



-SPECIES LIST-

Southern Ecuador: Birding and Nature

November 10-23, 2019

-Compiled by Bob Meinke-

Naturalist Journeys Host: Bob Meinke

Special Assistant: Kelly Amsberry **Local guide:** Andrea Molina

Participants: Ed Madej, Rosemary Rowe, Charlie Paterson, and Hilda Carney

(HO) = Heard only, distinctly enough to be counted (but not seen)

(PP) = Only seen in the Quito area (at Puembo or Pifo) by one or more of the early arriving participants

(CHO) = Choco regional endemic

(TUM) = Tumbesian regional endemic

(E) = Ecuador national endemic

Summary: We had a great trip to southern Ecuador, featuring some unbelievable scenery and 347 bird species recorded by the group. The great diversity of habitats we visited, ranging from sea level to nearly 15,000 feet, and from the east slope of the Andes to the coastline, resulted in a wide array of fascinating birds, mammals, and alpine wildflowers. We recorded 4 toucans, 7 parrots and parakeets, 8 thrushes, 10 sparrows, 11 warblers, 12 antbirds and antpittas, 13 hawks and kites, 17 ovenbirds and woodcreepers, and 38 tyrant flycatchers—and an astounding 51 species of hummingbirds, and 55 species of tanagers and their relatives. We had a small, but very enthusiastic group of travelers, and we owe much appreciation to our Neblina Forest guide Andrea Molina, and our intrepid driver, Francisco. Every day was a great success thanks to them!

BIRDS (347 species recorded, of which 3 were heard only):

TINAMOUS: Tinamidae (2)

Gray Tinamou *Tinamus tao*—An outrageously large tinamou, we observed this species close-up at the feeding station on the slopes above Copalinga Lodge—this is one of the very few places where wild tinamous have been conditioned to appear daily in response to food offerings.

Little Tinamou *Crypturellus soui*—As the name implies, Little Tinamou is much smaller than the preceding species. Seen with Gray Tinamou at Copalinga, a few Little Tinamous would scurry in and snatch their share of corn after their larger cousins finished eating.

SCREAMERS: Anhimidae (1)

Horned Screamer *Anhima cornuta*—A fascinating primitive relative of ducks and geese, we saw this species at the Humedal La Tembladera nature reserve (between Arenillas and Santa Rosa, in extreme southwest Ecuador), during a break on our long drive from Buenaventura to Dos Chorreras.

DUCKS, GEESE AND SWANS: Anatidae (8)

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna autumnalis*—Large mixed flocks of this species and the following one were seen feeding in the marshes at Humedal La Tembladera, at the same location as the Horned Screamer.

Fulvous Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna bicolor*—See above. This species was probably the more common of the two whistling-duck species we saw.

Comb Duck *Sarkidiornis sylvicola*—The unusual Comb Duck was our target species at Humedal La Tembladera, and we looked long and hard before finally picking out a single female amongst the literally hundreds of whistling-ducks. But one is better than none!

Torrent Duck *Merganetta armata*—What an amazing and beautiful bird! The two Torrent Ducks we spotted in the cocoa-colored floodwaters of Rio Zamora (on our way to Copalinga Lodge along the old Loja-Zamora Road) more than lived up to their name, deftly navigating a raging current that was a bit frightening to watch.

White-cheeked Pintail *Anas bahamensis*—Our best views were had during our roadside lunch stop by a farm pond on our drive to Dos Chorreras, after we had left the Humedal La Tembladera nature reserve.

Yellow-billed Pintail *Anas georgica*—A few birds were seen in Laguna Llaviucu in Cajas National Park in the high Andes. Also seen on the grounds of the Dos Chorreras Hotel, near the trout ponds.

Andean Teal *Anas andium*—Seen in the mountain lakes west of Dos Chorreras—infrequent.

Andean Duck *Oxyura ferruginea*—The stiff-tailed Andean Duck is a close relative of North America's Ruddy Duck, and is taxonomically combined with that species by some authors. We saw a few birds at Laguna Llaviucu. A widespread species, occurring from Colombia to southern Chile.

GUANS AND CURASSOWS: Cracidae (5)

Rufous-headed Chachalaca *Ortalis erythroptera* (TUM)—The common chachalaca visiting the feeders at Buenaventura field station (also known as Umbrella Bird Lodge). Chachalacas and Guans, all large gamebirds, are usually only common in nature preserves in Latin America, due to hunting pressure.

Speckled Chachalaca *Ortalis guttata*—Seen just once during the tour, lurking in deep brush along the dirt road that led into the Santa Ana-La Florida archaeological site, south of Casa Simpson. Great spot by Andrea!



Bearded Guan *Penelope barbata* (TUM)—A regional endemic, scattered birds were seen in the forest and perched on the feeders at Casa Simpson over two days.

Crested Guan *Penelope purpurascens*—Not common, seen one day on the feeders at the Buenaventura field station. This area is at the very southern edge of the range for Crested Guan, which extends north as far as central Mexico.

Sickle-winged Guan *Chamaepetes goudotii*—This is the common cracid species seen at Copalinga Lodge, often by the feeders, with a beautiful bare patch of bright blue skin on its face.

NEW WORLD QUAIL: Odontophoridae (1)

Rufous-fronted Wood-Quail *Odontophorus erythrops* (HO)—Heard calling in the forest one morning at the Buenaventura field station, but never seen.

GREBES: Podicipedidae (2)

Pied-billed Grebe *Podilymbus podiceps*—A few birds were seen diving in the shallow waters at the Humedal La Tembladera nature reserve, when we stopped on our long drive from Buenaventura to Dos Chorreras.

Great Grebe *Podiceps major*—An unexpected find at Humedal La Tembladera, this enormous grebe barely crosses the border here from Peru, and is rather poorly known in Ecuador.

PIGEONS AND DOVES: Columbidae (8)

Rock Pigeon *Columba livia* (I)—Common in cities and towns, a well-known invasive species seen on several days.

Pale-vented Pigeon *Patagioenas cayennensis*—A widespread species in the Neotropics, we had looks at a few individuals as we traveled through the lower elevations during our drive from Buenaventura to Dos Chorreras.

Band-tailed Pigeon *Patagioenas fasciata*—A fast-moving flock of 10 or more birds was seen flying over the forest canopy on our second day at the Casa Simpson reserve—also known from the mountains of western North America.

Ecuadorian Ground-Dove *Columbina buckleyi* (TUM)—A regional endemic, a flock was seen on the ground in a fenced farm lot during a roadside lunch stop, after we had left the Humedal La Tembladera nature reserve on our way up to Dos Chorreras.

Croaking Ground-Dove *Columbina cruziana*—One of the first birds spotted after disembarking at the La Toma Airport near Loja. Birds were seen wandering below the parking lot in a small residential area.

White-tipped Dove *Leptotila verreauxi*—The most common dove seen during the tour, this species is another widespread species in Latin America.

White-throated Quail-Dove *Zentrygon frenata*—A nice find, this striking species was seen by the group on two days at the feeders at the Casa Simpson lodge.

Eared Dove *Zenaida auriculata*—We had most sightings of this species near Quito (Puembo Birding Garden) and in the Cuenca area. Another common and widespread species, it is known from most of South America outside the Amazon Basin.

CUCKOOS AND ALLIES: Cuculidae (3)

Smooth-billed Ani *Crotophaga ani*—This species was seen flopped in the shrubbery on our first day on the road, in the dry forest near Loja, and later as we drove to Copalinga.

Groove-billed Ani *Crotophaga sulcirostris*—Very similar to the preceding species, we saw Groove-billed Ani on our drive to Buenaventura, and also on our way up the slopes of the Andes as we drove towards Dos Chorreras.

Squirrel Cuckoo *Piaya cayana*—Seen on three days, our best view was in some trees by the parking area at the Reinaldo Espinosa Botanical Garden in Loja.

SWIFTS: Apodidae (2)

Chestnut-collared Swift *Streptoprocne rutila*—Seen darting over the treetops both mornings at Casa Simpson, and also on our way in to Casa Simpson from Loja our first day in southern Ecuador.

White-collared Swift *Streptoprocne zonaris*—A flock was seen flying over the dry forest where we birded after leaving Loja on our first day out, and again the day we left Copalinga on our way to Buenaventura.

HUMMINGBIRDS: Trochilidae (51)

White-necked Jacobin *Florisuga mellivora*—Relatively common at the feeders at Buenaventura, one of the dominant species.

White-whiskered Hermit *Phaethornis yaruqui* (CHO)—Seen once, as it skimmed through the flowers in front of the Buenaventura main lodge building.

Green Hermit *Phaethornis guy*—Seen briefly at Copalinga and also Buenaventura—an easily identified hermit with its bright green plumage.

Tawny-bellied Hermit *Phaethornis syrmatophorus*—Observed at dusk one evening, as it came in several times to the small nectar feeder that sat next to the bar in the Copalinga Lodge dining area. Not seen by everyone.

Stripe-throated Hermit *Phaethornis striigularis*—Seen on two days at Buenaventura, not common at the feeders but observed on some flowers near the car park in front of the main lodge building.

Brown Violetear *Colibri delphinae*—One of the more common hummingbirds on the tour, seen multiple times at Copalinga as well as Buenaventura. The unusual combination of colors in this species is intriguing.

Lesser Violetear *Colibri cyanotus*— A high montane species, two birds were seen on one day in Cajas National Park.

Sparkling Violetear *Colibri coruscans*—A richly colored species, especially common in the Puembo and Pifo areas, it was also seen at the Buenaventura field station.

Amethyst-throated Sunangel *Heliangelus amethysticollis*— Infrequent at the Casa Simpson feeders, often bullied by the numerous Chestnut-breasted Coronets.

Little Sunangel *Heliangelus micraster* (TUM)— A beautiful little hummingbird, another of the less dominant species that was seen around the lodge at Casa Simpson.

Purple-throated Sunangel *Heliangelus viola* (TUM)—Only seen in roadside vegetation our last day of birding during the tour, on our montane drive south of Gualaceo.

Green Thorntail *Discosura conversii*—One of several common humminbirds seen daily at the Buenaventura feeders, and also seen (but less common) at Copalinga—a distinctive species.

Spangled Coquette *Lophornis stictolophus*—Andrea tried valiantly to bring this exquisite species to our attention at Copalinga. She would see it in flowering trees near the front of the lodge, run in to alert us, but the group never managed to scramble out there in time! Finally Bob and one or two others had a brief glimpse just before we left the lodge, but that was it.

Ecuadorian Piedtail *Phlogophilus hemileucurus*—With its distinctly banded tail, this is an otherwise fairly non-descript species that is nonetheless easy to identify from below. We saw birds above us in the low canopy during our hike along the Bombuscaro Trail, south of Copalinga.

