This was a set departure tour

NORTHWEST ECUADOR:

In Search of Chocó Endemics

1st - 12th November 2014

The endangered Tanager Finch was seen well in the Tandayapa Valley.

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All photos in this report were taken by José Illánes

INTRODUCTION:

Tropical Birding operates two different tours in the northwest of Ecuador, a short Andes Introtour, which covers the Tandayapa/Mindo region over 6 days of birding, and this longer trip, which, like that one, covers that key birding area of the country, but also travels further north, spending longer in the
region and ensuring more of the specialties of this Choco biogeographic region are tracked down in the process. On this endemic-focused tour, we managed to see an amazing 59 Choco endemics, (dependent on taxonomy; a Tropical Birding record for this tour) which included some of the most sough after birds in all of Ecuador: Plate-billed Mountain-Toucan and Choco Toucan, Velvet-purple Coronet, Empress Brilliant (photo below), Rose-faced Parrot, Toucan Barbet, Five-colored Barbet, Tanager Finch, Glistening-green, Blue-whiskered, and Scarlet-and-white Tanagers, Orange-breasted Fruiteater, Long-wattled Umbrellabird, Beautiful Jay, Scarlet-breasted Dacnis, Black Solitaire, Giant and Yellow-breasted Antpittas, Choco Woodpecker, and the rare Yellow-green Chlorospingus (Bush-Tanager); and that’s not to mention some equally stunning birds that are not endemics: Booted Racket-tail, displaying Andean Cock-of-the-rocks, Ocellated Tapaculo (one of 6 species of tapaculo seen-a clean sweep), Flame-faced, Golden-crowned and Black-chested Mountain-Tanagers, Black-tipped Cotinga, Chestnut-crowned Antpitta, Rufous-breasted Antthrush, and Golden-winged Manakin displaying!

This all added up to a highly successful tour, little affected by rain (in this wet region); which recorded a healthy total of 507 species (469 species were seen by at least one of the group)...
DAILY SUMMARY:

DAY 1 (of birding)

YANACOCHA

The tour began by climbing out of Quito, one of the World’s highest capital cities, at 2800m/9185ft, and continuing up even higher, to cover the temperate forest reserve of Yanacocha. This provides a convenient stop off point, with many birds only possible there on this tour, en-route to Tandayapa Bird Lodge, which was to be our base for the first four nights of the birding portion of the trip. As this was to be our only visit to temperate altitudes on the tour, we had plenty of targets to kick the tour off, most of which were only seen on this one morning. Before we reached the reserve, and the temperate forest though, we stopped in an area of degraded habitat as we climbed out of Quito, where the introduced Eucalyptus trees gave us Crimson-mantled Woodpecker of all things, as the first, and arguably most spectacular of all woodpeckers of the trip. The stop had been made initially though for a Streak-throated Bush-Tyrant, a large flycatcher, noticed perched prominently on a roadside wire. This same area proved a rich opening, with good activity including a few dramatic male Black-tailed Trainbearers, Blue-and-yellow Tanager, Black Flowerpiercer, Cinereous Conebill, and Tufted Tit-Tyrant also tracked down during this brief stop.

Continuing towards the reserve, we passed through agricultural fields and entered into an area of temperate scrub and trees, where we had a smashing view of an Andean Pygmy-Owl (photo above), often a much more tricky
bird to find than this! The owl stop also yielded a good sighting of Ash-colored Tapaculo (a scarce species on this tour in general), Red-crested Cotinga and our first Yellow-breasted (Rufous-naped) Brush-Finches. Between this stop and the reserve itself we had a perched Sharp-shinned Hawk (formerly split off as Plain-backed Hawk), and also scored a Brown-backed Chat-Tyrant. Arriving at the reserve and after taking advantage of their on site restrooms, we started walking the “Inca Trail”, a flat trail that dissects the reserve, cutting through wet temperate forest, and eventually leading to a great set of hummingbird feeders. As we walked the trail to the feeders, we bumped into some small parties of birds, which included such stunners as Hooded, Scarlet-bellied, and Black-chested Mountain-Tanagers (photo below) in a single magical flock; and also Black-crested Warbler, a photogenic Bar-bellied Woodpecker, some typically noisy Rufous Wrens, the handsome Spectacled Redstart (Whitestart), the sharp Pearled Treerunner, and the weirdly named Superciliated Hemispingus, were all chalked up along the trail. Good views of three cracking Golden-crowned Tanagers were much appreciated too, and other birds added included White-banded Tyrannulet and Crowned Chat-Tyrant.

Arriving at the wonderful feeders, we were again appreciated a well-placed restroom, before sitting down to enjoy the constant action of hummingbirds visiting the series of feeders there; Sword-billed Hummingbird, typically, yielded the best reaction from the group, and other attendees included Buff-winged Starfrontlet, Tyrian Metaltail, and Sapphire-vented and Golden-breasted Pufflegs (photo next page). Non-hummingbirds seen at the feeders too were Masked and Glossy Flowerpiercers, stealing the sugar water from the hummers on a regular basis!
On the way out, retracing our steps, back to the vehicle, some had short views of a **Rufous Antpitta**, but we all saw a **Variable Hawk** cruising over the temperate forest above us.

After a picnic lunch at the reserve, we started our journey to Tandayapa along the **Old Nono-Mindo Road**. Before reaching that road though we stopped to admire a group of 3 **Andean Lapwing**, and also picked up a **Grass (Sedge) Wren**. Below the town of Nono, we had great sightings two usually shy species **Plain-tailed Wren** and **Blackish (formerly Unicolored) Tapaculo**, and also stopped to admire a beefy **Golden-bellied Grosbeak** (also known as Southern Yellow Grosbeak). Between Nono and the lodge we stopped on a regular basis to admire various birds, like a pair of **White-capped Dippers** along the Rio Alambi; picked up **Flavescent and Streak-necked Flycatchers**, and **Beryl-spangled Tanagers** in passing flocks. The star performers of the afternoon though, were arguably the handful of scarlet male **Andean Cock-of-the-rocks** dancing in our ‘scope, at a traditional lek site. This was followed by another key target, when a pair of **Toucan Barbets** showed up shortly before we arrived at the lodge in the late afternoon. We pulled into the cloudforest reserve at **Tandayapa Bird Lodge**, for the first of our four nights, just as dusk fell.

