

Costa Rica: Monteverde & More

March 15 – 25, 2022 + Sarapiquis Extension | Species List



Compiled by Carlos Sanchez

With Carlos Sanchez and Johann Fernandez, with 10 participants: David, Sue, Sarah, Michael, Jerry, Edith, Brenda, Tina, Holger, and Barbara

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

(I)= Introduced

(RE)= Regional Endemic

(E)= National Endemic

Summary: A fantastic route through northern Costa Rica, designed to sample several of the major habitat types and elevations that the country has to offer: Carara NP/Tarcoles (transitional tropical dry forest and mangroves), Monteverde (highland cloud forest), Celeste Mountain Lodge (mid-elevation rainforest), and Cano Negro (lowland wetlands and gallery forest). Over the course of the tour, trip participants got to sample most of the bird families one is able to see in the Neotropics, from trogons to toucans and puffbirds to potoos.

Costa Rica is an amazing country with excellent ecotourism infrastructure, excellent COVID-safe protocols in place, and very high biodiversity. Over the course of a couple weeks, we managed to see about 340 bird species. The four species that left the deepest impression on trip participants included the following in order as **bird of the trip**:

- 1) Three-wattled Bellbird
- 2) Great Potoo
- 3) Resplendent Quetzal
- 4) Spotted Antbird

BIRDS (340 species recorded, of which 5 were heard only):

TINAMOUS: Tinamidae (1)

Slaty-breasted Tinamou *Crypturellus boucardi*—incredible views on the Rio Celeste Trail walking right on the paved path in front of us! (03/21)

DUCKS, GEESE AND SWANS: Anatidae (1)

Muscovy Duck *Cairina moschata*—several wild Muscovy Ducks on the Tarcoles River Boat Tour (03/16)

GUANS AND CURASSOWS: Cracidae (4)

Gray-headed Chachalaca *Ortalis cinereiceps*—observed at the Monteverde Hummingbird Gallery (03/17), Mariposa Boutique Hotel (03/18), and Tilajari Hotel (03/23); more a bird of secondary forest and forest edge than the following three species

Crested Guan *Penelope purpurascens*—we saw the first of these nearly turkey-sized birds in the fruiting trees at Curi-Cancha Reserve in Monteverde, followed by additional sightings at Bosque Nubosa de Monteverde (03/18), Celeste Mountain Lodge (03/21 and 03/22), and Arenal Observatory Lodge (03/24)

Black Guan (RE) *Chamaepetes unicolor*—great views of a couple individuals at the Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve (03/18)

Great Curassow *Crax rubra*—stellar views of these large gallinaceous birds on the grounds of the Arenal Observatory Lodge, where they are semi-tame

NEW WORLD QUAIL: Odontophoridae (1)

Black-breasted Wood-Quail (RE) *Odontophorus leucolaemus*—fleeting glimpses of a vocal covey of these shy wood-quail at the Bajo del Tigre sector of the Monteverde Children's Eternal Forest (03/20)

PIGEONS AND DOVES: Columbidae (12)

Rock Pigeon *Columba livia* (I)—seen on several days whenever we drove through cities or towns

Red-billed Pigeon *Patagioenas flavirostris*—common and adaptable in Costa Rica, often near towns or in secondary habitats

Band-tailed Pigeon *Patagioenas fasciata*—several individuals observed at Hotel de Montana Monteverde (03/18); this is the highest elevation arboreal pigeon in Costa Rica

Short-billed Pigeon *Patagioenas nigrirostris*—heard during the main tour, but the group that continued on the extension saw them in the Caribbean lowlands

Inca Dove *Columbina inca*—always seen around buildings in drier areas, such as Hotel Bougainvillea (03/16) and Guacimo Road (03/16)

Common Ground Dove *Columbina passerina*—we flushed a small flock of these doves along the dry Guacimo Road (03/16)

Ruddy Ground Dove *Columbina talpacoti*—the common and widespread small dove in lowland areas

Ruddy Quail-Dove *Geotrygon montana* (HO)—heard calling from deep within the rainforest at Celeste Mountain Lodge (03/22)

White-tipped Dove *Leptotila verreauxi*—sporadic sightings of this subtly beautiful ground-dwelling dove at Celeste Mountain Lodge (03/22) and Sarapiquí Rainforest Lodge (03/26)

Gray-chested Dove *Leptotila plumbeiceps*—observed on the Meandrica Trail at Carara National Park (03/17)

Buff-fronted Quail-Dove *Zentrygon costaricensis* (RE)—seen quietly walking in the forest understory at the Santa Elena Cloud Forest Reserve (03/19); a large, pastel-colored dove that is usually hard to see well

White-winged Dove *Zenaida asiatica*—common and widespread

CUCKOOS AND ALLIES: Cuculidae (2)

Groove-billed Ani *Crotophaga sulcirostris*—these bizarre black cuckoos were numerous around the Cano Negro and Tarcoles areas, where we saw them daily in small family groups

Squirrel Cuckoo *Piaya cayana*—singles of this charismatic cuckoo in the dry forest along Guacimo Road (03/16) and Bajo del Tigre at Monteverde (03/20)

NIGHTJARS: Caprimulgidae (2)

Lesser Nighthawk *Chordeiles acutipennis*—a flock of these birds were hawking insects over the

mangroves on the Tarcoles River Boat Tour (03/16), and we saw a roosting individual in the Cano Negro area (03/23)

Common Pauraque *Nyctidromus albicollis*—observed at night by some at Cerro Lodge and Hotel de Montana Monteverde

POTOOS: Nyctibiidae (1)

Great Potoo *Nyctibius grandis*—our local guide for the day knew exactly where to find one, which happened to be right by the highway in the small town just before the Medio Queso Wetlands

SWIFTS: Apodidae (2)

White-collared Swift *Streptoprocne zonaris*—large numbers of these flying boomerangs overhead along the road near Celeste Mountain Lodge (03/21)

Gray-rumped Swift *Chaetura cinereiventris*—seen at SarapiquíS Rainforest Lodge on the extension (03/25 and 03/26) **extension only**

HUMMINGBIRDS: Trochilidae (27)

White-necked Jacobin *Florisuga mellivora*—great views of this striking hummingbird at Celeste Mountain Lodge (03/22) and Arenal Observatory Lodge (03/24), feeding on ornamental porterweed

White-tipped Sicklebill *Eutoxeres aquila*—a pleasant surprise to see this scarce and highly specialized hummingbird feeding on *Heliconia* at Celeste Mountain Lodge at the end of our walk! (03/22)

Green Hermit *Phaethornis guy*—seen feeding in the *Heliconias* at Celeste Mountain Lodge (03/21) and again at the Galeria de Colibri in Cinchona (03/24)

Long-billed Hermit *Phaethornis longirostris*—one perched long enough for everyone to get eye-level views at Sendero La Meandrica in Carara National Park (03/17)

Stripe-throated Hermit *Phaethornis striigularis*—we saw this small hermit on the Rio Celeste Trail and Bijagua Bird Song Gardens (03/21)

Brown Violetear *Colibri delphinae*—one at Virgen del Socorro (03/26) **extension only**

Lesser Violetear *Colibri cyanotus*—seen daily at all the feeder sites around Monteverde, a common but beautiful species of higher elevations in Costa Rica

Purple-crowned Fairy *Heliostyris barroti*—one of these strikingly elegant forest sprites showed well for us at Sendero La Meandrica at Carara National Park (03/17); not a hummingbird species that visits feeders

Green-breasted Mango *Anthracothorax prevostii*—seen briefly while watching a mixed flock at Tilajari Hotel Resort (03/22) and again in the Cano Negro area (03/23); this is a common species of open agricultural areas in the lowlands

Black-crested Coquette *Lophornis helenae*—fantastic views of this stunning diminutive species in the porterweed at Bijagua Bird Song Gardens (03/21)

