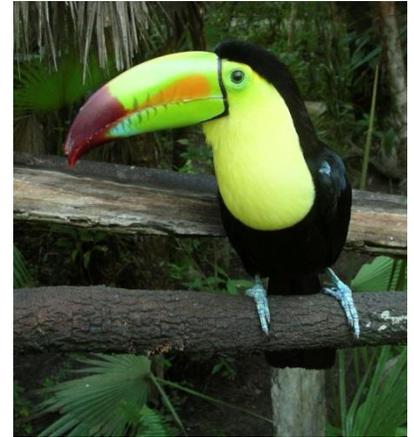


Southern Belize: From Mountains to Mangroves Species List

March 13-21, 2021 | Compiled by Peg Abbott



SOUTHERN BELIZE: BIRDING & NATURE March 13-21, 2021

TOUR SPECIES LIST

With Peg Abbott of Naturalist Journeys and expert lodge guides
Marvin Rodriguez (Hidden Valley) and Steve Choco (Lodge at Big Falls)
with 8 participants:
Kathy, Valerie, Matt, Jack, Judy, Cliff, Harlee and Rick

Note: eBird checklists for the tour were filed under Peg Abbott account and shared with participants

March 13 – Arrival in Belize City / Drive to Hidden Valley Lodge

March 14 – Hidden Valley Lodge grounds / Owl Trail / Lolly Folly Lagoon / King Vulture Falls / 1000 Ft. Falls

March 15 – Hidden Valley Lodge / Pine Ridge Fire Lookout / Rio Frio Cave and Forest Camp / Caracol

March 16 – Hidden Valley Lodge / King Vulture Falls / Green Hills Butterfly Ranch / Blue Hole NP / Hopkins

March 17 – Hopkins / Maya Centre Village / Cockscomb Basin / Lodge at Big Falls

March 18 – Lodge at Big Falls / Blue Creek / Pedro Lagoon / Rio Grande River Tubing

March 19 – Lodge at Big Falls / Punta Gorda / Spice Farm and Botanic Garden / Lodge Grounds

March 20 – Lodge at Big Falls / Nim Li Punit / San Felipe Hills / Ixcocoa Chocolate / Private Farm

March 21 – Punta Gorda airport / (optional) Captain Hook's Shrimp Farm

SUMMARY

This was the first trip out of “lockdown”, a year of no travel for all of our participants as the Covid-19 pandemic turned the world upside down. Masked up and socially distanced, we celebrated our “breakout” trip - a careful and fabulous adventure —in no small part due to the wonder of being out, seeing once again trogons and toucans and vibrant tropical trees in bloom. We marveled at all the common but iconic tropical species, Keel-billed Toucans, each of four trogon species calling and those marvelous, secretive antbirds. The guides were terrific throughout, pulling out all the stops after not working for a year. Marvin had a pair of Stygian Owls staked out that we all got scope views and photographs of. With him we soaked up the wilderness feel of the mountain pine country, watching five King Vultures come into loaf and roost at King Vulture Falls, and eventually watching an Orange-breasted Falcon enjoy its meal. With Steven it was if a

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magical bird show began, each day new wonders under his expert guidance. He made each day intriguing. And he is part of the family that makes the Lodge at Big Falls makes for a fabulous base with sincere hospitality as well as proximity to the large variety of habitats. Throughout the trip, the beauty of birds felt so restorative, with elegant Swallow-tailed Kites overhead, a Crimson-collared Tanager feeding, 23 species of warblers. A highlight was seeing the Bare-crowned Antbird at the Lodge at Big Falls. As our breakout trip each day felt like Christmas morning, with gifts of species after species. We will be back!

“HO” heard only and not sighted.

“LO” Only spotted by the trip leader or a lodge guide.

The ordering of families and species mirrors the checklist we used on the trip, and species-level taxonomy follows the latest updates appearing in the Clements Checklist (Cornell Lab of Ornithology).

Photo: Keel-billed Toucan, Narca Moore Craig.

BIRDS (251 species of 55 families)

Anatidae: Ducks, Geese, and Swans (1)

Blue-winged Teal (*Anas discors*) – Present in wetland lake and pond environments at Hopkins, Piedra Lagoon and Nim Li Punit; the high count was at Hopkins wetlands with 40 sighted there.

Cracidae: Guans, Chachalacas, and Curassows (2)

Plain Chachalaca (*Ortalis vetula*) – A “yard” bird at Hidden Valley, the first to greet us upon arrival. We watched them feeding on flowers and found them at all locations of the trip. At the Lodge at Big Falls, they were our morning alarm clocks. So great to hear this raucous sound again!

Crested Guan (*Penelope purpurascens*) – Seen well on our trip into the Cockscomb Basin, where Jack got marvelous photos.

Podicipedidae: Grebes (1)

Least Grebe (*Tachybaptus dominicus*) – Seen at Lolly Folly Lagoon on Hidden Valley lands, just the one individual.

Columbidae: Pigeons and Doves (14)

Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*) – Seen in towns, mainly at Hopkins and Punta Gorda.

Pale-vented Pigeon (*Patagioenas cayennensis*) – From Hopkins south to the Lodge at Big Falls they were seen daily, in good number. Most impressive were flights of 30 at a time pouring over the Hopkins Wetlands en route to a roost somewhere beyond our view...

Scaled Pigeon (*Patagioenas speciosa*) – This snazzy pigeon was a big hit, with perched scope views on our Pine Ridge day, then we had another chance to watch them for some time at Nim Li Punit in very different but forested habitat.

Red-billed Pigeon (*Patagioenas flavirostris*) – Our best views were near the fire lookout tower up on Pine Ridge, where they were flying back and forth across the road and perching, feeding.

Short-billed Pigeon (*Patagioenas nigrirostris*) – HO We heard them on three days of the journey, in the

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background, but somehow in the tropical rush of species we just did not make seeing them a priority. Present in the pine ridge country and again at Lodge at Big Falls and Blue Creek in forested areas.

Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*) – Seen at Hopkins, a parking lot bird at the resort.

Common Ground Dove (*Columbina passerina*) – One seen on our walk in Punta Gorda, then two were seen at the final moment at the airstrip at Punta Gorda as we waited for our flight out.

Plain-breasted Ground-Dove (*Columbina minuta*) – Peg pointed out two individuals crouched in shrubbery on our hot mid-day walk at the San Felipe Hills, the only sighting of this trip on Barranco Road.

