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A TRIP REPORT FOR A BIRDING TRIP TO THE COLOMBIAN ANDES

April 4th – 26th 2010



Santa-Marta Brush-Finch (picture: Fabrice Schmitt)

**Leader: Fabrice Schmitt with the help of Luis Eduardo Urueña.
With – Bernard Couronne, David Michael, Robert Walton and
Richard Warren Smith**

This trip was planned specifically to target some of the most endangered Colombia endemics which are fortunately protected in fragmented forest thanks to the efforts of ProAves. Colombia has come a long way in answering its security questions and the time is ripe to visit this bird rich country with the help of the NGO ProAves. ProAves is a Colombian NGO dedicated to the conservation of birds and their habitats. They own a superb network of 11 reserves totaling over 10,000 hectares, protecting critical habitat for many of Colombia's threatened and endemic bird species. ProAves also invests a lot in ornithological research, in order to improve our knowledge of Colombia's avifauna and to identify new target areas for reserves and they continue to buy land to conserve extremely range restricted birds and on this trip, we stayed at their accommodations at the reserves.

Colombia – one of the two most diverse countries for birds on the planet along with Peru (which it narrowly outstrips due to records of migrants and vagrants on the San Andreas Island in the Caribbean). North of Ecuador the Andes branches into 3 distinct mountain chains, separated by the Cauca and Magdalena valleys, each with its endemic avifauna. The Santa Marta mountains rise, it seems, straight out of the Caribbean and is a spectacular mountain range with a hatful of localized endemics. Mention of Colombia conjures images of Emeralds, Coffee, Vallenato music, Guerillas and Cocaine and indeed like many developing countries Colombia is in flux. We made no excuse for concentrating on endemics in the Colombian Andes, though on the route we took we did not ignore anything that popped up in front of us. This trip report is based on visits to reserves that protect the last remaining forests and habitats of some of the most endangered birds in the world. It was a pleasure to have so many boreal migrants around in fresh summer plumage. We recorded 55 Colombian endemics, many endangered, some critically and around 610 species in total including near endemics and range restricted species.

THE AGENDA

April 4th – Arrival in Bogota.

April 5th - Birding all day at Mundo Nuevo, near the Chingaza NP. Night in Bogota.

April 6th - Early morning birding trip to Parque La Florida, Distrito Capital, then to the airport in the nick of time for our flight to Medellin and then on by our beloved van to the Reserva Natural de Aves (RNA) Arrierito Antioqueño Reserve, (Chestnut-capped Piha Reserve) 1600meters. Department of Antioquia. West slope Central Cordillera.

April 7th Full day at the reserve walking a trail up the ridge in the morning, 1600-1700 meters and in the lodge garden in the end of the afternoon. Night at the RNA Arrierito Antioqueno. Department of Antioquia.

April 8th Birding along the quiet road near the reserve in the morning, and then drive

to Medellin and on to Jardin. Night in Jardin at 1600 meters. Department of Risaralda. East slope of the Central Cordillera.

April 9th Morning at the Yellow-eared Parrot Reserve at Alto de Ventanas 2700 – 2600 meters, East slope of the Western Cordillera, and afternoon drive to La Suiza for the night, 1800 meters, Department of Risaralda. West slope of the Central Cordillera.

April 10th Morning at the Otun Quimbaya NP near La Suiza, 1800 meters, Department of Risaralda. West slope of the Central Cordillera. In the afternoon, drive to the Rio Blanco reserve. Night in the reserve.

April 11th Full day birding in the Rio Blanco reserve. Heavy rain in the afternoon. Night in the reserve.

April 12th Birding in the morning at the Nevado del Ruiz NP, 4000 meters, and drive in the afternoon to Mariquita. We bird the El Hato road in the end of the afternoon. Night in Mariquita.

April 13th Morning birding around El Libano, and afternoon birding at El Hato road. Drive to Victoria.

April 14th Morning birding near La Victoria, and drive to Puerto Pinzon and on to Reserva Natural de Aves (RNA) El Paujil, Serranía de las Quinchas, Department of Boyaca. East slope of the Central Cordillera. 200 meters

April 15th and 16th. 2 full days at Reserva Natural de Aves (RNA) El Paujil, Serranía de las Quinchas. Department of Boyaca/Santander. 200 meters

April 17th. El Paujil to Reserva Natural (RNA) de Aves Reinita Cielo Azul (Cerulean Warbler Reserve), Department of Santander, 1300 meters with stops before San Vicente. Department of Norte Santander.

April 18th Reserva Natural de Aves Reinita Cielo Azul (Cerulean Warbler Reserve) Department of Santander. 1300-1800 meters. West slope of the Eastern Cordillera. All of us ride to the slippery 150-year old Lengerke trail, and spend the whole day here. Late afternoon birding near the lodge. Department of Norte Santander.

April 19th Drive from San Vicente to Ocaña with stops. West slope of the Eastern Cordillera. Night in Ocaña.

April 20th Reserva Natural de Aves (RNA) Horiguero, Department of Norte Santander, 1500-1700 meters. Afternoon at a locality near El Cauca to look for Todd's Parakeet. Night in Ocaña. Department of Norte Santander.

April 21th. 3:30am start and drive to Santa Marta with breakfast along the way and lunch on arrival at Rodadero beach, Department of Magdalena. Rest in the afternoon. Night Rodadero.

April 22th Birding at a locality near Santa Marta for the Chestnut-winged Chachalaca, and drive to Minca where we bird the end of the morning. Then drive to Camarones where we spend the late afternoon. Night in Riohacha.

April 23rd Birding near Camarones and Los Flamencos Sanctuary, then drive to the Santa Marta Mountains. Birding above and below Minca with lunch there, 370 – 1300 meters. Then to the El Dorado Lodge 1900 meters. Department of Magdalena.

April 24th Morning on the San Lorenzo ridge at 2560 meters and down to 1900 and the El Dorado Lodge 1900-2500 meters. Afternoon around the lodge. Department of Magdalena.

April 25th Early morning Morning on the San Lorenzo ridge at 2560 meters and afternoon around the lodge. Department of Magdalena.

April 26th Drive to Santa Marta airport with birding on the way. Flight to Bogota and international conexions.



Yellow-headed Brush-Finch -ProAves

THE BIRDS

Species which were heard but not seen are indicated by the symbol *

The list follows the IOC taxonomy: <http://www.worldbirdnames.org/>

RED – IUCN RED LIST CATEGORY

E = Colombian Endemic

SACC = South American Checklist Committee

<http://www.museum.lsu.edu/~Remsen/SACCBaseline.html>

RNA = Reserva Natural de Aves (Pro-Aves Reserves)

TINAMIDAE (TINAMOUS)

Little Tinamou* - *Crypturellus soui*: Heard at several occasions.

CRACIDAE (CHACHALACAS, GUANS)

E Chestnut-winged Chachalaca - *Ortalis garrula*: At least 15 birds seen and probably twice more heard, near Santa Marta.

Rufous-vented Chachalaca* - *Ortalis ruficuada*: 2 heard at Camarones.

E Colombian Chachalaca - *Ortalis columbiana*: Seen 5 times during the trip, including some excellent views at El Paujil RNA

E Cauca Guan – *Penelope perspicax*: At La Suiza was fairly common – It has a very small known range in which severely fragmented habitat patches are declining. Its population is believed to be very small and divided into extremely small subpopulations which are inferred (as a result of ongoing habitat loss and hunting) to be declining. **ENDANGERED**

Band-tailed Guan – *Penelope argyrotis*: 1 in the Santa Marta mountains

Andean Guan – *Penelope montagnii*: Heard at Mundo Nuevo and 1 seen near Libano. Penelope was the daughter of Icarius and wife of Ulysses king of Ithaca.

Wattled Guan* – *Aburria aburria*: Heard at the Cerulean Warbler RNA

Sickle-winged Guan – *Chamaepetes goudotii*: 4 seen in total including 2 walking in front of our pick up in the Santa Marta Mountains.

PHASIANIDAE (NEW WORLD QUAIL)

Crested Bobwhite* *Colinus cristatus*: Heard at Camarones

Marbled Wood-Quail* – *Odontophorus gujanensis*: heard at the Paujil reserve.

E Black-fronted Wood-Quail *Odontophorus atrifrons*: Excellent close views in the Santa Marta Mountains, Classified as Vulnerable by BirdLife International, the world population is estimated at 2,500 – 9,999 individuals and is decreasing. This species qualifies as Vulnerable owing to its small range and population, both of which must be declining in response to habitat loss. The range is small and fragmented with recent records from only one area. The Colombian East Andes have been subject to four centuries of extensive degradation, with progressive deforestation of the lower montane slopes. In Boyacá and Santander, however, where forest loss was gradual until the 1960s and 1970s, some sizeable tracts remain, and habitat is beginning to regenerate owing to land abandonment. The Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta is threatened by agricultural expansion, logging and burning. On the west slopes, marijuana plantations expanded widely in the 1980s, and were sprayed by the government with herbicides in the early 1990s. The Sierra de Perijá is heavily deforested up to 2,000m, by cattle-ranching at lower elevations and coca cultivation higher up. It is also hunted at least in some parts of its range. **VULNERABLE**

E Chestnut Wood-Quail - *Odontophorus hyperythrus* A good view of one bird crossing the road at La Suiza. **NEAR THREATENED.**

E Gorgeted Wood-Quail - *Odontophorus strophium*: A pair and 5 almost full grown chicks were seen at the feeders at the Cerulean Warbler RNA. **ENDANGERED**

ANHIMIDAE (SCREAMERS)

Northern Screamer - *Chauna chavaria*: Seen well and scoped (4 birds) on the way in to the RNA Paujil. A bird most wanted bird to see and it obliged. **NEAR THREATENED**

ANATIDAE (DUCKS, GEESE and SWANS)

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck - *Dendrocygna autumnalis*: Here and there in wetland areas.

Torrent Duck - *Merganetta armata*: 6 near La Suiza

Muscovy Duck - *Cairina moschata*: 1 in a field on the way to Santa Marta

White-cheeked Pintail - *Anas bahamensis*: 2 at the Los Flamencos Sanctuary.

Blue-winged Teal - *Anas discors*: Boreal migrant to Colombia. 5 at La Florida

Andean Teal - *Anas andium*: 2 on a small lagoon at El Nevado El Ruiz NP. A recent split from Speckled Teal - *Anas flavirostris*. SACC comments: Hellmayr & Conover (1948a) and many earlier classifications treated *andium* as a separate species from *A. flavirostris*. Following, many authors, from Meyer de Schauensee (1970) to Dickinson (2003), have treated *andium* as a subspecies of *A. flavirostris*. *Anas andium* was considered a separate species from *Anas flavirostris* by Ridgely et al. (2001), and this was followed by Hilty (2003).

Andean Duck - *Oxyura ferruginea*: 10 at Nevado El Ruiz NP.

PODICIPIDAE (GREBES)

Pied-billed Grebe – *Podilymbus podiceps*: 2 at Parque La Florida

CICONIDAE (STORKS)

American Wood Stork – *Mycteria americana*: 2 at Camarones

THRESKIORNITHIDAE (IBISES and SPOONBILLS)

Green Ibis - *Mesembrinibis cayennensis*: 2 seen in a flooded field on the way to San Vicente.

Bare-faced Ibis - *Phimosus infuscatus*: Common.

White Ibis - *Eudocimus albus*: Around 10 near Camarones

Buff-necked Ibis - *Theristicus caudatus*: 5 found during a stop on the way to Santa Marta.

Roseate Spoonbill – *Platalea ajaja*: 5+ seen near Camarones.

ARDEIDAE (HERONS and BITTERNs)

Capped Heron *Pilherodius pileatus*: 1 seen at El Paujil RNA

Great Blue Heron – *Ardea herodias*: A few near Camarones. Herodias is Greek for Heron.

Cocoi Heron – *Ardea cocoi*. About a dozen sightings throughout the trip.

Great Egret - *Ardea albus*: We saw small numbers at several wetland sites. Now usually placed in the genus *Ardea*.

Reddish Egret – *Egretta rufescens*: 5 at Camarones on March 13th

Tricolored Heron – *Egretta tricolor*: 1 at Camarones

Snowy Egret - *Egretta thula*

Cattle Egret - *Bubulcus ibis*: Common and widespread.

Striated Heron - *Butorides striatus*: Small numbers seen at several wetland areas.

Black-crowned Night Heron – *Nycticorax nycticorax*: seen on two occasions during the trip.

Rufescent Tiger-Heron – *Tigrisoma lineatum*: 1 seen by Bernard on the way to San Vicente.

FREGATIDAE (FRIGATEBIRDS)

Magnificent Frigatebird - *Fregata magnificens*: few seen around Camarones

PELICANIDAE (PELICANS)

Brown Pelican – *Pelecanus occidentales*: Common along the coastline near Rodadero and Camarones.

PHALACROCORACIDEA (CORMORANTS)

Neotropic Cormorant – *Phalacrocorax brasilianus*

CATHARTIDAE (NEW WORLD VULTURES)

Turkey Vulture - *Cathartes aura*

Black Vulture - *Coragyps atratus*

King Vulture – *Sacoramphus papa*- excellent view on 3 birds perched on the side of the road, on the way to El Paujil RNA. And few more sightings during the trip.

ACCIPITRIDAE (KITES, HAWKS and EAGLES)

American Swallow-tailed Kite - *Elanoides forficatus*: One of the most elegant birds of the Neotropics. Seen at the Arriero RNA.

White-tailed Kite - *Elanus leucurus*: 1 seen at La Florida.

Snail Kite - *Rostrhamus sociabilis*: seen twice

Mississippi Kite – *Ictinia mississippiensis*: we saw 3 large flocks of migrating birds: 300+ at Arriero RNA, and two flocks of respectively 500+ and 975 birds at El Paujil RNA.

Plain-breasted Hawk – *Accipiter ventralis*: excellent views on 2 birds at Otun Quimbaya NP. Considered a separate species by the IOC but the SACC is more conservative. “Accipiter striatus was treated as four species in Sibley & Monroe (1990), Thiollay (1994), and Ridgely & Greenfield (2001): velox of N. America, chionogaster of Middle America, ventralis of the Andes, erythronemius of lowland southern South America); Pinto (1938) and Hellmayr & Conover (1949) considered erythronemius (including ventralis) to be a separate species from A. striatus, and Friedmann (1950) and Stiles & Skutch (1989) considered chionogaster and erythronemius as separate species from A. striatus. [split

almost certainly good, but no published data support this split; check Storer (1952). [According to HBW account author Rob Bierregaard, through correspondence with Tom Schulenberg, no published data support this split and he was basically forced to comply with species taxonomy given to him.] Ferguson-Lees & Christie (2001) did not follow this split and provided rationale against following it. Proposal needed.

