



## CLASSIC COLOMBIA TRIP REPORT FEBRUARY/MARCH 2018

By Eduardo Ormaeche



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Santa Marta Screech Owl, the Bird of the Trip

Our Classic Colombia 16-day birding tour was perhaps one of the most enjoyable, exciting, and memorable trips that I ever had the opportunity to guide in this amazing country. Our trip started in Barranquilla, the capital of the Colombian department Atlántico and the fourth-largest city in the country. Fortunately, we arrived after the famous carnival was over (that's the second-largest in Latin America after the Rio de Janeiro carnival), so our first night was rather comfortable and quiet.

The next day we left the hotel before dawn to the campus of the North University in Barranquilla, where at dawn we easily found the endemic **Chestnut-winged Chachalaca**. We saw a group of at least six individuals flying into the scrub. Sadly, the light conditions were not the best for photography at that time of day. As soon as we had seen our first target we decided to go straight to Salamanca Island Road Park, one of Colombia's national parks, to find our second target, the endemic **Sapphire-bellied Hummingbird**, which is often seen near the entrance of the park. It did not take long to get superb views of this localized species feeding in the flowers of the parking lot. This place provides good birds but can very often be very quiet, so we decided to leave and return to Barranquilla to check the marshes near kilometer 4 of the main Barranquilla - Santa Marta road.

This was a good move indeed. We enjoyed several species of birds, including scope views of **Brown-throated Parakeet**, **Bicolored Wren**, and **Stripe-backed Wren**, and numerous **Blue-winged Teals**, **Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks**, **Bare-faced Ibis**, and a single **Glossy Ibis**. We also saw **Yellow-chinned Spinetail**, **Common Tody-Flycatcher**, **Pied Water Tyrant**, **White-headed Marsh Tyrant**, **Snail Kite**, **Amazon Kingfisher**, and **Ringed Kingfisher**. In addition there were several aquatic species, namely **Rufescent Tiger Heron**, **Black-crowned Night Heron**, **Striated Heron**, **Little Blue Heron**, **Great Egret**, and **Western Cattle Egret**. Before we left the marshes we had nice views of our first **Red-crowned Woodpecker**.

Then we left Barranquilla behind and headed to the Magdalena department to explore for three days the lowest and mid-elevations ranges of the famous Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta. The Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta is an isolated mountain range separated from the Andes chain that runs through Colombia. Reaching an altitude of 5,700 meters (18,700 feet) just 42 kilometers (26 miles) from the Caribbean coast, the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta is one of the world's highest coastal ranges, being only 250 meters shorter than the Saint Elias Mountains in Canada. The Sierra Nevada encompasses about 17,000 square kilometers (6,600 square miles) and serves as the source of 36 rivers. For birders the most exciting fact is that it is full of endemic birds.

Minca is just a small village located in the lower parts of the Santa Marta range and a very popular destination among locals and backpackers as a weekend place. We arrived at the Hotel Minca La Casona after midday and decided to enjoy a nice lunch, watching the hummingbird feeders. Here we recorded **Rufous-tailed Hummingbird**, **Steely-vented Hummingbird**, **White-vented Plumeleteer**, and **White-necked Jacobin**. It was quiet and hot, so we decided to stay and watch and photograph hummingbirds. In addition to hummers we saw **White-tipped Dove**, **Summer Tanager**, and **Whooping Motmot**.

We had a short break and then decided to explore the dry habitat below Minca. Before that outing, though, we went to look for the Black-and-white Owl that was seen roosting at daytime on our previous trip only a month ago, but it was not in the area this time. The afternoon session was slow and quiet, providing views of **Blue-headed Parrot**, **Orange-chinned Parakeet**, **Crested Oropendola**, **Streaked Flycatcher**, **White-bearded Manakin**, **Pale-eyed Pygmy**

**Tyrant, Swallow Tanager, and White-collared Swift.** At the end of the day we scoped a group of **Military Macaws** at their regular spot below Minca.

The next day we had an early start to explore the road above Minca and there found a number of nice species, **Golden-winged Sparrow, Streaked Saltator, Rufous-capped Warbler, Lineated Woodpecker, Black-chested Jay, Pale-breasted Thrush, Yellow-backed Oriole,** and the endemic **Santa Marta Foliage-gleaner.** We heard **Keel-billed Toucan** distantly while we enjoyed flocks with **Tennessee Warbler, American Redstart, Bay-headed Tanager,** and **Crimson-backed Tanager.**

After our transfer we arrived at the El Dorado Lodge (195 meters/6398 feet elevation) for lunch. The hummingbird feeders around the lodge attracted **Brown Violetear, Lesser Violetear,** and **Crowned Woodnymph.** A nice surprise was the presence of the endemic **White-tailed Starfrontlet,** which was a regular at the feeders during our entire stay there.



White-tailed Starfrontlet (photo © Eduardo Ormaeche)

The fruit feeders attracted **Blue-naped Chlorophonia** and **Black-capped Tanager.** Other birds seen around the lodge clearing included **Band-tailed Guan,** the endemic **Santa Marta Brushfinch,** and **White-tipped Dove.**

The compost was very active, attracting **Black-hooded Thrush, Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrush, Hermit (Santa Marta) Wood Wren,** and three elusive **Lined Quail-Doves.** We also saw a single **Sierra Nevada Brushfinch** and other creatures visiting the compost, such as Central American Agouti and Crab-eating Fox. Later we enjoyed **Montane Foliage-gleaner, Streak-capped Spinetail, White-throated (Santa Marta) Toucanet, White-sided Flowerpiercer,** and the endemic **White-lored Warbler.** We stayed at the compost for some time, waiting for **Black-fronted Wood Quail,** which was the only regular compost visitor we were missing so far, but no luck.

At dinnertime the lodge staff managed to find a Kinkajou climbing down a tree to get some fruit from the feeders. A nice encounter! We went to bed soon to get ready for a very early start on the following day.

We left early for a rough 4x4 drive to the San Lorenzo Ridge (2700 meters/8858 feet elevation) to look for the high-elevation Santa Marta endemics. We left in good time to give the **Santa Marta Screech Owl** a try, since it is getting harder and harder to see this bird around the lodge due to the intense playback, so we decided to try further up the road. Unfortunately, the day started with a strong wind that made us lose hope. However, we decided to give it a try nevertheless in a nice pine forest area, and as a result we had fantastic eye-level views of this enigmatic species for the joy of the whole group. We arrived at the top of the ridge to be witness to one of the most amazing and perfect sunrises I ever saw in my life. It was a nice moment of contemplation and silence, admiring the perfection of nature.



Sunrise at San Lorenzo ((photo © Anne Koke)

After a quick breakfast we walked up the road and found **Santa Marta Brushfinch**, **Santa Marta Warbler**, and **Flammulated Treehunter**. We were lucky enough to watch four **Santa Marta Parakeets** flying at eyelevel, sadly just for a short time. But we found **Streak-capped Spinetail**, **Santa Marta Mountain Tanager**, **White-throated Tyrannulet**, **Yellow-crowned Whitestart**, **Yellow-bellied Chat-Tyrant**, and **Scarlet-fronted Parakeet**.

Then we drove to the San Lorenzo research station at the right time to see the endemic **Santa Marta Antpitta** being fed with worms. It took a lot of time and patience, but fortunately we managed to get a nice view of the antpitta and could admire the fantastic view of the Caribbean lowlands.



Santa Marta Antpitta (photo © Anne Koke)

We left the station and were ready to get the endemic Brown-rumped Tapaculo that we had heard calling. But unfortunately it moved and disappeared into the bush, leaving us just with leaves shaking.

Back at the lodge we spent some time photographing hummingbirds and then looked for **Golden-breasted Fruiteater**, **White-tipped Quetzal**, and **Grey-throated Leaf-tosser**. We succeeded seeing all these species, but sadly the only bird that did not show up was Black-fronted Wood Quail.

While waiting for the wood quail we saw a Long-tailed Weasel sneaking in silence around the compost, but even if someone would think that the weasel was responsible for keeping the wood quail away it was still fun to be able to watch this normally elusive animal for such a long time.



Long-tailed Weasel

The next morning we said goodbye to the lodge and went to check the Palo Alto property, but even though we spent an hour there we could not find the Santa Marta Blossomcrown. Then we explored the area known as the Y (road junction) and saw the endemic **Santa Marta Tapaculo**, **Yellow-legged Thrush**, a female **Santa Marta Woodstar**, **Rose-breasted Grosbeak**, the endemic **Santa Marta Antbird**, **Rufous-breasted Wren**, **Scaled Pigeon**, and wonderful views of **Groove-billed Toucanet**. Further down we watched **Thick-billed Seed Finch**, **Rufous-and-white Wren**, **Squirrel Cuckoo**, **Broad-winged Hawk**, and **Short-tailed Hawk**.

We went back to the highway and drove towards Riohacha, the capital of the La Guajira department. We saw a few **Brown Pelicans** and **Magnificent Frigatebirds** while driving along the coastline and **Northern Crested Caracara** in the drier country.

Before our arrival at Riohacha we scored with **Double striped Thick-knee** and **Bare-eyed Pigeon**.

We went to our comfortable hotel in Riohacha for another good dinner and another checklist-and-wine session.

Our last day in the Caribbean lowlands had arrived, and we had only one morning to explore the dry habitat of La Guajira. Our first bird was **Greyish Saltator**, which was followed by the striking **Vermilion Cardinal**, **Orinoco Saltator**, **Chestnut Piculet**, **White-whiskered Spinetail**, **Black-backed Antshrike**, **Black-crested Antshrike**, **Northern White-fringed Antwren**, **Slender-billed Inezia**, and **Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrant**. Along a few pools we saw **Caribbean Hornero**, **Carib Grackle**, **Crested Bobwhite**, **Black-faced Grassquit**, **Grey Pileated Finch**, and a single **Glaucous Tanager**.

Then we tried for the elusive **Tocuyo Sparrow**, which it is getting harder. So we had to try at different places without success, and only at the last minute we had great views of one individual right in the open.

After the Tocuyo Sparrow we went to Camarones at the coast and here saw several species of terns, including **Royal**, **Cabot's**, **Caspian**, and **Common Terns**. We also saw **Reddish Egret**, **Whimbrel**, and **American Oystercatcher** and watched **Roseate Spoonbill**, **American White Ibis**, and what seemed to be a hybrid between American White Ibis and Scarlet Ibis. But, sadly, we could not find the proper Scarlet Ibis on this trip, although we had seen it on the previous trip just a month earlier.

Then we went back to the hotel to collect our luggage and have lunch before our domestic flight to Pereira.

Fortunately, our flight to Pereira (with a connection in Bogota) worked rather well, but we arrived late and tired at Pereira and went straight to the hotel.

