitor to the feeders of the main veranda there on the last four days of the tour.

Rufous-tailed Hummingbird *Amazilia tzacatl*— Perhaps the most widespread hummer of the tour with small numbers found on seven days of the trip at sites ranging from the Riande Airport Hotel to the higher elevations at Canopy Lodge and Las Minas.

Violet-bellied Hummingbird *Damophila julie*— Pipeline Road and the Rainforest Discovery Center proved to be the best locations for this species with close views of up to nine at the latter site. Closely associated with humid, broadleaf lowland forests, we did not see this species once we'd left Canopy Tower and the canal zone.

TROGONS: Trogonidae (6)

Slaty-tailed Trogon *Trogon massena*— The most frequently encountered trogon being heard or seen at Summit National Park, Pipeline Road, Gamboa Resort and Las Minas.

Black-tailed Trogon *Trogon melanurus*— Wonderful views of one during a mesmerizing afternoon which also included breathtaking views of Slaty-tailed and Gartered Trogons at Gamboa Resort on Jan 24th, and before that, a single also close to a Slaty-tailed Trogon in Summit National Park on the 22nd.

White-tailed Trogon *Trogon chionurus*— Super early morning looks at a single from the parking lot of the Rainforest Discovery Center on Jan 24th. Another addition to what would prove to be an exceptionally good trip for seeing trogons.

Gartered Trogon *Trogon caligatus*— A small, compact trogon with beautiful 'soft' barring on the wing coverts and heavy barring on the underside of the tail, features that were there for all to see during some exceptional viewing in Summit National Park and the Gamboa Resort.

Black-throated Trogon *Trogon rufus*— The least common of the trogons found in the canal zone area but we did very well with excellent views on the Pipeline Road on the 22nd and close to the Rainforest Discovery Center on the 24th.

Orange-bellied Trogon *Trogon aurantiventris*— It was really Tino's combination of skill, patience and sheer dogmatic determination that provided the most astonishing views of a pair of this species on the Las Minas Road on Jan 26th. Without his efforts, this species would have almost certainly have gone down as 'heard-only' observation.

MOTMOTS: Momotidae (5)

Tody Motmot *Hylomanes momotula*— Tino worked incredibly hard to provide our group with a fine sighting of this rare, localized resident, skillfully whistling one into view at Canopy Adventure on Jan 27th. Much smaller than other motmots, it perches low in the understory.

Lesson's Motmot *Momotus lessonii*— (HO) Two were calling back-and-forth just upslope from the guest rooms at Canopy Lodge on the final morning of the tour.

Whooping Motmot *Momotus subrufescens*— Two observations along the Pipeline Road with a single on the 22nd and 2 on there on the 24th.

Rufous Motmot *Baryphthengus martii*— Most easily seen at Canopy Lodge around the guest rooms and the feeders with 1 – 4 seen there on three days of the trip.

Broad-billed Motmot *Electron platyrhynchum*— Seen or heard on four days of the tour after the first on the Old Gamboa Road on the 23rd with the most in the vicinity of the Rain Forest Discovery Center.

KINGFISHERS: Alcedinidae (3)

Ringed Kingfisher *Megaceryle torquata*— One attempted to excavate a nest hole in an embankment on the Pipeline Road on the 22nd, and great views of at least two on the Chagres River / Gatun Lake cruise on Jan 23rd.

Amazon Kingfisher *Chloroceryle amazona*— Great scope views of one perched above the ponds along the Old Gamboa Road during an incredibly busy end to a mesmerizing day.

Green Kingfisher *Chloroceryle americana*— Found only at Canopy Lodge, though we did have very good views during our time there with 1 – 3 birds seen frequenting the river and ponds on four days in succession.

PUFFBIRDS: Bucconidae (4)

White-necked Puffbird *Notharchus hyperrhynchus*— A striking stocky looking species and the largest puffbird in the region. We were treated to stellar views of a pair on roadside wires along the Old Gamboa Road on Jan 23rd.

Black-breasted Puffbird *Notharchus pectoralis*— None of the puffbirds were especially common but this one was the most widespread with sightings on the Pipeline Road, Summit National Park and Semaphore Hill.

Pied Puffbird *Notharchus tectus*— A great spot by Alex as he noticed one teed up on a snag above the canopy during a very birdy period on the Pipeline Road on Jan 22nd.

White-whiskered Puffbird *Malacoptila panamensis*— Close views of an exceptionally cooperative bird along Pipeline Road from some consolation as we returned from an unsuccessful ground-cuckoo chase on Jan 24th.

JACAMARS: Galbulidae (1)

Great Jacamar *Jacameroops aureus*— Alex showed off his consummate field ability as he whistled in a Great Jacamar after he'd heard calling deep in the forest. Something of a local rarity and not to be expected in the canal zone, we had one of those sublime birding moments as this wonderful species perched right above us on the Pipeline Road and started calling. We'd barely had the chance to enjoy it when Alex found a major distraction in the form of a Cinnamon Woodpecker excavating a nest hole close by – the avian riches of the Pipeline Road!

NEW WORLD BARBETS: Capitonidae (1)

Spot-crowned Barbet *Capito maculicoronatus*— Absolutely fabulous views of yet another uncommon and highly attractive resident with a pair right by the roadside at La Mesa near Canopy Lodge on the 26th.

