

THE MANU

10 OCTOBER – 1 NOVEMBER 2009

TOUR REPORT

LEADER: MATT DENTON

The Manu is unique in South America in offering birders the most accessible and diverse example of contiguous Andean east slope together with western Amazonia forest, a protected area harbouring over 1000 species. Our detailed coverage of this incredible altitudinal transect includes a visit into the wilds of actual Manu National Park where our journey up the Manu River provides the rare experience of a truly wild, lowland rainforest completely unaltered by man. The Manu 2009 reaped many great rewards with a total of 689 species recorded including memorable sightings of many of the south-eastern Peru specialties: Blue-headed Macaws in lovely morning light, feeding Amazonian Parrotlets, Black-capped Parakeets at rest, lekking Peruvian Piedtails, the localized White-throated Jacamar, two separate White-cheeked Tody-Tyrants, Unadorned Flycatcher on territory, a nesting Semicollared Puffbird, a male Scarlet-hooded Barbet point-blank, the secretive Rufous-fronted Antthrush and a pair of Black-faced Cotingas to name just a few. Each day brought an enticing selection of new birds providing many other spectacular highlights worth mentioning. A pair of Razor-billed Curassows spied in the subcanopy, a Pale-winged Trumpeter that came charging up to us, a covey of Starred Wood-Quails at our feet and a nesting pair of Solitary Eagle. We had stunning views of a male Pavonine Quetzal, an extremely brazen Amazonian Antpitta, and an Olive Finch that likewise gave us fine views. Some of the nightbirds we saw included Andean Potoo, a Silky-tailed Nightjar on the trail at dusk, a male Swallow-tailed Nightjar just overhead, a gold medal performance by a displaying male Lyre-tailed Nightjar and for some a Crested Owl. In the cloud forests we enjoyed the bizarre displays of Andean Cock-of-the-Rock at their lek and colourful tanager flocks included such gems as Golden-collared and Yellow-throated Tanagers and Scarlet-bellied Mountain-Tanagers. In Manu National Park we enjoyed a superb sighting of a Lowland Tapir walking in the shallows of the Manu River by day, the family of Giant Otters crowned our catamaran experience on the always-superb Cocha Salvador, and the many troops of monkeys included the impressive Common Woolly and Peruvian Spider Monkeys. The mountains and rainforest of Manu never ceased to surprise us with something new each day along the lodge trails or even in the garden just outside our chalet doors. A trip that leaves behind roads and cities for comfortable lodges, pleasant boat travel, candlelight meals and *pisco sours*, white sand beaches, riots of colourful macaws, and a steady procession of new birds.

The tour began with a flight to the historic city of Cusco, and an easy day of birding at nearby Huacarpay Lake. Here in the arid scrub surrounding the lake our main target was the Bearded

Mountaineer with whom we eventually connected, later finding it a common bird in the garden of our Sacred Valley hotel. In addition to the mountaineer we found a nice selection of more widespread birds that included Andean Lapwing, Giant Hummingbird, Streak-fronted Thornbird, Yellow-billed Tit-Tyrant, Blue-and-yellow Tanager and the endemic Rusty-fronted Canastero. The lake had a smattering of waterfowl that included Puna and Sharp-winged Teals and Yellow-billed Pintail and in the surrounding marsh we saw Plumbeous Rail, Wren-like Rushbird and Rufous-naped Ground-Tyrant. Our first picnic lunch of the tour was done in customary fine style and an Andean Negrito at the edge of the marsh rounded out the day.

The next day we began our journey to the Manu Biosphere Reserve aboard our well-equipped and comfortable expedition bus. Our first sighting of the morning was an Andean Tinamou spotted crossing the mountain road and pausing in the field above us. The road then took us through several typical Quechua villages of hardy highland farmers in whose fields we saw a flock of Spot-winged Pigeons and from which we sorted through flocks of Peruvian, Mourning and Ash-breasted Sierra-Finches and Black-throated Flowerpiercer for a particularly handsome mountain-finch. After some initial frustration with a wary first bird, we all had fine views of a second group of the endemic Chestnut-breasted Mountain-Finches. Continuing the journey we had good luck in finding Andean (split from Black-faced) Ibis at our usual stake-out, and a Slender-billed Miner was spied blending with the sun-parched landscape. Eventually we arrived at a series of inter-Andean valleys, a biome rich in restricted-range taxa throughout the continent, and within no time we were enjoying a pair of noisy Creamy-crested Spinetails.