Ruddy Ground-Dove (*Columbina talpacoti*) – Seen around villages and lodge grounds, widespread and fairly common. One roosting in a large tree put on a good show at the Blue Hole National Park lunch stop.

Blue Ground-Dove (*Clavis pretiosa*) – Seen by eagle-eye Matt on the pasture adjacent to the Lodge at Big Falls.

White-tipped Dove (*Leptotila verreauxi*) – Seen or heard on four days of our journey in a mix of habitats, Hidden Valley, Caracol, Lodge at Big Falls and Nim Li Punit.

Gray-chested Dove (*Leptotila cassini*) – HO Nim Li Punit Mayan ruins.

Gray-headed Dove (*Leptotila plumbeiceps*) – HO on our final day at Nim Li Punit Mayan ruins

White-winged Dove (*Zenaida asiatica*) – Seen frequently from our stop at Hopkins and south, daily for the second half of our trip, Maya Center and the Lodge at Big Falls.

Cuculidae: Cuckoos and Anis (3)

Groove-billed Ani (*Crotophaga sulcirostris*) – Small groups were seen in lowland elevation agricultural areas our last few days from our base at the Lodge at Big Falls. Best views were on our walk at the Belize Spice Farm and Botanic Gardens.

Striped Cuckoo (*Tapera naevia*) – “Tis the season” Rob Hiron, owner of the Lodge of Big Falls would say – they start to call incessantly. And it was true! We got super views of them along a quiet dirt road where they perched on fence posts and shading trees.

Squirrel Cuckoo (*Piaya cayana*) – Seen on six days of the journey, great views and photo opportunities.

Caprimulgidae: Nightjars and Allies (1)

Common Pauraque (*Nyctidromus albicollis*) – We spooked up a couple roosting while walking trails at the Lodge at Big Falls, so we got views in flight and at their new perches. It was great to hear them as well into the night.

Apodidae: Swifts (2)

White-collared Swift (*Streptoprocne zonaris*) – These big acrobatic flyers were common around the various waterfall sites we visited while at Hidden Valley. High count was 30+.

Lesser Swallow-tailed Swift (*Panyptila cayennensis*) – Several individuals seen well above us from the viewpoint at Nim Li Punit, a terrific birding site.

Trochilidae: Hummingbirds (13)

White-necked Jacobin (*Florisuga mellivora*) – Nine were seen at Green Hills Butterfly Ranch quite busy at the feeders, and one was also recorded at Cockscomb Basin.

Band-tailed Barbthroat (*Threnetes ruckeri*) – We always knew we were onto a GOOD bird when Steven

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Choco got super excited. Participants learned to tune themselves into his pace and walk. This sighting was unexpected along the Blue Creek trail, feeding on flowers so we got views. Rick saw it first and noted its similarity to a hermit.

Long-billed Hermit (*Phaethornis yaruqui*) – Best seen at the Green Hills Butterfly Ranch where feeders are busy all the time, but then seen again on the Punta Gorda town walk.

Green-breasted Mango (*Anthracothorax prevostii*) – Great looks at Green Hills Butterfly Ranch and then another prime individual at Punta Gorda in the residential area.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird (*Archilochus colubris*) – Seen at Mountain Pine Ridge, the Rio Frio Cave area.

Canivet's Emerald (*Chlorostilbon canivetii*) – We had one individual, attending the feeders at Green Hills Butterfly Ranch and then saw and photographed another along the pasture lane leading out of the Lodge at Big Falls.

Scaly-breasted Hummingbird (*Phaeochroa cuvierii*) – Second to Rufous-tailed, the most common hummingbird we encountered, often it would return to the same perch where it provided good viewing. Nice to have them on the grounds of the Lodge at Big Falls.

Wedge-tailed Sabrewing (*Campylopterus curvipennis*) – Seen well at the Green Hills Butterfly Ranch where a couple of individuals worked the feeders.

Violet Sabrewing (*Campylopterus hemileucurus*) – Seen well at the Green Hills Butterfly Ranch feeders, a commanding presence as it flew in repeatedly to feed, chasing off the other species.

White-bellied Emerald (*Amazilia candida*) – Individuals were encountered in the rural gardens along roadways and in the open forest and agricultural lands we visited; seen on four days of the journey including at Cockscomb Basin.

Azure-crowned Hummingbird (*Amazilia cyanocephala*) – A species wanted by many, we got good views right off the bat at Hidden Valley in trees around the patio dining area and pool. Great to see a life bird while dining!

Rufous-tailed Hummingbird (*Amazilia tzacatl*) – The most common hummingbird encountered, alerting us many times by vocalizing, watching its red bill darting between flowers was memorable.

Cinnamon Hummingbird (*Amazilia rutila*) – A parking lot bird at Hopkins Bay Resort, visiting flowers of the coastal trees.

Rallidae: Rails, Crakes, and Gallinules (3)

Clapper Rail (*Rallus crepitans*) – Peg tried a bit of playback on a whim along the roadside and we were startled as two immediately started calling in response, beside the busy road that rims the Hopkins Wetlands. Likely they are plentiful there. We got really good views, and Valerie nabbed some video.

Russet-naped Wood-Rail (*Aramides axillaris*) – Three emerged on the lawn of the Lodge at Big Falls after the brilliant soaking rain, working the edge of the forest. We got super looks at them feeding.

Purple Gallinule (*Porphyrio martinica*) – Two individuals were seen at a small roadside pond as we drove back to the Lodge at Big Falls. No Ruddy Crake present the same spot this time, but this species was an alternate bonus.

Aramidae: Limpkin (1)

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Limpkin (*Aramus guarauna*) – **HO** but its distinct sound was heard well, below us from the viewpoint at Nim Li Punit in a pond we could view from afar.

Recurvirostridae: Stilts and Avocets (2)

Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*) – Numerous at the Hopkins wetlands, sixty or more feeding at a time.

American Avocet (*Recurvirostra americana*) – Seen quickly by Matt as we crossed the wetland area at Hopkins, in with Black-necked Stilts, one individual still in winter plumage.

Charadrius: Plovers and Lapwings (2)

Semipalmated Sandpiper (*Charadrius semipalmatus*) – Two were seen at the mudflats of the shrimp farm at Captain Hooks where we enjoyed lunch our final day.

Wilson's Plover (*Charadrius wilsonia*) – Just one individual but very good views, also at the shrimp farm at Captain Hooks.

Scolopacidae: Sandpipers and Snipes (6)

Sanderling (*Calidris alba*) – Seven were seen on the beach at Hopkins.