TOUCANS: Ramphastidae (4)

Northern Emerald-Toucanet *Aulacorhynchus prasinus*— A beautiful, blue-throated toucanet seen reasonably well on the Las Minas Road on the 26th and above the restrooms Canopy Adventure on Jan 27th.

Collared Aracari *Pteroglossus torquatus*— (LO) One appeared in the woodland above the small pond at La Mesa on Jan 26th during a hectic roadside session with Tino. Somewhat overlooked amid all the activity but surprisingly proved to be the only one of the tour.

Yellow-throated Toucan *Ramphastos ambiguus*— Plentiful throughout the first half of the tour but far less widespread overall than Keel-billed Toucan though we did enjoy scope views on four days on the trip.

Keel-billed Toucan *Ramphastos sulfuratus*— One of the few species that we saw on every single day of the tour, resonant frog-like croaking calls being heard throughout our time at Canopy Tower and Canopy Lodge.

WOODPECKERS: Picidae (5)

Black-cheeked Woodpecker *Melanerpes pucherani*— Good views of one excavating a cavity on Semaphore Hill on our final morning at Canopy Tower.

Red-crowned Woodpecker *Melanerpes rubricapillus*— The most common of the woodpeckers encountered in a wide range of habitats and locations and recorded on every day of the tour.

Cinnamon Woodpecker *Celeus loricatus*— A good tour for this distinctive, richly colored woodpecker seen on three days of the tour often giving superb views on the Pipeline Road and once on Semaphore Hill.

Lineated Woodpecker *Dryocopus lineatus*— Beautiful scope views of a couple in Summit National Park on Jan 22nd.

Crimson-crested Woodpecker *Campephilus melanoleucos*— (HO) Sadly not seen but heard twice, once on the Pipeline Road on the 22nd and another on Old Gamboa Road on the 23rd.

FALCONS AND CARACARAS: Falconidae (7)

Slaty-backed Forest-Falcon *Micrastur mirandollei*— Unquestionably one of the highlights of the whole journey. We watched an immature ‘crash’ through the bamboo thickets, bolt across the track and then spend the next fifteen minutes berating us from the mid-story along the Old Gamboa Road. A rare, poorly known species, even Alex got excited about this one as we lined up two scopes for a treat not to be missed.

Collared Forest-Falcon *Micrastur semitorquatus*— One called on-and-off for much of the afternoon on the Old Gamboa Road on the 23rd until Alex so very skillfully called it in for views when it was equally skillfully spotted by Kathe in the crown of a Cecropia. This particular individual was a white morph and rounded off a sensational afternoon of birding on the Old Gamboa Road.

Crested Caracara *Caracara cheriway*— Just the one seen from the ‘birdmobile’ close to the Panama Canal on the 22nd.

Yellow-headed Caracara *Milvago chimachima*— Fairly common during the first five days of the tour with chances encounters of 1 – 3 birds throughout the canal zone.

Aplomado Falcon *Falco femoralis*— A great spot by Kathe as she picked up an odd-looking raptor hugging the escarpment below Cerro Cariguana on the 26th. Tino identified it immediately and, although initially difficult to see against the hillside, it eventually glided into view above the horizon before disappearing off towards the Pacific. A very rare bird in Panama with a patchy distribution and Tino’s first ever in the El Valle area after 30+ years of birding and guiding there – Wow!

Bat Falcon *Falco ruficularis*— We had a stellar evening for this diminutive little falcon on Jan 23rd, when we came across three on the Old Gamboa one of which teed-up and perched for prolonged views in both scopes.

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*— One very bedraggled migrant perched by the Panama Canal as we chugged through torrential rain on the Chagres River trip on Jan 23rd.

PARROTS: Psittacidae (5)

Orange-chinned Parakeet *Brotogeris jugularis*— Found on the first four days of the tour at lowlands sites close to the Panama Canal.

Brown-hooded Parrot *Pionopsitta haematotis*— A small flock seen, albeit a little distantly, from the top of the Canopy Tower on our last morning there.

Blue-headed Parrot *Pionus menstruus*— Seen on six days of the tour but decidedly more common in the greater vicinity of Canopy Lodge.

Red-lored Parrot *Amazona autumnalis*— Loud, raucous and plentiful in the lowlands surrounding Canopy Tower and seen on five days of the tour.

Mealy Parrot *Amazona farinosa*— Remarkable views of a close bird perched by the Pipeline Road on Jan 22nd. We walked out and back along Pipeline and it was still perched in the same spot on return! Additional birds were seen close to the same spot but from the top of the Discovery Tower on Jan 24th. A good tour for seeing the largest of the Central American *Amazona* parrots.

ANTBIRDS: Thamnophilidae (12)

Fasciated Antshrike *Cymbilaimus lineatus*— A hefty looking antshrike quite closely resembling the next species but larger with a seriously hooked bill! Singles on the Pipeline Road on Jan 24th and Semaphore Hill on Jan 25th.

Barred Antshrike *Thamnophilus doliatus*— After one on the Old Gamboa Road on Jan 23rd we really had our best looks at this striking species in the hedgerows around the “Millionaires quarter” at Cerro Cariguana in the town of El Valle.

Black-crowned Antshrike *Thamnophilus atrinucha*— Typically associated with lowland, humid forest with found this species on three days of the tour at the Pipeline Road and on Semaphore Hill.

