

Peru – June/July 2015

Report by Sjöf Öllers

Our first trip to Peru was great with many excellent primate sightings including emperor tamarin, common woolly monkey, white-fronted capuchin and Gray's bald-faced saki, but we were also delighted by good views of a tayra (and a total of four tayra sightings), both river dolphins, giant river otter, paca, coati, and olingo. Unfortunately, we also had one major dip – we did not see bald-headed uakaris. The birding was superb with a large number of lifers and “high-end birds”, including harpy eagle, collared forest falcon, wire-tailed manakin, rufous-capped nunlet, agami heron, boat-billed heron, lyre-tailed nightjar, Andean potoo, Andean pygmy owl, Andean cock of the rock, plum-throated cotinga, four barbet species, all possible motmots and trogons plus crested and golden-headed quetzal, black-spotted bare-eye, pale-winged trumpeter, black tinamou, golden-browed chat-tyrant, rufous-bellied woodpecker, gray-breasted mountain toucan, and practically every possible lowland and mountain tanager species.



Gray's Bald-faced Saki



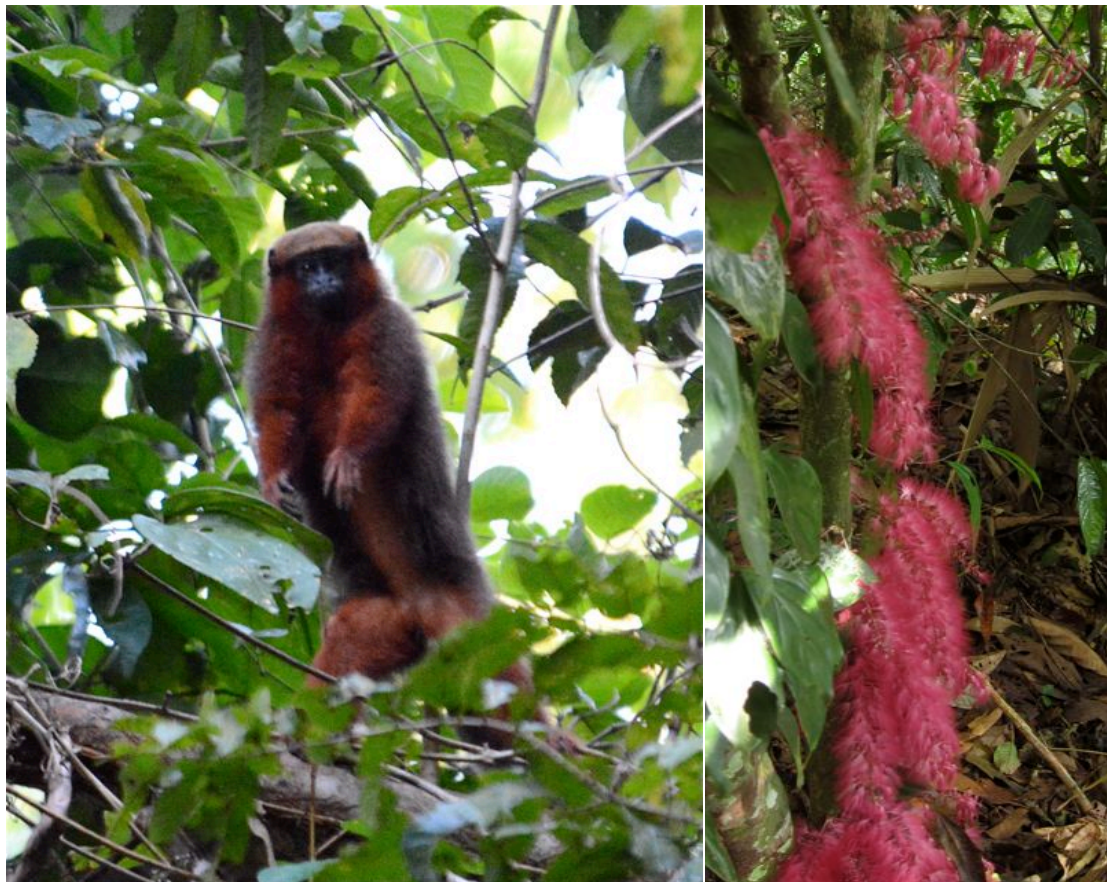
Common Woolly Monkey

Introduction

The main reason to set up this trip was Jacob Socolar's post and Jon Hall's report (<http://www.mammalwatching.com/Neotropical/neotropicperu.html>) on the bald-headed uakaris and Tapiche reserve. Next started the great quest for other lodges in Peru with excellent mammalwatching opportunities. I contacted several tour operators to see what additional mammalwatching prospects there were in the hope to do a fairly comprehensive 3-3.5 week trip but I was a little surprised that a number of tour operators didn't even bother to respond (obviously a client surplus in Peru or a total lack of interest in mammal tours). Notable exceptions were Tanager Tours and Manu Expeditions Birding & Wildlife Tours, who responded quickly with useful general information of what is possible. It is worth contacting those two companies for planning a private tour in Peru. At this stage I didn't ask for quotes, so no idea what their rates are. Unfortunately, my initial travelling plans were a little too ambitious logistically for a

3-4 week trip so I shelved my Peru plans for several months, and partly also because I was rather disappointed by the mammalwatching opportunities at the traditional sites that are usually advertised. A couple of months later I started with a clean slate and decided to save the dry country and altiplano sites for a future trip to make the logistics more manageable. I did a second round of research focusing entirely on the lowlands trying to find out whether there are more interesting places in the Amazon than the “standard” lodges around Iquitos, Manu and Puerto Maldonado. Apart from looking for trip reports I also searched the scientific literature, not just for biology papers, but equally interesting were papers from tourism publications that evaluated (eco)lodges in the Amazon. Some Amazonian lodges engage in undesirable practices, which include uncontrolled hunting/poaching/extraction of wildlife (facilitated or even carried out by lodge staff in some cases), unrestricted waste disposal into rivers or creeks, logging and using pet animals or illegally caught animals (sloths, monkeys, etc.) as “tourist display items”. A rather common practice is to capture wild animals, put them in cages, underfeed or not feed them before tourists arrive, then “release” the animals at stakeouts and then the guide magically discovers the weakened sloths, monkeys, iguanas, etc. that pose at eye level for tourists for those great wildlife pictures from the jungle. Some animals are so weak that tourists can hold them in their arms for even better pictures. Sounds great, right! By looking at the websites of certain lodges you can get a pretty good idea of what type of wildlife experience they offer. Hearing and reading about these practices, puts Tapiche’s motto “*where wildlife is wild, as it should be*” in a different perspective.

After a relatively easy elimination process, I quickly became convinced that Los Amigos Biological Station was the right place for us (details below) and would be a great companion to Tapiche on this trip.



Brown Titi (Tapiche) and weird “hairy” pink flowers (Los Amigos)

The final week of our tour was a more birding-oriented affair along Manu Road. I can't remember exactly how I ended up contacting Omar Diaz of Peru Birding Tours for the Manu part of the trip but I can only say that he is an excellent guide, knows the calls very well, has sharp eyes, and is in general a nice and pleasant guy to travel with. Omar and his driver Americo made a great team. Recommended. Although Manu Road is almost guaranteed to be a great birding experience, I was still surprised by the number of "high-quality" lifers that we saw in a relatively short time. Omar also knows most mammals, but he is first and foremost a birder, so if you want to do a dedicated mammalwatching trip I would discuss this first. Website: www.perubirdingtours.com



Manu Road approximately at 1200-1300 meters altitude

Itinerary

| | |
|---------|--|
| June 19 | Flight Amsterdam-Lima / Overnight Lima |
| June 20 | Flight Lima-Iquitos / Overnight Iquitos |
| June 21 | Transfer Iquitos-Nauta-Requena-Tapiche |
| June 22 | Tapiche |
| June 23 | Tapiche |
| June 24 | Tapiche |
| June 25 | Tapiche |
| June 26 | Tapiche |
| June 27 | Transfer back to Iquitos / Overnight Iquitos |
| June 28 | Flights Iquitos-Lima-Puerto Maldonado / Overnight Puerto Maldonado |
| June 29 | Taxi to Laberinto / Boat to Los Amigos Biological Station |
| June 30 | Los Amigos Biological Station |
| July 1 | Los Amigos Biological Station |
| July 2 | Los Amigos Biological Station |
| July 3 | Los Amigos Biological Station |
| July 4 | Los Amigos Biological Station |
| July 5 | Boat and taxi back to Puerto Maldonado / Night bus to Cuzco |
| July 6 | Cuzco – Lake Huacarpay – Huancarani – Paucartambo – COTR Lodge |
| July 7 | Manu Road / Overnight Cock of the Rock Lodge |
| July 8 | Manu Road / Wayquecha Biological Station |
| July 9 | Manu Road / Wayquecha Biological Station |
| July 10 | Return drive to Cuzco with stop at Lake Huacarpay / Flight to Lima |
| July 11 | Relaxing in Lima / Flight back to the Netherlands |



Misty morning at Garza lagoon

Accommodation/Sites Visited

I booked our stay at Tapiche and Los Amigos directly with the lodges, which was straightforward and easy. Websites: Tapiche (<http://www.tapichejungle.com>) and Los Amigos (<http://www.amazonconservation.org/contact/index.html>). For the Manu contact details, see page 3.

Tapiche Reserve

For an overview and general idea of the mammalwatching opportunities, please check Jon Hall's report, there is not that much I can add to that. The main goal was of course seeing the uakaris and we also hoped that we would see at least one of the other big monkeys (Common Woolly Monkey, Monk Saki or maybe even Equatorial saki). Amazon Manatee was of course high on our wish list, but not something you count on seeing. In the end we saw none of the above species. Obviously we were disappointed that we did not see the uakaris, but it wasn't for the lack of trying that we dipped on them. I think we were just extremely unlucky. I am not sure whether this was typical for the month June or it was just the case this year: in the area where they are often encountered (and where Jon saw them), there were few trees fruiting. In contrast, there was a lot of food for the uakaris, howlers, woolly monkeys, and white-faced capuchins in the adjacent Mauritia palm swamps. Access to large parts of these swamps was difficult (or impossible) and it appeared that the uakaris but also the woolly monkeys and white-fronted capuchins spent a lot of time there during our stay. We also explored new territory to find the uakaris and once we got very close, but they again retreated to an inaccessible part of the palm swamp before we got to them.

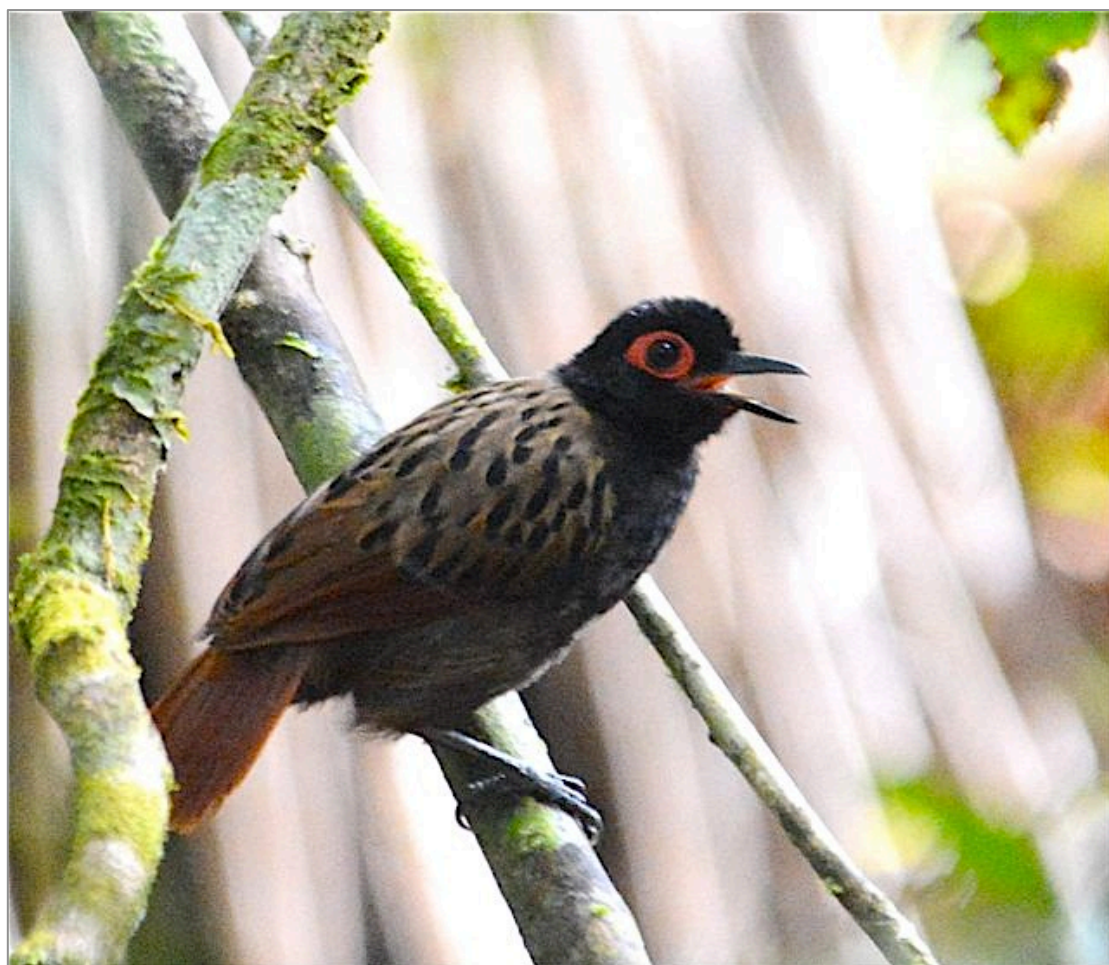


Black-capped Squirrel Monkey in Tapiche

To add insult to injury, on our last day when we went to Garza Lagoon, Jose's dad went fishing in a small lagoon near Garza and saw a group of uakaris there. Our multiday

uakari quest also meant that we did not have much time to visit areas that are favoured by sakis. Nevertheless, one would almost forget that we actually did have numerous excellent mammal sightings at Tapiche including brown titi, saddle-back tamarin, red howler, white-faced capuchin, giant river otter, paca, both river dolphins, brown-throated three-toed sloth and an entertaining group of coatis.

The bird list for Tapiche is mouthwatering with a large number of raptors including harpy and crested eagle, numerous rare wetland birds (see below), pretty much all the barbets, jacamars, puffbirds, nunlets, trogons, and motmots that should occur in northern Peru, plus a nice variety of manakins, tanagers, cotingas, and parrots. Antbirds are also well represented with several interesting species. Pick of the lot for me was the black-spotted bare-eye, which was fairly common and relatively easy to see as far as antbirds go. In general, the forest birding was relatively slow during our stay. I never encountered a proper large flock like those in Los Amigos or on Manu Road, so the forest birds trickled in relatively slowly. Understorey birds were relatively cooperative but rarely in flocks or even small groups, and canopy and midstorey species were hard to come by and most birds only vocalized properly very early in the morning (again unlike Los Amigos or on Manu Road where the activity would never die down completely). This might be typical for the early dry season or just the lack of rain/showers during our stay (one decent afternoon shower resulted in a minor burst of activity). Forest bird highlights during our stay included harpy eagle (our fourth harpy in three Amazon trips!), collared forest falcon (seen twice!), lettered aracari, a male plum-throated cotinga, lemon-throated and scarlet-hooded barbet, plumbeous antbird, and a superb male wire-tailed manakin.



Black-spotted Bare-eye

One of the major birding highlights at Tapiche is Garza Lagoon with its superb wetland birding. There is a heronry (mainly from January to June) with incredible numbers of agami and boat-billed herons, plus commoner species such as great white egret, snowy egret, cocoi heron, black-crowned night-heron and striated heron. When we visited most of the agamis had already left (during the breeding peak they are present in the hundreds), but several tens were still present (adults, juveniles and immatures). The boat-billed heron breeding season was still in full swing. Even outside the breeding season your chances of seeing one or two agami herons are quite good, because they are resident in the area.



Agami Heron – immature and (near-?)adult

Other charismatic wetland species such as hoatzins, horned screamers, anhingas, and limpkins are common and usually seen in the dozens. Sunbittern and sungrebe are fairly common too. In the dry season this already impressive list is extended by jabiru and wood stork, which we both saw. There have been fairly regular sightings of generally scarce or difficult to see birds such as least bittern, azure gallinule (thought to be resident), and zig zag heron.



Scarlet-Hooded Barbet (male at the nest) and bottom view of a Bare-necked Fruitcrow, photos both taken in the "garden" of Tapiche Lodge

The lodge is a simple affair, check the website for an impression. While I definitely wouldn't want the lodge to upgrade to something plush and "manicured", a few minor changes would be nice: the cabin we stayed in should have been a bit larger and a chair and a simple table would be useful, and maybe twins instead of the slightly wobbly bunk beds. The food was simple but good, and sometimes cook Gulliver would surprise us with fancier things such as soufflé or a nice fish dish.

The birding in the lodge grounds can be very good and lots of great birds have been seen there (Katoo showed us some pictures). We only had time to do some birding around the lodge once but we still saw a group of nest-building scarlet-hooded barbets, bare-necked fruitcrow, and masked crimson tanager plus numerous common birds (swallow-wing, tropical kingbird, roadside hawk, etc.).

Guiding: Jose and Katoo are excellent mammal trackers and spotters. Katoo's birding knowledge is pretty good too: he knows all the star birds in the area (and for a good number the calls) and he may either join you or give you tips on where to look for them, but for the more difficult LBJs, antbirds, flycatchers, etc. you would be on your own.

Jon Hall wrote in his report "Tapiche is the perfect place for a serious wildlife enthusiast to explore the Amazon." and I completely agree. Watching wildlife from dawn till dusk while enjoying the superb rainforest scenery is the main focus, as it should be.