The next morning we had another early start, leaving Pereira by 4.30 a.m. Unfortunately for us, though, it was raining with no sign of clearing up. Actually, by the time we arrived at Otún Quimbaya the rain became even worse and spoiled most of our birding morning at the Otún Quimbaya Flora and Fauna Sanctuary.

However, we did our best and found the endemic and Endangered (IUCN) **Cauca Guan**, **Red-ruffed Fruitcrow**, **Rufous-breasted Flycatcher**, **Sickle-winged Guan**, **Andean Motmot**, **White-throated Toucanet**, **Sooty-headed Tyrannulet**, **Streaked Xenops**, **Strong-billed Woodcreeper**, **Collared Trogon**, and striking views of **White-capped Parrot**, **Azara's Spinetail**, **Streak-capped Treehunter**, **Whiskered Wren**, **Lesser Goldfinch**, and a male **Torrent Duck**.

The rain stopped by noon, but by then we had to continue to the remote Tatamá National Park and visit the famous Montezuma Eco-Lodge for three nights.

The drive from Otún Quimbaya was long, but we managed to arrive at Montezuma with enough light to check the feeders and enjoy good views of **Empress Brilliant**, **Crowned Woodnymph**, **Western Emerald**, **Andean Emerald**, **Rufous-tailed Hummingbird**, **White-tailed Hillstar**, and **Tawny-bellied Hermit**. The fruit feeders attracted **Silver-throated Tanager**, **Palm Tanager**, **Blue-grey Tanager**, and **Lemon-rumped Tanager**. We had a tasty dinner and then made plans with our local guide for the next day's schedule.

The next day we left the lodge at 5.00 a.m. to drive up to the ridge, which is the highest elevation in the reserve. The drive takes an hour to cover about 11 kilometers (6.83 miles) of mountain road. At the top we had another spectacular sunrise and an incredible breakfast and were just waiting for things to come.

Soon we started to get our expected birds, for now it was **Great Thrush**, the endemic **Chestnut-bellied Flowerpiercer**, **Smoky Bush Tyrant**, and the endemic **Munchique Wood Wren**.

Suddenly we were met by a group of soldiers from the army base located at the top of the ridge. The captain wanted to greet us in name of the Colombian army and thank us for visiting their country. They asked permission to make a group photo, and one of the soldiers also gave a present (his own scarf) to one of our participants. It was a nice moment; we were amazed and emotionally moved by such an incredible welcome.

We continued looking for our birds and had incredible views of our targets, **Purplish-mantled Tanager**, the endemic **Gold-ringed Tanager**, **Grass-green Tanager**, **Bluish Flowerpiercer**, **Yellow-bellied Chat-Tyrant**, **Cinnamon Flycatcher**, **Black-chinned Mountain Tanager**, and **Glistening-green Tanager**.



Gold-ringed Tanager

The hummingbird feeders at higher elevation attracted several species such as **Collared Inca** and the recently-recorded at Montezuma, endemic and Critically Endangered (IUCN) **Dusky Starfrontlet**. It was nice to see this species for the second time after our previous trip this year, when we had the first documented record for the area.

We moved to the next hummingbird feeders, but not before having a splendid view of **Chestnut-breasted Chlorophonia**. The next feeder station provided views of **Velvet-purple Coronet**, **Greenish Puffleg**, **Violet-tailed Sylph**, and another **Empress Brilliant**. We also had nice views of **Brown Inca**, but not at the feeders.

We then had good views of **Narino Tapaculo** and further down the road enjoyed watching a **Barred Hawk** soaring above the ridge as well as getting beautiful views of several **Swallow-tailed Kites**.

Our excitement reached the highest point of emotion and adrenaline when we managed to see a pair of **Tanager Finches**. This most-wanted and elusive bird is getting hard to find in Colombia, even at its known places. We were able to admire the couple allowing us spectacular views and behavior as well. We were more than happy!



Tanager Finch

We continued our walk down the road, and then the local staff met us, who brought lunch on a motorcycle. It was a nice break and a nice field lunch indeed. After lunch we drove down the road and enjoyed the recently-described **Tatama Tapaculo**. A flock with a few more **Glistening-green Tanagers**, **Gold-ringed Tanager**, **Golden-faced Tyrannulet**, **Marble-faced Bristle Tyrant**, **Handsome Flycatcher**, **Flavescent Flycatcher**, **Choco Brushfinch**, **Three-striped Warbler**, **Slate-throated Whitestart**, and **Indigo Flowerpiercer** also thoroughly entertained us.

Then we drove back to the lodge but made a stop on the main bridge, where we got splendid views of **Olive Finch**. We arrived back at the lodge late in the afternoon to enjoy incredible views of a **Tropical Screech Owl** roosting at daytime. The day ended with another-wine-and-checklist session.

After breakfast the next day we had a magnificent day with target after target. The morning saw us at an area called Cajones, where we wanted to focus on mid-elevation species. We started with striking views of **Crested Quetzal**, followed by the endemic **Black-and-gold Tanager**, **Pacific Tuftedcheek**, **Golden-headed Quetzal**, **Uniform Antshrike**, **Rufous-rumped**

**Antwren, Buff-fronted Foliage-gleaner, Scaly-throated Foliage-gleaner, Uniform Treehunter, Wedge-billed Woodcreeper, Montane Woodcreeper, Orange-breasted Fruiteater, Olivaceous Piha, Yellow-vented Woodpecker, Crimson-mantled Woodpecker, Ornate Flycatcher, Beautiful Jay, and Golden-winged Manakin.**

After lunch we found **Scaled Fruiteater, Choco Vireo, and Andean Solitaire**, but, unfortunately, the Black Solitaire appeared only very briefly and could not be seen by the whole group. We kept walking down the road and found **Olive Finch** for a second time and then a flock of the endemic **Crested Ant Tanager**. It was not easy to see them from the road, so we were lucky enough to find a narrow and steep trail that we could follow and that allowed us to get the birds much closer. We had great views.

After returning to the lodge we explored the garden at the fishing pools, looking for our last target, the endemic **Greyish Piculet**. It did not take much time until we had great views of a pair. Sadly, our plan to look for Colombian Screech Owl after supper was spoiled by rain. However, we heard it.

We had one more morning before having to leave Montezuma, and this time we focused on the lower elevations. It didn't take much time to locate **Choco Tapaculo, Ochre-breasted Tanager, Purple-throated Fruitcrow, Three-striped Warbler, Sooty-headed Wren**, which gave us a great performance, **Golden-hooded Tanager, Golden-collared Honeycreeper** (a female, unfortunately), **Red-headed Barbet, Andean Motmot, Zeledon's Antbird**, and the endemic **Parker's Antbird**. However, the highlight of the morning was without doubt the incredible male **Club-winged Manakin**, displaying and producing its amazing wing sounds.

We said good-bye to Montezuma Eco-Lodge and headed for our next destination, Manizales, the capital of the Caldas department, to stay in a comfortable hotel in town for two nights. In the evening we went to a pasta restaurant to have a change in menu, and our participants were not disappointed; the restaurant was good and right next to the hotel. Another checklist-and-red-wine session showed that it sounds fair to say that we had a lot to celebrate!

Our arrival the next morning at the famous Rio Blanco Ecological Reserve was just in time for breakfast. The Rio Blanco Ecological Reserve is run by the governmental Aguas de Manizales organization, which protects the forest and the headwaters of the river that provides water for the city. They have developed a tourism initiative and offer facilities for birdwatchers and nature enthusiasts. The most famous of these, among birders, is the set of antpitta feeding stations, where worms attract these fascinating birds every day. So after breakfast we were guided to the first feeding station, hoping to see the elusive Bicolored Antpitta, but sadly it did not show.

So we went birding for a while and found a mixed flock including **Black-eared Hemispingus, Oleaginous Hemispingus, Superciliaried Hemispingus, Capped Conebill, Blue-and-black Tanager, Beryl-spangled Tanager, White-banded Tyrannulet, Green-and-black Fruiteater, Pearled Treerunner, and Streaked Tuftedcheek.**

Then we were called to attend the second antpitta station, where we obtained great views of **Chestnut-crowned Antpitta** and the endemic **Brown-banded Antpitta**. Finally the reserve ranger took us to the last station, where we had superb views of **Slate-crowned Antpitta**.



Chestnut-crowned Antpitta



Brown-banded Antpitta



Slate-crowned Antpitta

The hummingbird feeders attracted the rather dominant **Buff-tailed Coronet** and also **Collared Inca**, **Long-tailed Sylph**, **Tourmaline Sunangel**, **White-bellied Woodstar**, and **Lesser Violetear**.

The afternoon was rather quiet; we only met the same mixed flock that we had seen in the morning. We tried hard for Ocellated Tapaculo, but unfortunately no cigar. However, we were very lucky to meet up with a flock of the most-wanted **White-capped Tanager** feeding and providing close-up views. It was truly a first-class encounter with this species.

Just before dusk we tried for some night birds and were happy to enjoy **Rufous-bellied Nighthawk** and really great views of **White-throated Screech Owl**.

Before breakfast the next morning we were watching **Masked Flowerpiercer**, **Buff-breasted Mountain Tanager**, and **Blue-winged Mountain Tanager** around the cabins. By 7.00 a.m. the ranger took us to the first antpitta station, and this time we had very good views of **Bicolored Antpitta**.



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Bicolored Antpitta

We had only this last morning left here, and we tried to take advantage, so we walked down the bamboo track and found **Streak-headed Antbird**, **Flammulated Treehunter**, and **Rufous-crowned Tody-Flycatcher**. Sadly, the Stygian Owl was not on its roost where we saw it on the previous trip a couple of weeks ago. We kept walking along the main road, and suddenly we froze, as we heard the most-wanted **Ocellated Tapaculo** calling next to the road. We looked for strategic places to stand and called it in, and it was not long until we saw this mythical creature skulking and walking on the forest floor, absolutely fantastic – however hard it was to take a photo. On the way back to the lodge we also had great views of **Sickle-winged Guan**, **Band-tailed Pigeon**, **Glossy-black Thrush**, and **Dusky Piha**.

After lunch we left Rio Blanco and headed toward the base of the Nevado del Ruiz volcano to stay at the nice Termas Del Ruiz Hotel. Before leaving the Rio Blanco area completely, though, we stooped at the guardhouse near the reserve headquarters and enjoyed nice views of **White-capped Dipper** and two more **Andean Motmots**.

Later we arrived at the hotel, which is named after the local hot springs. The view from the hotel is outstanding, and the hot springs looked so inviting that the group decided to use the remaining two daylight hours enjoying the hot springs. To be honest, this was a nice, fun, and enjoyable experience, giving us a chance to relax and in some way experience something different that we are not used to on our busy birding trips.