**DAY 2**

**TANDAYAPA VALLEY**

The valley of Tandayapa is a famed birding location, stretching from around 1500m-2300m at the highest point, and is largely forested for much of that. There are many birds found throughout the valley, but in order to build a good trip list it is essential to bird various elevations within the valley. Thus, we
begun right on the doorstep of the lodge, leaving for a nearby forest blind before breakfast. Here a nightlight serves to attract insects during the night, which are often picked off in the early morning by visiting birds. We entered the blind when it was dark, and awaited the strangely sudden arrival of dawn, which typifies dawn in the tropics. As dawn unfolded bird sounds increased, and activity at the blind began: a pair of Zeledon’s Antbird (formerly Immaculate Antbird), hopped around within centimeters of the front of the hide; a female Masked Trogon dropped in; a Streak-capped Treehunter and Uniform Antshrike showed up, as well as Russet-crowned Warbler. After about an hour at the forest blind, the activity, as usual, quickly dropped off, and with stomachs rumbling we returned to the lodge for a welcome breakfast. Around breakfast and during the morning, we checked in on the famed hummingbird feeders at the lodge, which by the morning’s end had produced 16 different species, and hundreds of individuals constantly buzzing around them. Among the throng were some Choco specialties: Brown Inca, Violet-tailed Sylph, Purple-bibbed Whitetip, Western Emerald, and even a stunning male Empress Brilliant, as well as more widespread, but no less spectacular species like Booted Racket-tail and Purple-throated Woodstar. Birding right around the lodge during and shortly after breakfast we noted three Red-headed Barbets visiting the fruit feeder at the lodge, along with Golden and Lemon-rumped Tanagers at the feeder too, where fresh papaya also attracted one Rufous Motmot, and Buff-throated Saltator too.
Not long after breakfast we ascended to the Upper Tandayapa Valley to target a range of specialties only found in the upper reaches of this forest-cloaked valley. Various flocks in the Upper Tandayapa Valley held Beryl-spangled, Blue-winged Mountain-Tanager, and a pair of Green-and-black Fruiteaters. Top of the shopping list in this part of the Tandayapa Valley, is however, the multicolored Plate-billed Mountain-Toucan (photo below), one of which was seen well perched there, and was predictably popular. Then we visited a known stakeout for Tanager Finch (photo page before), one of the rarest (by numbers) birds found in the valley, which sat only very narrowly behind the toucan on the wish list of many of the group. Thankfully, the bird gave us no trouble, and a pair were seen well moving around in the undergrowth and perched out singing. Our time in the valley, during that morning, was punctuated by sightings of other species like the dowdy endemic Dusky Chlorospingus (formerly bush-tanager), White-rumped, Broad-winged and Short-tailed Hawks in flight during the sunny morning, Blue-and-black Tanager, Turquoise Jay, Sepia-brown (Sharpe’s) Wren, Striped Treehunter, and a banner sighting of Ocellated Tapaculo, arguably the best sighting of the entire morning, (it was so good that another passing bird group joined in for the sighting!)

We returned to Tandayapa Bird Lodge for lunch, to enjoy the hummingbirds further, post-lunch, and also do some short trail birding near the lodge, which produced Crimson-rumped Toucanet, another pair of Toucan Barbet, Montane Woodcreeper, a super pair of White-winged Tanagers, and Rufous-winged Tyrannulet, our first sighting of the trip of Metallic-green Tanager, Chestnut-capped Brush-Finch,
and a noisy group of Red-billed Parrots in flight. Later in the afternoon, we returned to the Old Nono-Mindo Road, as we were still on the lookout for Beautiful Jay, and this area usually provides the best chance to find it. As we searched, and bumped into another group who had recently seen the jay, we found Tyrannine Woodcreeper, Scaly-naped Amazon passed overhead, but could not, sadly, locate our main target, the jay. We lingered on the Old Nono-Mindo Road for the chance of nightbirds, and found male and female Lyre-tailed Nightjars chasing each other in flight, as well as a Rufous-bellied Nighthawk hawking over the valley at dusk; and finally, a Common Potoo that responded well to call.

DAY 3
PAZ DE AVES & TANDAYAPA VALLEY

This day saw us leave the lodge well before first light; the reason for this was to visit the best display site in the country for Andean Cock-of-the-rock (photo above). While we had already seen this bird distantly, in display, this day saw us eyeballing up to 5 different males at close range, shortly after dawn, when their peak display time occurs. While we at the cock-of-the-rock blind, we were also gifted a Crested Quetzal, the rarer of the two quetzal species in the area. The same spot also yielded the regular pair of Rufous-bellied Nighthawks too. Once the cock-of-the-rocks had calmed down for
the day, not too long after dawn, we returned to the road and visited a known spot for **Yellow-breasted Antpitta**, where the local guide, Angel, whistled two antpittas into view as it came in to feed on the worms he laid out for it. Then we tried for a regular group of **Dark-backed Wood-Quail (photo page 24)** that the same guide had recently managed to habituate, and two birds showed up right on time! The next “appointment” was deeper in the forest, which required a short, but steep climb into the roadside forest. There was some huffing and puffing among the group, but the short climb was worth it as first a **Giant Antpitta (photo page 23)** was seen a meter or so away; then a **Rufous-breasted Antthrush** came and walked past close to us, and this was followed by a single **Ochre-breasted Antpitta**, all of which showed extraordinarily well, making this site an obvious must-visit reserve on this tour!

Then we were back in the vehicle and drove up the road for another stellar target; amazingly, on arrival, a pair of **Chestnut-crowned Antpittas (photo above)**, were waiting for their daily handout! Then we stopped off for some refreshment at Angel’s farm, and had a brunch of **Bolones** and **Empanadas**-tasty Ecuadorian food, washed down with coffee. It was then time to depart the reserve, after a bumper morning. And hit a feeding flock on
the ay down which held, Flame-faced, Silver-throated, Golden-naped, Metallic-green, and Black-capped Tanagers among the horde! Other birds we sighted on the way out included Ecuadorian Thrush, and White-winged Brush-Finch.

We were back at the lodge by lunchtime, even though lunch seemed a little close to our brunch, shortly before! After lunch we went in pursuit of the gaps in our trip list for the Tandayapa area, with Beautiful Jay right at the top of our wish list. It took some time, but, finally, we tracked down a pair of these well-named birds along the Old Nono-Mindo Road, at a different spot than we had tried before. We returned to Tandayapa for our penultimate night, and readied ourselves for another onslaught of Choco specialties, offered by the next day’s destination...Mashpi.

**DAY 5**

**MASHPI**

This was our first day in the foothills, after spending several days in both the temperate and subtropical zones, and therefore offered us some mega birds for list. A long drive out of the lodge is needed to reach this unique area, although it is always worth it, as the site offers many species not possible
anywhere on the trip. We begun by stopping and birding some rich roadside forest before we reached the main area, and quickly picked up some of our targets like Moss-backed, Rufous-throated, and Glistening-green Tanagers, together in the same flock, which also held Orange-breasted Fruiteater, Pacific (Buffy) Tuftedcheek, and Indigo Flowerpiercer. Six major targets in the first hour of birding, was an idyllic start! We also found the difficult Green-fronted Lancebill feeding on some roadside flowers. Then we visited some exciting new feeders in the area, which held another Glistening-green Tanager (photo below), along with a handful of Flame-faced Tanagers, Black-chinned Mountain-Tanagers (photo page before), and a pair of Golden-collared Honeycreepers, a very difficult species in the northwest region of Ecuador.

The hummingbird feeders also held a star-studded cast of Choco specialties: Velvet-purple Coronet (photo page 12), Violet-tailed Sylph, Empress Brilliant, and Purple-bibbed Whitetip. The owners of this new private reserve had recently built a trail heading into the rich surrounding forest, and so we walked a little of this to try and find some interior species, less likely to be seen from the road; chief among our successes was a great look at the often-elusive Esmeraldas Antbird, and we also added a second quetzal to the list, Golden-headed Quetzal. We also had a great view of a Tawny-faced Gnatwren, and were surprised to
find a Black-headed Tody-Flycatcher at this high elevation for the species. Returning to the road, we soon found a Brown-billed Scythebill, which responded well to some speculative playback.