Slowly gliding down one of the quieter creeks near Garza Lagoon (Katoo in front)

Los Amigos Biological Station (CICRA/ACCA)

For an introduction and impression of the lodge and the facilities, check here:

http://www.amazonconservation.org/ourwork/research_los_amigos.html

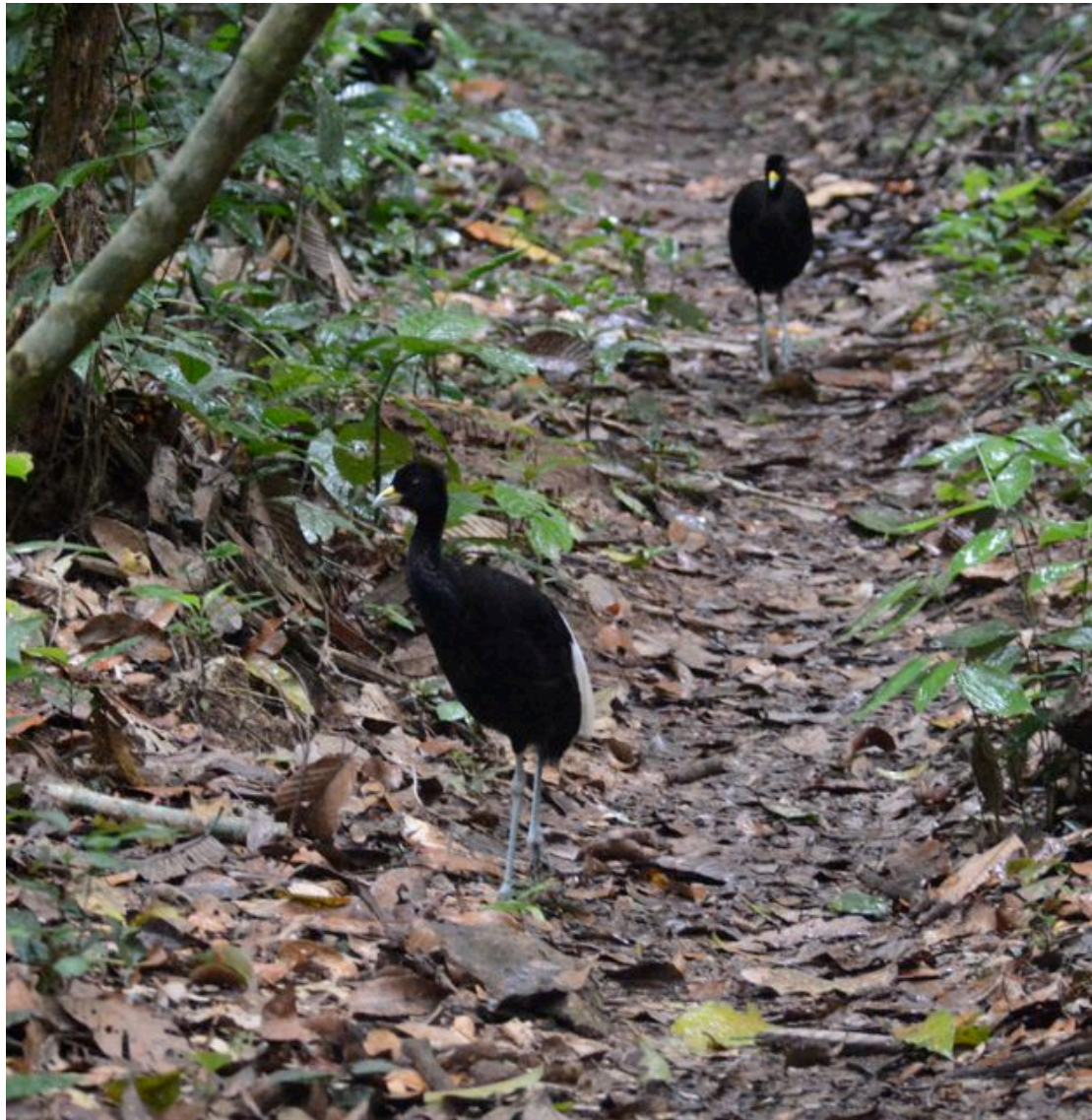
For those that have been to La Selva Biological Station in Costa Rica, the set-up is somewhat comparable, but Los Amigos is significantly smaller, more intimate and in a much wilder setting. In contrast to La Selva, there are no guides for tourists and typically you will be the only tourist or share the place with maybe a couple of other visitors. Exactly these characteristics made Los Amigos one of the most exciting and rewarding rainforest lodges I have visited so far. The fact that you are allowed to explore the trails on your own is a rare treat in the Amazon and was heaven for us! You do need to sign a waiver form but otherwise they seem to assume that you will use common sense in the rainforest.



Lush rainforest at Los Amigos; imagine the calming sounds of a Rufous Motmot here

The manager Jorge told me that they would like to attract more visitors (in moderation), and their target audience would be experienced wildlife watchers (birds, mammals, butterflies, herps, etc.) or non-novice visitors with a general interest in rainforests that are willing to explore the trails without the help of a guide. Hardcore birders (with and without guide) are currently the most seen visitors, but still in low numbers.

The researchers basically work seven days a week and will usually not have time to “guide” visitors (consider yourself lucky if they do). But you will see them on the trails and there is plenty of time to talk to them during lunch and dinner. It was interesting talking to them, either about their research or for tips on where to see certain species, trail conditions, etc.



Pale-winged Trumpeters (Los Amigos)

The lodge has an outstanding trail network, but do ask the researchers for an update on the current situation: some of the remoter trails are overgrown and can no longer be walked and sometimes stretches of otherwise good trails are temporarily closed. The further away from the lodge you go, the older the forest usually is. The trails closest to the lodge, i.e. the trails in a 300-meter radius from the lodge, have mostly regenerating forest. In particular the first few hundred meters of trails 1, 10 and 19 have regrowth, secondary forest or even just shrubs, low bamboo, etc. These areas can be good for undergrowth bird species/flocks and squirrel monkeys, titis and both tamarins. The spider and howler monkeys prefer the older forest. They often move silently but usually they can still easily be found if they make large noisy jumps from one tree to another. Brown capuchin appeared to be the most common species and they could be seen anywhere, often also around the station. In the floodplain forest down the hill we only saw brown capuchin monkeys, but in general this appears to be a mammal-rich area including peccaries, deer, paca, capybara, giant river otters at Cocha Lobo and a variety of felines including jaguar (fresh footprints were common and easy to see in the floodplain forest). But we didn't have enough time to explore this area properly. White-fronted capuchins are present but fairly scarce and/or shy and one researcher told me that they are more likely on the quieter trails north of the lodge. I particularly kept an eye open for them in the area where the palm swamp and old terra firme meet (trails 2

and parts of trails 9 and 36) and here I saw a small, very shy group of what I am pretty sure were white-faced capuchins (only got to see one of them quite well). Of the fairly common monkeys the bald-faced sakis can be tricky to find because they are often very silent, sit still for longer times and usually don't move very fast. The trails to look for the sakis are 2, 10, 19 and 24 but by far the best/easiest trail appears to be 25. It is better to stop often and systematically scan the mid-levels and (sub)canopy on these trails. My first saki was seen right up in the canopy in the highest trees (at least 30 meters up) on trail 25 (where it intersects with 19). In poor light at larger distances they may look like a ball of tangles or old leaves if their tail is curled up.



Saddle-back Tamarin

Emperor Tamarin

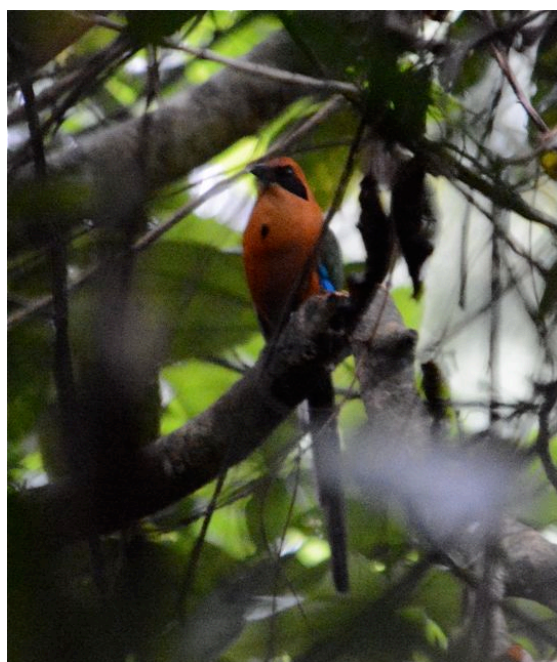
Here is a short overview of other larger mammals that may be seen: Collared Peccary, White-lipped Peccary and Red Brocket Deer (common), Gray Brocket Deer (scarce/rare, only occurs in the lower floodplain forest it seems), Black-headed Night Monkey, Kinkajou and Olingo (fairly common), Margay (scarce), Jaguarundi (uncommon, but seen by researchers with some regularity), Puma/Ocelot/Jaguar (common but not easy, and Jaguar is shy and avoids humans), Giant Armadillo (uncommon but regular sightings!), Nine-banded Armadillo (less common in terms of sightings than Giant Armadillo!), Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth (uncommon or just hard to detect, but researchers do see them on walks/surveys with some regularity, two-toed sloth occurs too but they appear to be rarer), Giant Anteater (rare), Southern Tamandua (fairly common), Silky Anteater (may occur in the floodplain forest but very rare), Short-eared Dog (rare, the semi-pet animal that was seen regularly several years ago is no longer present) and Bush Dog (very rare, no recent records), Tayra (common), Greater Grison (rare, but recorded on camera traps), Tapir (common), Paca and Capybara (occur mainly in the floodplain forest and probably not uncommon, but are not that easy to see probably due to former poaching activity, although Paca is sometimes seen on the lawns of the station), Pacarana (very rare, not sure if it has been recorded recently), Goeldi's Monkey (very rare, no recent records, may no longer occur), numerous opossums, rats,

mice and bats occur (some of them common, but (ID-able) sightings on night walks are hit and miss). Woolly monkeys are inexplicably absent from Los Amigos, but maybe the hunting in the past was a little too efficient.

Your best bet for seeing jaguars is scanning all riverbanks, sandbanks, etc. at river lookouts. They have been seen there in daytime on and off. Many of the small sandy beaches along rivers had lots of animal tracks, mainly tapir and peccaries, but also jaguar, tayra and ocelot.

Spotlighting on the grassy lawns of the research station can be very productive, especially between midnight and 4 am. I did this twice (about one hour which is probably too short) but only got agoutis and tapitis, but ocelot, paca, tayra and even giant armadillo have been seen on the lawns. Next to the football pitch there is a compost area, which may attract agoutis and pacas and sometimes other animals.

Good and mostly flat trails for spotlighting (and near-impossible to get lost) are 1, 2, 10, 24, 19, and 25 and the track (trail 14) into the “lowlands”(the floodplain forest). Try to find fruiting trees on these trails in the daytime and check if these trees can be spotlighted well from the trail at night. Kinkajous, olingos and night monkeys are noisy feeders so you will often hear them if they are close to the trail.



Rufous Motmot



Broad-billed Motmot

Birding is fantastic too, but if you are trying to watch mammals and birds at the same time in such a rich environment you end up making compromises. The first 2-3 days we mainly focused on mammals and once we had seen a decent number of the “doable” mammals I focused more on birds; flock birding was good and sometimes very good in Los Amigos and unlike all my other holidays in the Neotropics we saw particular good canopy tanager flocks in Los Amigos (as well as Manu). Understorey flocks were dominated by antbirds and woodcreepers. Strangely, we recorded relatively few flycatchers or I was just not noticing them in the colour festival that characterized most flocks. Given the fact that my knowledge of the calls was rather limited and selective, and I dislike using calls a lot, I was very pleased with the birds that we saw at Los Amigos (dull looking flycatchers, warblers and undergrowth skulkers, tiny birds dwelling in canopy tangles, etc. were almost completely ignored, which is reflected in

the trip list). Five days is simply not enough for this area if you want to see both mammals and birds.

Three categories of “desirable” birds were extremely uncooperative during our stay at Los Amigos: manakins, puffbirds and the “cooler” bamboo birds (and for these guys I did play the calls rather frequently). Chestnut-capped, striolated and collared puffbird should be relatively common though, I was told, but no luck. Eventually only a rufous-capped nunlet showed well, and we saw all three black nunbirds. Bamboo birding was as always frustrating; some of the more interesting bamboo specialists didn’t show (also because I could not spend enough time on them) so no luck with for example Peruvian Recurvebill, Manu Antbird, and Rufous-headed Woodpecker, although the latter is rare at Los Amigos. There are good numbers of ant-thrushes and antpittas at Los Amigos but I barely tried these (just not enough hours in one day). Black Bushbird, Rufous-fronted Ant-thrush and Hairy-crested Antbird all occur but are rare in Los Amigos. Of the manakins, I was mainly looking for Round-tailed Manakin, Band-tailed Manakin and Fiery-capped Manakin and one or two of these should normally be doable, but we did not get to see them. Dwarf Tyrant-Manakin, Blue-backed Manakin, Blue-crowned Manakin and White-bearded Manakin occur too.

One of the researchers, Sean, a young ornithologist witnessed a Crested Eagle hunting brown capuchins. The bird was unsuccessful, but Sean showed me spectacular images of the eagle perched! In the same week he also saw a harpy and a couple of days earlier he saw a puma chasing a tinamou. All in a day’s work at Los Amigos.



One of the old oxbows at Los Amigos – White-throated Jacamar was a thrash bird at this spot

Accommodation

We got a cabin close to the bluff that overlooks the river; these were great – spacious rooms with private shower, ample luggage store and a nice veranda with a bench and some chairs to do some (enjoyable) armchair birding while doing the daily list. Simple, but very practical. The only oddity was the mosquito net, which was a few centimetres

too short and couldn't be tucked in – and the mosquitoes knew! The first night we went to bed and within 15 minutes I had twelve new bites. First I thought that ants had conquered the bed, but I put on my flashlight I saw a swarm of mosquitoes dancing in the light inside the mosquito net area. Luckily we had brought our own mosquito net.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner are at set times. Lunch was usually rice with a non-spicy lentil/pea/bean curry (but they have aji, a red chilli sauce). Dinner was often soup and then rice with chicken, pasta, etc. Breakfast was sometimes rice with curry too, but also porridge, pancakes, homemade bread with omelette, etc. The portions were sometimes relatively small (apart from unlimited rice), so make sure you bring some snacks, energy bars, etc. for the longer walks in forest.

Los Amigos used to have a canopy walkway but unfortunately the structure has disintegrated. There still is a communications tower with two small viewing platforms that you can climb (with permission and climbing gear to secure yourself). The communications tower does rise above the canopy, so you undoubtedly will have amazing views, but unfortunately there are no emergent trees or high canopy close to the tower because all vegetation around the tower was cleared and now there is mainly relatively low regrowth directly around the tower. Nevertheless, one of the researchers told me it is a good place to see monkeys move through the canopy and scan for raptors. And with a scope you should still be in for some excellent canopy birding. We did walk the trail to the tower, but did not climb the tower (seemed too much effort and by then we had already seen all the canopy tanagers and monkeys we wanted to see). At the oxbow lake Cocha Lobo there are rowing boats that you can use and if you are lucky you might see the resident giant river otters, and you should almost certainly see hoatzins there.

How to get to Los Amigos

From Lima, travelling to Los Amigos is actually quicker than getting to the well-known lowland lodges in Manu:

1. When you fly to Puerto Maldonado, you probably need to spend the night there. The next morning, drive as early as possible (i.e., 4.30-5.30 am) to the small town of Laberinto to arrive there at dawn/early morning. The drive should take about 40-50 minutes. You can either take a private taxi to Laberinto (about 70-80 Soles, which is what we did) or go with a colectivo (about 8 Soles) but this will take a bit longer; ask your ho(s)tel where they leave, you first need to take a taxi/tuk tuk from your ho(s)tel to the colectivo “bus station”, which is not really in the city centre of Puerto Maldonado. There are a few very basic hospedajes in Laberinto in case you want to save costs, but no point really doing that.

2. In Laberinto ask to be dropped off at the harbour (basically just a riverbank with some wooden food stalls). The boats that you want to be on are the colectivo speedboats (and not the standard colectivos): The colectivo speedboats typically have an aluminium floor, rain flaps, about 15-25 individual seats, life vests and company names printed on the boat and/or seats. Company names are something along the lines of Selva Brava Tours, Madre de Dios Tours, etc. If unsure, just ask how long the ride will take: the boat trip should take between 3.5 and 6 hours depending on the water level (4-5 hours is normal) and this will cost about 50-70 Soles. The boats fill up quickly in the morning (we only had to wait 10 minutes), so it is better to show up early!

If you have found the colectivo speedboats, don't tell them that you are going to Los Amigos – tell them you are going to CICRA (near Boca Amigo). Los Amigos Biological

Station is locally known by its Spanish acronym CICRA. The boatmen will drop you off directly at Los Amigos/CICRA's boat landing. The hotels in Puerto Maldonado Los Amigos also know Los Amigos by the name CICRA (pronounced siekra)!

If the boat trip offered in Laberinto is cheap (25 Soles or less) and you don't see any seats, avoid those! Those boats are the standard colectivos and will need more than 10-12 hours to get to CICRA.

The above may sound a little complicated, but it is very simple and obvious once you get there, and even if you only speak about 100 words of Spanish (as we do), you can always ask (people were as always very friendly and helpful).

3. The downstream boat trip back to Laberinto is usually a bit faster (3-4.5 hours). I am not sure how many boats travel back every day, but there are definitely 3 or 4 daily that pass CICRA between 10 am and 1 pm. Ask the manager or some of the other staff for details how to get back to Laberinto/Puerto Maldonado, but it is pretty straightforward. After the boat ride back from CICRA to Laberinto, we didn't find a private taxi in Laberinto, so from the harbour we walked up the main road (small shops everywhere). After a couple of hundred meters you should turn left at the first crossroads and after about 50 metres look for the Terminal Terrestre on the right side of the road. There you can easily get a colectivo (8 Soles) back to Puerto Maldonado.



Jabirú

Manu Road

From Puerto Maldonado we took the night bus to Cuzco to save time. We didn't get to sleep a lot on this very winding road. After Omar and Americo had picked us up at the bus station in Cuzco, we started birding at Lake Huacarpay and then took the Huancarani/Paucartambo road to the Manu area.

We stayed two nights each at the well-known Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge and Wayquecha Cloud Forest Biological Station. Both are excellent lodges with good food, nice cabins with hot showers and a trail network. The Cock-of-the-Rock leks at Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge (even the one at the most recent location) do no longer exist. So you would have to go look for this species along the road or ask for permission and pay a fee for a new lek on the property of a slightly dysfunctional small lodge (I think it's Manu Cloud Forest Lodge) a few kilometres higher up the road from Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge (we didn't do this, but either your guide or the lodges in the area can help with this). Wayquecha Station has a new restaurant and revamped cabins with private shower and toilet. This also means that researchers and tourists are completely separated, which is probably more practical but I did regret not having time to talk to some of the researchers.

We visited all the well-known locations on Manu Road (San Pedro river, tunnel area, Rocotal, Pillahuata area, etc.) and one morning we went down as far as Pilcopata.



The scenery seen from the trails at Wayquecha

I spotlighted the trails at COTR one night, but saw absolutely nothing (although I did see fresh footprints of a tayra and footprints of another small carnivore when I explored the trails in daytime). Tayras also visit the feeders at COTR. Wayquecha would also be interesting for spotlighting, but the trails are partly very steep, which you will feel at 3000 metres altitude. I walked several of the trails in daytime on my own, and we explored the excellent Canopy Trail together with Omar (ask the manager for the key to access that trail). The first night at Wayquecha it was drizzling and foggy after dark, so I

didn't go out at night. The second night it was dry but very cold and at the very end of the trip I was just too tired that night to walk the trails, but I think it is worth a shot if you feel energetic.