Least Sandpiper (*Calidris minutilla*) – Seen in wetland areas at Hopkins and Captain Hooks, a shrimp farm near the airport.

Wilson's Snipe (*Gallinago delicata*) – Hopkins wetlands, an individual flying over the road.

Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularius*) – Three were seen on the beach at Hopkins, where some rocks protruded into the sand.

Lesser Yellowlegs (*Tringa falvipes*) – Hopkins Wetlands, a one bird feeding with the more abundant, Black-necked Stilts and then a small group farther out in the marsh.

Willet (*Tringa semipalmata*) – An individual seen loafing on the dock and beach as we lunched by the sea at the resort at Hopkins.

Laridae: Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers (4)

Laughing Gull (*Leucophaeus atricilla*) – Hopkins Wetlands, a quick look as we drove by the causeway on the way in.

Caspian Tern (*Hydroprogne caspia*) – Hopkins, one individual seen several times flying along the beach.

Royal Tern (*Thalasseus maximus*) – Several individuals (8) were seen feeding near shore at Hopkins, in a feeding frenzy with pelicans.

Sandwich Tern (*Thalasseus sandvicensis*) – Great views of four individuals feeding near Brown Pelicans in a lunchtime frenzy indicating good fish resources at Hopkins, all busy as we dined in sight of them.

Ciconiidae: Storks (2)

Jabiru (*Jabiru mycteria*) – Two individuals seen well in the scope a long way across the wetlands at Hopkins.

Wood Stork (*Mycteria americana*) – Several individuals seen at the wetlands at Hopkins, feeding at a distance and in flight.

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Fregatidae: Frigatebirds (1)

Magnificent Frigatebird (*Fregata magnificens*) – Common at the seashore near Hopkins and Punta Gorda, flying over us like kites in the wind.

Anhingidae: Anhingas (1)

Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*) – Seen at the Hopkins wetlands, an individual was sunning itself at Piedra Lagoon and later those that went to lunch at Captain Hooks restaurant saw one on our final day near the airport.

Phalacrocoridae: Cormorants (1)

Double-crested Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) – Seen at Hopkins Village.

Pelicanidae: Pelicans (1)

Brown Pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis*) – Wonderful activity observed at feeding frenzies of a dozen or more at a time seen at Hopkins, entertaining us as we dined, and also seen flying by along the turquoise seacoast at Punta Gorda.

Ardeidae: Herons, Egrets, and Bitterns (10)

Bare-throated Tiger-Heron (*Tigrisoma mexicanum*) – Just a quick view as one came up and flew to a new vegetation patch at a wetland agricultural area, we passed on the day we visited the Belize Spice Farm.

Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*) – Two individuals seen at Hopkins Wetlands.

Great Egret (*Ardea alba*) – Common, lone individuals mainly, seen on five days of our journey. High count was at Hopkins Wetlands, 12 individuals.

Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*) – Seen only at Hopkins Wetlands, a dozen mixed in with White Ibis and Little Blue Heron.

Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*) – The main egret seen at most wetland habitats one or more was present. A few were coming into breeding plumage.

Tricolored Heron (*Egretta tricolor*) – Several individuals seen at Hopkins Wetlands.

Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*) – Seen at Piedra Lagoon and Nim Li Punit, rural countryside as we traveled, individuals, several coming into breeding plumage.

Green Heron (*Butorides virescens*) – Scattered individuals seen mainly along rivers, one in a small pond at Green Hills Butterfly Ranch and 3 at Hopkins Wetlands.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*) – One sighting at Hopkins Wetlands, then one individual, at Punta Gorda was seen on our walk there.

Boat-billed Heron (*Cochlearius cochlearius*) – Seen nesting at a small pond we stopped at en route to Punta Gorda, we watched them fly and scramble awkwardly over tree branches while doing a nest exchange.

Threskiornithidae: Ibis and Spoonbills (2)

White Ibis (*Eudocimus albus*) – Present in good number, 50 or more, at Hopkins Wetlands.

Roseate Spoonbill (*Plataea ajaja*) – Five or six individuals seen at a great distance on the far side of Hopkins Wetlands from the main road area we stood on for viewing.

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Cathartidae: New World Vultures (4)

King Vulture (*Sarcoramphus papa*) – Just amazing views of this wilderness species at King Vulture Falls from Hidden Valley, one of the highlights of the trip. At least five individuals, one an immature, seen in flight, coming to loaf and roost in this beautiful setting. Also seen in flight on two other days when in the southern part of the trip, lone individuals in with Turkey Vultures at Nim Li Punit and from the private farm we visited.

Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*) – Very common, seen daily in good number.

Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*) – Very common, seen daily. One individual sunning itself at Maya Centre caught Peg and Harlee's eye with its wingspread posture, sunning.

Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture (*Cathartes burrovianus*) – Not common, seen near the Hopkins wetlands on our late afternoon birding by the marsh, flying low.

Pandionidae: Osprey (1)

Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) – Seen well on several occasions, perched at Hopkins Wetlands, seen catching fish as we dined outside by the sea at Hopkins, and along the coast at Punta Gorda.

Accipitridae: Hawks, Eagles, and Kites (10)

Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*) – We had repeated and good views of this elegant raptor, in groups of 2 to 6, best views were at Lolly Folly Lagoon on Hidden Valley's estate where we had them dipping into water and circling us at close range. There were also several at the Rio Frio forest reserve, a few carrying sticks to new nests.

Black Hawk-eagle (*Spizaetus tyrannusi*) – Alerted both times by calls, we had good views at Green Hills Butterfly Ranch and then again at Nim Li Punit Mayan ruins, where two soared over the parking providing wonderful views.

Double-toothed Kite (*Harpagus bidentatus*) – An intriguing small raptor that we got good scope views of a couple of times early on in the trip, on the day we went in to Caracol.

Plumbeous Kite (*Ictinia plumbea*) – Regularly seen while at Hidden Valley and in the Pine Ridge country, Caracol, then again good views and good photos for Jack from Nim Li Punit Mayan ruins.

Common Black Hawk (*Buteogallus anthracinus*) – Seen well in the second half of the trip, near the coast especially at Hopkins and also Punta Gorda.

Great Black Hawk (*Buteogallus urubitinga*) – Two individuals perched together, spotted by our keen-eyed driver John in the second van put on a good show for us along the road return from Caracol. In flight we could see the tail pattern to define them, put their forest location was also a good clue. A memorable find.

Roadside Hawk (*Rupornis magnirostris*) – Not common, seen on two days, perched and in flight from Hidden Valley.