Soon we reached the 3800 metre pass of Acjanaco, our doorway to another world, for this was the starting point from which we would begin to descend the eastern Andean slope. Arriving for lunch, the ever-changing weather featured only scattered fog as we enjoyed a nice selection of birds that included Brown-backed Chat-Tyrant, White-browed Conebill, Moustached Flowerpiercer, and Plain-coloured Seedeater. Loading onto the bus we drove down into rather thick fog that eventually cleared after losing some altitude and allowed us to excellent sightings of Grey-breasted Mountain-Toucan, a Puna Thistletail responding to playback, and a frenzied flock of tanagers and flycatchers that included the incomparable Grass-green Tanager as well as Chestnut-breasted Mountain-Tanager alongside its plainer brethren the Drab Hemispingus. That evening we spotlighted a fine male Swallow-tailed Nightjar making display flights overhead and flying in for incredible close-ups. That evening we had the relative comfort of bunk-beds along with hot showers and tasty food at the Wayquecha Lodge, a cloud forest biological station owned by the Amazonian Conservation Association. The next morning from the station grounds we began with a Scaled Metaltail in response to playback, a pair of Andean Parakeets passed in low flight overhead and a group of vocalizing Pale-footed Swallows was an added bonus. As we continued our descent, mixed-flocks contained Scarlet-bellied and Hooded Mountain-Tanagers and a superb pair of Golden-collared Tanager. In these misty, bamboo-choked, epiphyte-laden temperate forests we tracked down small passerines such as Black-throated Tody-Tyrant, Fulvous Wren, the endemic Marcapata Spinetail and the exquisite Maroon-chested Chat-Tyrant (split from Slaty-backed), in addition to other stunning cloud forest birds that included Golden-headed Quetzal, Masked Trogon, Barred Fruiteater and White-collared Jay. The avifauna continued to change as we descended with new birds such as Blue-banded Toucanet, both Andean and White-eared Solitaires, Barred Becard, White-browed Hemispingus, Pale-legged Warbler and Dusky-green Oropendola all seen well. Surely one of the major highlights though was when Henco made an almost impossible spot of an Andean Potoo on its day roost.

The first of our Manu lodges was the Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge, an aptly named place as just a five-minute walk took us into a semi-open hide from which we watched the amazing displays of Andean Cock-of-the-Rocks at their lek. We watched the bright orange males strut and dip their crested heads with their wings raised in excitement and their voices often reaching a crescendo at the appearance of a dimly plumaged female. Here in the Kosñipata valley some of the many highlights included a superb sighting of Crimson-bellied Woodpecker, several pairs of Versicoloured Barbets, a secretive

Slaty Gnateater from the forest understorey, a pair of Crested Quetzals in a fruiting tree and chunky roadside Highland Motmots. Hummers visiting the lodge feeders and flowering shrubs included Wire-crested Thorntail, Many-spotted Hummingbird, Violet-fronted Brilliant and Sparkling Violetear. In addition to great birds near the lodge we also drove up and down the road that transects the cloud forest, stopping for mixed flocks and sampling a wide array of elevations. Here amidst this breathtaking scenery of unbroken cloud forest, steep mountainsides and deep valleys we saw Sandy's much requested Black-and-chestnut (or Isidore's) Eagle soaring overhead. Just moments later Jake made a second great feat of raptor spotting of a Solitary Eagle soaring with possibly a snake in its talons and then perching below the road. After some careful searching it was Keith who spotted the actual nest where a begging chick was seen with its magnificent parent Solitary Eagle perched nearby. Later that evening we were thrilled by the truly awesome display of a male Lyre-tailed Nightjar as it made a long series of nearly continuous flights from a close perch, eliciting cries of wonder from the admiring throng of birders. In the temperate forest we sometimes struggled to find mixed foraging flocks but still managed good views of some of the jewel-like *Tangara* tanagers including Golden-naped, Golden-eared, Golden, Beryl-spangled and Blue-and-black Tanagers as well as the somewhat shy Yellow-throated Tanager. Mid-storey flocks held the endemic Inca Flycatcher, the retiring Striped Treehunter, and in the dense understorey we had good views of White-crowned Tapaculo and the unobtrusive Unadorned Flycatcher.

More good birds awaited us in the foothill zone below the lodge where an Amazonian Umbrellabird was seen at the road's edge, the recently-described Rufous-browed Tyrannulet was spied in a flock, a Peruvian Piedtail gave us a point-blank scold with its tail spread wide, and a singing Olive Finch in great light on an exposed perch was unforgettable. A few of us had a good view of a male White-backed Fire-eye and then a Lanceolated Monklet was spotted sunbathing on an exposed perch from the moving bus. We all piled out of the bus to scope this scarce little puffbird as quickly as possible only to have it fly in even closer for more views. Our bamboo birding also got off to a great start here in the foothills with lengthy studies of the smartly plumaged White-cheeked Tody-Tyrant, an obligate bamboo-specialist. Late in the afternoon after seeing Black Antbird and Stripe-chested Antwren, we finally descended upon Atalaya where we switched modes of transportation for the short ride across the Rio Madre de Dios. In the late afternoon we arrived in the clearing at Amazonia Lodge to enjoy a refreshing welcome drink of local citrus as we enjoyed a parade of hummers led by none other than a male Gould's Jewelfront.