Crane Hawk – *Geranospiza caerulacens*: One seen on the Laguna El Hato road.

Common Black-Hawk - *Buteogallus anthracinus*: 2 seen at Minca Includes the Mangrove Black Hawk *B. subtilus* as a subspecies (Clark 2007, SACC)

Savanna Hawk - *Heterospizias meridionalis*: Common.

Black-collared Hawk – *Busarellus nigricolis*: 2 in total.

Gray Hawk - *Asturina nitida*: 1 near Santa Marta

Roadside Hawk - *Buteo magnirostris*: Numerous and widespread in small numbers.

White-rumped Hawk - *Buteo leucorrhous*: 1 seen in flight and then perched in the Santa Marta mountains.

Short-tailed Hawk - *Buteo brachyurus*: One only during a stop on the way to Santa Marta

White-tailed Hawk – *Buteo albicaudatus*: 1 seen at Arrierito RNA

Zone-tailed Hawk – *Buteo albonotatus*: One sighting of this Turkey Vulture imitator.

Black Hawk-Eagle – *Spizaetus tyrannus*: One calling and soaring high at RNA El Paujil.

Ornate Hawk-Eagle - *Spizaetus ornatus*: 1 seen by David and Luis in the Cerulean Warbler RNA.

FALCONIDAE (CARACARAS and FALCONS)

Northern Crested Caracara - *Caracara cheriway*: Small numbers at several sites. Formerly placed in the genus *Polyborus* but this species has been switched to the genus *Caracara*. Note also that the former species known as Crested Caracara, has been split into three species with those ranging north of north-west Peru and the Amazon River (i.e. Colombia) and as far as the USA, according to the IOC, retain the name Northern Crested Caracara *C. cheriway*, the birds from Southern Peru to the tip of South America, Tierra del Fuego, are referable to the species *Caracara plancus* Southern Crested Caracara, while another form, the extinct Guadalupe Caracara *C. lutosus*, of Guadalupe Island, Mexico, has also been given its untimely species status. The SACC says “*Caracara cheriway* and *C. plancus* were formerly considered conspecific (e.g., Hellmayr & Conover 1949, Phelps & Phelps 1958a), sometimes also including *C. lutosus* of Guadalupe Island (e.g., Meyer de Schauensee 1970, Stresemann and Amadon 1979), but the ranges of *cheriway* and *plancus*

are nearly parapatric with no sign of intergradation, contrary to earlier interpretations (see Banks REF); they constitute a superspecies. The three forms had previously been considered separate species by REFS, Pinto (1938), and Friedmann (1950).”

Yellow-headed Caracara - *Milvago chimachima*: Another widespread open country raptor that was seen regularly in small numbers.

Laughing Falcon - *Herpetotheres cachinnans*: Several great looks at this strange Falcon.

American Kestrel - *Falco sparverius*: Scattered sightings.

Peregrine Falcon – *Falco peregrinus*: One at Parque La Florida.

RALLIDAE (RAILS, CRAKES and COOTS)

Russet-crowned Crake* – *Amaurolimnus viridis*: heard daily at Paujil RNA

White-throated Crake - *Laterallus albigulari*: Excellent view on one adult and a immature, singing in the open, on the way to the Paujil Reserve

E Bogotá Rail - *Rallus semiplumbeus*: A handsome endemic. 1 seen very well after some effort at Parque La Florida. The world population is estimated at 1,000 – 2,499 individuals and is decreasing because its range is very small and is contracting owing to widespread habitat loss and degradation. **ENDANGERED**

Purple Gallinule – *Porphyryla martinica*: 2 at La Florida, and few more sightings during some of our driving.

Common Gallinule – *Gallinula galeata*: 15 at La Florida.
A recent split from the Old World Common Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*).

Spot-flanked Gallinule – *Gallinula melanops*: 5 seen at Parque La Florida on our second day birding. The Bogotá plains hold an isolated population a long way from others of this species.

American Coot – *Fulica Americana*: Fairly common at Parque La Florida.

ARAMIDIDAE (LIMPKIN)

Limpkin – *Aramus guarauna*: A few.

BURHINIDAE (THICK-KNEES)

Double-striped Thick-knee - *Burhinus bistriatus*: 4 during a stop on the way to Santa Marta.

CHARADRIIDAE (PLOVERS)

Southern Lapwing - *Vanellus chilensis*: Fairly widespread in small numbers.

Black-bellied Plover - *Pluvialis squatarola*: 2 at the Los Flamencos Sanctuary.

JACANIDAE (JACANAS)

Wattled Jacana - *Jacana jacana*: Common on ponds.

SCOLOPACIDAE (SANDPIPERS AND SNIPES)

Greater Yellowlegs - *Tringa melanoleuca*: 2 at Camerones

Lesser Yellowlegs - *Tringa flavipes*: 1 at La Florida

Solitary Sandpiper – *Tringa solitaria*: 1 at La Florida

Spotted Sandpiper – *Actitis macularia*: 1 at La Florida

White-rumped Sandpiper - *Calidris fuscicollis*: 5 at Los Flamencos Sanctuary

LARIDAE (GULLS, TERNS & SKIMMERS)

Laughing Gull – *Leucophaeus atricilla*: 5 at Los Flamencos Sanctuary. Placement in the monotypic genus *Leucophaeus* follows Ridgway (1919), Meyer de Schauensee (1970), and Burger and Gochfeld (1996), and is based on unique behaviors and plumage patterns of chicks; many authors include *Leucophaeus* in *Larus* (e.g., Blake 1977). Also placed by some authors (REFS) in genus *Gabianus*, with Australian *L. pacificus*, but this is based on bill shape, a notoriously variable character that is usually unreliable in predicting phylogenetic relationships (e.g., see Bock REF). Genetic data (Pons et al. 2005) indicate that *Leucophaeus* is embedded within *Larus*, and that its sister species is *L. modestus*; however, the same genetic data suggest that *Leucophaeus* represents a distinct group from the other *Larus* and that it should be expanded to include four other species, all occurring in South America.

Caspian Tern – *Hydroprogne caspia*: 20 at Camerones.

Royal Tern - *Thalasseus maximus*: Common at Camerones. The SACC says “*Thalasseus elegans*, *T. sandvicensis*, and *T. maxima* have traditionally (e.g., Ridgway 1919, Peters 1934, Hellmayr & Conover 1948b, Phelps & Phelps 1958a) been placed in a separate genus from *Sterna*, but see Moynihan (1959) and <<> Hackett (1989) for their inclusion in *Sterna*, as in Blake (1977), AOU (1983, 1998), Sibley & Ahlquist (1990), and Dickinson (2003). Recent genetic data strongly support the monophyly of *Thalasseus* and indicate that its resurrection as a genus is warranted (at least until further data support the monophyly of *Thalasseus* + true *Sterna*). SACC proposal passed to recognize *Thalasseus*; see also Banks et al. (2006).

Cabot's Tern – *Thalasseus acuflavidus*.40+ at Camerones on the Guajira Peninsular area. A recent split from the Old World Sandwich Tern (*Thalasseus sandvicensis*).

Cayenne Tern – *Thalasseus acuflavidus eurygnata*: 1 at Camerones.

Sterna eurygnatha ("Cayenne Tern") is considered for the moment by the SACC as conspecific with *sandvicensis/acuflavidus* following most recent treatments (e.g., Blake 1977); it is often considered a separate species (e.g., Ridgway 1919, Peters 1934, Hellmayr & Conover 1948b, Meyer de Schauensee 1970, Ridgely et al 2001. Field observations from the Virgin Islands are consistent with non-assortative mating (Hayes 2004).

Populations of *eurygnatha* breeding in southern South America may deserve separate taxonomic treatment from Caribbean populations (Voous 1968, Escalante 1973). Correct spelling for the taxon name is *eurygnatha* (David & Gosselin 2002a).

Large-billed Tern - *Phaetusa simplex*: 2 on the Magdalena river, during a lunch stop.

RYNCHOPIDAE (SKIMMERS)

Black Skimmer – *Rynchops niger*: 25 at Camerones.

COLUMBIDAE (PIGEONS & DOVES)

RR Bare-eyed Pigeon – *Patagioenas corensis*: Common in the Camarones area.

Band-tailed Pigeon - *Patagioenas fasciata*: Fairly common and widespread with many good views of perched birds. Note that recent research has shown that the genus *Columba* is paraphyletic, with New World taxa being more closely related to *Streptopelia* than to Old World *Columba* pigeons. This is consistent with differences between New World and Old World *Columba* in terms of morphology, serology and behaviour. The suggestion was made to place all New World forms in the genus *Patagioenas*, and the AOU recently adopted this change in its latest checklist supplement. One of the most widespread New World birds, ranging from Alaska to Argentina. Here the Neotropical form *albilinea*, which has been regarded by some authors as a full species.

Pale-vented Pigeon - *Patagioenas cayennensis*: Common at the Paujil reserve.

Plumbeous Pigeon* – *Patagioenas plumbea*: heard at El Paujil

Ruddy Pigeon* – *Patagioenas subvinacea*

Eared Dove - *Zenaida auriculata*: Common.

Common Ground-Dove - *Columbina passerina*: A few here and there.

Ruddy Ground-Dove - *Columbina talpacoti*: Numerous and widespread in open country.

Scaled Dove – *Colombina squamata*: A few

Blue Ground-Dove - *Claravis pretiosa*: a male at El Cauca near the Bushbird RNA.

White-tipped Dove - *Leptotila verreauxi*: Pretty common at many localities.

E Tolima Dove – *Leptotila conover*: Recently re-discovered- 4 different birds seen near El Libano. Named after H.B. Conover US ornithologist and author. **ENDANGERED**

Lined Quail-Dove - *Geotrygon linearis*: This shy Dove was seen quite well in the Santa Marta Mountains.

PSITTACIDAE (PARROTS)

Blue and Yellow Macaw – *Ara ararauna*: 3 pairs seen most notably on the drive to RNA El Paujil.

Chestnut-fronted Macaw - *Ara severus*: Seen daily at El Paujil RNA

Scarlet-fronted Parakeet - *Aratinga wagleri*: seen daily in the Santa Marta mountains. Species in this genus, as well as *Leptosittaca* and those in *Pyrrhura*, often go by the name ‘conure’.

Brown-throated Parakeet – *Aratinga pertinax*: Common in the Camarones and Santa Marta area

Golden-plumed Parakeet - *Leptosittaca branickii*: two groups of about 20 birds seen at the Otun Quimbaya NP and Rio Blanco reserve. **VULNERABLE**

E Santa Marta Parakeet – *Pyrrhura viridicauda*. Always tricky – we only had few birds in fly on San Lorenzo ridge. **ENDANGERED**

E Flame-winged (Brown-breasted) Parakeet - *Pyrrhura calliptera*: excellent views on a group of 35 birds, perched very close, at Mundo Nuevo. **VULNERABLE**

RR Green-rumped Parrotlet – *Forpus passerinus* – We saw 5 of the *cyanophanes* subspecies at Camarones.

RR Spectacled Parrotlet – *Forpus conspicillatus*. Almost a Colombian endemic. Seen on several occasions.

Orange-chinned Parakeet - *Brotogeris jugularis*: Common and conspicuous

E Yellow-eared Parrot – *Ognorhynchus icterotis*: 15 counted at Alto de Los Ventanas near Jardin. Historically known from Ecuador it now seems to be extirpated there so is a de facto a Colombian endemic. This species is Critically Endangered because the known range (especially the nesting area) is extremely small. Suitable habitat is severely fragmented throughout its historical range and continues to be lost and degraded. Conservation action by Pro Aves is addressing some of the key issues but the future of this species remains extremely uncertain. World population is estimated at 144 individuals by Birdlife so we

saw almost 10% of the world's population! Note however Proaves are finding other undocumented populations. **CRITICALLY ENDANGERED.**

Blue-headed Parrot - *Pionus menstruus*: A few.

Red-billed Parrot - *Pionus sordidus*: Only seen in the Santa Marta Mountains, where it's represented by the endemic race *saturatus*. A species conspicuously absent from most of the remainder of the country.

White-capped Parrot - *Pionus seniloides*: 2 seen perched in the Santa Marta mountains. Considered by the SACC as a subspecies of Speckle-faced Parrot *Pionus tumultuosus*.

Bronze-winged Parrot – *Pionus chalcopterus*: Good looks at the Otun Quimbaya Reserve..

Orange-winged Parrot – *Amazonas amazonica* –good views on the way to RNA Paujil.

Scaly-naped Parrot – *Amazonas mercenaria*: 6-8 seen on the San Lorenzo Ridge

Mealy Parrot - *Amazona farinosa*: 4 seen at the El Hato road.



Yellow-eared Parrot -ProAves

CUCULIDAE (CUCKOOS)

RR Dwarf Cuckoo – *Coccyzus pumilus*: Fantastic looks on the Laguna El Hato road.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo - *Coccyzus americanus*: 1 during a stop on the way to Santa Marta.

Squirrel Cuckoo - *Piaya cayana*: Several encounters during the tour.

Greater Ani - *Crotophaga major*: Common at El Paujil and other wet environments.

Smooth-billed Ani - *Crotophaga ani*: The common Ani of the trip.

Groove-billed Ani – *Crotophaga sulcirostris*: Seen only in the north of the country.

Striped Cuckoo* - *Tapera naevia*: Heard on a few occasions.

STRIGIDAE (OWLS)

Tropical Screech Owl – *Megascops choliba*: Excellent close view at El Paujil RNA.

E Santa Marta Screech Owl– *Megascops gilesi*: Heard near the El Dorado Lodge the first evening but we could not see the damn thing. We had to work hard (3 nights and 1 morning!) but we got our revenge with stunning views of a different bird. The new owl, named the Santa Marta Screech-Owl, is distinguished by unique vocal and plumage characteristics. It is known from less than 15 pairs seen between 5,900-7,000 feet in elevation within the reserve. The closely-related Tropical Screech-Owl is commonly found below 5,000 feet in elevation in the same area. The Santa Marta Screech-Owl has been given the scientific name *Megascops gilesi* in honor of Robert Giles, who has been a supporter of ABC's conservation work in Colombia.

E Colombian Screech Owl - *Megascops colombianus*: excellent views in the Cauca valley. **NEAR-THREATENED**.

Cinnamon Screech Owl - *Megascops petersoni*: seen well at the Arrierito RNA.

White-throated Screech Owl - *Megascops albogularis*: Excellent views at the Rio Blanco reserve.