Green-crowned Brilliant *Heliodoxa jacula*—we saw these iridescent green hummingbirds at the Monteverde Hummingbird Gallery (03/17) and the Galeria de Colibri at Cinchona (03/24)

Long-billed Starthroat *Heliomaster longirostris*—seen at Tilari Hotel Resort in the afternoon (03/22)

Purple-throated Mountain-gem *Lampornis calolaemus* **(RE)**—small numbers at the various feeders throughout Monteverde; a higher elevation endemic of the montane cloud forests of Costa Rica and Panama

Magenta-throated Woodstar *Calliphlox bryantae* **(RE)**—we saw this lovely ‘bee-type’ hummingbird navigating around its larger cousins at Curi-Cancha in the porterweed; another cloud forest hummingbird found only in Costa Rica and Panama

Ruby-throated Hummingbird *Archilochus colubris*—we saw a female at Cerro Lodge one morning (03/17); Costa Rica is the southern limit of this migrant's wintering range

Canivet's Emerald *Cynanthus canivetii*—a few sightings around the garden at Hotel Montana Monteverde (03/21)

Violet-headed Hummingbird *Klais guimeti*—this tiny hummer loves the porterweed planted around the Arenal Observatory Lodge (03/24); also seen at Celeste Mountain Lodge in the same flowering plant species (03/21)

Violet Sabrewing *Campylopterus hemileucurus*—the largest hummingbird by weight in Costa Rica; fortunately, this spectacular species was common at the feeders throughout Monteverde (03/17, 03/18) and the Galeria de Colibri at Cinchona (03/24)

Crowned Woodnymph *Thalurania colombica*—singles at Celeste Mountain Lodge (03/21) and Arenal Observatory Lodge (03/24)

Coppery-headed Emerald *Elvira cupreiceps* (E)—quite common in the porterweed at Curi-Cancha Reserve (03/18), where we saw at least five individuals; one of two hummingbird species endemic to Costa Rica

Stripe-tailed Hummingbird *Eupherusa eximia*—singles at the Monteverde Hummingbird Gallery (03/17)

Scaly-breasted Hummingbird *Phaeochroa cuvierii*—nice views of this large hummingbird along the Sendero La Meandrica in Carara National Park (03/17)

Blue-vented Hummingbird *Saucerottia hoffmanni*—a couple individuals observed in the dry forest near Cerro Lodge (03/17)

Cinnamon Hummingbird *Amazilia rutila*—a few individuals seen in the dry forest near Cerro Lodge (03/17)

Rufous-tailed Hummingbird *Amazilia tzacatl*—the most common and widespread hummingbird of Costa Rica, occurring in a variety of habitats and elevations except in the high montane cloud forest

Mangrove Hummingbird *Amazilia boucardi* (E)—one of these specialized endemic hummingbirds on the Tarcoles River boat tour (03/16)

Blue-throated Goldentail *Chlorestes eliciae*—two of these small yet beautiful hummingbirds at the Bijagua Bird Song Gardens near Celeste Mountain Lodge (03/21)

RAILS, COOTS AND ALLIES: Rallidae (4)

Russet-naped Wood-Rail *Aramides albiventris*—we saw this large and colorful rail killing a snake on the Cano Negro boat tour (03/23) and in the pond near Sendero Bogarin (03/24); this species is a recent split from the former Gray-necked Wood-Rail

Gray-cowled Wood-Rail *Aramides cajaneus*—seen well on the Tarcoles River boat tour (03/16); this species is a recent split from the former Gray-necked Wood-Rail

Purple Gallinule *Porphyrio martinica*—several of these multi-colored rails in Cano Negro and Medio Queso Wetlands (03/23)

White-throated Crake *Laterallus albigularis*—brief views of this shy little rail in a tiny roadside wetland in the town of Bijagua (03/21)

FINFOOTS AND SUNGREBE: Heliornithidae (1)

Sungrebe *Heliornis fulica*—incredible views of this normally shy bird along the river at Cano Negro, allowing us to get quite close and observe it well – even some great photo opportunities! (03/23)

LIMPKIN: Aramidae (1)

Limpkin *Aramus guarauna*—a few of these bulky, snail-eating birds along the Cano Negro (03/23)

THICK-KNEES: Burhinidae (1)

Double-striped Thick-knee *Burhinus bistriatus*—great views of two birds in a dry field along the Guacimo Road on our first full day of birding – nice! (03/16)

STILTS AND AVOCETS: Recurvirostridae (1)

Black-necked Stilt *Himantopus mexicanus*—we saw these dapper birds in small numbers on the Tarcoles River boat tour (03/16), Cano Negro boat tour (03/23), and Medio Quest Wetland (03/23)

LAPWINGS AND PLOVERS: Charadriidae (2)

Southern Lapwing *Vanellus chilensis*—first recorded in Costa Rica in 1997, this species has now become a regular part of the country's avifauna; small numbers recorded in the Cano Negro region of our tour (03/23)

Collared Plover *Charadrius collaris*—great views of a bird in breeding plumage on the Tarcoles River (03/16)

JACANAS: Jacanidae (1)

Northern Jacana *Jacana spinosa*—conspicuous and numerous in Cano Negro and Medio Queso Wetlands (03/23)

SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES: Scolopacidae (4)

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*—a few migrants seen on the Tarcoles River boat tour (03/16) and Estero Mata de Limon (03/17) on our drive to Monteverde

Least Sandpiper *Calidris minutilla*—maybe a dozen birds seen on the Tarcoles River (03/16); the smallest of all the sandpipers in the world

Spotted Sandpiper *Actitis macularius*—several dozen individuals flying, feeding, and roosting along the Tarcoles River (03/16); also seen on the Caribbean rainforest extension and Cano Negro

Willet *Tringa semipalmata*—a few birds loafing on the sandbar at Estero Mata de Limon (03/17)

GULLS AND TERNS: Laridae (2)

Laughing Gull *Leucophaeus atricilla*—large numbers loafing on the sandbars at Estero Mata de Limon (03/17)

Royal Tern *Thalasseus maximus*—seen in good numbers on the Tarcoles River boat tour (03/16) and Estero Mata de Limon (03/17)

STORKS: Ciconiidae (1)

Wood Stork *Mycteria americana*—scattered sightings on the Tarcoles River (03/16), Bijagua Bird Song Gardens (03/21, surprising flyover!), and Cano Negro area (03/23)

FRIGATEBIRDS: Fregatidae (1)

Magnificent Frigatebird *Fregata magnificens*—soaring overhead during our brief stint on the Pacific Coast (03/16 and 03/17)

ANHINGAS: Anhingidae (1)

Anhinga *Anhinga anhinga*—we saw a couple on the Tarcoles River boat trip (03/16) and then several dozen more in the Cano Negro region (03/23)

CORMORANTS Phalacrocoracidae (1)

Neotropic Cormorant *Phalacrocorax brasilianus*—common and conspicuous on our boat trips in the Cano Negro (03/23) and Tarcoles River (03/16)

PELICANS: Pelecanidae (1)

Brown Pelican *Pelecanus occidentalis*—numerous and conspicuous on the Pacific Coast (03/16 and 03/17); this small pelican forages by plunge diving bill-first like a kingfisher, a hunting style shared only with the similar but much larger Peruvian Pelican

HERONS AND EGRETS: Ardeidae (12)

Pinnated Bittern *Botaurus pinnatus*—good views of this uncommon bittern at Medio Queso Wetlands (03/23)

Bare-throated Tiger-Heron *Tigrisoma mexicanum*—we saw this attractively patterned heron in small numbers along the Tarcoles River (03/16), Cano Negro (03/22), and Sarapiquí River (03/23)

Great Blue Heron *Ardea herodias*—ones and twos on the Tarcoles River and Medio Queso Wetlands; a winter migrant in Costa Rica that heads north in the spring to breed