Our first morning at Amazonia Lodge began with torrential rain, however the garden birds did not mind the rain and the mahogany veranda was a great place to sit and study the steady procession of hummers on the flowering porterweed hedge which included male Rufous-crested Coquettes (the lodge mascot), Golden-tailed Sapphire, Blue-tailed and Sapphire-spangled Emeralds, and Grey-breasted Sabrewing. Feeders also brought in plenty of Speckled Chachalacas, Masked Crimson Tanagers, Red-capped Cardinals, Black-billed Thrush and Black-and-white Seed eaters. Furnarids such as Pale-legged Hornero and Plain-crowned Spinetails made the rounds and a White-lored Tyrannulet was called in for close views. A pair of Grey-necked Wood-Rails inspected newly formed puddles for prey, and as soon as the shower had passed there was Blue-throated Piping-Guan, Blue-headed Parrot, Roadside Hawk, Chestnut-eared Aracari, Purplish Jay and nesting Chestnut-fronted Macaws and Yellow-rumped Caciques all doing their best to dry out. We all donned our wellies and to begin our mid-morning walk we had great views through the scope of a male Fine-barred Piculet tapping away. A pair of resting Spix's Guan feeding on palm fruits promptly followed and a cuddly family group of Smooth-billed Anis was even scoped up. The forest was still a bit drippy but we got right into it with the forest birds, seeing a pair of Chestnut-tailed Antbirds, followed by great views of Pectoral Sparrow and also Band-tailed Manakin. A Rusty-belted Tapaculo was next, and instead of having to find it walking along the dark forest floor, this obliging fellow perched four feet off the ground on a horizontal branch and started singing his head off! With this great result we next tried our luck with yet another understorey denizen, a pair of Thrush-like Antpittas that was seen well by nearly all of us. The lodge's small oxbow lake was welcome respite and provided our first views of

the strange Hoatzin, as well as Great Kiskadee and Yellow-tufted Woodpecker. The floodplain forest surrounding the lodge continued to yield new birds during our stay with highlights including the tiny Short-tailed Pygmy-Tyrant perched so low we could really appreciate its size, a mixed flock with Red-billed Scythebill, Slender-billed Xenops and Chestnut-vented Conebill and a singing male Lemon-throated Barbet. After initially trying to see an impossibly hidden individual with only partial success, we tried a second territory for Amazonian Antpitta with Cathryn first spotting what was voted our bird-of-the-trip, perched up right before us on a trapeze like vine five feet off the ground! This aggressive bird meant business, wanting no one intruding on his territory, and the looks we had were truly special. We also ventured up into the hill forest behind the lodge where a Barred Forest-Falcon flew in for good views and a pair of Razor-billed Curassows flushed from the trail allowing us all to see this fabulous bird in the subcanopy. A family group of White-browed Purpletufts and a beautiful White Hawk were highlights from atop the canopy tower, while down below we saw Round-tailed Manakins at a lek, but activity was slow until the late morning when we started to pick up some mixed flocks with Tschudi's Woodcreeper (split from Ocellated), Rufous-tailed Antwren, Olive Tanager, Golden-bellied Warbler, Bluish-Slate Antshrike and then a subcanopy tanager flock led by White-winged Shrike-Tanager and Yellow-crested Tanager with Yellow-bellied Tanager and Rufous-tailed Foliage-gleaner in tow. Later that evening, a Southern Tawny-bellied Screech-Owl perched at the lip of his tree roosting cavity provided yet another lasting from Amazonia Lodge.

After saying goodbye to our hosts at Amazonia Lodge we loaded onto our comfortable boat for the short ride down the headwaters of the Alto Madre de Dios, where Fasciated Tiger-Herons patiently standing in the rapids were commonplace. Our departure was timed perfectly to coincide with the activity at a parrot clay lick at which we had excellent views of the rare Blue-headed Macaw bathed in tropical yellow morning light. After seeing the birds both on the clay wall and in flight we continued to our lodge placed at the base of the Pantiacolla Range. Within just moments of arriving a male Scarlet-hooded Barbet appeared at close-range, a great start to our bamboo birding that was followed quickly by a smart male Ihering's Antwren on territory and then the chattering notes of Amazonian Parrotlets alerted us to their presence for yet another excellent sighting. Further along a Rufous-headed Woodpecker suddenly appeared on a low perch overhead, a Black-throated Toucanet (split from Emerald) was seen feeding on fruits, a pair of Cinnamon-throated Woodcreepers responded well to playback as did Strong-billed Woodcreeper and Striated Antbird. In the afternoon we started off with a pair of Goeldi's Antbirds, a Flammulated Pygmy-Tyrant showed to some, a Musician Wren in song gave us all many great views, a Dusky-tailed Flatbill was gradually brought into close view and we finished the day with a responsive Brown-rumped Foliage-gleaner.