Barred Fruiteater



Crimson-mantled Woodpecker

Lima/Iquitos/Puerto Maldonado

Iquitos is a large and not particularly pleasant city. We stayed in Katoo's Green Track Hostel, which is simple and clean, although the top rooms can be noisy (i.e., lots of traffic noise until very late in the night). Traffic noise was a permanent companion in Iquitos and if exhaust fume sniffing is your thing, you should definitely visit. Unbelievable that they haven't switched to electric tuk tuks. Rather quiet and relaxed is the promenade along the river (plus some common birds) although not sure if this is a good place to be late at night. Early evening is fine though, still lots of people on the street. We stopped at the Amazon Bistro along the promenade for drinks and they made us a very nice pisco sour.

Puerto Maldonado is much smaller and we liked this place better than Iquitos. There is nothing really to see or do in the town itself, but it does have several good restaurants near the river opposite Tambopata Hostel (and one block away from the Plaza de Armas) and I liked the relaxed vibe of the town. We stayed one night in Hotel Cabana Quinta and took a day room in Tambopata Hostel, both good value and helpful front desks. They both will organize a taxi to Laberinto (or anywhere else). The main bus station is not walking distance from the Plaza de Armas/city centre area, so you need to take a bus, taxi (8 Soles) or tuk tuk.

In Lima we stayed the first night at the Airport Hotel (very convenient and good value if you book early at a reasonable price). The last night in Peru we stayed in Limaq hotel, a straightforward but pleasant business hotel in an okay area of Callao, about 15-20 minutes from the airport. The staff speaks English and will help with arranging taxis, recommending restaurants, etc. A taxi to Miraflores from Limaq costs 25 Soles as does a taxi to the airport (taxis to/from the airport are more expensive even if the distance is

short). We once used the taxi services in the airport hall and they are indeed more expensive, but efficient and convenient if you arrive late.

Our last day in Peru we went to Miraflores in Lima. Upmarket yes, pretty not so much, but the redeeming feature here is the wealth of excellent restaurants and cafes. We also killed some time walking along the promenade and parks along the coast. One of the key areas along the Circuito de Playas appears to be between Parque del Amor and Plaza de Santa Tereza del Nino Jesus: don't even think of showing up here without your personal fengshui trainer and your pair of pedigree dogs (indeed, make that a pair of Bedlington Terriers, Weimaraners, Dalmatians or Affenpinschers; showing up with your only Labradoodle would make you the omega-dog among the pack of dog owners there).



White-fronted Capuchin in Tapiche

Weather

In Tapiche and the first four days at Los Amigos we had typical tropical lowland weather just the way we like it: hot, humid and temperatures of 28-32 °C. On our last full day in Los Amigos a cold front from the south (friaie) suddenly swept in: for us it was a first-time experience and it was rather spectacular – within 1.5 hours the temperature dropped from 30 to 13 °C at the peak of the friaie storm winds. If you are only wearing a thin sweat-drenched shirt, the combination of 13 °C and storm winds is rather unpleasant. Between mid-June and mid-August a lightweight sleeping bag may actually be worth bringing (we were freezing the last night in Los Amigos under the thin blankets). In Los Amigos the main season for friajes is typically from mid-June to late August (peak in July). Most friajes last only 1-3 days, but friajes of up to two weeks are not uncommon. Friajes also occur in the north but they will usually have weakened by the time they reach the Amazon around Iquitos, so friajes are usually shorter and less intense in that area.

We entered the cloudforest on Manu Road in more or less the expected weather (cold, dense fog, drizzle), but during most of our stay we had sunshine and very little rain or fog with the added bonus of being able to enjoy the spectacular mountain scenery. Some weather related trivia: in November it tends to rain a lot on Manu Road and from December on negotiating the road can become a challenge (landslides, stretches of road disintegrating, higher accident rate, etc.). From April/May things get better again. June and July are the coldest months, but usually the weather is calmer (less rain). Upper Manu Road around Wayquecha was very dry when we visited. The period from more or less mid-May to August (peak mid-June to July) is a good season for many flower species. It was still a few weeks too early for some of the orchids during our visit, but we still saw a lot of spectacular flowers. Mid-July and especially August also brings back the dreaded tabanos on Manu Road.

Health, Snakes and Bugs

Our health consultant from the Community Health Services in the Netherlands confidently stated that malaria in Eastern Peru is just as bad as in West Africa. We gave her a “you are kidding, right” look but unfazed she claimed that this was the latest information and showed us a map that only indicated that there is a malaria risk for the Amazon in Peru. We did bring Malarone and double-checked in Iquitos and Puerto Maldonado and malaria does occur but is rare and occurs irregularly. In Puerto Maldonado they only have a few cases every year and that is the most likely place in Peru to contract malaria. So we didn’t take any malaria pills during the entire trip. In Los Amigos so far none of the researchers has ever contracted malaria.

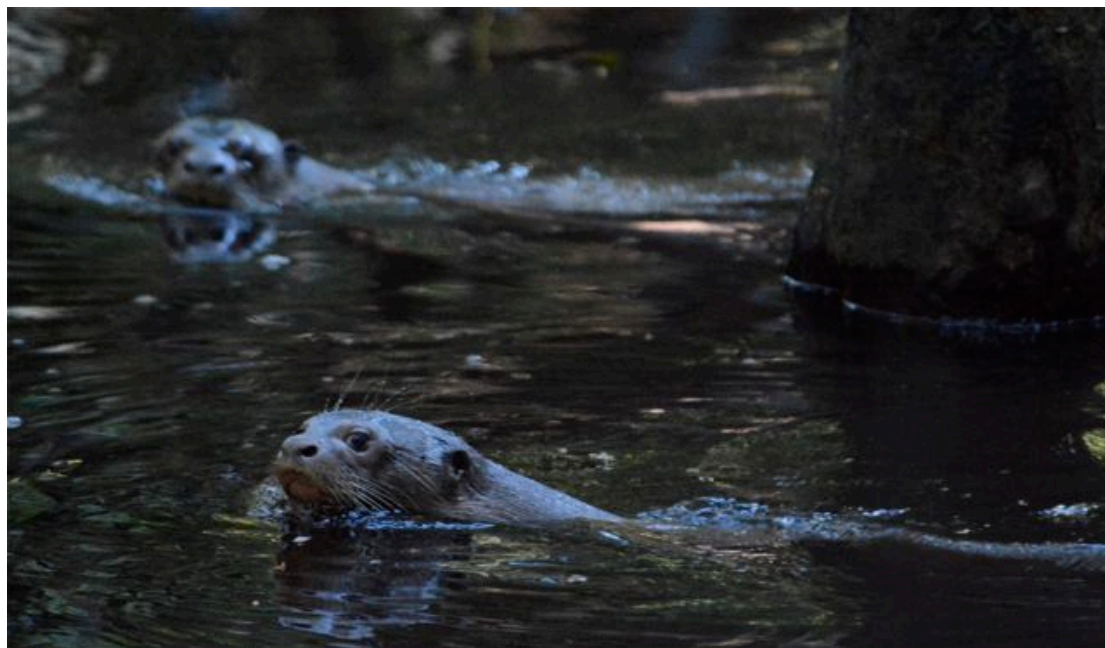
Mosquitos, tabanos, ants, wasps, horse flies, black flies, ticks, fleas, etc. were all present in Tapiche and Los Amigos and we got bitten or stung by all of them, and a lot by some of them. I also had two tiger leeches on me in Los Amigos, but we discovered them before I got draculaized. The mosquitos, tabanos and ants could be rather annoying in some areas in Tapiche. Mosquitos were moderately annoying in Los Amigos, where the number of mosquitoes and their aggressiveness oddly varied a lot day by day. I was told that the worst period for annoying insects in Tapiche and Los Amigos is roughly from January to April. Los Amigos has very little chiggers but we still expertly managed to attract them to our legs (avoid the areas with higher grass around the research station, not as easy as it sounds if you are walking backwards to get better views of that nicely perched blue-headed parrot).



Placid Bothrops, not entirely sure whether it is a “regular” Fer de Lance, Bothrops Atrox

This is the first time that we took rubber boots to the tropics and although I don’t like wearing them it is highly advisable to wear them on most hikes at both Tapiche and Los Amigos, because of the deep thick mud and large stretches of muddy water in many areas in Tapiche and the muddy floodplain forest in Los Amigos but also as protection against snakes, in particular if you do night walks or hike the remoter trails in Los Amigos. On the well-trodden paths around the research station in Los Amigos, hiking

boots would be okay in the daytime. Both at Los Amigos and Tapiche we encountered venomous snakes including twice a Lancehead, one of which was severely wounded (by a raptor attack??) and was striking at us rather aggressively but luckily for us it was in a weakened state so that it couldn't strike above ankle height. How well it was camouflaged in the dry leaves was disturbing though. We only noticed the snake once I had stepped over it. I encountered snakes seven times and only the lancehead in agony was aggressive, all the other snakes including another lancehead were placid. Bushmasters occur but are not encountered that often. There is no need to get paranoid about snakes – just wear the rubber boots and use common sense, but do realize that if you get bitten by a venomous snake, adequate medical care is far away and anti-venom is not available at Tapiche or Los Amigos.



Giant River Otters (Tapiche)

Equipment

I did bring my 13-40x Nikon ED-50 pocket scope and a lightweight tripod but I didn't use it that much, although a few times it was handy. A proper 20-60x scope would sometimes have been useful for scanning the riverbanks, perched canopy birds and the former airstrip area in Los Amigos, but lugging around a big scope on the forest trails would probably yield limited rewards. Even on Manu Road the flocks usually moved so fast that you would have to be a scope wizard, although for more distant flocks a scope can be useful.

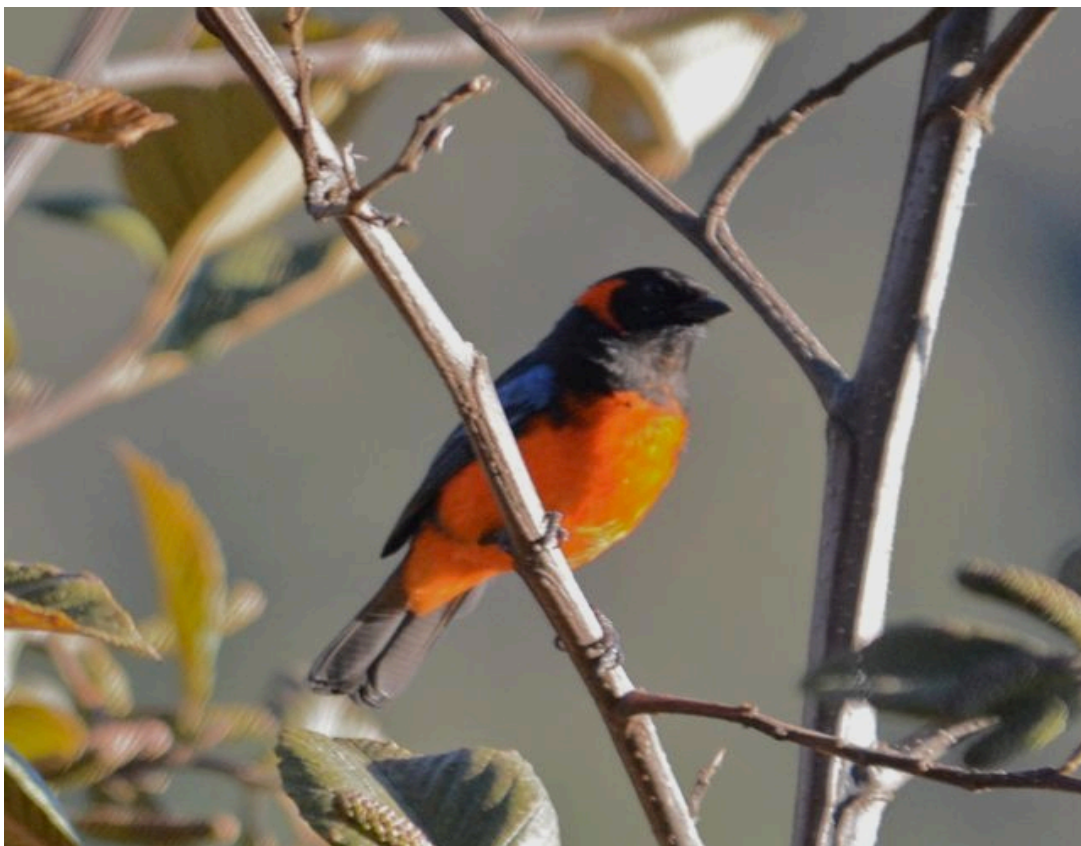
Charging your batteries, etc. is a bit of an issue at Tapiche and Los Amigos (and slightly less so for the Manu Road lodges) because of the limited charging time (2-4 hours daily) and limited number of plugs. If you have one, a heavy-duty power bank is well worth bringing. And bring plenty of batteries for your flashlight, headlight, etc. I brought 10 pairs of batteries for my flashlight and used all but one.

Books and Field Guides

I only brought *Birds of Peru* by Schulenberg et al. to Peru. Overall a good guide, but the drawings of many of the flycatchers and warblers seem to have been hypersaturated towards the yellow and green, making some birds rather unmatchable to what you see

in the field. But apart from a number of little annoyances it was pretty good. At home – before and after the trip – I also often used *Birds of Northern South America* (Restall et al.) and *Songbirds of South America* (Ridgely/Tudor) with its superb drawings and more informative text sections, although the condensed information in *Birds of Peru* is pretty good in my opinion. Next time though, I will bring copies of the more difficult species groups (such as woodcreepers, flycatchers, warblers, and foliage-gleaners) from *Songbirds of South America*.

I did not take a mammal guide, assuming that I would probably not encounter enough “difficult mammals” (which is what happened) and, even if, I would need a good photo to determine any of those bats, rodents, and opossums anyway. At home I mainly used *Neotropical Rainforest Animals* (Emmons/Freer) and *Handbook of the Mammals of the World: Volume 3 – Primates*.



Scarlet-bellied Mountain Tanager

Trip Lists

These acronyms were used in the trip lists below:

HUA = Huacarpay lake and immediate surroundings

TAP = Tapiche Reserve

LABS = Los Amigos Biological Station

PEM = Puerto Maldonado and surroundings (including the road to Laberinto)

WAY = Wayquecha Research station and trails, the tunnel area and the Pillahuata and Rocotal areas

COTR = Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge and trails, plus the road above and below the lodge, roughly between 1200 and 2000 m

IQT = Iquitos city and surroundings including the road to Nauta

Manu Road: by upper Manu Road I mean the area around Wayquecha and above (to the treeline) and below (Pillahuata, Rocotal and tunnel area). By mid-level I mean the area around COTR lodge and lower Manu Road in my report is the area between Pilcopata and the small villages south of Pilcopata (say up to about 1000 meters altitude).

I could not find bird checklists for both Tapiche and Los Amigos, but this paper documenting a survey along the Rio Tapiche was useful: *Birds of the Rio Tapiche*, by R. H. Wiley, J. Bishop, T. Struhsaker (1999/2004). Another useful reference was a bird checklist for the Pacaya Samiria Reserve, which is relatively close to Tapiche, but the Ucayali River is a major barrier for certain species so not all species in Pacaya Samiria may occur in Tapiche. For Los Amigos I constructed an incomplete patchwork list from a variety of sources.

Thanks to users Birdingcraft, Jim M, DarkFireFalcon, and njlarsen on Birdforum.net for helping out to ID several bird species!

I did not check in much detail whether my bird list reflects the latest developments in taxonomy, so it is likely that outdated names are used here and there.



*Original photos were taken in awful light so some psychedelic colour management on these:
Versicoloured Barbet and Blue-Cheeked Jacamar*

Before the trip I tried to make sense of the primate taxonomy. This was a rather frustrating and complex matter for a non-biologist but I did find a few papers/studies that shed some light on the matter (there are probably better publications for Neotropical primate taxonomy, but these were freely available and useful in my opinion):

- Laura K. Marsh, *A Taxonomic Revision of the Saki Monkeys (Pithecia Desmarest, 1804)*, *Neotropical Primates*, 21(1):1-165, DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1896/044.021.0101>, URL: <http://www.bioone.org/doi/full/10.1896/044.021.0101>
- Christian Matauschek, PhD dissertation *Taxonomy, Phylogeny, and Distribution of Tamarins*, handy maps on pages 5 and 9.
- Marc G. M. van Roosmalen, Tomas van Roosmalen, and Russell A. Mittermeier, *Neotropical Primates 10* (Suppl.), June 2002 – Abbreviated Title: *A Taxonomic Review of the Titi Monkeys*.

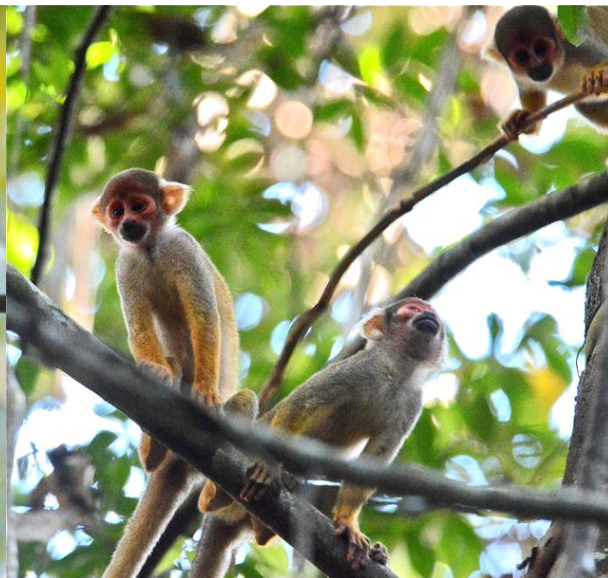
Thanks to Vladimir Dinets for pointing out this interesting paper (with a good map showing the various subspecies) with phylogenetic studies on squirrel monkeys by Manuel Ruiz-Garcia et al. in *Primates* **2015**, 56, 145-161 (paywall paper).

Handbook of the Mammals of the World: Volume 3 – Primates (HBMW3) follows a split-favouring taxonomy. Excessive splitting or not, I found it useful that HBMW3 shows the many local variations for a species/subspecies in more detail than most guides and reference works.

I also discussed the taxonomy of several primates with some of the researchers at Los Amigos but being true biologists they were a little wary to make firm taxonomic statements.