Great Egret *Ardea alba*—ubiquitous wherever there was a body of freshwater

Snowy Egret *Egretta thula*—several dozen of these yellow-slipped egrets heading to roost in the mangroves on the Tarcoles River (03/16); also seen on the Cano Negro boat tour (03/23)

Little Blue Heron *Egretta caerulea*—several at Tarcoles (03/16) and Cano Negro (03/23)

Tricolored Heron *Egretta tricolor*—several of these elegant herons on the Tarcoles River (03/16) and Cano Negro (03/23)

Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*—seen almost daily in pastures and open grassy areas throughout

Green Heron *Butorides virescens*—small numbers on the Tarcoles River (03/16) and Cano Negro (03/23)

Black-crowned Night-Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*—a single bird observed on the Tarcoles River boat tour, roosting semi-hidden in dense vegetation (03/16)

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron *Nyctanassa violacea*—not uncommon on the Tarcoles River (03/16) and Cano Negro (03/23)

Boat-billed Heron *Cochlearius cochlearius*—a single bird in the pond behind the restaurant at La Fortuna (03/24); this species uses its expansive wide bill to capture fish and shrimp at night

IBIS AND SPOONBILLS: Theskiornithidae (3)

White Ibis *Eudocimus albus*—numerous on our Tarcoles and Cano Negro boat trips (03/16 and 03/23)

Green Ibis *Mesembrinibis cayennensis*—a bulky, tropical ibis of vegetated ponds and rivers; we recorded them at Cano Negro (03/23) and on the Sarapiquí River (03/25)

Roseate Spoonbill *Platalea ajaja*—a few of these colorful birds on the Tarcoles River (03/16)

NEW WORLD VULTURES: Cathartidae (3)

Black Vulture *Coragyps atratus*—common and widespread, seen daily

Turkey Vulture *Cathartes aura*—common and widespread, seen daily

Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture *Cathartes burrovianus*—distant scope views of two birds at Medio Queso Wetlands (03/23)

OSPREY: Pandionidae (1)

Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*—two birds recorded on the Tarcoles River (03/16), where it is an overwintering migrant

HAWKS, KITES AND EAGLES: Accipitridae (14)

White-tailed Kite *Elanus leucurus*—one along the road from the town of La Fortuna back to San Jose; known in Costa Rica as the ‘ballerina hawk’ due to its elegant hovering when hunting (03/24)

Hook-billed Kite *Chondrohierax uncinatus*—one observed from La Selva OTS (03/25) **extension only**

Swallow-tailed Kite *Elanoides forficatus*—a few of these most elegant raptors soaring gracefully over the valley at Bajo del Tigre where we heard the Ornate Hawk-Eagle (03/20)

Ornate Hawk-Eagle *Spizaetus ornatus* (HO)—heard only in the Monteverde area at Bajo del Tigre

Plumbeous Kite *Ictinia plumbea*—one overhead on our Tarcoles boat trip (03/16)

Double-toothed Kite *Harpagus bidentatus*—one observed at La Selva OTS (03/25) **extension only**

Common Black Hawk *Buteogallus anthracinus*—two on our Tarcoles boat trip (03/16); this hawk feeds primarily on crustaceans like crabs

Great Black Hawk *Buteogallus urubitinga*—one of these scarce raptors flew over us near the UGA Costa Rica Campus in Monteverde while we were looking at Golden-browed Chlorophonias! (03/19)

Barred Hawk *Morphnarchus princeps*—one of these handsome raptors at Virgen del Socorro (03/26) **extension only**

Roadside Hawk *Rupornis magnirostris*—seen on the roadside a couple times in the Arenal area; a small raptor that sits and waits for its prey, usually large insects, reptiles, and small mammals

Harris’s Hawk *Parabuteo unicinctus*—one of these strikingly colored raptors in the same field as the Nicaraguan Seed-Finch near Cano Negro (03/23)

White Hawk *Pseudastur albicollis*—a few got to see this raptor soaring by from the restaurant at Las Heliconias Lodge (03/22)

Gray Hawk *Buteo plagiatus*—our best views were along the road near Celeste Mountain Lodge (03/21)

Broad-winged Hawk *Buteo platypterus*—a single bird observed along Sendero La Meandrica at Carara NP (03/17)

OWLS: Strigidae (6)

Tropical Screech-Owl *Megascops choliba*—one very cooperative bird on our evening walk at Hotel Bougainvillea put on a nice show for us (03/15)

Pacific Screech-Owl *Megascops cooperi*—incredibly spotted by Johann along the Guacimo Road; its head was poking out of a dead snag (03/16)

Crested Owl *Lophostrix cristata*—observed roosting near the rain shelter on the Heliconias nature trail (03/22) – perhaps the most dramatic looking of all Neotropical owls

Spectacled Owl *Pulsatrix perspicillata*—our owling effort at Tilajari Hotel Resort was a great success after we saw this largest Costa Rican owl (03/22)

Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl *Glaucidium brasilianum*—sightings of this semi-diurnal owl at Hotel Bougainvillea (03/16) and Guacimo Road (03/16)

Mottled Owl *Ciccaba virgata*—we saw a roosting pair in the garden at Hotel Bougainvillea, where they had taken up residence in a tall stand of bamboo (03/16)

TROGONS: Trogonidae (6)

Resplendent Quetzal *Pharomachrus mocinno*—fantastic views of at least three individuals (two males and one female) at Curi-Cancha Reserve (03/17) and again at Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve (03/18), with one of the males sporting quite long and elaborate streamers; arguably, the most beautiful bird in the Americas

Slaty-tailed Trogon *Trogon massena*—seen well on our early morning walk at Arenal Observatory Lodge (03/24); a rather large trogon with an entirely black undertail

Black-headed Trogon *Trogon melanocephalus*—singles along Guacimo Road (03/16) and outside the restaurant after our Cano Negro boat tour (03/23)

Gartered Trogon *Trogon caligatus*—individuals at Cerro Lodge and Sendero La Meandrica in Carara (03/17)

Black-throated Trogon *Trogon rufus*—great views of a stoic pair on the Rio Celeste Trail (03/21)

Collared Trogon *Trogon collaris*—seen on the Celeste Mountain Lodge Trail (03/20) and Virgen del Socorro on the extension (03/26)

MOTMOTS: Momotidae (4)

Lesson's Motmot *Momotus lessonii*—delightfully common at Hotel Bougainvillea and around Monteverde; hard to believe that this colorful species is a 'yard bird' for many Costa Ricans!

Rufous Motmot *Baryphthengus martii*—seen at La Selva OTS and SarapiquíS Rainforest Lodge (03/26)
extension only

Broad-billed Motmot *Electron platyrhynchum*—heard at on the trail at Celeste Mountain Trail but observed only on the extension at La Selva OTS (03/25)

Turquoise-browed Motmot *Eumomota superciliosa*—we saw this very handsome species very well, including at Guacimo Road (03/16), Tarcoles River boat tour (03/16), and Cerro Lodge (03/17)

KINGFISHERS: Alcedinidae (4)

Ringed Kingfisher *Megaceryle torquata*—noisy and conspicuous on the Tarcoles River boat tour (03/16), Cano Negro boat tour (03/23), and the Medio Queso Wetland (03/23)

Belted Kingfisher *Megaceryle alcyon*—one of these migratory kingfishers along the Tarcoles River (03/16)

Amazon Kingfisher *Chloroceryle amazona*—noisy and conspicuous along the Cano Negro, where we saw over a dozen individuals (03/23); also seen on the Tarcoles River and Medio Queso Wetland

Green Kingfisher *Chloroceryle americana*—singles on the flowing river in Bijagua (03/21), Cano Negro (03/23), and Medio Queso Wetland (03/23) – the smallest kingfisher species of the four we observed this year on this trip

PUFFBIRDS: Bucconidae (1)

White-whiskered Puffbird *Malacoptila panamensis*—these charismatic birds were quite common along Sendero La Meandrica in Carara NP (03/17)

JACAMARS: Galbulidae (1)