It was cold the next morning, probably around 5°C/41°F, and we headed to the entrance of Los Nevados National Natural Park. It quickly turned into a nice and sunny day, but our main target, expected to be easy to find, was not there. The endemic Buffy Helmetcrest is normally easily

seen. feeding and perching in the short bushes at the entrance, but these bushes were empty today. An hour later another big party of birders arrived on the scene, and they also were surprised about the absence of this little beauty. We waited for some time but in the meantime enjoying other species as well, such as **Stout-billed Cinclodes**, **Tawny Antpitta**, **Andean Tit-Spintail**, **Plain-colored Seedeater**, and **Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle**, and even the mighty **Andean Condor** appeared for the joy of everybody. But still there was no sign of the helmetcrest.

We drove down the road to a small lake located next to the road, and here we found **Andean Ducks** and a **Grass Wren**. We spent a few hours in the area, but, no matter how and where we looked, there was no hummingbird.

It was very sunny, so near noon we decided to go back to the hotel and watch the hummingbird feeders. This time we had great views of **Buff-winged Starfrontlet**, **Viridian Metaltail**, **Great Sapphirewing**, **Shining Sunbeam**, **Black-thighed Puffleg**, and **Golden-breasted Puffleg**. In addition we saw **Mountain Velvetbreast** and **Rainbow-bearded Thornbill**.

We had lunch and planned that, after a short break, we would go back to the national park for another shot at the helmetcrest. Well, by 2.30 p.m. the sky turned dark and it started to drizzle, and then hail was falling, and the wind started to blow badly. You could bet that someone would say we would not have any chance whatever (and probably they would be right), considering the weather conditions. But we thought that we could not quit without even trying, so we drove back to the park. When we arrived the park was closed, there was nobody in the parking lot, and our little friend, **Buffy Helmetcrest**, one of the most-wanted hummingbirds of Colombia and the one we had been chasing all morning, was feeding in the flowers right next to the road in the most miserable weather conditions one could imagine.



Buffy Helmetcrest

I am so glad that we stayed two nights at this hotel and thereby had the chance to find our main target. We returned to the hotel and democratically decided to repeat the hot-springs session.

Another morning came, and we left Termales Del Ruiz and drove back to Manizales. But we used the old road that passes below the hotel. This road has no traffic and normally provides good birding, as indeed it did for us today. We had great views of **Scarlet-bellied Mountain**

**Tanager, Blue-backed Conebill, Hooded Mountain Tanager, Rufous Wren, Crimson-mantled Woodpecker, White-browed Spinetail, Streaked Tuftedcheek, White-throated Tyrannulet, and Barred Fruiteater.** We also found a very cooperative **Spillmann's Tapaculo** and a nice pair of **Black-billed Mountain Toucan.** After such a nice morning we hit the road in earnest for the long drive to the town of Buga. At our lunch stop we saw a **Fork-tailed Flycatcher.**

The first hours of the next morning were spent at Sonso Lake, which is located at the edge of the Cauca River. This wetland ecosystem of 2045 hectares holds an interesting set of waterfowl and aquatic species such as **Black-bellied Whistling Duck** and **Comb Duck,** which were both seen well. We also saw **Common Gallinule, Purple Gallinule, Black-necked Stilt, Blue-winged Teal,** several **Snail Kites, Western Osprey, Ringed and Green Kingfishers, Bare-faced and Glossy Ibises,** and **Fulvous Whistling Duck.**



Western Osprey

In addition to the aquatic birds we also looked for some understory and scrub species such as **Streak-headed** and **Cocoa Woodcreepers, Jet Antbird,** and the endemic **Apical Flycatcher.** We had good views of all of them. **Common Potoo** and **Common Nighthawk** roosting at daytime, **Spectacled Parrotlet,** and **Spot-breasted Woodpecker** also allowed nice views. A final look at the lakeshore provided a few shorebirds, including **Greater** and **Lesser Yellowlegs, Pectoral Sandpiper,** and a brief view of **Wilson's Snipe.**

Then we left Sonso and Buga and headed to Cali to the famous Finca Alejandria, where we spent a couple of hours. At the hummingbird feeders of Finca Alejandria we saw **Long-tailed Sylph, Bronzy Inca, White-booted Racket-tail,** and **Blue-headed Sapphire.** The latter, in particular, is one of the most-wanted species of Colombia, and we managed to have great views. The tanager feeders provided us with **Red-headed Barbet, Black-capped Tanager, Golden Tanager, Golden-naped Tanager, Green Honeycreeper,** and the spectacular **Multicolored Tanager.**



Multicolored Tanager (photo © Johan Florez)

After having had great views of this handsome bird we left Alejandria and headed to the town of El Queremal in order to explore the Anchicaya lowlands the next day, our last day of the trip.

The Anchicaya road is an old road that used to connect the main port of Buenaventura on the Pacific with Calí and Bogota. The road passes through some nice Chocó forest, and we focused on spending the morning as low as we could go. Unfortunately, the last day of the trip started with some rain, which spoiled our attempt at **Slaty-capped Shrike-Vireo**, which we heard but could not get visuals of. However, soon the rain stopped, and we were lucky to get a nice flock of birds, including the most-wanted **Golden-chested Tanager**, **Scarlet-and-white Tanager**, **Emerald Tanager**, **Grey-and-gold Tanager**, **Rufous-winged Tanager**, **Sulphur-rumped Myiobius**, **Cinnamon Becard**, **Choco Warbler**, **Buff-rumped Warbler**, **Bay Wren**, **Cerulean Warbler**, **Pacific Antwren**, **Dusky-faced Tanager**, **Tawny-crested Tanager**, **White-whiskered Hermit**, **Broad-billed Motmot**, **Rufous-tailed Jacamar**, **Spot-crowned Barbet**, and **Long-tailed Tyrant**.

But it started to rain again, so we turned back to Calí but made a short stop at Doña Dora's feeders, where we saw another **White-whiskered Hermit**, **Empress Brilliant**, and other old friends and the usual suspects, but, surprisingly, not Toucan Barbet, which is relatively common at these feeders.

We drove straight to our hotel in Calí and arrived with enough time for one of our participants to use the hotel facilities to take a shower and get ready for the international flight. We all went to the Calí airport, and after our participant had the boarding pass we said goodbye, with the promise that we would have more adventures together. It is always sad to bid farewell when you have the luck to have incredible people on your tours.

The rest of us went back to the hotel late in the afternoon to have our official last meal with our driver and friend Giancarlo. It was a nice dinner, followed by another sad goodbye, but again with the wish that at some time we would be hitting the road again, looking for birds!

## SYSTEMATIC LIST (IOC 8.1)

**Tinamidae**

**Little Tinamou (H) *Crypturellus soui*** We heard this Tinamou on the lowest part of the Anchicaya road.

**Anatidae**

**Fulvous Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna bicolor*** Seen at Sonso Lake

**Black-bellied Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna autumnalis*** Good views at the Barranquilla marshes and Sonso Lake

**Torrent Duck *Merganetta armata*** A male was seen along the Otún River.

**Comb Duck *Sarkidiornis sylvicola*** Good views of a male in flight at Sonso Lake

**Blue-winged Teal *Spatula discors*** Perhaps the most common duck in Colombia at this time of year. Seen at the Barranquilla marshes and Sonso Lake

**Andean Duck *Oxyura ferruginea*** Seen at the lake below Los Nevados National Natural Park

**Cracidae**

**Chestnut-winged Chachalaca *Ortalis garrula*** Great views around the campus of Barranquilla's North University. A country endemic

**Band-tailed Guan *Penelope argyrotis*** Daily views at El Dorado Lodge. Here the subspecies *colombiana*. Found only in Colombia and Venezuela

**Andean Guan *Penelope montagnii*** Seen at Rio Blanco

**Cauca Guan *Penelope perspicax*** Despite the rain we got good scope views of this species at Otún Quimbaya. A country endemic. The species is classified as Endangered.

**Sickle-winged Guan *Chamaepetes goudotii*** The subspecies *sanctaemarthae* was seen at El Dorado Lodge and the nominate subspecies at Rio Blanco.

**Odontophoridae**

**Crested Bobwhite *Colinus cristatus*** Seen in La Guajira

**Chestnut Wood Quail *Odontophorus hyperythrus*** Decent views of at least three birds in the Montezuma forest. A country endemic. The species is classified as Near-threatened.

**Threskiornithidae**

**American White Ibis *Eudocimus albus*** Seen at Camarones

**Scarlet Ibis x American White Ibis *Eudocimus ruber* x *E. albus*** A hybrid was seen at Camarones.

**Bare-faced Ibis *Phimosus infuscatus*** The most common ibis in Colombia. Widespread

**Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*** One was seen in the Barranquilla marshes, and we had another great view at Sonso Lake. The species is a vagrant in Colombia.

**Buff-necked Ibis (H) *Theristicus caudatus*** Only heard at Sonso Lake

**Roseate Spoonbill *Platalea ajaja*** Seen at Camarones

**Ardeidae**

**Rufescent Tiger Heron *Tigrisoma fasciatum*** A juvenile was seen in the Barranquilla marshes.

**Fasciated Tiger Heron *Tigrisoma fasciatum*** Seen along the Anchicaya River

**Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*** Seen in the Barranquilla marshes

**Striated Heron *Butorides striata*** Seen in the Barranquilla marshes

**Western Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*** Widespread

**Cocoi Heron *Ardea cocoi*** Seen at Sonso Lake

**Great Egret *Ardea alba*** Several sightings throughout the trip

**Reddish Egret** *Egretta rufescens* Only one sighting at Camarones. The species is classified as Near-threatened.

**Little Blue Heron** *Egretta caerulea* Seen at Camarones

**Snowy Egret** *Egretta thula* Several sightings throughout the trip

#### Pelecanidae

**Brown Pelican** *Pelecanus occidentalis* Quite a few on the way to Santa Marta and at Camarones

#### Fregatidae

**Magnificent Frigatebird** *Fregata magnificens* Quite a few on the way to Santa Marta

#### Phalacrocoracidae

**Neotropic Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax brasilianus* Common

#### Cathartidae

**Turkey Vulture** *Cathartes aura* Common

**Black Vulture** *Coragyps atratus* Common

**Andean Condor** *Vultur gryphus* Nice views of one individual soaring above the Nevado Del Ruiz snow-capped mountain. The species is classified as Near-threatened.