Speckled Hummingbird *Adelomyia melanogenys*—Seen a few times at the Casa Simpson feeders, a fairly drab species, widespread in the northern Andes.

Long-tailed Sylph *Agelaiocercus kingii*—Only seen once, during our afternoon stop in Vallidolad Village, flying through vegetation that bordered a farm field. This sleek, graceful species was easily identified, even as a silhouette.

Violet-tailed Sylph *Agelaiocercus coelestis* (CHO)—Even more spectacular than the preceding species, Violet-tailed Sylph was seen once during our walk on the Buenavista Reserve in search of the El Oro Parakeet.

Ecuadorian Hillstar *Oreotrochilus chimborazo*—Another hummingbird found on just a single day, seen during a stop along the highway west of Dos Chorreras, in Cajas National Park.

Black-tailed Trainbearer *Lesbia victoriae*—Another spectacular, long-tailed species, only seen during our stay at Puembo Birding Garden near Quito.

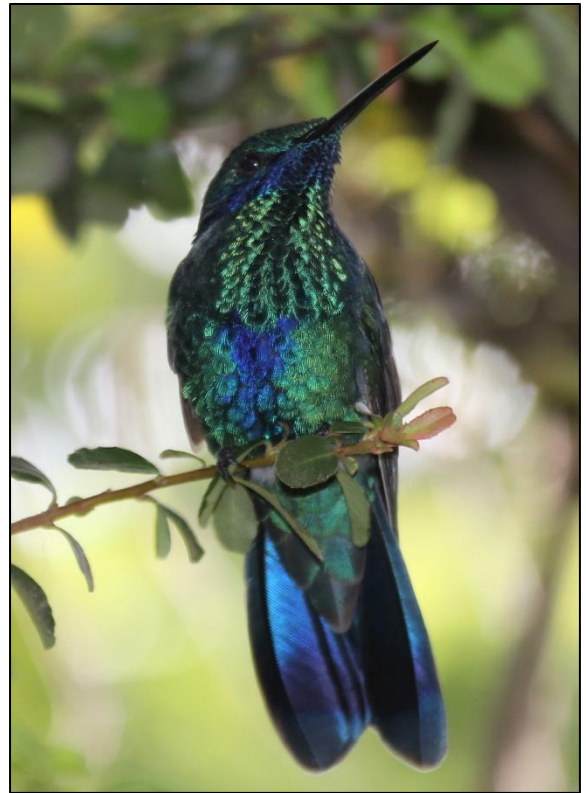
Blue-mantled Thornbill *Chalcostigma stanleyi*—A high elevation species of the *Ploylepis* woodlands, we saw this species in Cajas National Park. With a minute (for a hummingbird) short bill, birds were hovering just a few inches off the ground, visiting the tiny flowers of low-growing, alpine plants. The wildflowers here were simply amazing!

Tyrian Metaltail *Metallura tyrianthina*—The last hummingbird we added to our trip list, this species was seen among roadside flowers along the road we drove south of Gualaceo.

Viridian Metaltail *Metallura williami*—Seen from the covered boardwalk as we circumvented Laguna Llaviucu in Cajas National Park.

Violet-throated Metaltail *Metallura baroni* (E)—An Ecuadorian endemic, and an endangered species, we spotted this hummer while staying at Dos Chorreras, during a high elevation hike in open *Polylepis* woodland.

Sapphire-vented Puffleg *Eriocnemis luciani*—Seen on our last birding day, at essentially the same site as the following species. Stunning green birds with curious leg feathers, restricted to high elevations.



Shining Sunbeam *Aglaeactis cupripennis*—Another of the high-altitude Andean hummingbirds, we found this species patrolling semi-arid montane ridges when we drove south of Gualaceo on our last day of birding.

Collared Inca *Coeligena torquata*—A common species by the lodge verandah at Casa Simpson, these birds often flashed their white tails as they battled for aerial supremacy at the feeders.

Rainbow Starfrontlet *Coeligena iris* **(TUM)**—After a bit of patience, we finally got nice, clear views of this stunning, regional endemic with a multi-colored crown, during our visit to the Botanical Garden in Loja.

Mountain Velvetbreast *Lafresnaya lafresnayi*—Another of our one-day wonder hummingbirds, this species, with a distinctive decurved bill, was observed cruising the forest margins as we walked around Laguna Llaviucu in Cajas National Park.

Sword-billed Hummingbird *Ensifera ensifera* **(PP)**—Bob and Kelly had wonderful encounters with this amazing bird in Pifo, ahead of the main trip. Famous for being the only bird species with a bill longer than its body length.

Chestnut-breasted Coronet *Boissonneaua matthewsii*—Abundant at the feeders at Casa Simpson Lodge, the most territorial of the hummers here and fiercely protective of the feeders.

Velvet-purple Coronet *Boissonneaua jardini* **(CHO)**—Reported by some in the group on our last day in the Buenaventura Reserve, during our walk to see the Oro Parakeets.

Booted Raquet-tail *Ocreatus underwoodii*—Almost freakish in appearance, with tails like long paddles and legs immersed in balls of cotton, we had canopy level looks at two birds as we walked the covered boardwalk at the Bombuscaro Trail near Copalinga.

Black-throated Brilliant *Heliodoxa schreibersii*—One bird seen at dusk at the Copalinga feeders.

Fawn-breasted Brilliant *Heliodoxa rubinoides*—An occasional visitor to the feeders at Casa Simpson, also seen in the forest at the Buenaventura Reserve the day of our Oro Parakeet walk.

Green-crowned Brilliant *Heliodoxa jacula*—One of the shyer species that frequented the enormous, communal hummingbird feeders at the Buenaventura field station.

Violet-fronted Brilliant *Heliodoxa leadbeateri*—An early morning visitor to the Copalinga Lodge feeders, males of the species are stunning when glimpsed in direct sunlight.

Giant Hummingbird *Patagona gigas*—Seen by Kelly and Bob in the Pifo area the day before the trip—the group later had nice views (from the van) as we drove a road that was blocked by construction, just east of Cuenca (where it was odd to see Giant Hummingbirds sitting on utility wires).

Long-billed Starthroat *Heliomaster longirostris*—Seen briefly by some of the hikers the day we went into the Buenaventura Reserve to search (unsuccessfully, sadly) for the Oro Parakeets.

White-bellied Woodstar *Chaetocercus mulsant*—A common species early in the tour, seen at Puembo Birding Garden as well as Casa Simpson lodge.

Little Woodstar *Chaetocercus bombus*—Seen once, and the last hummingbird that we recorded at Copalinga, visiting the verbena hedges near the front car park. Reportedly a rare species.

Western Emerald *Chlorostilbon melanorhynchus*—Only seen at Puembo Birding Garden the initial day of the tour, common there.

Violet-headed Hummingbird *Klais guimeti*—Another specialty at Copalinga, seen both days at the feeders, but not particularly common.

White-vented Plumeleteer *Chalybura buffonii*—Not seen by everyone, this species was recorded at Buenaventura, on flowers by the lodge, and not at the feeders. The populations in this area are geographically isolated and differ from birds to the north, and may represent an unnamed species.

Crowned Woodnymph *Thalurania colombica*—A striking green and violet hummingbird seen several times at the feeders at Buenaventura field station.

Fork-tailed Woodnymph *Thalurania furcata*—One bird seen by Kelly and Andrea flying above the lodge at Copalinga, a distinctive species even at a distance.

Many-spotted Hummingbird *Taphrospilus hypostictus*—A fairly common hummer at the Copalinga feeders, care was needed to distinguish this species from similar-appearing Violet-fronted Brilliant females, which were also present here.

Amazilia Hummingbird *Amazilia amazilia*—Seen three times over the course of the tour, we had our best views of this species in the dry forest outside Loja, where we searched for Elegant Crescentchest soon after landing at the nearby airport.

Andean Emerald *Amazilia franciae*—A beautiful white-bellied and red-billed species, this was one of many that congregated at the communal hummingbird feeders at the Buenaventura field station.

Rufous-tailed Hummingbird *Amazilia tzacatl*—A common, widespread species further north in Latin America, Rufous-tailed Hummingbird was seen, but was actually rare, at Buenaventura. Also found at Puembo Birding Garden.

Golden-tailed Sapphire *Chrysuronia oenone*—Another beautiful species that we only saw at Buenaventura—the species exhibits a stunning combination of colors, which we seldom saw, however, due to the overcast conditions. (But it is a cloud forest, after all).

Violet-bellied Hummingbird *Juliamyia julie*—Yet another hummingbird that was part of the multi-species swarms that seemed in permanent residence near the lodge verandah at Buenaventura. Less frequently found at the feeders, birds were more often seen hovering out on the fringe of the action.

RAILS, COOTS AND ALLIES: Rallidae (4)

Virginia (Ecuadorian) Rail *Rallus limicola*—We saw two or three birds slinking through the reeds at Laguna Llaviucu in Cajas National Park, near the abandoned German brewery. The populations in the Andes, isolated by over a 1,000 miles from the Virginia Rails of North America, have been considered a separate species by some authorities. More study is needed.

Common Gallinule *Gallinula galeata*—Only seen at the Humedal La Tembladera nature reserve, where it was common.

Slate-colored Coot *Fulica ardesiaca*—Also seen at Humedal La Tembladera, where birds were seen swimming with a Great Grebe.

Purple Gallinule *Porphyrio martinica*—Another species seen at the Humedal La Tembladera reserve, just a few birds along the edges of emergent vegetation.

LIMPKIN: Aramididae (1)

Limpkin *Aramus guarauna*—A few birds were slinking through the marsh vegetation at Humedal La Tembladera, and were seen during our roadside stop.

STILTS AND AVOCETS: Recurvirostridae (1)

Black-necked Stilt *Himantopus mexicanus*—As many as a dozen birds were seen along a farm pond during a roadside lunch stop, after we had left the Humedal La Tembladera nature reserve during our drive to Dos Chorreras.

PLOVERS AND LAPWINGS: Charadriidae (1)

Southern Lapwing *Vanellus chilensis*—Seen by some of the early arrivals in fields not far from the Quito Airport.

JACANAS: Jacanidae (1)

Wattled Jacana *Jacana jacana*—Another species seen in the marsh at the Humedal La Tembladera nature reserve, where several birds were seen gingerly stepping around and through the hordes of whistling ducks.

SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES: Scolopacidae (1)

Spotted Sandpiper *Actitis macularius*—We saw a pair of birds bobbing and weaving along the banks of the flood-stage Rio Zamora, the day we drove to Copalinga Lodge.

GULLS AND TERNS: Laridae (1)

Andean Gull *Chroicocephalus serranus*—We saw several of these high-elevation gulls, which seemed to be a bit of a nuisance at the trout ponds at Dos Chorreras.