Rufous-tailed Jacamar *Galbula ruficauda*—seen twice on our route: Sendero La Meandrica (03/17) and Arenal Observatory Lodge (03/24)

NEW WORLD BARBETS: Capitonidae (1)

Red-headed Barbet *Eubucco bourcierii*—a pleasant surprise to see this colorful barbet in a mixed feeding flock at Curi-Cancha Reserve (03/18)

TOUCAN-BARBETS: Semnornithidae (1)

Prong-billed Barbet *Semnornis frantzii* (RE)—a pair of noisy birds vocalizing above us at Santa Elena Cloud Forest Reserve (03/19); one of only two toucan-barbets, the other being found only on the Pacific slope of the Ecuadorian and Colombian Andes

TOUCANS: Ramphastidae (4)

Northern Emerald-Toucanet *Aulacorhynchus prasinus*—we saw this small, highland toucanet daily

around Monteverde at most of the reserved we visited; take note, the form in Costa Rica is the Blue-throated Toucanet, a full species according to some

Collared Aracari *Pteroglossus torquatus*—we saw this small toucan in a fruiting tree near Celeste Mountain Lodge (03/22) and La Selva OTS (03/25)

Yellow-throated Toucan *Ramphastos ambiguus*—good views of this large toucan at Arenal Observatory Lodge (03/24) and on the extension at both La Selva and Sarapiquí Rainforest Lodge (03/25 and 03/26)

Keel-billed Toucan *Ramphastos sulfuratus*—observed along the road near Bijagua Bird Song Garden (03/21), Celeste Mountain Lodge (03/22), and on the Caribbean extension (03/25 and 03/26)

WOODPECKERS: Picidae (7)

Black-cheeked Woodpecker *Melanerpes pucherani*—we saw this handsome woodpecker daily in the wet forest around Celeste Mountain Lodge, including birds that attended the fruit feeder

Hoffmann's Woodpecker *Melanerpes hoffmannii*—a common woodpecker in the northern half of Costa Rica, seen daily in a variety of habitats and elevations (but never in undisturbed forest)

Pale-billed Woodpecker *Campephilus guatemalensis*—we saw this Ivory-billed Woodpecker cousin on the Sendero La Meandrica Trail in Carara (03/17) and Arenal Observatory Lodge (03/24); this species drums on trees with a double-knock

Lineated Woodpecker *Dryocopus lineatus*—seen on the same tree as the Pale-billed Woodpecker on the Sendero La Meandrica Trail (03/17)! We also saw this species in the Cano Negro area (03/23)

Cinnamon Woodpecker *Ceelus loricator* (HO)—we heard this colorful little woodpecker on the grounds of Celeste Mountain Lodge, but it never showed itself

Chestnut-colored Woodpecker *Ceelus castaneus*—this lovely woodpecker showed itself at La Selva OTS in the Caribbean lowlands (03/25) **extension only**

Rufous-winged Woodpecker *Picus simplex*—seen once at Sarapiquí Rainforest Lodge (03/26) **extension only**

FALCONS AND CARACARAS: Falconidae (4)

Crested Caracara *Caracara cheriway*—quite common in open habitats of the Pacific Coast and Cano Negro area

Yellow-headed Caracara *Milvago chimachima*—common on the Pacific Coast with multiples recorded at Guacimo Road (03/16), Tarcoles River boat tour (03/16), and Cerro Lodge (03/17)

Laughing Falcon *Herpetotheres cachinnans*—scope views of a distant bird feasting on a snake at Medio Queso Wetland (03/23)

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*—one at La Selva OTS (03/25) **extension only**

PARROTS: Psittacidae (12)

Orange-chinned Parakeet *Brotogeris jugularis*—seen or heard on multiple days across the foothills and lowlands (but not in Monteverde)

Brown-hooded Parrot *Pyrilia haematotis*—our best views were at the Mariposa Boutique Hotel in the afternoon, when a few birds alighted in a large tree (03/18)

White-crowned Parrot *Pionus senilis*—nice views at the Tilajari Hotel Resort (03/22) and again at La Selva OTS (03/25)

Red-lored Parrot *Amazona autumnalis*—pairs flew over the group at Tilajari (03/22) and Arenal Observatory Lodge (03/24)

Yellow-naped Parrot *Amazona auropalliata*—we heard their loud yodeling in the late afternoon in the mangroves of the Rio Tarcoles (03/16), but we obtained only brief flyover views; a large *Amazona* parrot that is threatened by the pet trade

White-fronted Parrot *Amazona albifrons*—a pair provided us with nice views on the Tarcoles River boat tour (03/16)

Mealy Parrot *Amazona farinosa*—seen at La Selva OTS (03/25) **extension only**

Olive-throated Parakeet *Eupsittula nana*—small numbers at Tilajari Hotel (03/22) and Cano Negro (03/23); the common parakeet of the Caribbean lowlands

Orange-fronted Parakeet *Eupsittula canicularis*—perched views along the Guacimo Road on our first birding stop (03/16); the common parakeet of northwestern Costa Rica

Great Green Macaw *Ara ambiguus*—great spotting by our driver along the road between Celeste Mountain Lodge and Tilajari Hotel Resort (03/22); this species is Critically Endangered according to CITES

Scarlet Macaw *Ara macao*—these amazing birds were conspicuous around the town of Tarcoles and Carara NP, one of their strongholds in Costa Rica; they were also regular at the feeders at Cerro Lodge!

Crimson-fronted Parakeet *Psittacara finschi*—big flocks flew high overhead in the gardens at Hotel Bougainvillea on our first morning (03/16)

ANTBIRDS: Thamnophilidae (10)

Fasciated Antshrike *Cymbilaimus lineatus*—observed at La Selva OTS (03/25) and SarapiquíS Rainforest Lodge (03/26) **extension only**

Barred Antshrike *Thamnophilus doliatus*—nice views of this striking bird at in the mangroves on the Tarcoles River boat tour (03/16), Sendero La Meandrica in Carara (03/17), and Celeste Mountain Lodge (03/21); the males are black and white; while the females are more rufous

Black-crowned Antshrike *Thamnophilus atrinucha*—observed at La Selva OTS (03/25) **extension only**

Black-hooded Antshrike *Thamnophilus bridgesi* (RE)—several birds showed well for us on the Sendero La Meandrica in Carara NP (03/17); one of the Pacific lowland endemics shared only with a small part of western Panama

Russet Antshrike *Thamnistes anabatinus*—observed in a mixed feeding flock at Arenal Observatory Lodge (03/24); this species looks and behaves more like a foliage-gleaner than an antshrike!

Dot-winged Antwren *Microrhopias quixensis*—seen at Sendero La Meandrica at Carara (03/17)

Chestnut-backed Antbird *Poliocrania exsul*—we heard this species in the Caribbean foothills and saw them on the extension at SarapiquíS Rainforest Lodge (03/26)

Dull-mantled Antbird *Sipia laemosticta*—nice views on the Waterfall Trail at Arenal Observatory Lodge (03/24)

Spotted Antbird *Hylophylax naevioides*—a couple sightings of this striking understory species on the Celeste Mountain Lodge trail (03/21 and 03/22)

Ocellated Antbird *Phaenostictus mcleannani* (HO)—heard one late afternoon calling from a ravine on the Celeste Mountain Lodge trail; the largest and arguably most beautiful antbird in Central America

OVENBIRDS AND WOODCREEPERS: Furnariidae (10)

Olivaceous Woodcreeper *Sittasomus griseicapillus*—one at Curi-Cancha (03/18); the second smallest species of woodcreeper

Ruddy Woodcreeper *Dendrocincla homochroa*—one was following a small ant swarm at Bajo del Tigre in Monteverde (03/20); an uncommon species in Costa Rica, so we were quite happy to connect with this species

Wedge-billed Woodcreeper *Glyphorynchus spirurus*—several sightings in mixed feeding flocks at Celeste Mountain Lodge (03/20 and 03/22); this is the smallest of all the woodcreepers in the Americas