The next day we continued our boat journey beyond the forested ridges to the perimeter of the vast Amazon basin and the fabled Manu River. After signing in at the ranger station we were now for the first time within the actual park boundaries. Venturing up the Manu River is for many the once-in-a-lifetime experience of the planet's last great refugium, and in the mesmerizing play of water and sun under a spectacular skyscape of puffy cumulus clouds, our minds contemplated the untouched rainforest, its jaguars and 'uncontacted' indigenes within. This year the water levels of the Manu River were quite high allowing us to advance past the usual maze of logjams but there were far fewer sandbars than usual. Although we dipped on the big cat, there were far greater numbers of waterbirds here than on the rocky Madre de Dios river with several family groups of Orinoco Goose, numerous Large-billed and Yellow-billed Terns, Black Skimmers on the wing plying the shallows, smart-looking Pied Lapwings and numerous Collared Plovers. We watched sunbathing Horned Screemers with their huge feet taking slow steps on these serene beaches, our passing seemingly just a curiosity to them. Further spectacle was provided by multitudes of Sand-coloured Nighthawks roosting on the fallen crowns of giant emergent trees naturally brought down during the previous rainy season.

During our stay inside Manu National Park we birded the floodplain surrounding Cocha Salvador as well as the nearby terra firme forests. The highlight of our visit was our catamaran birding on Cocha Salvador, an oxbow lake famous amongst biologists and film crews for its family of Giant Otters and

wealth of fauna. In the early morning hours we saw an impressive variety of birds from our catamaran that included of course plenty of water birds such as Anhinga, Rufescent Tiger-Heron, Agami and Capped Herons, Green Ibis, Sungrebe and a very cooperative little Rufous-sided Crake. As per the norm in Manu, early mornings were great for all three of the big macaws with Scarlet, Red-and-green and Blue-and-yellow Macaws seen flying to their foraging sites. The forest edge was alive with Lettered and Ivory-billed Aracaris, Spot-breasted, Scale-breasted and Lineated Woodpeckers, Black-capped Donacobius, Black-tailed Tityra and Plum-throated Cotinga and eventually our summons were met with a response from a pair of the highly sought-after Black-faced Cotinga seen perched above the lake. A film crew from National Geographic was filming the otters from a second catamaran, and we all marvelled at the family of five otters actively fishing on this massive oxbow lake. We watched these endangered and fierce predators provide one of the most charismatic wildlife spectacles on the continent as they each devour up to five kilograms of fish per day in audible, bone-crushing bites. We also saw the endangered Black Caiman here, the otters' sworn enemy with whom they often do battle. The forest trails here once again proved to have an interesting mix of species, foremost among them the Pale-winged Trumpeter who came charging up to us for superb views. A Bartlett's Tinamou also gave us a similar performance with what was surely the record in length of observation of any forest *Crypturellus*. Other highlights included our first Screaming Pihas, the seesaw routine of a calling Golden-collared Toucanet, the spritely Dwarf Tyrant-Manakin, the ground-dwelling Ringed Antpipit, a Dull-capped Attila perched at nearly head-height, and finally a Rufous-capped Antthrush striking the most picturesque pose at close-focus range. A visit up to the Pakitza ranger station was unfortunately rained out, but along the way Henco brought to our attention a completely obvious and massive Lowland Tapir walking in the shallows of the Manu River by day. To see one of these normally nocturnal creatures in broad daylight was truly special.

Next we retraced our boat journey back to Boca Manu and a short distance down the Madre de Dios. Shortly after lunch we tracked down a Rufous-fronted Antthrush singing in a patch of successional forest and after a protracted session of playback we all had excellent views of this rare bird. By late afternoon we arrived at Manu Wildlife Centre, another fine lodge providing access to a wide variety of Amazonian habitats, where we ended the day with close views of two avian delights: Semicollared Puffbird and Black-tailed Leaf-tosser.

Our first morning was spent at the Blanquillo macaw clay lick where we enjoyed one of the great parrot spectacles of the world. Hundreds and hundreds of birds consisting of shrieking Blue-headed Parrots and smaller numbers of Orange-cheeked, Yellow-crowned and Mealy Parrots and Dusky-headed, Tui and Cobalt-winged Parakeet made their deafening presence known, with most of them coming down to the clay wall to dine on their clay biscuits with the typical noise and fanfare. There were several Little Ground-Tyrants to keep us entertained as we waited for the macaws to gather their numbers and courage. The short wait for the macaws was well worth it and after some initial hesitation around 60 Red-and-green Macaws descended to the wall to break off chunks of the hard clay they so desperately crave. This macaw spectacle lasted for well over an hour and provided some great photographic opportunities but eventually we had to tear ourselves away from this spectacle birding for our thrills in the bamboo!