Spot-crowned Antwren *Dysithamnus puncticeps*— (HO) Single, pointed by Tino, called for a sustained period at Cerro Gaital on Jan 27th but simply wouldn't come into view.

Moustached Antwren *Myrmotherula ignota*— Absolutely fantastic views of this tiny little striped sprite near the Rain Forest Discovery Center on Jan 24th. Quite the privilege to watch the smallest of all the antbirds in Central America at relatively close range.

Dot-winged Antwren *Microrhopias quixensis*— Although it was found on just the one day, we did have exceptional views of 4 – 5 birds, males and females, during a mid-morning walk down Semaphore Hill on Jan 25th.

Dusky Antbird *Cercomacroides tyrannina*— Much often heard than seen, generally in the ‘canal zone’ region but with very good views of a pair on Semaphore Hill on Jan 25th.

White-bellied Antbird *Myrmeciza longipes*— We played hide and seek with this skulker during a memorable session at Gamboa Resort on Jan 24th. It took a while but most the group pieced together a series partial views to form a more complete impression of the whole bird.

Chestnut-backed Antbird *Myrmeciza exsul*— (HO) Another antbird that sadly eluded us, at least in terms of views with singles heard on the Pipeline Road on the 22nd and 25th.

Bicolored Antbird *Gymnopithys bicolor*— Absolutely fantastic views of a small group following an army any swarm on the Pipeline Road on Jan 22nd, and a single on Semaphore Hill on Jan 25th.

Spotted Antbird *Hylophylax naevioides*— A small but distinctive antbird, we had the great fortune to find a concentration of three of four birds around the ant swarm on the Pipeline Road on Jan 22nd.

Ocellated Antbird *Phaenostictus mcleannani*— An obligate ant-follower, we came across about three of this large, blue-faced antbird around an impressive ant swarm on the Pipeline Road on Jan 22nd. Most certainly a highlight of the trip and something of a ‘grail’ species for a few of our party. Alex set the bar especially high that day on what would turn out to be a really excellent trip for antbirds.

ANTPITTAS: Grallariidae (1)

Streak-chested Antpitta *Hylopezus perspicillatus*— Super views of a pair of this uncommon ground-dwelling species feeding on the forest floor on the Pipeline Road on Jan 22nd.

OVENBIRDS, WOODCREEPERS, AND ALLIES: Furnariidae (5)

Plain-brown Woodcreeper *Dendrocincla fuliginosa*— Easily overlooked we found this species on at least two days, on the Pipeline Road on Jan 22nd and Semaphore Hill on Jan 25th

Northern Barred Woodcreeper *Dendrocolaptes sanctithomae*— Good views of one on the Pipeline Road on Jan 22nd.

Cocoa Woodcreeper *Xiphorhynchus susurrans*— The most widespread of the woodcreepers in Panama, we came across this species on three days of the tour, usually around mixed feeding flocks and sometimes close to other species of woodcreeper providing a real identification challenge!

Black-striped Woodcreeper *Xiphorhynchus lachrymosus*— Sensational views of a pair actively foraging right outside the kiosk at the Rain Forest Discovery Center on Jan 24th.

Plain Xenops *Xenops minutus*— Small, brown and unobtrusive we found singles at the Canopy Tower and the Las Minas Road and possibly other locations as well.

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS: Tyrannidae (28)

Brown-capped Tyrannulet *Ornithion brunneicapillus*— Just the one observed from the top of the Canopy Tower during prebreakfast birding on the 25th.

Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet *Camptostoma obsoletum*— Exceptionally good looks at a pair engaged in breeding behavior at Gamboa Resort on Jan 24th.

Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet *Tyrannulus elatus*— Nice looks at a single bird showing off its yellow crown on the during a very busy session on the Pipeline Road on Jan 22nd.

Gray Elaenia *Myiopagis caniceps*— Uncommon and very localized on our tour loop, we scored a major victory with good views of a pair near the kiosk at the Rainforest Discovery Center on Jan 24th.

Yellow-bellied Elaenia *Elaenia flavogaster*— A single at Summit National Park on Jan 22nd followed by great scope views of a pair in one of the gardens in the Millionaires quarter at Cerro Cariguana on Jan 25th.

Lesser Elaenia *Elaenia chiriquensis*— A wonderful scope comparison with the Yellow-bellied Elaenias mentioned above in the Millionaires quarter at Cerro Cariguana, the size difference being quite striking and a nice way of firming up the identification of two otherwise similar species.

Ochre-bellied Flycatcher *Mionectes oleagineus*— A beautiful, aptly named flycatcher that showed very well amid a busy mixed feeding flock near the kiosk of the Rainforest Discovery Center on Jan 24th.

Paltry Tyrannulet *Zimmerius vilissimus*— Excellent views of a single close to the road at La Mesa on Jan 26th with another noted on the final morning at Canopy Lodge.

Black-capped Pygmy-tyrant *Myiornis atricapillus*— One of the smallest birds seen on the whole tour, one sang for a sustained period above the Pipeline Road on Jan 22nd allowing for really excellent views for a species that spends most of its time high up in the canopy.

Scale-crested Pygmy-tyrant *Lophotriccus pileatus*— Tino has tantalizing views of one on the Las Minas Road that few in the group managed to see but we all connected with excellent views on the Cerro Gaital trail the very next day, a bird that even showed off its black and rufous crest!

