



## **ECUADOR: THE NORTH TRIP REPORT OCTOBER 2015**

**By Eduardo Ormaeche**



Pale-mandibled Aracari (photo Charly Sax)

This was for sure one of the best birding trips I had the pleasure to guide in the last years. Everything was perfect! With a wonderful group of people we had excellent logistics that provided a smooth trip – including a whole bus for such a small group, amazing countryside lodges including my favorite birding lodges in Ecuador, excellent food, short distances to drive, private birding reserves, superb birding facilities including hummingbird feeders and antpitta feeding stations, and the great hospitality of the Ecuadorians; all this provided for a memorable holiday.

Northern Ecuador is a great destination for all kinds of birders. Beginning birders in the Neotropics would be amazed about the large number of colorful birds like tanagers, toucans, fruiteaters, hummingbirds, and cotingas, while more advanced birders would enjoy the hunt for secretive bird species like **Rufous-breasted Antthrush**, **Ocellated Tapaculo**, and a diverse set of forest skulkers, including an interesting set of near-endemic species

Our 15-day tour started in Quito, the Capital of Ecuador. As soon as we arrived at the new international airport we were transferred to the comfortable Garden Hotel San José Aeropuerto, only 15 minutes from the airport. We spent our first night there. The next day we had an early start, preceded only by a cup of coffee, before we left for the Yanacocha Reserve. This reserve belongs to the Jocotoco Conservation Foundation, an Ecuadorian NGO, and is part of their net of private land and reserves through the country that protect endangered bird habitats. The NGO is named after the Jocotoco Antpitta found in Southern Ecuador.

We enjoyed a tasty but short breakfast at the reserve, and as soon as we had finished we could not ignore all the bird activity around the main house. We started with **Cinereous Conebill**, **Tufted Tit-Tyrant**, **Streak-throated Bush Tyrant**, and **Tawny Antpitta**. The hummingbird feeders provided our first hummingbirds of the trip with amazing species such as **Sword-billed Hummingbird**, **Buff-winged Starfrontlet**, **Great Sapphirewing**, **Sapphire-vented Puffleg**, and **Tyrian Metaltail**.

Birding along the main road inside the reserve allowed us to have brief views of **Rufous Antpitta**, a nice party of **Rufous Wren**, **Andean Guan**, **Scarlet-bellied Mountain Tanager**, **Hooded Mountain Tanager**, **Pearled Treerunner**, **Blue-backed Conebill**, and **Superciliaried Hemispingus**. We had lunch at the reserve and then we continued our trip through the Old Nono-Mindo Road towards Bellavista Cloud Forest Reserve and Lodge.

On our way to the lodge we could admire the beautiful landscape with views of the upper Tandayapa Valley, but of course we also had more goodies to find, and we were absolutely rewarded with the fantastic **Plate-billed Mountain Toucan** as well as with **Sickle-winged Guan**, **Turquoise Jay**, **Band-tailed Pigeon**, and more. We arrived at Bellavista Lodge late in the afternoon, with enough light yet to enjoy **Buff-tailed Coronet** at the feeders.

The first thing the next morning was to check out the compost pile, where we had good views of **Sickle-winged Guan** and **White-throated Quail-Dove**. Unfortunately, **Ocellated Tapaculo** was not very cooperative this year, and only one participant and I managed to have a view of this enigmatic species along the Bellavista Lodge trails. Other bird species around the lodge included the amazing **Toucan Barbet**, **Blue-and-black Tanager**, **Beryl-spangled Tanager**, **Blue-winged Mountain Tanager**, **Masked Trogon**, **Russet-crowned Warbler**, **White-winged Brush Finch**, **Blue-capped Tanager**, **Grey-breasted Wood Wren**, **Green-and-black Fruiteater**, **Strong-billed Woodcreeper**, and many **Blackburnian Warblers**.

We also enjoyed great views of **Collared Inca**, **Gorgeted Sunangel**, and **Green Violetear** at the feeders. We found a **Common Potoo** roosting at daytime not far from the lodge, but perhaps the best bird was the range-restricted **Tanager Finch**. This species is tricky to find in Ecuador and is more reliable on our Colombia tour, but we were lucky enough to have brilliant views of this enigmatic bird. We spent two nights in Bellavista before we moved to the lower elevations at Septimo Paraiso Lodge, which was our next port of call, close to the town of Mindo.

Septimo Paraiso is a nice lodge and provides excellent facilities and many good birds as well. We used this lodge as a base to explore all the private reserves in the western lowlands, spending a total of four nights there. We arrived at the lodge in the afternoon, with a bit of rain, but we found shelter below the roof of the hummingbird feeder station and were absolutely overwhelmed with species such as **Empress Brilliant**, **White-necked Jacobin**, **Purple-bibbed Whitetip**, **Velvet-purple Coronet**, **Andean Emerald**, **Rufous-tailed Hummingbird**, **White-whiskered Hermit**, and others. At night we were lucky to have amazing close-up views of a pair of **Mottled Owl** in the lodge garden. Visiting the Angel Paz Antpitta Reserve the next day was considered a highlight by the entire group, so we went to bed with the promise of future excitement.

Angel Paz this year did not disappoint at all. We arrived at the reserve early in the morning and were lucky to start the day with **Yellow-breasted Antpitta** near the stream. After a short drive within the property we arrived at the **Andean Cock-of-the-rock** lek, where we were rewarded with views of several males displaying. Just after the lek show we saw a family group of **Dark-backed Wood Quails**. We then made a short, steep walk along a forest trail, when suddenly **Rufous-breasted Antthrush** crossed the trail a few meters in front of us and started to feed on worms. Having the opportunity not only to see this elusive skulker in good lights but also to be able to see its behavior was a real treat for me and everybody.

A few minutes later we found **Giant Antpitta** feeding on worms on one side of the trail. We were able to watch it for several minutes, even when it was chasing **Moustached Antpitta**, which was trying to approach the same spot to feed on the rest of the worms. This not being enough, we saw a fourth antpitta this morning at the same spot, the tiny **Ochre-breasted Antpitta**. We had breakfast at Angel Paz, watching the hummingbird feeders with mostly the same species as at Septimo Paraiso, but **Wedge-billed Hummingbird** was a nice addition.

In the afternoon we birded outside of Mindo, and we found a nice place by a bridge, where we had the chance to see the river and the forest around. The place was full of bird activity; we soon got **Sunbittern** and **White-capped Dipper** along the river! We also saw **White-edged Oriole**, **Scrub Blackbird**, **Golden-rumped Euphonia**, and the endemic **Pale-mandibled Aracari**, among others

The Rio Silanche Bird Sanctuary was the westernmost location we visited during this trip, and it involved a two-hour drive from the lodge. It is located at 350 meters above sea level. We got nice birds at this sanctuary, including views of **Ruddy Pigeon**, **Choco Trogon**, **Yellow-throated Toucan**, **Double-toothed Kite**, **Lineated Woodpecker**, **Orange-fronted Barbet**, **Bronze-winged Parrot**, **Orange-billed Sparrow**, **Bay-headed Tanager**, **Dusky-faced Tanager**, **Golden-naped Tanager**, **Rufous Motmot**, and **Pale-vented Pigeon**, as well as **Band-backed Wren**.

Other reserves we visited during our stay in the western lowlands included San Jorge de Milpe Orchid and Bird Reserve, where we failed to see **Club-winged Manakin**. Unfortunately, the bird was neither calling nor lekking near the trail anymore, and it was heard distantly only. But we saw **One-colored Becard, Broad-billed Motmot, Grey-and-gold Tanager, Pale-mandibled Aracari, Masked Tityra, Green Thorntail, Violet-tailed Sylph, Blue-lored Antbird, and Golden-headed Quetzal**.

This year we decided to also try Un poco del Chocó Nature Reserve (“A little of Choco”), which is a private reserve run by a young German biologist. This place became popular after the owners managed to feed the seldom-seen Banded Ground Cuckoo. The bird was seen well by many people during 2013, but unfortunately it is not coming regularly anymore. However, individuals are captured often on the video of the camera traps. We didn’t get the Banded Ground Cuckoo this time, but we were happy visiting the place and finding several good birds, including a **Grey-headed Kite** on a perch, a soaring **Barred Hawk**, the large **Choco Toucan**, the splendid **Rufous-throated Tanager**, the scarce **Purple-crowned Fairy, Bay Wren**, and fabulous views of a male **Golden-winged Manakin**.

After four nights it was hard to leave and say goodbye to Septimo Paraiso and its great hospitality. We spent the last morning birding in the Milpe area, and then we returned to Quito with a stop in the outskirts of the city. Once we reached the Quito area the habitat became typical dry Andean valley, which was an interesting change of habitat to see. Here we saw **Common Ground Dove, Black-tailed Trainbearer, Purple-collared Woodstar, Ash-breasted Sierra Finch, and Blue-and-yellow Tanager**. Not far from the hotel we managed to have great views of **Giant Hummingbird** and **Aplomado Falcon**, which was a nice surprise

The next day we went to the Antisana Ecological Reserve. This park protects high Andean habitat and the Antisana snow-capped volcano, one of the most important of Ecuador, whose peak reaches 5753 meters above sea level. Its Andean lakes are an important source of freshwater for the city of Quito. Here we finally had our encounter with the king of the Andes, the mighty **Andean Condor**, the largest flying land bird in the world with a wingspan of 3.5 meters, only surpassed by the Wandering Albatross with a 3.7-meter wingspan. Admired and worshiped by the Incas and other pre-Hispanic civilizations, today it is the national bird of Ecuador, Colombia, Chile, and Bolivia. However, the species is listed as near-threatened and is declining in Ecuador, with only 60 – 120 birds in the whole country. Perhaps the biggest population is at Antisana, with 10 – 11 birds. We saw at least four birds soaring above the Andes.

We also found other good birds here, like the near-endemic **Carunculated Caracara, Paramo Ground Tyrant, Paramo Pipit, Plumbeous Sierra Finch, Andean Tit-Spinetail, Blue-mantled Thornbill**, and the near-endemic **Ecuadorian Hillstar**. We also had nice scope views of **Andean Duck, Andean Coot, Yellow-billed Pintail, Andean Lapwing, Andean Gull, and Silvery Grebe**.