We visited a couple of bamboo trails in the area for our remaining quota of bamboo specialists with highlights including the smartly patterned Bamboo Antshrike, the recently described Manu Antbird, and with great effort several of us had complete views of Peruvian Recurvebill (including the bill). From the area's two canopy towers there were White-bellied Parrots, a trio of Cream-coloured Woodpeckers in territorial dispute, colourful Orange-backed Troupial, Yellow-bellied and Black-faced Dacnises and an inquisitive Grey Antbird, but canopy birding this year was fairly slow in comparison to previous years with practically no flock activity. We also visited a second oxbow lake where we found such localized species as Pale-eyed Blackbird and Black-billed Seed-Finch and in the surrounding forest had excellent close encounters with a covey of Starred Wood-Quail, perched Rose-fronted Parakeets and a mixed flock with Orange-fronted Plushcrown. We worked the lodge's

huge network of forest trails finding some great Amazonian birds including superb looks at a handsome male Pavonine Quetzal, a tree-pounding Red-necked Woodpecker and the delicate, ground-dwelling Banded Antbird (or Antwren). Night birding in the area proved very productive with a Silky-tailed Nightjar foraging inside the forest at dusk and then actually landing on the trail long enough for most of us to get a scope view of it, an incubating male Ocellated Poorwill motionless on his nest allowed our close approach and a nocturnal foray yielded a Crested Owl in the spotlight. Our last day was spent in the terra firme trails where we had good views of a pair of Black-bellied Cuckoos, Golden-green Woodpecker, Chestnut-winged Hookbill, a male Black-tailed Trogon, a male Pink-throated Becard, and a family group of White-fronted Nunbird. One of the great triumphs was finally nailing great views of a White-bellied Tody-Tyrant after frustrating previous attempts with a few devilish individuals. Good scope views of Black-capped (Rock) Parakeets at the mammal clay lick were had just before the tropical deluge that had been building over the last two days was finally unleashed making for a rather wet return in which we still managed very good scope views of a singing White-chinned Sapphire. Our last afternoon was spent in the lodge garden where we enjoyed a nice flock with Lemon-throated Barbet and as the day faded a Chestnut-capped Puffbird proved to be our last new lodge bird.

All of the rain the previous day gave us perfect, overcast weather for our boat journey downriver. Two Jabiru storks during the journey were the major avian highlight and before long we once again were reunited with a road at the river port of Laberinto. A new tarmac surface made the short drive to the frontier town of Puerto Maldonado that much easier and during the journey we made several stops for open country birds that included Southern Lapwing, Southern Caracara, Burrowing Owl, Rusty-margined and Boat-billed Flycatcher, Lined and Double-collared Seedeater, and Grassland Sparrow. At a flooded forest of Moriche palms we had superb views of a very responsive Point-tailed Palmcreeper and a lovely pair of Sulphury Flycatchers. The next morning we visited a productive country road with riverine second growth where we started out with good views of a Chestnut-bellied Seed-Finch in the scope, a Rusty-fronted Tody-Flycatcher in the undergrowth and some of us saw Buff-breasted Wren. A juvenile Grey Hawk perched up for us for good views and it soon became obvious that Purus Jacamar was extremely common here. A migrant Swainson's Flycatcher was scoped up just before a Slender-billed Kite magically appeared for stunning close views of it perched over the road. Next Henco spotted a White-throated Jacamar allowing us all to get a good view of this localized bird that was our primary target of the morning. A Johannes's Tody-Tyrant followed with all seeing this second-growth speciality, and a Chestnut-crowned Foliage-gleaner was unusually generous by allowing many good views. A pair of Barred Antshrikes also made a lovely sight before we moved to a nearby dairy farm where there were numerous Red-breasted Blackbirds, Black-faced Tanagers were perched on the barbed-wire fence, King Vulture soared overhead and nearby woodland held a Straight-billed Woodcreeper. A Solitary Sandpiper was seen leaving the cowpen and a great finale to our lowland birding was provided by a Sunbittern who flew across our path with the sun illuminating its unique, aposematic plumage pattern.

A regularly scheduled commercial jet flight whisked us back to Cusco where we had lunch in the plaza before setting off to our lodge in the Sacred Valley. A surprisingly wide variety of hummingbirds visited the many flowers of the beautifully landscaped gardens of our hotel making for a very enjoyable afternoon. Giant Hummingbirds were perched just about everywhere we looked, a male Great Sapphirewing gave us a beautiful showing, at least two different Bearded Mountaineers were either hovering or duelling in mid-air most of the time, and both White-bellied and Green-and-white Hummingbirds were present. The next morning we boarded our train to Machu Picchu and from our riverside seats at the front of the train we enjoyed numerous Torrent Ducks on the Rio Urubamba. All enjoyed the very scenic train ride and quickly after arriving at Aguas Calientes we took about an hour to do some birding before our tour of the ruins. We saw many of our targets in quick succession, with everything from Ocellated Piculet to Silvery (Silver-backed) and Fawn-breasted Tanagers, Sclater's, Ashy-headed and Mottle-cheeked Tyrannulets, Oleaginous Hemispingus, and Variable Antshrike. Our informative tour of the citadel of Machu Picchu with our

interpretive guide was blessed with clear blue skies amidst its spectacular setting. After lunch we had just enough time to tape in a cooperative pair of garrulous Inca Wrens before boarding the afternoon train back to Cusco.