STORKS: Ciconiidae (1)

Wood Stork *Mycteria americana*—Three birds were observed standing on downed trees at the Humedal La Tembladera nature reserve.

FRIGATEBIRDS: *Fregatidae* (1)

Magnificent Frigatebird *Fregata magnificens*—A few of these primeval-looking seabirds were seen high overhead as we drove a route not far from the coast, during our drive from Buenaventura to Dos Chorreras.

ANHINGAS: *Anhingidae* (1)

Anhinga *Anhinga anhinga*—Initially dismissed as a cormorant as we scanned the marsh at Humedal La Tembladera, Hilda let us know (in no uncertain terms) that we were looking at an Anhinga!

CORMORANTS: *Phalacrocoracidae* (1)

Neotropic Cormorant *Phalacrocorax brasilianus*—Yes, there were indeed many cormorants present at Humedal La Tembladera, and just a single Anhinga!

PELICANS: *Pelecanidae* (1)

Brown/Peruvian Pelican *Pelecanus occidentalis/thagus*—Brown or Peruvian? The debate raged among those who had clearly seen the birds fly over (near the coast by Santa Rosa) and voted Peruvian, and those who saw it poorly but insisted it must be a Brown based on size. We settled for a tie.

HERONS AND EGRETS: *Ardeidae* (6)

Cocoi Heron *Ardea cocoi*—One bird seen flying over the water at Humedal La Tembladera.

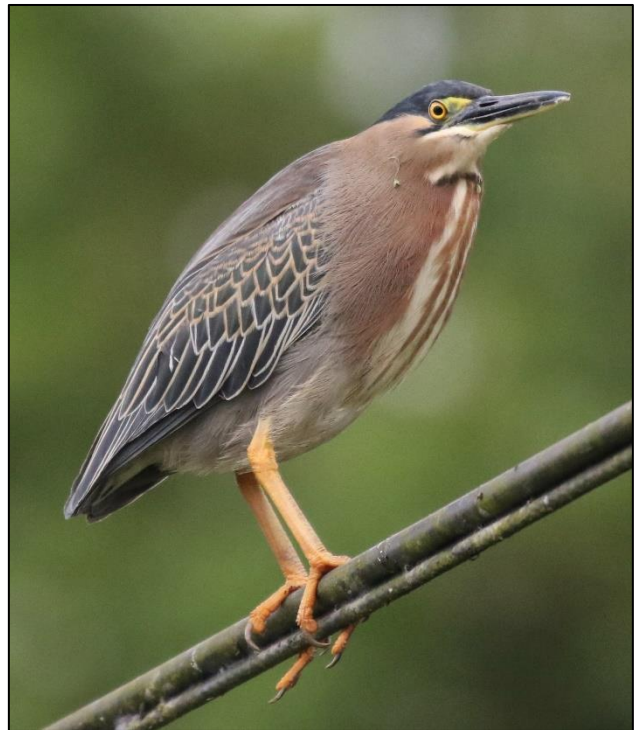
Great Egret *Ardea alba*—Seen several times, including at the above location, as well as near Puenbo, and in fields near Buenaventura. Possibly the most widespread bird species on earth.

Snowy Egret *Egretta thula*—Several Snowy Egrets were seen feeding with the following species at the Humedal La Tembladera nature reserve.

Little Blue Heron *Egretta caerulea*—See above (only a single bird was seen).

Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*—Recorded most days, especially when we were traveling. Often seen in large groups in pastures, or in flight at dusk.

Striated Heron *Butorides striata*—One bird was seen methodically hunting along the marsh edge at Humedal La Tembladera. And a group of adults and immatures was seen by a creek, during a coffee break as we drove to Dos Chorreras (including bird perched on a wire!).



IBIS AND SPOONBILLS: *Threskiornithidae* (1)

White Ibis *Eudocimus albus*—A small group was seen flying over Humedal La Tembladera just before we departed to continue our drive to Dos Chorreras.

NEW WORLD VULTURES: *Cathartidae* (2)

Black Vulture *Coragyps atratus*—Seen daily at virtually every location we visited, except the highest elevations.

Turkey Vulture *Cathartes aura*—Almost as common, but more frequent in the latter half of the tour.

HAWKS, KITES AND EAGLES: *Accipitridae* (13)

Pearl Kite *Gampsonyx swainsonii*—While we stopped at a gas station not far from Arenillas (on our drive to Dos Chorreras), Bob wondered about an odd pigeon he noticed on a nearby light pole (OK, he didn't have his glasses on). When he finally peered through his binoculars, he discovered his "pigeon" was a Pearl Kite!

White-Tailed Kite *Elanus leucurus* (PP)—Seen by some early arrivals gliding over open fields near the Quito Airport.

Hook-billed Kite *Chondrohierax uncinatus*—Seen perched near a rural home, across the street from our initial roadside stop at the Humedal La Tembladera nature reserve.

Swallow-tailed Kite *Elanoides forficatus*—One of the most distinctive of raptors, seen during our birding stop at the Valladolid village, a few miles down the hill from Casa Simpson.

Snail Kite *Rostrhamus sociabilis*—Several were seen, not surprisingly, at the marshy Humedal La Tembladera reserve—perfect habitat for Snail Kites! Also seen along the E25 highway between Balao and Naranjal, the day we were driving to Dos Chorreras.

Plumbeous Kite *Ictinia plumbea*—A single bird was seen cruising above the river, when we birded the old Loja-Zamora Road during our drive towards Copalinga Lodge.

Savannah Hawk *Buteogallus meridionalis*—A few immature birds were seen in pastures along the E25 highway between Balao and Naranjal, before we turned east towards Dos Chorreras.

Roadside Hawk *Rupornis magnirostris*—Common in many areas of Latin America, we only found Roadside Hawk once, perched on a snag during a morning walk along the road that leads into the Buenaventura field station.

Harris's Hawk *Parabuteo unicinctus*—Seen by Bob and Kelly ahead of the main tour at Pifa, and later by the group in dry habitat on our drive from Copalinga to Buenaventura (where we stopped for a roadside lunch).

Variable Hawk *Geranoaetus polyosoma* (PP)—Considered perhaps the most polymorphic species of hawk, birds were seen by Bob and Kelly soaring near a chasm in the vicinity of Pifo.

Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle *Geranoaetus melanoleucus*—Only Andrea got a solid look at this species, but a few of us had a glimpse of the bird shortly after we departed Casa Simpson for Copalinga.

Gray-backed Hawk *Pseudastur occidentalis* (TUM)—We were on a hillside, looking for Oro Parakeets in a dense fog, when a raptor flew by that seemed to fit this species. A regional endemic and a rare species.

Short-tailed Hawk *Buteo brachyurus*—Seen soaring overhead during our lunch stop on the drive from Copalinga to Buenaventura. A widespread species in the Americas.

OWLS: Strigidae (2)

Peruvian Pygmy-Owl *Glaucidium peruanum*—Also known as the Pacific Pygmy-Owl, we found a very stationary bird perched in an *Acacia*, at our lunch stop as we drove from Copalinga to Buenaventura. A second, even better look, was had of a bird at the Arenillas Ecological Reserve near the Peruvian border.

Black-and-white Owl *Ciccaba nigrolineata*—Heard hooting, and then eventually seen, on a couple of evenings at the Buenaventura field station by our cabins.

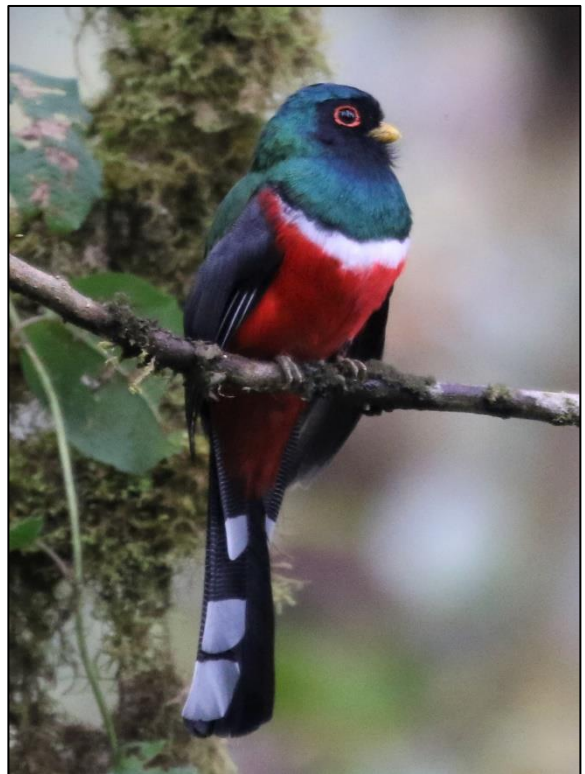
TROGONS: Trogonidae (2)

Gartered Trogon *Trogon caligatus*—Seen by Charlie and Kelly on one of their ambitious attempts to see the Long-wattled Umbrellabird at Buenaventura. (A recent split from Violaceous Trogon.)

Masked Trogon *Trogon personatus*—Rosemary called our attention to this species. The bird was very cooperatively perched in back of the lodge building at Casa Simpson, where the view was perfect.

MOTMOTS: Momotidae (1)

Andean Motmot *Momotus aequatorialis*—As with all motmots, a remarkable species. This taxon is part of the



recently revised (and split up) “Blue-crowned” Motmot complex—we saw this stunner in the forest along the Bombuscaro Trail in the Podocarpus National Park, not far from Copalinga Lodge.

KINGFISHERS: Alcedinidae (1)

Ringed Kingfisher *Megaceryle torquata* (PP)—Seen in flight near Puembo Birding Garden the day before the tour started. No creeks or ponds there—was it visiting swimming pools?

JACAMARS: Galbulidae (1)

Coppery-chested Jacamar *Galbula pastazae*—Andrea picked this quietly perched, dagger-billed beauty out among the forest shadows—from the van no less—as we headed back to Copalinga after our trek on the Bombuscaro trail. How does she do it?

NEW WORLD BARBETS: Capitonidae (1)

Red-headed Barbet *Eubucco bourcierii*—Both male and female Red-headed Barbets were seen in a diverse mixed flock (mostly tanagers) near the Rio Zamora, during our drive towards Copalinga Lodge on the old Loja-Zamora Road.

TOUCANS: Ramphastidae (4)

Gray-breasted Mountain-Toucan *Andigena hypoglauca*—Talk about being adorned from the tip of the tail to the tip of the beak, mountain toucans are unmatched among the larger species of Andean birds. We had excellent views of this species as we walked around Laguna Llaviucu in Cajas National Park.

Collared Aracari *Pteroglossus torquatus*—Often four or five of these birds would be crowding the fruit trays at the Buenaventura field station. Once they muscled in, their only serious competition on the verandah were the local hordes of South American Coatis.

