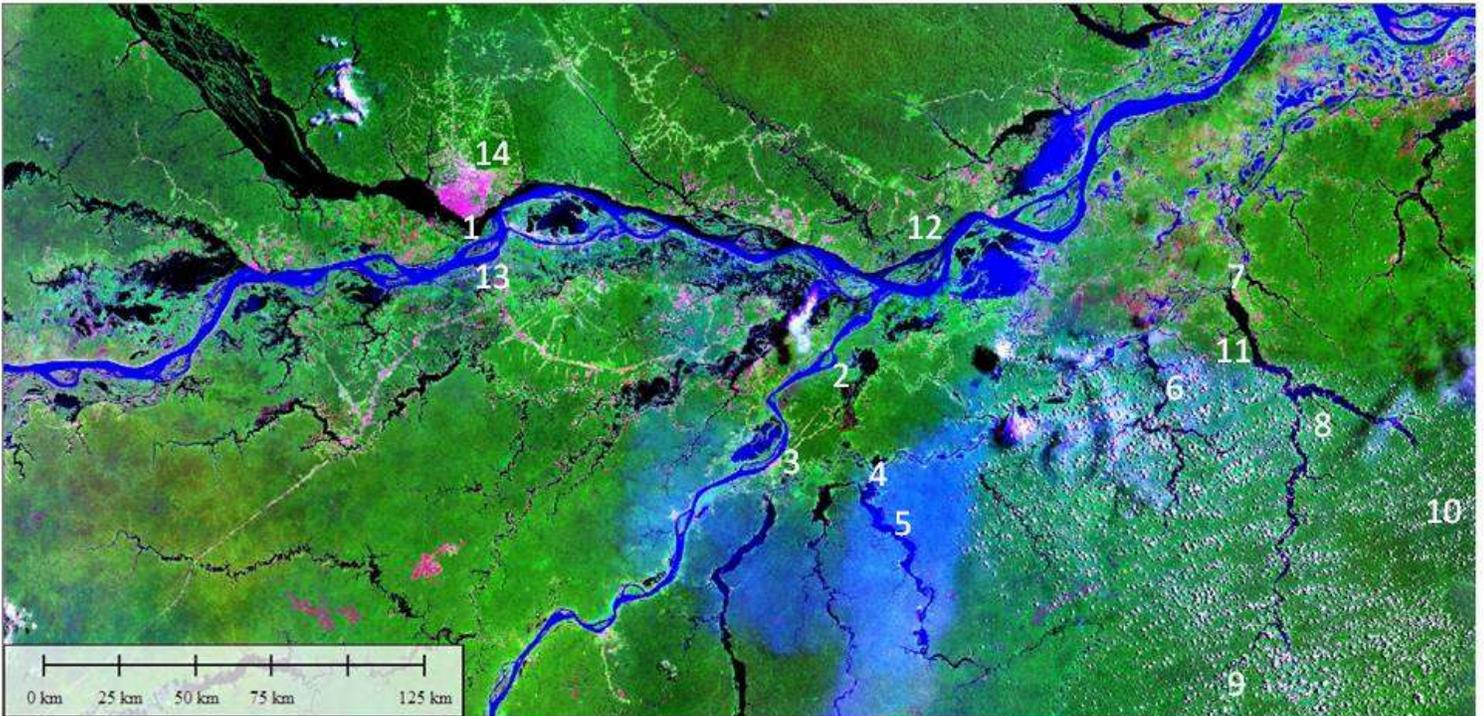


# Trip Report: Amazon Adventure, June 1-14, 2016

Guides: Fiona Reid, Moacir Fortes Junior, Micah Riegner



## 1 June

We walked around the grounds of the Hotel Tropical and then boarded the *Tumbira* in the morning. We were lucky enough to see the endangered Pied Tamarins close to the parking lot. We sailed down to the meeting of the waters and arrived at Lago dos Reis by the afternoon. In the evening we did some spotlighting along the channel behind the village.

Several flocks of Blue-headed, Festive, and Orange-winged Parrots were flying to their roost sites. We saw a pair of Chestnut-eared Aracaris at a nest that was hanging out close to a nesting cavity in an old snag. We also saw several Hooded Tanagers in the Cecropias close to the village. When it got dark, we saw several Common and Great Potoos, 10 Brown-throated Three-toed Sloths, and a Spectacled Caiman along the edge of the channel. There were several Greater Fishing Bats foraging along the channel and Mastiff Bats cruising overhead. Northern Ghost Bats were also seen flying high over the water.