From Antisana we had a long drive to Cabañas San Isidro, and after some tricky parking at the lodge entrance we had enough time to see the hummingbird feeders with nice views of **Bronzy Inca, Chestnut-breasted Coronet, Collared Inca, Gorgeted Sunangel, Fawn-breasted Brilliant, and Long-tailed Sylph**.



The next morning, however, was productive only during the first few hours. We had a great start with **White-bellied Antpitta** at the feeder station, but, sadly, Chestnut-crowned Antpitta was not coming this year. Then we had a mixed flock with **White-banded**, **White-tailed**, and **Sulphur-bellied Tyrannulets**, **Olive-backed** and **Montane Foliage-gleaners**, **Black-billed Peppershrike**, **Tropical Parula**, **Blackburnian Warbler**, **Beryl-spangled** and **Saffron-crowned Tanagers**, **Mountain Wren**, and others. In the bamboo patch across the lodge we saw **Handsome Flycatcher**, **Streak-headed Antbird**, **Azara's Spinetail**, and **Black-eared Hemispingus**. Other resident birds in the garden were **Subtropical Cacique**, **Inca Jay**, **Glossy-black Thrush**, **Pale-edged Flycatcher**, and also a few **Swainson's Thrushes**. By noon there was no activity at all anymore, and at about 4:00 p.m. we had a storm, followed by rain all night long, which spoiled our plans for night birding.

After a last morning birding in the area we left the lodge and moved towards Wildsumaco Lodge. We passed by the Cordillera de los Guacamayos ridge, but even though we stopped there we decided not to explore the trail this time due to the bad condition of the trail after the rain. Walking down and up that steep and rocky trail could be risky for some people, so we didn't take the chance, although probably missing some juicy birds.

We stopped at a nice spot along the Loreto Road to eat our packed lunches. We were lucky to get **Cliff Flycatcher**, **Violaceous Jay**, **Swallow-tailed Kite**, and **Crested** and **Russet-backed Oropendolas**. Once on the road to Wildsumaco in the eastern foothills we found **Golden-collared Toucanet** and a fruiting tree full of birds, including **Fiery-throated Fruiteater**, **Red-headed Barbet**, and **Paradise**, **Golden**, **Bay-headed**, **Green-and-gold**, **Blue-necked**, **Spotted**, and **Orange-eared Tanagers**, all almost at eye level and all passing very quickly.

We arrived at the lodge and had time to get cups of coffee and enjoy the stunning view from the lodge's balcony, with sightings of **Chestnut-fronted Macaw** and a few new species of hummingbirds for the trip, such as **Many-spotted Hummingbird**, **Golden-tailed Sapphire**, and many **Sparkling Violetears**. This month, however, is not the most diverse for hummingbirds on the feeders in this fantastic place. But the verbena flowers around the cabins were good for both **Booted Racket-tail** and **Wire-crested Thorntail**, the latter seen only twice.

During the next two and a half days we had time to combine the best this great lodge has to offer: We explored the magnificent forest trails of Wildsumaco in search of understory species and forest flocks, we walked along the road looking for mixed flocks and some undergrowth specialists, we visited forest hummingbird feeder stations, and we enjoyed the balcony. We had a fine selection of birds, including **Plain-backed Antpitta**, **Spotted Nightingale-Thrush**, **Black-streaked Puffbird**, **Chestnut-tipped Toucanet**, **Many-banded Aracari**, **Military Macaw**, **White-backed Fire-eye**, **Lined Antshrike**, **Plain-winged Antwren**, **Yellow-breasted Antwren**, **Plain Antvireo**, **Blackish Antbird**, **Ecuadorian Tyrannulet**, **Foothill Elaenia**, **Blue-rumped** and **White-crowned Manakins**, **Olivaceous Greenlet**, **Slaty-capped Shrike-Vireo**, **Ecuadorian Piedtail**, **Coppery-chested Jacamar**, and many others. Owling provided great views of **Band-bellied Owl**, **Rufescent Screech Owl**, and **Napo Screech Owl**.

We left Wildsumaco after three nights and returned to San Isidro. On the last morning we explored the lowest parts of the Sumaco road, finding **Plumbeous Pigeon**, **Olivaceous Siskin**, **Roadside Hawk**, **Long-tailed Tyrant**, **Thrush-like Wren**, **Large-headed Flatbill**,

and **Southern Rough-winged Swallow**, and we tried hard for a **Striolated Puffbird**, which didn't approach close enough to see it at all.

Back to San Isidro we tried for Andean Potoo at its regular spot, but unfortunately it didn't show up either. However, we were rewarded with fantastic views of the "**San Isidro Owl**". This enigmatic bird, which has been known for many years but has not been definitely identified and is not recognized by any authority, looks like an intermediate between Black-and-white Owl and Black-banded Owl. But nothing is certain yet, and further studies on taxonomy, DNA, and vocalization might reveal more data on this unknown bird.

The last day of the trip came, and we tried to maximize the morning as much as possible. We went to the Papallacta Pass and were lucky with the weather, because no matter what time of year it is the weather can be bad at this location, with thick fog and rain and cold wind. We looked for some species in the forest around the Termas de Papallacta hotel. Here we saw **Red-crested Cotinga**, **Superciliaried Hemispingus**, **Agile Tit-Tyrant**, **Blue-backed Conebill**, **Shining Sunbeam**, **Tawny Antpitta**, and others.

After two hours we left the forest and drove up the mountain to look for **Rufous-bellied Seedsnipe**. The subspecies *latreillii* here might be a different species, sometimes called "Ecuadorian Seedsnipe". It was high and a bit chilly up there, but as soon as we descended from the vehicle I spotted a seedsnipe in the bog not far from the road. Unfortunately, it flew away before everybody was able to see it. However, we persisted and found a second bird along the first meters of the trail that goes beyond the antennas up here.

Everybody was happy, and with **Many-striped Canastero** as the last new bird of the tour we returned to Quito. We said goodbye, and two participants and I flew back that afternoon, while three others stayed in Quito for one more night. This was a highly memorable trip, one I hope I can guide again. Northern Ecuador is perhaps the best birding destination of the tropical Andes. This trip could easily be combined with a week in the Amazon lowlands or even on the Galapagos Islands.

## DETAILED ITINERARY

### Day 1, October 15

Arrival in Quito. Transfer to and overnight at Garden Hotel San José

### Day 2, October 16

Transfer to Yanacocha Reserve. Birding Old Nono-Mindo Road. Overnight Bellavista Lodge

### Day 3, October 17

Birding around Bellavista Lodge. Overnight Bellavista Lodge

### Day 4, October 18

Birding the road between Bellavista Lodge and Septimo Paraiso. Overnight Septimo Paraiso Lodge

### Day 5, October 19

Birding at Angel Paz in the morning and explore the surroundings of Mindo in the afternoon, including the feeders at El Refugio in Mindo. Overnight Septimo Paraiso Lodge

### Day 6, October 20

Birding the Silanche Reserve in the morning and Milpe Reserve in the afternoon. Overnight Septimo Paraiso Lodge

### Day 7, October 21

Birding Un poco de Chocó Reserve. Overnight Septimo Paraiso Lodge

**Day 8, October 22**

Birding Milpe Reserve in the morning and transfer to Quito. Overnight Garden Hotel San José

**Day 9, October 23**

Explore Antisana Ecological Reserve and transfer to Cabañas San Isidro. Overnight Cabañas San Isidro

**Day 10, October 24**

Full day at Cabañas San Isidro. Overnight Cabañas San Isidro

**Day 11, October 25**

Birding Cabañas San Isidro and transfer to Wildsumaco Lodge. Overnight Wildsumaco Lodge

**Day 12, October 26**

Full day at Wildsumaco Lodge. Overnight Wildsumaco Lodge

**Day 13, October 27**

Full day at Wildsumaco Lodge. Overnight Wildsumaco Lodge

**Day 14, October 28**

Last morning birding around Wildsumaco Lodge and transfer to Cabañas San Isidro. Overnight Cabañas San Isidro

**Day 15, October 29**

Explore the Papallacta Pass and transfer to Quito to connect to international flights

**WE RECORDED 435 SPECIES OF BIRDS INCLUDING 50 HUMMINGBIRDS**

**ECUADOR SYSTEMATIC LIST, October 2015**

Taxonomy: IOC, International Ornithological Congress, 5.4

Abbreviations:

(H) Heard only

(E) Country endemic

**TINAMIFORMES**

**Tinamidae**

**Little Tinamou (H) *Crypturellus soui*** This species was heard in the vicinity of the Silanche Reserve and also in the eastern lowlands.

**ANSERIFORMES**

**Anatidae**

**Torrent Duck *Merganetta armata*** Great views of a male in Cosanga. The female was seen only by the leader. Here the northern subspecies *colombiana*

**Yellow-billed Pintail *Anas georgica*** Two birds were seen at Antisana Ecological Reserve.

**Andean Teal *Anas andium*** Seen at Lake Papallacta

**Andean Duck *Oxyura ferruginea*** Seen at Antisana Ecological Reserve

**GALLIFORMES**

**Cracidae**

**Speckled Chachalaca *Ortalis guttata*** Seen around Wildsumaco Lodge

**Andean Guan *Penelope montagnii*** Seen at Bellavista Lodge.

**Sickle-winged Guan *Chamaepetes goudotii*** Seen along the Old Nono-Mindo Road and at the Bellavista Lodge compost

**Wattled Guan *Aburria aburri*** Seen only by the leader during the Andean Potoo search. The species is listed as near-threatened.

**Odontophoridae**

**Dark-backed Wood Quail** *Odontophorus melanonotus* Amazing views of this secretive species at Angel Paz. The species is listed as vulnerable.

**Rufous-breasted Wood Quail (H)** *Odontophorus speciosus* Heard only at Wildsumaco Lodge. The species is listed as near-threatened.