Southern Bentbill *Oncostoma olivaceum*— This small peculiar flycatcher with its heavy decurved bill treated us to excellent looks on the Pipeline Road on both Jan 22nd and 24th.

Common Tody-Flycatcher *Todirostrum cinereum*— Several pairs could be found in the bird-rich gardens of the Rainde Airport Hotel but we didn't come across this perky little species again until we reached Canopy Lodge after which it was every day, even building a nest right off the veranda at the lodge.

Olivaceous Flatbill *Rhynchocyclus olivaceus*— Nice views of this uncommon but co-operative flycatcher on the Pipeline Road on Jan 22nd and 24th.

White-throated Spadebill *Platyrrinchus mystaceus*— Fabulous! Wonderful views at Cerro Gaital along the edge of the trail. Though tricky to see at first, patience was eventually rewarded with good views for the whole group.

Ruddy-tailed Flycatcher *Terenotriccus erythrusus*— Another small, fast moving flycatcher seen well on this trip with a single at the Rainforest Discovery Center on Jan 24th.

Acadian Flycatcher *Empidonax virescens*— The only 'empid' recorded on the entire trip with a remarkably cooperative single perched by the side of the track at the Rainforest Discovery Center on Jan 24th. Sensational views of what is often a very difficult species to see well on the breeding grounds in North America.

Rufous Mourner *Rhytipterna holerythra*— Singles seen in the sub-canopy at the Pipeline Road on the 24th, Las Minas on the 26th and Cerro Gaital on the 27th. All of them were close to mixed feeding flocks.

Dusky-capped Flycatcher *Myiarchus tuberculifer*— Reputedly common in Panama, we only found this species on the one day, Jan 26th with the best views being had on the Las Minas Road.

Panama Flycatcher *Myiarchus panamensis*— We had our best looks at this aptly named myiarchus in the early part the tour as one gave prolonged scope views perched on the razor wire by the Ammo Dump on the very first afternoon. Two more were seen the next day on the Old Gamboa Road.

Great Crested Flycatcher *Myiarchus crinitus*— (HO) The unmistakable up slurred "wheeeeeeep" call of this species was heard several times emanating from woodland lining the Chagres River on Jan 23rd. Apparently a fairly-common wintering species in lowland Panama.

Lesser Kiskadee *Pitangus lector*— Rather scarce compared to Great Kiskadee and always close to water on this trip with several seen at the Ammo Dump ponds and Old Gamboa Road on three days of the tour.

Great Kiskadee *Pitangus sulphuratus*— Widespread and familiar we came across this noisy species in a broad range of habitats on five days of the trip.

Boat-billed Flycatcher *Megarynchus pitangua*— The rasping call and monstrous bill were enough to draw attention to this Great Kiskadee look-alike as we packed all the sightings for the tour into just one day, Jan 23rd, on the Chagres River and Old Gamboa Road.

Rusty-margined Flycatcher *Myiozetetes cayanensis*— Very similar in appearance to Social Flycatcher and fairly-common on the first four days of the tour preferring the humid lowland areas close to the Panama Canal.

Social Flycatcher *Myiozetetes similis*— Widespread and common, often providing excellent comparative views with Rusty-margined Flycatcher in the first half of the trip and especially common in the Canopy Lodge/El Valle area.

Streaked Flycatcher *Myiodynastes maculates*— Look no further than the grounds of the Riande Airport Hotel for this scarce, large streaky flycatcher! Seen on three days in the early stages of the trip with other sightings along the Pipeline Road and Old Gamboa Road.

Tropical Kingbird *Tyrannus melancholicus*— One of the few species that we recorded every single day of the tour, often close to habitation favoring roadside wires.

Fork-tailed Flycatcher *Tyrannus savanna*— Kathe spotted one along the Pan American Highway during a memorable transfer in slow moving traffic from Canopy Tower to Canopy Lodge on the 25th.

COTINGAS AND ALLIES: Cotingidae (2)

Purple-throated Fruitcrow *Querula purpurata*— Really fabulous views of this difficult-to-see species along the Pipeline Road on Jan 22nd and 24th where we found about half-a-dozen on both days, including at least one pair building a nest.

Blue Cotinga *Cotinga nattererii*— Distant but beautiful views of one from the top of Discovery Tower, perched above the canopy for prolonged periods and lined up in both scopes much to enjoyment of everyone in the group.

MANAKINS: Pipridae (5)

Lance-tailed Manakin *Chiroxiphia lanceolata*— (HO) One on the Old Gamboa Road on Jan 23rd, sadly not seen within the commotion of a very birdy afternoon.

White-ruffed Manakin *Corapipo altera*— Singles males heard and seen on the Las Minas Road on the 26th and Cerro Gaital on the 27th. Much more of a highlands specialist than other manakins seen on the tour.

Blue-crowned Manakin *Lepidothrix coronata*— A beautiful male appeared unexpectedly appeared close to the entrance of the Rainforest Discovery Center near Pipeline Road on Jan 24th.

Golden-collared Manakin *Manacus vitellinus*— The most common and widespread manakin of the trip, and arguably the most attractive, seen or heard on four days with especially good views at Summit National Park and Gamboa resort. The almost rude, rasping call notes of this species often brought a ripple of chuckles through the group.

Red-capped Manakin *Ceratopipra mentalis*— Super views of a male trying his best impress a couple of females on Semaphore Hill on Jan 25th.