Record shot of White-faced Nunbird



Black-capped or Ecuadorian Squirrel Monkey? (Tapiche)

Mammal List

Long-Nosed Bat *Rhynchonycteris naso* – a small group seen at their roost in TAP and often seen in flight across rivers in TAP

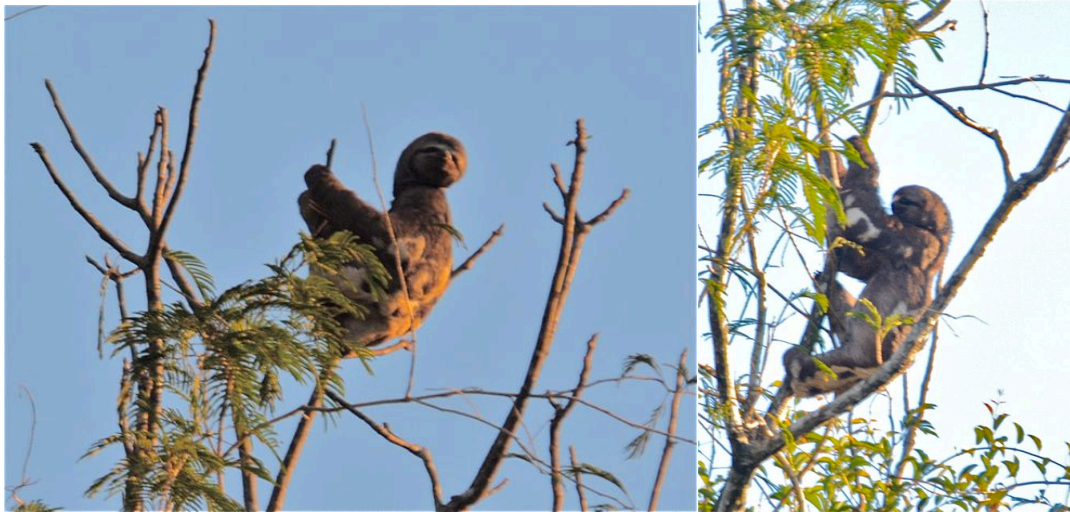
Greater Fishing Bat *Noctilio leporinus* – excellent views of several while spotlighting on the Tapiche River. Some would fly along the boat for minutes and many details could be seen well with my torch. Quite beautiful bats.

[Tent-making Bat *Uroderma bilobatum* – at LABS there is one known roost site for this species but several kilometres away from the lodge. Ask the researchers for directions; some will know where they are. We had seen this species before so we didn't bother]

[Bat species – one was roosting in our bathroom at night in LABS but it would always fly away as soon as we entered the bathroom at night/dusk. I never managed to make a photo]

Common Opossum *Didelphis albiventris* – one in TAP living in (or at least frequenting) the restaurant's roof, seen twice

Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth *Bradypus variegatus* – two sightings on June 26 in TAP



Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth

Saddle-backed Tamarin *Saguinus fuscicollis* – a total of seven sightings (three in TAP and four in LABS, usually only 1-3 animals), they seem to use pretty much every forest type, we saw them in secondary forest, old terra firme, igapo areas and bamboo/regrowth areas. The ones in TAP are *S. f. illigeri* and the ones in LABS *S. f. weddelli*.

Emperor Tamarin *Saguinus imperator* – seen three times at LABS (3, 1 and 2 animals), not uncommon, but not guaranteed; it may require effort and patience to see them but Los Amigos is likely the most reliable place to see this species in Peru. All three times we saw them in disturbed areas (gaps created by large fallen trees, bamboo, very young low-canopy secondary forest). All tree sightings were at low elevations (2-8 meters from the ground). They can be remarkably squirrel-like when moving.

Red Howler Monkey *Alouatta seniculus* – about 4-5 small groups seen in LABS but relatively shy, the howlers in LABS are sometimes classified as *Alouatta seniculus sara/puruensis* (Bolivian/Purus Red Howler) from what I have found in literature; regular sightings (1-2 groups of 2-4 animals daily) in TAP, the howlers in TAP would then be Venezuelan/Colombian Red Howler Monkey *Alouatta seniculus seniculus*.

Black-headed Night Monkey *Aotus nigriceps* – fleeting views of singles on night walks in LABS (more were heard but could not be seen).

Nancy Ma's Night Monkey *Aotus nancymae* – superb views of a family of four at a stake-out in TAP. I forgot to double-check this with the researchers in Los Amigos but HBMW 3 and IUCN list the night monkeys as *Aotus nancymae* for the Tapiche area.



Gray's Bald-faced Saki



Nancy Ma's Night Monkey

Brown Titi *Callicebus brunneus* – the titis in TAP are this (sub)species of the Red Titi complex

Coppery Titi *Callicebus cupreus* - the titis in LABS are this (sub)species of the Red Titi complex (double-checked this with the researchers at LABS). The titis in LABS and TAP look very similar, but they are subtly different, which can be seen in the field in good light.

Black-capped Squirrel Monkey *Saimiri boliviensis* – common in TAP, should be common too in LABS but we only saw them once there (although we did not really search for them there, but we did always check any potential monkey activity). The squirrel monkeys in TAP were extremely variable: some had intense red faces, others had very pale faces (like pale-skinned humans); the “cap” colour also varied a lot, from intense black to pale grey. Katoo thought that they are all *Saimiri boliviensis*. The ones in Tapiche are *S. b. peruviansis* and those in Los Amigos are *S.b. boliviensis* according to IUCN. However, HBMW 3 states that Ecuadorian Squirrel Monkey (*S. macrodon*) intergrades with Black-capped Squirrel Monkey in the Tapiche area. To complicate things further, Ecuadorian Squirrel Monkey looks very similar to the peruviansis form of Black-capped Squirrel Monkey (apart from the cap colour). The cap colour seen in the field in Tapiche varied from *S. macrodon* to *S.b.peruviansis* as shown in HBMW 3 and everything inbetween. If you have access to the journal, check the paper by Ruiz-Garcia listed on page 22 of this report, which basically states that there are only two or three proper squirrel monkey species.

Large-headed Brown Capuchin *Cebus apella macrocephalus* – very common, daily several groups at LABS and TAP, also a few encounters on Manu Road, also seen in the garden of COTR. IUCN now calls this *Sapajus macrocephalus*.

White-Fronted (Shock-headed) Capuchin Monkey *Cebus albifrons cuscinus*– in total we encountered three groups of this species during our stay at TAP (excellent views of our first group, which included a mother with a small baby). Two extremely pale and shy capuchins in LABS on one of the remoter trails close to the palm swamp were this species as well in my opinion. And to my surprise we also saw a small group on lower Manu Road, even managed to get some record shots.

Gray's Bald-faced Saki *Pithecia irrorata* – The saki species at LABS is different from the two species that occur in TAP (Equatorial and Monk Saki). The IUCN website is pretty

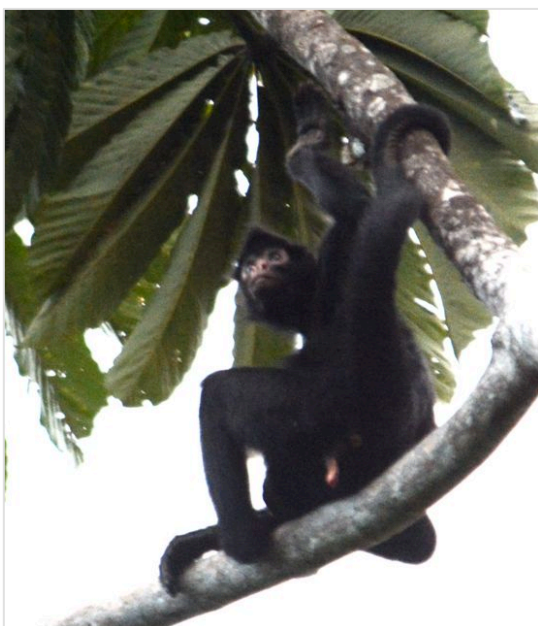
useless for sakis: it is very incomplete. The researchers in LABS said that the saki at Los Amigos was *Pithecia irrorata*, so I went with that.

Common Woolly Monkey *Lagothrix lagotricha* – superb views of a large group (at least 20) close to the road in Manu (above COTR) with animals of all age groups. Amazing animals.

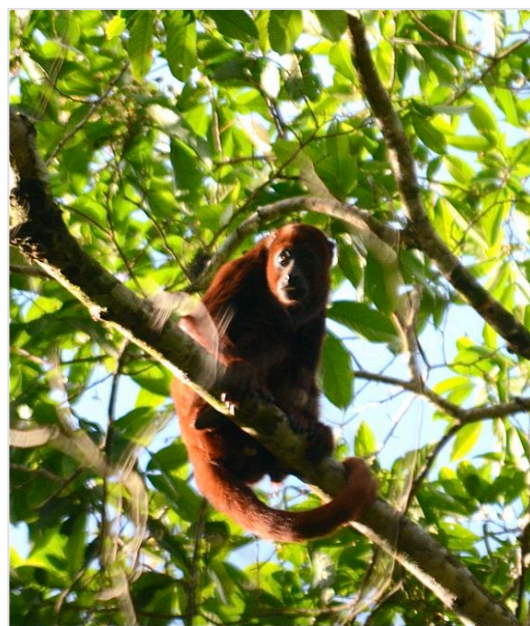


Common Woolly Monkey

Peruvian (or Black-faced) Black Spider Monkey *Ateles chamek* – uncommon and shy, two sightings at LABS: a single on June 29 and a group of at least three on July 3. Their agility and speed when moving through the canopy in full swing surprises me every time!



Spider Monkey



Red Howler (Tapiche)

South American Coatimundi *Nasua nasua* – a group of at least 12 animals was seen in TAP



Coati

Kinkajou *Potos flavus* – a few while spotlighting in LABS, views could have been better
Bushy-tailed Olingo *Bassaricyon gabbii* – two seen well in a fruiting tree on a spotlighting walk in LABS

Tayra *Eira Barbara* – brief views of singles at TAP and LABS, a third one was seen well by my wife only (LABS) and excellent views of one standing on the road and watching us approach in the car on Manu Road.

Giant River Otter *Pteronura brasiliensis* – wonderful views of six animals in TAP

Pink River Dolphin (Boto) *Inia geoffrensis* – seen fairly regularly on the boat rides to TAP and in the TAP area, several times decent views of very pink ones that emerged out of the water well enough to see more details of the animals (e.g., the head) other than a dorsal fin

Grey River Dolphin (Tucuxi) *Sotalia fluviatilis* – seen fairly regularly on the boat rides to TAP and in the TAP area, three times excellent views of an animal that jumped out of the water completely close to the boat

Tapiti *Sylvilagus brasiliensis* – 1-2 at night on the lawns of the research station in LABS

Bolivian squirrel *Sciurus ignites* – two sightings in Manu in the COTR area

[North Amazon Red Squirrel *Sciurus igniventris* – in TAP I saw at least one red squirrel that seemed to fulfill the diagnostic features per Emmons, but they are probably impossible to tell apart in the field unless you have them in the hand]

South Amazon Red Squirrel *Sciurus spadiceus* – about 7-8 in total seen in TAP, most of which corresponded with the diagnostic features given by Emmons. We also saw an entirely black melanistic *Sciurus* squirrel.

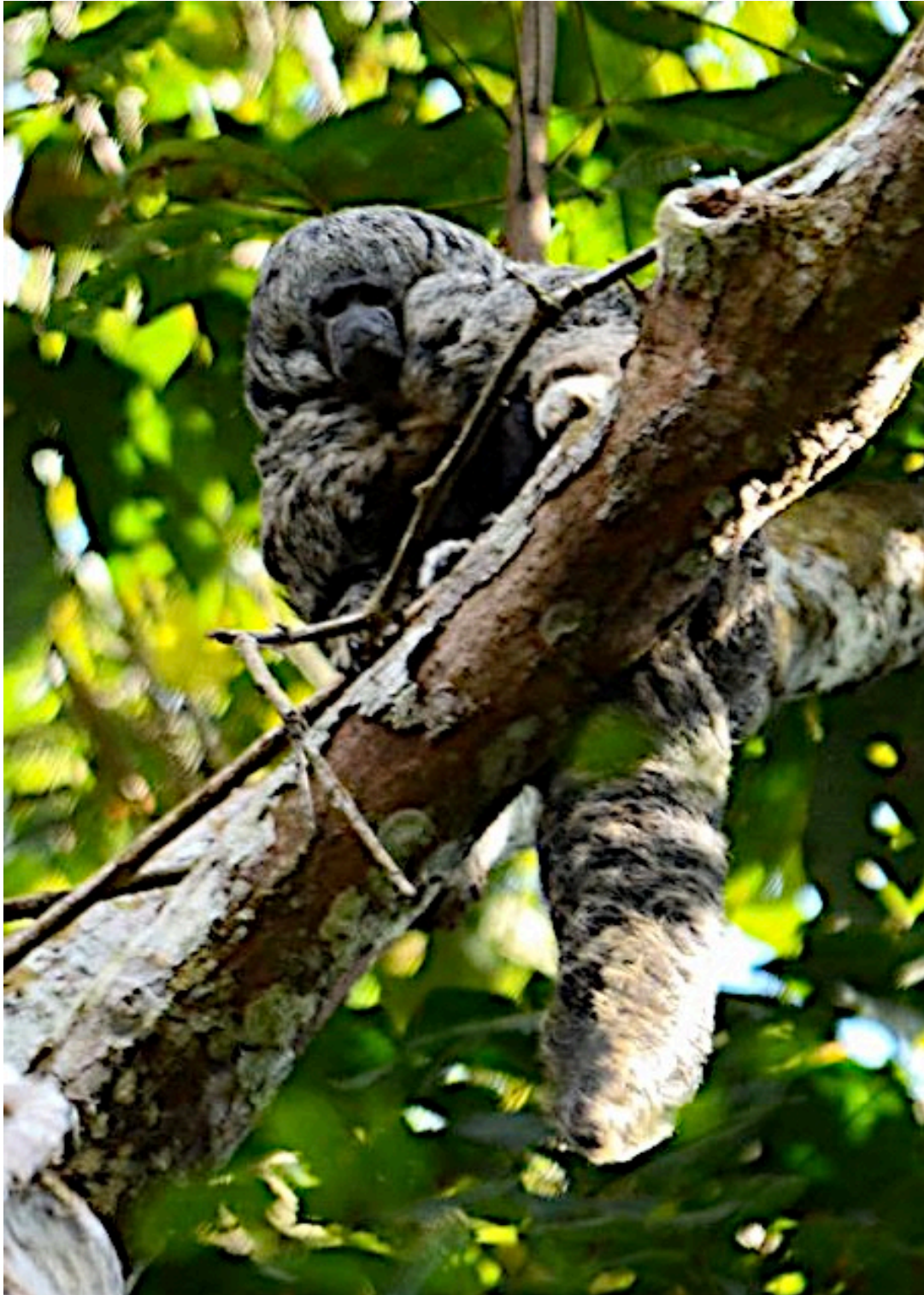
[Capybara *Hydrochaeris hydrochaeris* – not seen by us, but present and fairly regularly seen at LABS and TAP. Apparently relatively shy and mostly nocturnal due to ongoing hunting pressure]

Paca *Agouti paca* – one in TAP while spotlighting, relatively brief but good views

Brown (Central American) Agouti *Dasyprocta punctata variegata* – 1-2 on the grass lawns at LABS, one at the feeders in COTR was probably this species as well.

Lowland tapir *Tapirus terrestris* – one flushed in LABS, not the greatest views

Collared Peccary *Tayassu tajacu* – only flushed animals, never seen well
[White-lipped Peccary *Tayassu pecari* – heard the teeth-grinding in TAP and LABS]
White-tailed Deer *Odocoileus virginianus* – twice seen on Manu road near WAY
[Red Brocket Deer *Mazama Americana* – only alarm calls heard in LABS, but regularly seen by researchers]



Gray's Bald-faced Saki

Bird List

Black Tinamou *Tinamus osgoodi* – superb close views of one that I surprised on one of the trails at COTR, but even the slightest movement of my hand towards the camera made it calmly but quickly disappear into forest

Little Tinamou *Crypturellus soui* – fairly regular sightings in LABS including twice a mother with chicks

[Cinereous Tinamou *Crypturellus cinereus* – Katoo saw one in TAP when exploring off track on his own]

Undulated Tinamou *Crypturellus undulates* – once seen in TAP, seen 3-4 times in LABS

[Variegated Tinamou *Crypturellus variegatus* – heard at LABS]

[Bartlett's Tinamou *Crypturellus bartletti* – heard only in LABS. One sighting of a tinamou seemed to be this species, but not 100% sure]

Roseate Spoonbill *Platalea ajaja* – one seen along the river from Nauta to Requena, first time that Katoo saw this species in this part of northern Peru

Jabirú *Jabiru mycteria* – two adults and one immature at Garza lagoon in TAP

Wood Stork *Mycteria americana* – singles, small groups and flocks of up to 50-60 on the Madre de Dios river and around LABS, also a few seen in the TAP area

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna autumnalis* – a small group along the river from Nauta to Requena

Muscovy Duck *Cairina moschata* – fairly common in the TAP area and a few on the boat trip to TAP

Crested Duck *Lophonetta specularioides* – a sleeping bird at HUA

Speckled Teal *Anas flavirostris* – at least two at HUA on July 10

Yellow-billed Pintail *Anas georgica* – a few seen on both visits to HUA

Puna Teal *Anas puna* – about two dozen at HUA on July 10

Cinnamon Teal *Anas cyanoptera* – about 5-6 seen on both visits to HUA

Andean Guan *Penelope montagnii* – about 5-6 seen in the WAY area on Manu Road

Spix's Guan *Penelope jacquacu* – quite common, daily about 2-10 in LABS

Blue-throated Piping-Guan *Pipile cumanensis* – still shy in TAP, where we saw them twice, quite common and much more confiding in LABS, daily about 2-10 in LABS

Speckled Chachalaca *Ortalis guttata* – a small group was usually present around the research station in LABS, also seen a few times on the trails in LABS. Also regular encounters (about once daily) on Manu Road

Rufous-breasted Wood-Quail *Odontophorus speciosus* – excellent views of five that crossed the road in front of our car in the COTR area of Manu Road, also heard a few times

White-tufted Grebe *Rollandia rolland* – one at HUA

Peruvian Pelican *Pelecanus thagus* – two along the coast in Lima

Neotropic Cormorant *Phalacrocorax brasilianus* – very common in TAP, also seen on the river at LABS, quite numerous in Lima along the coast

Anhinga *Anhinga anhinga* – very common in TAP, also a few on the Madre de Dios/around LABS

Striated Heron *Butorides striata* – very common at TAP, regular sightings on the boat rides from IQT to TAP, a few seen along the Madre de Dios

Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis* – only a few sightings en route, also at HUA

Cocoi Heron *Ardea cocoi* – very common at TAP, regular sightings on the boat rides from IQT to TAP, a dozen or so along the Madre de Dios River

Great Egret *Ardea alba* – very common in TAP, regular sightings on the boat rides from IQT to TAP, quite common along the Madre de Dios

Snowy Egret *Egretta thula* – fairly common at TAP, regular sightings on the boat rides from IQT to TAP, a few seen along the Madre de Dios

Capped Heron *Pilherodius pileatus* – about 4-5 on the boat rides from IQT to TAP and daily sightings (1-4) at TAP, only once seen along the Madre de Dios

Rufescent Tiger-Heron *Tigrisoma lineatum* – uncommon in TAP, but seen about 6-7 times, most likely at Garza lagoon and creeks around Garza lagoon

Agami Heron *Agamia agami* – easiest to see at the heronry, but even away from the heronry we saw 5-10 individuals of this species. Nevertheless, shy and difficult to photograph well.

Boat-billed Heron *Cochlearius cochlearius* – easiest to see at the heronry, but even away from the heronry we saw up to 20-30 individuals of this species around dusk or just after dark plus the odd 1 or 2 at their roosts in daytime. Same as with the agami – quite shy and difficult to photograph well, but they were much easier to see and slightly more relaxed at the heronry.