Crested Owl – *Lophotrix cristata*: perfect view at RNA El Paujil

Spectacled Owl* - *Pulsatrix perspicillata*: heard at El Paujil and in the Santa Marta mountains.

Mottled Owl* – *Ciccaba virgata* At RNA El Dorado.

Rufous-banded Owl* - *Ciccaba albitarsis*: heard at Rio Blanco reserve.

Ferruginous Pygmy Owl – *Glaucidium basilianum* : seen by day near Minca

Andean Pygmy Owl* – *Glaucidium jardiinii*: heard at Nevado del Ruiz NP.

NYCTIBIIDAE (POTTOS)

Great Potoo - *Nyctibius grandis*: 1 seen perfectly at Paujil RNA, one more heard.

Common Potoo* - *Nyctibius griseus*: heard at El Paujil

CAPRIMULGIDAE (NIGHTJARS)

Pauraque - *Nyctidromus albicollis*: 1 seen at El Paujil

Rufous-bellied Nighthawk* - *Lurocalis rufiventris*: heard at Rio Blanco reserve.

APODIDAE (SWIFTS)

White-collared Swift - *Streptoprocne zonaris*

Chestnut-collared Swift - *Streptoprocne rutilus*: Small numbers

Short-tailed Swift - *Chaetura brachyura*: 5 near Santa Marta.

TROCHILIDAE (HUMMINGBIRDS)

Rufous-breasted Hermit – *Glaucis hirsutus*: One at RNA El Paujil.

Band-tailed Barbthroat – *Threnetes ruckeri*: One feeding in the understory at RNA El Paujil. Named after British naturalist and collector in Ecuador S. Rucker.

Stripe-throated Hermit – *Phaethornis striigularis*: 4 noted at the RNA El Paujil.

Grey-chinned Hermit - *Phaethornis griseogularis*: 1 seen at the Bushbird reserve.

Green Hermit – *Phaethornis guy*: 2 seen at RNA Arrierito.

Tawny-bellied Hermit - *Phaethornis syrmatophorus*: 1 at the Rio Blanco reserve.

Long-billed Hermit - *Phaethornis longirostris*: One at El Paujil. This is the form that occurs in Central America, *sussurans*, as opposed to the one along the coast of Ecuador and extreme north Peru *baroni* (“Baron’s Hermit”) The SACC says: Ridgely & Greenfield (2001) considered the subspecies *baroni* of western Ecuador and northwestern Peru to deserve recognition as a separate species from *Phaethornis longirostris* based on vocal and plumage differences. SACC proposal to recognize *baroni* as a separate species did not pass. The IOC calls this species Long-Billed Hermit and says Baron's Hermit *Phaethornis baroni* is conspecific with Long-billed Hermit *P. longirostris* (SACC 2004)

White-necked Jacobin - *Florisuga mellivora*: 4 at the feeders at Paujil RNA.

Green Violetear - *Colibri thalassinus*: 10 at the feeders at Rio Blanco reserve, and 20+ at the feeders at El Dorado. 'Thalassinus' is Latin for 'sea green'.

Black-throated Mango - *Anthracothorax nigricollis*: two only at RNA El Paujil.

Wire-crested Thorntail - *Popelairia popelairii*: a surprising record of a female, on the way to the Cerulean Warbler RNA.

Western Emerald – *Chlorostilbon melanorhynchus*: 1 at the RNA Arriero. See next species for taxonomy notes.

RR Red-billed Emerald - *Chlorostilbon gibsoni*: A few were noted in the lower reaches near Libano and at El Paujil RNA. Species limits in the *mellisugus* group of taxa in *Chlorostilbon* are complex. At one extreme, Zimmer (1950d) and Schuchmann (1999) considered them all conspecific, including the *canivetii* group of Middle America. *Chlorostilbon gibsoni* (including *nitens*) was usually (e.g., Cory 1918, Peters 1945, Meyer de Schauensee 1970) considered a separate species ("Red-billed Emerald") from *C. mellisugus*, as was *C. canivetii*. Stiles (1996a) proposed that *C. mellisugus* should be treated as at least three separate species within South America: *melanorhynchus* (of western Colombia and Ecuador), *gibsoni* (northern and central Colombia, NW Venezuela), and *mellisugus* (rest of South America); this represents a partial return to the classification of Cory (1918) and was followed by Ridgely & Greenfield (2001). Together, these taxa would form a super-species with recently described olivaresi. Sibley & Monroe (1990) considered *C. mellisugus* to form a superspecies with Middle American *Chlorostilbon* species but not with *C. gibsoni*, because the two were thought to be sympatric [are they? breeding?] in the Magdalena Valley, Colombia. SACC proposal passed to follow species limits proposed by Stiles (1996). So the ones you see in the Amazona are Blue-tailed Emeralds.

Short-tailed Emerald - *Chlorostilbon poortmani*: 2 in the garden at Cerulean Warbler RNA.

Violet-crowned Woodnymph - *Thalurania colombica*: Common. We saw the *colombica* nominate race in the Santa Marta Mountains and the *rostrifera* subspecies at RNA El Paujil.

Green-crowned Woodnymph - *Thalurania fannyi*: 5 at Arriero RNA

RR Buffy Hummingbird – *Leucippus fallax*: Great looks of few birds on the Guajira peninsular near Camerones.

Rufous-tailed Hummingbird - *Amazilia tzacatl*: Seen in small numbers throughout the tour.

E Chestnut-bellied Hummingbird - *Amazilia castaneiventris*: 1 near the Cerulean Warbler RNA. **CRITICALLY ENDANGERED.**

Andean Emerald – *Agyrtria franciae*. Very common on the feeders at RNA Arrierito and Cerulean Warbler. Named for Francia Bourcier daughter of the French consul to Ecuador 1849-1850

Blue-chested Hummingbird – *Polerata amabilis*. 2 seen at RNA El Paujil.

Steely-vented Hummingbird – *Saucerottia saucerottei*: Very common on the feeders at RNA Arrierito

E Indigo-capped Hummingbird - *Saucerottia cyanifrons*. 5 seen around the lodge at RNA Cerulea on two consecutive days in a flowering shrubs next to the accommodations. A very localized endemic.

E Blossomcrown - *Anthocephala floriceps*: 1 seen briefly near Libano, but fortunately we had latter a very cooperative bird, coming every days in the El Dorado lodge garden.
VULNERABLE.

White-vented Plumeteer - *Chalybura buffonii*: seen on few occasions

Speckled Hummingbird -*Adelomyia melanogenys*: 10 at Rio Blanco reserve.

Fawn-breasted Brilliant - *Heliodoxa rubinoides*: 15 at Rio Blanco reserve.

Green-crowned Brilliant - *Heliodoxa jacula*: 15 at RNA Arrierito.

Buff-tailed Coronet - *Boissonneaua flavescens*: 1 at Las Ventanas RNA, and 40 visiting the feeders of the Rio Blanco reserve.

Bronzy Inca - *Coeligena coeligena*: 1 visiting the feeders of the Rio Blanco reserve

E Black Inca - *Coeligena prunellei*: What a smashing bird! 3 of this sought after species in the Cerulean Warbler reserve. **ENDANGERED**

Collared Inca – *Coeligena torquata*: 10 visiting the feeders of the Rio Blanco reserve.

E White-tailed Starfrontlet - *Coeligena phalerata*: We got good looks of this Santa Marta endemic on the San Lorenzo ridge, and visiting the feeders at the El Dorado lodge.

RR Blue-fronted Starfrontlet – *Coeligena helinthea*: a beautiful male at Mundo Nuevo.

Great Sapphirewing - *Pterophanes cyanopterus*: 1 at Mundo Nuevo.

Tourmeline Sunangel – *Heliangelus exortis*: 5 at Alto de Ventanas, and 10 visiting the feeders of the Rio Blanco reserve

Amethyst-throated (Longuemare's) Sunangel – *Heliangelus (clarisse) amethysticollis*: 5 seen at Mundo Nuevo. Called Longuemare's Sunangel by Restall, it is considered conspecific with Amethyst-throated Sunangel *H. amethysticollis* (SACC 2004)

Glowing Puffleg – *Eriocnemis vestita*: 1 seen near Bogota

Coppery-bellied Puffleg - *Eriocnemis cupreiventris*: 3 at Mundo Nuevo. **NEAR-THREATENED.**

RR Golden-breasted Puffleg – *Eriocnemis mosquera*: One on the access road to Nevado del Ruiz National Park. A range restricted species also occurring in Ecuador. Named after Colombian dictator General Tomas Cipriano de Mosquera who ruled in the late 1800's

Greenish Puffleg – *Haplopaedia aureliae*: 1 at RNA Arrierito.

Haplophaedia assimilis (Buff-thighed Puffleg of the Manu Road) was formerly (e.g., Peters 1945, Meyer de Schauensee 1970) considered a subspecies of *H. aureliae*, but Schuchmann et al. (2000) provided rationale for treating it as a separate species, representing a return to the classification of Cory (1918).

Booted Racket-tail - *Ocreatus underwoodii*: We enjoyed a few encounters with this widespread but attractive species.

Tyrian Metaltail - *Metallura tyrianthina*: We saw both the reddish-tailed nominate race at Mundo Nuevo and the very distinct and blue-tailed *districta*, endemic to the Santa Marta and Perijá mountains. This latter may deserve full species status as Santa Marta Tyrian Metaltail. Named after the color Tyrian purple. Various known as Royal purple, Tyrian purple, purple of the ancients, this ancient dyestuff, mentioned in texts dating about 1600 BC, was produced from the mucus of the hypobranchial gland of various species of marine molluscs, notably Murex. Although originating in old port of Tyre in modern day Syria (hence the name), man's first large scale chemical industry spread throughout the world. With the decline of the Roman Empire, the use of the dye also declined and large scale production ceased with the fall of Constantinople in 1453. It was replaced by other cheaper dyes like lichen purple and madder.

Viridian Metaltail – *Metallura williami*: 2 at the Nevado del Ruiz NP.

RR Bearded Helmetcrest – *Oxygogon guerinii*: 2 at the Nevado del Ruiz NP. Also shared with Venezuela. Oxygogon is Greek meaning “pointed beard”

Long-tailed Sylph - *Agelaiocercus kingi*: 6 at Rio Blanco reserve

Wedge-billed Hummingbird - *Schistes geoffroyi*: 1 at Otun Quimbaya NP.

Long-billed Starthroat – *Heliomaster longirostris*: 2 sightings.

White-bellied Woodstar - *Chaetocercus mulsant*: 4 different birds visiting the feeders at Rio Blanco reserve.

TROGONIDAE (TROGONS)

White-tailed Trogon* - *Trogon chionurus*: heard at the El Paujil Reserve A recent split from the Amazonian Green-backed Trogon *T. viridis*.

Gartered Trogon - *Trogon caligatus*: At the El Paujil reserve. A recent split from Violaceous Trogon.

Collared Trogon - *Trogon collaris*: great looks

Masked Trogon - *Trogon personatus*: A highland version of the former and it was particularly common in the Santa Marta Mountains.

Black-tailed Trogon - *Trogon melanurus*: 2 seen very well at Paujil RNA.

White-tipped Quetzal – *Pharomachrus fulgidus*: Great looks at 1 singing male in the Santa Marta Mountains. The subspecies *festatus* of the Santa Marta Mountains was formerly (e.g., Cory 1918) considered a separate species from *Pharomachrus fulgidus*, but Peters (1945) treated them as conspecific

Golden-headed Quetzal* – *Pharomachrus auriceps*

ALCEDINIDAE (KINGFISHERS)

Ringed Kingfisher - *Megaceryle torquata*: Small numbers at various wetlands. Note that these big species are now often treated as part of a separate family, the Cerylidae.

Amazon Kingfisher - *Chloroceryle amzona*: One during a stop on te way to San Vicente.

Green Kingfisher - *Chloroceryle Americana*: 3 sightings

American Pygmy Kingfisher – *Chloroceryle aenea*: Great looks at one fishing at Paujil RNA.

MOMOTIDAE (MOTMOTS)

Whooping Motmot - *Momotus subrufescens*: seen on several occasions during the trip. A recent split from Blue-crowned Motmot.

Highland Motmot - *Momotus aequatorialis*: Conspicuous at Otun Quimbaya and RNA Arrierito. A recent split from Blue-crowned Motmot.

Rufous Motmot – *Baryphthengus martii*: Commonly heard and several seen at Paujil RNA.

GALBULIDAE (JACAMARS)

Rufous-tailed Jacamar - *Galbula ruficauda*: seen on several occasions during the trip.

BUCCONIDAE (PUFFBIRDS)

RR Black-breasted Puffbird* – *Notharcus pectoralis*: few birds heard only at RNA El Paujil, Serrania Quinches.

Pied Puffbird – *Nothharchus tectus**

Barred Puffbird - *Nystalus radiatus*: Good looks at the Lago El Hato road.

RR Russet-throated Puffbird – *Malacoptila ruficollis*: Common around Camarones and Santa Marta. The SACC says “Although Cory (1919) and Peters (1948) considered the subspecies *bicinctus* (Two-banded Puffbird) to be a separate species from *Hypnelus ruficollis*, Meyer de Schauensee (1966, 1970) considered them conspecific, evidently on the basis that the subspecies described by Phelps & Phelps (1958) was intermediate between the two, and because another population was also considered intermediate. Rasmussen & Collar (2002) considered *bicinctus* (with *stoicus*) as a separate species from *H. ruficollis*; they reported that hybridization in area of contact was infrequent and certainly not indicative of free interbreeding, as is often stated or implied (e.g., Sibley & Monroe 1990). Restall 2006 splits the two.

White-whiskered Puffbird* - *Malacoptila panamensis*: heard at La Victoria and El Paujil RNA.

Moustached Puffbird – *Malocoptila myesticalis*: two seen really well at RNA Arrierito and few more heard.

White-fronted Nunbird – *Monasa morpheus*: four at RNA El Paujil. Morpheus is the Greek son of sleep and god of dreams, referring to the the leathargic behavior of the Nunbird.

CAPITONIDAE (BARBETS)

E White-mantled Barbet - *Capito hypoleucus*: Excellent looks of La Victoria where we found 4 different birds! A so-called Nechí endemic, confined to the humid forests of the middle Magdalena Valley. The Nechí is actually a tributary of the Cauca river, its drainage being on the east side of the top end of the Central Andes. Classified as endangered by BirdLife International, the world population is estimated at 2,500 – 9,999 individuals and is decreasing. This species has a very small and severely fragmented range. Habitat loss is occurring rapidly in some parts of its range, and the population is likely to be declining.
ENDANGERED

Red-headed Barbet* – *Eubucco bourcierii*: heard at RNA Arrierito

RAMPHASTIDAE (TOUCANS)

Black-mandibled Toucan - *Ramphastos ambiguus*: 3 seen at Paujil RNA. *Ramphastos swainsonii* (Chestnut-mandibled Toucan) is split from *R. ambiguus* (Black-mandibled

Toucan) (AOU 1998; Ridgely and Greenfield 2001); accepted by all except the SACC who needs proposal to split.