Yellow-throated Toucan *Ramphastos ambiguus*—The common large toucan species seen towards the end of the trip, mostly in the forest or along the river at Buenaventura. (Sometimes called the Black-mandibled Toucan.)

Choco Toucan *Ramphastos brevis* (CHO)—A regional endemic, Choco Toucan was seen just once, after we drove back into Buenaventura for the night after a hike in the reserve. Similar to the Yellow-throated, but the call is much different.

WOODPECKERS: Picidae (6)

Ecuadorian Piculet *Picumnus sclateri* (TUM)—One of the smallest woodpeckers known, we discovered this regional endemic in open woodland during our visit to Arenillas Ecological Reserve.

Yellow-tufted Woodpecker *Melanerpes cruentatus*—Observed on two mornings in the forest surrounding the Copalinga Lodge. A widespread species in the interior of northern South America, with beautiful coloration.

Scarlet-backed Woodpecker *Dryobates callonotus* (TUM)—Another regional endemic, limited to Ecuador and Peru, we found this species soon after we stopped in at the Arenillas Ecological Reserve.

Guayaquil Woodpecker *Campephilus guayaquilensis* (TUM)—One of the several large, red-crested woodpeckers that occur throughout much of the Neotropics. This regional endemic was spotted in the forest on one of our walks at Buenaventura Reserve.

Golden-olive Woodpecker *Colaptes rubiginosus*—With 19 known subspecies, this is one of the most variable tropical woodpecker species. We saw birds at both Casa Simpson and Buenaventura.

Crimson-mantled Woodpecker *Colaptes rivolii*—A pair of birds was seen on our last day of birding, in the same tree, when we were waking a quiet stretch of highway south of Gualaceo (on our last day of birding).

FALCONS AND CARACARAS: Falconidae (4)

Crested Caracara *Caracara cheriway*—Three birds were seen in the lowlands along the E25 highway, the day we drove from Buenaventura up to Dos Chorreras.

Laughing Falcon *Herpetotheres cachinnans*—A single bird was seen sitting high in a bare tree, as we were driving in on the access road to the Arenillas Ecological Reserve headquarters.

American Kestrel *Falco sparverius*—Encountered sporadically during the trip, mostly near Puembo Birding Garden and also in the Cuenca area.

Bat Falcon *Falco ruficularis*—A single bird was seen perched on a treetop one afternoon at Copalinga.

PARROTS: Psittacidae (7)

Gray-cheeked Parakeet *Brotheria pyrrhoptera* (TUM)—A fairly narrow endemic in Southwest Ecuador, seen once, passing overhead when we stopped at the Humedal La Tembladera nature reserve.

Red-billed Parrot *Pionus sordidus*—Another flyover, quickly pointed out by Andrea but missed by most of the group during our drive in to Copalinga.

Bronze-winged Parrot *Pionus chalcopterus*—A small flock was initially seen perched at a distance, when we hiked the Bombuscaro Trail near Copalinga, then again as they flew by at great speed.

Scaly-naped Parrot *Amazona mercenarius*—Considered uncommon, a few of us were fortunate to see this species during a walk at Casa Simpson.

Pacific Parrotlet *Forpus coelestis* (TUM)—Several of these tiny, pastel-hued parrots were observed by the group, during our first serious birding stop of the tour (in the dry forest habitat near the waste disposal site, right after leaving the Loja airport).

White-necked Parakeet *Pyrrhura albipectus*—Brief flyover views were had one afternoon at Copalinga, and possibly some of us saw them perched. (Also known as White-breasted Parakeet.)

Golden-plumed Parakeet *Leptosittaca branickii*—A fast-moving flock of this high-elevation parrot was pointed out by Andrea as we drove through the Andes our first day, on the way to Casa Simpson. We had stopped along the road, and the parrots were calling and flying across a nearby chasm.

White-eyed Parakeet *Psittacara leucophthalmus*—A common and widespread South American parrot, occurring from Venezuela to Uruguay, we saw several birds perched along the road that led into the Santa Ana-La Florida archaeological site, south of Casa Simpson.

ANTBIRDS: Thamnophilidae (6)

Collared Antshrike *Thamnophilus bernardi* (TUM)—We had fabulous looks at this regional endemic in dry forest habitat, in the low hills that we visited right after leaving the Loja airport, our first day on the road. A beautiful bird, and an easy species to appreciate, considering its choice of clear, open habitat (unlike most members of this family).

Black-crowned Antshrike *Thamnophilus atrinucha*—Heard calling and then seen by the group, as we walked one of the shaded, forest roads at the Buenaventura field station. One of the classic, sexually dimorphic antshrikes—we saw both the gray male and rufous female.

Slaty Antwren *Myrmotherula schisticolor*—Also sexually dimorphic, we saw a male of this widespread antwren at the same site as the preceding species.

Dot-winged Antwren *Microhopias quixensis*—Adding to the antbird bonanza we experienced at Buenaventura, we heard and then found both male and female Dot-winged Antwrens during one of our morning walks here.

Chestnut-backed Antbird *Poliocrania exsul*—A single male was located in shaded understory at Buenaventura. This is a striking species that, unfortunately, most of us didn't see well.

Zeledon's Antbird *Hafferia zeledoni*—Also seen at Buenaventura, but not by the group—Andrea, Kelly, and Charlie spotted this interesting (and difficult to observe) species in secluded forest along the Umbrellabird trail.

CRESCENTCHESTS: Melanopareidae (1)

Elegant Crescentchest *Melanopareia elegans* (TUM)—One of the targets of our tour, this exquisite endemic prefers dry scrub forest and shrubby undergrowth in the Tumbesian region of Ecuador and Peru. We located several birds on an open hillside outside Loja, soon after leaving the airport on our first day.

ANTPITTAS: Grallariidae (5)

Undulated Antpitta *Grallaria squamigera*—This large, richly-patterned species has been described as "devilishly difficult to see." So you can imagine our surprise, during early morning coffee at Dos Chorreras,

when our driver, Francisco, pointed out an Undulated Antpitta strolling just outside. We all had unexpectedly clear views through an enormous picture window. A fine start to the day.

Jocotoco Antpitta *Grallaria ridgelyi* (TUM)—While at Casa Simpson, not all of the group were up for the hike to the Tapichalaca Reserve feeding station to see the Jocotoco Antpitta. But on their second try, Charlie and Kelly were able to watch two displaying male birds come in and squabble over a few worms! Only discovered in 1997, this is one of the region's narrowest and most endangered endemic species.

Chestnut-naped Antpitta *Grallaria nuchalis*—Also seen by Kelly and Charlie on their trek with Andrea into the Jocotoco site (above). Two antpittas on one hike, not bad!

Rufous Antpitta *Grallaria rufula*—The third antpitta species found during our stay at Casa Simpson, this bird was seen walking near the back entrance to the lodge dining room—early risers who were down snooping around for coffee at 6:00 AM were rewarded with good views.

Tawny Antpitta *Grallaria quitensis*—Instead of creeping and skulking as most antpittas do, this species saunters in the open and often perches in full view. We easily saw several birds in the rarified air of Cajas National Park, on at least three occasions.

TAPACULOS: Rhinocryptidae (3)

Blackish Tapaculo *Scytalopus latrans*—Heard briefly by the group during our hike around Laguna Llaviucu in Cajas National Park. A pair was also heard and seen clearly by Kelly, during a canyon hike in Pifo ahead of the main trip.

Chusquea Tapaculo *Scytalopus parkeri* (TUM)—Bob and Charlie followed Andrea into the gloom late one afternoon, looking for this soot-colored species in the forest at Casa Simpson. We repeatedly heard three or four birds, and eventually managed to see them skip across the trail several times. But “see” is a relative term—it was more like spotting a fast-moving lump of coal while wearing sunglasses in a closet.

Paramo Tapaculo *Scytalopus opacus* (HO)—“Heard only” is a common descriptor for tapaculos on species lists. This inhabitant of high-elevations was briefly heard by Andrea on one of our stops across the mountains on the 682 highway, as we headed for Casa Simpson.

OVENBIRDS AND WOODCREEPERS: Furnariidae (17)

Olivaceous Woodcreeper *Sittasomus griseicapillus*—Distinctly colored for a woodcreeper, this species was seen once during a stop along our drive from Copalinga to Buenaventura. One of the most widely distributed woodcreeper species, with at least 15 subspecies, occurring from Mexico to Uruguay.

Wedge-billed Woodcreeper *Glyphorhynchus spirurus*—The tiniest of the woodcreepers, and also quite common and diverse, this species was seen twice in the forest at Buenaventura.

Spotted Woodcreeper *Xiphorhynchus erythropygius*—Seen foraging on two days on tree trunks at Buenaventura. The species occurs on the Pacific Slope from Mexico to Peru.

Streak-headed Woodcreeper *Lepidocolaptes souleyetii*—Easily spotted in the open, dry forest during our short visit to the Arenillas Ecological Reserve—we saw a pair of birds.

Montane Woodcreeper *Lepidocolaptes lacrymiger*—An Andean species, this was the woodcreeper we saw (and heard) several times during forest walks at Casa Simpson. Also seen well at the Botanical Garden in Loja.

Plain Xenops *Xenops minutus*—An acrobatic little relative of the woodcreepers, Plain Xenops was seen in a mixed-species flock along the old Loja-Zamora Road, the day we were driving into Copalinga.

Pale-legged Hornero *Furnarius leucopus*—One of the most common of the furnarids in South America, we saw this species on several days, usually walking the roadside. We also saw many of their clay, oven-like nests.

Chestnut-winged Cinclodes *Cinclodes albidiventris*—Fairly common in the tussocked Páramo grassland along the boardwalk we hiked in the high Andes, just west of Tres Cruces Pass, the morning after our overnight at Dos Chorreras. Recently split from Bar-winged Cinclodes.

Stout-billed Cinclodes *Cinclodes excelsior*—Seen on our walk at the Cajas National Park Visitor Center with Juan, at about 13,000 feet. Cinclodes are an interesting group, with species such as this and the preceding one restricted to elevations over 10,000 feet, while others occur only along the seashore.

Montane Foliage-gleaner *Anabacerthia striaticollis*—An unexpected find as we birded mixed-tanager flocks along the Rio Zamora on our way to Copalinga, this mid-elevation foliage gleaner was spotted in low, riparian vegetation.

Pearled Treerunner *Margarornis squamiger*—An exquisitely-patterned bird in a family more often known for its plainer plumages, we had great looks at the species during one of our stops along the 682 highway, the day we drove from Loja to Casa Simpson. One of Bob's favorites!

Mouse-colored Thistletail *Asthenes griseomurina* (TUM)—We saw this regional endemic when we (Kelly, Charlie, Bob, and Andrea only) visited a small lake just off the 582 highway, about 7 km west of Dos Chorreras.