Upon our return to the coastal capital of Lima, we quickly set off for the Lomas de Lachay National Reserve, a hill formation in the midst of the Atacama desert. Here in a verdant boulder strewn valley covered in seasonal fog vegetation we saw a nice variety of coastal endemics and specialities such as Oasis Hummingbird, Peruvian Sheartail, Short-tailed Field-Tyrant, Cactus Canastero and Greyish and Thick-billed Miners as well as more widespread species such as Band-tailed Sierra-Finch and Collared Warbling-Finch. On the flowering desert floor we had good views of Coastal Miner and a pair of Least Seedsnipes with an ambulatory chick whilst Black-chested Buzzard-Eagles cruised back and forth and the air was filled with the song of Peruvian Meadowlarks. A quick dash to the very sunny coast netted us a few of the Humboldt current birds including Peruvian Booby, Peruvian Pelican and Grey, Belcher's and Kelp Gulls. Waterfowl including Great Grebe graced a local marsh and a resting pair of Peruvian Thick-Knees was also a welcome addition. We could have easily spent the rest of the afternoon soaking up the coastal sun and exploring the shoreline and neighbouring marsh areas, but alas we had to gradually pull ourselves away to prepare for our flights home. It had been a memorable and bird-filled trip in which we had shared so many great sightings and experiences in a small yet hyper-diverse corner of the great country that is Peru.

SYSTEMATIC LIST

Species which were heard but not seen are indicated by the symbol (H).

Species which were not personally recorded by the leader are indicated by the symbol (NL).

Conservation threat categories are taken from *Threatened Birds of the World*, BirdLife International's excellent book on the status of the world's declining avifauna, and updates on the BirdLife website: <http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/index.html>

TINAMIDAE

Hooded Tinamou *Nothocercus nigrocapillus* (H): A loud and resonant sound in the cloud forests.

Great Tinamou *Tinamus major*: Heard a few times in the Manu lowlands, with Henco having good views of one bird during an afternoon siesta break. One of the more primitive bird families, most tinamou species are polyandrous, a female supplying two or more males with eggs, who in a reversed role of the sexes, does all of the incubating and rearing of the precocial chicks.

White-throated Tinamou *Tinamus guttatus* (H): Two individuals were heard during our late afternoon walk to the mammal clay lick.

Cinereous Tinamou *Crypturellus cinereus* (H): Small numbers were heard in the Manu lowlands, but none were close.

Little Tinamou *Crypturellus soui* (H): Several heard-only records from second-growth forests.

Brown Tinamou *Crypturellus obsoletus* (H): A few distant heard-only records from middle elevations of the Manu road.

Undulated Tinamou *Crypturellus undulatus* (H): One of the most common tinamous by voice and what was probably this individual was flushed from a bamboo trail.

Black-capped Tinamou *Crypturellus atrocipillus* (H): An arresting, loud sound at Pantiacolla and Amazonia Lodge. A species restricted to sw Amazonia.

Variegated Tinamou *Crypturellus variegatus* (H): One individual was heard from the terra firme forest of Manu Wildlife Centre.

Bartlett's Tinamou *Crypturellus bartletti*: Our stealthy trail walking paid off at Cocha Salvador, where a very curious (or confused) individual walked up to within a short distance of us for great views of it. Named after Edward Bartlett, an English ornithologist who collected birds in the Amazon basin and Peru from 1865-1869.

Andean Tinamou *Nothoprocta pentlandii*: A bonus bird ran in front of our bus and then stopped above the road long enough for nearly everyone to see it well in the arid highlands en route to Pillahuata.

ANHIMIDAE

Horned Screamer *Anhima cornuta*: Superb views of this impressive bird, still a common sight along the Rio Manu, and, to a lesser extent, along the Madre de Dios. A species that has decreased over large parts of its range due to disturbance and hunting. Screamers are primitive relatives of swans, ducks and geese. Their vocalization ranks them amongst the loudest birds in the world.

ANATIDAE

Orinoco Goose *Neochen jubata*: Although few birds were seen than in previous years on the Manu River, we easily saw over twenty birds in total, sometimes in small family groups. Another sensitive species that only seems to occur in any numbers in protected or very remote areas, and that has disappeared from various parts of its former range (e.g. may now be extinct in Argentina). Classified as Near-Threatened.

Muscovy Duck *Cairina moschata*: Numerous good looks at male individuals along the Rio Manu and also numerous on Cocha Salvador where we even saw them perched in trees. Another species which due to hunting pressures has disappeared from many other areas in the

Neotropics. The genus name refers to Cairo, in the early mistaken belief that this Neotropical species came from Egypt.

Torrent Duck *Merganetta armata*: One of the great attractions of the train ride to Aguas Calientes en route to Machu Picchu, we saw small numbers of both sexes this year both in the Río Paucartambo and the Río Urubamba.