## 2 June

We explored some of the older Varzea forest on Ilha Urucurituba by canoe and then continued upstream toward Novo Olinda. The Island was dominated by *Pseudobombax* and *Gustavia*. There were some patches of *Tessaria* on the outer edge of the island. We saw many birds, including Varzea Piculet, Klages's Antwren, Zimmer's Woodcreepers, Glossy Antshrikes, and large flocks of Chestnut-fronted Macaws.

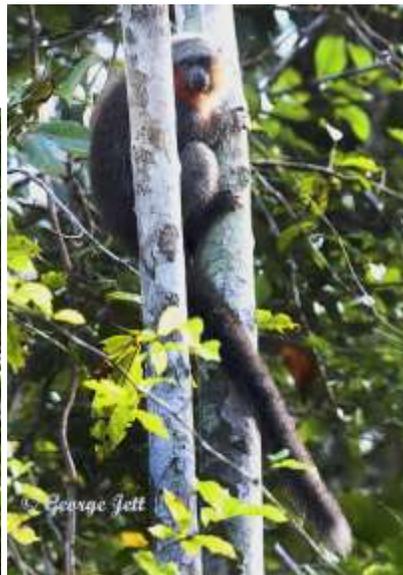
After sailing upstream for roughly 5 hours, we stopped at a small Igarape on the right bank of the Madeira. We went in quite a ways looking for the Gold-and-white Marmosets but didn't find them there. However, we did have nice views of Chestnut Woodpecker along the creek. We continued upstream on the Madeira and anchored at a river island downstream from Novo Olinda. On our night trip we got to see several frogs, 2 Tropical Screech-owls, some large caterpillars, a scorpion, and a Dwarf Caiman.

## 3 June



We started the morning at the house of Alex (with purple hair) on the Madeira below the town of Novo Olinda. He took us up a small creek that led to an open lake where he showed us a group of 3 Gold-and-white Marmosets! He then took us down another creek where we saw Baptista Lake Titi Monkeys (two views, below) in the flooded forest. They watched us cooperatively from the canopy of the flooded forest. We also had good looks at Bare-eared Squirrel Monkey. We also saw some Crimson-hooded Manakins at a lek on some vines. Later on we walked on a road behind the village before the

temperature got too hot. After spending time with an Emerald Boa, we loaded up and continued up on the Madeira and crossed over into the Parana Araria by 3 pm in the afternoon. We reached the Canuma at 5 pm and some folks went exploring by canoe, while Fiona and Junior set up the bat nets. We saw a Spectacled Owl and some Red-necked Aracaris. The most interesting bat caught was the Frosted White-lined Bat.



## 4 June

There was some rain in the morning as we paddled down the small channel at the mouth of the Rio Abacaxis. The water was too low for us to pass through, so we turned around and went back through the lake. The forest along the lake

shore had an interesting white water river island component with young cecropias that were draped in morning-glory vines that attracted birds like Brownish Elaenia, Fuscous Flycatcher, and Ash-breasted Antbird. Other highlights of the morning included some great looks at a young Agami Heron, a Black-faced Hawk (out of range) and loads of Mealy Parrots. In the afternoon, some people went fishing and saw a Spotted Water Snake and Giant False Water-cobra. Our afternoon was spent looking for Satere Marmosets behind the village with Bode, the local guide. After dark we went spotlighting. We paddled around the Igapo and saw a Spiny Tree Rat (below, right), Band-tailed Nighthawks, and a Smoky Jungle Frog.



## 5 June

In the morning, part of the group looked for the marmosets again behind the village while the other half went with Bode to the “trail” on the other side of the river. The forest was low and swampy with abundant palms. Some stretches had lots of bamboo. Highlights from that walk were Ferruginous-backed Antbird, Scale-backed Antbird, Rufous-necked Puffbird and a pair of Pale-faced Antbirds, which circled around us.



A major storm blew in during the afternoon and, after it passed, we took the canoes to a small channel on the right bank of the river. Millions of termites were emerging from the forest and the birds were having a feast. We saw both Red-necked and Chestnut-eared Aracaris, Crimson-crested and Yellow-tufted Woodpeckers, Paradise Jacamars, and

Turquoise Tanagers feeding on the rising cloud of insects. After dark we went out spotlighting in a bamboo-rich area and found about ten Bamboo Rats (above left), including a very large mother with half-grown young. A Bicolored Rice Rat was also seen.