With pretty much all the major targets in the bag, we left shortly after taking our packed lunch at Mashpi. We headed to San Tadeo and climbed up the “back way” to the Upper Tandayapa Valley, which involves birding along a dirt road, with stretches of forest dotted along it. As we birded this road we added Scaled Fruiteater, Streaked Tuftedcheek, and Streak-headed Antbird (formerly Long-tailed Antbird before this was split into multiple species). As we reached the top of the Tandayapa Valley, we visited another new set of feeders of, with the hope of adding White-tailed Hillstar to the list. It was already late afternoon, although this can often be the peak time for hummingbird activity, getting in their final feed before dark. Not only did we add a White-tailed Hillstar at the feeder, but we also found a Wedge-billed Hummingbird feeding on a large datura flower! We headed back to Tandayapa for our final night there, before another day beckoned in the Andean foothills…
DAY 6

MILPE

For the second day in a row, our birding began in the Andean foothills (around 1100m/3600ft elevation), at Milpe, an area of drier and lower altitude forest to that found at Mashpi. Our birding started right in the parking lot of this small reserve, where we quickly located an Ochre-breasted Tanager singing loudly from the treetops. A check of the hummingbird feeders in the reserve revealed new hummingbirds for the trip like Green Thorntail, White-whiskered Hermit, and Green-crowned Woodnymph, and more Green-crowned Brilliants, (the latter we had seen at Tandayapa previously). Crossing over the road, to another area of the reserve, we birded this open area, where we found Choco Tyrannulet (an endemic), Chestnut-mandibled and Choco Toucans (photo above), and Collared (Pale-mandibled) Aracari (photo on next page), Ruddy Pigeon, and a selection of tanagers: Blue-necked, White-lined, and Swallow Tanagers. We then hit the forest trails in the reserve, where we bumped into some feeding flocks, which yielded plentiful new species for us:
Buff-fronted, Scaly-throated and Lineated Foliage-Gleaners; Spotted Woodcreeper, Rufous-rumped and Slaty Antwrens, Choco Warbler, Ornate and Slaty-capped Flycatchers; and Greenish Elaenia, One-colored and Cinnamon Becards, Yellow-throated and Dusky Chlorospinguses, and Black-winged Saltator. Also along the trails we enjoyed another Rufous Motmot, and visited the centerpiece of this reserve, the Club-winged Manakin lek. Unusually, this species gave us a bit of a hard time, although eventually we all saw the male displaying. That was not the only manakin to put on a show that morning, as a single male Golden-winged Manakin was seen performing on its display log too. The trails also produced great views of several Slate-colored Grosbeak, and also enjoyed super looks at Song Wren, a bird which had only very recently showed up at this well-birded site for the very first time. The beautiful cadences of the Spotted Nightingale-Thrush (photo page 15) were heard, and soon after we got cracking looks at this beautiful, and often skulking, thrush. There is a trail linking both of the small reserves in the area—both managed by the Ecuadorian NGO, Mindo Cloudforest Foundation—and we walked this, picking up several repeats, but also some “newbies” like Plain Xenops, Russet Antshrike, and Lesser Greenlet. We took boxed lunch by the feeders at Milpe Gardens, the neighboring reserve, overlooking the same hummingbirds we had recorded in the other reserve.
Post lunch we moved further west, and to lower elevations, birding the entrance road to the *Silanche* reserve for open country birds, and forest birds within the patches that still persist along there. Here we added *Lineated Woodpecker*, *Snowy-throated Kingbird*, and *Purple-crowned Fairy*. However, our main aim was to try and see a *Barred Puffbird*, as this place offered our best chance, and, thankfully one bird came in close after being wolf-whistled in! Having picked up the puffbird nice and easy we continued on west to our next hotel, *Selva Alegre*, which offers some great birding on the grounds. We still had an hour or so for birding on arrival, and maximized our time there by picking up *Masked Water-Tyrant*, *Pacific Parrotlet*, *Pale-legged (Pacific) Hornero*, *Band-backed Wren*, and a great selection of parrots: *Maroon-tailed Parakeet*, and *Bronze-winged, Rose-faced, and Blue-headed Parrots* all seen. Other new additions included *Red-billed Scythebill*, *Yellow-bellied Elaenia*, *Yellow-crowned and Sooty-headed Tyrannulets*, and *Dull-colored Grassquit*. We spent one night in the foothills, before the following day, we heading further into the northwest, and dropping into the true lowlands...
DAY 7

SILANCHE to SAN LORENZO

For the start of the day we began by birding this small forest reserve, further down the road than we had been the afternoon before. After some time there in the morning we moved northwest, and spent the night in San Lorenzo, a city close to some of the best birding areas in the extreme northwest of Ecuador. The highlights at Silanche were Chestnut-backed Antbird, Checker-throated Antwren, and another Rufous Motmot. Although it was generally, we did eventually find a group of 8 Rufous-fronted Wood-Quail all of which crossed the trail in front of us, which were our main target for Silanche. Our time on the easy trails there also produced a Guayaquil Woodpecker, and the furtive Ruddy Foliage-gleaner, which as unusually confiding. After initial low activity along the road we found a feeding flock holding Olivaceous Piculet, Slaty-capped Shrike-Vireo, Black-capped (Western Slaty-) Antshrike, Black-striped Woodcreeper, Yellow-tufted Dacnis, and the endemics Scarlet-browed Tanager and Orange-fronted Barbet. From the observation tower we found Masked Tityra, a perched Hook-billed Kite, more Collared Aracaris, and a much-hoped for Rufous-winged Tanager.
Birding our way out along the forested section of the road within the reserve, we found a pair of Lanceolated Monklets (photo page before), Broad-billed Motmot, to add to the handful of earlier Rufous Motmots, Rufous-tailed Jacamar, Tawny-crested Tanager, and Purple-throated Fruitcrow, before we packed up and left Silanche behind. Several hours in the car followed, as we headed further north, and deeper into the Choco; stopping at a specific spot near San Mateo for successful try for Jet Antbird, and also added Crimson-breasted Finch, Amazilia Hummingbird, Ecuadorian Ground-Dove, Black-striped Sparrow, and Yellow-tailed Oriole in the same area. As we drove further in the direction of San Lorenzo, stops were made along the road for an injection of red with Peruvian Meadowlark, and Vermilion Flycatcher. This brought us eventually close to the Pacific Ocean, a fact that became clear by the sightings of Magnificent Frigatebird, Brown Pelican and Royal Tern. Late in the afternoon we checked into our San Lorenzo hotel, with no time remaining for any late afternoon birding.