White Hawk (*Pseudastur albicollis*) – Rick spied our first two, perched together across the fabulous gorge below King Vulture Falls. We saw them again in the grand Pine Ridge country, a stunning raptor.

Gray Hawk (*Buteo plagiatus*) – The most common raptor encountered, seen on numerous days.

Short-tailed Hawk (*Buteo brachyurus*) – One individual picked up our spirits on a hot walk after the big stuck in the mud event going into San Felipe Hills. Always a new bird to be found!

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Strigidae: Owls (4)

Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl (*Glaucidium brasilianum*) – This species was quite tame at Hidden Valley, coming out into the garden where it would be mobbed by the Azure-crowned Hummingbirds and Hepatic Tanagers. One was calling at the forest ranger station for Chiquibul.

Stygian Owl (*Asio stygius*) – A highlight of the trip, we had marvelous views first of one, then not far from it the mate, with scopes, cameras and just awe. This impressive owl has such a memorable face between its narrow ears. Rare to find, we felt very fortunate that Marvin from Hidden Valley had scouted this spot.

Mottled Owl (*Ciccaba virgata*) – **HO** Heard from Lodge at Big Falls, giving just short notes, and not responsive to calls. Still nice to know they were around!

Black-and-white Owl (*Ciccaba nigrolineata*) – **HO** Kathy heard this impressive call near her casita about 4 AM one morning at the Lodge at Big Falls but the two evenings we did some owling it failed to show for us.

Trogonidae: Trogons (4)

Slaty-tailed Trogon (*Trogon massena*) – We had cracking views of one coming out from the swimming area of Blue Creek. This was a multiple trogon day, but this one in particular really posed for us. A large and colorful trogon.

Black-headed Trogon (*Trogon melanocephalus*) – This trogon seemed the tamest of the four species, always easy to see and to watch it calling. Seen on four days of the journey. Four individuals at Cockscomb Basin were memorable.

Gartered Trogon (*Trogon caligatus*) – Also quite common but on some days just noted by call. We did get very good views, scope views, and photos.

Collared Trogon (*Trogon collaris*) – Seen only on the day we walked into dense forest up the Blue Creek trail from Lodge at Big Falls. A pair, we had best looks at the female but saw the male in flight, and later perched at some distance.

Motmotidae: Motmots (2)

Tody Motmot (*Hylomanes momotula*) – **HO** We tried several of Steve's known spots for this bird, and heard one at Blue Creek, but had little luck drawing them in, finally we had one answer us on the steep hill of a private farm we visited, but it would not come out of its dense hideaway.

Lesson's Motmot (*Momotus lessonii*) – Heard on the Mountain Pine Ridge day at Rio Frio Cave, and then see very well on the Blue Creek trail.

Alcedinidae: Kingfishers (2)

Belted Kingfisher (*Megaceryle alcyon*) – Good looks at Lolly Folly Lagoon at Hidden Valley, then heard rattling where we parked to walk into Blue Creek.

Green Kingfisher (*Chloroceryle americana*) – Seen well at Hopkins Wetlands, two there, and then seen as individuals along streams, one individual on two days.

Bucconidae: Puffbirds (1)

White-whiskered Puffbird (*Malacoptila panamensis*) – Great views of this little charmer along the Blue

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Creek trail, it perched on a log at eye-level. This was the only individual seen well, but we heard a few others.

Galbulidae: Jacamars (1)

Rufous-tailed Jacamar (*Galbula ruficauda*) – Great views of two on our way into Caracol. Its call on another couple of days seemed to announce bird activity and a frenzy of viewing multiple species.

Ramphastidae: Toucans (3)

Northern Emerald Toucanet (*Aulacorhynchus prasinus*) – Peg spotted two secretive individuals from a vantage point on the steps of Nim Li Punit Mayan ruins, they made a few calls but never emerged from dense vegetation. Only Matt got a glimpse.

Collared Aracari (*Pteroglossus torquatus*) – Several good encounters, at the Rio Frio forest camp and super views at Nim Li Punit Mayan ruins, against blue sky in a large spreading tree.

Keel-billed Toucan (*Ramphastos sulfuratus*) – We had peeks and a lot of vocalizations of this species while at Caracol. Our first good views of five individuals were seen in the trees around the breakfast place at Maya Centre. At Nim Li Punit we had them almost following us as we toured the plazas and ball courts.

Picidae: Woodpeckers (5)

Acorn Woodpecker (*Melanerpes formicivorus*) – Common in the pine ridge country, in habitat not unlike that they frequent in the USA, present as pairs and small groups and highly vocal. High count was at the Rio Frio forest camp, where 12 were seen in the vicinity.

Black-cheeked Woodpecker (*Melanerpes pucherani*) – Seen on our walk at Cockscomb Basin from the Visitor Center there.

Golden-fronted Woodpecker (*Melanerpes aurifrons*) – Common, vocal, starting to investigate nesting cavities. We saw this species daily after leaving the pine habitat.

Lineated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus lineatus*) – We got good looks at a pair perched up as we drove into Caracol, then again at Nim Li Punit Mayan ruins. We had a couple of other fly-bys with less certain identification.

Golden-olive Woodpecker (*Colaptes rubiginosus*) – We had a pair quite present in the garden at Hidden Valley, seen on multiple occasions. They joined us again our final two days on outings from the Lodge at Big Falls at various places in forested habitat.

Falconidae: Falcons and Caracaras (4)

Barred Forest Falcon (*Micrastur ruficollis*) – Not textbook views, but by deduction the secretive bird we spied across from a hiking trail at the Rio Frio Cave could only be this species. We saw the tail, then the head, then watched it fly off from a nest it was constructing in dense foliage on a horizontal branch just where prominent vertical branch intersected. A glimpse into an elusive species, smaller than its forest cousin, it was good to confirm the id as it took flight.

Laughing Falcon (*Herpetotheres cachinnans*) – A pair seen perched at some distance, but calling loudly, as we toured the Belize Spice Farm, a fascinating tour with some bird bonuses along the way.

Bat Falcon (*Falco ruficularis*) – We finally got good looks at this species on our final day. Matt and Rick thought they had one from the viewpoint of Nim Li Punit, but later in the day, coming out of the San Felipe

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Hills we got a good view of one perched, and stopped and got the scope out on it.

Orange-breasted Falcon (*Falco deiroleucus*) – What a BIRD. This charismatic species is in sharp decline. We tried to areas they frequent for naught, but Peg urged one last try. Our intrepid ones took off a final morning and returned to King Vulture Falls where after some searching, they found a male eating its breakfast, close enough for photos and video – score!