## 6 June

In the morning we paddled around the mouth of the Rio Paraconin, another blackwater tributary that empties into the Parana Araria. We encountered a small group of Titi Monkeys with dark-gray fur and rich rufous throats and bellies. According to the map, *Callicebus hoffmannsi* would be in the area, but they have yellow throats. It is possible that the monkeys we saw were an undescribed taxon, or a different race of Baptista Lake Titis, which can be quite variable. Later that morning, we paddled farther up the tributary and had some decent looks at Spix's Warbling Antbird. The other canoe group saw Southern Amazon Red Squirrel.

In the afternoon some people walked on a trail and heard Variegated Antpitta while the rest of the group watched Bald Parrots feeding in a tree. We had a productive night outing and saw Dwarf Caiman, Common Opossum, and a White Witch Moth.

## 7 June

We spent the morning exploring the Varzea close on the Parana Araria and then went to Maues. After the city tour we went upstream on the Rio Maues and set up bat nets at a farm. Those who went to set up the nets saw Tawny-bellied Screech Owls in the area. We caught several bats, but the highlight was a White-winged Vampire Bat (left), a species that specializes on bird blood. Although widespread, this species is exceptionally rare. We also caught the uncommon Long-legged Bat (right).



## 8 June

We spent the morning on the top deck in a channel called Jacunda where we observed some White-tailed Cotingas and a nice flock of Golden Parakeets cruising by. Other highlights were White-browed Hawk and a flock of Bald Parrots that blasted by. As we continued up the Maues, we passed a small group of Gray's Bald-faced Sakis. Later that morning we scouted the area for the campina but found out that it was at least 4 km of hiking.

We cruised upstream and spent the afternoon in a very picturesque creek. Lots of Ladder-tailed Nightjars were flying at dusk.

## 9 June

Part of the group stayed on the canoes in the morning and had excellent views of Amazon Black Howler Monkeys and White-fronted Capuchins while the rest of the group hiked the infamous Harlequin Antbird trail on the left bank of the Parauari. There were a few birds at an ant swarm that was just starting up.



We were on our way downstream on the Parauari, when we stopped for another flock of Golden Parakeets. They landed behind a house, so we got out to walk around. The people living in the house had some information about the waterfalls of the Amana River, so they joined us for the ride.

We ended up taking an excellent canoe ride in the Varzea. The water had been polluted by gold mining upstream, but the forest was rich in wildlife because there were no people living there. In the span of 15 minutes we saw 5 White-Crested Guans, several White-nosed Bearded Sakis, a White-fronted Capuchin, and a pair of Razor-billed Curassows, which flew and landed right above us.

## 10 June

In the early morning, we explored the Varzea of the Rio Amana and some of us had close views of Gray's Bald-faced Saki, Amazon Howler and Brown Capuchin, and then went to look for the waterfalls that were "close" to where we had anchored the *Tumbira*. We encountered some Hoffmann's Titi Monkeys on the way there. Some of us went on past the dilapidated gold mining camp in search of a cave. We eventually got a ride up to the cave (we'd left our boat below the waterfall). It was a very beautiful sandstone arch with numerous deep ceiling cavities occupied by at least three species of bats, including Greater and White-winged Doglike Bats. We cruised back down the Rio Maues for the afternoon.



## 11 June

In the morning we met the local guide from Maues who took us to a creek upstream from Maues. We walked around in some Igapo behind a house and saw a Neotropical Pygmy Squirrel.

In the afternoon we walked around the triple joint of the Parana Araria, Parana do Ramos, and Parana Anjira. We saw a Prehensile-tailed Porcupine, Plain Softtails, Varzea Piculets, and many, many mosquitoes. Fiona set up the mist nets and caught many bats including the Greater Spear-nosed Bat.

## 12 June

In the morning we explored a channel on the north bank of the Amazon downstream from Miracaeira. We saw a Hook-billed Kite, and many Common Squirrel Monkeys and some Brown Capuchins in the flooded forest. Later that morning we stopped at Miracaeira to see the Guianan Red Howler Monkeys.

In the afternoon, part of the group looked for the Giant Tree Rat on Machado Island at the mouth of the Rio Madeira, and the rest went to look for some island specialists on Buffalo Island. We ended up seeing Lesser Wagtail-tyrant, Black-and-white Antbird, White-bellied Spinetail, and a Green-tailed Goldenthrout.

We continued sailing and stopped for a short night trip in some Varzea. We saw the Giant Tree Rat feeding on palm fruits.

## 13 June

Part of the group visited Ilha do Marchantaria while the rest explored the Xiborena channel between the Rio Solimoes and Rio Negro. We had glimpses of Parker's Spinetail on a relatively young island covered in *Gynerium* cane.

In the afternoon we swam with the Botos on the Rio Negro and explored a small creek on the right bank of the river. Here we saw a very different looking White-fronted Capuchin and numerous Squirrel Monkeys.