Keel-billed Toucan – *Ramphastos sulfuratus*: In the Santa Marta Mountains with at least 4 being seen.

E Citron-throated Toucan – *Ramphastos citrolaemus*: Heard commonly and several seen at aujil RNA. The SACC says - Cory (1919) and Meyer de Schauensee (1966, 1970) considered *R. culminatus* ("Yellow-ridged Toucan") and *R. citrolaemus* ("Citron-throated Toucan") as separate species from *Ramphastos vitellinus*. Haffer (1974) treated these as a subspecies of *R. vitellinus*, and this treatment, actually a partial return to the classification of Pinto (1937) and Peters (1948), has been followed by most subsequent authors e.g. Restall 2007 (but not Sibley & Monroe 1990, Hilty 2003).

RR Yellow-billed Toucanet - *Aulacorhynchus sulcatus*: At Santa Marta. The SACC says- The taxon *calorhynchus* was formerly (e.g., Cory 1919, Peters 1948, Phelps & Phelps 1958a, Meyer de Schauensee 1970) treated as a separate species ("Yellow-billed Toucanet") from *Aulacorhynchus sulcatus* (Groove-billed Toucanet), but in their area of contact in Venezuela, only individuals with intermediate bill characters are found (Schwartz 1972b); still treated as separate species by Hilty (2003) and Restall (2006). If treated as a separate species, as the IOC does, Groove-billed Toucanet becomes a Venezuelan endemic. The IOC says *Aulacorhynchus calorhynchus* is split from *A. sulcatus* (Hilty 2003); SACC rejects due to hybrids (but not freely interbreeding?)

E Grey-throated Toucanet -*Aulacorhynchus griseogularis*: Seen at Otun Quimbaya – *griseogularis*. The SACC says - Ridgely & Greenfield (2001) suggested that *Aulacorhynchus prasinus* (Emerald Toucanet) may consist of more than one species-level taxon, but see Short & Horne (2001), who pointed out that the allopatric taxa are no more distinctive than those known to intergrade. The subspecies *lautus*, *albivitta*, *cyanolaemus*, *dimidiatus*, and *atrogularis*, as well as Middle American *wagleri* and *caeruleogularis*, were formerly (e.g., Ridgway 1914, Cory 1919) each considered separate species from (and in some cases not particularly closely related to) *Aulacorhynchus prasinus*, but Peters (1948) and Haffer (1974) treated them all as conspecific. Navarro et al. (2001) say Patterns of variation support recognition of four species in Mesoamerica: *A. wagleri* in western Mexico, *A. prasinus* in eastern Mexico and northern Central America, *A. caeruleogularis* in Costa Rica and western Panama, and *A. cognatus* in eastern Panama, as well as several additional forms (*A. lautus* - Santa Marta Mountains, *A. albivitta* - Andes of Colombia and Ecuador and *A. nigrogularis* –Peru and North Bolivia) in South America. The IOC presents Grey-throated and White-throated as splits, citing, Puebla-Olivares et al. 2008 and if accepted the former would become a Colombian endemic.

White-throated Toucanet - *Aulacorhynchus albivitta*: See above. Seen at Cerulean Warbler RNA.

E Santa Marta Toucanet - *Aulacorhynchus lautus*: See above. Common in the Santa Marta Mountains.

Crimson-rumped Toucanet - *Aulacorhynchus haematopygus*: 3 heard at RNA Arrierito, and 1 seen near the Bushbird RNA.

Black-billed Mountain-Toucan – *Andigena nigrirostris*: excellent sightings at Mundo Nuevo, Las Ventanas RNA and Rio Blanco reserve.

Collared Aracari – *Pteroglossus torquatus*: a group of 4 on the El Hato road.

PICIDAE (WOODPECKERS)

Scaled Piculet - *Picumnus squamulatus*: 2 seen at Minca

Olivaceous Piculet - *Picumnus olivaceus*: 10+ seen.

E Greyish Piculet - *Picumnus granadensis*: 1 during a stop on the way to La Suiza.

RR Chestnut Piculet – *Picumnus cinnamomeus*: 1 excellent view during a stop on the way to Santa Marta, and more heard at Camarones.

E Beautiful Woodpecker - *Melanerpes pulcher*: a pair breeding at the El Paujil Reserve. A Colombian endemic. The SACC says “ **The Colombian taxon *pulcher* was considered a separate species from Central American *Melanerpes chrysauchen* by Cory (1919), Eisenmann (1955), and Stiles & Skutch (1989); however, Peters (1948) treated them as conspecific, and that treatment has been followed by most subsequent authors (e.g., Meyer de Schauensee 1979, Short 1982, Hilty & Brown 1986, Winkler et al. 1995, AOU 1998, Winkler & Christie 2002, Dickinson 2003). Wetmore (1968) provided rationale for treating *pulcher* as a separate species, as noted by Meyer de Schauensee (1966), but this has not been followed by most subsequent authors. [SACC proposal passed to recognize *pulcher* as separate species.](#)**

Red-crowned Woodpecker – *Melanerpes rubricapillus*: Common.

Smoky-brown Woodpecker – *Venilornis fumigatus*: Great looks at few occasions.

Red-rumped Woodpecker – *Venilornis kirkii*: One at RNA El Paujil.

Golden-olive Woodpecker – *Piculus rubiginosus*: A couple of sightings of individuals in the Santa Marta Mountains and Otun Quimbaya.

Crimson-mantled Woodpecker – *Colaptes rivoli*: heard at Mundo Nuevo and seen briefly at Rio Blanco reserve.

Spot-breasted Woodpecker – *Colaptes punctigula*: Scattered records throughout the trip.

Cinnamon Woodpecker – *Celeus loricatus*. An attractive woodpecker seen well at the El Paujil Reserve.

Lineated Woodpecker – *Dryocopus lineatus*.

Powerful Woodpecker - *Campephilus pollens*: excellent view on 2 birds at Mundo Nuevo, and 2 more at Cerulean Warbler RNA.

Crimson-crested Woodpecker – *Campephilus melanoleucos*: 2 in the garden of El Dorado lodge.

FURNARIIDAE (OVENBIRDS)

Stout-billed Cinclodes – *Cinclodes excelsior*: Great looks of one on the access road to Nevado del Ruiz National Park. The SACC says “*Cinclodes aricomae* (Royal Cinclodes) is often considered conspecific with *C. excelsior* (e.g., Peters 1951, Meyer de Schauensee 1970), and evidence for treating them as separate species (e.g., Fjeldså & Krabbe 1990, Remsen 2003) is weak.”

RR Caribbean Hornero – *Furnarius longirostris*: Seen on the drive to Santa Marta and on the Guajira peninsular. The SACC says: The sub-species *longirostris* was treated as a separate species by Ridgely & Greenfield (2001) and Hilty (2003). Although vocal and behavioral differences have been reported, no real analysis has been published to support this split. Restall (2006) treats this taxon as part of Pale-legged Hornero *F. leucopus* but the Ioc recognises this form as a separate species and says « *Furnarius longirostris* is split from *F. leucopus* (Ridgely & Greenfield 2001; Hilty 2003); SACC needs analysis »

Andean Tit-Spinetail – *Leptasthenura andicola*: Great looks of 4 birds on the access road to Nevado del Ruiz NP.

White-chinned Thistletail - *Schizoeaca fuliginosa*: 2 seen at Mundo Nuevo, and a great view at the Nevado del Ruiz NP.

Azara’s Spinetail - *Synallaxis azarae*: Fairly commonly heard and a few seen.

E Silvery-throated Spinetail - *Synallaxis subpudica*: 2 of this endemic dull tailed Spinetail were seen very well near Bogota.

Pale-breasted Spinetail - *Synallaxis albescens*: This open country spinetail was seen well.

E Rusty-headed Spinetail - *Synallaxis fuscorufa*: A numerous and attractive Santa Marta endemic, the world population is not known but is thought to be decreasing. This species has a small range and population, which is fragmented and declining due to habitat destruction caused by illegal agriculture, logging and burning. Intensification of these pressures, and hence increased inferred rates of population decline have led to its up listing to Vulnerable. It may even warrant up listing to Endangered once more detailed information on rates of forest loss becomes available. **VULNERABLE**

RR White-whiskered Spinetail – *Synallaxis candei*: A very pretty Spinetail indeed. Easy to see with a very cooperative pair during a stop on the way to Santa Marta. Named after the French Admiral de Cande a naval explorer in the mid 19th century

Stripe-breasted Spinetail – *Synallaxis cinnamomea*: 2 seen well in the Bushbird reserve

Red-faced Spinetail – *Cranioleuca erythrops*: One at RNA Arrierito in a mixed canopy flock.

E Streak-capped Spinetail - *Cranioleuca hellmayri*: Another localized spinetail (endemic to the Santa Marta Mountains and specimens have just been found from the Sierra de Perijá) that showed very well indeed.

Yellow-chinned Spinetail – *Certhiaxis cinnamomea*: 4 seen and scoped near Puerto Pinzon.

Many-striped Canastero – *Asthenes flammulata*: One on the access road to the Nevado del Ruiz NP.

Spotted Barbtail - *Premnoplex brunnescens*: A couple of pairs seen.

Pearled Treerunner – *Margarornis squamiger*: Good looks at this splendid montane species at Rio Blanco reserve.

Streaked Tuftedcheek - *Pseudocolaptes boissonneautii*: 2 seen very well at the Rio Blanco reserve.



White-whiskered Spinetail

Montane Foliage-gleaner - *Anabacerthia striaticollis*: Common in the Santa Marta Mountains and some seen elsewhere.

Lineated Foliage-gleaner – *Syndactyla subalaris*: 2 seen at RNA Arrierito..

Buff-fronted Foliage-gleaner - *Philydor rufus*: 4 at the RNA Reinita.

Flammulated Treehunter – *Thripadectes flammulatus*: One seen well on the San Lorenzo ridge – can be a very tricky species to catch up with, but this one gave us a nice show.

E Santa Marta Foliage-gleaner – *Automolus rufipectus*. A distinct endemic form of Ruddy Foliage Gleaner found only in the Santa Marta Mountains and the paper describing this species was published by Niels Karbbe in the Bulletin of the British Ornithological Society Bull. B.O.C. November 2008 128(4). Niels justified the species status of a hitherto overlooked subspecies of Ruddy Foliage-gleaner *Automolus rubiginosus rufipectus* that is endemic to the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta. Not only is this taxa distinctive, but it may even be more closely related to a genus *Hylocryptus* composed of two species in southern Ecuador and Peru and Brazil. The was only found in the El Dorado Bird Reserve and is restricted to closed canopy primary subtropical forest, which is extremely fragmented and predominately cleared for agriculture. While know to occur in other sites in the Sierra Nevada, the species highly restricted range and sensitivity of habitat suggest the species be considered as Vulnerable to extinction.

Grey-throated Leaf-tosser - *Sclerurus albigularis*: 1 seen well near the El Dorado lodge.

Streaked Xenops - *Xenops rutilans*: The form found in the Central and Western Andes is *heterurus*.

Plain Xenops - *Xenops minutus*: 1 in Otun Quimbaya.

DENDROCOLAPTIDAE (WOODCREEPERS)

Plain-brown Woodcreeper - *Dendrocincla fuliginosa*: few birds seen well at La Victoria and RNA El Paujil.

Strong-billed Woodcreeper - *Xiphocolaptes promeropirhynchus*: Seen in the Santa Marta Mountains, here the endemic *sanctaemartae* subspecies. Also at Otun Quimbaya (*orenocensis*) and Mundo Nuevo.

Black-banded Woodcreeper – *Dendrocolaptes picumnus*: 2 responded to playback in the Santa Marta Mountains.

Straight-billed Woodcreeper – *Dendroplex picus*: Common.

Xiphorhynchus picus and *X. kienerii* (Zimmer's Woodcreeper) were formerly (e.g., Cory & Hellmayr 1925, Zimmer 1934c, Pinto 1937, Phelps & Phelps 1950a) treated in a separate genus, *Dendroplex*, but this was merged into *Xiphorhynchus* by Peters (1951). Wetmore (1972), however, maintained *Dendroplex* as a separate genus based not only on bill shape but also on (unstated) cranial characters. Aleixo et al. (2007) summarized rationale for

validity of *Dendroplex* and for its usage for these two species. SACC proposal passed to resurrect *Dendroplex* for these two species.

Cocoa Woodcreeper – *Xiphorhynchus susurrans*. Two seen near Minca.

The SACC says -The relationships among taxa included in *Xiphorhynchus susurrans* and *X. guttatus* (Buff-throated Woodcreeper) are complex and need much additional work. *Xiphorhynchus susurrans* was formerly (e.g., Zimmer 1934d, Phelps & Phelps 1950a, Peters 1951, Meyer de Schauensee 1970) considered conspecific with *X. guttatus*, but Willis (1983) provided evidence that it should be treated as a separate species; this treatment was followed by Ridgely & Tudor (1994) and AOU (1998); they constitute a superspecies. *Xiphorhynchus susurrans* had previously been treated as a species by Cory & Hellmayr (1925), who also treated the subspecies *polystictus* (= *sororius*) as a separate species; this was considered conspecific with *X. guttatus* by Zimmer (1934d) and Peters (1951). However, Aleixo (2002) found that treating *X. susurrans* at the species level makes *Xiphorhynchus guttatus* paraphyletic with respect to Amazonian *guttatoides* group (Lafraneye's Woodcreeper) of western and southwestern Amazonia (*guttatoides*, *dorbignyanus*, *eytoni*, and *vicinalis*) and eastern Amazonian *guttatus* group (*guttatus*, *polystictus*, and provisionally *connectens*). Marantz et al. (2003) also emphasized that the current assignment of subspecies to either *X. susurrans* or *X. guttatus* does not correspond to the boundaries in vocalizations. Furthermore, the *eytoni* subspecies group was formerly (e.g., Todd 1948, Meyer de Schauensee 1966, 1970) considered a separate species ("Dusky-billed Woodcreeper") from *X. guttatus*; here it is treated as subspecies of *guttatus* following Cory & Hellmayr (1925), Zimmer (1934d), Pinto (1937), Peters (1951), and Ridgely & Tudor (1994), but Marantz et al. (2003) noted that this group differed in vocalizations from other taxa included in *X. guttatus*. Restall (2007) gives this taxon full species rank as does the IOC.