BECARDS AND TITYRAS: Tityridae (4)

Northern Schiffornis *Schiffornis veraepacis*— (HO) The mournful, fluty calls of this incredibly furtive species haunted us as we descended the trail at Cerro Gaital on Jan 27th. At times it sounded tantalizingly close but refused to come in close for views.

Speckled Mourner *Laniocera rufescens*— This local rarity provided some compensation for a few in the group during the (unsuccessful) chase for a reported Rufescent Ground-cuckoo along the Pipeline Road on Jan 24th.

Masked Tityra *Tityra semifasciata*— Always a striking species to view, we found them in small numbers on the Pipeline Road, Old Gamboa Road, Rainforest Discovery Center and Gamboa Resort on three days of the tour.

Black-crowned Tityra *Tityra inquisitor*— A male joined a small number of feeding Masked Tityras on the Old Gamboa Road on Jan 23rd, providing a nice comparison between the two closely related species.

VIREOS: Vireonidae (4)

Green Shrike-Vireo *Vireolanius pulchellus*— The clear, deliberate but tuneful song of this species was ever present around Canopy Tower, Semaphore Hill and the Pipeline Road but try as we might never actually caught a glimpse until one showed superbly well just off the upper rim of the Canopy Tower on Jan 25th. It's incredibly bright, leaf-green plumage and bright yellow throat provided a dazzling finale to our time at Canopy Tower.

Lesser Greenlet *Pachysylvia decurtata*— A relatively small, plain, warbler-like vireo was noticed at Gamboa Resort on the 24th and Canopy Tower on the 25th.

Yellow-throated Vireo *Vireo flavifrons*— More often heard than seen, we found this familiar North American migrant on four days of the tour with the best views in the Millionaires quarter of El Valle on Jan 26th.

Yellow-green Vireo *Vireo flavoviridis*— One in Summit National Park on Jan 22nd, spotted by Alex feeding high up in a palm.

CROWS AND JAYS: Corvidae (1)

Black-chested Jay *Cyanocorax affinis*— A large, attractive well-named species, we came across flocks of 6 - 12 individuals on the Old Gamboa Road on Jan 23rd and at Canopy Lodge on Jan 25th and 26th.

SWALLOWS AND MARTINS: Hirundinidae (4)

Southern Rough-winged Swallow *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*— Fairly common around the Canal Zone and on the Chagres River cruise but seen on only one day during our time at Canopy Lodge.

Gray-breasted Martin *Progne chalybea*— We found this large martin to be fairly common throughout the trip both in urban and rural areas alike but most frequently around habitation. Seen on every day of the tour.

Mangrove Swallow *Tachycineta albilinea*— An attractive little swallow, plentiful around the Panama Canal and Ammo Dump ponds but seen on only three days of the tour.

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*— A fairly sizable migrant flock of 30-35 mixed with other species of swallow on the Chagres River / Gatun Lake cruise on Jan 23rd.

WRENS: Troglodytidae (7)

House Wren *Troglodytes aedon*— The grounds of the Rainde Airport Hotel proved to be the best site for this widespread resident though we did note others at Gamboa Resort and Cerro Gaital (entrance road). These were resident Panamanian birds not involving migrants from North America.

Rufous-breasted Wren *Pheugopedius rutilus*— The Las Minas Road on Jan 26th provided the venue for a merry dance with this tricky songster but Tino persevered and we ultimately had some great views of a pair working around us with Orange-bellied Trogons close by.

Black-bellied Wren *Pheugopedius fasciatoventris*— A robust wren and one of the first species that we saw on the Pipeline Road on Jan 22nd, a bird that ultimately proved to be the only one of the entire trip.

Isthmian Wren *Cantorchilus modestus*— A party of three spotted amid the dwellings and gardens at La Mesa near Canopy Lodge on Jan 26th, rather more satisfying than the heard-only observation on the Chagres River cruise on Jan 23rd.

Bay Wren *Cantorchilus nigricapillus*— One Tino's favorites as he did his level best to provide us with good views on the first afternoon at Canopy Lodge. He needn't have worried as this species subsequently showed well at the lodge, as well as Las Minas and El Valle on the following three days.

Buff-breasted Wren *Cantorchilus leucotis*— (HO) Alex pointed out a couple of singing males at the Ammo Dump ponds on the 21st and Old Gamboa Road on the 23rd though we never actually managed to catch a glimpse either individual.

Song Wren *Cyphorhinus phaeocephalus*— Half the group chanced upon this weird, uncommon wren on the Pipeline Road on Jan 24th as they pursued reports of a Rufous-vented Ground-cuckoo seen earlier that morning.

GNATCATCHERS: Polioptilidae (3)

Tawny-faced Gnatwren *Microbates cinereiventris*— Something of a triumph for Tino as he worked

especially hard to provide us with views of this dark, skulking, understory species just off the trail at Cerro Gialal, Jan 27th.

Long-billed Gnatwren *Ramphocelus melanurus*— Singles on the Pipeline Road on the 22nd and Las Minas Road on the 26th.

Tropical Gnatcatcher *Polioptila plumbea*— Really excellent eye-level views of a pair from upper deck of the Canopy Tower on Jan 25th, with others seen at the Discovery Tower and Cerro Cariguana.