Top left: Adult Boat-billed Heron. Top right: Adult Black-crowned Night-Heron. Bottom Left: Boat-billed Heron Chick. Bottom Left: Immature Boat-billed Heron

[Zigzag Heron *Zebrilus undulates* – not seen, but heard at TAP, calling from an inaccessible area]

Black-crowned Night-Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax* – (at least) one adult at the heronry in TAP and one in Garza lagoon in TAP and the occasional bird along small creeks in TAP

Horned Screamer *Anhima cornuta* – common in TAP and two at an oxbow lake in LABS

Puna Ibis *Plegadis ridgwayi* – common around HUA and along the road between Cuzco

and Paucartambo
Green Ibis *Mesembrinibis cayennensis* – about 3-4 in TAP and three in flight between TAP and Requena

Black-faced Ibis *Theristicus melanopis* – two along the road between Cuzco and Paucartambo

Turkey Vulture *Cathartes aura* – fairly regular on the boat rides to TAP and LABS, also one of the Amazonian race on lower Manu Road

Greater Yellow-headed Vulture *Cathartes melambrotus* – common in forested areas in the lowlands
 Black Vulture *Coragyps atratus* – common in non-forested areas and urban areas in the lowlands, a few in Lima
 Osprey *Pandion haliaetus* – two on the boat rides to TAP and one on the Madre de Dios River
 Swallow-tailed Kite *Elanoides forficatus* – a total of three on the Madre de Dios River on July 5
 Snail Kite *Rostrhamus sociabilis* – several on the boat rides from IQT to TAP and daily sightings (1-6) at TAP, a few on the Madre de Dios River
 Double-toothed Kite *Harpagus bidentatus* – one together with squirrel monkeys at TAP
 Plumbeous Kite *Ictinia plumbea* – one on the boat ride from Requena to TAP
 Crane Hawk *Geranospiza caerulescens* – two at TAP
 Slate-colored Hawk *Leucopternis schistaceus* – at least four different ones at TAP, one was very curious and suddenly swooped down from the canopy down to a branch 4-5 meters above us, clearly attracted to the delights in our lunch boxes
 Great Black-Hawk *Buteogallus urubitinga* – several on the boat rides from IQT to TAP and daily sightings (1-2) at TAP and one on the Madre de Dios
 Solitary Eagle *Harpyhaliaetus solitarius* – one seen well in flight on Manu Road
 Black-collared Hawk *Busarellus nigricollis* – several on the boat rides from IQT to TAP and daily sightings (3-10) at TAP and two on the Madre de Dios
 Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle *Geranoaetus melanoleucus* – two adult birds on the road between Cuzco and Paucartambo
 Roadside Hawk *Buteo magnirostris* – a few around IQT, very common at TAP and on the boat rides to TAP; also a handful on the Madre de Dios River and about 2-3 around clearings or regrowth areas in TAP
 White-throated Hawk *Buteo albigula* – one seen well in flight on Manu Road



White-throated Hawk

Variable Hawk *Buteo polyosoma* – a juvenile bird between Huancarani and Paucartambo
 Harpy Eagle *Harpia harpyja* – one flushed on the boat ride to the night monkeys in TAP
 [Black-and-chestnut Eagle *Spizaetus isidori* – heard only on Manu Road]

Laughing Falcon *Herpetotheres cachinnans* – heard several times at TAP and once seen close to the lodge along the river edge, good sighting of one on a dead tree along the riverbank on the boat ride from Laberinto to LABS

Collared Forest-Falcon *Micrastur semitorquatus* – two sightings of single individuals, they were both of the very dark almost brown-black morph. I played the call to make sure we had the right species, and there was an immediate and strong response for this species after having played some of the others first (apart from the fact that it was indeed a large forest-falcon).

American Kestrel *Falco sparverius* – at least two at HUA, a few more on the road to Paucartambo

Yellow-headed caracara *Milvago chimachima* – common around IQT, on the boat rides to TAP and on the Madre de Dios and also regular sightings in TAP

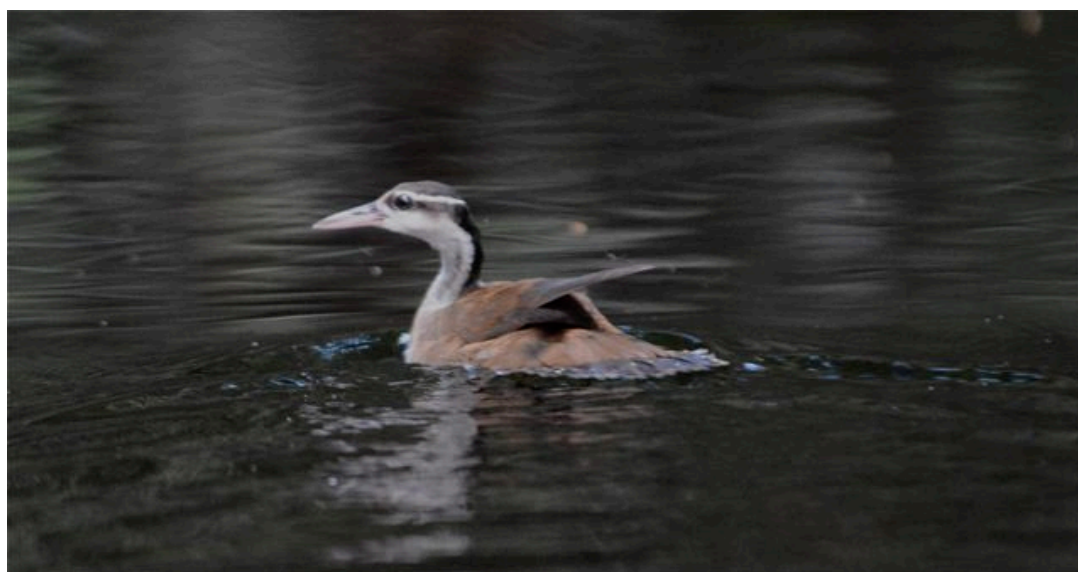
Red-throated Caracara *Ibycter americanus* – several groups of 2-5 birds at TAP

Mountain Caracara *Phalcoboenus megalopterus* – an immature relatively high up on the Manu Road but still in the cloud forest albeit in a clearing.

Black Caracara *Daptrius ater* – an immature bird on June 20 between Requena and TAP and an adult on June 27

Limpkin *Aramus guarauna* – should be common in TAP, but we only saw about 5-6 on the last day

Sungrebe *Heliornis fulica* – fairly common on the smaller creeks in the TAP area, in total about 10 were seen



Sungrebe

Sunbittern *Eurypyga helias* – our guide/tracker Jose spotted one on the nest in TAP

Pale-winged Trumpeter *Psophia leucoptera* – three different groups were seen in LABS (6, 7 and 10 birds were seen, respectively). They were surprisingly relaxed and confiding, which suggests that hunting pressure is low to non-existent around the lodge. [Gray-necked Wood-Rail *Aramides cajanea* – only Katoo saw one crossing the trail in TAP]

Plumbeous Rail *Pardirallus sanguinolentus* – 1-2 at HUA and even one seen well in a rather dirty pond in Cuzco city

Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus* – common at HUA and ponds in Cuzco city

[Azure Gallinule *Porphyrio flavirostris* – seen at TAP, but too brief and unconvincing views for me to tick although it was this species without a doubt]

Slate-colored (Andean) Coot *Fulica ardesiaca* – one at HUA

Southern Lapwing *Vanellus chilensis* – two near Pilcopata on the lower part of the Manu Road

Andean Lapwing *Vanellus resplendens* – fairly common around HUA and a few on the road to Paucartambo

Black-necked Stilt *Himantopus mexicanus* – two on the boat ride from Nauta to Requena

Collared Plover *Charadrius collaris* – at least five on June 20 between Requena and TAP, and at least two on the boat ride to LABS



Collared Plover

Pauraque

Wattled Jacana *Jacana jacana* – common to abundant in areas with floating vegetation in TAP, also a handful on the boat rides to TAP and LABS

Andean Gull *Chroicocephalus serranus* – fairly regular around HUA and near rivers on the road to Paucartambo

Belcher's (formerly Band-tailed) Gull *Larus belcheri* – common along the coast in Lima

Kelp Gull *Larus dominicanus* – fairly common along the coast in Lima

Yellow-billed Tern *Sternula superciliaris* – fairly common on the boat rides to TAP and LABS, on all boat rides less common than Large-billed Tern

Large-billed Tern *Phaetusa simplex* – a few around IQT, common on the boat rides to TAP and LABS

Black Skimmer *Rynchops niger* – pleasingly regular on the boat rides to TAP and also about 25 in total on the Madre de Dios River

Croaking Ground-Dove *Columbina cruziana* – a few seen in Lima

Ruddy Ground-Dove *Columbina talpacoti* – seen near PEM

Black-winged Ground-Dove *Metriopelia melanoptera* – several at HUA

Golden-spotted Ground-dove *Metriopelia aymara* – several at HUA

[Rock Pigeon *Columba livia* – abundant in cities and cultivated areas]

Band-tailed Pigeon *Patagioenas fasciata* – one in flight at the start of the Manu Road

Plumbeous Pigeon *Patagioenas plumbea* – a few daily in LABS that could be properly identified and distinguished from Ruddy Pigeon, only once identified with certainty at TAP, also a few on lower Manu Road. Many flyovers I could ID with certainty.

Ruddy Pigeon *Patagioenas subvinacea* – a few daily in LABS, twice identified with certainty at TAP

West Peruvian Dove *Zenaida meloda* – common in Lima

Eared Dove *Zenaida auriculata* – a few around HUA, also one pair in Lima

Gray-fronted Dove *Leptotila rufaxilla* – common in the lowlands but usually seen flushed

Ruddy Quail-Dove *Geotrygon montana* – surprisingly common at LABS, seen well at least six times, if you walk slowly on a straight stretch of path and scan ahead, they were often quietly feeding on the paths.

[Sapphire Quail-Dove *Geotrygon saphirina* – a distinctly different looking quail-dove was flushed in LABS, which may have been this species, but views were just too short]

Blue-and-yellow Macaw *Ara ararauna* – the most commonly seen large macaw both at TAP and LABS; also two dozens or so seen on boat transfers in the lowlands

Scarlet Macaw *Ara macao* – only seen at LABS, two sightings of two and three birds

Red-and-green Macaw *Ara chloropterus* – only once seen flying over the station at LABS

Chestnut-fronted Macaw *Ara severus* – fairly common at LABS and a few at TAP, also about 10 in the Pilcopata area of the Manu Road

Red-bellied Macaw *Orthopsittaca manilata* – common in flight on the boat trip from Requena to TAP, regular sightings at TAP but almost always flight views.

Red-shouldered Macaw *Diopsittaca nobilis* – a few seen in flight in pretty good light at Garza Lagoon in TAP on June 26

White-eyed Parakeet *Aratinga leucophthalma* – only seen in flight in the Amazon lowlands

Dusky-headed Parakeet *Aratinga weddellii* – a couple of sightings and once seen very well perched at LABS in the trees near the football field

[Parrotlet species – a few times I saw parrotlets in flight on the boat rides to TAP and LABS but the light was never well enough to allow ID and I didn't know the calls of the individual species]

Tui Parakeet *Brotogeris sanctithomae* – only once seen with certainty on the boat ride between Requena and TAP

Cobalt-winged Parakeet *Brotogeris cyanopectus* – common at TAP and during the boat rides to TAP and LABS, but usually only (poor) sightings in flight

White-winged parakeet *Brotogeris versicolurus cyanopectus* – common at TAP, including several excellent sightings of perched birds, also regularly seen flying across on the boat rides to TAP

[Mountain Parakeet *Psilopsiagon aurifrons* – poor views of high flying birds above Manu Road, identified by Omar by their calls and their shape in flight]

Black-headed Parrot *Pionites melanocephalus* – we first thought that they were the more commonly seen White-bellied Parrot, but I managed to make some record shots and they clearly showed the black head. Also the local guides confirmed that both species occur in the area.

Orange-cheeked Parrot *Pyrilia barrabandi* – seen or heard with some regularity at both TAP and LABS and a few times decent views, but never perfect views for this spectacularly coloured species. Better views needed.

Blue-headed Parrot *Pionus menstruus* – seen and heard at TAP and LABS. Excellent views at LABS. The blue on the head really radiates in evening sunlight. They often roost or rest in the trees around the station and can be seen there early morning or late in the afternoon, in particular in the area near the football pitch.

Yellow-crowned Parrot *Amazona ochrocephala* – quite common in TAP, but usually seen in flight, only once seen perched

Scaly-naped Parrot *Amazona mercenaria* – mediocre views of relatively low flying birds above Manu Road, identified by their shape in flight and calls, but I could see the colours on them reasonably well, so this one was tickable for me.

Mealy Parrot *Amazona farinosa* – common and excellent views at LABS, where they often roost or rest in the trees around the station

Orange-winged parrot *Amazona amazonica* – a small group seen in flight quite well on the boat ride to TAP, a group of about ten seen perched in TAP, plus lots of frustrating flight views in poor light

Hoatzin *Opisthocomus hoazin* – common at TAP (several tens), at least three birds at Cocha Lobo in LABS

Squirrel Cuckoo *Piaya cayana* – amazingly only seen twice, once in LABS and once near COTR

Smooth-billed Ani *Crotophaga ani* – common/abundant in TAP, LABS, all boat rides and in the Pilcopata area in Manu

[Rufous-vented/Red-billed Ground-Cuckoo *Neomorphus geoffroyi/pucherani* – heard in TAP (Katoo recognized the call), not sure which of the two species occurs at TAP, but Rufous-vented Ground-Cuckoo occurs at LABS where quite rare but researchers have seen them there on occasion]

[Tawny-bellied Screech-Owl *Megascops watsonii* – heard only on night walks in LABS and once in TAP]

[Crested Owl *Lophotrix cristata* – heard only on night walks in LABS]

[Spectacled Owl *Pulsatrix perspicillata* – heard only on night walks in LABS]

[Mottled Owl *Ciccaba virgate* – heard only on night walks in LABS]

[Black-banded Owl *Ciccaba huhula* – heard only on night walks in LABS plus a rather unusual sighting of a silhouetted bird flying against the remarkably well-lit sky in LABS during full moon. I am pretty sure that it was this species, because it was calling both from the area where it took off and landed]

Striped Owl *Pseudoscops clamator* – one before dawn on the road from PEM to Laberinto
Andean Pygmy-Owl *Glaucidium jardinii* – superb proplonged views of a rufous individual on Manu Road



Andean Pygmy Owl



Black-faced Antbird

Amazonian Pygmy-Owl *Glaucidium hardyi* – when I stopped to listen for noise that seemed to be made by night monkeys, a small owl flew through the beam of the spotlight and snatched a large grasshopper-like insect from a leaf only 6-7 meters away. Amazing! I am pretty sure it was this species because they were calling all around me and I was told that it is more common in LABS than Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl

[Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl *Glaucidium brasilianum* – heard a few times at TAP]

[Great Potoo *Nyctibius grandis* – heard near our cabin at TAP. There are stakeouts for this species along Manu Road but we have seen this species quite a lot before, so we didn't bother]

Common Potoo *Nyctibius griseus* – about 3-4 along the Tapiche River at night.

[Ocellated Poorwill *Nyctiphrynus ocellatus* – I had an intriguing nightjar sighting in LABS at night of what may have been a Long-tailed Potoo or more likely Ocellated Poorwill. Seconds after I had seen the owl (see entry for Amazonian Pygmy-Owl), a relatively large (but not very large) nightjar also flew from left to right through the beam of the spotlight, it looked rather grayish and nondescript (no obvious white wing markings) and was seen right in the middle of the forest and flew very low, about 3-4 meters above the ground. Too small to be a Great Potoo (I have seen them in flight before) or the similar sized Long-tailed Potoo (which does fly low inside the forest), and definitely not a pauraque either. Common Potoo does not hunt inside the forest as far as I know; so (male) Ocellated Poorwill seems a decent bet, also sizewise. Other nightjars that occur

are Ladder-tailed Nightjar and Sand-coloured Nighthawk, but to my knowledge they are forest edge/river edge species that don't hunt inside the forest.]

Andean Potoo *Nyctibius maculosus* – one at the well-known roost at Rocotal in Manu

Pauraque *Nyctidromus albicollis* – very common in TAP and LABS

Lyre-tailed Nightjar *Uropsalis lyra* – a male was seen well 4-5 times against the sky and once perched on a tree at the stake-out in Manu. What a beast!

Chestnut-collared Swift *Streptoprocne rutila* – only 4-5 seen twice along Manu Road but we were usually following flocks so probably underrecorded

White-collared Swift *Streptoprocne zonaris* – small numbers in the Pilcopata area on Manu Road

Short-tailed Swift *Chaetura brachyura* – small numbers in TAP

Fork-tailed Palm-Swift *Tachornis squamata* – fairly common in the IQT area, sporadically seen en route elsewhere, also seen on the road from Puerto Maldonado to Laberinto

Reddish Hermit *Phaethornis ruber* – several times decent views of birds hovering and briefly perched in LABS

White-bearded Hermit *Phaethornis hispidus* – one seen quite well in TAP

[Green-fronted Lancebill *Doryfera ludovicae* – guide only sighting in Manu]

Brown Violetear *Colibri delphinae* – slightly frustrating views of a perched/feeding bird of which I could never quite see the entire bird in a single view

Green Violetear *Colibri thalassinus* – several seen on the Paucartambo/Manu Road

Sparkling Violetear *Colibri coruscans* – one of the commoner hummers around HUA and the lower part of the road to Paucartambo

Amethyst-throated Sunangel *Heliangelus amethysticollis* – fairly common in the WAY and tunnel area, two seen very well

Wire-crested Thorntail *Discosura popelairii* – one seen at COTR, did see the “thorntail”, the white band in the back but did not see the “wire crest” very well. Better views needed.

Peruvian Piedtail *Phlogophilus harterti* – fairly common in the WAY and tunnel area

Speckled Hummingbird *Adelomyia melanogenys* – common at the COTR feeders and also seen along Manu Road

Long-tailed Sylph *Agelaiocercus kingi* – good views of a perched young male, i.e., the tail was not yet that long

Green-tailed Trainbearer *Lesbia nuna* – good views of two at HUA

Tyrian Metaltail *Metallura tyrianthina* – fairly common in the WAY and tunnel area, several seen well

Shining Sunbeam *Aglaeactis cupripennis* – one seen on the road to Paucartambo

Bronzy Inca *Coeligena coeligena* – one at start of the the Huancarani/Paucartambo road to Manu

[Collared Inca *Coeligena torquata* – poor flight views only]

Gould's Inca *Coeligena inca* – superb views at very close range on upper Manu Road, the most impressive hummer of the trip (of the ones that we saw well)

Violet-throated Starfrontlet *Coeligena violifer* – seen several times in the WAY and tunnel area, only one seen well

[Sword-billed Hummingbird *Ensifera ensifera* – flight views for the guide only on the trails at WAY]

Booted Racket-tail *Ocreatus underwoodii* – a few (male and female) seen at the COTR feeders

Giant Hummingbird *Patagona gigas* – one directly at the start of the access road to Manu, only seen in flight but very good views of a bird that kept hovering for a long time in good light

White-bellied Woodstar *Chaetocercus mulsant* – decent views of a young/immature male along Manu Road

Gray-breasted Sabrewing *Campylopterus largipennis* – one in flight along Manu Road and another one seen perched in LABS, several bicoloured (grey belly/breast-green back) hummers were seen in flight in LABS but not sure which species

Fork-tailed Woodnymph *Thalurania furcata* – one of the more commonly seen hummers, seen at LABS and Manu

Many-spotted Hummingbird *Taphrosipilus hypostictus* – a few seen at the feeders in COTR and once pretty good views along Manu Road

[Pavonine Quetzal *Pharomachrus pavoninus* – heard only at LABS; once we heard this species calling really close on trail 9, but then a massive understory flock showed up demanding our attention. After we had “dealt” with the flock, the bird was silent/gone; no response to playing the song. I was told that trails 2 and 25 are good places to look for this species in LABS]

Golden-headed Quetzal *Pharomachrus auriceps* – four males along Manu road, appeared to be a minilek of males

Crested Quetzal *Pharomachrus antisianus* – one seen in the higher part of the cloudforest along Manu road. Unfortunately it flew just before I could make a picture. Quite shy!