Black-striped Woodcreeper - *Xiphorhynchus lachrymosus*: 2 seen in the Paujil RNA.

Streak-headed Woodcreeper – *Lepidocolaptes souleyetii*: Several seen well at RNA Paujil.

Olive-backed Woodcreeper - *Xiphorhynchus triangularis*: seen on 3 occasions.

Streak-headed Woodcreeper - *Lepidocolaptes souleyetii*: seen at El Paujil RNA and near San Vicente.

Montane Woodcreeper – *Lepidocolaptes lacrymiger*: 1 at Rio Blanco reserve. *Lepidocolaptes lacrymiger* was formerly (e.g., Peters 1951, Meyer de Schauensee 1970, AOU 1983, 1998, Sibley & Monroe 1990) considered conspecific with Middle American *L. affinis* (Spot-crowned Woodcreeper), but recent treatments (e.g., Ridgely & Tudor 1994, Hilty 2003) usually follow Cory & Hellmayr (1925), Zimmer (1934c), and Phelps & Phelps (1950a) in treating them as separate species. Their vocalizations differ strongly, although a formal analysis has not been published; they constitute a superspecies.

Brown-billed Scythebill* – *Campylorhamphus pusillus*: heard at Arrierrito RNA.

THAMNOPHILIDAE (ANTBIRDS)

Great Antshrike* –*Taraba major*

Black-crested Antshrike - *Sakesphorus canadensis* – A pair seen well during a stop on the way to Santa Marta and then in the desert along the Guajira peninsular. This taxon needs revision and several species are probably involved.

RR Black-backed Antshrike - *Sakesphorus melanotus*: Great looks at a male in the Minca area. A very smart bird indeed with a limited distribution.

Barred Antshrike *Thamnophilus doliatus*: Several seen

RR Bar-crested Antshrike - *Thamnophilus multistriatus*: Great views of a 2 in the coffee at RNA Reinita. A near-endemic, generally replacing the previous, at higher elevations. Outside Colombia its only known from the Venezuelan side of the Sierra de Perijá, so it's a de facto endemic.

Uniform Antshrike - *Thamnophilus unicolor*. The subspecies in Colombia is *grandior*.

Western Slaty-Antshrie - *Thamnophilus atrinucha*: great views at La Victoria and Paujil RNA

E Recurve-billed Bushbird – *Clytoctantes alixii* – A wonderful on a very cooperative but silent male. This species has been recently rediscovered in both Venezuela and Colombia, following 40 years without any records. Its range and population are poorly known, but presumed to be very small. Habitat loss is continuing throughout its range, and has been rapid over the last five years in an area that was probably a stronghold. Consequently its range and population are inferred to be declining. Named after the French zoologist Edouard Alix **ENDANGERED**

Plain Antvireo - *Dysithamnus mentalis*: seen at RNA Arrierito.

Pacific Antwren - *Myrmotherula pacifica*: a nice male on the way to El Paujil RNA.

Northern White-fringed Antwren – *Myrmotherula intermedia*: Several along the Laguna El Hato road and also at RNA Paujil (*intermedia*?) and a male on the Guajira Peninsular (*hondae*). Ridgely & Tudor (1994) and Zimmer & Isler (2003) suggested that *Formicivora grisea* (Southern White-fringed Antwren e.g. Bolivia.) may consist of more than one species. Hilty (2003) described major vocal differences between *intermedia* and *grisea* in Venezuela and treated them as a separate species.

Long-tailed Antbird - *Dryophila caudate*: One at Rio Blanco reserve and 4 at the Bushbird reserve.

Rufous-rumped Antwren – *Terenura callinota*: One seen very well in a mixed flock at RNA Reinita.

Jet Antbird - *Cercomacra nigricans*: 2 seen well along the Laguna del Hato road.

E Parker's Antbird - *Cercomacra parkeri*: Recently described: Graves (1997). fantastic looks at RNA Arrierito. One of the birds named for our late neo-tropical birding pioneer, Ted Parker.

Bare-crowned Antbird – *Gymnocichla nudiceps*. Two of this striking Antbird at the RNA El Paujil Reserve.

Chestnut-backed Antbird - *Myrmeciza exsul* – Seen well at the RNA El Paujil Reserve.

White-bellied Antbird – *Myrmeciza longipes*: 2 seen along the Laguna del Hato road.

GRALLARIDAE (ANTPITTAS)

Chestnut-crowned Antpitta - *Grallaria ruficapilla*: 1 seen very well, coming to the feeders at the Rio Blanco reserve.

RR Mustached Antpitta – *Grallaria alleni**: Heard at Otun Quimbaya.

Scaled Antpitta - *Grallaria guatemalensis*: 2 heard above Minca.

E Santa Marta Antpitta - *Grallaria bangsi*: brief looks at one on the San Lorenzo Ridge and heard daily. The world population is not known but is thought to be decreasing. This species has been up listed to Vulnerable because new information suggests that it has a small range, which is fragmented and declining owing to habitat destruction caused by illegal agriculture, logging and burning. It is currently described as common, but its population size is unknown. However, it is likely to be undergoing a rapid decline as a result of habitat loss. Named after Outram Bangs US ornithologist and author.
VULNERABLE

E Bicolored Antpitta - *Grallaria rufocinerea*: 1 excellent view on a very cooperative bird at Rio Blanco reserve. **VULNERABLE**

Chestnut-naped Antpitta* - *Grallaria nuchalis*: heard above Jardin.

White-bellied Antpitta - *Grallaria hypoleuca*: One seen very well at the Cerulean Warbler Reserve.

E Rufous Antpitta – *Grallaria rufula spatiator*: 2 seen on the San Lorenzo Ridge. Now keep an eye on these “Rufous” Antpittas as there are many species involved. This one at Santa Marta will become an endemic and the paper is in progress.

Rufous Antpitta – *Grallaria rufula rufula*: This is the one we saw above Jardin (unnamed subspecies for now put in nominate *rufula*) and this may well be split off as a Colombian western Andean endemic. If you look at the map you will see it's an isolated population.

We also saw one at Nevado del Ruiz NP (central cordillera) and one more at Mundo Nuevo (Eastern cordillera), that may be another forthcoming split !

Tawny Antpitta – *Grallaria quitensis*: Easily seen at Nevado del Ruiz NP. Named for the city of Quito which in turn is named for the Quito indians.

Rusty-breasted Antpitta - *Grallaricula ferruginepectus*. 1 seen in the Santa Marta Mountains, here the nominate race. Birds south of the Marañon River may represent a separate species.

Slate-crowned Antpitta - *Grallaricula nana*: excellent views above Jardín.

CONOPHAGIDAE (GNATEATERS)

Chestnut-crowned Gnateater – *Conophaga castaniceps*: 1 seen well at the RNA Arrierito.

RHINOCRYPTIDAE (TAPACULOS)

Ash-colored Tapaculo - *Myiornis senilis*: 1 cooperative bird at Rio Blanco reserve.

Blackish Tapaculo – *Scytalopus latrans latrans*: Seen well at Alto las Ventanas.

E Santa Marta Tapaculo *Scytalopus sanctaemartae*: One called in and what a responsive bird.

Long-tailed Tapaculo - *Scytalopus micropterus*: only seen by the leader.

E Brown-rumped Tapaculo* *Scytalopus latebricola*: Another Santa Marta endemic, replacing the Santa Marta Tapaculo at higher elevations.

White-crowned Tapaculo* – *Scytalopus atratus nigricans*.

Scytalopus atratus (with *confusus* and *nigricans*) was formerly (e.g., Zimmer 1939x, Peters 1951, Meyer de Schauensee 1970) considered conspecific with *S. femoralis*; for treatment as a separate species from *S. femoralis* based on differences in voice, see Krabbe & Schulenberg (1997); it had previously been considered a separate species by Cory & Hellmayr (1924). Keep track of which subspecies you see – there are surely several species in this group based on vocal differences.

E Upper Magdalena Tapaculo – *Scytalopus Rodríguez*. a poor view at the Cerulean Warbler Reserve. A recently described endemic. **ENDANGERED**

E Stile's Tapaculo – *Scytalopus stilesi*: 2 seen at the RNA Arriero and seen well, and one at Otun Quimbaya – one of the “hard to see group”

Spillman's Tapaculo – *Scytalopus spillmani*: One of the more tricky Tapaculos to see but the ones we tried at Alto las Ventanas was finally very cooperative and everybody had good views.

E Mattoral Tapaculo – *Scytalopus griseicollis*. One of the ‘easy’ Tapaculos seen at Mundo Nuevo.

E Paramillo Tapaculo - *Scytalopus canus*: HOT OFF THE PRESS ! 1 seen very well on the access road to the Nevado del Ruiz National Park. We saw the nominate *canus*. *Scytalopus canus* (with *opacus*) was formerly (e.g., Zimmer 1939x, Peters 1951, Meyer de Schauensee 1970) considered a subspecies of *S. magellanicus* or of *S. unicolor* (e.g., Cory & Hellmayr 1924); for treatment as a separate species from *S. magellanicus* based on differences in voice, see Krabbe & Schulenberg (1997). Krabbe & Schulenberg (2003b) noted that further research may show that *opacus* also deserves species rank. Krabbe and Cadena (2010) showed that the voice of *opacus* differs strongly from that of *canus* and recommended that *opacus* be ranked as a species. The IOC says « - CHANGE English name of *Scytalopus canus* to Paramillo Tapaculo with split of *opacus* (Paramo Tapaculo) (Krabbe & Cadena 2010). »

Ocellated Tapaculo* – *Acropternis orthonyx*: we heard many, but did not see one....

TYRANNIDAE (TYRANT-FLYCATCHERS)

Wing-barred Piprites - *Piprites chloris*: 2 heard at the RNA Arrierrito.

Sooty-headed Tyrannulet – *Phyllomyias greiseiceps*: great view at La Victoria and one more at El Cauca.

Black-capped Tyrannulet - *Phyllomyias nigrocapillus*: two on the San Lorenzo Ridge on consecutive days.

Tawny-rumped Tyrannulet* – *Phyllomyias uryopigilais*: heard at Parque La Florida.

Plumbeous-crowned Tyrannulet - *Phyllomyias plumbeiceps*: 2 very responsive birds at Otun Quimbaya.

Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet *Tyrannulus elatus*: Fairly common at various sites.

Forest Elaenia *Myiopagis gaimardii*: several contacts during the trip.

Greenish Elaenia - *Myiopagis viridicata*: 1 seen well at El Cauca.

Yellow-bellied Elaenia *Elaenia flavogaster*: Common in open country

Lesser Elaenia* - *Elaenia chiriquensis*: heard at Camarones.

Mountain Elaenia *Elaenia frantzii*: In Santa Marta the subspecies we saw was *pudica*. The species was named after Alexander von Frantzius, a nineteenth century German collector in Brazil and Costa Rica.

Brown-capped Tyrannulet – *Ornithion brunneicapillus*: 2 at RNA El Paujil.

Southern Beardless Tyrannulet - *Camptostoma obsoletum*.

White-throated Tyrannulet *Mecocerculus leucophrys*: We saw the subspecies *montensis*, which is endemic to the Santa Marta Mountains. We also saw this species at Mundo Nuevo and Nevado del Ruiz.

White-tailed Tyrannulet - *Mecocerculus poecilocercus*: 2 seen above Jardin.

Torrent Tyrannulet - *Serpophaga cinerea*: 1 seen along the torrent below La Suiza.

Mouse-colored Tyrannulet - *Phaeomyias murina*: excellent view near Ocaña.

Yellow Tyrannulet – *Capsiempis flaveola*: Two seen at RNA El Paujil.

Venezuelan Tyrannulet – *Zimmerius improbus*: One in the Santa Marta Mountains. Sibley & Monroe (1990) and Ridgely & Tudor (1994), followed by Hilty (2003) and Fitzpatrick (2004), considered the South American *improbus* group of subspecies to be a separate species from *Zimmerius vilissimus*- Paltry Tyrannulet.

Golden-faced Tyrannulet - *Zimmerius chrysops*: Seen at various localities. Variation in Golden-faced Tyrannulet subspecies is reasonably extensive and more than one species may be involved. Ridgely & Greenfield (2001) considered the subspecies *flavidifrons* of southwestern Ecuador and northwestern Peru to represent a separate species from *Zimmerius chrysops* based on differences in voice. Ridgely & Greenfield (2001), Krabbe & Nielsson (2003), and Fitzpatrick (2004) also noted that the taxon *albigularis* from w. Ecuador and w. Colombia might be a species distinct from *Zimmerius chrysops* (2003)

Variegated Bristle-Tyrant – *Phylloscartes poecilotus*: 2 at Otun Quimbaya.

Marble-faced Bristle-Tyrant – *Phylloscartes ophthalmicus*: Seen at RNA Arriquito.

Rufous-browed Tyrannulet - *Phylloscartes superciliaris*: excellent views on this lovely flycatcher at the Cerulean Warbler RNA.

Streak-necked Flycatcher - *Mionectes striaticollis*. Seen at RNA Arriquito.

Olive-striped Flycatcher – *Mionectes olivaceus*: Common in the Santa Marta Mountains where it ranges high due to lack of competition from the preceding species.

Ochre-bellied Flycatcher - *Mionectes oleaginea*: Common at the El Paujil Reserve and near Minca.

Slaty-capped Flycatcher – *Leptopogon amaurocephalus*: 1 at the RNA Arrierrito and 1 at RNA Reinita along the Lengerke trail.

Sepia-capped Flycatcher - *Leptopogon amaurocephalus*: Small numbers seen well, at RNA El Paujil.

Rufous-breasted Flycatcher – *Leptopogon rufipectus*: 10+ at Otun Quimbaya.

Northern Scrub Flycatcher – *Sublegatis arenarum*: found nesting near Camarones.

Slender-billed Inezia – *Inezia tenirostris*: Common by voice and a dozen seen on the Guajira Peninsular. Note that the tarsal morphology of *Inezia* has been interpreted to indicate that it belongs in the Cotingidae!

Ornate Flycatcher – *Myiotriccus ornatus*: 2 seen at RNA Arrierrito and 1 at Cerulean Warbler RNA.

Southern Bentbill - *Oncostoma olivaceum*: A weird little flycatcher, with some good views at Serrania Quinches RNA El Paujil

Subtropical Doradito - *Pseudocolopteryx acutipennis*: 5+ at La Florida.

Scale-crested Pygmy-Tyrant – *Lophotriccus pileatus*: A few here and there.