Andean Tit-Spinetail *Leptasthenura andicola*—A high-elevation specialist, also located at the site described for the preceding species. Birds were sitting out in the open, on several low shrubs.

Rufous-breasted Thornbird *Phacellodomus rufifrons*—Seen by Kelly, Charlie, and Bob in low trees by a farm field, the day we birded with Andrea in Valladolid village (11 km down the road from the Casa Simpson Lodge).

Azara's Spinetail *Synallaxis azarae*—Seen well by Kelly and Bob in a canyon near Pifo prior to the tour, and again by the group at Laguna Llaviucu in Cajas National Park. A noisy, yet exceptionally furtive species, even for a spinetail.

Rufous Spinetail *Synallaxis unirufa*—Another stealthy Andean furnarid, seen briefly by a couple of us in the forest undergrowth not far from the Casa Simpson Lodge.

Red-faced Spinetail *Cranioleuca erythrops*—A frustrating bird for most of us—despite moving through the canopy just above our heads, it was difficult to get a clear view. Encountered during a morning walk on the roads at Buenaventura.

MANAKINS: Pipridae (3)

White-bearded Manakin *Manacus manacus*—A relatively common species in much of South America, we located two or three male birds at the same location as the following species.

Club-winged Manakin *Machaeropterus deliciosus* (CHO)—A striking, red-capped male and a greenish female were both seen during a morning walk at Buenaventura. The disjunct population occurring here is well south of the main range for this uncommon species, and is of biogeographic significance.

Wing-barred Piprites *Piprites chloris*—This distinctive little manakin relative, a bit flycatcher-like, was seen one morning at Casa Simpson during a walk by some of us near the entry road. We only had a brief look before it vanished into the brush.

COTINGAS: Cotingidae (3)

Barred Fruiteater *Pipreola arcuata*—A beautiful species that Kelly and Charlie were rewarded with during their second trek into the Tapichalaca Reserve, on their hunt for the Jocotoco Antpitta.

Red-crested Cotinga *Ampelion rubrocristatus*—Seen twice during our day hike around Laguna Llaviucu in Cajas National Park, once as we exited the van at the car park, and again later as we walked the upper boardwalk on the far side of the lake. The boardwalk bird was displaying, with its red crest fully erected. Andrea emphasized how rare it is to see this.

Amazonian Umbrellabird *Cephalopterus ornatus*—An unexpected find, spotted by our driver Francisco, who had hiked up to the ranger station on the Bombuscaro trail near Copalinga. The bird was there and then gone in a flash, with Kelly and Charlie the only beneficiaries of Francisco's outstanding spotting. Bob missed it, and considered sulking a bit, but was soon distracted by some nearby monkeys.

BECARDS AND TITYRAS: Tityridae (4)

Masked Tityra *Tityra semifasciata*—Seen during our lunch stop as we drove from the Copalinga lodge to Buenaventura, sitting up in a leafless tree in a farm field. The pink skin around the eyes is a distinctive feature.

Northern Schiffornis *Schiffornis veraepacis*—A solitary bird was perched low in the understory, during a morning walk on one of the forest roads at Buenaventura. The site was heavily shaded, and not everyone had a good look.

Barred Becard *Pachyramphus versicolor*—The shrill, rising-then-descending whistle of this little becard first attracted Bob's attention down by the lower car park at Casa Simpson. Once pinpointed, two birds were seen in the forest margin. Strictly an Andean Species, with beautiful plumage.

One-colored Becard *Pachyramphus homochrous*—One bird was seen in the forest as we trekked up to the Oro Parakeet site west of the Buenaventura field station.

Green-backed Becard *Pachyramphus viridis*—Seen in the trees by the farm fields during a walk by Charlie, Kelly, and Bob in Valladolid Village, about 11 km down the road from the Casa Simpson Lodge. (Ecuadorian birds are sometimes considered a separate species, i.e., Yellow-cheeked Becard.)

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS: Tyrannidae (38)

Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet *Camptostoma obsoletum*—Recorded in Puembo and Pifo ahead of the tour, also in the Cuenca area.

Brown-capped Tyrannulet *Ornithion brunneicapillus*—Seen along the road into the Buenaventura field station from the 585 highway, a non-descript little flycatcher in a mixed flock.

White-tailed Tyrannulet *Mecocerculus poecilocercus*—A mid-elevation Andean species from Ecuador, Colombia, and Peru, we saw birds in the forest during one of our stops on the drive into Casa Simpson, our first day on the road.

White-banded Tyrannulet *Mecocerculus stictopterus*—Seen in Pifo by Bob and Kelly ahead of the main tour, and then again later by some of the group during our walk around Laguna Llaviucu in Cajas National Park. A hard bird to track, always moving in and out of view.

Tufted Tit-Tyrant *Anairetes parulus*—The first species we saw during our morning Páramo hike after our overnight at Dos Chorreras. The pale eyes and distinct crest make the species instantly recognizable.

Yellow-bellied Elaenia *Elaenia flavogaster*—A widespread flycatcher in the Neotropics, the yellow belly and distinct crest are characteristic. Seen at Valladolid Village (11 km down the road from the Casa Simpson Lodge).

White-crested Elaenia *Elaenia albiceps*—Seen on the first and last days of the tour, near the Puembo Birding Garden and Pifo.

Mottle-backed Elaenia *Elaenia gigas*—Also crested, the Mottle-backed Elaenia is much less common than Yellow-bellied. A strictly Andean species, those of us that birded the Santa Ana-La Florida archaeological site one afternoon, south of Casa Simpson, had the only views.

Ochre-bellied Flycatcher *Mionectes oleagineus*—Another small flycatcher seen one morning at Buenaventura, sitting quietly in the understory at the edge of the forest.

Slaty-capped Flycatcher *Leptopogon supercilialis*—We had our best views at Copalinga, as we walked the Bombuscaro Trail—two birds were seen perched on adjacent branches.

Marble-faced Bristle-Tyrant *Phylloscartes ophthalmicus*—Seen on three days, in the forest margin along the old Loja-Zamora Road, as we drove to Copalinga, and then on two days near the Copalinga Lodge building.

Black-capped Tyrannulet *Phyllomyias nigrocapillus*—Another of the seemingly endless number of small, yellow bellied flycatchers. One or two birds were seen one morning at Casa Simpson, in the canopy above one of the forest trails near the lodge.

Mouse-colored Tyrannulet *Phaeomyias murina*—A small flycatcher seen soon after we left the Loja Airport, while birding the sparsely forested dry hills east of the city. Easier to spot than many tyrannulets, due to its preference for open habitats. (The birds we saw are sometimes placed in their own species, i.e., Tumbesian Tyrannulet.)

Ornate Flycatcher *Myiobittacus ornatus*—We had extended looks at this species on the Bombuscaro Trail as we hiked in. We also observed it in forest margin habitat along the Rio Zamora, the day we initially drove into Copalinga, and it was later seen flycatching at the lodge.

Tawny-crowned Pygmy-Tyrant *Euscarthmus meloryphus*—Observed by the group after we landed in Loja, flying between low shrubs (at the same site as Elegant Crescentchest). A tiny bird, yet we had good views of several as they perched in the open singing. A widespread species in South America.

Scale-crested Pygmy-Tyrant *Lophotriccus pileatus*—We had saw this tiny flycatcher clearly in the understory at Buenaventura, sitting quietly in a sun gap in the lower canopy.

Brownish Twistwing *Cnipodectes subbrunneus*—Andrea heard this uncommon species before she and Bob saw it, when they birded the shaded understory along the entry road into the Umbrellabird Lodge at Buenaventura. Ultimately a bit of playback was necessary, but they eventually had a clear look.

White-throated Spadebill *Platyrinchus mystaceus*—We saw this tiny bird during a species-rich outing one morning along a lush forest road at Buenaventura. The crescent facial pattern helped to quickly identify the bird as a spadebill.

Cliff Flycatcher *Hirundinea ferruginea*—We had great looks at several Cliff Flycatchers at the bridge over the Rio Zamora, the day we drove into Copalinga.

Orange-banded Flycatcher *Nephelomyias lintoni*—Kelly and Charlie picked up this species during their walk with Andrea into the Jocotoco Antpitta site near Casa Simpson. This is a mid-montane narrow endemic, found only on the eastern slope of the Andes in southwest Ecuador (with a tiny overlap into northern Peru).

Smoke-colored Pewee *Contopus fumigatus* (PP)—Recorded by Kelly and Bob in a forested canyon, when they stayed in the Pifo area just ahead of the tour.

Western Wood-Pewee *Contopus sordidulus*—Seen during our epic road trip from Copalinga to Buenaventura. A familiar species for many of us.

Black Phoebe *Sayornis nigricans*—Found in Puembo and Pifo prior to the tour—we also saw Black Phoebes near Valladolid Village, and along the highway (near streams) as we drove out of Copalinga.

Vermilion Flycatcher *Pyrocephalus rubinus*—Good pre-tour looks were had at Puembo and Pifo, and the group also recorded the species in Cuenca. Unmistakable.

Plain-capped Ground-Tyrant *Muscisaxicola alpinus*—One of the high elevation specialists in the northern Andes, this plainly-colored species is very rarely seen below 10,000 feet. We spotted several birds on the Páramo as we walked along the boardwalk with Juan and Andrea, the morning after our stay at Dos Chorreras. The wildflowers at this site were spectacular!

Streak-throated Bush-Tyrant *Myiotheretes striaticollis*—Seen by Bob and Kelly ahead of the tour, in Pifo. Good views were later had by the group, of a bird perched near the abandoned German brewery at Laguna Llaviucu, in Cajas National Park.

Rufous-breasted Chat-Tyrant *Ochthoeca rufipectoralis*—One of the last species we saw just before we approached Casa Simpson Lodge our first day out. Observed in some trees below the highway. A common species, we saw it later along the blacktop road when we birded at Casa Simpson.

Brown-backed Chat-Tyrant *Ochthoeca fumicolor*—Related to the former species, but prefers higher elevations, usually not below 8,000 feet. We saw several birds in the Páramo on our walk from the Cajas National Park Visitor Center with Juan, at about 13,000 feet!

Ochraceous Attila *Attila torridus* (TUM)—A single bird seen around the Buenaventura reserve, a stunning regional endemic.

Dusky-capped Flycatcher *Myiarchus tuberculifer*—The mournful call of this species was heard along the forest roads at Buenaventura. A widespread species, from Arizona well into the Neotropics.

Short-crested Flycatcher *Myiarchus ferox*—Seen during our drive across the dry valleys from Copalinga to Buenaventura.

Sooty-crowned Flycatcher *Myiarchus phaeocephalus* (TUM)—A single Sooty-crowned Flycatcher, a regional endemic, was spotted by the group at Arenillas Ecological Reserve during our short stop there.