DAY 8

SAN LORENZO area to PLAYA DE ORO

This was our first day in the lowlands of the extreme northwest, and we visited the now vastly degraded site of Yalare, famed for its small population of Five-colored Barbets in particular. The first good find of the day though was a male Slaty-tailed Trogon, and both the rare Ochraceous Attila, and an absurdly responsive Bright-rumped Attila too, within just meters of us. This same rich area
brought us Scaled Pigeon, Pied Puffbird, Dusky Antbird, and another Guayaquil Woodpecker. Then we moved on to another forest patch, where Scarlet-breasted Dacnis (photo page 17), headlined, along with Mealy and Blue-headed Parrots; and Rufous-headed Chachalaca was found along the road, as was Pacific Antwren. Another major target was found, with the local Black-breasted Puffbird too, in addition to Blue-chested Hummingbird, Dusky Pigeon, and the Stripe-billed form of Collared Aracari, (sometimes considered a separate species). After much playing of tape, and little audible sign of the species, someone pointed a male Five-colored Barbet sitting above us with a Scarlet-thighed Dacnis with it! Moving further on, we found a small flock with Red-rumped Woodpecker, and Blue Dacnis within it. White-necked Puffbird and a White-bearded Manakin was also found closeby.

After lunch we moved on to one of the most exciting sites of the trip, Playa de Oro, an area of considerable rich forest in the lowlands of the Choco. We needed to take a boat to reach the reserve, and spotted Gray-headed Kite and Laughing Falcon on the way into the lodge, as well as Little Blue Heron, and Ringed and Green Kingfishers. We arrived at the simple and rustic lodge in Playa de Oro at around 3PM, and hit the muddy trails right beside the lodge shortly afterwards, which led us to new birds such as Stripe-throated Wren, Spot-crowned Antvireo, and White-flanked and Dot-winged Antwrens. The spiffing Long-tailed Tyrant was also regular within the lodge garden. The first of three nights were spent in Playa de Oro, following our arrival.

DAYS 9-11

PLAYA DE ORO & SAN LORENZO

Two full days were spent in the remote forest reserve of Playa de Oro, which holds some of the rarest birds of the lowland Choco. In reality, with few large blocks of lowland forest remaining in Ecuador (under 2% remains), this is often the only site where some of these can be found. As well as endemics, there is also a rather dull non-descript birds that makes people come here too, the odd Sapayoa, which is a monotypic bird family. With the surge in “collecting” bird families among us birders, this bird has become increasingly of interest to visiting birders. Thankfully, it is rather easy to find at Playa de Oro, as it was on this trip, when a handful were found in various passing flocks, much to the relief of the family listers in the group! Such flocks also led us to other target species like Lemon-spectacled Tanager and Rufous Mourner. The canopy flocks provide some of the biggest challenges in the area, as the tall trees and dark forest make such groups often hard to
get decent looks at. However, we did encounter one particularly dazzling flock in our time there that contained Lita, Choco and Cinnamon Woodpeckers, Blue-whiskered Tanager, Scarlet-breasted Dacnis, Slate-throated Gnatcatcher, White-ringed Flycatcher, and Gray-mantled Wren! Other scarce species found within various passing bird parties, included Emerald, Rufous-winged and Tawny-crested Tanagers, and “Dagua” (White-throated) Thrush. Working the forest, we also checked treetops, where we found several ivory white male Black-tipped Cotingas, while in the forest understory species like White-whiskered Puffbird, Fasciated Antshrike, Rufous Piha, both Green and Red-capped Manakins (photo below) were found. The site is not an easy place to find hummingbirds, with no feeders present, unlike many of the mountain sites visited already on the trip, but we did track down Band-tailed Barbthroat, Stripe-throated Hermit, and, best of all, a Tooth-billed Hummingbird foraging on flowers on the final day there.

Plenty of skulkers occur at the site, which require considerable more work, and we worked on many and found some including, Uniform Crake, Streak-chested Antpitta, Black-headed Antthrush, Stub-tailed Antbird, and even a Great Tinamou that was initially inadvertently flushed off its nest and was later seen wandering along the trail. Plenty of more flashy species were seen too, with a cracking look at Rose-faced Parrot, multiple Chestnut-mandibled Toucans, Black-throated Trogon, and a Semiplumbeous Hawk, which betrayed its presence by calling loudly from the trees.
Walking forest trails on one day we chanced upon an army ant swarm, which aided us in finding obligate ant following species like Ocellated and Bicolored Antbirds, in addition to the endemic Pacific Flatbill and Chestnut-backed Antbird. Another particularly fortunate moment occurred when we stumbled onto a fruiting tree that held a single Baudo Guan within it, feeding alongside Stripe-billed (Collared) Aracari, and Choco Toucan.

While the undoubted rigors to visiting this site; (e.g. the lodge is quite basic, the birding is tough, and the trails are often muddy and slippery), the reason for coming is to track down genuine rarities, and we did this in the case of Long-wattled Umbrellabird (photo below), two females of which were seen on one occasion.

Nightbirding was undertaken on a single night before dinner, when we managed to track down the two endemic targets before dinner was served: Choco Poorwill and Choco (Vermiculated) Screech-Owl.

On the final day at Playa de Oro, we packed up after lunch and took the boat back to where we rejoined with our trusty driver and headed back to San Lorenzo. During the return boat trip we found Chestnut-headed
Oropendola and Cocoi Heron. With a little time left to bird on reaching San Lorenzo we tried a small reserve near the city, and found Red-legged Honeycreeper, Gray Elaenia, Black-striped Woodcreeper, the endemic Dusky Pigeon, and got splendid looks at a White-throated Crake.

DAY 12

LA UNION (AWA) & CHICAL ROADS

On this day we birded a relatively new site near San Lorenzo, known as La Union Road. While it is touted as a road, it is in reality an unfinished, extremely muddy track, which is quite troublesome navigating as a result. However, only a walk of around 500m is usually required to pick up the main target birds, along this extremely rich, forest-flanked track. One of the main key birds there proved little trouble (which is typical at this one special site), when 2 Golden-chested Tanagers were seen perched atop the trees. A little flock followed soon after which held Tawny-crested, Emerald, Golden-hooded and Scarlet-browed Tanagers all in the same flock. Great views of White-ringed Flycatcher at eye level were also appreciated, providing an upgrade from the canopy top views had earlier on the tour. Lita and Cinnamon Woodpecker were seen again too, among several further encountered, as was Slate-throated Gnatcatcher. Through scouring flock after flock, with both eyes and ears, we finally managed to track down a pair of Yellow-green Chlorospingus (Bush-Tanager), which responded well and gave good views. While the majority of the birding along this road comprised of scanning through canopy feeding flocks, a break from this was provided during our search for the endemic Choco Tapaculo, an elusive ground dweller that was seen by at least some of the group. By
the end of the morning, we returned back to the vehicle for lunch, having covered merely 500m or so of the road in that time, which provided all that action! In the afternoon we headed east, and to the Chical Road, stopping briefly along the main highway when a Ruddy-breasted Seedeater was spotted, (a very local species in Ecuador).

The Chical Road, our final site of the day, is an area of montane forest in the foothills, which was only discovered relatively recently. Its claim to fame is being the most reliable and accessible site for Star-chested (Fulvous-dotted) Treerunner. This bird was seen during the afternoon, but was briefer look than we’d have liked, and due to the substantial low cloud cover at the time, the views were not what we would have wished for. Other birds we found along the Chical Road that afternoon included Golden-headed Quetzal, a perched White-capped Parrot, another Plate-billed Mountain-Toucan, two further Beautiful Jay, and more Beryl-spangled and Golden Tanagers. After what had been an extremely fruitful days birding, it ended rather badly. Despite Tropical Birding having arranged a reservation at the local hacienda, the owners of the place had messed up the booking, were not there when we turned up, and could not be contacted; requiring us to drive much further out to find another hotel for the night. This was a rather frustrating end to the day for all present, but thankfully turned out alright in the end.