Sharp-winged Teal *Anas oxyptera*: A few were seen at Huacarpay Lake on the first day. Referred to as Speckled Teal in our checklist, the form concerned *A. oxyptera* ranges in the altiplano from Peru to northwest Argentina and is usually lumped in Yellow-billed Teal *A. flavirostris* (including by the SACC). A more recent treatment by the SACC since the publication of Schulenberg et al. has been to give species status to Andean Teal *A. andium* of the northern Andes and which was also formerly lumped in *A. flavirostris* with the name Speckled Teal used for the enlarged species.

Yellow-billed Pintail *Anas georgica*: Two resting individuals were scoped at Huacarpay Lake.

White-cheeked Pintail (Bahama P) *Anas bahamensis*: Four individuals were seen near Lima on our last day.

Puna Teal *Anas puna*: A very handsome highland duck seen at Huacarpay Lake.

Cinnamon Teal *Anas cyanoptera*: Just five birds were seen at Huacarpay Lake.

Andean Duck (A Ruddy-D) *Oxyura ferruginea*: Up to 25 birds were seen at the marsh near Lima. The Greek roots *oxy* and *ur* translate to sharp-tail.

CRACIDAE

Speckled Chachalaca *Ortalis guttata*: This species was most common around Amazonia Lodge where their cacophonous symphony was often on fine display.

Andean Guan *Penelope montagnii*: Several small groups showed very well in the cloud forest, here of the Peruvian race *plumosa*.

Spix's Guan *Penelope jacquacu*: Our first pair at Amazonia Lodge made a lovely sighting and later encounters were usually of flushed birds as they crashed noisily into or out of view. Named after Johann Baptist von Spix, the German naturalist who discovered the now sadly extinct (in the wild) Spix's Macaw *Cyanopsitta spixii*.

Blue-throated Piping-Guan *Pipile cumanensis*: Especially numerous around Amazonia Lodge and Manu Wildlife Centre. Still numerous in the Manu region, this handsome guan suffers in many other areas from habitat destruction and hunting, though it is still much better off than some of its congeners such as the endangered Black-fronted Piping-Guan.

Wattled Guan *Aburria aburri* (H): This shy species was heard out of reach farther upslope during our birding up in Amazonia's hill forest.

Razor-billed Curassow *Crax tuberosa*: Good looks were had of this imposing and often terrestrial cracid at Amazonia Lodge. Two birds flushed from the ground where they were feeding on fallen fruits dropped by monkeys. Luckily they perched where we could see them in the subcanopy for good views. Members of this family (cracids) of game birds are often the first to disappear when humans begin to colonize a wilderness area.

ODONTOPHORIDAE

Rufous-breasted Wood-Quail *Odontophorus speciosus* (H): Only distant heard-only encounters with this foothill species.

Starred Wood-Quail *Odontophorus stellatus*: One of the best sightings of the trip, and certainly one of the most fortuitous, a covey of at least six birds that gave us great views in the Manu lowlands.

PODICIPEDIDAE

White-tufted Grebe *Rollandia rolland*: Just a distant, fuzzy but identifiable view of one bird near the coast.

Pied-billed Grebe *Podilymbus podiceps*: One was seen near the coast.

Great Grebe *Podiceps major*: A pair was seen at our coastal marsh stop on the last day.

PELECANIDAE

Peruvian Pelican *Pelecanus thagus*: Distant views of mostly flying birds but also some were seen resting out at sea. A bigger and more pelagic relative of the Brown Pelican *P. occidentalis*.

SULIDAE

Peruvian Booby *Sula variegata*: At least 40 birds were seen, mostly in flight, with a few birds actually flying fairly close to shore.

PHALACROCORACIDAE

Neotropic Cormorant (Olivaceous C) *Phalacrocorax brasilianus*: A common bird seen in the lowlands and on the coast, with the greatest numbers seen draping the sunken fishing boat.

Guanay Cormorant *Phalacrocorax bougainvillii*: At least one was seen in flight from the beach with a couple of us able to follow it in the scope. A bird that was once the backbone of the great guano industry, and was named after Admiral Baron Hyacinthe de Bougainville (1781-1846), French navigator and scientist.

ANHINGIDAE

Anhinga (American Darter) *Anhinga anhinga*: A few sightings of this non-buoyant, snake-necked bird.

ARDEIDAE

Rufescent Tiger-Heron *Tigrisoma lineatum*: Two sightings, one of a fabulous adult at Cocha Salvador and the second was a surprise, a tiger-striped juvenile flushed up to a perch inside the forest. Tiger-herons and bitterns are the only ones in the family that don't breed in colonies.

Fasciated Tiger-Heron *Tigrisoma fasciatum*: A bird of rushing rivers and streams, with small numbers seen in the rocky headwaters of the upper Rio Madre de Dios around Amazonia and Pantiacolla.

Agami Heron *Agamia agami*: Good flight views of a bird that we flushed at Cocha Salvador inside Manu National Park.

Black-crowned Night-Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*: Four individuals were easy to see at Huacarpay lake near Cusco. A cosmopolitan species, here of the American race *hoactli*.