**Rufous-fronted Wood Quail (H)** *Odontophorus erythrops* Heard distantly at Un poco de Chocó Nature Reserve

**PODICIPEDIFORMES****Podicipedidae**

**Silvery Grebe** *Podiceps occipitalis* Seen well at Antisana Ecological Reserve

**PELECANIFORMES****Ardeidae**

**Western Cattle Egret** *Bubulcus ibis* A few throughout the trip

**Snowy Egret** *Egretta thula* A few throughout the trip

**SULIFORMES****Phalacrocoracidae**

**Neotropic Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax brasilianus* One bird seen at Antisana Ecological Reserve

**ACCIPITRIFORMES****Cathartidae**

**Black Vulture** *Coragyps atratus* Common

**Turkey Vulture** *Cathartes aura* Common

**Andean Condor** *Vultur gryphus* We saw at least four different individuals at Antisana Ecological Reserve. This is the national bird of Ecuador, Colombia, Bolivia, and Chile. The species is listed as near-threatened.

**Accipitridae**

**Swallow-tailed Kite** *Elanoides forficatus* Beautiful views of this handsome raptor along the Loreto Road

**Double-toothed Kite** *Harpagus bidentatus* Excellent views of one individual from the tower at Silanche

**Grey-headed Kite** *Leptodon cayanensis* Scope views of one individual at Un poco de Chocó Nature Reserve

**Plain-breasted Hawk** *Accipiter ventralis* Seen well on the west slope of the Andes

**Roadside Hawk** *Rupornis magnirostris* Several sightings throughout the trip

**Barred Hawk** *Morphnarchus princeps* Only one encounter with this raptor on the west slope of the Andes at Un poco de Chocó Nature Reserve

**Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle** *Geranoaetus melanoleucus* Great views of three birds at Antisana Ecological Reserve

**Broad-winged Hawk** *Buteo platypterus* Seen on the west slope of the Andes

**White-rumped Hawk** *Parabuteo leucorrhous* Two birds were seen at Un poco de Chocó Nature Reserve.

**Black Hawk Eagle (H)** *Spizaetus tyrannus* Heard distantly at Un poco de Chocó Nature Reserve

**GRUIFORMES****Eurypygidae**

**Sunbittern** *Eurypygia helias* Seen near Mindo





Sunbittern (photo Oz Horine)

### Rallidae

**Blackish Rail** *Pardirallus nigricans* Excellent views of two individuals in the marsh near Wildsumaco Lodge

**Andean Coot** *Fulica ardesiaca* Seen at Antisana Ecological Reserve

### **CHARADRIIFORMES**

#### Charadriidae

**Andean Lapwing** *Vanellus resplendens* Excellent views at Antisana Ecological Reserve

#### Thinocoridae

**Rufous-bellied Seedsnipe** *Attagis gayi* Seen at Papallacta

#### Scolopacidae

**Spotted Sandpiper** *Actitis macularius* At least six different individuals along the river in Cosanga

### Laridae

**Andean Gull** *Chroicocephalus serranus* Seen at Antisana Ecological Reserve

### **COLUMBIFORMES**

#### Columbidae

**Rock Pigeon** *Columba livia* Common

**Pale-vented Pigeon** *Patagioenas cayennensis* One seen well at Silanche

**Band-tailed Pigeon** *Patagioenas fasciata* Seen along the Old Nono-Mindo road and at Bellavista Lodge

**Plumbeous Pigeon** *Patagioenas plumbea* Excellent views of two individuals on the Wildsumaco Lodge road

**Ruddy Pigeon** *Patagioenas subvinacea* Seen well at Silanche

**Eared Dove** *Zenaida auriculata* Common around Quito

**Common Ground Dove** *Columbina passerina* Two birds were seen very well in the outskirts of Quito.

**Black-winged Ground Dove** *Metriopelia melanoptera* Seen at Antisana Ecological Reserve

**Pallid Dove (H)** *Leptotila pallida* Heard at Silanche

**White-tipped Dove** *Leptotila verreauxi* Seen well in the Bellavista area

**White-throated Quail-Dove** *Zentrygon frenata* Excellent views near the compost at Bellavista Lodge

## CUCULIFORMES

### Cuculidae

**Smooth-billed Ani** *Crotophaga ani* Several sightings throughout the trip

**Squirrel Cuckoo** *Piaya cayana* Seen well on the west and east slopes of the Andes

## STRIGIFORMES

### Strigidae

**Rufescent Screech Owl** *Megascops ingens* Excellent views along the F.A.C.E trail in Wildsumaco

**Napo Screech Owl** *Megascops napensis* Super views at Wildsumaco

**Tropical Screech Owl** *Megascops choliba* Seen well near Wildsumaco Lodge

**Rufous-banded Owl (H)** *Strix albitarsis* Heard distantly at Bellavista and San Isidro

**Mottled Owl** *Strix virgata* Super views in the Septimo Paraiso Lodge garden

**“San Isidro Owl”** *Strix undescribed species or subspecies* Amazing views of one individual on the Cabaña San Isidro grounds

**Band-bellied Owl** *Pulsatrix melanota* It took some time, but we managed to have good views of one bird in the garden of Wildsumaco Lodge.

**Cloudforest Pygmy Owl (H)** *Glaucidium nubicola* Despite our efforts we could not get this bird this year. Heard at Un poco de Chocó Nature Reserve. The species is listed as vulnerable.

**Andean Pygmy Owl (H)** *Glaucidium jardinii* This owl was heard distantly at Yanacocha Reserve.

## CAPRIMULGIFORMES

### Steatornithidae

**Oilbird** *Steatornis caripensis* One seen in flight above Cabaña San Isidro

### Nyctibiidae

**Common Potoo** *Nyctibius griseus* One individual seen roosting at day time not far from Bellavista Lodge and another heard before dawn at Septimo Paraiso Lodge

### Caprimulgidae

**Rufous-bellied Nighthawk** *Lurocalis rufiventris* Seen around Cabaña San Isidro before dawn

**Lyre-tailed Nightjar** *Uropsalis lyra* One of the best birds of the trip. The fantastic male was seen close and well near Mindo.

**Pauraque** *Nyctidromus albigollis* Seen well in Wildsumaco

## APODIFORMES

### Apodidae

**Chestnut-collared Swift** *Streptoprocne rutila* Seen in Wildsumaco

**White-collared Swift** *Streptoprocne zonaris* Seen several times during the trip. This is the largest swift in Ecuador.

**Grey-rumped Swift** *Chaetura cinereiventris* A couple of sightings on the west slope

### Trochilidae

**White-whiskered Hermit** *Phaethornis yaruqui* Seen very well in the west and at Septimo Paraiso Lodge

**Green Hermit** *Phaethornis guy* Seen at Wildsumaco

**Tawny-bellied Hermit** *Phaethornis syrmatorphus* Seen in the Tandayapa Valley

**White-necked Jacobin** *Florisuga mellivora* Seen very well at Septimo Paraiso

**Sparkling Violetear** *Colibri coruscans* The classic bully of the Andes and foothills, especially aggressive and abundant this year at Wildsumaco

**Green Violetear** *Colibri thalassinus* Seen at Bellavista

**Brown Violetear** *Colibri delphinae* Seen on the west and east slopes. Good views in Septimo Paraiso and at the Wildsumaco Lodge feeders

**Violet-headed Hummingbird** *Klais guimeti* Particularly absent and shy this year. Only one of the participants and I managed to have just a glimpse of one individual feeding by the side of the road at Wildsumaco.

**Wire-crested Thorntail** *Discosura popelairii* It took a while, but at the end we managed to have a nice view of the lovely male on the Wildsumaco feeders. We saw the tiny female as well. The species is listed as near-threatened.

**Green Thorntail** *Discosura conversii* Nice views of one bird in Milpe while having our lunch

**Fork-tailed Woodnymph** *Thalurania furcata* Seen at Wildsumaco

**Crowned Woodnymph** *Thalurania colombica* Common in the west

**Golden-tailed Sapphire** *Chrysuronia oenone* Seen at Wildsumaco

**Many-spotted Hummingbird** *Taphrospilus hypostictus* Excellent views at Wildsumaco

**Andean Emerald** *Amazilia franciae* Seen at Bellavista Lodge and Septimo Paraiso

**Rufous-tailed Hummingbird** *Amazilia tzacatl* Common in the west

**Speckled Hummingbird** *Adelomyia melanogenys* Seen at both the west and east slopes of the Andes

**Ecuadorian Piedtail** *Phlogophilus hemileucurus* Two excellent encounters at Wildsumaco with this always tricky-to-see hummingbird. The species is listed as vulnerable.

**Gould's Jewelfront** *Heliodoxa aurescens* We had just an incredible single sighting of this handsome species at the Wildsumaco feeders.

**Empress Brilliant** *Heliodoxa imperatrix* Great views at Septimo Paraiso

**Green-crowned Brilliant** *Heliodoxa jacula*

**Fawn-breasted Brilliant** *Heliodoxa rubinoides* Excellent views at Cabañas San Isidro

**Black-throated Brilliant** *Heliodoxa schreibersii* Seen well at Wildsumaco

**Violet-fronted Brilliant** *Heliodoxa leadbeateri* One seen briefly by some in the forest feeders at Wildsumaco

**Buff-tailed Coronet** *Boissonneaua flavescens* Common at the Bellavista Lodge feeders

**Chestnut-breasted Coronet** *Boissonneaua matthewsii* Common at the San Isidro feeders

**Velvet-purple Coronet** *Boissonneaua jardini* Cracker views of this hummingbird at the Septimo Paraiso feeders

**Shining Sunbeam** *Aglaeactis cupripennis* Seen at Yanacocha and at Papallacta

**Ecuadorian Hillstar** *Oreotrochilus chimborazo* Great views of the female at Antisana Ecological Reserve. A near-endemic, found in Southern Colombia as well

**Bronzy Inca** *Coeligena coeligena* Great views at the Cabañas San Isidro feeders

**Brown Inca** *Coeligena wilsoni* This Choco endemic was seen nicely at the Septimo Paraiso Lodge feeders.

**Collared Inca** *Coeligena torquata* Excellent views of the western subspecies *fulgidigula* at Bellavista and then the more blackish nominate subspecies at Cabañas San Isidro

**Buff-winged Starfrontlet** *Coeligena lutetiae* Great views of males and females at the Yanacocha feeders

**Giant Hummingbird** *Patagona gigas* The largest hummingbird in the world was seen in the outskirts of Quito after some search. We got amazing views of this most-wanted species.