Psittacidae: Parrots (6)

White-crowned Parrot (*Pionus senilis*) – We observed a group at Nim Li Punit our final full day, moving swiftly and vocal.

Red-lored Parrot (*Amazona autumnalis*) – The most common and frequently encountered parrot in a mix of habitats from our first morning walk from Hidden Valley to the Mayan plazas at Caracol and Nim Li Punit.

White-fronted Parrot (*Amazona albifrons*) – We saw them on the travel day between Hidden Valley and Hopkins, then had super views of a flock feeding on large legume pods at Hopkins Wetlands.

Mealy Parrot (*Amazona farinosa*) – Two vocal individuals perched briefly and then flew off along the road into Caracol, their large size and loud voices visible.

Olive-throated Parakeet (*Eupsittula nana*) – Our best views were near the fire lookout near Hidden Valley, but we encountered this species on two other days, easy to pick out in flight by small size and tail length. We also got good views while in Punta Gorda, quite a mix of habitats for this species.

Scarlet Macaw (*Ara macao*) – A thrill to have two pair call and fly by the cliffs that framed the road going out of Caracol, near the ranger station of Chiquibul Forest Reserve.

Thamnophilidae: Antbirds (4)

Great Antshrike (*Taraba major*) – Seen well with Steve Choco guiding us on the secretive forest trails that radiate out from the open lawns and gardens of the Lodge at Big Falls. Great vocalizations.

Barred Antshrike (*Thamnophilus doliatus*) – Once out of the pine habitat, we encountered this species each day, pairs calling back and forth to each other, coming into good view on several occasions, particularly in the open area of a walk from the Lodge at Big Falls.

Dot-winged Antwren (*Microrhophias quixensis*) – Seen in a mixed flock by the ranger station at the road junction going into Caracol, passing through Chiquibul National Park.

Bare-crowned Antbird (*Gymnocichia nudiceps*) – A real specialty of the area, difficult to find, two pair inhabit the edge habitat of the Lodge at Big Falls and we heard or saw them on all of our walks there. One pair was not far from the porch we gathered on so once heard we could go look and with patience, were rewarded.

Formicariidae: Antthrushes (1)

Black-faced Antthrush (*Formicarius analis*) – With patience we got good views of this secretive species more often heard than seen, as they would cross the paths or come alongside our trails at the Lodge at Big Falls

Furnariidae: Ovenbirds, Woodcreepers, and Allies (6)

Ruddy Woodcreeper (*Dendrocincla homochroa*) – We had flash views as one crossed the road that we walked into Cockscomb Basin; soon we were distracted by an antswarm and in hindsight this species was

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our first clue.

Tawny-winged Woodcreeper (*Dendrocincla anabatina*) – Seen on March 21 on our walk at the Lodge at Big Falls.

Wedge-billed Woodcreeper (*Dendrocincla fuliginosa*) – Great views of a pair working the trees at Nim Li Punit Mayan ruins.

Ivory-billed Woodcreeper (*Xiphorhynchus flavigaster*) – The most common woodcreeper encountered, we saw individuals or pairs on five days of the journey. They were at Nim Li Punit alongside the smaller Wedge-billed pair.

Plain Xenops (*Xenops minutus*) – LO Marvin spied one in a mixed flock with Dot-winged Antwren as we got out of the vehicles at the ranger station going into Caracal but there were so many birds there including Rufous-tailed Jacamar that we failed to get back to this one.

Rufous-breasted Spinetail (*Xenops minutus*) – Seen well on our walks at the Lodge at Big Falls, Peg heard one by her casita in shrubs the by the river and brought everyone over, then we had more good looks walking along the pasture road leading out of the lodge.

Pipridae: Manakins (2)

White-collared Manakin (*Manacus candei*) – Great views of this species, male and female, on four days of our journey. We first saw them at the Green Hills Butterfly Ranch, then had them at Cockscomb Basin and also on the grounds of the Lodge at Big Falls

Red-capped Manakin (*Ceratopipra mentalis*) – HO Normally seen well; this little dynamo eluded us except for a calling individual as we came out of Cockscomb Basin; we also heard them on the Blue Creek Trail.

Tityridae: Becards and Tityras (5)

Black-crowned Tityra (*Tityra inquisitor*) – Seen well in pine habitat near Hidden Valley, at the Mountain Pine Ridge Rio Frio forest camp, and then a pair perched up for us in the wonderful light of early morning as we birded at Nim Li Punit

Masked Tityra (*Tityra semifasciata*) – Quite common, we saw multiple pairs some days, and found them on five days of the journey.

Cinnamon Becard (*Pachyramphus cinnamomeus*) – One bright individual seen at the ranger station of Chiquibul National Park, on the road into Caracol where we encountered a lot of bird activity.

White-winged Becard (*Pachyramphus polychopterus*) – Good views typically of a pair at a time, high in the trees, at Cockscomb Basin and then around the Lodge at Big Falls.

Rose-throated Becard (*Pachyramphus aglaiae*) – We got good views of male and females, present on three days and often feeding in plain sight, mingled in with other canopy species.

Oxyruncidae: Sharpbill and Allies (1)

Royal Flycatcher (*Onychorhynchus coronatus*) – Great to see a pair of this species along a river at Cockscomb Basin; they were frequenting an area by an old nest and we got good views, though not of their admirable crest...

Tyrannidae: Tyrant Flycatchers (22)

Stub-tailed Spadebill (*Platyrinchus concrominus*) – Judy worked hard for this species and was the one to

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first find it at Nim Li Punit, she called us out of the museum to get good views, unusual for this open of habitat. Later they were seen again at the Lodge.

Ochre-bellied Flycatcher (*Mionectes oleaginosa*) – Good views at Nim Li Punit, just one individual.

Northern Bentbill (HO) (*Oncostoma cinereigulare*) – Super views while at Green Hills Butterfly Ranch where a pair was curious about us, coming in at close range.

Slate-headed Tody-flycatcher (*Poecilatriccus sylvia*) – **HO** We tried for views of this forest species but had to be content with calls.

Common Tody-Flycatcher (*Todirostrum cinereum*) – Curious and confiding, we got views on two days of the journey.

Yellow-olive Flycatcher (*Tolmomyias sulphurescens*) – Seen on four days of the journey, Green Hills Butterfly Ranch down into the more open forest areas on outings from the Lodge at Big Falls, and on walks at the Lodge as well.