#### Pandionidae

**Western Osprey** *Pandion haliaetus* Great views at Sonso Lake

#### Accipitridae

**Swallow-tailed Kite** *Elanoides forficatus* Beautiful views above the Montezuma ridge

**Pearl Kite** *Gampsonyx swainsonii* Seen in La Guajira

**Snail Kite** *Rostrhamus sociabilis* Nice views at Sonso Lake

**Barred Hawk** *Morphnarchus princeps* One seen above the Montezuma ridge.

**Roadside Hawk** *Rupornis magnirostris* Seen at Otún Quimbaya

**Harris's Hawk** *Parabuteo unicinctus* Only one sighting on the trip

**Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle** *Geranoaetus melanoleucus* Nice views at Los Nevados National Natural Park

**Broad-winged Hawk** *Buteo platypterus* One of the most frequently encountered raptors in Colombia at this time of year

**Short-tailed Hawk** *Buteo brachyurus* Seen on the way to La Guajira

#### Rallidae

**Purple Gallinule** *Porphyrio martinica* Seen at Sonso Lake

**Common Gallinule** *Gallinula galeata* Seen at Sonso Lake

#### Aramidae

**Limpkin** *Aramus guarauna* Seen in the Barranquilla marshes and at Sonso Lake

#### Burhinidae

**Double-striped Thick-knee** *Burhinus bistriatus* Great views at its classic place on the way to Riohacha

#### Haematopodidae

**American Oystercatcher** *Haematopus palliatus* Seen at Camarones

#### Recurvirostridae

**Black-necked Stilt** *Himantopus mexicanus* Seen in the Barranquilla marshes

#### Charadriidae

**Southern Lapwing** *Vanellus chilensis* Widespread

#### Jacaniidae

**Wattled Jacana** *Jacana jacana* Seen in the Barranquilla marshes and at Sonso Lake

#### Scolopacidae

**Wilson's Snipe** *Gallinago delicata* Brief views of one bird flushed at Sonso Lake

**Whimbrel** *Numenius phaeopus* One seen at Camarones

**Spotted Sandpiper** *Actitis macularius* A couple of encounters on the trip

**Pectoral Sandpiper** *Calidris melanotos* Several seen around Sonso Lake

**Solitary Sandpiper** *Tringa solitaria* Seen at the Barranquilla marshes

**Greater Yellowlegs** *Tringa melanoleuca* Seen at Sonso Lake

**Lesser Yellowlegs** *Tringa flavipes* Seen at Sonso Lake

### Laridae

**Royal Tern** *Thalasseus maximus* Seen at Camarones

**Cabot's Tern** *Thalasseus acuflavidus* Seen at Camarones

**Caspian Tern** *Hydroprogne caspia* Seen at Camarones

**Common Tern** *Sterna hirundo* Seen at Camarones

### Columbidae

**Rock Pigeon** *Columba livia* Common

**Scaled Pigeon** *Patagioenas speciosa* Seen below El Dorado Lodge

**Bare-eyed Pigeon** *Patagioenas corensis* Great views in La Guajira. Found only in Colombia and Venezuela but with a population also in the Netherlands Antilles

**Pale-vented Pigeon** *Patagioenas cayennensis* Seen at Sonso Lake

**Plumbeous Pigeon (H)** *Patagioenas plumbea* Heard only at Montezuma

**Band-tailed Pigeon** *Patagioenas fasciata* Seen at the San Lorenzo Ridge above El Dorado Lodge

**Scaled Dove** *Columbina squammata* Seen in La Guajira

**Common Ground Dove** *Columbina passerina* Seen in La Guajira

**Ruddy Ground Dove** *Columbina talpacoti* Seen in the Cauca Valley, including at our hotel in Buga

**White-tipped Dove** *Leptotila verreauxi* Several sightings at different locations

**Lined Quail-Dove** *Zentrygon linearis* Great views at El Dorado Lodge. Here the nominate subspecies

**White-throated Quail-Dove** *Zentrygon frenata* Just a at Otún Quimbaya

**Eared Dove** *Zenaida auriculata* Several sightings throughout the trip

### Cuculidae

**Greater Ani** *Crotophaga major* Seen at Sonso Lake

**Groove-billed Ani** *Crotophaga sulcirostris* Seen in the Caribbean lowlands

**Smooth-billed Ani** *Crotophaga ani* Seen at Sonso Lake and in the Cauca Valley

**Striped Cuckoo** *Tapera naevia* Great views at Sonso Lake

**Squirrel Cuckoo** *Piaya cayana* Seen at Finca Alejandria

### Strigidae

**Santa Marta Screech Owl** *Megascops gilesi* Stunning views of one bird above El Dorado Lodge. This was probably the favorite bird of the trip. Not only is it a poorly-known endemic species but also because we had to work under very strong windy conditions, but even so our efforts were reward with such great views. A country endemic. Recently described and accepted by most authorities including IOC but not yet included in the updated IOC 8.1 list. Its status has not yet been assessed by IUCN, but it is probably critically endangered.

**Tropical Screech Owl** *Megascops choliba* Crippling views of a young bird roosting at daytime at Montezuma

**White-throated Screech Owl *Megascops albogularis*** Great views of one individual at Rio Blanco

**Colombian Screech Owl (H) *Megascops colombianus*** Unfortunately heard only this time. Even though we tried hard, the sudden rain spoiled any chances at Montezuma. Found only in Colombia and Ecuador. The species is classified as Near-threatened.

**Cloud-forest Pygmy Owl (H) *Glaucidium nubicola*** Heard distantly at Montezuma. The species is classified as Vulnerable. Found only in Colombia and Ecuador

### Nyctibiidae

**Common Potoo *Nyctibius griseus*** Two sightings at daytime at Sonso Lake

### Caprimulgidae

**Common Nighthawk *Chordeiles minor*** Seen roosting at daytime at Sonso Lake

**Rufous-bellied Nighthawk *Lurocalis rufiventris*** Seen at Rio Blanco before dusk

**Band-winged Nightjar *Systellura longirostris*** Poor views of one individual at Rio Blanco

### Apodidae

**Chestnut-collared Swift *Streptoprocne rutila*** Only one encounter on the trip

**White-collared Swift *Streptoprocne zonaris*** The most frequently encountered swift on the trip

### Trochilidae

**Green Hermit *Phaethornis guy*** Seen at Finca Alejandria

**White-whiskered Hermit *Phaethornis yaruqui*** Seen well at Doña Dora's feeders. Found only in Colombia and Ecuador

**Tawny-bellied Hermit *Phaethornis syrmatorphorus*** Seen at the Montezuma feeders

**Green-fronted Lancebill *Doryfera ludovicae*** Seen at Montezuma

**White-necked Jacobin *Florisuga mellivora*** Seen at several hummingbird feeders throughout the trip

**Brown Violetear *Colibri delphinae*** Seen at the El Dorado Lodge feeders and at Finca Alejandria

**Lesser Violetear *Colibri cyanotus*** Seen well at El Dorado Lodge and Rio Blanco

**Black-throated Mango *Anthracothorax nigricollis*** Seen at Minca and Finca Alejandria

**Western Emerald *Chlorostilbon melanorhynchus*** Seen in the Montezuma Eco-Lodge gardens. Found only in Ecuador and Colombia

**Crowned Woodnymph *Thalurania colombica*** We saw the subspecies *colombica* at the El Dorado Lodge feeders with the violet crown and the *fannya* subspecies at Montezuma Eco-Lodge with the green crown.

**Sapphire-bellied Hummingbird *Lepidopygia lilliae*** Great views at Isla Salamanca. A country endemic. The species is classified as Critically Endangered.

**Blue-headed Sapphire *Hylocharis grayi*** Seen well at Finca Alejandria. Found only in Ecuador and Colombia

**Rufous-tailed Hummingbird *Amazilia tzacatl*** One of the most widespread species, seen at several locations

**Andean Emerald *Amazilia franciae*** Seen at Montezuma Eco-Lodge

**Steely-vented Hummingbird *Amazilia saucerottei*** Seen at Finca Alejandria, Montezuma Eco-Lodge, and Minca

**White-vented Plumeleteer *Chalybura buffonii*** Seen at the feeders of the Minca hotel

**Speckled Hummingbird *Adelomyia melanogenys*** Seen at Rio Blanco

**Fawn-breasted Brilliant *Heliodoxa rubinoides*** Seen at Finca Alejandria and Rio Blanco

**Green-crowned Brilliant *Heliodoxa jacula*** Seen at Montezuma Eco-Lodge

**Empress Brilliant *Heliodoxa imperatrix*** Excellent views at Montezuma Eco-Lodge and at Doña Dora's feeders. Found only in Colombia and Ecuador

**White-tailed Hillstar *Urochroa bougueri*** Seen at Montezuma Eco-Lodge and Doña Dora's feeders.

**Buff-tailed Coronet *Boissonneaua flavescens*** Seen at Finca Alejandria and Rio Blanco

**Velvet-purple Coronet *Boissonneaua jardini*** One of the most stunning hummingbirds of the trip. Found only in Colombia and Ecuador

**Shining Sunbeam *Aglaeactis cupripennis*** Close-up views at the feeders of the hotel Termales Del Ruiz

**Mountain Velvetbreast *Lafresnaya lafresnayi*** Seen at the feeders of the Hotel Termales Del Ruiz

**Bronzy Inca *Coeligena coeligena*** Seen at Finca Alejandria and Rio Blanco

**Brown Inca *Coeligena wilsoni*** Seen at the feeders below the Montezuma ridge. Found only in Colombia and Ecuador

**Collared Inca *Coeligena torquata*** Several sightings, especially at Rio Blanco

**White-tailed Starfrontlet *Coeligena phalerata*** Stunning views of a male at El Dorado Lodge feeders. On this trip it was seen almost throughout the day, while it had been completely absent during our previous trip only a month ago. A country endemic.

**Buff-winged Starfrontlet *Coeligena lutetiae*** Seen at the feeders of the Hotel Termales Del Ruiz

**Dusky Starfrontlet *Coeligena orina*** Incredible views at the feeders below the Montezuma ridge. Recorded and documented for this location only on our previous 2018 trip. A country endemic. The species is classified as Critically Endangered.

**Great Sapphirewing *Pterophanes cyanopterus*** Seen well at Hotel Termales Del Ruiz

**Tourmaline Sunangel *Heliangelus exortis*** Seen at Rio Blanco. Found only in Colombia and Ecuador

**Golden-breasted Puffleg *Eriocnemis mosquera*** Seen well at the Hotel Termales Del Ruiz feeders. Found only in Colombia and Ecuador

**Black-thighed Puffleg *Eriocnemis derbyi*** Seen well at the Hotel Termales Del Ruiz feeders, where it is present but not abundant. Found only in Colombia and Ecuador

**Greenish Puffleg *Haplophaedia aureliae*** Seen at the feeders below the Montezuma ridge

**White-booted Racket-tail *Ocreatus underwoodii*** Seen at Finca Alejandria. This is the result of the recent split of Booted Racket-tail *Ocreatus underwoodii*. The split is as follows:

\*White-booted Racket-tail *Ocreatus underwoodii* From Venezuela to Colombia and W Ecuador

\*Peruvian Racket-tail *Ocreatus peruanus* From E Ecuador to NE Peru

\*Rufous-booted Racket-tail *Ocreatus addae* From C Peru to Bolivia

**Buffy Helmetcrest *Oxygogon stuebelii*** What an incredible view at Los Nevados National Natural Park! This meant a lot to me, considering that we looked hard for it in the morning in the most beautiful possible weather only to find it on the drizzling and windy afternoon. A country endemic. The species is classified as Vulnerable.