DAY 14

CHICAL ROAD
to QUITO

Due to the late night, following the last minute swapping of hotels, we got up and begun birding right
around our hotel, situated in dry scrubby country in the Andes. There we found **Tropical Mockingbird** (actually a scarce and local bird in Ecuador), **Scrub Tanager**, **Western Emerald**, and an interesting **Mouse-colored Tyrannulet**, of a local subspecies that may well be recognized as a full species in the future, by virtue of its distinctive appearance and song. After this brief period of birding we returned to the **Chical Road**, where we soon found our last remaining target there, the gorgeous **Purplish-mantled Tanager** (*photo Page before*), for which this is the only reliable site on the country. Up at the higher reaches of the road we also found **Toucan Barbet** (*photo page 21*), **Saffron-crowned and Flame-faced Tanagers**, and, finally, **Grass-green Tanager** too, a bird that had become something of a nemesis bird on this tour. The final piece of a puzzle was complete too, with **Narino Tapaculo**, our **sixth** and final possible tapaculo of the tour, all of which were seen!

After taking lunch in the field, we returned to the scrubby habitat near the hotel we stayed in (near the town of Salinas), where we located **Purple-collared Woodstar** and **Blue-headed Sapphire**, and added **Common Ground-Dove** to the list. That completed our time in this sector of the northwest, and so we packed up and headed southwards towards Quito, going via **Lago San Pablo**, to pick up our final few birds of the trip. This large lagoon was quite productive during our short visit; we
readily found the two main key birds: Ecuadorian (Virginia) Rail and Subtropical Doradito, but also added Andean Teal, Yellow-billed Pintail, (Andean) Ruddy Duck, and Andean (Slate-colored) Coot. That brought the birding of the tour to a close, after which, we drove back to Quito for a final farewell dinner, before departure the following morning.

At the end of the tour, we had recorded 507 species, within which 76 types of tanager were seen; 58 flycatchers; plus 43 hummingbirds; as well as 13 species of woodpecker; 11 parrots; 9 cotingas; 8 species from the trogon family; 6 puffbird, tapaculo, antpitta and manakin species; 5 toucans; and a heady 59 endemics! Among the endemics seen were 15 types of tanager, 10 types of hummingbird, 4 toucans, 2 antpittas, 2 woodpeckers, 2 cotingas, 2 barbets, a toucan-barbet, and a guan, a parrot, a jay, and a manakin!

SOME FINAL PHOTOS FROM THE TOUR:

DARK-BACKED WOOD-QUAIL Paz de Aves
CHECKLISTS:

**BIRDS**

*Taxonomy follows Clements/e-Bird version 6.8 (updated 2013).*

Birds marked with an “H” were only heard on the tour.

Birds marked with “GO” were seen by the guide only.

Birds in **RED** are endemic species/possible endemic species, suggested by some authors.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TINAMOUS</th>
<th>TINAMIDAE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Great Tinamou</td>
<td>Tinamus major</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H Little Tinamou</td>
<td>Crypturellus soui</td>
</tr>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DUCKS, GEESE, AND WATERFOWL</th>
<th>ANATIDAE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yellow-billed Pintail</td>
<td>Anas georgica</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andean Teal</td>
<td>Anas andium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Andean) Ruddy Duck</td>
<td>Oxyura Jamaicensis ferruginea</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GUANS, CHACHALACAS, CURASSOWS</th>
<th>CRACIDAE</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rufous-headed Chachalaca</td>
<td>Ortalis erythroptera</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baudo Guan</td>
<td>Penelope ortoni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H Crested Guan</td>
<td>Penelope purpurascens</td>
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<tr>
<td>H Wattled Guan</td>
<td>Aburria aburri</td>
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<tr>
<td>H Sickle-winged Guan</td>
<td>Chamaepetes goudoti</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEW WORLD QUAIL</th>
<th>ODONTOPHORIDAE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rufous-fronted Wood-Quail</td>
<td>Odontophorus erythrops</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dark-backed Wood-Quail</td>
<td>Odontophorus melanonotus</td>
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<tr>
<td>H Tawny-faced Quail</td>
<td>Rhynchortyx cinctus</td>
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<tr>
<th>GREBES</th>
<th>PODICIPEDIDAE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Pied-billed Grebe</td>
<td>Podilymbus podiceps</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FRIGATEBIRDS</strong></td>
<td><strong>FREGATIDAE</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Magnificent Frigatebird</td>
<td>Fregata magnificens</td>
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<th><strong>CORMORANTS AND SHAGS</strong></th>
<th><strong>PHALACROCORACIDAE</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Neotropic Cormorant</td>
<td>Phalacrocorax brasilianus</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>PELICANS</strong></th>
<th><strong>PELECANIDAE</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Brown Pelican</td>
<td>Pelecanus occidentalis</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>HERONS, EGRETS, AND BITTERNs</strong></th>
<th><strong>ARDEIDAE</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Cooi Heron</td>
<td>Ardea cocoi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Egret</td>
<td>Ardea alba</td>
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<tr>
<td>Snowy Egret</td>
<td>Egretta thula</td>
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<tr>
<td>Little-Blue-Heron</td>
<td>Egretta caerulea</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cattle Egret</td>
<td>Bubulcus ibis</td>
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<tr>
<td>GO</td>
<td>Buturoides striata</td>
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<th><strong>NEW WORLD VULTURES</strong></th>
<th><strong>CATHARTIDAE</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Black Vulture</td>
<td>Coragyps atratus</td>
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<td>Turkey Vulture</td>
<td>Cathartes aura</td>
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<th><strong>OSPREY</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Osprey</td>
<td>Pandion haliaetus</td>
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<th><strong>HAWKS, EAGLES, AND KITES</strong></th>
<th><strong>ACCIPITRIDAE</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hook-billed Kite</td>
<td>Chondrohierax uncinatus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gray-headed Kite</td>
<td>Leptodon cayanensis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Swallow-tailed Kite</td>
<td>Elanoides forficatus</td>
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<td>Ornate Hawk-Eagle</td>
<td>Spizaetus ornatus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plumbeous Kite</td>
<td>Ictinia plumbea</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sharp-shinned (Plain-breasted) Hawk</td>
<td>Accipiter striatus ventralis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barred Hawk</td>
<td>Morphnarchus princeps</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Roadside Hawk
White-rumped Hawk
Variable Hawk
Semiplumbeous Hawk
Broad-winged Hawk
Short-tailed Hawk

**RAILS, GALLINULES, AND COOTS**

White-throated Crake
Virginia (Ecuadorian) Rail
Uniform Crake
Common Gallinule
Slate-colored (Andean) Coot

**RAILIDAE**

Laterallus albigularis
Rallus limicola aequatorialis
Amaurolimnas concolor
Gallinula galeata
Fulica ardesiaca