Boat-billed Flycatcher *Megarynchus pitangua*—A few birds were seen on perches as we traveled the E25 highway between Balao and Naranjal, before we turned east towards Dos Chorreras.

Social Flycatcher *Myiozetetes similis*—Seen on several days, at Valladolid Village south of Casa Simpson, and in the lowlands near the Arenillas Ecological Reserve.

Lemon-browed Flycatcher *Conopias cinchoneti*—A pair of birds were spotted sitting in the open at Copalinga Lodge—a bit reminiscent of Tropical Kingbird, this species is generally considered uncommon throughout its range.

Golden-crowned Flycatcher *Myiodynastes chrysocephalus*—Another uncommon flycatcher seen briefly at Copalinga, also with a passing resemblance to kingbirds or even Social Flycatcher. The rufous wing patch and blurry breast streaks quickly set it apart, however. Closely related to the following species.

Streaked Flycatcher *Myiodynastes maculatus*—Lacking the bright yellow of the preceding species, Streaked Flycatcher is widespread, extending from central Mexico to Argentina.

Tropical Kingbird *Tyrannus melancholicus*—One of the most common Neotropical species, we saw birds most days of the tour when we were not at high elevations.

VIREOS: Vireonidae (2)

Rufous-browed Peppershrike *Cyclarhis gujanensis*—One difficult-to-observe bird was observed in the forest margin when Kelly, Charlie, and Bob were birding behind Valladolid Village, about 11 km south of Casa Simpson.

Chivi Vireo *Vireo chivi*—Two or three birds were seen in the trees at the same location as the peppershrike (above). Very similar to North America's Red-eyed Vireo, which overwinters in South America. We had to depend on Andrea for the ID, since not only were migratory Red-eyed Vireos present in Ecuador during our visit, the plumage differences between Chivi and Red-eyed are so slight that their separation as distinct species is largely based on DNA.

CROWS AND JAYS: Corvidae (3)

Turquoise Jay *Cyanolyca turcosa*—A beautiful, richly colored jay, occurring almost exclusively in Ecuador's Andean forests (barely extending into Colombia and Peru). We had our best views of the species while on the trails at Casa Simpson.

Green Jay *Cyanocorax yncas*—A few of us spotted a small flock of Green Jays as they crossed the old Loja-Zamora Road, while we had stopped along the river (on our way to Copalinga).

White-tailed Jay *Cyanocorax mystacalis* (**TUM**)—A stunning Tumbesian endemic, we had excellent looks at this species at Arenillas Ecological Reserve, on the drive in (spotted from the van) as well as during our birding walk. The vibrant colors of these jays stood out particularly well against the drab background of the deciduous forest, which had yet to leaf out.

SWALLOWS AND MARTINS: Hirundinidae (5)

Blue-and-white Swallow *Pygochelidon cyanoleuca*—The most common swallow of the tour, seen almost every day, from low to high elevations.

Brown-bellied Swallow *Orochelidon murina*—An Andean species, seen at Puembo, and also later near Cuenca and in Cajas National Park.

Southern Rough-winged Swallow *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*—One of the most widespread swallow species in South America (though still second to Blue-and-white), we saw this species most days, often perched on wires.

Gray-breasted Martin *Progne chalybea*—Seen on two days, flying over the forest at Casa Simpson, and in the lowlands near Arenillas Ecological Reserve.

Brown-chested Martin *Progne tapera*—Found in every South American country except Chile, a disjunct population occurs along the southern Ecuadorian coast. Birds were seen on wires and in flight as we drove the E25 highway between Balao and Naranjal, on our road trip up to Dos Chorreras.

GNATCATCHERS: Polioptilidae (1)

Tropical Gnatcatcher *Polioptila plumbea*—Seen over three days, on our drive from Loja to Casa Simpson, during our lunch stop on our trip between Copalinga and Buenaventura, and in the dry forest at Arenillas Ecological Reserve.

WRENS: Troglodytidae (6)

House Wren *Troglodytes aedon*—Only seen once, on the day we drove from Copalinga to Buenaventura.

Sedge Wren *Cistothorus platensis*—One or more of this species was heard calling (and eventually seen by Bob) along the vegetated margin of Laguna Llaviucu, in Cajas National Park. (Called Grass Wren in some manuals).

Band-backed Wren *Campylorhynchus zonatus*—Spotted by Andrea in the canopy, when we stopped along a road on the outskirts of Zamora, near Copalinga. The species typically occurs in northwest Ecuador, so an interesting find.

Fasciated Wren *Campylorhynchus fasciatus* (TUM)—Similar to the preceding species, but much less widely distributed. We had particularly clear views of this regional endemic on an open hillside outside Loja, soon after leaving the airport on our first day, and at Arenillas Ecological Reserve.

Plain-tailed Wren *Pheugopedius euophrys*—Picked up by Kelly, Ed, and Charlie during the first attempt to hike in and see the Jocotoco Antpitta, during our stay at Casa Simpson.

Bay Wren *Cantorchilus*

nigricapillus—Discovered when Bob and Andrea took a walk along

one of the roads at the Buenaventura field station. This species and Brownish Twistwing were in the same patch of dank woods, and each were calling. We eventually managed to see both of them

Rufous Wren *Cinnycerthia unirufa*—Another strictly Andean species, this striking wren was seen by a few of us on the first of the two Jocotoco Antpitta hikes (see Plain-tailed Wren, above).

Song Wren *Cyphorhinus phaeocephalus* (HO)—Not seen by the group, we heard this species singing (a clucking sort of whistle) from the deep forest at Buenaventura, on one of our hikes there—found as far north as Honduras, the location at Buenaventura is the furthest south that Song Wren occurs.



MOCKINGBIRDS AND THRASHERS: Mimidae (1)

Tropical Mockingbird *Mimus gilvus* (PP)—Not seen during the tour, but seen by those arriving early around Pifo and Puembo Birding Garden.

Long-tailed Mockingbird *Mimus longicaudatus*—This was the first bird we identified upon walking out of the airport at Loja, after our flight from Quito. Seen in the parking lot and on the airport fences.

THRUSHES: Turdidae (8)

Andean Solitaire *Myadestes ralloides*—Discovered when Bob and Andrea took walked one of the roads at the Buenaventura field station, in the same general area as the Bay Wren and the Brownish Twistwing. Perched quietly in the subcanopy.

Swainson's Thrush *Catharus ustulatus*—A familiar North American migrant, Bob and Kelly heard a Swainson's Thrush singing where they stayed in Pifo ahead of the tour. Birds were later seen by the group in open farm land during our drives to and from the Buenaventura field station.

White-necked Thrush *Turdus albicollis*—Discovered in the understory at Bueneventura, during one of our morning walks. Similar in appearance to the American Robin, but a much shyer species.

Ecuadorian Thrush *Turdus maculirostris* (TUM)—Another of the Tumbesian endemics, Ecuadorian Thrush was seen in the dry forest at Arenillas Ecological Reserve. Birds have a distinctive eye-ring.

Black-billed Thrush *Turdus ignobilis*—Seen our last morning at Copalinga, we were right on the western edge of the range for this typically Amazonian species.

Marañon Thrush *Turdus maranonicus*—A range-restricted thrush limited to the Marañon valley of northern Peru, and immediately adjacent Ecuador. We had almost given up on this one, when birds were seen in trees along the dirt road that led into the Santa Ana-La Florida archaeological site, south of Casa Simpson.

Great Thrush *Turdus fuscater*—The largest of the *Turdus* thrushes, easily recognized in most areas by its orange legs and beak, and uniformly blackish plumage. Great Thrush was common at Puembo Birding Garden, in Pifo (where Bob and Kelly stayed before the tour), and at severa places we visited in southern Ecuador. (But see the following species).

Chiguanco Thrush *Turdus chiguanco*—Quite similar to Great Thrush, differing primarily by its significantly smaller size—we saw this species as we drove by a city park in Cuenca.

OLD WORLD SPARROWS: Passeridae (1)

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus* (I)—Always depressing to see this species, a few birds were noted in both the Puembo and Pifo areas, and at the Loja Airport.

FINCHES AND EUPHONIAS: Fringillidae (4)

Thick-billed Euphonia *Euphonia lanirostris*—This is the Euphonia species seen most prominently at the Buenaventura feeders, and in the forest surrounding the lodge compound. Seen all three days at the field station.

Orange-bellied Euphonia *Euphonia xanthogaster*—Also seen daily at Buenaventura, but less common coming in to the feeders.

Golden-rumped Euphonia *Euphonia cyanocephala*—One of the beautiful turquoise-crowned Euphonias, most of us had nice looks at this species near the entry to Reinaldo Espinosa Botanical Garden in Loja, the day we drove from the airport to Casa Simpson.

Hooded Siskin *Spinus magellanicus*—Common at Puembo Birding Garden, and seen in the immediate area around Dos Chorreras.

NEW WORLD SPARROWS: Passerellidae (10)

Yellow-throated Chlorospingus *Chlorospingus flavigularis*—A species of the humid Andean slopes, we picked a pair of birds out of a mixed-species flock that was feeding along the Rio Zamora, the day we drove the old Loja-Zamora Road on our way to Copalinga.

Ashy-throated Chlorospingus *Chlorospingus canigularis*—Same day and location as the previous species, also a component of the mixed flock.

Tumbes Sparrow *Rhynchospora stolzmanni* (TUM)—One of our target species the day we arrived in Lojas, we had nice views of this regional endemic on a dry, open hillside outside the city, soon after leaving the airport.

Yellow-browed Sparrow

Ammodramus aurifrons—A widespread species in interior South America, we saw several birds singing on fenceposts in Valladolid Village, 11 km or so down the road from the Casa Simpson Lodge.

Orange-billed Sparrow *Arremon aurantirostris*—We had great looks at this species at the blind that is set up at Copalinga for the Grey Tinamou. A couple of Orange-billed Sparrows were also there, taking advantage of all the grain that was spread out to attract the tinamous.

Chestnut-capped Brushfinch

Arremon brunneinucha—Pointed out by Andrea during the hike by Kelly, Ed, and Charlie on their second (and successful) attempt to locate the Jocotoco Antpitta, the morning we left Casa Simpson.

Olive Finch *Arremon castaneiceps* (PP)—Not a true finch, of course, this colorful Neotropical sparrow was spotted by Kelly ahead of the main tour, in a shaded canyon in Pifo.



White-winged Brushfinch *Atlapetes leucopterus* (PP)—Seen by Kelly and Bob in Pifo, a day ahead of the main tour. A beautiful Andean species, confined to Ecuador and northern Peru.

Yellow-breasted Brushfinch *Atlapetes latinuchus*—A beautifully plumaged species, common at the corn meal feeders at the Casa Simpson Lodge.