**Great Sapphirewing** *Pterophanes cyanopterus* This enormous hummingbird, actually the second largest after the Giant Hummingbird, was seen very well in the feeders at Yanacocha, where we got good studies of male and female. There are very few places where you can see this species on a feeder. El Nevado Ruiz National Park in Colombia is another great place to see high Andean elevation species on feeders.

**Sword-billed Hummingbird** *Ensifera ensifera* What an amazing species! This most-wanted bird for those who come to the Andes for the first time was seen very well at the Yanacocha Reserve feeders. This true cloudforest species has specialized on feeding on tubular *Datura* flowers.

**Gorgeted Sunangel** *Heliangelus strophianus* Great views of this near-endemic species in the gardens of Bellavista Lodge

**Sapphire-vented Puffleg** *Eriocnemis luciani* Seen well at the feeders of the Yanacocha Reserve

**Purple-bibbed Whitetip** *Urosticte benjamini* Excellent views at the Septimo Paraiso feeders

**Booted Racket-tail** *Ocreatus underwoodii* Great views of the western white-legged subspecies *melanantherus* at Septimo Paraiso Lodge and the rufous-legged eastern subspecies *peruanus* at Wildsumaco



Booted Racket-tail

**Black-tailed Trainbearer** *Lesbia victoriae* Seen well in the outskirts of Quito

**Tyrian Metaltail** *Metallura tyrianthina* Seen at Yanacocha and Papallacta. Here the subspecies *quitensis*. Named for the port of Tyre, today in Lebanon. The city of Tyre was particularly known for the production of a rare and extraordinarily expensive sort of purple dye, produced from a murex shellfish, known as Tyrian purple. This color was, in many cultures of ancient times, reserved for the use of royalty. The type specimen of Tyrian Metaltail has a purple tail, hence the name.



**Blue-mantled Thornbill** *Chalcostigma stanleyi* Brief views at both Antisana Ecological Reserve and Papallacta

**Long-tailed Sylph** *Agelaiocercus kingii* Great views at Cabañas San Isidro

**Violet-tailed Sylph** *Agelaiocercus coelestis* Great views at Septimo Paraiso Lodge

**Wedge-billed Hummingbird** *Schistes geoffroyi* Only one seen at the Angel Paz feeders

**Purple-crowned Fairy** *Heliothryx barroti* A nice encounter of one male at the Un poco de Chocó Nature Reserve

**Purple-throated Woodstar** *Calliphlox mitchellii* Seen in the west

**Purple-collared Woodstar** *Myrtis fanny* A few females were seen in the outskirts of Quito.

**White-bellied Woodstar** *Chaetocercus mulsant* Only a couple of sightings

**Gorgeted Woodstar** *Chaetocercus heliodor* A female was seen at Cabañas San Isidro

## TROGONIFORMES

### Trogonidae

**Golden-headed Quetzal** *Pharomachrus auriceps* One of our participants spotted the first bird in the Milpe Reserve and then another was seen by the whole group at Un poco de Chocó Nature Reserve.

**Crested Quetzal (H)** *Pharomachrus antisianus* Heard on the west slope, but no cigar.

**White-tailed Trogon** *Trogon chionurus* Erroneously called Green-backed Trogon. This confusion was due to all of last year's taxonomic changes and updates. The population in the west belongs to this species, while Green-backed Trogon, *Trogon viridis*, is found in the eastern lowlands and the Amazon. The two were split.

**Choco Trogon** *Trogon comptus* Good views of this Choco endemic at Silanche

**Collared Trogon** *Trogon collaris* Great views at Wildsumaco

**Masked Trogon** *Trogon personatus* Great views of one bird of the western subspecies *assimilis* at Bellavista and then we saw the nominate subspecies at Cabañas San Isidro.

## CORACIIFORMES

### Momotidae

**Andean Motmot** *Momotus aequatorialis* Great views in Cosanga and at Cabañas San Isidro

**Rufous Motmot** *Baryphthengus martii* Seen in the Milpe Reserve

**Broad-billed Motmot** *Electron platyrhynchum* Seen at Silanche

## PICIFORMES

### Galbulidae

**Rufous-tailed Jacamar** *Galbula ruficauda* Excellent views at Silanche

**Coppery-chested Jacamar** *Galbula pastazae* Beautiful views along the Wildsumaco road. The species is listed as vulnerable.

### Bucconidae

**Black-streaked Puffbird** *Malacoptila fulvicularis* Fantastic views at two different times of this secretive foothill species

**Striolated Puffbird (H)** *Nystalus striolatus* Despite all our efforts we could not localize this subcanopy species in Wildsumaco. We attracted a bird from the distance but it did not get close enough to be seen at all.

### Capitonidae

**Gilded Barbet** *Capito auratus* Great views at Wildsumaco

**Orange-fronted Barbet** *Capito squamatus* This Choco endemic was seen very well at Silanche. The species is listed as near-threatened.

**Red-headed Barbet** *Eubucco bourcierii* Splendid views on the west slope and at Wildsumaco

### Semnornithidae

**Toucan Barbet** *Semnornis ramphastinus* Great views at Bellavista for two consecutive days. The species is listed as near-threatened.



Toucan Barbet (photo Charly Sax)

### **Ramphastidae**

**Chestnut-tipped Toucanet** *Aulacorhynchus derbianus* One bird was seen with some difficulty along the Wildsumaco trails.

**Crimson-rumped Toucanet** *Aulacorhynchus haematopygus* Seen at Angel Paz

**White-throated Toucanet** *Aulacorhynchus albivitta* We had only one encounter with this bird at Cabañas San Isidro. There are seven new species as the result of the recent split of Emerald Toucanet *Aulacorhynchus prasinus*:

*Aulacorhynchus wagleri* **Wagler's Toucanet** Endemic to south-western Mexico

*Aulacorhynchus prasinus* **Emerald Toucanet** Found from southern Mexico to Nicaragua. Includes the subspecies *warneri*, *virescens*, *stenorhabdus*, *chiapensis*, and *volcanius*

*Aulacorhynchus caeruleogularis* **Blue-throated Toucanet** Found from Costa Rica to western Panama. Includes the subspecies *maxillaris*

*Aulacorhynchus cognatus* **Violet-throated Toucanet** Found in eastern Panama and adjacent far north-western Colombia

*Aulacorhynchus lautus* **Santa Marta Toucanet** Endemic to the Santa Marta Mountains in northern Colombia

*Aulacorhynchus albivitta* **White-throated Toucanet** Found in the Andes from western Venezuela through Colombia to northern Ecuador. Includes the subspecies *griseigularis* and *phaeolaemus*

*Aulacorhynchus atrogularis* **Black-throated Toucanet** Found from southern Ecuador through Peru, far western Brazil (in the state of Acre), to central Bolivia. Includes the subspecies *dimidiatus* and *cyanolaemus*

**Golden-collared Toucanet** *Selenidera reinwardtii* Great scope views on the Wildsumaco road. We also enjoyed views of one pair in front of the lodge balcony. Fantastic!

**Pale-mandibled Aracari (E)** *Pteroglossus erythropygius* Seen well at Silanche

**Many-banded Aracari** *Pteroglossus pluricinctus* One pair seen well in front of the Wildsumaco Lodge balcony

**Chestnut-eared Aracari** *Pteroglossus castanotis* A few around Wildsumaco Lodge. Aracari comes from the Tupi Indian (Brazilian) name arasari for a small toucan (the Portuguese spelling is araçari).

**Plate-billed Mountain Toucan** *Andigena laminirostris* One of the birds of the trip. We managed to see at least eight different birds in total during our two days around Bellavista and the Old Nono-Mindo road. The species is listed as near-threatened.

**Choco Toucan** *Ramphastos brevis* This Choco endemic was seen nicely along the road at Un poco de Chocó Nature Reserve.

**Yellow-throated Toucan** *Ramphastos ambiguus* Seen at Silanche and fantastic views of one bird at Wildsumaco. The species is listed as near-threatened.

### Picidae

**Lafresnaye's Piculet** *Picumnus lafresnayi* Seen at Wildsumaco. Named after the French ornithologist Baron Noël Frédéric Armand André de La Fresnaye (1783-1861)

**Yellow-tufted Woodpecker** *Melanerpes cruentatus* Seen along the Wildsumaco road

**Golden-olive Woodpecker** *Colaptes rubiginosus* Seen around Bellavista

**Little Woodpecker** *Veniliornis passerinus* Seen in a mixed flock at Wildsumaco

**Smoky-brown Woodpecker** *Picoides fumigatus* Nice view of a pair at Wildsumaco

**Crimson-mantled Woodpecker** *Colaptes rivolii* Seen near Bellavista Lodge and at Cabañas San Isidro

**Lineated Woodpecker** *Dryocopus lineatus* Seen at Silanche

**Powerful Woodpecker (H)** *Campephilus pollens* Heard only near Bellavista Lodge

### Falconidae

**Carunculated Caracara** *Phalcoboenus carunculatus* Excellent views at Antisana Ecological Reserve. This near-endemic species occurs in Ecuador and SW Colombia. The name comes from caruncle, a fleshy outgrowth sometimes on the head of certain birds, such as a fowl's comb.



Carunculated Caracara (photo Charly Sax)



**Collared Forest Falcon *Micrastur semitorquatus*** Seen briefly by some of the participants (including our driver) around the parking zone of Cabañas San Isidro. We heard it every day during our stay there.

**Buckley's Forest Falcon (H) *Micrastur buckleyi*** Heard only around Wildsumaco. Named after Charles Buckley, a 19<sup>th</sup> century US entomologist and collector in Bolivia in 1874 and Ecuador in 1878

**Bat Falcon *Falco ruficularis*** Seen only by me and one participant at Wildsumaco

**American Kestrel *Falco sparverius*** Seen in the outskirts around Quito

**Apomado Falcon *Falco femoralis*** A nice surprise of one bird seen in the outskirts of Quito near the Hotel San José

## PSITTACIFORMES

### Psittacidae

**Military Macaw *Ara militaris*** A flock was seen distantly from the Wildsumaco Lodge, but the excellent light conditions allowed us to see the colors very well. The species is listed as vulnerable.