**PLOVERS AND LAPWINGS**

Andean Lapwing

**CHARADRIIDAE**

Vanellus resplendens

**SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES**

Spotted Sandpiper

**SCOLOPACIDAE**

Actitis macularius

**GULLS, TERNs, AND SKIMMERS**

Andean Gull
Royal Tern

**LARIDAE**

Chroicocephalus serranus
Thalasseus maximus

**PIGEONS AND DOVES**

Rock Pigeon
Pale-vented Pigeon
Scaled Pigeon
Band-tailed Pigeon
Plumbeous Pigeon
Ruddy Pigeon
Dusky Pigeon

**COLUMBIDAE**

Columbia livia
Patagioenas cayennensis
Patagioenas speciosa
Patagioenas fasciata
Patagioenas plumbea
Patagioenas subvinacea
Patagioenas goodsoni
Eared Dove
Common Ground-Dove
Plain-breasted Ground-Dove
Ecuadorian Ground-Dove
Blue Ground-Dove
White-tipped Dove
Pallid Dove
H White-throated Quail-Dove

Cockoes
GO Little Cuckoo
Squirrel Cuckoo
H Striped Cuckoo
Smooth-billed Ani
Groove-billed Ani

Cuculidae
Coccypha minuta
Piaya cayana
Tapera naevia
Crotaphaga ani
Crotaphaga sulcirostris

Owls
Vermiculated (Choco) Screech-Owl
H Cloud-forest Pygmy-Owl
Andean Pygmy-Owl

Strigidae
Megascops guatemalae centralis
Glaucidium nubicola
Glaucidium jardinii

Nightjars and Allies
Rufous-bellied Nighthawk
Common Pauraque
Lyre-tailed Nightjar
Choco Poorwill

Caprimulgidae
Lurocalis rufiventris
Nyctidromus albicollis
Uropsalis lyra
Nyctiphrynus rosenbergi

Potoos
Common Potoo

Nyctibiidae
Nyctibius griseus

Swifts
Chestnut-collared Swift

Apodidae
Streptoprocne rutila
White-collared Swift
Band-rumped Swift
Gray-rumped Swift
White-tipped Swift
Lesser Swallow-tailed Swift

HUMMINGBIRDS
White-necked Jacobin
Band-tailed Barbthroat
White-whiskered Hermit
Tawny-bellied Hermit
Stripe-throated Hermit
Green-fronted Lancebill
Wedge-billed Hummingbird
Brown Violetear
Green Violetear
Sparkling Violetear
Tooth-billed Hummingbird
Purple-crowned Fairy
Gorgeted Sunangel
Green Thorntail
Speckled Hummingbird
Violet-tailed Sylph
Black-tailed Trainbearer
Tyrian Metaltail
Sapphire-vented Puffleg
Golden-breasted Puffleg
Brown Inca
Collared Inca
Buff-winged Starfrontlet
Sword-billed Hummingbird
Great Sapphirewing

TROCHILIDAE
Florisuga mellivora
Threnetes ruckeri
Phaethornis yaruqui
Phaethornis syrmatophorus
Phaethornis striigularis
Doryfera ludovicae
Schistes geoffroyi
Colibri delphinae
Colibri thalassinus
Colibri coruscans
Androdon aequatorialis
Heliothryx barroti
Heliangelus strophianus
Discosura conversii
Adelomyia melanogenys
Aglaiocercus coelestis
Lesbia victoriae
Metallura tyrianthina
Eriocnemis luciani
Eriocnemis mosquera
Coeligena wilsoni
Coeligena torquata
Coeligena lutetiae
Ensifera ensifera
Pterophanes cyanopterus
Buff-tailed Coronet  
**Boissonneaua flavescens**

Velvet-purple Coronet  
**Boissonneaua jardini**

Booted Racket-tail  
**Ocreatus underwoodii**

White-tailed Hillstar (northwest)  
**Urochroa bougueri bougueri**

Purple-bibbed Whitetip  
**Urosticte benjamini**

Fawn-breasted Brilliant  
**Heliodoxa rubinoides**

Green-crowned Brilliant  
**Heliodoxa jacula**

**Empress Brilliant**  
**Heliodoxa imperatrix**

Purple-collared Woodstar  
**Myrtis fanny**

Purple-throated Woodstar  
**Calliphlox mitchelli**

Western Emerald  
**Chlorostilbon melanorhynchus**

Crowned (Green-crowned) Woodnymph  
**Thalurania colombica**

Amazilia Hummingbird  
**Amazilia amazilia**

Andean Emerald  
**Amazilia franciae**

Blue-chested Hummingbird  
**Amazilia amabilis**

**Purple-chested Hummingbird**  
**Amazilia rosenbergi**

Rufous-tailed Hummingbird  
**Amazilia tzacatl**

Blue-headed Sapphire  
**Hylocharis grayi**

**TROGONS**

Golden-headed Quetzal  
**Pharomachrus auriceps**

Crested Quetzal  
**Pharomachrus antisianus**

Slaty-tailed Trogon  
**Trogon massena**

Blue-tailed (Chocó) Trogon  
**Trogon comptus**

(Western) White-tailed Trogon  
**Trogon chionurus**

Black-throated Trogon  
**Trogon rufus**

Collared Trogon  
**Trogon collaris**

Masked Trogon  
**Trogon personatus**

**MOTMOTS**

Rufous Motmot  
**Baryphthengus martii**

Broad-billed Motmot  
**Electron platyrhynchum**

**TROGONIDAE**

Rufous Motmot  
**Baryphthengus martii**

Trogon comptus  
**Trogon comptus**

Trogon massena  
**Trogon massena**

Trogon rufus  
**Trogon rufus**

Trogon collaris  
**Trogon collaris**

Trogon personatus  
**Trogon personatus**

**MOMOTIDAE**
KINGFISHERS
Ringed Kingfisher
Green Kingfisher

ALCEDINIDAE
Megaceryle torquata
Chloroceryle americana

PUFFBIRDS
White-necked Puffbird
Black-breasted Puffbird
Pied Puffbird
Barred Puffbird
White-whiskered Puffbird
Lanceolated Monklet

BUCCONIDAE
Notharchus hyperrynchus
Notharchus pectoralis
Notharchus tectus
Nystalus radiatus
Malacoptila panamensis
Micromonacha lanceolata

JACAMARS
Rufous-tailed Jacamar

GALBULIDAE
Galbula ruficauda

NEW WORLD BARBETS
Orange-fronted Barbet
Five-colored Barbet
Red-headed Barbet

CAPITONIDAE
Capito squamatus
Capito quinticolor
Eubucco bourcierii

TOUCAN-BARBETS
Toucan Barbet

SEMNORNITHIDAE
Semnornis ramphastinus

TOUCANS
Crimson-rumped Toucanet
Plate-billed Mountain-Toucan
Collared (Stripe-billed) Aracari
Collared (Pale-mandibled) Aracari
Black-mandibled (Chestnut-mand.) Toucan
Choco Toucan

RAMPHASTIDAE
Aulacorhynchus haematopygus
Andigena laminirostris
Pteroglossus torquatus sanguineus
Pteroglossus torquatus erythropygius
Ramphastos ambiguus swainsonii
Ramphastos brevis
### WOODPECKERS
- **Olivaceous Piculet**
- **Black-cheeked Woodpecker**
- **Smoky-brown Woodpecker**
- **Red-rumped Woodpecker**
- **Bar-bellied Woodpecker**
- **Choco Woodpecker**
- **Lita Woodpecker**
- **Golden-olive Woodpecker**
- **Crimson-mantled Woodpecker**
- **Cinnamon Woodpecker**
- **Lineated Woodpecker**
- **Powerful Woodpecker**
- **Guayaquil Woodpecker**