Northern Barred-Woodcreeper *Dendrocolaptes sanctithomae*—this large woodcreeper showed well at Sendero La Meandrica in Carara (03/17) and SarapiquíS Rainforest Lodge (03/25 and 03/26)

Cocoa Woodcreeper *Xiphorhynchus susurrans*—seen at Sendero La Meandrica in Carara (03/17) and SarapiquíS Rainforest Lodge (03/25) on the extension

Streak-headed Woodcreeper *Lepidocolaptes souleyetii*—the most frequently seen woodcreeper on our tour, with scattered sightings on the Pacific and Caribbean slopes

Plain Xenops *Xenops minutus*—one individual of this vaguely nuthatch-like bird at Sendero La Meandrica in Carara NP right before we saw the Rufous-tailed Jacamar, always in mixed feeding flocks

Buff-throated Foliage-gleaner *Automolus ochrolaemus*—singles at Celeste Mountain Lodge (03/22) and Arenal Observatory Lodge (03/24) in mixed feeding flocks

Spotted Barbtail *Premnoplex brunnescens*—nice views at Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve of this dark little furnariid (03/18)

Ruddy Treerunner *Margarornis rubiginosus* (**RE**)—common in the highlands as they travel with mixed feeding flocks, foraging among the moss-laden branches; we saw a couple at Reserva Santa Elena

MANAKINS: Pipridae (4)

Long-tailed Manakin *Chiroxiphia linearis*—we had great views of this charismatic species along the Guacimo Road (03/16) and Bajo del Tigre at Monteverde (03/20) – Johann’s favorite bird!

White-ruffed Manakin *Corapipo altera*—brief views in a fruiting tree near Celeste Mountain Lodge (03/22)

White-collared Manakin *Manacus candei*—heard during the main tour at Celeste Mountain Lodge (03/22) but seen only on the extension at La Selva OTS (03/25) and SarapiquíS Rainforest Lodge (03/26)

Orange-collared Manakin *Manacus aurantiacus* (**RE**)—great views of this South Pacific lowland endemic at Sendero La Meandrica (03/17)

COTINGAS: Cotingidae (3)

Rufous Piha *Lipaugus unirufus*—seen in a mixed feeding flock at Celeste Mountain Lodge by some (03/20)

Three-wattled Bellbird *Procnias tricarunculatus*—spectacular views of a bird at eye-level near the UGA Costa Rica Campus in Monteverde (03/19) ****VOTED BIRD OF THE TRIP****

Snowy Cotinga *Carpodectes nitidus*—one sighting of this brilliant white bird at La Selva OTS (03/25) **extension only**

BECARDS AND TITYRAS: Tityridae (4)

Black-crowned Tityra *Tityra inquisitor*—seen in the late afternoon in a bare tree at Hotel Tilajari (03/22)

Masked Tityra *Tityra semifasciata*—scattered sightings in Monteverde, Celeste Mountain Lodge, and around La Selva; a striking species that is delightfully common in the Neotropics

Cinnamon Becard *Pachyramphus cinnamomeus*—just one sighting at Celeste Mountain Lodge of this monochromatic species (03/21)

Rose-throated Becard *Pachyramphus aglaiae*—pairs observed along Guacimo Road (03/16) and Cerro Lodge (03/17)

SHARPBILL AND ALLIES: Oxyruncidae (2)

Royal Flycatcher *Onychorhynchus coronatus*—we observed a pair in a wetter patch of forest on the Guacimo Road (03/16)

Sulphur-rumped Flycatcher *Myiobius sulphureipygius*—one of these charming little flycatchers in a mixed feeding flock at Arenal Observatory Lodge (03/24)

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS: Tyrannidae (34)

Olive-striped Flycatcher *Mionectes olivaceus*—seen only once while exploring the Curi-Cancha Reserve (03/18)

Ochre-bellied Flycatcher *Mionectes oleagineus*—observed in a mixed feeding flock at Las Heliconias Lodge nature trail (03/22)

Scale-crested Pygmy-Tyrant *Lophotriccus pileatus*—sightings of this tiny subcanopy tyke on the Rio Celeste Trail (03/21) and Las Heliconias Trail (03/22)

Slate-headed Tody-Flycatcher *Todirostrum sylvia*—this tiny flycatcher showed itself at Sendero La Meandrica in Carara NP (03/17)

Common Tody-Flycatcher *Todirostrum cinereum*—common and widespread, with good views of this colorful flycatcher on many days of the tour

Eye-ringed Flatbill *Rhynchocyclus brevirostris*—seen only once in Monteverde (03/18)

Yellow-olive Flycatcher *Tolmomyias sulphurescens*—seen at Guacimo Road (03/16) and Cerro Lodge (03/17), although we heard it much more often at lowland sites throughout the tour

Yellow-margined Flycatcher *Tolmomyias assimilis*—seen at Virgen del Socorro (03/26) **extension only**

Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet *Camptostoma imberbe*—a bird of scrubby secondary growth, seen only along the road to Cano Negro after our boat tour (03/23)

Yellow Tyrannulet *Capsiempis flaveola*—seen daily in the Caribbean lowlands at La Selva and Sarapiquí Rainforest Lodge **extension only**

Yellow-bellied Elaenia *Elaenia flavogaster*—seen multiple times throughout the tour, always in areas of secondary growth or forest edge; the most common and widespread *Elaenia sp.* in the Americas

Mountain Elaenia *Elaenia frantzii*—seen frequently in Monteverde, such as Curi-Cancha (03/18) and Reserva Santa Elena (03/19)

Torrent Tyrannulet *Serpophaga cinerea*—seen at Virgen del Socorro near a flowing river (03/26) **extension only**

Mistletoe Tyrannulet *Zimmerius parvus*—at the UGA Costa Rica Campus near Monteverde (03/19) and Tilajari Hotel (03/22); formerly lumped together with three other tyrannulets as Paltry Tyrannulet before being split four ways

Tufted Flycatcher *Mitrephanes phaeocercus*—distant views at Reserva Santa Elena (03/19) and Virgen del Socorro (03/26)

Tropical Pewee *Contopus cinereus*—seen in the afternoon at Hotel Tilajari (03/22)

Yellowish Flycatcher *Empidonax flavescens*—singles of this sprightly flycatcher at Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve on two days (03/17 and 03/18)

Black Phoebe *Sayornis nigricans*—seen only on the extension at Virgen del Socorro (03/26) **extension only**

Long-tailed Tyrant *Colonia colonus*—seen at Celeste Mountain Lodge (03/20)

Bright-rumped Attila *Attila spadiceus*—we saw this vocal species right behind Celeste Mountain Lodge (03/20) and Las Heliconias Trail (03/22)

Rufous Mourner *Rhytipterna holerythra*—nice views of the reddish-brown flycatcher (well spotted by Edith) in the understory at Las Heliconias Trail (03/22)

Dusky-capped Flycatcher *Myiarchus tuberculifer*—we saw this small and adaptable *Myiarchus* flycatcher at various sites throughout the tour route

Nutting's Flycatcher *Myiarchus nuttingi*—seen in the seasonally dry forest at Guacimo Road (03/16)

Great Crested Flycatcher *Myiarchus crinitus*—we saw this migratory flycatcher at Cerro Lodge (03/17)

Great Kiskadee *Pitangus sulphuratus*—widespread, numerous, and vocal flycatcher – one of the most common songbirds in Costa Rica

Boat-billed Flycatcher *Megarynchus pitangua*—told apart from the similar and much more common Great Kiskadee by its larger bill and lack of rufous in the wings; we saw singles at Hotel Bougainvillea and Guacimo Road (03/16)

Social Flycatcher *Myiozetetes similis*—seen on almost every day of the trip

Gray-capped Flycatcher *Myiozetetes granadensis*—surprisingly, we saw this common flycatcher only at Arenal Observatory Lodge (03/24)