**Chestnut-fronted Macaw *Ara severus*** Great views of one pair in the Wildsumaco area

**Maroon-tailed Parakeet *Pyrrhura melanura*** We saw the *pacificus* subspecies in the west at Silanche, and then the nominate subspecies was seen at Wildsumaco.

**Spot-winged Parrotlet *Touit stictopterus*** A flock of this seldom-seen parrot was seen flying by near Wildsumaco. The species is listed as vulnerable.

**Blue-headed Parrot *Pionus menstruus*** Seen around Wildsumaco

**Red-billed Parrot *Pionus sordidus*** We saw several flocks on the west slope of the Andes.

**White-capped Parrot *Pionus seniloides*** Seen in the Cabañas San Isidro garden on our last day there

**Bronze-winged Parrot *Pionus chalcopterus*** Great views on the west slope, including Silanche and Milpe Reserves

## PASSERIFORMES

### Furnariidae

**Stout-billed Cinclodes *Cinclodes excelsior*** Seen well at Antisana Ecological Reserve

**Chestnut-winged Cinclodes *Cinclodes albidiventris*** Seen very well at Antisana Ecological Reserve and at Papallacta. This is a split from Bar-winged Cinclodes *Cinclodes fuscus*. The current English name for *Cinclodes fuscus* is Buff-winged Cinclodes. There are three new species as the result of the recent split of *Cinclodes fuscus*

***Cinclodes albidiventris* Chestnut-winged Cinclodes** Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, and Northern Peru

***Cinclodes albiventris* Cream-winged Cinclodes** Central and Southern Peru, Northern Chile, and NW Argentina

***Cinclodes fuscus* Buff-winged Cinclodes** Central and Southern Chile and Central and Southern Argentina

**Pacific Hornero *Furnarius cinnamomeus*** Seen in Mindo town. Pacific Hornero is a split from Pale-legged Hornero *Furnarius leucopus*, and it is found only in NW Peru and SW Ecuador. In recent years the species has spread more into humid areas in the north of Ecuador. Pale-legged Hornero is more widespread in the Amazon.

**Andean Tit-Spinetail *Leptasthenura andicola*** Seen at the entrance of Antisana Ecological Reserve

**Azara's Spinetail *Synallaxis azarae*** We found a few individuals in the Bellavista area, but not well enough to see them well, until we got a most cooperative individual in Cabañas San Isidro. This is one of the most widespread spinetails in the humid montane forests of the Andes. Named after Felix Manuel de Azara (1746-1811), a Spanish officer commanding the



Paraguayan border and a naturalist and author (Apuntamientos para la historia natural de los pájaros de Paraguay y Río de la Plata, 1805)

**Slaty Spinetail** *Synallaxis brachyura* A pair of these skulkers was seen briefly along the road at Un poco de Chocó Nature Reserve.

**Dark-breasted Spinetail** *Synallaxis albigularis* This grassland spinetail was seen briefly in the Wildsumaco area.

**Dusky Spinetail** *Synallaxis moesta* Great views of one individual at Wildsumaco. The species is listed as near-threatened.

**Ash-browed Spinetail** *Cranioleuca curtata* One bird was seen in a mixed flock along the forest trails of Wildsumaco. The species is listed as vulnerable.

**Many-striped Canastero** *Asthenes flammulata* One bird was seen very well in the Papallacta area.

**White-chinned Thistletail** *Asthenes fuliginosa* We saw one bird at Papallacta. Here the nominate subspecies

**Pearled Treerunner** *Margarornis squamiger* Seen at both Yanacocha and Papallacta

**Scaly-throated Foliage-gleaner** *Anabacerthia variegaticeps* Good views on the west slope

**Montane Foliage-gleaner** *Anabacerthia striaticollis* Seen every day in a mixed flock around Cabañas San Isidro

**Lineated Foliage-gleaner** *Syndactyla subalaris* Seen on the west slope of the Andes

**Buff-fronted Foliage-gleaner** *Philydor rufum*

**Black-billed Treehunter** *Thripadectes melanorhynchus* One seen briefly at Wildsumaco

**Olive-backed Foliage-gleaner** *Automolus infuscatus* Seen every day in a mixed flock around Cabañas San Isidro

**Streaked Xenops** *Xenops rutilans* A few encounters in the Wildsumaco area. Here the subspecies *heterurus*

**Plain Xenops** *Xenops minutus* We saw one bird of the subspecies *littoralis* on the west slope of the Andes at Silanche.

**Olivaceous Woodcreeper** *Sittasomus griseicapillus* We saw this bird at Wildsumaco. Here the subspecies *amazonus*. Keep track of your sightings of this species, because it will certainly split into at least five different full new species in the near future.

**Wedge-billed Woodcreeper** *Glyphorhynchus spirurus* Seen at Wildsumaco. This is the smallest of all the woodcreepers.

**Strong-billed Woodcreeper** *Xiphocolaptes promeropirhynchus* Seen at Bellavista

**Spotted Woodcreeper** *Xiphorhynchus erythropygius* Seen on the west slope of the Andes

**Olive-backed Woodcreeper** *Xiphorhynchus triangularis* Seen at Cabañas San Isidro

**Streak-headed Woodcreeper** *Lepidocolaptes souleyetii* Seen well on the west slope of the Andes

**Montane Woodcreeper** *Lepidocolaptes lacrymiger* Seen at Cabañas San Isidro and Yanacocha

### **Thamnophilidae**

**Lined Antshrike** *Thamnophilus tenuepunctatus* Seen at Wildsumaco. The species is listed as vulnerable.

**Uniform Antshrike** *Thamnophilus unicolor* One bird seen well in the Un poco de Chocó area

**Black-crowned Antshrike (H)** *Thamnophilus atrinucha* We heard this species at Silanche, but unfortunately this time it didn't respond to the tape.

**White-shouldered Antshrike (H)** *Thamnophilus aethiops* No matter how hard we tried, we could not get this forest skulker at Wildsumaco.

**Plain Antwren** *Dysithamnus mentalis* Seen at Wildsumaco

**Slaty Antwren** *Myrmotherula schisticolor* A male was seen briefly at Silanche.

**Foothill Antwren** *Epinecrophylla spodionota* Good views of this foothill specialist at Wildsumaco

**Ornate Antwren** *Epinecrophylla ornata* Seen at Wildsumaco

**Checker-throated Antwren** *Epinecrophylla fulviventrīs* Seen at Silanche

**Plain-winged Antwren** *Myrmotherula behni* Seen well at Wildsumaco

**Yellow-breasted Antwren** *Herpsilochmus axillaris* Seen in a mixed flock along the Wildsumaco forest trails. The species is listed as vulnerable.

**Rufous-winged Antwren** *Herpsilochmus rufimarginatus* Seen in a mixed flock at Wildsumaco

**Chestnut-backed Antbird** *Myrmeciza exsul* Mostly heard by the entire group, except for two participants who managed to have glimpses of the bird. Surprisingly uncooperative this year

**Streak-headed Antbird** *Drymophila striaticeps* It took a while, but we managed to have good views of this bamboo specialist in the Cabañas San Isidro grounds. This is a split from Long-tailed Antbird *Drymophila caudata*, which has been split into the following four species:

***Drymophila hellmayri* Santa Marta Antbird** Santa Marta mountains, Colombia

***Drymophila klagesi* Klages's Antbird** Venezuela and NE Colombia

***Drymophila caudata* East Andean Antbird** Western slope of the Eastern Andes of Colombia and upper Magdalena Valley in Colombia

***Drymophila striaticeps* Streak-headed Antbird** Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia

**Blackish Antbird** *Cercomacra nigrescens* Seen at Wildsumaco

**White-backed Fire-eye** *Pyriglena leuconota* Excellent looks of a female carrying nesting material at Wildsumaco

**Blue-lored Antbird** *Myrmeciza immaculata* Good views of this species at Silanche

**Common Scale-backed Antbird** *Willisornis poecilinotus* Seen along the forest trails of Wildsumaco. Scale-backed Antbird has been split into

***Willisornis poecilinotus* Common Scale-backed Antbird** Venezuela, Guianas, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and W Brazil

***Willisornis vidua* Xingu Scale-backed Antbird** SE Brazil

### **Formicariidae**

**Black-headed Antthrush (H)** *Formicarius nigricapillus* Unfortunately this species was heard only at Silanche.

**Rufous-breasted Antthrush** *Formicarius rufipectus* Amazing, unbelievable views of two birds at Angel Paz. This is a very secretive foothill forest ground skulker. I have heard this species many times on the Manu Road in inaccessible spots and tried once in Northern Peru in the foothill forest of Wakanki, but without success. Due to the fact that it is a personal lifer, the quality of the sighting with great light, almost at eye level (considering we were walking up at steep trail when it showed up), the time we spent admiring it, and being able to watch a bit of its behavior made it my favorite bird of the trip.

**Short-tailed Antthrush (H)** *Chamaeza campanisona* Almost! It was coming to the tape and actually I managed to see the head above the plants on the ground, but suddenly some noise scared it away before anybody could put their bins on it. This was along the trails of Wildsumaco.

### **Grallariidae**

**Giant Antpitta** *Grallaria gigantea* Watching Maria, the huge Giant Antpitta, chasing away a Moustached Antpitta on the worm feeders at Angel Paz was a tour highlight. The species is listed as vulnerable.

**Moustached Antpitta** *Grallaria alleni* A near-endemic found in Colombia and Ecuador. We got great views at Angel Paz. The species is listed as vulnerable.

**Plain-backed Antpitta *Grallaria haplonota*** This was not coming daily to the Wildsumaco worm feeders this year, but with perseverance we managed to have good views of one near an old worm feeder spot in response to the call.

**Yellow-breasted Antpitta *Grallaria flavotincta*** Another near-endemic antpitta was seen very well at Angel Paz near the stream, before we hiked up the steep forest trail.

**White-bellied Antpitta *Grallaria hypoleuca*** Cracker views of two birds at the regular worm-feeder spot at Cabañas San Isidro

**Rufous Antpitta *Grallaria rufula*** We saw one in response to the tape on our first morning in Yanacocha. Unfortunately, no everybody could see it well or at all. Here the nominate subspecies. Keep track of this species because it might be split in the near future.