THRUSHES: Turdidae (2)

Swainson's Thrush *Catharus ustulatus*— One rather neatly photographed by Ann on the Las Minas Road on Jan 26th but curiously missed by the rest of the group as we searched for a Scale-crested Pygmy-tyrant seen by Tino at the same spot.

Clay-colored Thrush *Turdus grayi*— Recorded on each and every day of the trip and often in numbers. Notably aggressive at feeders where it bullied other species and devoured all the fresh bananas with gusto!

MOCKINGBIRDS AND THRASHERS: Mimidae (1)

Tropical Mockingbird *Mimus gilvus*— Seen and heard on four days of the tour, beginning with the first at the Rainde Airport Hotel but also found at higher elevations on the Las Minas Road near Canopy Lodge.

NEW WORLD WARBLERS: Parulidae (11)

Louisiana Waterthrush *Parkesia noveboracensis*— One, perhaps two, featured daily in their wintering quarters along the Guayabo River at Canopy Lodge.

Northern Waterthrush *Parkesia noveboracensis*— A couple of wintering individuals at the Ammo Dump ponds on Jan 21st.

Golden-winged Warbler *Vermivora chrysoptera*— We had the great fortune to stumble across a stunning adult male feeding with a flock of tanagers on the Las Minas Road on Jan 26th.

Tennessee Warbler *Oreothlypis peregrina*— A familiar migrant, we found them amid mixed feeding flocks on five days in the second half of the tour.

Mourning Warbler *Geothlypis philadelphia*— (LO) A female photographed near the pond at Canopy Lodge on the final morning of the tour.

Kentucky Warbler *Geothlypis trichas*— (HO) One called for a prolonged period at Gamboa Resort on Jan 24th. Despite being sound recorded and very close to the track, none of our party managed to a view of the feisty little devil.

Bay-breasted Warbler *Setophaga castanea*— Unquestionably the most frequently seen migrant warbler of the tour, recorded on seven days, almost always within mixed feeding flocks.

Yellow Warbler *Setophagapetechia*— Good views of several rufous headed 'Mangrove' Yellow Warblers feeding alongside more typically plumaged Nearctic migrants at Old Panama on Jan 21st, and two more typically plumaged birds on the Pipeline Road the following day.

Chestnut-sided Warbler *Setophaga pensylvanica*— 1 - 2 found around mixed feeding flocks on the Old Gamboa Road, Gamboa Resort and the Canopy Tower.

Buff-rumped Warbler *Basileuterus fulvicauda*— A subtle yet discrete species favoring watercourses and seen only on the Rio Guayabo at Canopy Lodge on Jan 26th and 27th during our tour.

Rufous-capped Warbler *Basileuterus rufifrons*— A pair regularly showed up around the veranda feeders at Canopy Lodge with several more found along the trail at Cerro Gialal on Jan 27th. A perky little warbler with striking head markings and a permanently cocked tail – distinctive when seen well.

TANAGERS AND ALLIES: Thraupidae (26)

Gray-headed Tanager *Eucometis penicillata*— Five or six along the Pipeline Road on Jan 22nd most of them concentrated with ‘ant birds’ feeding around a spectacular swarm of army ants.

White-shouldered Tanager *Tachyphonus luctuosus*— One foraging with a mixed feeding flock on the Las Minas Road on Jan 26th.

Tawny-crested Tanager *Tachyphonus delatrii*— Despite being vocal and gregarious, this species proved to be very difficult to see well with a couple of vociferous flocks seen only on the Las Minas Road near Canopy Lodge on Jan 26th.

Flame-rumped (Lemon-rumped) Tanager *Ramphocelus flammigerus*— We had our best views, actually very good views at La Mesa on Jan 26th with at least four present close to the road and, before that, a single on the Old Gamboa Road on the 23rd.

Crimson-backed Tanager *Ramphocelus dimidiatus*— One of the most beautiful tanagers and a joy to see on every single day of the trip.

Blue-gray Tanager *Thraupis episcopus*— Daily fare beginning with birds right outside our room windows at the Riande Airport Hotel. Seen in a wide range of situations but especially prevalent around feeders.

Palm Tanager *Thraupis palmarum*— Especially common in the humid lowlands including regularly from the upper deck at Canopy Tower and noted on five days of the tour.

Golden-hooded Tanager *Tangara larvata*— This beautiful, small tanager was fairly widespread but most easily found at Canopy Lodge.

Plain-colored Tanager *Tangara inornata*— A tiny, lead-gray tanager and thus, very easy to overlook noted at Old Gamboa Road, Canopy Tower and Canopy Lodge on at least four days of the tour.

Bay-headed Tanager *Tangara gyrola*— This uncommon, rufous-headed species thrilled us at Las Minas on the 26th and at Canopy Lodge on the 27th.

Silver-throated Tanager *Tangara icterocephala*— Associated with higher elevations, this species was scarce with just two singles seen at Las Minas on the 26th and Cerro Gaital on the 27th.

Emerald Tanager *Tangara florida*— With a male Golden-winged Warbler on view at the same time as well as a Yellow-faced Grassquit singing in the open right next to us this rather rare species might have been overlooked had it not been for Tino’s obvious excitement. He did well to point this emerald-green tanager against an emerald-green canopy at Las Minas on Jan 26th.

Bananaquit *Coereba flaveola*— Rather scarce and only reliable in and around Canopy Lodge where we saw 2 -3 on three days of the tour.