Streaked Flycatcher *Myiodynastes maculatus*—our best views were along Sendero La Meandrica in Carara (03/17)

Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher *Myiodynastes luteiventris*—we saw this migratory flycatcher at Hotel Montana Monteverde (03/18), Celeste Mountain Lodge (03/22), and Virgen del Socorro (03/26); this species nests in Costa Rica during the northern summer months and migrates down to South America for the winter

Piratic Flycatcher *Legatus leucophaeus*—another migratory flycatcher that had just arrived when we started the tour, with sightings at Hotel Montana Monteverde (03/18) and the town of Bijagua (03/21)

Tropical Kingbird *Tyrannus melancholicus*—ubiquitous, seen daily

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher *Tyrannus forficatus*—a lone migrant at Guacimo Road (03/16), perhaps a young bird as the tail streamers were not fully developed

Fork-tailed Flycatcher *Tyrannus savana*—one bird with very long tail streamers flying over Medio Queso Wetlands (03/23)

VIREOS: Vireonidae (7)

Rufous-browed Peppershrike *Cyclarhis gujanensis*—surprising to see these large vireos in the garden at Hotel Bougainvillea (03/16)

Tawny-crowned Greenlet *Tunchiornis ochraceiceps*—one seen briefly in a mixed feeding flock at Las Heliconias Trail (03/22)

Lesser Greenlet *Pachysylvia decurtata*—we saw this very plain little vireo in small numbers in the Pacific lowlands at Cerro Lodge (03/17) and Sendero La Meandrica, always mixed in with other small songbirds

Mangrove Vireo *Vireo pallens*—two birds showed well for the entire group in the mangroves on the Tarcoles River boat tour (03/16)

Yellow-throated Vireo *Vireo flavifrons*—nice views at Hotel Bougainvillea (03/16) and Cerro Lodge (03/17); this relatively colorful migratory vireo seems to like the open parkland habitat of hotel gardens!

Philadelphia Vireo *Vireo philadelphicus*—seen on the grounds of Hotel Bougainvillea (a reliable site for this uncommon migrant) (03/16) and the UGA Costa Rica Campus near Monteverde (03/19)

Yellow-green Vireo *Vireo flavoviridis*—great views of this migratory vireo at Guacimo Road (03/16) and Cerro Lodge (03/17); very similar to the Red-eyed Vireo, with which it forms a superspecies along with the Black-whiskered Vireo found in the Caribbean

CROWS AND JAYS: Corvidae (2)

White-throated Magpie-Jay *Calocitta formosa*—great views of this large and striking jay at Guacimo Road (03/16), Cerro Lodge (03/17), and the UGA Costa Rica Campus near Monteverde (03/19); this dry forest species has been spreading into the higher elevations of Monteverde over the past decade

Brown Jay *Psilorhinus morio*—common and noisy in mid-elevation to higher elevation areas such as Hotel Bougainvillea, Arenal Observatory Lodge, and Monteverde, where we always saw them away from natural forest

SWALLOWS AND MARTINS: Hirundinidae (6)

Blue-and-white Swallow *Pygochelidon cyanoleuca*—the common swallow of Hotel Bougainvillea, Monteverde, and most towns away from the lowlands

Northern Rough-winged Swallow *Stelgidopteryx serripennis*—we saw small numbers at Celeste Mountain Lodge (03/20) and Arenal Observatory Lodge (03/24)

Southern Rough-winged Swallow *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*—our best views were at Arenal Observatory Lodge (03/24), where we were able to see the fieldmarks (pale rump and rufous throat) that differentiate this species from the northern

Gray-breasted Martin *Progne chalybea*—we saw small numbers on the around Cano Negro (03/23); a non-migratory martin of cities and towns

Mangrove Swallow *Tachycineta albilinea*—common around water such as the Rio Tarcoles and Cano Negro; they nest in the roof of the boat for the Rio Tarcoles tour!

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*—a few birds flying around on the Tarcoles River (03/16), heading northward for the spring and summer months

GNATCATCHERS: Polioptilidae (2)

Tawny-faced Gnatwren *Microbates cinereiventris (HO)*—heard along a forest trail at Arenal Observatory Lodge (03/24)

White-browed Gnatcatcher *Polioptila bilineata*—seen along Guacimo Road (03/16), Cerro Lodge (03/17), and Sendero La Meandrica (03/17); this is a recent split from Tropical Gnatcatcher

WRENS: Troglodytidae (14)

Nightingale Wren *Microcerculus philomela*—we saw this accomplished songster on the Waterfall Trail at Arenal Observatory Lodge (03/24)

House Wren *Troglodytes aedon*—common and widespread, usually around buildings or other man-made structures

Ochraceous Wren *Troglodytes ochraceus (RE)*—observed creeping up a moss-laden tree at Reserva Santa Elena (03/19)

Rufous-naped Wren *Campylorhynchus rufinucha*—these large and boisterous wrens entertained the group at Hotel Bougainvillea and at sites we visited right along the Pacific Coast

Rufous-breasted Wren *Pheugopidius rutilus*—seen at Sendero La Meandrica in Carara (03/17)

Black-throated Wren *Pheugopidius atrogularis*—seen at La Selva OTS (03/25) **extension only**

Banded Wren *Thryophilus pleurostictus*—nice to see a couple of these dry forest wrens on the Guacimo Road (03/16)

Rufous-and-white Wren *Thryophilus rufalbus*—brief views at Curi-Cancha Reserve by some (03/18)

Stripe-breasted Wren *Cantorchilus thoracicus*—heard on the Waterfall Trail at Arenal Observatory Lodge but only seen on the extension at Sarapiquí Rainforest Lodge (03/26)

Cabanis's Wren *Cantorchilus modestus*—we saw this common wren of mid-elevation gardens and forest edge at Cerro Lodge (03/17), Hotel de Montana Monteverde (03/18), and Bajo del Tigre in Monteverde (03/20); formerly known as “Plain Wren” until it was split into three species (all occur in different areas of Costa Rica)

Bay Wren *Cantorchilus nigricapillus*—a couple sightings in the garden at Celeste Mountain Lodge (03/20 and 03/21)

White-breasted Wood-Wren *Henicorhina leucosticta*—brief views at the Rio Celeste Trail (03/21) and Las Heliconias Trail (03/22)

Gray-breasted Wood-Wren *Henicorhina leucophrys*—seen on the road leading to the Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve (03/17) and Reserva Santa Elena (03/19)

Song Wren *Cyphorhinus phaeocephalus*—fantastic views of this usually tricky species at Las Heliconias Trail (03/22)

DIPPERS: Cinclidae (1)

American Dipper *Cinclus mexicanus*—seen at Virgen del Socorro (03/26) **extension only**

MOCKINGBIRDS AND THRASHERS: Mimidae (1)

Tropical Mockingbird *Mimus gilvus*—a recent colonist of open areas and gardens in Costa Rica; we saw a couple birds in the soccer field at Hotel Tilajari in the afternoon (03/22)

THRUSHES: Turdidae (10)

Black-faced Solitaire *Myadestes melanops* (RE)—after hearing them at all sites in Monteverde, we finally saw a few of these birds at Reserva Santa Elena (03/19); its slow and clear whistles are a regular part of the soundscape in the higher elevation forests of Costa Rica

Orange-billed Nightingale-Thrush *Catharus aurantiirostris*—seen by some at Bajo del Tigre, a drier sector of the Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve (03/20)

Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrush *Catharus fuscater*—one hopping along the trail in front of us at Reserva Santa Elena (03/19)

Black-headed Nightingale-Thrush *Catharus mexicanus*—one perched beautifully on a horizontal branch for a good while at Arenal Observatory Lodge (03/24)

Swainson's Thrush *Catharus ustulatus*—one migrant at Curi-Cancha Reserve (03/18)

Wood Thrush *Hylocichla mustelina*—one was wintering in the garden at Celeste Mountain Lodge (03/20 and 03/22)