Pale-eyed Pygmy-Tyrant - *Atalotriccus pilaris*: This tyrannid of drier woodlands, was seen nicely at El Cauca near Ocaña..

Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrant – *Hemitriccus maragaritaceiventris*: On the Guajira peninsular. Comes from the Latin for pearl – margarita.

Black-throated Tody-Flycatcher – *Hemitriccus granadensis*: Common in the Santa Marta Mountains

Rufous-headed Pygmy-tyrant - *Pseudotriccus ruficeps*: 1 at Las Ventanas RNA.

Rufous-crowned Tody-tyrant - *Poecilotriccus ruficeps*: excellent views on this wonderful little guy, above Jardin and at Rio Blanco reserve.

Black-headed Tody-Flycatcher - *Todirostrum nigriceps*: 2 at RNA El Paujil.

Slate-headed Tody-tyrant – *Todirostrum sylvia*: As always sneaky – a couple seen at RNA El Paujil.

Common Tody-Flycatcher - *Todirostrum cinereum*: Small numbers seen at various locations.

Olivaceous Flatbill – *Rhynchocyclus olivaceus*: 1 seen at RNA El Paujil

Yellow-olive Tolmomyias - *Tolmomyias sulphureus*: A few. The SACC says - The AOU (1998), Hilty (2003), and Fitzpatrick (2004) suggested that *Tolmomyias sulphureus* almost certainly consists of multiple species. The IOC calls this genus “Flatbill” which I find outrageous as we already have a genus of Flycatchers called Flatbills (*Rhynchocyclus*). Birds of Peru returns to the non-committal “Flycatcher” for this genus as does Restall 2007.

Ochre-lored Tolmomyias - *Tolmomyias flaviventris*: 2 seen near Santa Marta, belonging here to the *aurulentus* subspecies.

White-throated Spadebill - *Platyrinchus mystaceus*: 2 seen at RNA Arrierrito.

Cinnamon Flycatcher - *Pyrrhomyias cinnamomea*: Regularly encountered in the Andes (*pyrrhoptera*), and in the Santa Marta Mountains we saw the endemic and much brighter *assimilis*.

Black-billed Flycatcher – *Aphanotriccus audax* A little known bird almost endemic to Colombia, but it does get into the Darien in Panama. We saw one at RNA El Paujil. **NEAR THREATENED.**

Acadian Flycatcher – *Empidonax virescens*: Only 1 seen, at the RNA Arrierrito.

Smoke-colored Pewee - *Contopus fumigatus*: 1 at RNA Arrierrito.

Eastern Wood-pewee - *Contopus virens*: 1 near Minca.

Tropical Pewee - *Contopus cinereus*: seen on several occasions during the trip.

Black Phoebe - *Sayornis nigricans*: A bird of streams and rivers that was frequently seen sitting on bridges.

Vermilion Flycatcher - *Pyrocephalus rubinus*: Small numbers seen at a number of sites.

Yellow-bellied Chat-Tyrant - *Ochthoeca diadema*: We had great looks at this around San Lorenzo where the subspecies *jesupi* is endemic to the Santa Marta Mountains. We also heard one at Alto Los Ventanas (*gratiosa*)

Rufous-breasted Chat-tyrant - *Ochthoeca rufipectoralis*: 2 seen at Mundo Nuevo the first day.

Brown-backed Chat-Tyrant – *Ochthoeca fumicolor*: Seen at Los Nevados del Ruiz and Mundo Nuevo..

Streak-throated Bush-Tyrant – *Myiotheretes striaticollis*: 2 seen at Mundo Nuevo, 2 more at the Nevado del Ruiz reserve, and 1 in the Santa Marta mountains.

E Santa Marta Bush-Tyrant - *Myiotheretes pernix*: Often a difficult bird to find but we had 2 birds which showed at extremely close range. The world population is estimated at 1,000 – 2,499 individuals and is decreasing. This species has a very small range and is currently known from just one location (although there are likely to be others). Its habitat is declining, and concomitant declines in range and population are inferred. **ENDANGERED**

Pied Water-Tyrant - *Fluvicola pica*: Common e.g on the way to the Paujil reserve

White-headed Marsh-Tyrant - *Arundinicola leucocephala*: 4 on the way in the Paujil reserve.

Long-tailed Tyrant – *Colonia colonus*: Seen daily at RNA El Paujil.

Cattle Tyrant - *Machetornis rixosus* This species is expanding its range, and we noted scattered individuals in open country at a number of locations.

Dusky-capped Flycatcher - *Myiarchus tuberculifer*: As usual, the plaintive call was heard more often than the bird was seen, but see it we did!

Panama Flycatcher – *Myiarchus panamensis*: one at RNA El Paujil

E Apical Flycatcher - *Myiarchus apicalis*: 1 on the way to La Suiza.

Pale-edged Flycatcher – *Myiarchus cephalotes*: 4 seen at RNA Arrierito.

Brown-crested Flycatcher – *Myiarchus tyrannulus*: 2 on the Guajira peninsular near Camerones.

Great Kiskadee - *Pitangus sulphuratus*: A widespread bird of open areas, even found right in the centre of towns.

Lesser Kiskadee –*Pitangus lector* – 6 at RNA Paujil and environs.

Boat-billed Flycatcher - *Megarynchus pitangua*: Small numbers.

Rusty-margined Flycatcher - *Myiozetetes cayanensis*: Numerous and widespread at lower elevations.

Social Flycatcher - *Myiozetetes similis*: Recorded at several locations

Streaked Flycatcher - *Myiodynastes maculatus*: A few.

Golden-crowned Flycatcher - *Myiodynastes chrysocephalus*: seen on several occasions.

Piratic Flycatcher - *Legatus leucophaeus*: Around 10 recorded.

Tropical Kingbird - *Tyrannus melancholicus*. Common throughout

Fork-tailed Flycatcher – *Tyrannus savanna*: A few on the drives in open country.

Rufous Mourner – *Rhytipterna holererytra*: One at the RNA El Paujil.

COTINGIDAE (COTINGAS)

Red-crested Cotinga - *Ampelion rubrocristatus*: 10+ at Mundo Nuevo.

Green and Black Fruiteater – *Pipreola riefferi* - Good looks at Alto Los Ventanas.

Golden-breasted Fruiteater - *Pipreola aureopectus*: This gorgeous fruiteater was seen in the Santa Marta Mountains, here the race *decora*, endemic to this mountain range. We saw the *aureopectus* subspecies at RNA Arrierito.

Purple-throated Fruitcrow - *Querula purpurata*: At the El Paujil reserve.

Red-ruffed Fruitcrow – *Pyroderus scutatus*: So common at Otun Quimbaya with 25+ seen daily.

PIPRIDAE (MANAKINS)

Yellow-headed Manakin -*Chloropipo flavicapilla*: 2 seen well but briefly, at Libano. An exciting surprise, of a very local and rare bird. **NEAR-THREATENED**

Golden-winged Manakin – *Masius chrysopterus*: Good looks at this funny Manakin in the Cerulean Warbler RNA.

White-bearded Manakin - *Manacus manacus*: Quite a few seen well in the El Paujil Reserve.

Western Striped Manakin - *Machaeropterus striolatus*: 2 seen at Victoria. The SACC says “Snow (2004) considered the Amazonian *striolatus* subspecies group to be a separate species from *Machaeropterus regulus* of SE Brazil”. Restall (2007) does not follow this split but Volume 9 of handbook of Birds of the World does. If you follow the split Eastern Striped Manakin *Machaeropterus regulus* is restricted to SE Brazil so all the Ecuador and Peruvian ones are Western Striped Manakin *Machaeropterus striolatus*

Lance-tailed Manakin - *Chiroxiphia lanceolata*: 1 seen briefly and more heard near Ocaña.

White-crowned Manakin - *Pipra pipra*: 1 female at the Arrierito RNA.

Golden-headed Manakin – *Pipra erythrocephala*: 2 at Victoria.

TITYRIDAE (TITYRAS)

In this classification, the genera *Tityra* through *Phibalura* were formerly placed tentatively in the Cotingidae, following Prum et al. (2000). They had formerly been scattered among the Tyrannidae, Cotingidae, and Pipridae. Prum and Lanyon (1989) and Sibley & Ahlquist (1990) found that *Tityra*, *Schiffornis*, and *Pachyramphus* formed a distinct group, separate from the rest of the Tyrannidae; Sibley & Ahlquist (1990) proposed that they were most closely related to core Tyrannidae than to other tyrannoid families such as the Cotingidae or Pipridae. More recent genetic data (Johansson et al. 2002, Chesser 2004, Barber & Rice 2007) confirm that the genera *Tityra* through at least *Pachyramphus* form a monophyletic group, but Chesser (2004) found that this group is more closely related to the Pipridae than to the Cotingidae or Tyrannidae. SACC proposal passed to remove from Cotingidae (and place as Incertae Sedis or as separate family, Tityridae). Barber & Rice (2007) not only confirmed the monophyly of the group but also proposed elevation to family rank. SACC proposal passed to recognize Tityridae. Within this group, Barber & Rice (2007) found genetic evidence for two major groups: (a) *Laniisoma*, *Laniocera*, and *Schiffornis*, and (b) *Iodopleura*, *Tityra*, *Xenopsaris*, and *Pachyramphus*.

Barred Becard - *Pachyramphus versicolor*: great views at the Rio Blanco reserve.

Cinnamon Becard - *Pachyramphus cinnamomeus*: Common lowland Becard.

White-winged Becard – *Pachyramphus polychopterus*: At least 3 seen during the trip.

One-colored Becard - *Pachyramphus homochrous*: one pair seen very well at El Paujil RNA.

Black-crowned Tityra – *Tityra inquisitor*: 2 at El Paujil RNA. Inquisitor is Latin for “investigator or searcher”, presumably from the habit of Tityras to peer into and investigate holes in dead trees.

Masked Tityra – *Tityra semifasciatus*: 2 in the coffee plantation below Cerulean Warbler RNA and 3 in the Santa Marta mountains.

Thrush-like Schiffornis - *Schiffornis turdina**: heard at El Paujil RNA

VIREONIDAE (VIREOS and GREENLETS)

Rufous-browed Peppershrike - *Cyclarhis gujanensis*: Only 1 seen, near Ocaña.

Black-billed Peppershrike – *Cyclarhis nigrisrostris*: 2 at the Rio Blanco reserve.

Yellow-browed Shrike-Vireo – *Vireolanius eximus*: a wonderful view on a very cooperative bird in the coffee plantation above San Vicente. !!!

Red-eyed (Chivi) Vireo - *Vireo (chivi) olivaceus*: Some classifications (e.g., Pinto 1944) have considered the South American *chivi* group as a separate species ("Chivi Vireo") from *V. olivaceus*, or as conspecific with *V. flavoviridis* (Hamilton 1962), but see Hellmayr

(1935), Zimmer (1941d), Eisenmann 1962a, Johnson & Zink (1985), and Ridgely & Tudor (1989). Ridgely & Greenfield (2001) suggested, however, that more than one species may be involved within the South American *chivi* group.

Brown-capped Vireo - *Vireo leucophrys*: A few here and there.

Rufous-naped Greenlet - *Hylophilus semibrunneus*: Small numbers of this distinctive, snazzy Greenlet were recorded at RNA Arrierito and other places. Almost a Colombian endemic but gets into Venezuela.

Scrub Greenlet - *Hylophilus flavipes*: Fairly common here and there and very vocal

CORVIDAE (CROWS and JAYS)

Black-collared Jay - *Cyanolyca armillata*: 2 seen at the Rio Blanco reserve.

Black-chested Jay - *Cyanocorax affinis*: A smart bird seen at various locations

Inca Jay - *Cyanocorax yncas*: A most handsome bird. Ridgely & Greenfield (2001) and Hilty (2003) treated Middle American populations as a separate species, *C. luxosus* ("Green Jay") from South American *C. yncas* ("Inca Jay"),

HIRUNDINIDAE (SWALLOWS and MARTINS)

White-winged Swallow – *Tachycineta albiventer*

Gray-breasted Martin - *Progne chalybea*: Reasonably numerous at lower elevations.

Brown-bellied Swallow - *Notiochelidon murina*: At Bogotá and Chingaza.

Blue-and-white Swallow - *Notiochelidon cyanoleuca*: Widespread in small numbers

Southern Rough-winged Swallow - *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*: Common at lower elevations.

Barn Swallow – *Hirundo rustica*: migrating birds. The New World populations of *Hirundo rustica* were formerly (e.g., Ridgway 1904) treated as a separate species, *H. erythrogastra*, from Old World populations.

DONACOBIIDAE (DONACOBIOUS)

Black-capped Donacobius – *Donacobius atricapilla*: 2 pair near Puerto Pinzon. Always a pleasure to see.

TROGLODYTIDAE (WRENS)

Bicolored Wren - *Campylorhynchus griseus*: A large and handsome wren, and a cousin of Central America's Rufous-naped and Mexico's Giant Wrens. Good shows.

Band-backed Wren - *Campylorhynchus zonatus*: 2 birds seen on the way to Santa Marta.

Sooty-headed Wren – *Thryothorus spadix*; 2 responsive birds at RNA Arrierito. Almost a Colombian endemic but gets into Eastern Panama. Genetic data (Mann et al. 2006) indicate that the broad genus *Thryothorus* is polyphyletic, and that true *Thryothorus* is not found in South America; Mann et al. (2006) recommended recognition of three genera for South American taxa by resurrecting two from the synonymy of *Thryothorus* (*Pheugopedius* and *Thryophilus*) and describing a new one (*Cantorchilus*).

Black-bellied Wren - *Pheugopedius fasciatoventris*: Great looks at the El Paujil Reserve

Whiskered Wren - *Pheugopedius mystacalis*: Seen above Libano, and at Ocaña.

Rufous-breasted Wren - *Pheugopedius rutilus*: Excellent view near Ocaña.

E Niceforo's Wren - *Pheugopedius nicefori*: excellent views above San Vicente.
CRITICALLY ENDANGERED

Rufous-and-white Wren - *Pheugopedius rufalbus*: A bird with an unforgettable song that we saw above Minca.

Buff-breasted Wren - *Pheugopedius leucotis*: good looks on 2 birds along the El Hato road.