**Tyrian Metaltail *Metallura tyrianthina*** Only one encounter on the trip. Tyrian purple (Greek, *porphyra*, Latin *purpura*), also known as Tyrian red, Phoenician purple, royal purple, imperial purple or imperial dye, is a reddish-purple natural dye. It is a secretion produced by several species of predatory sea snails in the family Muricidae, rock snails originally known by the name *Murex*. In ancient times, extracting this dye involved tens of thousands of snails and substantial labor, and as a result the dye was highly valued.

**Viridian Metaltail *Metallura williami*** Seen at the feeders of the Hotel Termales Del Ruiz

**Rainbow-bearded Thornbill** *Chalcostigma herrani* Brief views of this handsome species at the feeders of the Hotel Termales Del Ruiz

**Long-tailed Sylph** *Agelaiocercus kingii* Seen at Finca Alejandria and Rio Blanco

**Violet-tailed Sylph** *Agelaiocercus coelestis* Splendid views at Montezuma Eco-Lodge and Doña Dora's hummingbird feeders

**White-throated Wedgebill** *Schistes albogularis* Seen at Otún Quimbaya. White-throated Wedgebill is split from Geoffroy's Wedgebill, a.k.a. Wedge-billed Hummingbird (HBW Alive, Donegan et al 2015). Found only in Colombia and Ecuador

**Purple-throated Woodstar** *Calliphlox mitchellii* Seen at Finca Alejandria and Montezuma Eco-Lodge

**White-bellied Woodstar** *Chaetocercus mulsant* Seen at Rio Blanco

**Santa Marta Woodstar** *Chaetocercus astreans* Seen below El Dorado Lodge. A country endemic

### Trogonidae

**Golden-headed Quetzal** *Pharomachrus auriceps* Brief views through the mist at Cajones in the Tatamá National Park

**Crested Quetzal** *Pharomachrus antisianus* Amazing views of one individual at Cajones in the Tatamá National Park

**White-tipped Quetzal** *Pharomachrus fulgidus* Seen at El Dorado Lodge. Found only in Venezuela and Colombia, where it is restricted to the Santa Marta and Períja Mountains.

**Masked Trogon** *Trogon personatus* Seen at Rio Blanco

**Collared Trogon** *Trogon collaris* Seen at Otún Quimbaya

### Alcedinidae

**Green Kingfisher** *Chloroceryle americana* Seen at Sonso Lake

**Amazon Kingfisher** *Chloroceryle amazona* Seen at Sonso Lake

**Ringed Kingfisher** *Megaceryle torquata* Seen in the Barranquilla marshes and at Sonso Lake

### Momotidae

**Whooping Motmot** *Momotus subrufescens* Seen at the Hotel Minca La Casona

**Andean Motmot** *Momotus aequatorialis* Seen at Otún Quimbaya and Montezuma Eco-Lodge

**Broad-billed Motmot** *Electron platyrhynchum* Great views in the lower Anchicaya road

### Galbulidae

**Rufous-tailed Jacamar** *Galbula ruficauda* Seen at Minca and in La Guajira

### Bucconidae

**Russet-throated Puffbird** *Hypnelus ruficollis* Seen in La Guajira. Found only in Colombia and Venezuela

### Capitonidae

**Red-headed Barbet** *Eubucco bourcierii* Close-up views at Finca Alejandria

**Spot-crowned Barbet** *Capito maculicoronatus* Nice views along the Anchicaya road. Found only in Colombia and Panama

### Semnornithidae

**Toucan Barbet (H)** *Semnornis ramphastinus* We heard it at Cajones in the Tatamá National Park. Surprisingly, it was not present at Doña Dora's feeders, where we saw it a month ago on the previous trip. Found only in Colombia and Ecuador. The species is classified as Near-threatened.

### Ramphastidae

**White-throated Toucanet** *Aulacorhynchus albivitta* Good views of the subspecies *lautus* at El Dorado Lodge. This subspecies was split several years ago into Santa Marta Toucanet, but lumped back recently into White-throated Toucanet *Aulacorhynchus albivitta*.

**Groove-billed Toucanet** *Aulacorhynchus sulcatus* Great views below El Dorado Lodge. Here the subspecies *calorhynchus*. Found only in Colombia and Venezuela

**Black-billed Mountain Toucan** *Andigena nigrirostris* An incredible encounter with two individuals below the Hotel Termales Del Ruiz

**Keel-billed Toucan (H)** *Rhamphastos sulfuratus* Heard only above Minca

**Yellow-throated Toucan (H)** *Ramphastos ambiguus* We heard this species along the Anchicaya road. The species is classified as Near-threatened.

### Picidae

**Chestnut Piculet** *Picumnus cinnamomeus* One of the most handsome piculets, seen nicely in La Guajira. Found only in Colombia and Venezuela

**Greyish Piculet** *Picumnus granadensis* Great views at the Montezuma Eco-Lodge. A country endemic.

**Red-crowned Woodpecker** *Melanerpes rubricapillus* Common at several locations

**Smoky-brown Woodpecker** *Leuconotopicus fumigatus* Seen in Cajones in the Tatamá National Park

**Yellow-vented Woodpecker** *Veniliornis dignus* A spectacular encounter with is uncommon species at Cajones in the Tatamá National Park

**Spot-breasted Woodpecker** *Colaptes punctigula* Seen at Sonso Lake

**Crimson-mantled Woodpecker** *Colaptes rivolii* Seen below the Montezuma ridge

**Lineated Woodpecker** *Dryocopus lineatus* A few sightings on the trip

**Crimson-crested Woodpecker** *Campephilus melanoleucos* Only one encounter in the Cauca Valley

### Falconidae

**Northern Crested Caracara** *Caracara cheriway* Common at several locations

**Yellow-headed Caracara** *Milvago chimachima* Common at several locations

**Laughing Falcon (H)** *Herpetotheres cachinnans* Heard at Minca

**Barred Forest Falcon (H)** *Micrastur ruficollis* Heard only

### Psittacidae

**Military Macaw** *Ara militaris* Scope views of some distant individuals below Minca. The species is classified as Vulnerable.

**Brown-throated Parakeet** *Eupsittula pertinax* Seen on the way to La Guajira

**Scarlet-fronted Parakeet** *Psittacara wagleri* Seen at the San Lorenzo ridge above El Dorado Lodge. Here the nominate subspecies. The species is classified as Near-threatened.

**Santa Marta Parakeet** *Pyrrhura viridicata* Nice views of four individuals flying at eye level at the San Lorenzo ridge. A country endemic. The species is classified as Endangered.

**Spectacled Parrotlet** *Forpus conspicillatus* Common at Sonso Lake.

**Orange-chinned Parakeet** *Brotogeris jugularis* Common below Minca, where we had good views

**Barred Parakeet** *Bolborhynchus lineola* Distant fly-by views of a flock below the Montezuma ridge

**Blue-headed Parrot** *Pionus menstruus* Seen around Sonso Lake

**White-capped Parrot** *Pionus seniloides* Excellent views at Rio Blanco

**Bronze-winged Parrot** *Pionus chalcopterus* Fly-by views at Otún Quimbaya

**Scaly-naped Amazon** *Amazona mercenarius* Seen below the Montezuma ridge

**Yellow-crowned Amazon** *Amazona ochrocephala* Seen in the garden of our hotel in Buga

**Furnariidae**

**Stout-billed Cinclodes** *Cinclodes excelsior* Seen at Los Nevados National Natural Park. Found only in Colombia and Ecuador

**Caribbean Hornero** *Furnarius longirostris* Seen in the dry scrub of La Guajira

**Andean Tit-Spinetail** *Leptasthenura andicola* Two individuals were seen well at Los Nevados National Natural Park

**White-whiskered Spinetail** *Synallaxis candei* Great views of this distinctive spinetail in the dry habitat of La Guajira. Found only in Colombia and Venezuela

**White-browed Spinetail** *Hellmayrea gularis* A nice encounter with one bird below Hotel Termales del Ruiz

**Rufous Spinetail** *Synallaxis unirufa* Seen at the top of ridge in Montezuma

**Rusty-headed Spinetail (H)** *Synallaxis fusciorufa* Sadly it did not come show for us. A country endemic. The species is classified as Vulnerable.

**Streak-capped Spinetail** *Cranioleuca hellmayri* Seen at the San Lorenzo Ridge above El Dorado Lodge.

**Azara's Spinetail** *Synallaxis azarae* Seen at Rio Blanco

**Yellow-chinned Spinetail** *Certhiaxis cinnamomeus* Seen in the Barranquilla marshes

**Red-faced Spinetail** *Cranioleuca erythroptis* Seen at mid-elevations along the Montezuma road

**Pearled Treerunner** *Margarornis squamiger* Seen at Rio Blanco

**Streaked Tuftedcheek** *Pseudocolaptes boissonneautii* Seen at Rio Blanco

**Pacific Tuftedcheek** *Pseudocolaptes johnsoni* Seen at mid-elevation along the Montezuma road. Found only in Colombia and Ecuador.

**Scaly-throated Foliage-gleaner** *Anabacerthia variegaticeps* Seen at Cajones in the Tatamá National Park

**Montane Foliage-gleaner** *Anabacerthia striaticollis* Seen at El Dorado Lodge

**Buff-fronted Foliage-gleaner** *Philydor rufum* Seen at Cajones in the Tatamá National Park

**Santa Marta Foliage-gleaner** *Automolus rufipectus* Great views at mid-elevations in the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta. A country endemic restricted to the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta. The species is classified as Near-threatened.

**Lineated Foliage-gleaner** *Syndactyla subalaris* Seen at Cajones in the Tatamá National Park

**Uniform Treehunter** *Thripadectes ignobilis* Seen at Cajones in the Tatamá National Park

**Streak-capped Treehunter** *Thripadectes virgaticeps* Seen at Otún Quimbaya

**Flammulated Treehunter** *Thripadectes flammulatus* Seen at Rio Blanco and Santa Marta, both the nominate subspecies

**Streaked Xenops** *Xenops rutilans* Seen at Otún Quimbaya

**Grey-throated Leaf-tosser** *Sclerurus albigularis* Seen at El Dorado Lodge. The species is classified as Near-threatened.