Green-backed (White-tailed) Trogon *Trogon viridis* – one male in TAP

Violaceous Trogon *Trogon violaceus* – a pair in TAP

Blue-crowned Trogon *Trogon curucui* – commonly heard in LABS, seen three times (without trying hard)

Collared Trogon *Trogon collaris* – fairly common in TAP including excellent close-up views of an adult pair with an immature bird

Masked Trogon *Trogon personatus* – can sometimes be tricky to find, but we encountered eight individuals along Manu Road

Black-tailed Trogon *Trogon melanurus* – fairly common in TAP



Black-tailed Trogon



Streaked Tuftedcheek

Ringed Kingfisher *Megaceryle torquata* – very common on the boat rides to TAP and in the TAP area itself, much scarcer on the Madre de Dios River. In general there were much less kingfishers on the boat ride to LABS from Laberinto.

Amazon Kingfisher *Chloroceryle amazona* – fairly common (between 2 and 5) on the boat rides to TAP and common in the TAP area itself, 1-2 on the Madre de Dios river

Green Kingfisher *Chloroceryle americana* – fairly common on the boat rides to TAP and common in the TAP area itself

Green-and-rufous Kingfisher *Chloroceryle inda* – between 2 and 8 seen on excursions along the smaller creeks and black-water rivers in TAP

American Pygmy Kingfisher *Chloroceryle aenea* – between 1 and 4 seen on excursions to the smaller creeks and black-water rivers in TAP

Broad-billed Motmot *Electron platyrhynchum* – one reacted immediately to playing its call, excellent views for a prolonged time in LABS

Rufous Motmot *Baryphthengus martii* – commonly heard in LABS, but only one came in and stayed for superb views after playing its call, also one seen in flight when it had to fly across the lawn in LABS

Blue-crowned Motmot *Momotus momota* – several (about 4-5) seen in TAP including one that flew across the river showing its spectacular colours optimally in flight in bright sunlight

Highland (or Andean) Motmot *Momotus aequatorialis* – about 4-5 seen along the Manu Road and one was seen well on the trails at COTR



Highland Motmot

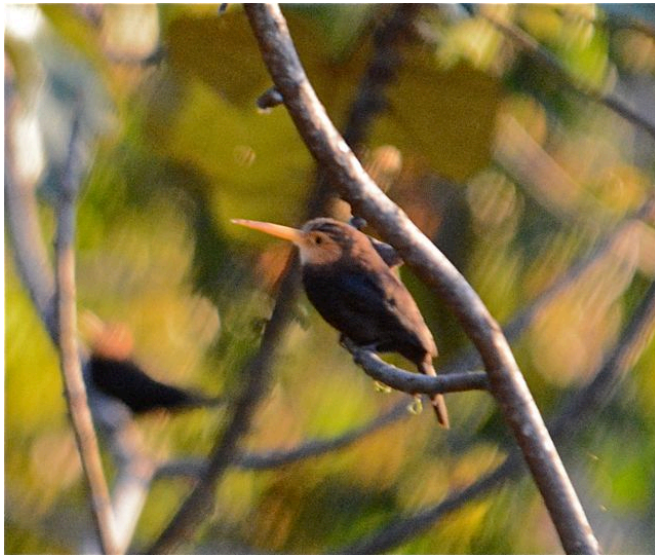


Golden-headed Quetzal

Blue-cheeked Jacamar *Galbula cyanicollis* – twice a single bird in swamp forest in TAP [White-chinned Jacamar *Galbula tombacea* – at least two seemed to be this species (“blackish” cap/forehead, rather prominent white chin), but difficult to separate in the field from Bluish-fronted Jacamar if not seen well or in either dark or very bright light. The range map in *Birds of Peru* suggests that Tapiche is right on the edge of the distribution (but on the wrong side of the Ucayali River). White-chinned Jacamar is listed on the Pacaria Samiria list, but the survey on the Tapiche River (see page 22) did not record them, only Bluish-fronted Jacamar. The IUCN map appears to be outdated. Katoo called all the black-billed *Galbula* jacamars in Tapiche White-chinned Jacamar. About one third of the birds that I saw clearly had a white chin, but to complicate things there is also the white-chinned form of Bluish-fronted Jacamar. Unfortunately I could not get pictures of the white-chinned birds. Only photo I got is on page 39 and this appears to be a Bluish-fronted Jacamar. Comments are welcome: [olpa {at} onsneteindhoven.nl](mailto:olpa@onsneteindhoven.nl)]

Bluish-fronted Jacamar *Galbula cyanescens* – one seen at close range at the stairs to the research station at LABS and a few on trails in LABS, for sightings in TAP see discussion under White-Chinned Jacamar.

White-throated Jacamar *Brachygalba albogularis* – fairly common near the river and oxbows in LABS, at least ten different individuals seen. They are easily seen before sunset at the station in LABS where the tourist cabins overlook the Madre de Dios River; from the cliff edge there you can look down on the river and about 30-60 minutes before sunset between two and five of these jacamars would usually show up. They tend to perch quite close, about 10-30 meters from the cliff edge.



White-throated Jacamar



Bluish-fronted Jacamar (Tapiche)

[Black-streaked Puffbird *Malacoptila fulvogularis* – heard only below COTR on Manu Road]

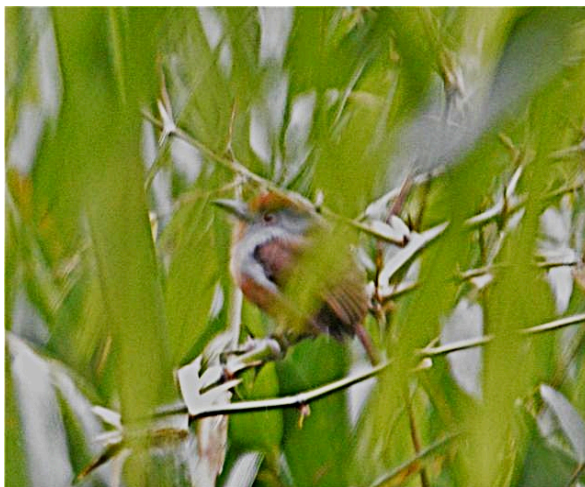
Black-fronted Nunbird *Monasa nigrifrons* – common in LABS and TAP

White-fronted Nunbird *Monasa morphoeus* – twice seen well at LABS

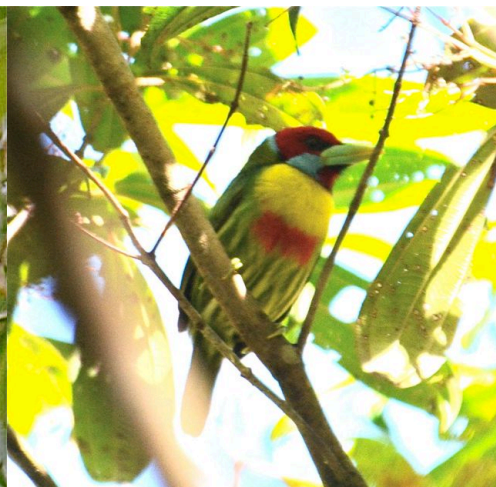
Yellow-billed Nunbird *Monasa flavirostris* – one seen well by my wife at LABS, I only saw it fly off

Swallow-wing *Chelidoptera tenebrosa* – common at TAP, LABS and the boat rides to TAP and LABS

Rufous-capped Nunlet *Nonnula ruficapilla* – one at the overgrown old airstrip in LABS



Record shot of Rufous-capped Nunlet



Versicoloured Barbet

Scarlet-crowned barbet *Capito aurovirens* – two males and two females building a nest at the lodge grounds in TAP, twice males in the Garza Lagoon area

Lemon-throated Barbet *Eubucco richardsoni* – one male in TAP

Versicolored Barbet *Eubucco versicolor* – seen surprisingly often along Manu Road, always in flocks, daily 1–3 birds, mostly males but once a female

Gilded Barbet *Capito auratus* – superb views of a male who clung to a sunlit large tree trunk at mid-level in LABS

White-throated Toucan *Ramphastos tucanus* – common, seen daily in TAP and LABS

Channel-billed Toucan *Ramphastos vitellinus culiminatus* – difficult to tell apart from the above species, but twice definitely this species (call is different too)

Gray-breasted Mountain-Toucan *Andigena hypoglauca* – two seen well at close range if a little too brief on the trails at WAY. Shy and wary!

[Golden-collared Toucanet *Selenidera reinwardtii* – heard only at LABS]

Lettered Araçari *Pteroglossus inscriptus* – one seen well in the Garza Lagoon area in TAP on June 26

Chestnut-eared Araçari *Pteroglossus castanotis* – 3 sightings of 5 birds in total in TAP

Blue-banded Toucanet *Aulacorhynchus coeruleicinctis* – one seen very well at close range in a large flock on Manu Road between COTR and WAY

Chestnut-tipped Toucanet *Aulacorhynchus derbianus* – two seen well along Manu Road above COTR lodge



Andean Cock of the Rock



Chestnut-tipped Toucanet

Yellow-tufted Woodpecker *Melanerpes cruentatus* – seen in groups of 2-6, at least four sightings in LABS and also seen along Manu Road

Red-stained Woodpecker *Veniliornis affinis* – male seen well at LABS on June 29 (you need good light and a short distance to see the red stains convincingly), a female seen at LABS; first assumed it was Little Woodpecker, but the yellow nape was clearly seen

Golden-olive Woodpecker *Colaptes rubiginosus* – about 3-4 seen well along Manu Road

Crimson-mantled Woodpecker *Colaptes rivolii* – one seen very well (and for a long time) on the trails at WAY. Spectacular colours, in a subtle way much more colourful than most field guides suggest!

Andean Flicker *Colaptes rupicola* – two at HUA and two en route to Paucartambo

Scale-breasted Woodpecker *Celeus grammicus* – about 4-5 seen of this pretty woodpecker in TAP. Sometimes the barring on the chest/breast was very obvious, sometimes hard or impossible to see.

Ringed Woodpecker *Celeus torquatus* – superb prolonged views of a male in TAP
 [Chestnut Woodpecker *Celeus elegans* – I saw one brown/rufous woodpecker that seemingly had no bars at all (in decent light), but the size seemed to correspond with Scale-breasted Woodpecker]

Cream-colored Woodpecker *Celeus flavus* – one seen well in good light at TAP, another one in TAP was seen reasonably well and was very yellow, almost radiant

Lineated Woodpecker *Dryocopus lineatus* – fairly common (daily 1-3) at TAP and a few seen at LABS

Crimson-bellied Woodpecker *Campephilus haematogaster* – this beautiful woodpecker was seen on Manu Road. I knew they were quite rare, but then Omar told me that this was only his second sighting of this species.

Red-necked Woodpecker *Campephilus rubricollis* – twice excellent sightings of a pair in LABS. Strange baby-like call.

Crimson-crested Woodpecker *Campephilus melanoleucos* – one seen well in TAP

Tyrannine Woodcreeper *Dendrocincla tyrannina* – one in the higher cloud forest (>2200 m) on Manu Road

Plain-brown Woodcreeper *Dendrocincla fuliginosa* – one of the commoner woodcreepers in TAP, also about 4-5 at LABS

White-chinned Woodcreeper *Dendrocincla merula* – one in LABS

Long-tailed Woodcreeper *Deconychura longicauda* – one seen well in LABS and another possible one but photos were inconclusive

Olivaceous Woodcreeper *Sittasomus griseicapillus* – fairly common at LABS (1-3 daily)

Wedge-billed Woodcreeper *Glyphorhynchus spirurus* – one of the commoner woodcreepers in TAP and about 3-4 sightings at LABS

Long-billed Woodcreeper *Nasica longirostris* – seen three times at TAP and once very well out in the open

Strong-billed Woodcreeper *Xiphocolaptes promeropirhynchus* – Katoo said they were fairly common in TAP, but only once convincing views

Straight-billed Woodcreeper *Xiphorhynchus picus* – seen well several times in TAP

Striped Woodcreeper *Xiphorhynchus obsoletus* – one seen well at close range, hard to distinguish from the above species if not seen well, but the striped back and plain buff throat were seen well. We saw a few woodcreepers at larger distance where I couldn't tell whether it was Striped or Straight-billed.

Buff-throated Woodcreeper *Xiphorhynchus guttatus* – only a couple of sightings at TAP (although it should be common in TAP), but one of the commonly seen woodcreepers in LABS, also a few in the lower parts of Manu Road

Olive-backed Woodcreeper *Xiphorhynchus triangularis* – one in the higher cloud forest (>2200 m) on Manu Road

Montane Woodcreeper *Lepidocolaptes lacrymiger* – fairly common to common on Manu Road, several seen daily

[Greater Scythebill *Campylorhamphus pucherani* – one bird was seen three times, but always a little too brief or unclear to see all the details well. Better views needed to tick.]

Red-billed Scythebill *Campylorhamphus trochilirostris* – one seen relatively briefly but very well at LABS

Wren-like Rushbird *Phleocryptes melanops* – at least five at HUA

Azara's Spinetail *Synallaxis azarae* – a couple seen well on Manu Road

[Plain-crowned Spinetail *Synallaxis gujanensis* – heard on Manu Road below COTR]

Marcapata Spinetail *Cranioleuca marcapatae* – decent views of one at Manu Road

Creamy-crested Spinetail *Cranioleuca albicapilla* – one seen well between Huancarani and Paucartambo, very blonde indeed!

Ash-browed Spinetail *Cranioleuca curtata* – one seen on Manu Road below COTR

Speckled Spinetail *Cranioleuca gutturata* – one seen well on Manu Road

Rusty-fronted Canastero *Asthenes ottonis* – one seen well directly at the start of the access road to Manu

Pearled Treerunner *Margarornis squamiger* – fairly common along Manu Road, 1-3 present in about 50-60% of the flocks

Streaked Tuftedcheek *Pseudocolaptes boissonneautii* – twice in flocks along Manu Road

Montane Foliage-gleaner *Anabacerthia striaticollis* – a few seen well along Manu Road

Buff-browed Foliage-gleaner *Syndactyla rufosuperciliata* – one on Manu Road

Rufous-rumped Foliage-gleaner *Philydor erythrocercum* – one in LABS. Very difficult these foliage-gleaners. I think it was this species, which was seen quite well, because it foraged fairly low (2-5 meters from the ground) in a mixed-species flock in relatively open understorey in older forest, had a rufous tail that contrasted with the brown-olivish body, clearly had an eye-brow stripe, was relatively small and was almost exclusively probing dead leaves. It should have a relatively pale throat, but could not see this convincingly from my viewing angle. Rufous-tailed is more a midstorey/canopy species, Olive-backed lacks the eyebrow stripe and Buff-fronted has quite a distinctive head pattern that did not match this bird.

[Chestnut-winged Foliage-gleaner *Philydor erythropterus* – a foliage-gleaner in a mixed flock in the subcanopy in LABS may have been this species, but views far too short and inconclusive to be sure]

Buff-throated Foliage-gleaner *Automolus ochrolaemus* – one in TAP

Striped Treehunter *Thripadectes holostictus* – one on Manu Road

Black-tailed Leaf-tosser *Sclerurus caudacutus* – twice seen very well close to the trail (on less frequented trails though) in LABS, and indeed tossing leaves

Slender-billed Xenops *Xenops tenuirostris* – fairly common at LABS

Plain xenops *Xenops minutus* – one at LABS

Fasciated Antshrike *Cymbilaimus lineatus* – we got lucky with superb views of a pair in the open but still wary at the tail end of a larger understorey flock at LABS. They normally don't associate with flocks that much, but both the male and female were seen well in the open and are unmistakable. Very pretty, both the male and female!

[Bamboo Antshrike *Cymbilaimus sanctaemariae* – heard only on the lower part of the Manu Road (800-1000 m)]

Undulated Antshrike *Frederickena unduligera* – female was seen well when a pair came out of the bamboo and tangles (seemingly to check if the coast was clear) after a group of researchers had just passed. Only fleeting views of the male.

[Great Antshrike *Taraba major* – heard only at TAP and LABS, had seen this one before so did not try to see this one]

[Barred Antshrike *Thamnophilus doliatus* – heard only, had seen this one very well on previous trips, so didn't really bother to see it]

Chestnut-backed Antshrike *Thamnophilus palliatus* – good views of two coming out of the tangles after playing the call on Manu Road

Plain-wing Antshrike *Thamnophilus schistaceus* – seen and heard relatively frequently at TAP and LABS, heard only on the lower Manu Road

[Mouse-colored Antshrike *Thamnophilus murinus* – heard but just one probable sighting at TAP, couldn't see the white/pale wing tips/bars but paler grey than Plain-winged Antshrike and clear brownish tinge to the wings]

White-shouldered Antshrike *Thamnophilus aethiops* – I know this one is rarely seen but I am pretty sure that I surprised a female on one of the quieter trails in LABS, good but brief views, very wary. Bird was seen on a steep hill slope of a small river valley with lots of dense undergrowth; the bird was very deep rufous, longish heavy bill, tail appeared to be slightly darker than the body (brown/blackish but may have been an optical effect). I tried to lure them out by softly playing the song but they responded with soft contact calls (while moving away steadily); the male remained invisible.

Dusky-throated Antshrike *Thamnomanes ardesiacus* – both male and female were seen well several times in LABS

Bluish-slate Antshrike *Thamnomanes schistogynus* – both male and female were seen well in TAP, but the male is very nondescript, sometimes reacted quite well to playing

the call, which helped a lot. Probably also seen at LABS but not 100% sure (and had no time to double-check the call, too many other birds).

Spot-winged Antshrike *Pygiptila stelleris* – should be fairly common in both TAP and LABS, but since I rarely encountered flocks in TAP, no luck there. At LABS only once one was heard and seen well enough in a canopy flock to tick.