Southern House Wren - *Troglodytes (aedon) musculus*: Common and widespread. Many authors (e.g., Hellmayr 1934, Pinto 1944, Phelps & Phelps 1950a) formerly treated Neotropical mainland populations as a separate species *T. musculus*; see also Brumfield and Capparella (1996); this treatment was followed by Brewer (2001) and Kroodsma & Brewer (2005). The Falklands population, *T. a. cobbi*, might also be best treated as a species (Wood 1993), as was done by Brewer (2001), Mazar Barnett & Pearman (2001), Jaramillo (2003), and Kroodsma & Brewer (2005);

E Apolinar's Wren – *Cistothorus apolinari**: No co-operative birds and only heard at Parque La Florida. This species has a very small population and range. It is thought to be declining rapidly, owing to loss and degradation of its severely fragmented habitat. All subpopulations are suspected to be extremely small, and some have been extirpated over the last few decades. **ENDANGERED**

Sedge Wren – *Cistothoru platensis*: A responsive 5 birds on the paramo at Los Nevados National Park The SACC says “Two distinctive major subspecies groups, Andean and south-temperate *platensis* and lowland *polyglottus*, intergrade in southeastern South America (Traylor 1988). The North American *stellaris* group may warrant species rank from *Cistothorus platensis* (e.g., see Meyer de Schauensee 1966, Ridgely & Tudor 1989).”

White-breasted Wood-Wren - *Henicorhina leucosticta**: heard at RNA Paujil.

Grey-breasted Wood-Wren - *Henicorhina leucophrys*: Regularly heard at higher elevations with a number of good views. In the Santa Marta Mountains we saw the *bangsi* race at lower elevations and the *anachoreta* race higher. Two species are probably involved so keep track of this one - they look pretty much the same but the song is different. Elsewhere we saw the nominate *leucophrys*.

Southern Nightingale-Wren - *Microcerculus marginatus**: Now its official name according to the IOC. Heard at 3 different locations

Chestnut-breasted Wren - *Cyphorhinus thoracicus*: 1 at Otun Quimbaya.

MIMIDAE (MOCKINGBIRDS)

Tropical Mockingbird - *Mimus gilvus*: A common open country species.

POLIOPTIDAE (GNATCATCHERS)

Long-billed Gnatwren - *Ramphocaenus melanurus*: 5 at Arrierrito RNA, showed well.

Tropical Gnatcatcher – *Polioptila plumbea*: Common on the Guajira Peninsular and near Mariquita.

TURDIDAE (THRUSHES)

Andean Solitaire - *Myadestes ralloides**: Heard at several locations.

Orange-billed Nightingale-Thrush - *Catharus aurantiirostris*: 1 seen very well at the Bushbird reserve.

Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrush – *Catharus fuscater*: On consecutive days around El Dorado Lodge

Swainson's Thrush – *Catharus ustulatus*

Yellow-legged Thrush - *Platycichla flaviceps*: A few in the Santa Marta Mountains

Great Thrush - *Turdus fuscater*: Ubiquitous at higher elevations. We saw *quindio* (endemic) in the Central and Western Andes, and *cacozelus* (a very pale subspecies that is also endemic) in the Santa Marta Mountains.

Glossy-black Thrush - *Turdus serranus*: 2 (not seen by the leader) at Otun Quimbaya

Black-hooded Thrush - *Turdus olivater*: 1 in the Santa Marta Mountains, of the endemic race *sanctaemartae*.

Chestnut-bellied Thrush – *Turdus fulviventris*: Two seen at the Bushbird Reserve. Despite its large size this is a real skulker.

Spectacled Thrush - *Turdus nudigenis*: a surprising sighting of 1 bird on the feeders at the ranger house at the Bushbird reserve.

Pale-breasted Thrush - *Turdus leucomelas*: Relatively common.

Black-billed Thrush - *Turdus ignobilis*: Fairly common in the lowlands.

FRINGILLIDAE (FINCHES)

Andean Siskin – *Carduelis spinescens*: at Mundo Nuevo and 5 at Parque La Florida. Also seen in the Santa Marta mountains.

Lesser Goldfinch - *Carduelis psaltria*: A few seen

Blue-naped Chlorophonia - *Chlorophonia cyanea*: A few in the Santa Marta Mountains and often at the feeder at El Dorado Lodge

Trinidad Euphonia – *Euphonia trinitatis*: Common on the Guajira Peninsular.

E Velvet-fronted Euphonia – *Euphonia concinna*: Seen on consecutive days on the Laguna El Hato road – a localized Colombian endemic

Orange-bellied Euphonia - *Euphonia xanthogaster*: A few throughout the tour and like most races, the birds we saw (*oreassinoma*), are actually yellow-bellied. A species conspicuously absent from the, (impoverished), Santa Marta Mountains.

Thick-billed Euphonia - *Euphonia laniirostris*. Common.

Golden-rumped Euphonia - *Euphonia cyanocephala*: 2 at the Arrierrito RNA and 2 in the coffee plantation above San Vicente.

Fulvous-vented Euphonia - *Euphonia fulvicrissa*: 2 seen at RNA El Paujil

PARULIDAE (NEW WORLD WARBLERS)

Tropical Parula – *Parula pitiayumi*: A few.

Yellow Warbler – *Dendroica petechia*: a few.

Blackpoll Warbler - *Dendroica striata*: 2 at El Paujil RNA.

Bay-breasted Warbler - *Dendroica castanea*: seen at La Victoria and El Paujil RNA.

Blackburnian Warbler – *Dendroica fusca*: Regularly recorded throughout the tour – a very pretty bird.

Mourning Warbler – *Oporornis Philadelphia*: 1 at RNA Cerulea

Canada Warbler – *Wilsonia Canadensis*: Common

Slate-throated Whitestart - *Myioborus miniatus*: A common, widespread and delightful resident of the montane forests.

E Golden-fronted Whitestart – *Myioborus ornatus*: We saw the *chrysops* race at Alto las Ventanas and the *ornatus* race at the Cerulean Warbler reserve with its strikingly white facial pattern – a very pretty bird.

E Yellow-crowned Whitestart - *Myioborus flavivertex*: We saw around 8 of these delightful birds on the San Lorenzo Ridge – it is one of the most conspicuous Santa Marta endemics. Slightly atypical for a *Myioborus* whitestart, being somewhat slow and deliberate in its movements and almost (*Basileuterus*) warbler-like in appearance.

Black-crested Warbler - *Basileuterus nigrocristatus*: 5 at Mundo Nuevo.

Citrine Warbler – *Basileuterus luteoviridis richardsoni*: We saw the different looking *richardsoni* race. This subspecies *richardsoni* of western Colombia was formerly (e.g. Hellmayr 1935) treated as a separate species – Richardson’s Warbler.

RR Gray-throated Warbler - *Basileuterus cinereicollis* – Great looks at the Bushbird Reserve.. A range restricted species shared with Venezuela. **NEAR THREATENED**

E White-lored Warbler - *Basileuterus conspicillatus*: This Santa Marta endemic was numerous at middle elevations allowing us several great views. It is relatively common in the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, where it inhabits humid montane forest, forest borders and well-developed second growth and shade-coffee plantations at 450-2,200m, where it forages at low to mid-levels, principally in the under growth and understory. It appears tolerant of a degree of habitat degradation. All remaining forest in the Santa Marta Mountains is seriously threatened by agricultural expansion, logging and burning. Only 15% of the sierra's vegetation is unaltered, with the south-east slope extensively deforested, and the west slope, between 800 and 1,600m, largely cleared for coffee and illegal marijuana plantations. **NEAR THREATENED**

Rufous-capped Warbler - *Basileuterus rufifrons delatieri*: Good looks near Minca and elsewhere. The *delatrii* group of subspecies, from Guatemala south to northwestern South America, was formerly (e.g., Hellmayr 1935) treated as separate species from the *Basileuterus rufifrons* of (mainly) Mexico, but they evidently intergrade in Guatemala and Honduras (Monroe 1968, AOU 1983).

Three-striped Warbler - *Basileuterus tristriatus*: Common at RNA Arrierito and at the Cerulean Warbler Reserve



Santa Marta Warbler – Fabrice Schmitt

E Santa Marta Warbler - *Basileuterus basilicus*: 4 seen. Another Warbler endemic to the Santa Marta Mountains, which is quite tricky to see. A large, slow and aberrant species, that perhaps does not belong in *Basileuterus* – it was formerly placed in *Hemispingus*! It is likely to have undergone a rapid and continuing decline. **VULNERABLE**

Buff-rumped Warbler - *Basileuterus fulvicauda*

ICTERIDAE (OROPENDOLAS, ORIOLES)

Russet-backed Oropendola - *Zarhynchus angustifrons*: Fairly common at the Cerulean Warbler Reserve

Crested Oropendola - *Psarocolius decumanus*: Easy to see at middle elevations in the Santa Marta Mountains.

Yellow-rumped Cacique - *Cacicus cela*: 2 seen on the way to San Vicente.

Northern Mountain Cacique - *Cacicus leucoramphus*: We saw the *leucoramphus* form at Alto los Ventanas and Mundo nuevo. *Cacicus leucoramphus* is split from *C. chrysonotus* (Southern Mountain Cacique) (Jaramillo & Burke 1999; Ridgely & Greenfield 2001; Hilty 2003); The SACC says -The northern (*leucoramphus*) and southern (*chrysonotus*) groups of subspecies were treated as separate species by Blake (1968b), but most classifications have treated them as a single species (e.g., Hellmayr 1937, Meyer de Schauensee 1966, 1970, Ridgely & Tudor 1989, Fjeldså & Krabbe 1990; and usually as *Cacicus leucoramphus*, an error, because *chrysonotus* has priority) because specimens near the contact zone show some signs of gene flow (Hellmayr 1937, Bond 1953). However, see Jaramillo & Burke (1999) for possible reasons for ranking them as species; This was followed by Ridgely &

Greenfield (2001) and Hilty (2003) but not Restall (2007). So if you have seen Mountain Cacique in southern Peru or Bolivia – this is a different species now.

E Red-bellied Grackle – *Hypopyrrhus pyrohypogaster*: A total of 20 seen very well at RNA Arrierito- a very striking species and very localized. **ENDANGERED**

Orange-crowned Oriole - *Icterus auricapillus*: 1 seen near Camarones.

Yellow Oriole - *Icterus nigrogularis*: 10+ seen throughout the tour.

Yellow-backed Oriole - *Icterus chrysater*: An attractive bird with a beautiful song that we saw along the El Hato road.

Yellow-hooded Blackbird – *Chrysomus icterocephalus*: Common at Parque La Florida and near Puerto Pinzon.

Shiny Cowbird – *Molothrus bonariensis*: Common

Great-tailed Grackle - *Quiscalus mexicanus*: Fair numbers in the Santa Marta, Camerones area.

Carib Grackle – *Quiscalus lugubris*: Around 8 at our breakfast stop on the way to Santa Marta and a few on the Guajira peninsular – a species that is spreading its range in Colombia

Red-breasted Blackbird – *Sturnella militaris*: 10 near Puerto Pinzon and others on drives elsewhere.

Eastern Meadowlark - *Sturnella magna*: 2 near Mundo Nuevo.

COEREVIDAE (BANANAQUIT)

Bananaquit - *Coereba flaveola*: As usual, common and widespread.

EMBERIZIDAE (NEW WORLD SPARROWS)

E Yellow-throated Brush-Finch - *Atlapetes gutturalis*: A pretty bird seen at RNA Arrierito and Rio Blanco reserve. The SACC says- Paynter (1964) provided rationale for merging the *Atlapetes gutturalis* group into *A. albinucha* White-naped Brush-Finch; and this treatment was followed by Paynter (1970a), AOU (1998), and Dickinson (2003) but not by Restall (2007). The two certainly look very different but the IOC says Yellow-throated Brush Finch *Atlapetes gutturalis* intergrades and is conspecific with White-naped Brush Finch A. *albinucha*

Pale-naped Brush-Finch – *Atlapetes pallidinucha*: 2 seen at Mundo Nuevo and 2 more at the Nevado del Ruiz NP.

E Yellow-headed Brush-Finch – *Atlapetes flaviceps*: 4 seen in the early morning above Libano. An extremely localized endemic in real danger. Formerly (e.g., Meyer de Schauensee 1970, Hilty & Brown 1986, Dickinson 2003) known as "Olive-headed Brush-Finch". Called "Yellow-headed Brush-Finch" in BirdLife International (2000). SACC proposal passed to change English name to the latter because the historical name is inaccurate and misleading. **ENDANGERED**

E Santa Marta Brush-Finch – *Atlapetes melanocephalus*: 20 daily of this endemic, often in the lodge garden in the Santa Marta Mountains.

Moustached Brush-Finch - *Atlapetes albofrenatus*: 4 of this relatively arboreal species seen at RNA Hormiguero. We saw the *albofrenatus* race.

Slaty Brush-Finch – *Atlapetes schistaceus*: The nominate race was seen above Jardin. Also seen at the Rio Blanco reserve, and Mundo Nuevo.

Chestnut-capped Brush-Finch - *Arremonbrunneinucha*: At RNA Arrierito, Otun Quimbaya and Santa Marta mountains.

Stripe-headed Brush-Finch - *Arremon basilicus torquatus*: seen above Jardin (*assimilis*, without a black breast band), at the Rio Blanco reserve and in the Santa Marta mountains (*basilicus*, with a black breast band). Several species are maybe involved.

RR Black-headed Brush-Finch - *Arremons atricapillus*: 3 seen well at Libano.

Tanager Finch - *Oreothraupis arremonops*: a splendid view on this beautiful species, above Jardin !! **VULNERABLE**

Rufous-collared Sparrow - *Zonotrichia capensis*: Numerous at higher elevations.

Orange-billed Sparrow - *Arremon aurantirostris**: heard at El Paujil RNA.

Golden-winged Sparrow – *Arremon schlegeli*: 4 seen near Ocaña, and 1 more in the Minca area. A localized and pretty bird.

THRAUPIDAE (TANAGERS and ALLIES)

Black-faced Tanager - *Schistochlamys melanopis*: 1 at the feeders at the RNA Arrierrito.

White-capped Tanager - *Sericossypha albocristata*: a group heard at Mundo Nuevo, and 4 seen very close at the Rio Blanco reserve. What a spectacular bird!

Black-eared Hemispingus - *Hemispingus melanotis*: 2 at the Rio Blanco reserve.

Black-capped Hemispingus – *Hemispingus atropileus*: 1 at Alto las Ventanas and 2 more at the Rio Blanco reserve. Hemispingus is Greek and means half a spingus – a spingos being a Finch so referring to their small size.

Superciliaried Hemispingus – *Hemispingus superciliaris*: 5 seen at the Nevado del Ruiz NP.

Oleaginous Hemispingus - *Hemispingus frontalis*: Some at Otun Quimbaya and RNA Reinita in bamboo. Oleaginous means oily.