**Tyrannine Woodcreeper** *Dendrocincla tyrannina* Wonderful views before dusk at Rio Blanco

**Wedge-billed Woodcreeper** *Glyphorhynchus spirurus* Seen at Anchicaya

**Strong-billed Woodcreeper** *Xiphocolaptes promeropirhynchus* Seen at Rio Blanco and Otún Quimbaya

**Straight-billed Woodcreeper** *Dendroplex picus* Seen at La Guajira

**Cocoa Woodcreeper** *Xiphorhynchus susurrans* Seen at Sonso Lake

**Streak-headed Woodcreeper** *Lepidocolaptes souleyetii* Seen at Sonso Lake

**Montane Woodcreeper** *Lepidocolaptes lacrymiger* Seen at Rio Blanco

**Thamnophilidae**

**Black-crested Antshrike** *Sakesphorus canadensis* Seen in La Guajira, where we saw the subspecies *pulchellus*

**Black-backed Antshrike** *Thamnophilus melanonotus* Seen in La Guajira. Found only in Colombia and Venezuela

**Uniform Antshrike** *Thamnophilus unicolor* Seen well below Cajones in the Tatamá National Park

**Plain Antwren** *Dysithamnus mentalis* Seen above Montezuma Eco-Lodge in the lower parts

**Pacific Antwren** *Myrmotherula pacifica* Seen in Anchicaya

**Northern White-fringed Antwren** *Formicivora intermedia* Nice views in La Guajira. Found only in Colombia and Venezuela

**Slaty Antwren** *Myrmotherula schisticolor* Seen at Otún Quimbaya

**Rufous-rumped Antwren** *Euchrepomis callinota* One seen well below Cajones in the Tatamá National Park

**Santa Marta Antbird** *Drymophila hellmayri* Seen below El Dorado Lodge. A country endemic. The species is classified as Near-threatened.

**Streak-headed Antbird** *Drymophila striaticeps* Seen at Rio Blanco

**Jet Antbird** *Cercomacra nigricans* Seen at Sonso Lake

**Parker's Antbird** *Cercomacra parkeri* Seen in the lower parts of Montezuma and Otún Quimbaya. A country endemic. Named after Theodore Albert "Ted" Parker III (April 1, 1953 – August 3, 1993), an American ornithologist who specialized in the Neotropics. He was widely considered the finest field birder of recent times. He died tragically on a plane crash in Ecuador together with Alwyn Gentry, one of the top botanists in the Neotropics.

**Zeledon's Antbird** *Hafferia zeledoni* Seen in the lower parts of the Anchicaya road. Named after Jose C. Zeledon (1846-1923), Costa Rican naturalist and collector.

**Grallariidae**

**Yellow-breasted Antpitta (H)** *Grallaria flavotincta* Heard at Cajones in the Tatamá National Park

**Chestnut-crowned Antpitta** *Grallaria ruficapilla* Fantastic views at Rio Blanco

**Santa Marta Antpitta** *Grallaria bangsi* Good views at the San Lorenzo Biological Station feeders. A country endemic restricted to the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta. The species is classified as Vulnerable.

**Brown-banded Antpitta** *Grallaria milleri* Close-up views of this antpitta at the worm feeders of Rio Blanco. A country endemic. The species is classified as Vulnerable.

**Tawny Antpitta** *Grallaria quitensis* Seen at Los Nevados National Natural Park

**Bicolored Antpitta** *Grallaria rufocinerea* Seen at Rio Blanco, where we had splendid views Found only in Colombia and Ecuador. The species is classified as Vulnerable.

**Slate-crowned Antpitta** *Grallaricula nana* We had nice views at Rio Blanco.

**Rhinocryptidae**

**Ocellated Tapaculo** *Acropternis orthonyx* Our efforts were rewarded with short but excellent views of one of the most sought-after birds of South America. Seen at Rio Blanco

**Tatama Tapaculo** *Scytalopus alvarezlopezi* Seen at Montezuma. Described in April 2017. Its English name used to be Alto Pisones Tapaculo before its official description. A country endemic. Named after the Tatamá National Park

**Santa Marta Tapaculo** *Scytalopus sanctaemartae* Seen below El Dorado Lodge. A country endemic

**Choco Tapaculo** *Scytalopus chocoensis* Good views in the lower parts of Montezuma. Named after the Colombian department of Chocó and the Chocó bioregion from the Panamanian Darién to the Pacific Colombian coast to Southwest Ecuador

**Narino Tapaculo** *Scytalopus viciniar* Seen at Montezuma. Named after the Colombian department of Nariño

**Stiles's Tapaculo** *Scytalopus stilesi* Brief views at Otún Quimbaya and La Romera. A country endemic. Named after Gary Stiles, an American ornithologist and author of *A Guide to the Birds of Costa Rica*

**Spillmann's Tapaculo** *Scytalopus spillmanni* Amazingly, we got good views of this well-known skulker at Rio Blanco. Named after F. Spillmann, 1925 Austrian zoologist resident in Ecuador

**Brown-rumped Tapaculo (H)** *Scytalopus latebricola* Unfortunately, it disappeared between leaves at the San Lorenzo Ridge in the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta. A country endemic

**Blackish Tapaculo (H)** *Scytalopus latrans* Heard at Rio Blanco

### Tyrannidae

**Sooty-headed Tyrannulet** *Phyllomyias griseiceps* Seen at Otún Quimbaya

**Mountain Elaenia** *Elaenia frantzii* Good views below El Dorado Lodge. Here the subspecies *browni*

**White-throated Tyrannulet** *Mecocerculus leucophrys* Seen at Rio Blanco and Santa Marta

**White-tailed Tyrannulet** *Mecocerculus poecilocercus* Seen at Rio Blanco

**White-banded Tyrannulet** *Mecocerculus stictopterus* Seen at Rio Blanco

**Torrent Tyrannulet** *Serpophaga cinerea* Seen at Otún Quimbaya

**Rufous-breasted Flycatcher** *Leptopogon rufipectus* Seen at Otún Quimbaya

**Slender-billed Inezia** *Inezia tenuirostris* Seen in La Guajira. Found only in Colombia and Venezuela

**Coopman's Tyrannulet** *Zimmerius minimus* Seen above Minca

**Golden-faced Tyrannulet** *Zimmerius chrysops* Seen at Otún Quimbaya and Montezuma

**Marble-faced Bristle Tyrant** *Pogonotriccus ophthalmicus* Seen at Montezuma

**Ochre-bellied Flycatcher** *Mionectes oleagineus* Only one sighting on the trip

**Northern Scrub Flycatcher** *Sublegatus arenarum* Seen in La Guajira

**Handsome Flycatcher** *Nephelomyias pulcher* Common at mid-elevations in Montezuma

**Ornate Flycatcher** *Myiobrycon ornatus* Seen at Montezuma

**Pearly-vented Tody Tyrant** *Hemitriccus margaritaceiventer* Brief views at La Guajira

**Black-throated Tody-Tyrant** *Hemitriccus granadensis* Seen at El Dorado Lodge

**Pale-eyed Pygmy-Tyrant** *Atalotriccus pilaris* Nice views below Minca

**Rufous-crowned Tody-Flycatcher** *Poecilotriccus ruficeps* Nice views at Rio Blanco

**Common Tody-Flycatcher** *Todirostrum cinereum* Several sightings

**Cinnamon Flycatcher** *Pyrrhomyias cinnamomeus* Seen at several locations

**Black Phoebe** *Sayornis nigricans* Several sightings throughout the trip

**Smoke-colored Pewee** *Contopus fumigatus* Seen at Rio Blanco and Montezuma

**Western Wood Pewee** *Contopus sordidulus* Seen above Minca

**Vermilion Flycatcher** *Pyrocephalus obscurus* Seen in Buga. According to IOC (Carmi et al. 2016), Vermilion Flycatcher *Pyrocephalus rubinus* have been split as follows:

\* Scarlet Flycatcher *Pyrocephalus rubinus* SE Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay

- \* Vermilion Flycatcher *Pyrocephalus obscurus* SW USA to N Chile
- \* Darwin's Flycatcher *Pyrocephalus nanus* Galapagos islands (except San Cristobal island)
- \* San Cristobal Flycatcher *Pyrocephalus dubius* San Cristobal Island (Galapagos) [Today extinct]

**Paramo Ground Tyrant** *Muscisaxicola alpinus* Seen well below Los Nevados National Natural Park. Here the subspecies *quesadae*. Found only in Colombia and Ecuador

**Smoky Bush Tyrant** *Myiotheretes fumigatus* Scope views at the top of the ridge at Montezuma

**Flavescent Flycatcher** *Myiophobus flavicans* Seen at Montezuma

**Pied Water Tyrant** *Fluvicola pica* Seen in the Barranquilla marshes

**White-headed Marsh Tyrant** *Arundinicola leucocephala* Seen in the Barranquilla marshes

**Yellow-bellied Chat-Tyrant** *Silvicoltrix diadema* Seen below the Montezuma ridge

**Brown-backed Chat-Tyrant** *Ochthoeca fumicolor* Seen at Los Nevados National Natural Park

**Long-tailed Tyrant** *Colonia colonus* Seen at the lower Anchicaya road

**Cattle Tyrant** *Machetornis rixosa* Seen in our hotel in Buga

**Rusty-margined Flycatcher** *Myiozetetes cayanensis* Common around Sonso Lake

**Great Kiskadee** *Pitangus sulphuratus* Common at several locations

**Golden-crowned Flycatcher** *Myiodynastes chrysocephalus* Seen at Montezuma

**Streaked Flycatcher** *Myiodynastes maculatus* Quite a few sightings, including Minca and Sonso Lake

**Boat-billed Flycatcher** *Megarynchus pitangua* Seen below Minca

**Tropical Kingbird** *Tyrannus melancholicus* Common

**Fork-tailed Flycatcher** *Tyrannus savana* Seen on the way to Buga

**Grey Kingbird** *Tyrannus dominicensis* Seen at Sonso Lake

**Dusky-capped Flycatcher** *Myiarchus tuberculifer* Seen at Montezuma

**Apical Flycatcher** *Myiarchus apicalis* Great views at Sonso Lake, where we saw three different individuals. A country endemic.

**Pale-edged Flycatcher** *Myiarchus cephalotes* Seen at Rio Blanco

**Brown-crested Flycatcher** *Myiarchus tyrannulus* Seen above Minca

**Venezuelan Flycatcher** *Myiarchus venezuelensis* Seen in La Guajira. Found only in Colombia and Venezuela

**Bright-rumped Attila (H)** *Attila spadiceus* Heard only in Minca

### Cotingidae

**Green-and-black Fruiteater** *Pipreola riefferii* Seen at Rio Blanco

**Golden-breasted Fruiteater** *Pipreola aureopectus* Seen around El Dorado Lodge. Found only in Colombia and Venezuela

**Orange-breasted Fruiteater** *Pipreola jucunda* Seen at Montezuma. Found only in Colombia and Ecuador

**Barred Fruiteater** *Pipreola arcuata* Seen well below Hotel Termales Del Ruiz

**Scaled Fruiteater** *Ampelioides tschudii* Scope views of this elusive species below Cajones in the Tatamá National Park

**Olivaceous Piha** *Snowornis cryptolophus* Good views below Cajones

**Dusky Piha** *Lipaugus fuscocinereus* Good views at Rio Blanco. Not an easy bird to find and show

**Purple-throated Fruitcrow** *Querula purpurata* An unexpected encounter in the lower parts of Montezuma

**Red-ruffed Fruitcrow** *Pyroderus scutatus* Good views at Otún Quimbaya

**Pipridae**

**White-bearded Manakin** *Manacus manacus* Seen in Minca

**Golden-winged Manakin** *Masius chrysopterus* Seen at Montezuma

**Club-winged Manakin** *Machaeropterus deliciosus* Splendid views at Montezuma. Found only in Colombia and Ecuador

**Tityridae**

**Sulphur-rumped Myiobius** *Myiobius sulphureipygius* Seen along the lowest parts of the Anchicaya road.

**Barred Becard (H)** *Pachyramphus versicolor* We heard it at Rio Blanco.

**White-winged Becard** *Pachyramphus polychopterus* Seen at Montezuma

**Cinnamon Becard** *Pachyramphus cinnamomeus* Seen at Anchicaya

**Vireonidae**

**Slaty-capped Shrike-Vireo (H)** *Vireolanius leucotis* We heard it at Anchicaya, but the heavy rain spoiled our chances to find it.