Greenish Elaenia (*Miopagus viridicata*) – Seen well at Cockscomb Basin.

Yellow-bellied Elaenia (*Elaenia flavogaster*) – Often vocal, we enjoyed their company on the grounds of the Lodge at Big Falls and on outings from there in rural countryside.

Tropical Pewee (*Contopus cinereus*) – Seen on five days of the journey, typically lone individuals perched up at the top of a tree for easy viewing. Resident at Lodge at Big Falls and also the Belize Spice Farm and Botanic Garden.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (*Empidonax flaviventris*) – This migrant popped up on trails at Cockscomb Basin and again at the Lodge at Big Falls.

Black Phoebe (*Sayornis nigricans*) – An individual was perched on rocks of the Makal River crossing as we came and went en route to Caracal.

Vermilion Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*) – One was seen across the street from our picnic area on the travel day between lodges, at Blue Hole National Park.

Bright-rumped Atila (*Atila spadiceus*) – Seen on three days, our best looks were in the scope at Maya Center, then we had additional scope views while at Nim Li Punit.

Dusky-capped Flycatcher (*Myiarchus tuberculifer*) – Very common and often vocal, we had pairs or individuals on six days, in a mix of habitat from pine to riverine forest.

Brown-crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus tyrannulus*) – Our first good views were with Marvin in pine habitat near Hidden Valley, we also had them in lush forest areas three other days.

Great Kiskadee (*Pitangus sulphuratus*) – Very common, what would a topical trip be without the sight and sound of “kiskadee”, multiple individuals seen on most days.

Boat-billed Flycatcher (*Megarynchus pitangua*) – A pair taunted us on our first morning walk at Hidden Valley, luckily, they frequented the garden there, providing good views.

Social Flycatcher (*Myiozetetes similis*) – Very common, seen almost daily.

Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher (*Myiodynastes luteiventris*) – Just arriving from wintering grounds to the south, we encountered them our final days on the grounds of the Lodge at Big Falls and then we all got good looks of a vocal individual at Nim Li Punit ruins.

Piratic Flycatcher (*Legatus leucophaeus*) – Seen well at the Cockscomb Basin, an individual.

Tropical Kingbird (*Tyrannus melancholicus*) – Common everywhere, we called only those we could hear as both species occur and overlap in Belize. This one was far more common than Couch's.

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Couch's Kingbird (*Tyrannus couchii*) – Picked up by sound, and sight, while at the Lodge at Big Falls, out by the adjacent pastures.

Vireonidae: Vireos (7)

Green Shrike Vireo (*Vireolanius pulchellus*) – We saw this green jewel fly from perch to perch, but once it settled into the lush vegetation the vocals had to do, so well camouflaged. We worked on one individual at the entrance to the Rio Frio cave trail for some time, a stop on our way to Caracol.

Tawny-crowned Greenlet (*Tunchiornis ochraceiceps*) – We saw this species in a mixed flock on the Blue Creek walk, two individuals.

Lesser Greenlet (*Pachysylvia decurtata*) – Very common, seen and heard daily once out of the pine habitat.

White-eyed Vireo (*Vireo griseus*) – We saw and heard individuals, on several outings of three of the days of the trip, often accompanied by various species of warblers. The most cooperative one was at the Green Hills Butterfly Ranch.

Mangrove Vireo (*Vireo pallens*) – We had nice looks at this species walking along the coast by the Coral House and local cemetery at Punta Gorda, its namesake trees present alongside verdant residential gardens.

Yellow-throated Vireo (*Vireo flavifrons*) – After Lesser Greenlet the most commonly encountered vireo, several individuals seen daily once out of the pine habitat, also in mixed flocks with various warbler species.

Yellow-green Vireo (*Vireo flavoviridis*) – Seen at Nim Li Punit and then on a morning walk at the Lodge at Big Falls our final day.

Corvidae: Crows and Jays (2)

Brown Jay (*Psilorhinus morio*) – A great “yard bird” this species is incredibly common in Belize, often commanding the fruit feeders at dawn but present and vocal all day in small groups.

Green Jay (*Cyanocorax yncas*) – We had a group blow through as we birded near the fire lookout in pine habitat from Hidden Valley.

Hirundinidae: Swallows and Martins (5)

Northern Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) – We saw both the migratory and the resident “Ridgeway’s” variety, the latter roosting in the visitor center at Blue Hole National Park, where we could readily see and photograph their little white eyebrows.

Purple Martin (*Progne subis*) – Peg spied them flying about the huge cell tower by Hopkins Wetlands, then we later got views on two days of a few individuals.

Gray-breasted Martin (*Progne chalybea*) – Quite common and seen in a mix of habitats. Present at the Lodge at Big Falls.

Mangrove Swallow (*Tachycineta albilinea*) – Seen at Piedro Lagoon.

Barn Swallow (*Progne chalybea*) – Seen on travel days in agricultural areas.

Poliioptilidae: Gnatcatchers (1)

Long-billed Gnatwren (*Ramphocaenus melanurus*) – We had to work for views after hearing several individuals, one at the ranger station at Chiquibul proved furtive, then finally the last morning on the Lodge at Big Falls grounds it came through for true observation.

Troglodytidae: Wrens (3)

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House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*) – A common voice we know from home, we saw or heard them, typically pairs, on five days of the journey.

Spot-breasted Wren (*Pheugopedius maculipectus*) – This snazzy wren was ever-present but takes some work to get good looks at, heard or seen daily in a mix of habitats.

White-breasted Wood-Wren (*Henicorhina leucosticta*) – We worked to bring a few out for good viewing, one along Blue Creek trail was most memorable. Individuals were noted as seen or heard on five days.

Mimidae: Mockingbirds and Thrashers (2)

Gray Catbird (*Dumetella carolinensis*) – Very common, recorded on five days – sometimes 3- individuals working fruiting trees around the lodge grounds and gardens were noted.

Tropical Mockingbird (*Mimus gilvus*) – First picked up at the airport upon arrival, they were present at Hopkins in good number, one more 5-6 were sunning at dawn near the parking lot.

Turdidae: Thrushes (3)

Swainson's Thrush (*Catharus ustulatus*) – Seen at Green Hills Butterfly Ranch, a lone individual.

Wood Thrush (*Hylocichla mustelina*) – Seen in forested habitat on outings from the Lodge at Big Falls, individuals.

Clay-colored Thrush (*Turdus grayi*) – This was the first bird heard at dawn at Hidden Valley, and a frequent one at lower elevations as well. Common.