Blue Dacnis *Dacnis cayana*— Always a treat, we found the following feeding flocks along the Pipeline Road, Old Gamboa Road and from the Canopy Tower.

Shining Honeycreeper *Cyanerpes lucidus*— One of three stand-out species from our climb into the rainforest canopy atop the Discovery Tower on Jan 24th, the other two being Blue Cotinga and Yellow-backed Oriole!

Red-legged Honeycreeper *Cyanerpes cyaneus*— We found this attractive little honeycreeper in a wide variety of habitats on five days of the tour, often giving excellent views especially at Canopy Lodge.

Green Honeycreeper *Chlorophanes spiza*— Really dazzling close views of a male on the Las Minas Road on Jan 26th. Otherwise, three with a mixed feeding flock on the Old Gamboa Road was the only other observation.

Blue-black Grassquit *Volatinia jacarina*— An inconspicuous little seed-finch, quite easy to gloss over and seen just once on the trip at the Ammo Dump ponds on Jan 21st.

Variable Seedeater *Sporophila corvina*— Common though often inconspicuous we came across small numbers on six days of the tour including a fairly sizeable flock feeding high above the bamboo stands with Slate-colored Seedeaters at Summit National Park.

Slate-colored Seedeater *Sporophila schistacea*— We found a dozen or more feeding with Variable Seedeaters at Summit National Park on the 22nd. The birds were feeding in the canopy above giant stands of bamboo and not especially easy to see but scope views revealed the diagnostic yellow bill of several males within the flock.

Yellow-bellied Seedeater *Sporophila nigricollis*— Exceptionally good views of a male at Cerro Cariguana on Jan 26th.

Yellow-faced Grassquit *Tiaris olivaceus*— Great views of a couple of singing males at Las Minas on Jan 26th and 27th.

Wedge-tailed Grassfinch *Emberizoides herbicola*— Like cross between a Grasshopper Sparrow and an Old World cisticlola, this could well have been the strangest bird that we saw on the tour. Shy, furtive and always keeping low in the rank grasses, Tino did well to find a couple of singing males for us on the Las Minas Road on Jan 26th.

Saffron Finch *Sicalis flaveola*— First spotted by Kathe, a flock of 15 or so including a couple of dazzling males, treated us to fine views close to the main entrance of historical 'Old Panama' on the first morning of the tour.

Buff-throated Saltator *Saltator maximus*— The only regularly seen saltator recorded on five days of the trip with the best views by far at La Mesa and Canopy Lodge.

Streaked Saltator *Saltator striatipectus*— One showed briefly but well, skulking in a roadside thicket at Cerro Cariguana on Jan 26th.

ROSY THRUSH-TANAGER: Rhodinocichlidae (1)

Rosy Thrush-Tanager *Rhodinocichla rosea*— Uniquely large and relatively brightly colored, this very distinctive species has no close relatives in the region. Perhaps it was no wonder then, that Alex worked especially hard on the Old Gamboa Road to coax in a singing male resulting in a handful of participants having reasonable views as it skulked in the understory.

NEW WORLD SPARROWS: Emberizidae (4)

Chestnut-capped Brushfinch *Arremon brunneinucha*— A large, ground-dwelling finch that worked circuits around our group at Cerro Gaital on Jan 27th before eventually giving wonderful, close looks, in fact a family group of about four birds. A real treat on the last full day of the tour and species more closely associated with higher elevations than other New World sparrows that we saw on the trip.

Black-striped Sparrow *Arremonops conirostris*— Wonderful views of a family group of this bright 'olive' sparrow at La Mesa on Jan 26th.

Orange-billed Sparrow *Arremon aurantiirostris*— Such a well named bird and apparently well trained, regularly turning up for scraps around the back the back of the kitchen at Canopy Lodge with a couple of slightly 'wilder' birds at Canopy Adventure on Jan 27th.

Common Chlorospingus *Chlorospingus flavopectus*— Excellent views a small group of three birds that joined a mixed feeding flock at Las Minas on Jan 26th.

MITROSPINGID TANAGERS: Mitrospingidae (1)

Dusky-faced Tanager *Mitrospingus cassinii*— Noisy, gregarious and strangely attractive in good light, found daily and in numbers (9 – 12) around Canopy Lodge. Seen on four days of the tour.

CARDINALS AND GROSBEEKS: Cardinalidae (6)

Hepatic Tanager *Piranga flava*— Scarce on this particular tour and only found in the higher foothills above Canopy Lodge with two on the Las Minas Road on the 26th and a female at Cerro Gaital on Jan 27th.

Summer Tanager *Piranga rubra*— A common migrant found on every day of the tour, and seemingly in almost any habitat that we visited including the grounds of the Riande Airport Hotel.

Red-crowned Ant-Tanager *Habia rubica*— One showed up at the veranda feeders at Canopy Lodge on Jan 26th, a triumph for the members of our group who lingered by the feeders into the evening.

Red-throated Ant-Tanager *Habia fuscicauda*— (LO) A single along the Pipeline Road during the ground-cuckoo chase on Jan 24th. Surprisingly, it turned out to be the only sighting of the whole the trip.

Black-faced Grosbeak *Caryothraustes poliogaster*— A wonderful noisy feeding flock seen well in the sub-canopy at Cerro Gaital on Jan 27th.

Blue-black Grosbeak *Cyanocompsa cyanoides*— Good views of a pair around the dwellings at La Mesa on Jan 26th.