**Brown-capped Vireo** *Vireo leucophrys* Seen at Rio Blanco

**Rufous-naped Greenlet** *Hylophilus semibrunneus* Seen at Otún Quimbaya

**Yellow-green Vireo** *Vireo flavoviridis* One seen above Minca

**Choco Vireo** *Vireo masteri* Great views at Montezuma. Found only in Colombia and Ecuador. The species is classified as Endangered.

**Corvidae**

**Beautiful Jay** *Cyanolyca pulchra* Great views of two birds at Cajones in the Tatamá National Park. Found only in Colombia and Ecuador. The species is classified as Near-threatened.

**Black-chested Jay** *Cyanocorax affinis* Several sightings throughout the trip

**Inca Jay** *Cyanocorax yncas* Seen at Otún Quimbaya

**Hirundinidae**

**Grey-breasted Martin** *Progne chalybea* A few sightings at lower elevations

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

**Brown-bellied Swallow** *Notiochelidon murina* Seen below Los Nevados National Natural Park and at the Montezuma ridge

**Southern Rough-winged Swallow** *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis* Widespread in good numbers

**Barn Swallow** *Hirundo rustica* A few seen on the last day of the tour around Calí airport

**Troglodytidae**

**Bicolored Wren** *Campylorhynchus griseus* Good views of this large wren around our hotel in Minca

**Stripe-backed Wren** *Campylorhynchus nuchalis* Seen well at the Barranquilla marshes. Found only in Colombia and Venezuela

**Rufous Wren** *Cinnycerthia unirufa* Nice views along the road below the Hotel Termales Del Ruiz.

**Grass Wren** *Cistothorus platensis* Seen at Los Nevados National Natural Park

**Sooty-headed Wren** *Pheugopedius spadix* Great views of this skulker along the lowest parts of the Montezuma Road. Found only in Colombia and Panama

**Whiskered Wren** *Pheugopedius mystacalis* Seen at Otún Quimbaya

**Rufous-breasted Wren** *Pheugopedius rutilus* Seen below El Dorado Lodge

**Bay Wren** *Cantorchilus nigricapillus* Seen in the Anchicaya lowlands

**Rufous-and-white Wren** *Thryophilus rufalbus* Seen above Minca

**House Wren** *Troglodytes aedon* Several sightings throughout the trip

**Mountain Wren *Troglodytes solstitialis*** Seen at Rio Blanco

**Grey-breasted Wood Wren *Henicorhina leucophrys*** Seen at mid-elevations of the Montezuma road.

**Hermit Wood Wren *Henicorhina anachoreta*** Good views at El Dorado Lodge. Hermit/Santa Marta Wood Wren is a split from Grey-breasted Wood Wren *Henicorhina leucophrys* (Caro et al. 2013, SACC 700). Replaces H. l. *bangsi* of lower elevations. We also saw the subspecies *bangsi*, above Minca, which sometimes is treated as a different species. A country endemic. The species is classified as Near-threatened.

**Munchique Wood Wren *Henicorhina negreti*** Great views at the top of the ridge in Montezuma. A country endemic. The species is classified as Critically Endangered. Described only in 2003. Named after the Munchique massif and National Natural Park in the Western Andes of the Cauca department

**Southern Nightingale-Wren (H) *Microcerculus marginatus*** Heard in the lower parts of the Anchicaya road

### Poliptilidae

**Tropical Gnatcatcher *Poliptila plumbea*** Seen in La Guajira

### Mimidae

**Tropical Mockingbird *Mimus gilvus*** Seen in La Guajira

### Turdidae

**Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrush *Catharus fuscater*** Great views at El Dorado Lodge

**Andean Solitaire *Myadestes ralloides*** Seen at Rio Blanco

**Black Solitaire *Entomodestes coracinus*** Brief views at Montezuma. Found only in Colombia and Ecuador

**Clay-colored Thrush *Turdus grayi*** Seen above Minca. The national bird of Costa Rica

**Swainson's Thrush *Catharus ustulatus*** Seen at Otún Quimbaya. Named after William John Swainson, 19<sup>th</sup> century English ornithologist, malacologist, conchologist, entomologist and artist.

**Yellow-legged Thrush *Turdus flavipes*** Seen below El Dorado Lodge in the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta

**Great Thrush *Turdus fuscater*** Seen at the top of the Montezuma ridge

**Glossy-black Thrush *Turdus serranus*** Only one bird was seen at Rio Blanco

**Pale-breasted Thrush *Turdus leucomelas*** Seen around Minca, including at the hotel feeder

**Black-billed Thrush *Turdus ignobilis*** Widespread

**Black-hooded Thrush *Turdus olivater*** Seen at the El Dorado Lodge compost

**White-necked Thrush *Turdus albicollis*** Brief views between Minca and the Y road junction

### Cinclidae

**White-capped Dipper *Cinclus leucocephalus*** Nice views at the Otún River and at Rio Blanco

### Passeridae

**House Sparrow *Passer domesticus***

### Fringillidae

**Lesser Goldfinch *Spinus psaltria*** Seen at Otún Quimbaya

**Yellow-bellied Siskin *Spinus xanthogastrus*** Seen at Rio Blanco

**Orange-bellied Euphonia *Euphonia xanthogaster*** Widespread

**Thick-billed Euphonia *Euphonia lanirostris*** Several sightings on the trip

**Orange-crowned Euphonia *Euphonia saturata*** Seen at Sonso Lake

**Blue-naped Chlorophonia *Chlorophonia cyanea*** Seen at the feeders of El Dorado Lodge

**Chestnut-breasted Chlorophonia *Chlorophonia pyrrhophrys*** Incredible views at Montezuma

**Passerellidae** Separate New World Sparrows from Old World Buntings into new family Passerellidae (Barker et al. 2013, 2015; NACC 2017-B-6).

**Rufous-collared Sparrow** *Zonotrichia capensis* Seen at Otún Quimbaya

**Tocuyo Sparrow** *Arremonops tocuyensis* Wow! It was never as difficult as this time, but after some hard trying we found it in La Guajira. Found only in Colombia and Venezuela. Named after the town of El Tocuyo, Lara, in Venezuela

**Golden-winged Sparrow** *Arremon schlegeli* Nice views above Minca

**Olive Finch** *Arremon castaneiceps* A reliable pair has been habituated for food leftovers at the bridge along the Montezuma road. Fantastic! The species is classified as Near-threatened.

**Sierra Nevada Brushfinch** *Arremon basilicus* Seen at El Dorado Lodge. A country endemic restricted to the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta. The species is classified as Near-threatened.

**Santa Marta Brushfinch** *Atlapetes melanocephalus* Common around El Dorado Lodge in the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta. A country endemic

**Pale-naped Brushfinch** *Atlapetes pallidinucha* Good views below Hotel Termales del Ruiz

**Choco Brushfinch** *Atlapetes crassus* Seen in the Anchicaya lowlands. Found only in Colombia and Ecuador

**Slaty Brushfinch** *Atlapetes schistaceus* Seen well below Hotel Termales Del Ruiz

**Tanager Finch** *Oreothraupis arremonops* Probably one of the best encounters of the trip. This sought-after species was seen very well at high elevations in Montezuma below the top of the ridge. Found only in Colombia and Ecuador. The species is classified as Vulnerable. Uncertain relationships of Tanager Finch included Cardinalidae and then Thraupidae. Genetic data place it in Passerellidae as sister to *Chlorospingus* (Barker et al 2013, 2015; also H&M4, HBW). SACC needs proposal.