Amazonian Streaked-Antwren *Myrmotherula multostriata* – nice views of a male in the open in riverine undergrowth at TAP

[Pygmy Antwren *Myrmotherula brachyuran* – heard only]

Plain-throated antwren *Myrmotherula huxwelli* – fairly common, excellent views of males and females at LABS and TAP

Stripe-chested Antwren *Myrmotherula longicauda* – a male seen very well after Omar called in it on Manu Road

White-flanked Antwren *Myrmotherula axillaris* – one of the commoner “antbirds” in both TAP and LABS, both male and female seen well several times

[Long-winged Antwren *Myrmotherula longipennis garbei* – a silent (possibly immature) male in the understorey may have been this species in LABS, but could have been Gray or Ihering’s Antwren as well. The bird had no prominent black throat patch]

Gray Antwren *Myrmotherula menetriesii* – only once a pair seen well in LABS

Yellow-breasted Antwren *Herpsilochmus axillaris* – a male seen well lower Manu Road, a strange one that I first mistook for a flycatcher, but the quite intricate head pattern was eventually seen well

[Gray Antbird *Cercomacra cinerascens* – not uncommon in TAP but views never convincing enough to tick]

Blackish Antbird *Cercomacra nigrescens* – A few times seen well in LABS and TAP

Black Antbird *Cercomacra serva* – once seen very well with both male and female out in the open in LABS

White-browed Antbird *Myrmoborus leucophrys* – fairly common in the lowlands, several good sightings of females and once a male that was feeding on the path. Also heard on lower Manu Road.

Black-faced Antbird *Myrmoborus myotherinus* – eventually a male was seen well at LABS

Peruvian Warbling-Antbird *Hypocnemis peruviana* – a male (of the white-breasted form) was seen well in TAP, two female birds seen at close range in TAP, great views of the male and okay views of the female in a large flock in LABS

[Yellow-breasted Warbling-Antbird *Hypocnemis subflava* – one seen on Manu Road but not well enough to tick]

Band-tailed Antbird *Hypocnemoides maculicauda* – the most conspicuous antbird along rivers/overhanging vegetation in TAP, between 2 and 10 daily

White-lined Antbird *Pernostola lophotes* – a male seen well and out in the open (doing the crest display), seen in a large section of bamboo. One of the those antbirds that suddenly overcame his shyness after the friaje storm at LABS and perched in the open.

Spot-winged Antbird *Schistocichla leucostigma* – one excellent sighting of both male and female in TAP in a relatively drier forest area. Also one decent sighting at LABS. The spots can be difficult to see from larger distances.

Chestnut-tailed Antbird *Myrmeciza hemimelaena* – frustrating this one, not uncommon, but everytime I only managed to see the female. When Omar tried to lure them into view on Manu Road, we could see them bouncing around in the dense undergrowth and disappointingly again only the female came out briefly.

White-shouldered antbird *Myrmeciza melanocephala* – this should be be relatively common in TAP, more so than Plumbeous Antbird, but I definitely did not see the distinctive female and only once I saw a male that appeared all black and had a bluish eye patch. I wasn’t quite sure whether I could just not see the spots on a Plumbeous or the white shoulder patch was missing or very small on the shoulder (several guide books state it can be hidden/difficult to see)? The bird was very black though, darker than other

Plumbeous males I had seen, so likely this species. Sooty Antbird may occur too, but according to Katoo White-shouldered Antbird is the common one.

Plumbeous Antbird *Myrmeciza hyperythra* – three sightings at close range (twice a pair and once a male), both males and females were seen well at TAP, the female is definitely the prettier one. Twice pleasingly conspicuous and curious!

Scale-backed Antbird *Willisornis poecilinotus* – the male is very stylish, one male was seen very well at LABS, only fleeting views of the female

Black-spotted Bare-eye *Phlegopsis nigromaculata* – spectacular bird, unexpectedly these were pretty confiding and easy to see for an antbird, fairly common in TAP (between two and six seen almost every day)

Black-faced Antthrush *Formicarius analis* – did not try to call it in, but quite common in LABS, but had one crossing the trail in front of me while standing still

[Red-and-white Antpitta *Grallaria erythroleuca* – heard several times on Manu Road, once very close to the road, but never in a spot where we had a chance of seeing them]

[Rusty-belted Tapaculo *Liosceles thoracicus* – heard only in LABS]

[Trilling Tapaculo *Scytalopus parvirostris* – heard only on the trails at WAY]

Tawny-rumped Tyrannulet *Phyllomyias uropygialis* – one seen well including the tawny rump on July 9

Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet *Tyrannulus elatus* – one seen well in TAP

Forest Elaenia *Myiopagis gaimardii* – seen a few times in LABS and lower Manu Road

Sierran Elaenia *Elaenia pallatangae* – 3-4 sightings in the higher parts on Manu Road

Large Elaenia *Elaenia spectabilis* – one seen well in LABS

White-banded Tyrannulet *Mecocerculus stictopterus* – common in the flocks above about 2000 metres on Manu Road

White-throated Tyrannulet *Mecocerculus leucophrys* – common in the flocks above about 2000 metres on Manu Road

Yellow-billed Tit-Tyrant *Anairetes flavirostris* – one seen quite well near WAY lodge

Torrent Tyrannulet *Serpophaga cinerea* – one at a stream in the San Pedro area, Manu

Yellow Tyrannulet *Capsiempis flaveola* – one of the less exciting birds seen on lower Manu Road, quite plain-looking

Marbled-faced Bristle-Tyrant *Phylloscartes ophthalmicus* – 1-2 daily along Manu road

Cinnamon-faced Tyrannulet *Phylloscartes parkeri* – one seen well in Manu on July 7



Cinnamon Flycatcher



Cinnamon-faced Tyrannulet

Olive-striped Flycatcher *Mionectes olivaceus* – twice seen well (i.e., in the open and nearby) on Manu Road but longer views would have been nice, one of those restless flock members

Streak-necked Flycatcher *Mionectes striaticollis* – missed it on July 8 (guide only), but caught up with this one the next day

Slaty-capped Flycatcher *Leptopogon superciliaris* – one seen well at close range on July 9

Inca Flycatcher *Leptopogon taczanowskii* – one seen well on Manu Road

Ornate Flycatcher *Myiobittacus ornatus* – two on Manu Road (approx. 2300-2500 m)

Many-colored Rush Tyrant *Tachuris rubrigastra* – at least five at HUA

[Short-tailed Pygmy-Tyrant *Myiornis ecaudatus* – heard only Manu Road and LABS]

Scale-crested Pygmy-Tyrant *Lophotriccus pileatus* – fairly common, seen well twice on Manu Road

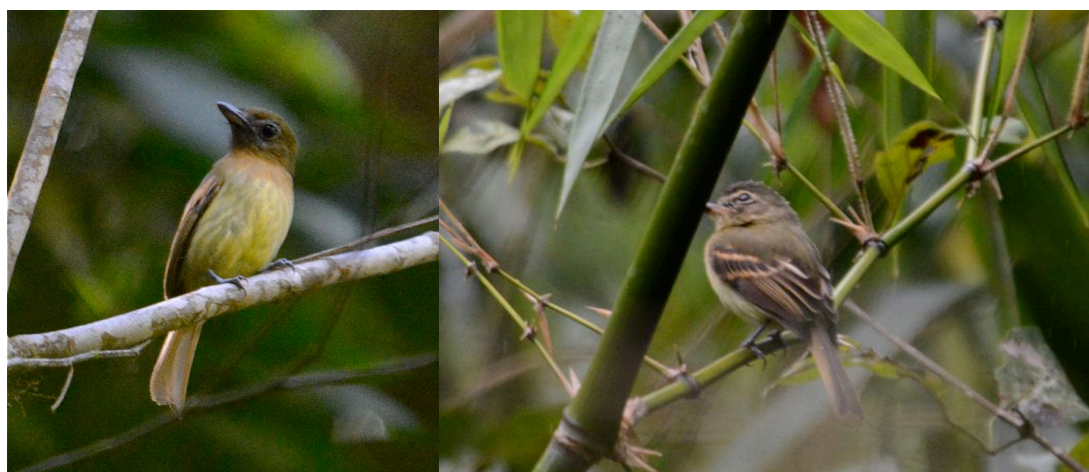
[Flammulated Pygmy-Tyrant *Hemitriccus flammulatus* – heard only LABS]

Black-throated Tody-Tyrant *Hemitriccus granadensis* – two excellent sightings of birds seen at close range on the canopy trail at WAY

Black-backed Tody-Flycatcher *Poecilatriccus pulchellus* – excellent multiple views of one roughly at 900-1000 m on Manu Road.

Yellow-browed Tody-Flycatcher *Todirostrum chrysocrotaphum* – one seen well after Omar called him in in the Pilcopata area

Large-headed Flatbill Ramphotrigon megacephalum – one out in the open in a bamboo area the day after the friaje set in in LABS



Fulvous-breasted Flatbill

Large-headed Flatbill

Fulvous-breasted Flatbill *Rhynchocyclus fulvipes* – one on the trails at COTR

[Royal Flycatcher *Onychorhynchus coronatus* – not seen convincingly, supposedly common in LABS, but only once I saw a large rufous flycatcher move quickly through the subcanopy and I am pretty sure it was this species but not tickable, played the call regularly but never got a close response]

Ruddy-tailed Flycatcher *Terenotriccus erythrurus* – several seen well in TAP and LABS, tiny and sometimes almost manakin- or hummingbird-like

Cinnamon Flycatcher *Pyrrhomyias cinnamomeus* – common (seen daily) on Manu Road

Black Phoebe *Sayornis nigricans* – about one daily near streams on Manu Road

Vermilion Flycatcher *Pyrocephalus rubinus* – adults, immatures, and juveniles on the lodge grounds and at oxbow lakes in LABS

Andean Negrito *Lessonia oreas* – a pair at HUA

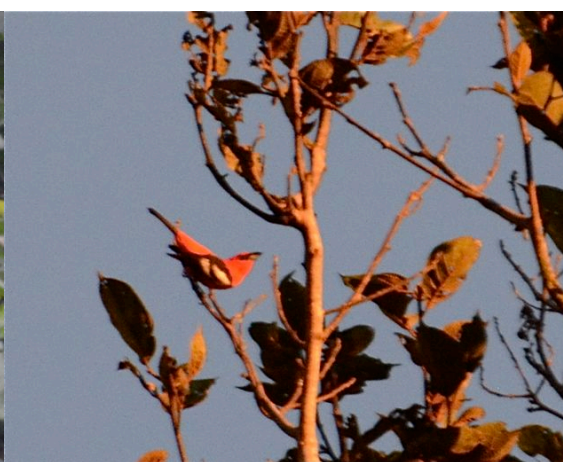
Drab Water Tyrant *Ochthornis littoralis* – common in the TAP area and on the boat ride from Requena to TAP, also a few on the Madre de Dios.

Little Ground-Tyrant *Muscisaxicola fluviatilis* – one along the river edge on the Madre de Dios when we stopped at a small settlement.

Spot-billed Ground-Tyrant *Muscisaxicola maculirostris* – one at HUA
 Rufous-naped Ground-Tyrant *Muscisaxicola rufivertex* – one at HUA
 Golden-browed Chat-Tyrant *Ochthoeca pulchella* – excellent clear views of one (two were present) in the undergrowth along Manu Road, another one that Omar only had seen once before.
 Slaty-backed Chat-Tyrant *Ochthoeca cinnamomeiventris* – (at least) one seen well on Manu Road on July 9
 Rufous-breasted Chat-Tyrant *Ochthoeca rufipectoralis* – one seen well on the Canopy Trail in WAY
 Brown-backed Chat-Tyrant *Ochthoeca fumicolor* – one on the Paucartambo road, shy but good views nevertheless
 White-browed Chat-Tyrant *Ochthoeca leucophrys* – fairly common around HUA, also on the road to Paucaratambo
 Long-tailed Tyrant *Colonia colonus* – two seen in LABS, and a few sightings below COTR towards Pilcopata in Manu
 Great Kiskadee *Pitangus sulphuratus* – surprisingly few seen (or underrecorded)
 Lesser Kiskadee *Pitangus lektor* – surprisingly few seen (or underrecorded)
 Social Flycatcher *Myiozetetes similis* – common to abundant
 Gray-capped Flycatcher *Myiozetetes granadensis* – two singles in the lowlands
 Lemon-browed Flycatcher *Conopias cinchoneti* – fairly common along Manu Road
 Golden-crowned Flycatcher *Myiodynastes chrysocephalus* – one sighting on Manu Road
 Boat-billed Flycatcher *Megarynchus pitangua* – only one on the way to TAP
 Tropical Kingbird *Tyrannus melancholicus* – common to abundant
 Dusky-capped Flycatcher *Myiarchus tuberculifer* – decent views of one on Manu Road
 [Swainson's Flycatcher *Myiarchus swainsoni* – a possible one at LABS, see photo]



Short-crested/Swainson's Flycatcher??



White-winged Tanager Male

Barred Fruiteater *Pipreola arcuate* – superb views of a male and decent views of the female on the canopy walkway in WAY, okay views of mostly the backside of one the next day along Manu Road.
 Black-faced Cotinga *Conioptilon mcilhennyi* – twice seen well at LABS. A sluggish rather nondescript cotinga that in LABS obviously likes to hang out in the regrowth/edge/secondary forest areas near the lodge (the area around the football pitch) or the very disturbed parts of Trail 19
 Red-crested Cotinga *Ampelion rubrocristatus* – four sightings of 1-3 birds in the WAY area
 Andean Cock-of-the-rock *Rupicola peruvianus* – one male seen well on July 7 along Manu Road not far from COTR lodge, two males briefly in flight on July 8
 Purple-throated Fruitcrow *Querula purpurata* – one seen briefly in LABS (had seen this species well before, so didn't look for it)

[Amazonian Umbrellabird *Cephalopterus ornatus* – guide only sighting at Manu Road below COTR]

[Screaming Piha *Lipaugus vociferans* – heard only in TAP and LABS]

Bare-necked Fruitcrow *Gymnoderus foetidus* – two birds at the lodge grounds in TAP, several in flight crossing the river on the boat ride between Requena and TAP

Plum-throated Cotinga *Cotinga maynana* – a male seen in the canopy at TAP, another male seen in the canopy across the river from the lodge grounds in LABS, two males seen very well at roughly 900-1000m on Manu Road.

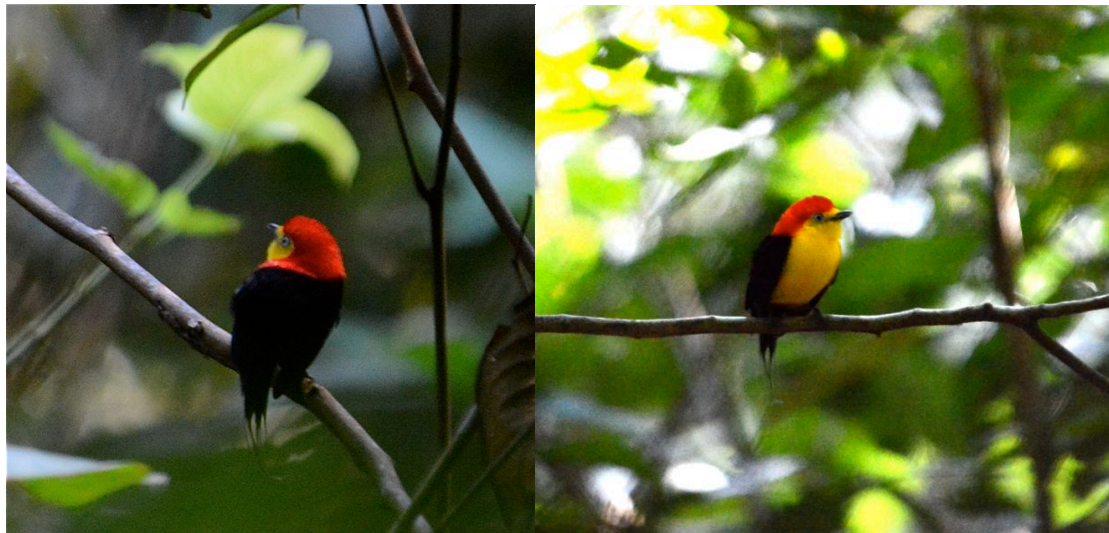


Record shots of Plum-throated and Black-faced Cotinga

Dwarf Tyrant-Manakin *Tyranneutes stolzmanni* – heard regularly in TAP and LABS, seen once in LABS

[Yungas Manakin *Chiroxiphia boliviana* – heard only on Manu Road]

Wire-tailed Manakin *Pipra filicauda* – after giving us the runaround we finally had superb views of the male and I could even get some record shots.



Wire-tailed Manakin

Black-tailed Tityra *Tityra cayana* – one in LABS

Masked Tityra *Tityra semifasciata* – one in TAP

Barred Becard *Pachyramphus versicolor* – a female along Manu Road, quite pretty!