**Tawny Antpitta *Grallaria quitensis*** One of the easiest antpittas to see. This open-ground, high-elevation antpitta was seen feeding on worms in the Yanacocha Reserve, and later we managed to see at least three more birds in the paramo of Papallacta. Here the nominate subspecies



Tawny Antpitta (photo Charly Sax)

**Chestnut-crowned Antpitta *Grallaria ruficapilla*** Unfortunately, it was not coming to the San Isidro worm feeder this year, but we saw one individual in the Bellavista area.

**Ochre-breasted Antpitta *Grallaricula flavirostris*** Excellent views of this tiny antpitta at Angel Paz. The species is listed as near-threatened.

#### Conopophagidae

**Chestnut-crowned Gnateater *Conopophaga castaneiceps*** Seen well along the Wildsumaco trails

#### Rhinocryptidae

**Ocellated Tapaculo *Acropternis orthonyx*** We got a very skulking individual close to us but it remained all the time behind thick vegetation, therefore only brief views this time. Colombia is a great place to see this amazing bird.



**Ash-colored Tapaculo (H) *Myornis senilis*** We heard this species in the Cabañas San Isidro area.

**Blackish Tapaculo *Scytalopus latrans*** Seen in the Cabañas San Isidro area

**Narino Tapaculo *Scytalopus vicini*** This Choco endemic was seen at Angel Paz. Named after the southern department of Narino in Colombia, located in the SW near the border with Ecuador

**Spillmann's Tapaculo (H) *Scytalopus spillmanni*** Another uncooperative tapaculo this year. We heard it along the Old Nono-Mindo Road and around Bellavista. Named after Franz Spillmann (1901-1988), an Austrian zoologist resident in Ecuador from 1925 to 1942

### **Tyrannidae**

**Sooty-headed Tyrannulet (H) *Phyllomyias griseiceps*** Heard at Wildsumaco

**Foothill Elaenia *Myiopagis olallai*** We managed to see this recently described species in Wildsumaco. Even though it is found in Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, and Peru, it is patchily distributed. Described in 2000. The species is listed as vulnerable.

**Southern Beardless Tyrannulet *Camptostoma obsoletum*** One bird seen well in the west

**White-throated Tyrannulet *Mecocerculus leucophrys*** Seen well at Yanacocha

**White-banded Tyrannulet *Mecocerculus stictopterus*** Excellent views around Bellavista

**White-tailed Tyrannulet *Mecocerculus poecilocercus*** Seen on both slopes of the Andes, like at Bellavista and San Isidro

**Sulphur-bellied Tyrannulet *Mecocerculus minor*** Seen at Cabañas San Isidro

**Tufted Tit-Tyrant *Anairetes parulus*** Great views of one bird in the outskirts of Quito

**Agile Tit-Tyrant *Uromyias agilis*** Excellent views of this little cracker at the Papallacta Pass

**Torrent Tyrannulet *Serpophaga cinerea*** Seen first on the west slope of the Andes near Mindo and then on the east slope in Cosanga while looking for Torrent Duck

**Rufous-headed Pygmy Tyrant *Pseudotriccus ruficeps*** Not very cooperative this year. Only one participant and I managed to see this tiny bamboo skulker in the bush.

**Golden-faced Tyrannulet *Zimmerius chrysops*** The nominate subspecies was seen on the east slope at Wildsumaco.

**Choco Tyrannulet *Zimmerius albigularis*** This near-endemic was seen well in Mindo. It is a split from Golden-faced Tyrannulet *Zimmerius chrysops*, together with

***Zimmerius viridiflavus* Peruvian Tyrannulet** Peru

***Zimmerius flavidifrons* Loja Tyrannulet** SW Ecuador

***Zimmerius minimus* Coopmans's Tyrannulet** NE Colombia and Venezuela

**Marbled-faced Bristle Tyrant *Pogonotriccus ophthalmicus*** Seen well near Milpe Reserve

**Ecuadorian Tyrannulet *Phylloscartes gualaquizeae*** One seen briefly from the Wildsumaco Lodge balcony. The species is listed as near-threatened.

**Streak-necked Flycatcher *Mionectes striaticollis*** Brief views of both subspecies, the subspecies *viridiceps* on the west slope and the subspecies *columbianus* on the east slope at Cabañas San Isidro. The members of this genus are frugivorous rather than insectivorous flycatchers. They also have leks like cotingas and manakins.

**Olive-striped Flycatcher *Mionectes olivaceus*** Brief views of this species at the same time at which we got the mega flock along the Wildsumaco road

**Slaty-capped Flycatcher *Leptopogon supercilialis*** Seen well in the western lowlands

**Olive-chested Flycatcher *Myiophobus cryptoxanthus*** One seen well at Wildsumaco

**Handsome Flycatcher *Nephelomyias pulcher*** Seen well at Cabañas San Isidro. Here the subspecies *bellus*

**Flavescent Flycatcher *Myiophobus flavicans*** Seen at Cabañas San Isidro

**Ornate Flycatcher *Myiobrotus ornatus*** We saw the subspecies *stellatus* in the western lowlands. Always a pleasure to see this little handsome bird



**Scale-crested Pygmy Tyrant** *Lophotriccus pileatus* Brief views of this fast, active bird in the western lowlands

**Rufous-crowned Tody-Flycatcher** *Poecilotriccus ruficeps* This lovely-looking bamboo specialist was seen nicely around the Cabañas San Isidro grounds.

**Common Tody-Flycatcher** *Todirostrum cinereum* Widespread from Mexico to Argentina. We saw one bird in Mindo.

**Buff-throated Tody-Tyrant** *Hemitriccus ruficularis* Seen at Wildsumaco. The species is listed as near-threatened.

**Yellow Tyrannulet** *Capsiempis flaveola* Seen at Wildsumaco

**Yellow-olive Flatbill (H)** *Tolmomyias sulphurescens* Heard in the western lowlands

**Cliff Flycatcher** *Hirundinea ferruginea* Scope views at the lunch stop along the Loreto Road

**Cinnamon Flycatcher** *Pyrrhomyias cinnamomeus* Lovely views at Cabañas San Isidro

**Black Phoebe** *Sayornis nigricans* Seen along rivers

**Olive-sided Flycatcher** *Contopus cooperi* A few sightings during the trip. The species is listed as near-threatened.

**Smoke-colored Pewee** *Contopus fumigatus* Seen on both slopes of the Andes

**Western Wood Pewee** *Contopus sordidulus* Seen at Wildsumaco

**Vermilion Flycatcher** *Pyrocephalus rubinus* Always nice to see this handsome bird

**Paramo Ground Tyrant** *Muscisaxicola alpinus* Great views of two birds in the paramo of Papallacta

**Streak-throated Bush Tyrant** *Myiotheretes striaticollis* Seen at Yanacocha

**Black-billed Shrike-Tyrant** *Agriornis montanus* Seen in the outskirts of Quito

**White-tailed Shrike-Tyrant** *Agriornis albicauda* It took a while, but eventually we managed to see one of this scarce species near Quito. The species is listed as vulnerable.

**Masked Water Tyrant** *Fluvicola nengeta* Great views of one pair near Mindo town

**Brown-backed Chat-Tyrant** *Ochthoeca fumicolor* Nice views of one bird at Yanacocha. Here the white-browed subspecies *brunneifrons*.

**Long-tailed Tyrant** *Colonia colonus* Nice views of two birds along the Wildsumaco road

**Piratic Flycatcher** *Legatus leucophaeus* Seen in the western lowlands. It gets its name because it does not build its own nest but appropriates the domed or enclosed nests of other, often far larger, bird species, such as Yellow-rumped Cacique or Crested Oropendola. Once the persistence of the flycatchers has driven the rightful owners away, their eggs are removed, and the female flycatcher lays up to four, but usually two, black-streaked brown eggs.

**Dusky-capped Flycatcher** *Myiarchus tuberculifer* Only one sighting during the trip

**Pale-edged Flycatcher** *Myiarchus cephalotes* Common around the Cabañas San Isidro grounds

**Rusty-margined Flycatcher** *Myiozetetes cayanensis* One bird was seen in the western lowlands.

**Golden-crowned Flycatcher** *Myiodynastes chrysocephalus* Daily views around Bellavista

**Streaked Flycatcher** *Myiodynastes maculatus* Seen at Silanche. Here the subspecies *chapmani*

**Boat-billed Flycatcher** *Megarynchus pitangua* One seen well in the western lowlands

**Social Flycatcher** *Myiozetetes similis* Several sightings

**Snowy-throated Kingbird** *Tyrannus niveigularis* Nice views at Silanche. This species occurs and breeds in the southwest in more deciduous open habitats but makes seasonal movements, dispersing into more humid areas further northeast in the non-breeding season

**Tropical Kingbird** *Tyrannus melancholicus* Common

**Eastern Kingbird** *Tyrannus tyrannus* This North American migrant was seen very well along the Cosanga River while we were looking for Torrent Duck.

**Large-headed Flatbill** *Ramphotrigon megacephalum* This bamboo specialist was seen very well in the bamboo patch below Wildsumaco Lodge.

**Bright-rumped Attila** *Attila spadiceus* Seen at Milpe

**Cotingidae**

**Red-crested Cotinga** *Ampelion rubrocristatus* Only one individual seen in the Papallacta area

**Green-and-black Fruiteater** *Pipreola riefferii* Great views of one male at Bellavista. Here the subspecies *occidentalis*

**Barred Fruiteater** *Pipreola arcuata* Seen briefly at Yanacocha

**Scarlet-breasted Fruiteater** *Pipreola frontalis* Great views at Wildsumaco

**Fiery-throated Fruiteater** *Pipreola chlorolepidota* Great views of two males on consecutive days at Wildsumaco. The species is listed as near-threatened.

**Andean Cock-of-the-Rock** *Rupicola peruvianus* Excellent views of several males at the Angel Paz lek of the western subspecies *sanguinolenta* and at Wildsumaco of the eastern subspecies *aequatorialis*



Andean Cock-of-the-rock (photo Ian Merrill)

**Grey-tailed Piha** *Snowornis subalaris* Seen at Wildsumaco. The species is listed as near-threatened.

**Pipridae**

**Golden-winged Manakin** *Masius chrysopterus* The spectacular male was seen along the trails of Un poco de Chocó Nature Reserve

**Blue-rumped Manakin** *Lepidothrix isidorei* One male was seen in the eastern foothills at Wildsumaco. The species is listed as near-threatened.