Mountain Thrush *Turdus plebejus*—a few of these birds were active at Curi-Cancha Reserve near some fruiting trees (03/18)

Pale-vented Thrush *Turdus obsoletus*—one seen at Curi-Cancha Reserve (03/18)

White-throated Thrush *Turdus assimilis*—sightings of singletons at Curi-Cancha Reserve (03/18), Celeste Mountain Lodge (03/20), and Las Heliconias Trail (03/22)

Clay-colored Thrush *Turdus grayi*—we saw the national bird of Costa Rica every single day

OLD WORLD SPARROWS: Passeridae (1)

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus* (I)—a few seen in passing on travel days

FINCHES AND EUPHONIAS: Fringillidae (4)

Golden-browed Chlorophonia *Chlorophonia callophrys* (RE)—we saw a trio of these fluorescent finches at Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve (03/17), Curi-Cancha (03/18), and UGA Costa Rica Campus near Monteverde (03/19)

Yellow-crowned Euphonia *Euphonia luteicapilla*—seen at Hotel de Montana Monteverde (03/19) and Tilajari Hotel Resort (03/22)

Yellow-throated Euphonia *Euphonia hirundinacea*—the most common and widespread euphonia in northern Costa Rica; we saw them at all sites except for the higher elevation Monteverde area

Olive-backed Euphonia *Euphonia gouldi*—we saw these mossy green euphonias a couple times at Celeste Mountain Lodge (03/21 and 03/22)

NEW WORLD SPARROWS: Passerellidae (6)

Common Chlorospingus *Chlorospingus flavopectus*—formerly known as 'Common Bush-Tanager' until

genetic studies showed it to be an arboreal tanager; one of the most common members of feeding flocks around Monteverde

Stripe-headed Sparrow *Peucaea ruficauda*—a pair seen along Guacimo Road (03/16)

Black-striped Sparrow *Arremonops conirostris*—seen at Arenal Observatory Lodge in the garden (03/24)

Orange-billed Sparrow *Arremon aurantirostris*—our best views were at Las Heliconias Trail (03/22) for the group; a tropical sparrow with a blazing orange bill!

Rufous-collared Sparrow *Zonotrichia capensis*—the ‘House Sparrow’ of high elevation areas, occurring in large numbers around Hotel Bougainvillea and Monteverde

White-eared Ground-Sparrow *Melospiza leucotis*—one furtive individual at Hotel de Montana Monteverde was a nice treat (03/18); an attractively patterned sparrow closely related to the North American towhees

NEW WORLD BLACKBIRDS: Icteridae (12)

Eastern Meadowlark *Sturnella magna*—one perched in a tree by a wet field on the Tarcoles River boat tour (03/16); the Eastern Meadowlark of the eastern USA actually ranges all the way down into the Llanos of Venezuela!

Chestnut-headed Oropendola *Psarocolius wagleri*—one sighting near Las Heliconias Trail (03/22)

Montezuma Oropendola *Psarocolius montezuma*—delightfully common and always wonderful species in the Caribbean slope lowlands of Costa Rica

Black-cowled Oriole *Icterus prosthemelas*—we saw these black and yellow orioles at Curi-Cancha (03/18) and Celeste Mountain Lodge (03/20)

Orchard Oriole *Icterus spurius*—scattered sightings of this northern migrant: Hotel Bougainvillea (03/16), Tilajari Hotel (03/22), and Cano Negro area (03/23)

Streak-backed Oriole *Icterus pustulatus*—this dry forest oriole is increasingly common in the Tarcoles area on the Pacific Coast; seen at Guacimo Road (03/16), Tarcoles River boat tour (03/16), and Cerro Lodge (03/17) at the feeders

Baltimore Oriole *Icterus galbula*—common and ubiquitous migrant

Red-winged Blackbird *Agelaius phoeniceus*—this familiar bird was common at wetland sites around Tarcoles and Cano Negro

Shiny Cowbird *Molothrus bonariensis*—excellent sighting at La Selva OTS (03/25), as it is still an uncommon bird in Costa Rica **extension only**

Bronzed Cowbird *Molothrus aeneus*—singles at Hotel Montana Monteverde (03/18), the town of Bijagua (03/21), and Las Heliconias Trail (03/22)

Melodious Blackbird *Dives dives*—seen a few times at Hotel Bougainvillea, Tilajari Hotel, and Arenal Observatory Lodge

Great-tailed Grackle *Quiscalus mexicanus*—common and conspicuous large blackbird, seen daily

NEW WORLD WARBLERS: Parulidae (15)

Northern Waterthrush *Parkesia noveboracensis*—singles on the Tarcoles River boat tour (03/16) and Cano Negro boat tour (03/23). Many more were only heard via the metallic ‘chink’ note

Black-and-white Warbler *Mniotilta varia*—we observed this creeping warbler at Curi-Cancha in Monteverde, Hotel de Montana Monteverde, Celeste Mountain Lodge, and Arenal Observatory Lodge

Prothonotary Warbler *Protonotaria citrea*—a couple of these spectacular warblers in the mangroves of the Tarcoles River (03/16); one of only two cavity nesting warbler species (the other is Lucy’s)

Tennessee Warbler *Oreothlypis peregrina*—one of the most common migrant warblers in Costa Rica

Gray-crowned Yellowthroat *Geothlypis poliocephala*—one in the cleared areas overgrown with ferns at Curi-Cancha Reserve (03/18)

Olive-crowned Yellowthroat *Geothlypis semiflava*—seen in the tiny White-throated Crake wetland in the suburbs of Bijagua (03/21)

Tropical Parula *Setophaga pitiayumi*—observed a couple times at Celeste Mountain Lodge

Yellow Warbler *Setophaga petechia*—common and widespread wintering species in Costa Rica, recorded daily in numbers except at Monteverde; we also saw the ‘Mangrove’ Yellow Warbler (*S. petechia xanthotera*) on our Rio Tarcoles boat tour

Chestnut-sided Warbler *Setophaga pensylvanica*—Costa Rica is part of the core wintering range of this species; common and widespread on the tour, except during our time at Monteverde

Chestnut-capped Warbler *Basileuterus rufifrons*—we saw this charismatic species at Hotel Bougainvillea (03/15) and Bajo del Tigre in Monteverde (03/20); a recent split from Rufous-capped Warbler in Mexico

Golden-crowned Warbler *Basileuterus culicivorus*—sprightly pairs at Curi-Cancha (03/18), Las Heliconias Trail (03/22), and Arenal Observatory Lodge (03/24)

Costa Rican Warbler *Basileuterus melanotis* (RE)—we saw pairs along the road leading to the Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve (03/17 and 03/18)

Buff-rumped Warbler *Myiothlypis fulvicauda*—singles on the trail at Arenal Observatory Lodge (03/24); this warbler habitually lives near water, flaring its tail and showing off its luminous orange-brown rump in the dark forest gloom

Slate-throated Redstart *Myioborus miniatus*—common at Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve and Curi-Cancha (03/17, 03/18, and 03/19), where it is a regular component of mixed feeding flocks

Collared Redstart *Myioborus torquatus* (RE)—two of these charming and splendidly colored warblers at Reserva Santa Elena (03/19)

CARDINALS, GROSBILLS AND ALLIES: Cardinalidae (8)

Hepatic Tanager *Piranga flava*—singles at Celeste Mountain Lodge (03/20) and Rio Celeste Trail (03/21); the subspecies found in Costa Rica *testacea* is quite different from those in Arizona and Mexico and could be split in the future

Summer Tanager *Piranga rubra*—common and widespread wintering resident, recorded almost daily throughout the tour

Red-throated Ant-Tanager *Habia fuscicauda*—recorded at La Selva OTS **extension only**

Carmioli’s Tanager *Chlorothraupis carmioli*—common and noisy bird that leads feeding flocks in the Caribbean slope – we saw them regularly at Celeste Mountain Lodge and nearby sites