### PICIDAE
- **Picumnus olivaceus**
- **Melanerpes pucherani**
- **Picoides fumigatus**
- **Veniliornis kirkii**
- **Veniliornis nigriceps**
- **Veniliornis chocoensis**
- **Piculus latae**
- **Colaptes rubiginosus**
- **Colaptes rivoli**
- **Celeus loricatus**
- **Dryocopus lineatus**
- **Campephilus pollens**
- **Campephilus gayaquilensis**

### FALCONS AND CARACARAS
- **Micrastur ruficollis**
- **Herpetotheres cachinnans**
- **Falco sparverius**
- **Falco rufigularis**

### FALCONIDAE
- **Barred Forest-Falcon**
- **Laughing Falcon**
- **American Kestrel**
- **Bat Falcon**

### PARROTS
- **Pyrrhura melanura pacifica**
- **Bolborhynchus lineola**
- **Forpus coelestis**
- **Touit delineolius**
- **Pyrilia pulchra**
- **Pionus sordidus**
- **Pionus tumultuosus seniloides**
- **Pionus menstruus**
- **Pionus chalcopterus**
- **Amazona autumnalis**

### PSITTACIDAE
- **Maroon-tailed Parakeet**
- **Barred Parakeet**
- **Pacific Parrotlet**
- **Blue-fronted Parrotlet**
- **Blue-headed Parrot**
- **Bronze-winged Parrot**
- **Red-lored Parrot (Amazon)**
Mealy Parrot (Amazon)  
Amazona farinosa
Scaly-naped Parrot (Amazon)  
Amazona mercenarius

**SAPAYOA**
Sapayoa  
Sapayoa aenigma

**TYPICAL ANTBIRDS**
Rufous-rumped Antwren  
Euchreopomis callinota
Faciated Antshrike  
Cymbilaimus lineatus
Great Antshrike  
Taraba major
Black-crowned (Western Slaty-) Antshrike  
Thamnophilus atrinucha
Uniform Antshrike  
Thamnophilus unicolor
Russet Antshrike  
Thamnistes abatinus
Spot-crowned Antvireo  
Dysithamnus puncticeps
Checker-throated Antwren  
Epinecrophylla fulviventris

**THAMNOPHILIDAE**
Moustached (Griscom's) Antwren  
Myrmotherula ignota ignota
Pacific Antwren  
Myrmotherula pacifica
White-flanked Antwren  
Myrmotherula axillaris
Slaty Antwren  
Myrmotherula schisticolor
Dot-winged Antwren  
Microrhopias quixensis
Streak-headed (Long-tailed) Antbird  
Drymophila striaticeps
Dusky Antbird  
Cercomacra tyrannina
Jet Antbird  
Cercomacra nigricans
Chestnut-backed Antbird  
Myrmeciza exsul
Esmeraldas Antbird  
Myrmeciza nigricauda
Stub-tailed Antbird  
Myrmeciza berlepschi
Zeledon's (Immaculate) Antbird  
Myrmeciza immaculata
Bicolored Antbird  
Gymnopithys leucaspis
Spotted Antbird  
Hylophylax naevioides
Ocellated Antbird  
Phaenostictus mcleannani
**ANTPITTAS**

H Undulated Antpitta
   Giant Antpitta
H Moustached Antpitta
H Scaled Antpitta
   Chestnut-crowned Antpitta
H Chestnut-naped Antpitta
   Yellow-breasted Antpitta
   Rufous Antpitta
H Tawny Antpitta
   Streak-chested Antpitta
   Ochre-breasted Antpitta

**GRALLARIIDAE**

Grallaria squamigera
Grallaria gigantea
Grallaria alleni
Grallaria guatimalensis
Grallaria ruficapilla
Grallaria nuchalis
Grallaria flavotincta
Grallaria rufula
Grallaria quitensis
Hylopezus perspicillatus
Grallaricula flavirostris

**TAPACULOS**

Ocellated Tapaculo
Ash-colored Tapaculo
Blackish (Unicolored) Tapaculo
Choco Tapaculo
Nariño Tapaculo
Spillmann's Tapaculo

**RHINOCRYPTIDAE**

Acropternis orthonyx
Myornis senilis
Scytalopus latrans latrans
Scytalopus chocoensis
Scytalopus vicinior
Scytalopus spillmanni

**ANTTHRUSHES**

Black-headed Antthrush
Rufous-breasted Antthrush

**FORMICARIIDAE**

Formicarius nigricapillus
Formicarius rufipectus

**OVENBIRDS AND WOODCREEPERS**

H Tawny-throated Leaftosser
Tyrannine Woodcreeper
Plain-brown Woodcreeper
Wedge-billed Woodcreeper
Strong-billed Woodcreeper
Black-striped Woodcreeper

**FURNARIIDAE**

Sclerurus mexicanus
Dendrocincla tyrannina
Dendrocincla fuliginosa
Glyphorynchus spirurus
Xiphocolaptes promeropirhynchus
Xiphorhynchus lachrymosus
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<tr>
<th>Bird Name</th>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Spotted Woodcreeper</td>
<td>Xiphorhynchus erythropygus</td>
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<td>Brown-billed Scythebill</td>
<td>Campylorhamphus pusillus</td>
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<td>Streak-headed Woodcreeper</td>
<td>Lepidocolaptes souleyetii</td>
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<td>Montane Woodcreeper</td>
<td>Lepidocolaptes lacrymiger</td>
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<td>Plain Xenops</td>
<td>Xenops minutus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Buffy (Pacific) Tuftedcheek</td>
<td>Pseudocolaptes lawrencii johnsoni</td>
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<tr>
<td>Streaked Tuftedcheek</td>
<td>Pseudocolaptes boissonneautii</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rusty-winged Barbatim</td>
<td>Premnornis guttuliger</td>
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<td>Pale-legged (Pacific) Hornero</td>
<td>Furnarius leucopus cinnamomeus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Buff-fronted Foliage-gleaner</td>
<td>Philydor rufum</td>
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<td>Scaly-throated Foliage-gleaner</td>
<td>Anabacerthia variegaticeps</td>
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<td>Lineated Foliage-gleaner</td>
<td>Syndactyla subalaris</td>
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<tr>
<td>Striped (Western) Woodhaunter</td>
<td>Hyloctistes subulatus assimilis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ruddy Foliage-gleaner</td>
<td>Automolus rubiginosus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Uniform Treehunter</td>
<td>Thripadectes ignobilis</td>
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<td>Striped Treehunter</td>
<td>Thripadectes holostictus</td>
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<td>Streak-capped Treehunter</td>
<td>Thripadectes virgaticeps</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spotted Barbatim</td>
<td>Premnoplex brunnescens</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fulvous-dotted (Star-chested) Treerunner</td>
<td>Margarornis stellatus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pearled Treerunner</td>
<td>Margarornis squamiger</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>H</strong> White-browed Spinetail</td>
<td>Hellmayrea gularis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Red-faced Spinetail</td>
<td>Cranioleuca erythrops</td>
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<tr>
<td>Azara's Spinetail</td>
<td>Synallaxis azarae</td>
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<td><strong>H</strong> Rufous Spinetail</td>
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<td><strong>TYRANT FLYCATCHERS</strong></td>
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<th>Cotingas</th>
<th>Cotingidae</th>
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<tr>
<td>Green-and-black Fruiteater</td>
<td>Pipreola riefferii</td>
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Barred Fruiteater
Orange-breasted Fruiteater
Scaled Fruiteater
Red-crested Cotinga
Andean Cock-of-the-rock
Purple-throated Fruitcrow
Long-wattled Umbrellabird
Rufous Piha
Black-tipped Cotinga