## 14 June

Our final morning was spent at the MUSA tower in Reserva Ducke. We had good luck and saw Caica Parrots, a Tiny Hawk, Guyanan Toucanets, and some distant Venezuelan Red Howlers.



These trips are only possible thanks to participants!

Bob and Maxine Tinney, Sandra and David Milton, Julia and Vernon Shible, Gwen Brewer and George Jett, Cathy Koehler, Karin Connelly, Cathy Ream, Sue Hale, Andy Holman, and Steve Morgan

Photos by Micah and Fiona plus one monkey image from George.

Mammal list follows. Bird list and herps on separate excel file.

## Mammals seen in Amazonian Brazil, June 1-14, 2016

Common Opossum, *Didelphis marsupialis*, June 7

Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth, *Bradypus variegatus* June 1, 12, 13

Southern Two-toed Sloth, *Choloepus didactylus* (seen by Steve and co prior to trip)

Northern Ghost Bat, *Diclidurus albus* - seen most nights

White-winged Dog-like Bat, *Peropteryx leucoptera* - cave

Greater Dog-like Bat, *Peropteryx kappleri* - cave

Proboscis Bat, *Rhynchonycteris naso* - common

Frosted White-lined Bat, *Saccopteryx canescens* - net

Lesser White-lined Bat, *Saccopteryx leptura* - common

Lesser Fishing Bat, *Noctilio albiventris* - common

Greater Fishing Bat, *Noctilio leporinus* - common

Long-legged Bat, *Macrophyllum macrophyllum* - net

Hairy Spear-nosed Bat, *Phyllostomus elongatus* – net and cave

Greater Spear-nosed Bat, *Phyllostomus hastatus* – net

Pale Spear-nosed Bat, *Phyllostomus discolor*- net

Common Long-tongued Bat, *Glossophaga soricina* - net

Silky Short-tailed Bat, *Carollia brevicauda*- net

White-winged Vampire Bat, *Diaemus youngi*- net

Black Mastiff Bat, *Molossus rufus* – flight over river

White-faced Saki, *Pithecia pithecia* (seen by David and Sandra pre-trip and Andy and Fiona post trip)

Gray's Bald-faced Saki, *Pithecia irrorata*, June 8, 10

White-nosed Bearded Saki, *Chiropotes albinasus*, June 9

Brown-backed Bearded Saki, *Chiropotes israelita* (seen by Steve and co pre-trip)

Common Squirrel Monkey, *Saimiri sciureus*, June 12

Bare-eared Squirrel Monkey, *Saimiri ustus*, June 3, 4, 13

Brown Capuchin, *Cebus apella*, June 8, 10, 12, 13

\*White-fronted Capuchin, *Cebus albifrons*, June 3, 9, 13

Guianan Red Howler, *Alouatta macconnelli*, June 12

Venezuelan Red Howler, *Alouatta seniculus*, June 13, 14

Amazon Black Howler, *Alouatta nigerrima*, June 9, 10

\*Baptista Lake Titi Monkey, *Callicebus baptista*, June 3, 6

Hoffmann's Titi, *Callicebus hoffmannsi*, June 10

Gold-and-white Marmoset, *Mico chrysoleuca*, June 3

Pied Tamarin, *Saguinus bicolor*, June 1

Noisy Night Monkey, *Aotus vociferans* (seen by Steve June 14)

Red-rumped Agouti, *Dasyprocta agouti*, June 1 and pre-trip

Prehensile-tailed or Brazilian Porcupine, *Coendou prehensilis*, June 11

Amazon Bamboo Rat, *Dactylomys dactylinus*, June 5

Giant Tree Rat, *Toromys grandis*, June 12

Ferreira's Spiny Tree Rat, *Mesomys hispidus*, June 4

Bicolored Rice Rat, *Oecomys bicolor*, June 5, 9

Neotropical Pygmy Squirrel, *Sciurillus pusillus*, June 11

Southern Amazon Red Squirrel, *Sciurus spadiceus*, June 6

Pink River Dolphin or Boto, *Inia geoffrensis*, almost daily

Gray River Dolphin or Tucuxi, *Sotalia fluviatilis*, daily

\*The status of some primates is not resolved at this time. The White-fronted Capuchins probably represent two species, with *C. unicolor* seen on June 3 and 9, and *C. albifrons* seen on Day 13. However there is disagreement about the taxonomy of this group at present. We also saw two very distinct-looking titis that I am listing as *Callicebus baptista* due to the disjunct range of this species and the described variation in coat color. However it is possible that these may be distinct species.

Fiona Reid