[Rufous-browed Peppershrike *Cyclarhis gujanensis* – heard only at TAP, seen many times on previous trips so did not try to see it]

Brown-capped Vireo *Vireo leucophrys* – about a handful sightings along Manu Road

Red-eyed Vireo *Vireo olivaceus* – 3-4 seen in flocks between COTR and Pilcopata
 Dusky-capped Greenlet *Hylophilus hypoxanthus* – one in LABS in a flock
 White-collared Jay *Cyanolyca viridicyanus* – a group of 4-5 birds was seen well on the higher Manu Road
 Violaceous Jay *Cyanocorax violaceus* – quite common along the river at LABS and also in the lodge grounds at LABS in the morning
 Purplish Jay *Cyanocorax cyanomelas* – two immature birds between COTR and Pilcopata
 Inca/Green Jay *Cyanocorax yncas* – three excellent sightings of these pretty jays on Manu Road, seemed most common around COTR



Inca (Green) Jay

Blue-and-white Swallow *Pygochelidon cyanoleuca* – small numbers (5-10) on Manu Road
 White-banded Swallow *Atticora fasciata* – very stylish and common at TAP, LABS and on the river transfers to TAP and LABS
 Southern Rough-winged Swallow *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis* – fairly common in the lowlands
 Brown-chested Martin *Progne tapera* – fairly common to common on the boat trips to TAP and LABS, also seen around the lodge at LABS and TAP and on lower Manu Road
 White-winged Swallow *Tachycineta albiventer* – common on the boat trips to TAP and LABS
 Gray-mantled Wren *Odontorchilus branickii* – one seen well on Manu Road
 House Wren *Troglodytes aedon* – heard regularly, seen on Manu Road
 Mountain Wren *Troglodytes solstitialis* – about 5-6 seen on Manu Road
 [Thrush-like Wren *Campylorhynchus turdinus* – heard only]
 Moustached Wren *Pheugopedius genibarbis* – two seen in TAP
 Gray-breasted Wood-Wren *Henicorhina leucophrys* – surprisingly good views of a family group of four on the one of the trails at COTR
 Black-capped Donacobius *Donacobius atricapilla* – a few at TAP (Garza Lagoon)
 White-capped Dipper *Cinclus leucocephalus* – one along Manu Road (below/south of COTR)
 [Andean Solitaire *Myadestes ralloides* – heard only along Manu Road]

[White-eared Solitaire *Entomodestes leucotis* – heard only along Manu Road]
 Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrush *Catharus fuscater* – one at the feeders at COTR
 Hauxwell's Thrush *Turdus hauxwelli* – about 5-6 seen on forest trails in LABS
 Great Thrush *Turdus fuscater* – about a handful seen around WAY
 Chiguanco Thrush *Turdus chiguanco* – seen at HUA and along Manu Road
 Glossy-black Thrush *Turdus serranus* – a total of four seen around WAY
 Long-tailed Mockingbird *Mimus longicaudatus* – common in Lima
 Red-capped Cardinal *Paroaria gularis* – small groups seen a few times on the boat trips to TAP
 Red-crested Cardinal *Paroaria coronate* – at least six Lima, feral population
 Magpie Tanager *Cissopis leverianus* – one on Manu Road (below COTR) and two near Pilcopata on the Manu Road
 White-browed/Black-capped *Hemispingus atropileus* – two separate individuals seen well on July 9 and 10
 Parodi's Hemispingus *Hemispingus parodii* – scarce, but singles were seen well on Manu Road on July 8 and 9
 Superciliaried Hemispingus *Hemispingus superciliaris* – one seen well on Manu Road on July 8, about 3-4 in total on Manu Road
 Black-eared Hemispingus *Hemispingus melanotis* – one sighting of 3-4 birds along Manu Road
 Three-striped Hemispingus *Hemispingus trifasciatus* – several seen well on upper Manu Road on July 9
 Gray-hooded Bush Tanager *Cnemoscopus rubrirostris* – (at least) twice about 2-4 were seen well in flocks on Manu Road
 Rust-and-yellow Tanager *Thlypopsis ruficeps* – 3-4 and one in flocks on Manu Road at mid-elevations
 Black-goggled Tanager *Trichothraupis melanops* – 1-2 occasionally in flocks around COTR
 Flame-crested Tanager *Tachyphonus cristatus* – one seen (but views could have been better and longer) at about 850-950 m on the Manu Road
 Yellow-crested Tanager *Tachyphonus rufiventer* – one male seen in a flock around 900-1000 m on the Manu Road. We first thought it was Fulvous Shrike-Tanager, but the size didn't match and neither Omar or I saw the fulvous back despite good light. We did see the yellow/buffy throat, but not the yellow rump and crest, but we were sure it was this species.
 White-shouldered Tanager *Tachyphonus luctuosus* – fairly common, present in about one third of the flocks in the lowlands, also a pair seen in a flock in the Pilcopata area
 White-winged Shrike-Tanager *Lanio versicolor* – 1-3 in several flocks in LABS, also 1-2 in a flock at about 850-950 m on the Manu Road
 Masked Crimson Tanager *Ramphocelus nigrogularis* – about ten in total of these spectacular tanagers seen in the TAP area and on the boat ride to TAP
 Silver-beaked Tanager *Ramphocelus carbo* – fairly common in TAP and LABS in secondary/river edge vegetation
 Blue-gray Tanager *Thraupis episcopus* – seen in IQT area where very common, and (boat to) TAP, LABS and the lower part of the Manu Road
 Palm Tanager *Thraupis palmarum* – (fairly) common, seen in IQT, LABS and the lower part of the Manu Road
 Blue-capped Tanager *Thraupis cyanocephala* – fairly common along Manu Road between about 2000 and 3000 meters
 Blue-and-yellow Tanager *Thraupis bonariensis* – at least two seen at HUA
 Hooded Mountain-Tanager *Buthraupis montana* – fairly common along Manu Road between 2000 and 3000 meters



Hooded Mountain Tanager

Scarlet-bellied Mountain-Tanager *Anisognathus igniventris* – fairly common along Manu Road between 2000 and 3000 meters

Chestnut-bellied Mountain-Tanager *Delothraupis castaneiventris* – fairly common along Manu Road between 2000 and 3000 meters

Golden-collared Tanager *Iridosornis jelskii* – fairly common, groups of 2-4 seen about 5-6 times along Manu Road



Golden-collared Tanager

Grass-green Tanager *Chlorornis riefferii* – fairly common along Manu Road between 2000 and 3000 meters, also seen on the WAY trails



Golden tanager



Grass-Green Tanager

Orange-eared Tanager *Chlorochrysa calliparaea* – fairly common, usually seen in flocks, along Manu Road between about 1200 and 2500 meters

Golden-naped Tanager *Tangara ruficervix* – two seen briefly in a flock on Manu Road on July 7

Masked Tanager *Tangara nigrocincta* – fairly common in LABS, usually seen in flocks, but also in small groups on their own

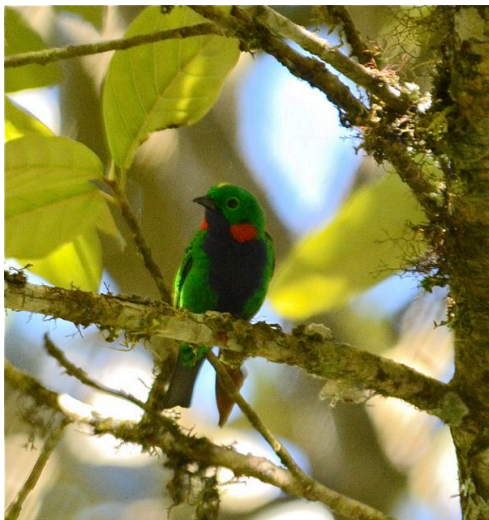
Blue-necked Tanager *Tangara cyanicollis* – fairly common along Manu Road between 1500 and 2500 meters

Yellow-bellied Tanager *Tangara xanthogastra* – uncommon, one seen briefly in a large flock on Manu Road

Spotted Tanager *Tangara punctata* – uncommon, 1-2 seen twice in flocks on Manu Road

Blue-and-black Tanager *Tangara vassorii* – fairly common along Manu Road between 1700 and 3000 meters

Beryl-spangled Tanager *Tangara nigroviridis* – uncommon, 1-2 occasionally seen in flocks on Manu Road



Orange-eared Tanager



Beryl-spangled Tanager

Turquoise Tanager *Tangara mexicana* – 3-4 sightings at LABS

Paradise Tanager *Tangara chilensis* – one of the commoner tanagers in canopy flocks both at LABS and Manu Road

Opal-rumped Tanager *Tangara velia* – three sightings of about 10-12 birds in total in canopy flocks in LABS

Opal-crowned Tanager *Tangara callophrys* – one sighting of at least four birds in a flock and two perched on a dead tree after a shower in LABS

Bay-headed Tanager *Tangara gyrola* – about 2-4 present in a number of flocks both at LABS and Manu Road

Golden-eared Tanager *Tangara chrysotis* – scarce, one seen well in a flock on Manu Road

Saffron-crowned Tanager *Tangara xanthocephala* – small numbers (2-4) seen about 4-5 times along Manu Road

Green-and-gold Tanager *Tangara schrankii* – about 2-5 present in about one third of the flocks at LABS and a few seen along lower Manu Road (<1000 meters)

Golden Tanager *Tangara arthus* – fairly common along Manu Road, present in most flocks

Swallow Tanager *Tersina viridis* – two (adult male and immature male) in the lodge grounds at LABS

Black-faced Dacnis *Dacnis lineata* – about 2-5 were regularly part of flocks at LABS; also a few seen along Manu Road

Blue Dacnis *Dacnis cayana* – uncommon, only occasionally seen in flocks at LABS

Purple Honeycreeper *Cyanerpes caeruleus* – uncommon, only occasionally seen in flocks at LABS

Yellow-backed Tanager *Hemithraupis flavicollis* – uncommon, usually only 1-3 seen in 30-35% of the flocks at LABS, also a few on lower Manu Road



Yellow-backed Tanager

White-winged Tanager *Piranga leucoptera* – two males seen on Manu Road near COTR

Cinereous Conebill *Conirostrum cinereum* – about 3-4 seen on the road between Paucartambo and Cuzco

Capped Conebill *Conirostrum albifrons* – about 2-6 present in most flocks at higher altitude (>2000 m) on the Manu Road

Black-throated Flower-piercer *Diglossa brunneiventris* – fairly common in the bushes next to the road at the start of the Manu Road (if coming from Cuzco)

Deep-blue Flower-piercer *Diglossa glauca* – about 3-4 seen along Manu road

Masked Flower-piercer *Diglossa cyanea* – about 2-6 present in most flocks at higher altitude (>2000 m) on the Manu Road, also seen away from flocks including on the trails around WAY

Common Bush-Tanager *Chlorospingus ophthalmicus* – fairly common in flocks at mid-level altitude (1000-2000 m) on the Manu Road

Short-billed Bush-Tanager *Chlorospingus parvirostris* – fairly common in flocks at mid-level altitude (1000-2000 m) on the Manu Road

Yellow-throated Bush-Tanager *Chlorospingus flavigularis* – fairly common in flocks at mid-level altitude (1000-2000 m) on the Manu Road

Ashy-throated Bush-Tanager *Chlorospingus canigularis* – uncommon in flocks at mid-level altitude (1000-2000 m) on the Manu Road

Bananaquit *Coereba flaveola* – 3-4 seen along Manu Road below COTR

Buff-throated Saltator *Saltator maximus* – about 4-5 in LABS, and 3-4 seen along Manu Road

Grayish Saltator *Saltator coerulescens* – three seen along Manu Road

Golden-billed Saltator *Saltator aurantirostris* – (at least) one seen at HUA and at least two seen on the road to Paucartambo

Black-backed Grosbeak *Pheucticus aureoventris* – 3-4 seen along Manu Road

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus* – common feral bird in Lima

Rufous-collared Sparrow *Zonotrichia capensis* – common in the Cuzco area, HUA and Manu Road

Yellow-browed Sparrow *Ammodramus aurifrons* – two in a small village along the Tapiche, where we stopped to deliver some goods

Pectoral Sparrow *Arremon taciturnus* – one seen well in an understorey flock in LABS

Peruvian Sierra-Finch *Phrygilus punensis* – quite stylish, at least two seen at HUA

Ash-breasted Sierra-Finch *Phrygilus plebejus* – a small group seen well in fields at HUA

Chestnut-breasted Mountain-Finch *Poospiza Caesar* – one seen well on the road to Paucartambo

Black-and-white Seedeater *Sporophila luctuosa* – we only saw a nondescript female very well but since the flushed male appeared to be all black and white, it was likely this species on mid-level Manu Road

Band-tailed Seedeater *Catamenia analis* – seen well around HUA, on the road to Paucartambo only the females were seen well

Chestnut-bellied (Lesser) Seed-Finch *Oryzoborus angolensis* – A male seen very well on Manu Road at 900-1000 meters

Black-faced Brush-Finch *Atlapetes melanolaemus* – common, seen daily on Manu Road at pretty much all elevations above about 1300 m up to at least 3000 m

Slate-throated Redstart *Myioborus miniatus* – common, flock leader of the mid-altitude flocks on Manu Road, i.e., the area around COTR

Spectacled Redstart *Myioborus melanocephalus* – common, flock leader of the high-altitude flocks on Manu Road, i.e., the area around WAY

Two-banded Warbler *Basileuterus bivittatus* – fairly common, several seen well on Manu Road after playing their call

Golden-bellied Warbler *Basileuterus chrysogaster* – one group of 4-5 birds seen well on Manu Road

Citrine Warbler *Basileuterus luteoviridis* – uncommon, one seen well on Manu Road and poor views on the Canopy Trail at WAY, heard a few times

Three-striped Warbler *Basileuterus tristriatus* – fairly common, several seen well on Manu Road

Russet-backed Oropendola *Psarocolius angustifrons* – the common or at least most encountered oropendola in the lowlands

Dusky-green Oropendola *Psarocolius atrovirens* – the commonest oropendola in the cloud forest at mid-level elevations

Crested Oropendola *Psarocolius decumanus* – uncommon to fairly common, seen at TAP, LABS and on Manu Road

Olive Oropendola *Psarocolius bifasciatus* – twice a pair seen well at LABS

Mountain Cacique *Cacicus chrysonotus* – three sightings of 1-3 birds along Manu road

Yellow-rumped Cacique *Cacicus cela* – common in LABS

Yellow-billed Cacique *Amblycercus holosericeus* – one sighting of two birds along Manu road

Epaulet Oriole *Icterus cayanensis* – a pair seen in the canopy at LABS

Yellow-hooded blackbird *Chrysomus icterocephalus* – small numbers seen on the boat rides to TAP

Scrub Blackbird *Dives warszewiczi* – common in parks in Lima

Yellow-winged Blackbird *Agelaius thilius* – common around HUA

Shiny Cowbird *Molothrus bonariensis* – seen in IQT area and on the boat rides to TAP

Velvet-fronted grackle *Lamprosar tanagrinus* – fairly common, about 5-6 groups seen in TAP

Hooded Siskin *Carduelis magellanica* – seen on the road to Paucartambo

Olivaceous Siskin *Carduelis olivacea* – seen on the road to Paucartambo

Purple-throated Euphonia *Euphonia chlorotica* – several seen in flocks on Manu Road

Orange-bellied Euphonia *Euphonia xanthogaster* – one seen well in a flock on lower Manu Road

Bronze-green Euphonia *Euphonia mesochrysa* – 2-3 seen twice in flocks on Manu Road

Blue-naped Chlorophonia *Chlorophonia cyanea* – 2-3 seen 3-4 times in flocks on Manu Road

For comments, questions, corrections, feedback, etc., please contact me at olpa {at} onsneteindhoven.nl.



Slate-Coloured Hawk and Sunbittern on the nest, both Tapiche

Herps

We saw a total of six snake species, but I could only identify the fer de lance with certainty, but I am pretty sure we also saw a sipo species and a vine snake, and what must have been an eyelash palm pit viper. The guides only knew the local names of the snakes. Relatively few other reptiles (mostly anoles) were seen, but frogs/toads were quite common, especially at night at LABS but finding many of the colourful species requires basic herp-finding knowledge (which I don't have).

Black Caiman *Malanosuchus niger* – still fairly common in the TAP area

White Caiman *Caiman crocodilus* – a few seen in the TAP and LABS area

Toadhead Turtle species *Mesoclemmys raniceps* or *M. gibba* – one seen well in TAP was probably one of these species

Amazon Yellow-Spotted River Turtle *Podocnemis unifilis* – two at TAP

Three-striped Poison Dart Frog *Ameerega trivittata* – one at LABS

Caiman Lizard *Dracaena* species – quite common in TAP, but only seen crashing into the water, also called water tegu and that is how they look and behave.

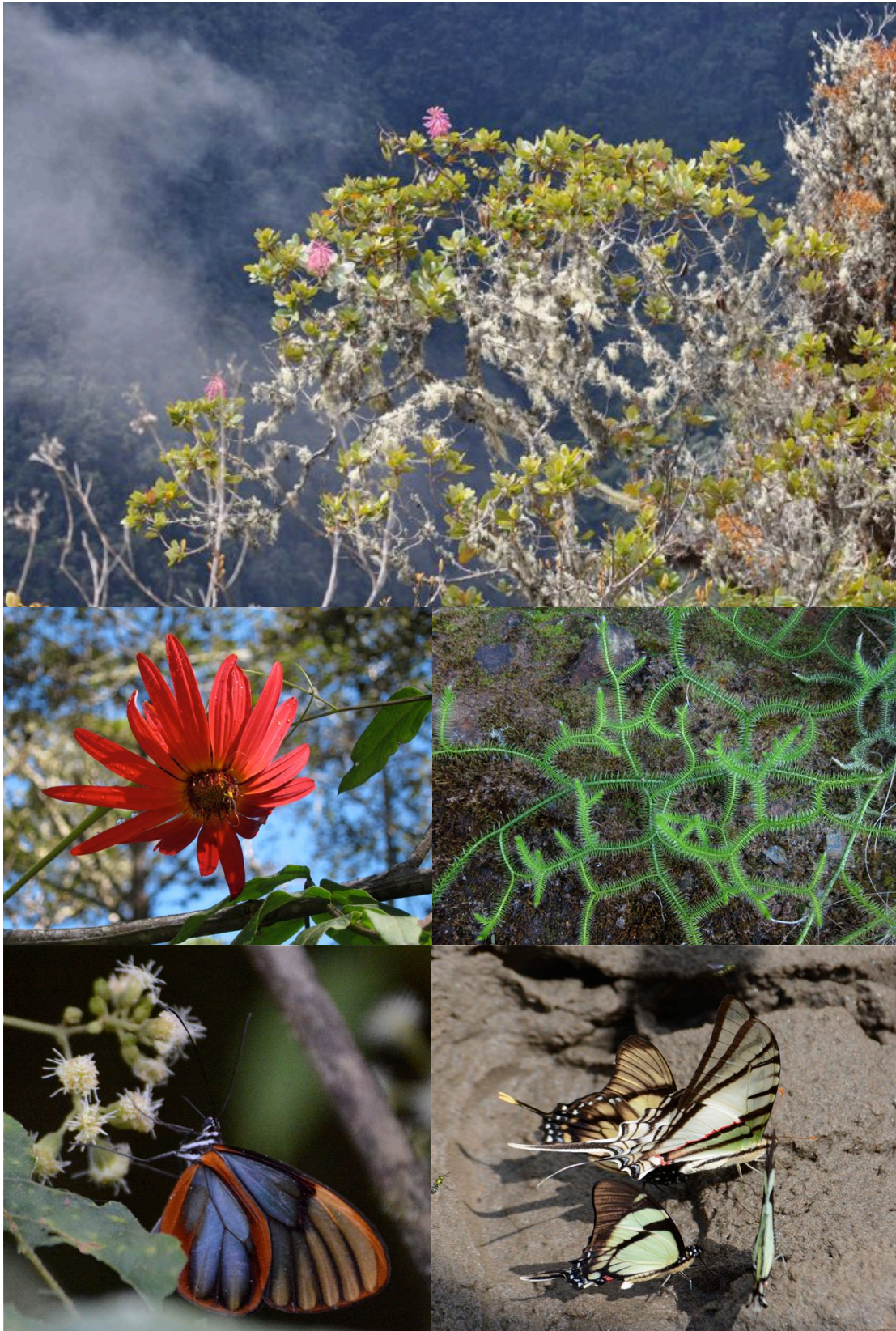
Fer de Lance *Bothrops Atrox* – I think that the two Bothrops snakes we saw were this species despite looking very different both in colour and pattern, the more unusual looking one of the two is shown on page 19. Local name: jergon.



Three-striped Poison Dart Frog

Landscapes, Flora and Other Wildlife

Many beautiful flowers and spectacular butterflies were seen on this trip, in particular at Los Amigos, along Manu Road and on the trails around Wayquecha and COTR Lodge.



Flora images from Manu Road; butterflies from Manu Road (left) and Tapiche (right)

More Primates

All primates – except uakaris – relaxed as soon as they saw us:



Top: Black-capped Squirrel Monkey (left) and White-fronted Capuchin (right); Bottom: Saddle-backed Tamarin (left) and Emperor Tamarin (right)



Left: Rather typical Saki view: often they would just sit or move very silently and you would suddenly find one or two right above you head when they started uttering disapproving grunts. Right: This photo was taken just after the fight between the two males. This was the male that "won" and he was still hyper from the fight.