Golden-winged Manakin
Green Manakin (west)
Club-winged Manakin
Red-capped Manakin
White-bearded Manakin
Blue-crowned Manakin

Black-crowned Tityra
Masked Tityra
Barred Becard
Cinnamon Becard
White-winged Becard
Black-and-white Becard
One-colored Becard

Brown-capped Vireo
Red-eyed Vireo
Tawny-crowned Greenlet
Lesser Greenlet

Black-crowned Tityra
Tityra inquisitor
Tityra semifasciata
Pachyramphus versicolor
Pachyramphus cinnamomeus
Pachyramphus polychopterus
Pachyramphus albogriseus
Pachyramphus homochrous

Brown-capped Vireo
Vireo leucophrys
Vireo olivaceus
Hylophilus ochraceiceps
Hylophilus decurtatus
Tropical Birding Trip Report

NORTHWEST ECUADOR: November 2014

Slaty-capped Shrike-Vireo
Black-billed Peppershrike

Vireolanius leucotis
Cyclarhis nigrirostris

CROWS JAYS AND MAGPIES

Beautiful Jay
Turquoise Jay

CORVIDAE

Cyanolyca pulchra
Cyanolyca turcosa

SWALLOWS

Blue-and-white Swallow
Brown-bellied Swallow
White-thighed Swallow
Southern Rough-winged Swallow
Gray-breasted Martin
Brown-chested Martin
Barn Swallow

HIRUNDINIDAE

Pygochelidon cyanoleuca
Orochelidon murina
Atticora tibialis
Stelgidopteryx rufficollis
Progne chalybea
Progne tapera
Hirundo rustica

WRENS

Scaly-breasted (S. Nightingale) Wren
Gray-mantled Wren
House Wren
Sedge (Grass) Wren
Band-backed Wren
Plain-tailed Wren
Whiskered Wren
Stripe-throated Wren
Bay Wren
Rufous Wren
Sharpe's (Sepia-brown) Wren
White-breasted Wood-Wren
Gray-breasted Wood-Wren
Song Wren

TROGLODYTIDAE

Microcerculus marginatus
Odontorchilus branickii
Troglodytes aedon
Cistothorus platensis
Campylorhynchus zonatus
Pheugopedius euophrys
Pheugopedius mystacalis
Cantorchilus leucopogon
Cantorchilus nigricapillus
Cinnycerthia unirufa
Cinnycerthia olivascens
Henicorhina leucosticta
Henicorhina leucophrys
Cyphorhinus phaeocephalus
GNATCATCHERS
Tawny-faced Gnatwren
Tropical Gnatcatcher
Slate-throated Gnatcatcher

POLIOPTILIDAE
Microbates cinereiventris
Polioptila plumbea
Polioptila schistaceigula

DIPPERS
White-capped Dipper

CINCLIDAE
Cinclus leucocephalus

THRUSHES AND ALLIES
Andean Solitaire
Spotted Nightingale-Thrush
Swainson's Thrush
Black Solitaire
Pale-vented Thrush
Ecuadorian Thrush
Great Thrush
Glossy-black Thrush
White-throated (Dagua) Thrush

TURDIDAE
Myadestes ralloides
Catharus dryas
Catharus ustulatus
Entomodestes coracinus
Turdus obsoletus
Turdus maculirostris
Turdus fuscater
Turdus serranus
Turdus assimilis daguae

MOCKINGBIRDS AND THRASHERS
Tropical Mockingbird

MIMIDAE
Mimus gilvus

NEW WORLD WARBLERS
Black-and-white Warbler
Olive-crowned Yellowthroat
Tropical Parula
Blackburnian Warbler
Three-striped Warbler
Black-crested Warbler
Buff-rumped Warbler
Golden-bellied (Chocó) Warbler
Russet-crowned Warbler

PARULIDAE
Mniotilta varia
Geothlypis semiflava
Setophaga pitiayumi
Setophaga fusca
Basileuterus tristriatus
Myiothlypis nigrocristata
Myiothlypis fulvicauda
Myiothlypis chrysogaster chlorophrys
Myiothlypis coronata
Canada Warbler  
Cardellina canadensis  
Slate-throated Redstart (Whitestart)  
Myioborus miniatus  
Spectacled Redstart (Whitestart)  
Myioborus melanocephalus

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<tr>
<th>TANAGERS AND ALLIES</th>
<th>THRAUPIDAE</th>
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<td>Superciliaried Hemispingus</td>
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<td>Tachyphonus rufus</td>
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Plushcap
Blue-black Grassquit
Variable Seedeater
Yellow-bellied Seedeater
Ruddy-breasted Seedeater
Thick-billed (Lesser) Seed-Finch
**GO**
Band-tailed Seedeater
Plain-colored Seedeater
Crimson-breasted Finch
Bananaquit
Yellow-faced Grassquit
Dull-colored Grassquit
Dusky-faced Tanager
Streaked Saltator
Buff-throated Saltator
Black-winged Saltator
Slate-colored Grosbeak

**BUNTINGS AND NEW WORLD SPARROWS**
Tanager Finch
Chestnut-capped Brush-Finch
Orange-billed Sparrow
Black-striped Sparrow
Tricolored (Choco) Brush-Finch
Yellow-breasted (Rufous-naped) Brush-Finch
White-winged Brush-Finch
Rufous-collared Sparrow
**Dusky (Bush-Tanager) Chlorospingus**
Yellow-throated (Bush-Tanager) Chlorospingus
Yellow-green (Bush-Tanager) Chlorospingus
# Tropical Birding Trip Report

**NORTHWEST ECUADOR: November 2014**

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<td>Golden-bellied (Southern Yellow) Grosbeak</td>
<td>Pheucticus chrysogaster</td>
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<td>Molothrus bonariensis</td>
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<th>SISKINS, CROSSBILLS, AND ALLIES</th>
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<td>Chlorophonia flavirostris</td>
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<tr>
<td>GO Yellow-bellied Siskin</td>
<td>Spinus xanthogastrus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hooded Siskin</td>
<td>Spinus magellanicus</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAMMALS</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H Mantled Howler Monkey</td>
<td>Alouatta Palliata</td>
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<tr>
<td>GO Central American Agouti</td>
<td>Dasyprocta Punctata</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Dwarf Squirrel</td>
<td>Microsciuris mimulus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red-tailed Squirrel</td>
<td>Sciurus granatensis</td>
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