Black-faced Grosbeak *Caryothraustes poliogaster*—nice views on the Rio Celeste Trail (03/21) and on the extension at both La Selva OTS (03/25) and Sarapiquí Rainforest Lodge (03/26)

Rose-breasted Grosbeak *Pheucticus ludovicianus*—seen only at Hotel Bougainvillea (03/16)

Blue-black Grosbeak *Cyanoloxia cyanooides*—sightings of this normally shy bird on the Rio Celeste Trail (03/21) and Las Heliconias Trail (03/22); a common songster of dense understory and brushy forest edges

Painted Bunting *Passerina ciris*—a green female-type showed briefly on the Guacimo Road (03/16)

TANAGERS AND ALLIES: Thraupidae (26)

White-shouldered Tanager *Tachyphonus luctuosus*—a single male at Sendero La Meandrica (03/17)

Crimson-collared Tanager *Ramphocelus sanguinolentus*—a large and beautiful red-and-black tanager of Central American rainforests; seen in small numbers at the fruit feeders at Celeste Mountain Lodge (03/20) and the Hummingbird Gallery at Cinchona (03/24)

Scarlet-rumped Tanager *Ramphocelus passerinii*—abundant on the Caribbean slope of Costa Rica; it was one of the most common songbirds at Celeste Mountain Lodge, Arenal Observatory Lodge, Cano Negro, and on the extension

Blue-gray Tanager *Thraupis episcopus*—common and widespread, recorded daily

Palm Tanager *Thraupis palmarum*—common and widespread, recorded almost daily

Golden-hooded Tanager *Stelpnia larvata*—common at Celeste Mountain Lodge, Tilajari Hotel Resort, and Arenal Observatory Lodge; its regular patronage of fruit feeders made excellent views of this tanager possible

Plain-colored Tanager *Tangara inornata*—a well-named tanager, seen at La Selva OTS (03/25) and Sarapiquí Rainforest Lodge (03/26) extension only

Rufous-winged Tanager *Tangara lavinia*—perhaps the least numerous *Tangara* tanager in Costa Rica; a single bird seen by all at Celeste Mountain Lodge

Bay-headed Tanager *Tangara gyrola*—a single bird observed in a mixed tanager flock during our visit at Arenal Observatory Lodge (03/24)

Emerald Tanager *Tangara florida*—two of these vivid green tanagers observed in a mixed feeding flock at Arenal Observatory Lodge (03/24)

Silver-throated Tanager *Tangara icterocephala*—several birds seemed to glow on the fruit feeders at the Hummingbird Gallery at Cinchona (03/24), where we had our best views by far

Scarlet-thighed Dacnis *Dacnis venusta*—stunning views of this technicolor tanager at Curi-Cancha (03/18) and Celeste Mountain Lodge (03/20)

Shining Honeycreeper *Cyanerpes lucidus*—seen at Celeste Mountain Lodge (03/21), Bijagua Bird Song Gardens while waiting for the Black-crested Coquette (03/21), and Las Heliconias Trail (03/22)

Red-legged Honeycreeper *Cyanerpes cyaneus*—recorded regularly at multiple sites throughout

Green Honeycreeper *Chlorophanes spiza*—several observations at Celeste Mountain Lodge, Arenal Observatory Lodge, Galeria de Colibri in Cinchona, and Virgen del Socorro

Black-and-yellow Tanager *Chrysothlypis chrysomelas* (RE)—a flock of these beautiful little tanagers were a pleasant surprise at Arenal Observatory Lodge (03/24)

Blue-black Grassquit *Volatinia jacarina*—seen in small numbers on the Tarcoles River boat tour (03/16), Cerro Lodge (03/17), and Medio Queso Wetland (03/23)

Ruddy-breasted Seedeater *Sporophila minuta*—a brightly colored male provided great views on the side of the road at Medio Queso Wetland (03/23)

Thick-billed Seed-Finch *Sporophila funerea*—seen at Bijagua Bird Song Gardens (03/21) and Cano Negro (03/23)

Nicaraguan Seed-Finch *Sporophila nuttingi* (RE)—excellent views of a few singing males on the road to Cano Negro (03/23)

Variable Seedeater *Sporophila corvina*—numerous at lowland sites throughout the tour; we saw both the mostly black subspecies on the Caribbean slope and the black-and-white subspecies on the Pacific slope

Morelet's Seedeater *Sporophila moreletti*—small numbers on the Tarcoles River boat tour (03/16), Celeste Mountain Lodge (03/20), and Cano Negro (03/23); formerly lumped together with Cinnamon-rumped Seedeater as White-collared Seedeater

Bananaquit *Coereba flaveola*—this widespread species was most common in open parkland habitats with planted flowers, such as at Tilajari Hotel Resort

Yellow-faced Grassquit *Tiaris olivaceus*—common in open, grassy habitats at Curi-Cancha (03/18)

Buff-throated Saltator *Saltator maximus*—we saw this large tanager often on the Caribbean slope at most sites we visited

Cinnamon-bellied Saltator *Saltator grandis*—recorded at Hotel Bougainvillea (03/16) and Hotel de Montana Monteverde (03/18)

MAMMALS (11 species recorded):

Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth *Bradypus variegatus*—seen along the road near Celeste Mountain Lodge (03/21) and another on the extension

Hoffmann's Toe-toed Sloth *Choloepus hoffmanni*—a mother and baby on the grounds of Hotel Tilajari (03/22) and another on the extension

Central American Agouti *Dasyprocta punctata*—common around Monteverde and Celeste Mountain Lodge; a smaller relative of the Capybara, although still quite large for a rodent

Variegated Squirrel *Sciurus variegatoides*

Red-tailed Squirrel *Sciurus granatensis*

Central American Dwarf Squirrel *Microsciurus alfari*—seen at Celeste Mountain Lodge (03/20)

Central American Spider Monkey *Ateles geoffroyi*—seen at Las Heliconias Trail (03/22)

White-throated Capuchin *Cebus capucinus*—seen around Tarcoles and Celeste Mountain Lodge

Mantled Howler Monkey *Alouatta palliata*—seen around Tarcoles and Celeste Mountain Lodge

White-nosed Coati *Nasua narica*—very common around Monteverde and Arenal Observatory Lodge

Collared Peccary *Pecari tajacu*—seen at La Selva OTS **extension only**

REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS (14 species recorded):

Spectacled Caiman *Caiman crocodilus*—seen on our Cano Negro boat tour

American Crocodile *Crocodylus acutus*—seen on the Rio Tarcoles boat tour; the largest reptile species in Costa Rica by far

Black River Turtle *Rhinoclemmys funerea*—seen on the Sarapiquí River boat tour **extension only**

Black Spiny-tailed Iguana *Ctenosaura similis*—numerous around Carara National Park and the Rio Tarcoles; this species is much more carnivorous and terrestrial than the following species

Green Iguana *Iguana iguana*—this large lizard is an arboreal herbivore, which we saw well on the Cano Negro boat tour (03/23)

Green Basilisk *Basiliscus plumifrons*—we saw several of these very colorful lizards on the Cano Negro boat tour (03/23)

Common Basilisk *Basiliscus basiliscus*

Border Anole *Anolis limifrons*—one photographed on Sendero La Meandrica (03/18)

Northern Cat-eyed Snake *Leptodeira septentrionalis*

Central American Milksnake *Lampropeltis abnorma*

Red-eyed Tree Frog *Agalychnis callidryas*—we went out at night to search for these in the small ponds at Celeste Mountain Lodge, and we managed to enjoy amazing views of several of these extremely charismatic and colorful frogs

Masked Tree Frog *Smilisca phaeota*—seen at Celeste Mountain Lodge while searching for Red-eyed Tree Frogs

Savage's Thin-toed Frog *Leptodactylus savagei*—close relative of Smoky Jungle Frog and the expected species in Costa Rica

Giant Toad *Rhinella horribilis*