Fringillidae: Finches, Euphonia, and Allies (3)

Yellow-throated Euphonia (*Euphonia hirundinacea*) – A lovely species, first seen well at the Green Hills Butterfly Ranch, male and female feeding in flowering trees near the parking lot, then seen on four days of the journeys, most often as a pair.

Olive-backed Euphonia (*Euphonia gouldi*) – This subtle beauty drew us in, we watched them at Green Hills, Maya Center, Cockscomb, Blue Creek and a few other locations, typically as a pair.

Black-headed Siskin (*Spinus notatus*) – Good views on all three days from Hidden Valley, small vocal flocks, feeding in the pine habitat. Quite visible at the Rio Frio Forest camp.

Passerellidae: New World Sparrows (4)

Green-backed Sparrow (*Arremonops rufivirgatus*) – A desired species by several in our group, we watched a pair for some time at Green Hills Butterfly Ranch, feeding low in leaf litter. We then had one put on a good show at our dawn visit to Nim Li Punit Mayan Ruins, singing.

Chipping Sparrow (*Spizella passerina*) – **HO** only but distinctive, picked up by Peg and Valerie as we watched other more tropical species intently by the fire lookout tower in the pine habitat from Hidden Valley.

Orange-billed Sparrow (*Arremon aurantirostris*) – Seen the last morning on a walk with Steve Choco at the Lodge at Big Falls – nice to add species to the last moment!

Rusty Sparrow (*Aimophila rufescens*) – We got excellent scope views on the drive down to Caracol, while still up in pine habitat, after several attempts it was good to get “cracking” views.

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Icteridae: American Blackbirds and Orioles (12)

Eastern Meadowlark (*Sturnella magna*) – Seen at the Rio Frio Cave area and also at the airport our final day.

Yellow-billed Caciue (*Amblycercus holosericeus*) – Seen well on the grounds of Lodge at Big Falls, secretive compared to most of its relatives. Also seen at Piedra Lagoon.

Montezuma Oropendola (*Psarocolius montezuma*) – We had great views of this species at the Rio Frio Cave area and also at the Belize Spice Farm and Botanic Garden.

Black-cowled Oriole (*Icterus prothemelas*) – Fairly common, having them regularly present at the feeders at the Lodge at Big Falls was a treat.

Orchard Oriole (*Icterus spurius*) – Very common, often seen in groups of six or more, mixed with other oriole and tanager species in fruiting trees.

Yellow-backed Oriole (*Icterus chrysater*) – This beauty was a regular in the garden and back driveway of Hidden Valley lodge, a beautiful songster.

Yellow-tailed Oriole (*Icterus mesomelas*) – Also seen at Hidden Valley, at times with Yellow-tailed for a nice comparison.

Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*) – Common and widespread in the lowland areas the second half of the trip, the males were getting super bright – easy to pick out in tall trees of the rural areas.

Bronzed Cowbird (*Molothrus aeneus*) – Quite common in agricultural areas of the lowlands.

Giant Cowbird (*Molothrus oryzivorus*) – Seen harassing a Montezuma Oropendola nest at a colony at the forest camp at Rio Frio on the way into Caracol.

Melodious Blackbird (*Dives dives*) – Seen and heard daily, always uttering its loud and varied vocalizations.

Great-tailed Grackle (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) – Seen daily once we left the pine habitat at Hidden Valley.

Parulidae: Wood-Warblers (23)

Ovenbird (*Seiurus aurocapillus*) – Judy pickup up the first one on the grounds of Hidden Valley, then Rick and Harlee spied one hanging around their river-edge cabins.

Worm-eating Warbler (*Helmitheros vermivorum*) – Seen on two days, lone individuals, at Blue Creek and Nim Li Punit.

Louisiana Waterthrush (*Parkesia motacilla*) – Seen well along stream courses a couple of times, lone individuals, the easiest to see was the one at Blue Creek at the start of our walk.

Northern Waterthrush (*Parkesia noveboracensis*) – Present and visible daily on the grounds of the Lodge at Big Falls, a couple of individuals.

Blue-winged Warbler (*Vermivora cyanoptera*) – A nice surprise when a lone individual popped up right off the porch at Big Falls, in a shrub by the hummingbird feeder.

Black-and-White Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*) – Fairly common in forested habitats, individuals seen on six days of the journey.

Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*) – Rick found one the final tour day while at lunch at Captain Hooks, waiting for our planes.

Tennessee Warbler (*Oreothlypis peregrina*) – Seen on the grounds of the Lodge at Big Falls, a lone individual.

Gray-crowned Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis poliocephala*) – Seen well on our first morning walk at Hidden Valley in shrubs close to the road. A strange quiet morning, but this elusive one was ready to show off for

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Kentucky Warbler (*Geothlypis formosa*) – Seen skulking on the trails at the Lodge at Big Falls, we also had good views alongside a Hooded Warbler in a brush pile walking into Caracol.

Common Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*) – **HO** heard only at Hopkins wetlands, calling repeatedly.

Hooded Warbler (*Setophaga citrina*) – This beauty was one of the more regular warblers seen, individuals seen on five days, sometimes several in a day though most often alone or in with other species.

American Redstart (*Setophaga ruticilla*) – Common, seen daily, males and females seen regularly.

Northern Parula (*Setophaga americana*) – Seen on two days from Lodge at Big Falls.

Magnolia Warbler (*Setophaga magnolia*) – Seen daily, one of the most common warblers encountered on our journey, often in a mixed flock with other warblers and vireos.

Yellow Warbler (*Setophaga petechia*) – First seen at Hopkins, we then saw this species daily, a lone individual here and there.

Chestnut-sided Warbler (*Setophaga pensylvanica*) – individuals seen in bright and winter plumage, often gleaning insects along vegetated branches, with their tails cocked skyward. Seen on six days of our journey.

Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Setophaga coronata*) – Individuals seen in the pine habitat and then one at the Green Hills Butterfly Ranch.

Yellow-throated Warbler (*Setophaga dominica*) – Such a beauty, we were pleased to find this bird in a variety of habitats, from the airport on arrival, to King Vulture falls and then Blue Creek, Hopkins Village and the Lodge at Big Falls.

Grace's Warbler (*Setophaga graciae*) – Restricted to the pine habitat, often singing to alert us to their presence.

Black-throated Green Warbler (*Setophaga virens*) – Seen on two days in the pine habitat and then our final day at Nim Li Punit.

Rufous-capped Warbler (*Basileuterus rufifrons*) – Seen only while at the Hidden Valley at higher elevations.