**Dusky Bush Tanager** *Chlorospingus semifuscus* Seen in Montezuma

### **Icteridae**

**Chestnut-headed Oropendola** *Psarocolius wagleri* Seen at Montezuma and Anchicaya

**Crested Oropendola** *Psarocolius decumanus* Seen below Minca

**Russet-backed Oropendola** *Psarocolius angustifrons* Only one sighting on the trip

**Yellow Oriole** *Icterus nigrogularis* Seen in La Guajira

**Yellow-backed Oriole** *Icterus chrysater* Seen above Minca

**Orchard Oriole** *Icterus spurius* Seen at Sonso Lake

**Yellow-hooded Blackbird** *Chrysomus icterocephalus* Seen in the Barranquilla marshes

**Giant Cowbird** *Molothrus oryzivorus* Seen at Sonso Lake

**Shiny Cowbird** *Molothrus bonariensis* Seen at Sonso Lake

**Carib Grackle** *Quiscalus lugubris* Only one seen in La Guajira

**Great-tailed Grackle** *Quiscalus mexicanus* Common in the Caribbean lowlands

**Red-breasted Blackbird** *Leistes militaris* Seen at Sonso Lake

### **Parulidae**

**Tennessee Warbler** *Leiothlypis peregrina* Seen above Minca

**American Redstart** *Setophaga ruticilla* Seen below El Dorado Lodge

**Cerulean Warbler** *Setophaga cerulea* Seen along the Anchicaya Road. The species is classified as Vulnerable.

**Tropical Parula** *Setophaga pitaiayumi* Seen at Otún Quimbaya

**Blackburnian Warbler** *Setophaga fusca* Numerous throughout the trip, even some individual with full plumage

**American Yellow Warbler** *Setophaga aestiva* Seen at Sonso Lake

- Black-crested Warbler** *Myiothlypis nigrocristata* Seen below Hotel Termales Del Ruiz
- Buff-rumped Warbler** *Myiothlypis fulvicauda* Seen along the lower parts of the Anchicaya Road
- Santa Marta Warbler** *Myiothlypis basilica* Great views at the San Lorenzo Ridge. A country endemic and restricted to the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta. The species is classified as Vulnerable.
- White-lored Warbler** *Myiothlypis conspicillata* Seen around El Dorado Lodge. A country endemic restricted to the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta. The species is classified as Near-threatened.
- Russet-crowned Warbler** *Myiothlypis coronata* Seen at Rio Blanco  
p views of this handsome species above Minca
- Three-striped Warbler** *Basileuterus tristriatus* Seen at Montezuma. The population in SE Peru and Bolivia has been split into Yungas Warbler *Basileuterus punctipectus*
- Citrine Warbler** *Myiothlypis luteoviridis*
- Choco Warbler** *Myiothlypis chlorophrys* Seen well in the Anchicaya lowlands. Found only in Colombia and Ecuador
- Canada Warbler** *Cardellina canadensis* A nice couple of encounters
- Slate-throated Whitestart** *Myioborus miniatus* Seen at several locations
- Golden-fronted Whitestart** *Myioborus ornatus* Seen at Rio Blanco. Such a handsome bird!
- Yellow-crowned Whitestart** *Myioborus flavivertex* Great views above El Dorado Lodge. A country endemic restricted to the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta.
- Mitrospingidae** Move *Mitrospingus* from Thraupidae to new family Mitrospingidae that includes Olive-green Tanager (*Orthogonys*) and Red-billed Pied Tanager (*Lamprospiza*). Family follows Parulidae (Barker et al. 2013, NACC 2017-B-6) ENG
- Dusky-faced Tanager** *Mitrospingus cassinii* Seen in the Anchicaya lowlands
- Cardinalidae**
- Summer Tanager** *Piranga rubra* Several seen throughout the trip
- Crested Ant Tanager** *Habia cristata* Great views in the lower parts of Montezuma road. In order to have the best view we had to follow the creek trail, which was not easy but fun. A country endemic
- Ochre-breasted Tanager** *Chlorothraupis stolzmanni* Seen at the lower parts of the Anchicaya road and Montezuma. Found only in Colombia and Ecuador
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak** *Pheucticus ludovicianus* Seen below El Dorado Lodge
- Vermilion Cardinal** *Cardinalis phoeniceus* Great views in La Guajira. Found only in Colombia and Venezuela
- Thraupidae**
- White-capped Tanager** *Sericossypha albocristata* A splendid encounter at Rio Blanco. The species is classified as Vulnerable.
- Black-capped Hemispingus** *Hemispingus atropileus* Seen below Hotel Termales Del Ruiz
- Black-eared Hemispingus** *Hemispingus melanotis* Seen at Rio Blanco
- Superciliaried Hemispingus** *Hemispingus superciliaris* Seen at Rio Blanco
- Oleaginous Hemispingus** *Hemispingus frontalis* Seen at Rio Blanco
- Grey-hooded Bush Tanager** *Cnemoscopus rubrirostris* Seen at Rio Blanco
- Grey-headed Tanager** *Eucometis penicillata* Seen above Minca
- Tawny-crested Tanager** *Tachyphonus delatrii* Seen along the Anchicaya road

**White-lined Tanager** *Tachyphonus rufus* Seen at Doña Dora's feeders in the Anchicaya lowlands

**Crimson-backed Tanager** *Ramphocelus dimidiatus* Several sightings throughout the trip

**Flame-rumped Tanager** *Ramphocelus flammigerus* Several sightings. A country endemic

**Lemon-rumped Tanager** *Ramphocelus icteronotus* Several sighting throughout the trip

**Blue-grey Tanager** *Thraupis episcopus* Common

**Glaucous Tanager** *Thraupis glaucocolpa* Seen in La Guajira. Found only in Colombia and Venezuela

**Palm Tanager** *Thraupis palmarum* Several sightings throughout the trip

**Blue-capped Tanager** *Thraupis cyanocephala* Seen at Rio Blanco and Montezuma

**Black-and-gold Tanager** *Bangsia melanochlamys* Great views at Montezuma. A country endemic The species is classified as Vulnerable.

**Gold-ringed Tanager** *Bangsia aureocincta* A magical in Montezuma. A country endemic. The species is classified as Endangered.

**Golden-chested Tanager** *Bangsia rothschildi* Incredible sighting at the lower Anchicaya road. Found only in Colombia and Ecuador

**Hooded Mountain Tanager** *Buthraupis montana* Nice views below Hotel Termales Del Ruiz. Here the subspecies *cucullata*

**Santa Marta Mountain Tanager** *Anisognathus melanogenys* Seen at the top of the San Lorenzo Ridge above El Dorado Lodge. A country endemic restricted to the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta

**Lacrimose Mountain Tanager** *Anisognathus lacrymosus* Seen at Rio Blanco

**Scarlet-bellied Mountain Tanager** *Anisognathus igniventris* Seen at Rio Blanco

**Black-chinned Mountain Tanager** *Anisognathus notabilis* Excellent views at Montezuma. Found only in Colombia and Ecuador

**Blue-winged Mountain Tanager** *Anisognathus somptuosus* Seen nicely at Finca Alejandria and Rio Blanco

**Grass-green Tanager** *Chlorornis riefferii* Seen at Rio Blanco and Montezuma

**Buff-breasted Mountain Tanager** *Dubusia taeniata* Seen at Rio Blanco

**Purplish-mantled Tanager** *Iridosornis porphyrocephalus* Splendid views at Montezuma. Found only in Colombia and Ecuador. The species is classified as Near-threatened.

**Glistening-green Tanager** *Chlorochrysa phoenicotis* A beautiful bird seen at Montezuma. Found only in Colombia and Ecuador

**Multicolored Tanager** *Chlorochrysa nitidissima* Amazing views at Finca Alejandria, which is so far the best place in the world to see this gorgeous species. A country endemic. The species is classified as Vulnerable.

**Golden Tanager** *Tangara arthus* Seen at Finca Alejandria, Otún Quimbaya and Montezuma

**Silver-throated Tanager** *Tangara icterocephala* Seen at Montezuma and Doña Dora's feeders

**Flame-faced Tanager** *Tangara parzudakii* Seen at Cajones in the Tatamá National Park. Here the subspecies *lunigera*

**Bay-headed Tanager** *Tangara gyrola* Seen above Minca and at El Dorado Lodge. Here the subspecies *toddi*

**Rufous-winged Tanager** *Tangara lavinia* Brief views in the Anchicaya lowlands

**Scrub Tanager** *Tangara vitriolina* Seen at Finca Alejandria and Montezuma

**Blue-necked Tanager** *Tangara cyanicollis* Seen at Otún Quimbaya

**Golden-hooded Tanager** *Tangara larvata* Seen at Montezuma and Anchicaya

**Beryl-spangled Tanager** *Tangara nigroviridis* Seen at Rio Blanco and below Hotel Termales Del Ruiz

**Blue-and-black Tanager** *Tangara vassorii* Seen at Rio Blanco, where it is common

**Black-capped Tanager** *Tangara heinei* Seen at Finca Alejandria and El Dorado Lodge

**Grey-and-gold Tanager** *Tangara palmeri* Seen at the lower Anchicaya road. Found only in Colombia and Ecuador

**Golden-naped Tanager** *Tangara ruficervix* Seen at Sonso Lake

**Scarlet-and-white Tanager** *Chrysothlypis salmoni* Incredible views of two individuals in the Anchicaya lowlands. Found only in Colombia and Ecuador

**Emerald Tanager** *Tangara florida* Seen at the lower Anchicaya road

**Swallow Tanager** *Tersina viridis* Common below Minca

**Green Honeycreeper** *Chlorophanes spiza* Common at Finca Alejandria, Montezuma and Doña Dora's feeders

**Golden-collared Honeycreeper** *Iridophanes pulcherrimus* Sadly a female only

**Blue-backed Conebill** *Conirostrum sitticolor* Seen below Los Nevados National Natural Park

**Capped Conebill** *Conirostrum albifrons* Seen at Rio Blanco. Here the distinctive subspecies *centralandium* that shows white in the crown

**Chestnut-bellied Flowerpiercer** *Diglossa gloriosissima* Great views at the top of the ridge at Montezuma. A country endemic. The species is classified as Endangered.

**Indigo Flowerpiercer** *Diglossa indigotica* Seen at mid-elevations along the Montezuma road. Found only in Colombia and Ecuador

**Masked Flowerpiercer** *Diglossa cyanea* Several sightings, including Rio Blanco

**Bluish Flowerpiercer** *Diglossa caerulescens* Seen at Montezuma

**Glossy Flowerpiercer** *Diglossa lafresnayii* Seen in the Hotel Termales Del Ruiz gardens

**Black Flowerpiercer** *Diglossa humeralis* Only one sighting below Los Nevados National Natural Park

**White-sided Flowerpiercer** *Diglossa albilatera* Several sightings throughout the trip, including El Dorado Lodge

**Grey Pileated Finch** *Coryphospingus pileatus* Nice views in La Guajira. Here the subspecies *brevicaudus*

**Plumbeous Sierra Finch** *Phrygilus unicolor* Seen at Los Nevados National Natural Park

**Blue-black Grassquit** *Volatinia jacarina* A few sightings on the trip

**Plain-colored Seedeater** *Catamenia inornata* Seen at Los Nevados National Natural Park

**Black-faced Grassquit** *Tiaris bicolor* Seen in La Guajira

**Yellow-bellied Seedeater** *Sporophila nigricollis* Seen at Otún Quimbaya and Montezuma

**Thick-billed Seed Finch** *Oryzoborus funereus* Seen above Minca

**Saffron Finch** *Sicalis flaveola* Several sightings on the trip

**Buff-throated Saltator** *Saltator maximus* Common below Minca

**Greyish Saltator** *Saltator coerulescens* Seen in La Guajira

**Orinoco Saltator** *Saltator orenocensis* Three birds were seen in La Guajira. Found only in Colombia and Venezuela. Named after the Orinoco River

**Black-winged Saltator** *Saltator atripennis* Seen at Montezuma

**Masked Saltator** *Saltator cinctus* Seen well at Rio Blanco. A most-wanted species. The species is classified as Near-threatened.

**Streaked Saltator** *Saltator striatipectus* Seen around Minca

**Bananaquit** *Coereba flaveola* Seen around the Montezuma feeders

## WILDLIFE SIGHTINGS

**Red-tailed Squirrel** *Sciurus granatensis* Several sightings

**Western Dwarf Squirrel** *Microsciurus mimulus* Several sightings

**Central American Agouti** *Dasyprocta punctata* Seen at El Dorado Lodge and Montezuma Eco-Lodge

**Colombian Red Howler** *Alouatta seniculus* Seen at Otún Quimbaya

**Crab-eating Fox** *Cerdocyon thous* Seen at El Dorado Lodge around the compost

**Long-tailed Weasel** *Mustela frenata* Incredible views of one trying to hunt silently at the El Dorado Lodge compost

**Kinkajou** *Potos flavus* Seen at El Dorado Lodge

**Common Green Iguana** *Iguana iguana* Seen in the lowlands

**Moreau's Tropical House Gecko** *Hemidactylus mabouia* Common in the tropical lowlands