**Club-winged Manakin (H) *Machaeropterus deliciosus*** Unfortunately, the lek at Milpe wasn't very active along the trail, and only one individual was heard distantly down the slopes. Southern Ecuador is also a good place to see this Choco endemic.

**White-crowned Manakin *Dixiphia pipra*** Seen in the eastern foothills at Wildsumaco. Here the subspecies *coracina*

**White-bearded Manakin *Manacus manacus*** Seen at a few locations in the west

### Tityridae

**Black-crowned Tityra *Tityra inquisitor*** One seen well during the tour

**Masked Tityra *Tityra semifasciata*** One seen in the eastern foothills at Wildsumaco

**One-colored Becard *Pachyrampus homochrous*** Seen well in a mixed flock at Silanche

### Vireonidae

**Black-billed Peppershrike *Cyclarhis nigrirostris*** Good views of one individual around the Cabañas San Isidro garden, where it seems to be common

**Slaty-capped Shrike-Vireo *Vireolanius leucotis*** This handsome canopy species was seen well along the F.A.C.E trail at Wildsumaco.

**Brown-capped Vireo *Vireo leucophrys*** Seen along the Old Nono-Mindo Road above Bellavista

**Red-eyed Vireo *Vireo olivaceus*** A few sightings

**Rufous-naped Greenlet *Hylophilus semibrunneus*** One seen at Wildsumaco

**Olivaceous Greenlet *Hylophilus olivaceus*** This near-endemic was seen well around Wildsumaco. The species is listed as near-threatened.

### Corvidae

**Turquoise Jay *Cyanolyca turcosa*** Great views along the Old Nono-Mindo Road on the way to Bellavista Lodge

**Violaceous Jay *Cyanocorax violaceus*** We saw this species during our lunch stop along the Loreto Road on the way to Wildsumaco Lodge.

**Inca Jay *Cyanocorax yncas*** Wonderful views around the Cabañas San Isidro rooms, where it is common

### Hirundinidae

**Grey-breasted Martin *Progne chalybea*** Seen in the western lowlands

**Blue-and-white Swallow *Notiochelidon cyanoleuca*** Several sightings

**Brown-bellied Swallow *Notiochelidon murina*** Seen at Papallacta and at Antisana Ecological Reserve

**Southern Rough-winged Swallow *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*** A few seen along the Wildsumaco road

### Troglodytidae

**Band-backed Wren *Campylorhynchus zonatus*** Seen in the western lowlands

**Thrush-like Wren *Campylorhynchus turdinus*** Seen on the way to Wildsumaco, where two birds were drinking in the middle of the road. Unusual behavior

**Grey-mantled Wren *Odontorchilus branickii*** Found in mixed flocks most of the time. We had excellent views at Wildsumaco.

**Rufous Wren *Cinnycerthia unirufa*** Nice views of a family group at Yanacocha

**Sepia-brown Wren *Cinnycerthia olivascens*** We had nice views of this species on the way to Bellavista.

**Sedge Wren *Cistothorus platensis*** Seen at Antisana Ecological Reserve

**Plain-tailed Wren (H) *Pheugopedius euophrys*** Always a tricky skulker, found on *Chusquea* bamboo patches in the cloudforest. We heard it a few times around Bellavista and were close to one at Cabañas San Isidro, getting only silhouettes and untickable views. Basically heard only

**Bay Wren *Cantorchilus nigricapillus*** We had glimpses of one bird near Mindo.

**Mountain Wren** *Troglodytes solstitialis* Great views of one bird along the San Isidro trails

**House Wren** *Troglodytes aedon* Several sightings

**Grey-breasted Wood Wren** *Henicorhina leucophrys* Seen right in the open in the parking area of Bellavista Lodge

**White-breasted Wood Wren** *Henicorhina leucosticta* Seen in the Wildsumaco area

**Southern Nightingale-Wren (H)** *Microcerculus marginatus* We heard this species on the west slope at Silanche and at Un poco de Chocó.

**Wing-banded Wren (H)** *Microcerculus bambla* We were very close to this one in Wildsumaco, but it remained incredibly concealed on the forest ground.

### Motacillidae

**Paramo Pipit** *Anthus bogotensis* Excellent views of one bird at Antisana Ecological Reserve

### Turdidae

**Andean Solitaire** *Myadestes ralloides* We saw one bird in the Cabañas San Isidro gardens. This bird produces one of the classic bird songs of the humid mountain forests in the Andes.

**Spotted Nightingale-Thrush** *Catharus dryas* Widespread from Mexico to Argentina, but elusive and difficult to see. We got fantastic views at the worm feeder at Wildsumaco.

**Swainson's Thrush** *Catharus ustulatus* Common this time of the year at several locations throughout the trip. Named after William Swainson (1789-1855), English naturalist, artist, and collector

**Great Thrush** *Turdus fuscater* Common around Quito, including the hotel grounds

**Glossy-black Thrush** *Turdus serranus* Excellent views of two birds around the Cabañas San Isidro rooms

**Black-billed Thrush** *Turdus ignobilis* Seen at Wildsumaco

**Ecuadorian Thrush** *Turdus maculirostris* Great views of this near-endemic around the Septimo Paraiso Lodge

### Cinclidae

**White-capped Dipper** *Cinclus leucocephalus* Great views from the bridge near Mindo

### Fringillidae

**Hooded Siskin** *Spinus magellanicus* A few sightings on the trip

**Olivaceous Siskin** *Spinus olivaceus* This forest siskin was seen well at Wildsumaco

**Thick-billed Euphonia** *Euphonia lanirostris* Seen at Wildsumaco

**Orange-bellied Euphonia** *Euphonia xanthogaster* We saw the subspecies *brevirostris* in the east and the subspecies *quitensis* in the west.

**Golden-rumped Euphonia** *Euphonia cyanocephala* Great views of one pair in Mindo town. Here the subspecies *pelzelni*

**Bronze-green Euphonia** *Euphonia mesochrysa* Seen in the Wildsumaco area

**Yellow-collared Chlorophonia** *Chlorophonia flavirostris* This species was seen well at Milpe.

### Parulidae

**Black-and-white Warbler** *Mniotilta varia* One seen at Milpe

**American Redstart** *Setophaga ruticilla* Seen at Wildsumaco

**Cerulean Warbler** *Setophaga cerulea* A female was seen well at Wildsumaco. The species is listed as vulnerable.

**Tropical Parula** *Setophaga pitaiayumi* Several seen throughout the trip

**Blackburnian Warbler** *Setophaga fusca* Many sightings of this North American migrant

**Black-crested Warbler** *Myiothlypis nigrocristata* Great views of one individual at Cabañas San Isidro

**Canada Warbler** *Cardellina canadensis* Several seen on the east slope

**Buff-rumped Warbler** *Myiothlypis fulvicauda* Only one sighting during the trip



**Russet-crowned Warbler** *Myiothlypis coronata* Several heard and a few seen at Cabañas San Isidro

**Three-striped Warbler** *Basileuterus tristriatus* Seen briefly by some in the western lowlands. Widespread from Venezuela to Central Peru. The subspecies of Southern Peru and Bolivia has been split recently in 2014, now called Yungas Warbler, *Basileuterus punctipectus*.

**Slate-throated Whitestart** *Myioborus miniatus* Seen at several locations

**Spectacled Whitestart** *Myioborus melanocephalus* Nice views around Bellavista of the rusty-capped subspecies *ruficoronatus*

### **Icteridae**

**Russet-backed Oropendola** *Psarocolius angustifrons* Seen well on the way to Wildsumaco

**Crested Oropendola** *Psarocolius decumanus* Seen around Wildsumaco

**Yellow-rumped Cacique** *Cacicus cela* Common at Wildsumaco

**Subtropical Cacique** *Cacicus uropygialis* Daily sightings in the garden of Cabañas San Isidro

**Scarlet-rumped Cacique** *Cacicus microrhynchus* Good views of this species in the western lowlands of Silanche. This bird is smaller than the previous species.

**Scrub Blackbird** *Dives warczewiczi* Seen around Mindo

**White-edged Oriole** *Icterus graceannae* Seen near Mindo

### **Coerebidae**

**Bananaquit** *Coereba flaveola* Regularly recorded on the tour

### **Emberizidae**

**Rufous-collared Sparrow** *Zonotrichia capensis* Seen very well

**Yellow-browed Sparrow** *Ammodramus aurifrons* The first bird of this species was seen in Cosanga and then it was seen in the Wildsumaco area.

**Orange-billed Sparrow** *Arremon aurantirostris* A pair was seen at Silanche. Here the subspecies *occidentalis*

**Grey-browed Brush Finch** *Arremon assimilis* This species was seen at Yanacocha. This is one of the six splits from Stripe-headed Brush Finch *Arremon torquatus*:

*Arremon torquatus* **White-browed Brush Finch** Southern Peru, Bolivia, and Argentina

*Arremon costaricensis* **Costa Rica Brush Finch** Costa Rica and Western Panama

*Arremon basilicus* **Sierra Nevada Brush Finch** Endemic to the Santa Marta Mountains in Colombia

*Arremon perijanus* **Perija Brush Finch** Perija Mountains in NE Colombia and adjacent NW Venezuela

*Arremon assimilis* **Grey-browed Brush Finch** The Andes of Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, and most of Peru

*Arremon phaeopleurus* **Caracas Brush Finch** Venezuelan coastal range

**Choco Brush Finch** *Atlapetes crassus* A near-endemic species seen well at Angel Paz. This was split from Tricolored Brush Finch *Atlapetes tricolor*.

**Yellow-breasted Brush-Finch** *Atlapetes latinuchus* Seen at Yanacocha. Here the subspecies *spodionotus* (no wing speculum, neither moustached). This is one of the splits from Rufous-naped Brush Finch *Atlapetes rufinucha*.