Wilson's Warbler (*Cardellina pusilla*) – Seen at the ranger station going into Caracol, a lone individual in a mixed flock and on that same day at the Mountain Pine Ridge Rio Frio forest camp.

Cardinalidae: Grosbeaks and Buntings (9)

Hepatic Tanager (*Piranga flava*) – Common in the pine country and a yard bird at Hidden Valley, where we got super looks at them in the garden area. Seen also throughout the pines.

Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*) – Seen in both pine and other forested habitats, individuals seen on five days of the journey.

Red-crowned Ant-Tanager (*Habia rubica*) – Seen at Cockscomb Basin, a pair, alongside Red-throated Ant Tanager at a swam or ants, great for comparison!

Red-throated Ant-Tanager (*Chlorothraupis stolzmanni*) – Seen at Cockscomb Basin attending ants, and then at the Lodge at Big Falls, chattering to alert us to a pair.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*) – Seen at Nim Li Punit.

Blue-black Grosbeak (*Cyanoloxia cyanoides*) – Kathy remarked on its call being like a Canyon Wren, we found them on three days of the journey, and heard them on another. Good views at Nim Li Punit.

Blue Grosbeak (*Passerina caerulea*) – Seen at King Vulture Falls and later at in the open pasture area near Lodge at Big Falls.

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Indigo Bunting (*Passerina cyanea*) – Seen at Maya Center and then on two days towards the end of our journey from the Lodge at Big Falls.

Painted Bunting (*Passerina ciris*) – We got super looks at several individuals feeding on grasses along side the road as we came and went from the Lodge at Big Falls.

Thraupidae: Tanagers and Allies (15)

Gray-headed Tanager (*Eucometis penicillata*) – Seen well at an ant swarm at Cockscomb Basin.

Crimson-collared Tanager (*Ramphocelus sanguinolentus*) – Always a showstopper, seen well on four days of our journey, first at the Rio Frio forest camp and then perhaps the most memorable our early morning at the Nim Li Punit Mayan ruin site close to the Lodge at Big Falls.

Scarlet-rumped Tanager (*Ramphocelus passerinii*) – Seen at the Lodge at Big Falls on several walks from there.

Blue-gray Tanager (*Thraupis episcopus*) – Frequently encountered during the second half of our trip in the more lowland forests.

Yellow-winged Tanager (*Thraupis abbas*) – One of the more common tanagers encountered, tolerant of a variety of habitats, often seen at close range.

Golden-hooded Tanager (*Tangara larvata*) – Such a beauty, this bird always earns gasps from its viewers. Seen on three days of the journey including Cockscomb Basin. We had the chance to watch it at close range, feeding by gleaning intricately in dense vegetation.

Red-legged Honeycreeper (*Cyanerpes cyaneus*) – Another showstopper, our most memorable views were of a pair at Maya Center going into Cockscomb Basin, light in the early morning on the male was just electric!

Blue-black Grassquit (*Volatinia jacarina*) – Common, several individuals seen per day, in open areas and road margins as we explored from the Lodge at Big Falls.

Thick-billed Seedfinch (*Sporophila funerea*) – Seen at Piedro Lagoon.

Variable Seedeater (*Sporophila corvina*) – Seen in the pine country, from Hidden Valley.

Morelet's Seedeater (*Sporophila moreletii*) – Very common, seen daily.

Yellow-faced Grassquit (*Tiaris olivaceus*) – Common, seen on five days of our journey.

Buff-throated Saltator (*Saltator maximus*) – Seen on three days of our journey on outings from the Lodge at Big Falls.

Black-headed Saltator (*Saltator atriceps*) – A yard bird at Hidden Valley, this species was seen in a mix of habitats, on four days of the journey.

Grayish Saltator (*Saltator coerulescens*) – First seen at Green Hills Butterfly Ranch, we had them on three days of the trip with other good views at Maya Center.

Passeridae: Old World Sparrows (1)

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) – All species count, this one was seen in town at Punta Gorda...

MAMMALS (6 Species)

Common Opossum (*Didelphis marsupialis*) – Seen early in the meadow at the Lodge at Big Falls.

Yucatan Black Howler Monkey (*Alouatta pigra*) – Seen at several locations – this iconic sound of the tropics

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was a welcome treat to hear.

Deppe's Squirrel (*Sciurus deppei*) – Common, seen in a mix of habitats on five days of the trip.

Yucatan Squirrel (*Sciurus yucatanensis*) – Seen by the airport and then later on an outing from Hidden Valley.

Central American Agouti (*Dasyprocta punctata*) – Seen daily on the open lawn at the Lodge at Big Falls.

Gray Fox (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*) – Great looks and photos at the 1000 ft. falls National Park in the pine country. Then seen again on the grounds of the Lodge at Big Falls.

REPTILES and AMPHIBIANS (11 Species)

Morelet's Crocodile (*Crocodylus moreletii*) – Seen at a stream crossing on our day to Caracol, sunning itself.

Green Iguana (*Iguana iguana*) – Seen walking near the coast at Punta Gorda, one large one and some bright green young ones.

Black Spiny-tailed Iguana (*Ctenosaura similis*) – Great views while at the Lodge at Big Falls, and associated outings, from small to huge individuals. This was the most common iguana we saw.

(Brown) Striped Basilisk (*Basiliscus vittatus*) – Seen on several days of the journey, Rick had an eye for spotting them and got some photos while at the Lodge at Big Falls.

Fence Lizard (*Sceloporus*, sp.) – One spotted at the Blue Hole picnic area

Brown Anole (*Norops sagrei*) – Seen at Green Hills Butterfly farm

Neotropical Green Anole (*Anolis biporcatus*) – Seen on our Caracol day from Hidden Valley.

House (Asian) Gecko (*Hemidactylus frenatus*) – Seen at Hidden Valley and the Lodge at Big Falls. Introduced.

Meso-American Slider (*Trachemys venusta*) – Green Hills Butterfly Farm in the pond there.

Glass Tree Frog (*Hyalinobatrachium fleischmanni*) – Seen on two days, Lodge at Big Falls

Cane (Marine) Toad (*Rhinella marina*) – Seen on the banks of the Rio Grande river – also calling at night – also called Giant Toad.

BUTTERFLIES

We saw so many iconic and beautiful tropical species, from Blue Morphos to Heleconids but we did not keep a list this trip, as I guess we were all just too overwhelmed by multi-taxa field experiences happening at once! We do have numerous photos to work from as we sort these out...