NEW WORLD BLACKBIRDS: Icteridae (9)

Chestnut-headed Oropendola *Psarocolius wagleri*— Rather widespread and often roaming through the forest in flocks of up to 45 strong at sites such as Summit National Park and La Mesa. Seen on six days of the tour.

Scarlet-rumped Cacique *Cacicus uropygialis*— Rather restless mobile flocks of 4 – 30 birds in the humid lowlands at Pipeline Road, Rainforest Discovery Center and Canopy Tower among other locations.

Yellow-rumped Cacique *Cacicus cela*— Small flocks featured on four days in the humid lowlands around the Canal Zone, especially on the Pipeline Road.

Yellow-backed Oriole *Icterus chrysater*— About half-a-dozen of these seen in the canopy from the very top of the Discovery Tower and a sweet reward for climbing all the way up that spiral staircase!

Yellow-tailed Oriole *Icterus mesomelas*— An uncommon, good looking, black-and-yellow oriole seen very well on the security fence at the Ammo Dump on Jan 21st.

Baltimore Oriole *Icterus galbula*— A thin scatter of migrants seen on four days of the tour at sites such as the Riande Airport Hotel and Ammo Dump ponds.

Shiny Cowbird *Molothrus bonariensis*— Very good views of a tight feeding flock (20+) near the Harpy Eagle enclosure at Summit National Park on Jan 22nd.

Giant Cowbird *Molothrus oryzivorus*— One was lurking around a colony of Chestnut-headed Oropendolas at La Mesa on Jan 26th.

Great-tailed Grackle *Quiscalus mexicanus*— One of the first birds to be seen in Panama on arrival at Tocuman International Airport and seen almost daily thereafter, invariably around habitation such as Gamboa public boat dock.

FINCHES AND EUPHONIAS: Fringillidae (3)

Yellow-crowned Euphonia *Euphonia luteicapilla*— Less frequent than Thick-billed Euphonia but seen on three days of the tour after the first at Gamboa Resort on Jan 24th.

Thick-billed Euphonia *Euphonia lanirostris*— Plentiful and most easily seen around the feeders at Canopy Lodge. Noted on five days of the tour.

Tawny-capped Euphonia *Euphonia anaeae*— One on the Las Minas Road on Jan 26th with a mixed flock of Tawny-crested Tanagers and a party of four near the roosting Mottled Owls in Canopy Adventure on Jan 27th.

MAMMALS (14 species recorded):

Hoffman's Two-toed Sloth *Choloepus hoffmanni*— Beautiful close looks at the Ammo Dump ponds on Jan 22nd.

Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth *Bradypus variegatus*— Singles seen from Canopy Tower and Canopy

Lodge.

Nine-banded Armadillo *Dasyus novemcinctus*— One spotlighted by Alex on Semaphore Hill during the night safari.

Proboscis Bat *Rhynchonycteris naso*— Alex pointed out a roost of about 35 during the Chagres River cruise on Jan 23rd.

Common Tent-making Bat *Uroderma bilobatum*— Alex pointed out a beautiful roost clustered inside the furred leaf of a palm at Summit National Park on Jan 22nd.

Little Mastiff Bat *Molossus molossus*— Alex mentioned that this was the likely identity of a small bat flying around the dining area at Canopy Tower on Jan 22nd

Geoffroy's Tamarin *Sanguinus geoffroyi*— Sometimes showed up outside the dining hall windows at Canopy Tower, and also a few were seen on the Chagres River boat cruise on Jan 23rd.

White-faced Capuchin *Cebus capuchinus*— Semaphore Hill, Pipeline Road, Old Gamboa Road and Canopy Tower were among the places where we randomly encountered this distinctive species.

Mantled Howler *Alouatta palliate*— A signature species of the Central American tropics and easily the most vocal member of the primates during our tour. Who wouldn't want to be woken up at 2:30 am by earie growls of howler monkeys! Seen up close and in numbers from the Discovery Observation tower on Jan 24th.

Variiegated Squirrel *Sciurus variegatoides*— Surprisingly scarce but always present in the gardens at the Rainde Hotel and once at Canopy Lodge.

Red-tailed Squirrel *Sciurus granatensis*— Singles noted around the feeders at Canopy Lodge.

Rothschild's Porcupine *Coendou rothschildi*— Semaphore Hill provided the venue for diurnal and nocturnal sightings with superb spotlight views on one during the night safari.

Central American Agouti *Dasyprocta punctata*— Widespread and fairly common most easily seen around feeders, especially at Canopy Lodge.

White-nosed Coati *Nasua narica*— Two singles seen on the trip, both of them offering great views; Gamboa Resort on the 24th and one spotlighted by Alex on the night safari the next day.

REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS (4 species recorded):

Green Iguana *Iguana iguana*— Found at Ammo Dump ponds, Pipeline Road and Gamboa Resort at the very least.

Black Spiny-tailed Iguana *Ctenosaura similis*— One of the highlights of our visit to the Ammo Dump on Jan 22nd as we watched a couple of males displaying on all their finery to several attendant females.

Spectacled Caiman *Caiman crocodiles*— A beautiful but unnervingly tame individual cruising around at a small pond at Summit Park on Jan 22nd.

American Crocodile *Crocodylus acutus*— Great looks at one on the Chagres River on Jan 23rd, during our river cruise.