**White-winged Brush Finch** *Atlapetes leucopterus* Great views of this near-endemic around the Bellavista Lodge parking area. Here the nominate subspecies

**Chestnut-capped Brush Finch** *Arremon brunneinucha* Only one bird seen on the first day of the tour

**Common Bush Tanager** *Chlorospingus flavopectus* Seen at San Isidro. Here the subspecies *phaeocephalus*

**Dusky Bush Tanager** *Chlorospingus semifuscus* Good views of this near-endemic bird on both the west and east slopes

**Yellow-throated Bush Tanager** *Chlorospingus flavigularis* Seen at Wildsumaco. Here the nominate subspecies

### **Thraupidae**

**Magpie Tanager** *Cissopis leverianus* Nice views at Wildsumaco

**Dusky-faced Tanager** *Mitrospingus cassinii* Seen at Silanche

**Superciliaried Hemispingus** *Hemispingus superciliaris* Seen at Yanacocha on the first day and on the last day at Papallacta. Here the subspecies *nigrifrons*. There are several subspecies involved and the species is geographically variable. It ranges from Venezuela to Bolivia. More than one species may be involved.

**Black-eared Hemispingus** *Hemispingus melanotis* Seen well in the bamboo of Cabañas San Isidro. Here the nominate subspecies

**Fulvous Shrike-Tanager** *Lanio fulvus* Seen leading a canopy mixed flock at Wildsumaco

**White-lined Tanager** *Tachyphonus rufus* Several sightings. Widespread from Costa Rica to Argentina

**Silver-beaked Tanager** *Ramphocelus carbo* Common at Wildsumaco

**Lemon-rumped Tanager** *Ramphocelus icteronotus* Nice views in the garden of Septimo Paraiso Lodge

**Blue-grey Tanager** *Thraupis episcopus* We saw the plain-winged subspecies *quaesita* in the Tandayapa Valley, and the eastern subspecies *coelestis* (with more whitish wing coverts) was common at Wildsumaco.

**Palm Tanager** *Thraupis palmarum* Common at several locations

**Blue-capped Tanager** *Thraupis cyanocephala* Seen at Bellavista

**Blue-and-yellow Tanager** *Thraupis bonariensis* Seen well in the outskirts of Quito

**Hooded Mountain Tanager** *Buthraupis montana* Great views at Yanacocha. The largest mountain tanager in Ecuador

**Scarlet-bellied Mountain Tanager** *Anisognathus igniventris* Nice views at Yanacocha

**Blue-winged Mountain Tanager** *Anisognathus somptuosus* Excellent views at Bellavista. Here the subspecies *cyanopterus*

**Grass-green Tanager** *Chlorornis riefferii* Seen well at Bellavista. Here the nominate subspecies

**Golden-crowned Tanager** *Iridosornis rufivertex* Nice views at Yanacocha

**Fawn-breasted Tanager** *Pipraeidea melanonota* Seen only by a few of us at Bellavista

**Orange-eared Tanager** *Chlorochrysa calliparaea* Excellent views in the fruiting trees at Wildsumaco

**Glistering-green Tanager** *Chlorochrysa phoenicotis* This range-restricted species was seen well at Un poco de Chocó Nature Reserve.

**Moss-backed Tanager** *Bangsia edwardsi* This attractive species was seen nicely at Milpe.

**Grey-and-gold Tanager** *Tangara palmeri* One bird was seen well at Un poco de Chocó Nature Reserve.

**Golden Tanager** *Tangara arthus* Seen on the west slope at several locations. Here the subspecies *goodsoni*

**Silver-throated Tanager** *Tangara icterocephala* Seen at Silanche

**Saffron-crowned Tanager** *Tangara xanthocephala* Seen at Cabañas San Isidro

**Flame-faced Tanager** *Tangara parzudakii* We saw the subspecies *lunigera* on the west slope.



Flame-faced Tanager (photo Charly Sax)

**Spotted Tanager** *Tangara punctata* Seen at Wildsumaco

**Rufous-throated Tanager** *Tangara rufigula* This wonderful near-endemic was seen nicely in Un poco de Chocó Nature Reserve.

**Bay-headed Tanager** *Tangara gyrola* We saw the western subspecies *nupera* at Silanche and the eastern blue-bellied subspecies *catharinae*.

**Golden-naped Tanager** *Tangara ruficervix* We saw a few birds around Bellavista. Here the subspecies *leucotis*

**Blue-necked Tanager** *Tangara cyanicollis* On the west slope we saw the endemic subspecies *cyanopygia* and the subspecies *caeruleocephala* on the east slope. A truly handsome bird

**Beryl-spangled Tanager** *Tangara nigroviridis* Seen at Bellavista

**Blue-and-black Tanager** *Tangara vassorii* Seen at Bellavista

**Black-capped Tanager** *Tangara heinei* Only one sighting during the trip

**Green-and-gold Tanager** *Tangara schrankii* Seen at Wildsumaco

**Paradise Tanager** *Tangara chilensis* Seen at Wildsumaco

**Swallow Tanager** *Tersina viridis* Seen on both the west and east slopes

**Blue Dacnis** *Dacnis cayana* Seen at Milpe

**Green Honeycreeper** *Chlorophanes spiza* Seen in the western lowlands

**Golden-collared Honeycreeper** *Iridophanes pulcherrimus* The stunning male was seen very well on two different occasions at Wildsumaco.

**Cinereous Conebill** *Conirostrum cinereum* Seen at Yanacocha

**Blue-backed Conebill** *Conirostrum sitticolor* Seen at both Yanacocha and Papallacta

**Glossy Flowerpiercer** *Diglossa lafresnayii* Seen at Yanacocha and common at other high-altitude sites

**Bluish Flowerpiercer** *Diglossa caerulescens* Seen at Cabañas San Isidro

**Black Flowerpiercer** *Diglossa humeralis* Only one bird was seen at Antisana Ecological Reserve.

**White-sided Flowerpiercer** *Diglossa albilatera* Seen at Bellavista

**Golden-eyed Flowerpiercer** *Diglossa glauca* Seen well at Wildsumaco

**Masked Flowerpiercer** *Diglossa cyanea* The most common flowerpiercer of the trip

**Tanager Finch** *Oreothraupis arremonops* Seen at Bellavista. The species is listed as vulnerable.

**Plumbeous Sierra Finch** *Phrygilus unicolor* Seen at Antisana Ecological Reserve

**Ash-breasted Sierra Finch** *Phrygilus plebejus* Seen at Antisana Ecological Reserve. Here the subspecies *ocularis*

**Saffron Finch** *Sicalis flaveola* Seen at Mindo. Here the subspecies *valida*

**Blue-black Grassquit** *Volatinia jacarina*

**Variable Seedeater** *Sporophila corvina* A couple were seen along the Lyre-tailed Nightjar road near Mindo.

**Black-and-white Seedeater** *Sporophila luctuosa* No leader sighting. The group saw one at Silanche.

**Yellow-bellied Seedeater** *Sporophila nigricollis* A single male and a few females were detected near Wildsumaco Lodge.

**Chestnut-bellied Seedeater** *Sporophila castaneiventris* The first bird was found in Cosanga while looking for the Torrent Duck, and then we saw another one near Wildsumaco Lodge.

**Plain-colored Seedeater** *Catamenia inornata* Seen at Antisana Ecological Reserve

**Chestnut-bellied Seed Finch** *Oryzoborus angolensis* Seen along the Wildsumaco road

### Cardinalidae

**Summer Tanager** *Piranga rubra* The first one was seen in Bellavista and then a few others in the east.

**Scarlet Tanager** *Piranga olivacea* Seen at Wildsumaco

**Golden Grosbeak** *Pheucticus chrysogaster* Seen at Bellavista

**Slate-colored Grosbeak** *Saltator grossus* Fantastic views of this elusive canopy species at Un poco de Chocó Nature Reserve

**Buff-throated Saltator** *Saltator maximus* Seen in the western lowlands

**Greyish Saltator** *Saltator coerulescens* Seen at Wildsumaco

**Black-winged Saltator** *Saltator atripennis* One seen in the western lowlands

## MAMMALS

### RODENTIA

#### Sciuridae

**Red-tailed squirrel** *Sciurus granatensis* Common at several locations

#### Dasyproctidae

**Black agouti** *Dasyprocta fuliginosa* Seen at Cabañas San Isidro

**Central American agouti** *Dasyprocta punctata* One seen in the surroundings of Mindo. This species is a split from the Brown Agouti *Dasyprocta variegata*.

### LAGOMORPHA

#### Leporidae

**Tapeti** *Sylvilagus brasiliensis* One seen during the trip. This species is also known as Brazilian Rabbit or Brazilian Cottontail.

### DIDELPHIMORPHIA

#### Didelphidae



**White-eared opossum** *Didelphis albiventris* Seen at Bellavista while waiting for the olinguito.

## **CARNIVORA**

### **Procyonidae**

**South American coati** *Nasua nasua* One seen coming out from the antpitta spot at Cabañas San Isidro

**Kinkajou** *Potos flavus* One seen by the leader while waiting for the olinguito at Bellavista

**Olinguito** *Bassaricyon neblina* This near-endemic mammal is found in Ecuador and Colombia. On 22 May 2014 the International Institute for Species Exploration declared the olinguito one of the "Top 10 New Species of 2014" among species discovered in 2013. Seen only by those of us who waited until late in the evening at Bellavista Lodge

## **PRIMATES**

### **Aotidae**

**Colombian night monkey** *Aotus lemurinus* Seen at night at Cabañas San Isidro. It is found in Colombia and Ecuador. The species is listed as vulnerable and faces a significant threat from habitat destruction.

### **Callitrichidae**

**Graells's tamarin** *Saguinus graellsii* This species of tamarin ranges from the northwestern Amazon in southeastern Colombia to eastern Ecuador and northeastern Peru. It is considered a subspecies of the Black-mantled Tamarin by some authorities, but it differs from that species in having a dull olive-brown (no reddish-orange) lower back, rump and thighs.

### **Cebidae**

**Tufted capuchin** *Sapajus paella* Only one seen on the trip. Known as brown capuchin, black-capped capuchin, or pin monkey, it is a New World primate from South America. As traditionally defined, it is one of the most widespread primates in the Neotropics, but it has recently been recommended considering the black-striped, black, and golden-bellied capuchins as separate species in a new genus, thereby effectively limiting the tufted capuchin to the Amazon Basin and nearby regions.