Rufous-collared Sparrow *Zonotrichia capensis*—Perhaps the most common bird species in South America, we saw these ubiquitous little sparrows every day except at the highest elevations.

BLACKBIRDS AND ORIOLES: Icteridae (8)

Peruvian Meadowlark *Leistes bellicosus*—Seen twice on our last day of birding, east of Cuenca. Charlie saw birds behind the restaurant we had lunch at in Capulispamba, and another was seen from the van as we passed through Gualaceo. The brilliant red breast of this species is amazing.

Russet-backed Oropendola *Psarocolius angustifrons*—An occasional visitor to the trees visible from the back side of the dining area at Copalinga Lodge, the most common oropendola in the Amazon Basin. Seen at the feeders with the following species.

Crested Oropendola *Psarocolius decumanus*—See above. Another very common species.

Yellow-rumped Cacique *Cacicus cela*—Birds were seen along the entrance road into the Buenaventura field station, the day we went looking for the Oro Parakeets.

White-edged Oriole *Icterus graceannae* (TUM)—One of the Tumbesian endemics found in southwest Ecuador and northwest Peru. We had excellent looks at several birds in the bare trees at the Arenillas Ecological Preserve, when we passed through on our drive north to Dos Chorreras.

Shiny Cowbird *Molothrus bonariensis*—A gregarious species that was very common at Puembo Birding Garden. Also seen sporadically during the trip elsewhere, at lower and middle elevations.

Scrub Blackbird *Dives warczewiczi*—The common blackbird along the E25 highway between Balao and Naranjal, before we turned east towards Dos Chorreras. Also seen in fields near Buenaventura.

Great-tailed Grackle *Quiscalus mexicanus*—Seen just once, flying near the Humedal La Tembladera nature reserve, before we departed to continue our drive to Dos Chorreras.



NEW WORLD WARBLERS: Parulidae (11)

Tropical Parula *Setophaga pitiayumi*—One or two birds were seen in the trees with the mixed flock along the Rio Zamora, as we drove down the old Loja-Zamora road on our trip into Copalinga.

Blackburnian Warbler *Setophaga fusca*—Seen in Puembo, and at the above location along the Rio Zamora.

Three-banded Warbler *Basileuterus trifasciatus* (TUM)—Another of the regional endemics seen near Casa Simpson, this species was spotted several times, perched in the open (and sometimes singing) in the wooded brush below the lodge.

Citrine Warbler *Myiothlypis luteoviridis*—A mid- to high-elevation Andean warbler, our only encounter with this species was during one of our birding stops as we drove the 682 highway, our first day on the road as we headed for Casa Simpson.

Black-crested Warbler *Myiothlypis nigrocristata*—Another high elevation Andean warbler, seen several times by the group as we traveled along the 682 highway. More apt to skulk and remain hidden than the preceding two species, we nonetheless managed quick looks on three days near Casa Simpson.

Buff-rumped Warbler *Myiothlypis fulvicauda*—A species attracted to water, we saw it several times near small brooks or walking the wet margins of trails at Buenaventura. Its tendency to run and spread its tail feathers was reminiscent of American Redstart.

Gray-and-gold Warbler *Myiothlypis fraseri* (TUM)—This regional endemic was observed on two days at the Buenaventura Reserve, walking the edges of forest trails. Easily spooked, it was never seen clearly.

Russet-crowned Warbler *Myiothlypis coronata*—A fairly common Andean species, seen by Ed, Kelly, and Charlie on their first walk into the Jocotoco Antpitta feeding station in the Tapichalaca Reserve. The rest of the group missed out on this one.

Canada Warbler *Cardellina canadensis*—A North American migrant, seen in Pifo by Bob and Kelly ahead of the main trip, and later the morning we left Casa Simpson for Copalinga.

Slate-throated Redstart *Myioborus miniatus*—A fairly common species on the tour, seen by most of the group at Casa Simpson, Buenaventura, and outside Cuenca.

Spectacled Redstart *Myioborus melanocephalus*—Seen with the preceding species at Casa Simpson, often near the feeders, and then a small group was later spotted as we walked around Laguna Llaviucu in Cajas National Park.

CARDINALS, GROSBEAKS AND ALLIES: Cardinalidae (3)

Summer Tanager *Piranga rubra*—Another familiar North American migrant, we saw overwintering birds at Puembo Birding Garden, at Valladolid Village south of Casa Simpson, and near Laguna Llaviucu.

Ochre-breasted Tanager *Chlorothraupis stolzmanni* (CHO)—It's been said this uniformly gray-green species is best identified by its utter lack of field marks (though its pale iris helps with the ID if it can be seen). Most of us got decent looks at a single bird in the mid-canopy one morning, at Buenaventura.

Golden Grosbeak *Pheucticus chrysogaster*—Especially common at Puembo Birding Garden, we saw this beautiful species several other times, near Cuenca and at the Arenillas Ecological Reserve. (Also called the Southern Yellow Grosbeak.)

TANAGERS AND ALLIES: Thraupidae (55)

Magpie Tanager *Cissopis leverianus*—Few of the group noticed this large, gaudy bird fly across the road behind us, during a birding stop along the old Loja-Zamora Road. It really does look like a magpie.

Black-capped Hemispingus *Kleinotheraupis atropileus*—Seen in the forest surrounding Casa Simpson—an infrequent visitor to the feeder array, more attracted to bamboo thickets.

Rufous-chested Tanager *Thlypopsis ornate* (PP)—A brightly colored Andean tanager, seen in a wooded canyon in Pifo by Bob and Kelly before the tour started. A declining species vulnerable to deforestation.

White-shouldered Tanager *Tachyphonus luctuosus*—A widespread species in the northern Neotropics, it was an inhabitant of the forest at Buenaventura. A sexually dimorphic species, we saw a male and a female one morning, as we birded the shaded roads that led from the main lodge.

White-lined Tanager *Tachyphonus rufus*—Another sexually dimorphic *Tachyphonus* species, black males and rufous females were fairly frequent visitors to the feeders at Copalinga Lodge.

Flame-rumped Tanager *Ramphocelus flammigerus*—One of the common tanagers in the Buenaventura Reserve, we saw several birds over three days here. (Also called Yellow- or Lemon-rumped Tanager.)

Silver-beaked Tanager *Ramphocelus carbo*—Only seen once, during our afternoon stop in Valladolid Village, in a group of trees that bordered a farm field. The contrast of the silver-white beak and the crimson-black plumage is always an eye-catcher.

Hooded Mountain-Tanager *Buthraupis montana*—A stunning species, seen (only by Ed, Charlie, and Kelly) during both hikes into the Jocotoco Antpitta feeding station in the Tapichalaca Reserve, near the Casa Simpson Lodge.

Lacrimose Mountain-Tanager *Anisognathus lacrymosus*—A beautiful tanager with a rather creative name (referring to the tear-shaped, yellow spot just below the eye), we had a number of great looks right on the grounds of the Casa Simpson Lodge. A range-restricted Andean species.

Scarlet-bellied Mountain-Tanager *Anisognathus igniventris*—A small group (Kelly, Charlie, Bob, and Andrea only) saw this Andean specialty during a stop at a small lake just off the 582 highway, about 7 km west of Dos Chorreras. Even at a distance, the vivid scarlet underside stood out like a beacon.

Golden-crowned Tanager *Iridosornis rufivertex*—With a beautiful and complex array of colors, Golden-crowned Tanager was only seen by Kelly, Ed, and Charlie during their first attempt at locating the Jocotoco

Antpitta, above the Casa Simpson Lodge. Seeing this species was reasonable compensation for having to hike in a second day to finally see the antpitta!

Blue-and-yellow Tanager *Pipraeidea bonariensis*—A bold and aggressive species at the feeders in Pifo (at Bob and Kelly's pre-tour lodging), as well as at Puembo Birding Garden.

Orange-eared Tanager *Chlorochrysa calliparaea*—A gorgeous green species, spotted among the mixed songbird flock we stopped to investigate along the Rio Zamora, as we drove the old Loja-Zamora Road on our way into Copalinga.

Blue-gray Tanager *Thraupis episcopus*—The most abundant of the tanagers during our tour, and widespread in the Neotropics. We had many good looks at this species, at Puembo, Casa Simpson, and Buenaventura. A species that often frequents feeders.

Palm Tanager *Thraupis palmarum*—Another common Neotropical tanager, we picked this species up several times while staying in the Buenaventura Reserve. Like Blue-Gray, it often takes advantage of fruit trays.

Spotted Tanager *Ixothraupis punctata*—A beautiful, small tanager with a unique spotted pattern, we saw birds at Copalinga Lodge, and also in the canopy as we walked the nearby Bombuscaro Trail.

Silvery Tanager *Tangara viridicollis*—This unique, dark tanager was seen high in the trees during our birding walk at Reinaldo Espinosa Botanical Garden in Loja. Also found by a few of us at Casa Simpson. (Sometimes called Silver-backed Tanager.)

Scrub Tanager *Tangara vitriolina*—Arguably the most attractive visitor at the Puembo Birding Garden feeders, easy to see.

Masked Tanager *Tangara nigrocincta*—Spotted in a mixed flock high in some trees, when we stopped for some afternoon birding along a road on the outskirts of Zamora near Copalinga.

Blue-necked Tanager *Tangara cyanicollis*—Part of a mixed flock we investigated in the forest margin along the old Loja-Zamora Road, above the river, as we drove to Copalinga.

Paradise Tanager *Tangara chilensis*—Our first views of this species, easily one of the gaudiest songbirds in the Western Hemisphere, were had in the same flock as the preceding species. Even better views were had the next day, perched on bare branches at the Copalinga Lodge.

Bay-headed Tanager *Tangara gyrola*—A widespread species in the Neotropics, we had clear views on several days, at Copalinga as well as the Buenaventura Reserve.

Golden-eared Tanager *Tangara chrysotis*—Another of the striking, multi-colored *Tangara* species seen in the mixed flock along the Rio Zamora, the day we drove down the old Loja-Zamora Road on our way in to Copalinga.

Green-and-gold Tanager *Tangara schrankii*—We had brief but clear views of this brilliant species in the feeder area at Copalinga Lodge. A fleeting glimpse was then had later in the day, as well, when we hiked the Bombuscaro Trail.

Golden Tanager *Tangara arthus*—Strictly an Andean species, it was hard to miss this bright yellow-orange species when it came to inspect the feeders at Copalinga. Seen several times.