Grey-hooded Bush Tanager – *Cnemoscopus rubrirostris*: 4 of the nominate form that do have pink bills at Rio Blanco reserve. Note the southern form *chrysogaster* south of the Marañon River in Peru, which does not have a pink bill may be a separate species and, if so, would become a Peruvian endemic.

Grey-headed Tanager - *Eucometis penicillata*: 5 at Victoria (adults feeding chicks) and 4 near Minca. This species is often associated with ant swarms.

White-shouldered Tanager - *Tachyphonus luctuosus* : 1 at El Paujil in a mixed-species flock.

Crimson-backed Tanager - *Ramphocelus dimidiatus*: A widespread tanager of open and secondary habitats.

Lemon-rumped Tanager - *Ramphocelus icteronotus*: Common at the Cerulean Warbler reserve and RNA Arrierito. The SACC says: The taxon *icteronotus* was formerly (e.g., Hellmayr 1936, Meyer de Schauensee 1970) considered a separate species from *Ramphocelus flammigerus*, but intergradation between them in southwestern Colombia (Chapman 1917, Sibley 1958) led Storer (1970a) to consider them conspecific, and this treatment has been followed by most authors subsequently (e.g., Ridgely & Tudor 1989, Sibley & Monroe 1990), Restall (2007). However, as noted by Ridgely & Greenfield (2001), the differences between these two are comparable to those between two *Ramphocelus* taxa (*passerinii* and *costaricensis*) recently treated as separate species (Hackett 1996, AOU 1998). Restall 2007 agrees with the split as does the IOC.

E Flame-rumped Tanager - *Ramphocelus flammigerus*: At Otun Quimbaya in the garden. See the preceding species for the taxonomic status of this endemic.

Blue-gray Tanager - *Thraupis episcopus*: Numerous and widespread. The scientific name is derived from the 'episcopal blue' plumage.

Glaucous Tanager - *Thraupis glaucocolpa*: 5 along the road to Camerones. Limited range in Venezuela and Colombia

Palm Tanager - *Thraupis palmarum*: Common and widespread.

Blue-capped Tanager - *Thraupis cyanocephala*: 3 at the Rio Blanco reserve.

Hooded Mountain Tanager – *Buthraupis Montana*: Seen at Mundo Nuevo – a large showy Tanager

E Santa Marta Mountain-Tanager - *Anisognathus melanogenys*: Another handsome Santa Marta endemic which was fairly common but great to see!

Scarlet-bellied Mountain-Tanager – *Anisognathus igniventris*: Always a great bird – 5 seen at Mundo Nuevo.

Blue-winged Mountain-Tanager - *Anisognathus somptuosus*: At the Cerulean Warbler Reserve and the Piha Reserve.

Grass-green Tanager – *Chlorornis riefferii*: 2 at the Rio Blanco reserve.

Buff-breasted Mountain Tanager – *Dubusia taeniata*: Two of this undergrowth Tanager at Mundo Nuevo.

RR Purplish-mantled Tanager – *Iridosornis porphyrocephalus*. A near endemic creeping into NW Ecuador. At RNA Arrierito around 5 recorded. **NEAR THREATENED**

Fawn-breasted Tanager - *Pipraeidea melanonota*: 1 at Otun Quimbaya.

Golden Tanager - *Tangara arthus*: A stunning montane species that we saw at a number of sites.

Flame-faced Tanager – *Tangara parzudaki*: One at RNA Reinita.

Speckled Tanager – *Tangara guttata* – Several sighting of the *bogotensis* race at the Bushbird Reserve and at RNA Arrierito

Bay-headed Tanager - *Tangara gyrola*: Two distinctive races were seen of this one: the turquoise bellied *delecticia* in the Andes, and *toddi* in the Santa Marta Mountains, which is all grass green except for the bay head. The name ‘gyrola’ is derived from the Latin ‘gyros’, or ring, and refers to the golden nuchal collar present in most races of this species.

Burnished-buff Tanager – *Tangara cayana*: 1 at RNA Hormiguero.

Scrub Tanager - *Tangara vitriolina*: Another species which prefers second growth. One of the most numerous and widespread tanagers in Colombia’s valleys and on the adjacent slopes, but outside the country it is a localized speciality in northern Ecuador.

Metallic-green Tanager – *Tangara laboratorides*: 2 at Cerulean Warbler RNA. Named for the shining blue and green reflections in the colour of Labrador Stone

Blue-necked Tanager - *Tangara cyanicollis*: Common and widespread but nonetheless striking.

Golden-hooded Tanager – *Tangara larvata*: 2 seen at RNA Paujil

Beryl-spangled Tanager - *Tangara nigroviridis*: Common at RNA Cerulean Warbler.

Blue-and-black Tanager - *Tangara vassorii*: common at Rio Blanco reserve.

Black-capped Tanager - *Tangara heinei*: A few seen at various sites and quite common.

Black-headed Tanager - *Tangara cyanoptera*: few seen around Minca and at the Bushbird Reserve.

Swallow Tanager – *Tersina viridis*: At El Paujil and other locations

Yellow-tufted Dacnis – *Dacnis egregia*: 2 – a split from Black-faced Dacnis. The IOC says *Dacnis egregia* is split from *D.lineata* (Black-faced Dacnis) (Ridgely et al. 2001); The SACC says “Ridgely & Tudor (1989) pointed out the trans-Andean *egregia* group may deserve species rank. Ridgely et al. (2001) considered *egregia* a species separate from *lineata* - Black-faced Dacnis based on plumage differences and disjunct range. SACC proposal to recognize *Dacnis egregia* as a separate species did not pass because of insufficient published data.”

E Turquoise Dacnis - *Dacnis hartlaubi*: 1 male seen at the Cerulean Warbler Reserve, one of the very few localities from which this handsome species is known. The world population is estimated at 2,500 – 9,999 individuals and is decreasing. This species has a highly disjunct and poorly-understood range. It is very close to qualifying as endangered, because the known range is very small and presumably declining (with possibly some local extirpations) in response to continuing habitat loss. However, it has been recorded at more than five locations and exhibits some habitat tolerance. Named after Karl Hartlaub, German naturalist who wrote the Birds of Madagascar in 1877. **VULNERABLE**

Blue Dacnis - *Dacnis cayana*: at least 4 different birds during the trip.

Scarlet-browed Tanager - *Heterospingus xanthopygius*: 2 at the El Paujil RNA.

Yellow-backed Tanager – *Hemithraupis flavicollis*: 2 at RNA Paujil.

Hooded Tanager - *Nemosia pileata*: a pair on the way to Santa Marta.

White-eared Conebill – *Conirostrum leucogenys*: 2 at RNA Paujil near the accommodations and 2 along the El Hato road..

Capped Conebill - *Conirostrum albifrons*: 4 at the Rio Blanco reserve, belonging here to the white capped *centralandium* subspecies.

E Rufous-browed Conebill – *Conirostrum rufum*: One of the first birds of the trip at Mundo Nuevo – quite a little gem.

Rusty Flowerpiercer - *Diglossa sittoides*: 2 at middle elevation in the Santa Marta mountains.

Glossy Flowerpiercer – *Diglossa lafresnayi*: 5 at Mundo Nuevo and 1 at Alto las Ventanas.

Black Flowerpiercer – *Diglossa humeralis*: at Mundo Nuevo and at Parque La Florida.

White-sided Flowerpiercer - *Diglossa albilatera*: Perhaps the most common and widespread of the flowerpiercers. Here the nominate race.

RR Indigo Flowerpiercer – *Diglossa indigotica*: at least 3 different beautiful males at RNA Arrierito on the ridge top. Also occurs in Ecuador.

Bluish Flowerpiercer - *Diglossa caerulescens*: at Mundo Nuevo and Cerulean Warbler RNA.

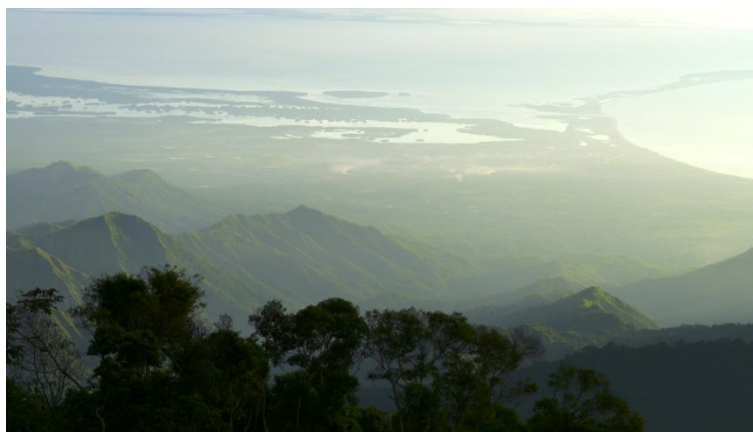
Masked Flowerpiercer – *Diglossa cyanea*: 15+ at Mundo Nuevo

Grey Pileated Finch – *Coryhospingus pileatus*: 4 on the Guajira peninsular.

Plumbeous Sierra Finch - *Phrygilus unicolor*: 2 at the Nevados del Ruiz NP road.

Band-tailed Seedeater - *Catamenia analis*: 2 at La Florida park.

Plain-colored Seedeater – *Catamenia inornata*: 4 along the Nevados del Ruiz park road



The Santa Marta Mountains and Isa Salamanca –Barry Walker

Paramo Seedeater - *Catamenia homochroa*: 2 along the Nevados del Ruiz park road.

Saffron Finch - *Sicalis flaveola*: Common

Blue-black Grassquit - *Volatinia jacarina*: Common.

Grey Seedeater - *Sporophila intermedia*: 2 along the Laguna El Hato road

Yellow-bellied Seedeater - *Sporophila nigricollis*

Ruddy-breasted Seedeater - *Sporophila minuta*: Seen only twice

Thick-billed Seed-Finch - *Oryzoborus funereus* – Seen at the El Paujil Reserve and at the Bushbird reserve. A spottily distributed species and not easy to see.

Large-billed Seed –Finch – *Oryzoborus carssirostris*: 2 at El Paujil and 1 above San Vicente.

Yellow-faced Grassquit - *Tiaris olivacea*: Small numbers here and there.

Black-faced Grassquit - *Tiaris bicolor*: 2 along El Hato road, and 2 more near Camarones.

Common Bush-Tanager - *Chlorospingus ophthalmicus*: 10+ at RNA Reinita. A species with a lot of geographical variation.

Yellow-throated Bush-Tanager – *Chlorospingus flavigularis*: 4 seen at RNA Arrierito.

Ashy-throated Bush-Tanager – *Chlorospingus canigularis*: 5 at Otun Quimbaya and 5 more at the Cerulean Warbler RNA.



Sooty Ant Tanager - ProAves

E Sooty Ant-Tanager - *Habia gutturalis*: A superb Nechí endemic. We saw 2 very well at Victoria and 2 more at RNA Paujil.. It has a restricted range within north-west Colombia, where it occurs in the upper Sinú valley at the north end of the West Andes, and east along the north base of the Andes to the middle Magdalena valley. Despite a report that it may benefit from forest destruction, it is now adjudged rare in (often streamside) undergrowth in tall secondary and patchy woodland at 100-1,100m. It is highly insectivorous, with pairs or small family groups following swarms of army ants or joining mixed-species flocks. Suitable habitat within its range is unprotected and relatively reduced. The middle and lower Magdalena valley has been extensively deforested since the 19th century (for agriculture), and clearance of its favored foothills has been near total since the 1950s.
NEAR THREATENED

Tooth-billed Tanager – *Piranga lutea*: The SACC says “Meyer de Schauensee (1966) and Ridgely & Tudor (1989) proposed that this species probably consists of two or three separate species; two occur in South America: nominate *flava* of southern and eastern South America, and the *lutea* group of the Andes region (and also Panama and Costa Rica). See Zimmer (1929) concerning earlier claims of sympatry between *flava* and *lutea*. <Burns (1998) > Ridgely & Greenfield (2001) treated the three groups as separate species. Haverschmidt and Mees (1994) treated the subspecies *haemalea* of the Tepuis as a separate species from *P. flava* based on habitat differences. Seen above San Vicente and near Ocaña.

Summer Tanager – *Piranga rubra*: seen twice, at Otun Quimbaya and Ocaña.

Rosy Thrush-Tanager – *Urotraupis stolzmanni*: A very cooperative bird near Minca !!

CARDINALIDAE (GROSBEAKS, SALTATORS)

Vermillion Cardinal – *Cardinalis phoeniculus*: A Guajira endemic and a smart bird. One pair seen.

Golden bellied Grosbeak – *Pheucticus chrysogaster*: Seen in the Santa Marta Mountains.

Buff-throated Saltator - *Saltator maximus*: Fairly common

Grayish Saltator – *Saltator coerulescens*: Common.

Black-winged Saltator - *Saltator atripennis*: 2 at the RNA Arrierrito and 1 seen very well at Otun Quimbaya. One of the nicer Saltators.

Orinocan Saltator – *Saltator orenocencis*: Several on the Guajira Peninsular.

Streaked Saltator - *Saltator striatipectus*: few sightings

Masked Saltator - *Saltator cinctus*: 2 seen at Rio Blanco reserve. A rare and local saltator. **NEAR-THREATENED**.

THE MAMMALS

South American Common Opposum - *Didelphis marsupialis*: 1 along the river, on te way to El Paujil RNA.

Lemurine Night Monkey - *Aotus lemurinus*: 3 seen at Otun Quimbaya.

White-fronted Capuchin - *Cebus albifrons*: seen and heard at El Paujil reserve.

Red Howler - *Alouatta seniculus*: a group of 5 at Otun Quimbaya, and another group at El Paujil RNA.

Variegated Spider Monkey - *Ateles hybridus**: heard only at El Paujil RNA.

Crab-eating Fox - *Cerdocyon thous*: 1 seen by day walking quietly towards us, at Otun Quimbaya.

Crab-eating Raccoon - *Procyon cancrivorus*: 1 seen very close, in the garden of the lodge at El Paujil RNA.

Tayra - *Eira barbara*: 1 seen by day on a trail in te El Paujil RNA

Jaguarundi - *Puma yagouaroundi*: 1 of the iron grey morph seen by day, crossing quietly the El Hato road !!

Red-tailed Squirrel - *Sciurus granatensis*: seen in the Santa Marta mountians.

Santander Dwarf Squirrel - *Microsciurus santanderensis*: seen at the Cerulean Warbler RNA.

Western Dwarf Squirrel - *Microsciurus mimulus*: 3 seen at Otun Quimbaya.

THE REPTILES

Green Iguana - *Iguana iguana* : few near Camarones.



White-mantled barbet - ProAves