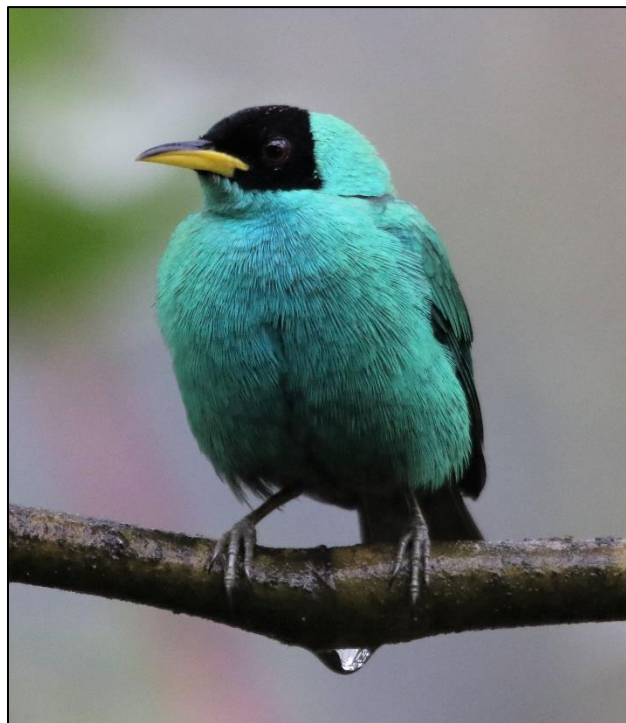
Silver-throated Tanager *Tangara icterocephalus*—Picked up by Kelly and Charlie, on one of their hikes in search of the Long-wattled Umbrellabird in the montane forest of Buenaventura.

Black-faced Tanager *Schistochlamys melanopis*—A single bird was seen in the trees by the farm fields during a walk by Charlie, Kelly, and Bob in Valladolid Village, 11 km down the road from the Casa Simpson Lodge. A species of open country.

Swallow Tanager *Tersina viridis*—A intensely blue male bird was seen on the grounds of Copalinga Lodge. A curious, ground-nesting species.



Black-faced Dacnis *Dacnis lineata*—Some of us had a brief look at a bird in flight, at the Santa Ana-La Florida archaeological site south of Casa Simpson. A species primarily of the Amazon Basin, a beautifully patterned Dacnis.



Green Honeycreeper *Chlorophanes spiza*—An abundant feeder bird at both Copalinga and Buenaventura, both males and females were common.

Guira Tanager *Hemithraupis guira*—One of the more widespread tanagers in South America, seen along the river on our way to the Bombuscaro Trail, near Copalinga.

Giant Conebill *Conirostrum binghami*—Following our failed attempt at tracking down this alpine species of *Polylepis* woodlands, our national park guide Juan excitedly pointed one out from the van, just as we were pulling away from the Cajas National Park Visitor Center. Great timing!

Blue-backed Conebill *Conirostrum sitticolor*—A mid-to high-elevation Andean species, our only encounter with this tanager relative was during one of our birding stops along the 682 highway, our first day on the road as we headed for Casa Simpson.

Cinereous Conebill *Conirostrum cinereum*—Seen by Bob and Kelly ahead of the main tour, in a forested canyon near Pifo. Also found on the main tour during a stop (Kelly, Charlie, Bob, and Andrea only) at a small

lake just off the 582 highway, about 7 km west of Dos Chorreras.

Tit-like Dacnis *Xenodacnis parina*—A largely Peruvian species that is very uncommon in Ecuador, we saw several birds during our hike below the Cajas National Park Visitor Center, above Laguna Toreadora. A bright blue, shockingly colorful species, especially when compared the drably-plumaged birds that tend to populate the high Páramo habitat!

Glossy Flowerpiercer *Diglossa lafresnayii* (PP)—A single bird was seen by Bob and Kelly among a group of Rusty Flowerpiercers in a garden in Pifo, a day ahead of the main tour.

Black Flowerpiercer *Diglossa humeralis*—Seen at Puembo Birding Garden the first day of the tour, and later in the brush at Laguna Llaviucu in Cajas National Park.

Rusty Flowerpiercer *Diglossa sittoides*—The most common of the flowerpiercers seen in Puembo and Pifo ahead of the main tour, also seen at Laguna Llaviucu near the abandoned German brewery.

White-sided Flowerpiercer *Diglossa albilatera*—A mid-elevation northern Andean species, seen in a mixed-species flock in montane scrub, during one of our birding stops as we traveled along the 682 highway on our way into Casa Simpson.

Masked Flowerpiercer *Diglossa cyanea*—Common at Casa Simpson, we saw these birds every day in the forest surrounding the lodge. A beautiful species, it frequented the feeders near the front porch.

Plumbeous Sierra-Finch *Geospizopsis unicolor*—A species rarely found below 10,000 feet, it was fairly common in the tussocked Páramo grassland along the boardwalk we hiked in the high Andes, just west of Tres Cruces Pass, the morning after our overnight at Dos Chorreras.

Ash-throated Sierra-Finch *Geospizopsis plebjus*—One of the first birds pointed out by Andrea at Loja's La Toma Airport. Birds were seen flying and perched below the parking lot where our van was waiting, in a small residential area.

Gray-hooded Bush Tanager *Cnemoscopus rubrirostris*—A species of Andean subtropical forest, we saw a pair working along some low branches in roadside vegetation, on a stop during our road trip on the 682 highway to Casa Simpson.

Saffron Finch *Sicalis flaveola*—Seen several times during the tour, this urbanized species was exceedingly common at Puembo Birding Garden.

Blue-black Grassquit *Volatinia jacarina*—Our best looks were during Charlie, Kelly, and Bob's visit with Andrea to Valladolid Village, a few miles down the hill from Casa Simpson. Several grassquits were seen feeding in grassy fields, with Yellow-browed Sparrows.

Chestnut-bellied Seedeater *Sporophila castaneiventris*—Along the brushy roadsides and fencerows in the farmed areas between Buenaventura Lodge and the highway.

Chestnut-bellied Seed-Finch *Sporophila angolensis*—Found near Bob and Kelly's cabaña at Copalinga, seen as it scrounged for seeds in the underbrush below their deck.

Drab Seedeater *Sporophila simplex*—Aptly named, a flock of this plain little songbird was seen during our roadside lunch stop by a farm pond, after we had left the Humedal La Tembladera nature reserve (the day we drove north to Dos Chorreras).

Variable Seedeater *Sporophila corvina*—Widespread from Central America to Peru, we saw this black and white species just once, during our hike in the Buenaventura Reserve as we searched in the fog for Oro Parakeets.

Plain-colored Seedeater *Catamenia inornata*—First we have Drab Seedeater, now Plain-colored. Similarly, monotonous, color-wise, this species was seen by Kelly and Bob on an old roadbed in Pifo, at the start of the tour, and then again at the same locality as Chestnut-bellied Seedeater (above).

Red-crested Finch *Coryphospingus cucullatus*—A bright rufous finch, with an outrageous shock of red crown feathers, we saw this species as we approached the Arenillas Ecological Preserve.

Bananaquit *Coereba flaveola*—We had our best views of this species at Buenaventura, where birds bellied up to the open, communal nectar feeders together with all the hummingbirds.

Buff-throated Saltator *Saltator maximus*—Seen in the trees near the Copalinga Lodge, along the Bombuscaro Trail, and perched in forest gaps at Buenaventura. A widespread Neotropical species.

Black-winged Saltator *Saltator atripennis*—Recorded on two days, high in the canopy at Buenaventura Reserve. This species is restricted to the west slope of the Andes in Ecuador and Colombia.

Streaked Saltator *Saltator striatipectus*—Only seen once on the tour, in the dry scrub forest near Arenillas Ecological Reserve (in extreme southwest Ecuador).

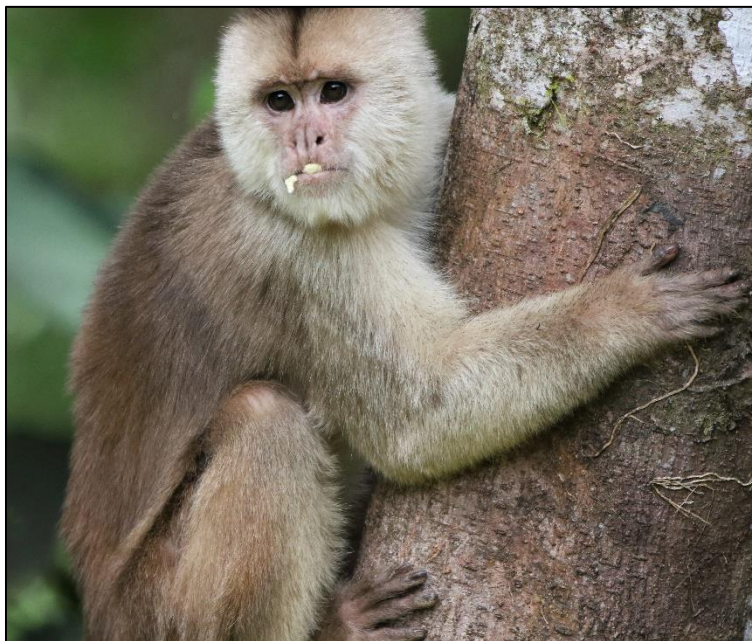
MAMMALS (8 species recorded):

Colombian White-faced Capuchin *Cebus capucinus*—This is the mischievous and rather aggressive little primate that was seen in the trees (and also near the dining area) at Copalinga Lodge. It was astounding how many bananas one particularly avaricious monkey was able to stuff into its mouth at once.

White-tailed Deer *Odocoileus virginianus*—The same species as in North America, but a different subspecies in Ecuador. Seen browsing on the slopes near Dos Chorreras.

Llama *Lama glama*—We observed llamas several times in Cajas National Park in the high Andes, west of Cuenca. Although seemingly wild, and often grazing on open slopes in unfenced areas, Andrea felt that most, if not all, the animals we were seeing were domesticated.

Sechuran Fox *Lycalopex sechurae* (TUM)—A Tumbesian endemic, we saw several Sechuran Foxes near the headquarters compound for the Arenillas Ecological Reserve, very close to the Peruvian border. (Also called the Peruvian Desert Fox).



South American Coati *Nasua nasua*—Marauding gangs of this highly social mammal were a permanent fixture near the dining area at Copalinga, and on the main lodge verandah at Buenaventura. Little could be done to dissuade them from their mission of total domination of any fruit feeders.

Lowland Paca *Cuniculus paca*—A large, mostly nocturnal rodent seen in the evenings and mornings near the lodge at Copalinga.

Black Agouti *Dasyprocta fuliginosa*—Also seen one evening near the Copalinga Lodge.

Guayaquil Squirrel *Sciurus stramineus*—Common at the Arenillas Ecological Reserve.

Photos (by Bob Meinke): Sickle-winged Guan; Sparkling Violetear; Striated Heron; Masked Trogon; Fasciated Wren; Yellow-browed Sparrow; White-winged Brushfinch; Blue-and-Yellow Tanager; Green Honeycreeper; Colombian White-faced Capuchin