Striated Heron *Butorides striatus*: Regular sightings, especially along lake edges.

Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*: Still an uncommon bird in the Manu lowlands, with small numbers seen along the Madre de Dios and around Puerto Maldonado. Six were also seen at Huacarpay Lake. The nominate race of this highly successful species apparently invaded South America from Africa in the late 19th century, one of the most spectacular examples of avian range expansions in historic times.

Cocoi Heron (White-necked H) *Ardea cocoi*: Frequently seen on the Manu and Madre de Dios rivers. This species is one of the primary predators of young Black Caimans on oxbow lakes, although in recent decades humans have been much more detrimental to this endangered crocodylian.

Great Egret (G White E) *Ardea alba*: Regular sightings along the Manu and Madre de Dios rivers. Formerly often separated in the monotypic genus *Casmerodius*.

Capped Heron *Ptilerodius pileatus*: We had a couple of fairly good sightings of this exquisite river heron. The buffy wash on the breast is thought to come from the powder-downs. The generic name is entirely derived from ancient Greek: pilos = cap, erodios = heron.

Snowy Egret *Egretta thula*: The most abundant heron seen on our river journeys.

Little Blue Heron *Egretta caerulea*: Just one was seen all trip, during the river journey to Puerto Maldonado. Formerly often placed in the genus *Florida*.

THRESKIORNITHIDAE

Puna Ibis *Plegadis ridgwayi*: Numerous in agricultural fields in the sacred valley and at Huacarpay Lake. This bird is named after Robert Ridgway, US ornithologist and author of "The Birds of North and Middle America", 1901.

Green Ibis *Mesembrinibis cayennensis*: Our best views of this species came from Cocha Salvador inside Manu National Park. The name 'cayennensis' (as well as similar names such as cayana for other species) refers to Cayenne or French Guyana, an epithet that in early ornithology usually indicated a species of otherwise unknown provenance.

Andean Ibis *Theristicus branickii*: Individuals have been seen in this same farming village for many years now, but they tend to move around and we were fortunate to have such close views.

Roseate Spoonbill *Platalea ajaja*: One bird was seen on the upper Río Madre de Dios.

CICONIIDAE

Jabiru *Jabiru mycteria*: Two birds were seen on the Rio Madre de Dios during the journey to Puerto Maldonado.

Wood Stork *Mycteria americana*: A group of about 15 birds was seen fairly close to Manu Wildlife Centre.

CATHARTIDAE

Black Vulture *Coragyps atratus*: Ever present near human settlements.

Turkey Vulture *Cathartes aura*: In the Manu lowlands small numbers were seen along the Madre de Dios, but this species is seemingly absent or at best rare along the Manu River, undoubtedly due to the absence of open terrain required by this species. Small numbers were also seen in cleared areas in the foothills and along the coast.

Greater Yellow-headed Vulture *Cathartes melambrotus*: The most common vulture over primary rainforest.

King Vulture *Sarcoramphus papa*: Flying birds were seen on several occasions, with a total of 8 seen. 'Papa' is Latin for bishop, and the name refers to the immaculate white plumage of the adult.

PANDIONIDAE

Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*: Regularly encountered over rivers and lakes. Another cosmopolitan species, but this one occurs in Peru only as a wintering bird. Pandion (Greek mythology) was the King of Attica, whose daughters, Philomela and Progne, were transformed into a nightingale and a swallow respectively.

ACCIPITRIDAE

Swallow-tailed Kite (American S-t K) *Elanoides forficatus*: Small numbers were seen in the foothills near Atalaya and Amazonia and several singles were seen in the Manu lowlands.

Snail Kite *Rostrhamus sociabilis*: A single juvenile was seen flying low over the Rio Manu.

Slender-billed Kite *Helicolestes hamatus*: This rather uncommon bird was a great find in the Puerto Maldonado area, especially considering the wonderful views we had of the bird both perched and flying.

Double-toothed Kite *Harpagus bidentatus*: A few birds were seen in the lower foothills of the Manu road, Amazonia Lodge and the Manu lowlands. Here the cis-Andean (= E of Andes) nominate race, which is rich rufous below.

Plumbeous Kite *Ictinia plumbea*: Numerous in the Amazonian lowlands and foothills.

Plain-breasted Hawk *Accipiter ventralis*: At least one bird was seen rather well in flight above the upper Manu road.

Bicoloured Hawk *Accipiter ventralis*: A leader-only sighting above the Amazonia Lodge kitchen during shower-hour.

- Slate-coloured Hawk *Leucopternis schistacea*: In the forest interior at Cocha Salvador a bird almost stopped on perch but was only an untickable flight view for most.
- White Hawk *Leucopternis albicollis*: An excellent sighting of a close bird in low flight over the hill forest of Amazonia was one of our highlights from the canopy tower.
- Great Black Hawk *Buteogallus urubitinga*: More scarce this tour than usual, with just one bird seen perched on driftwood along the Rio Madre de Dios.
- Solitary Eagle *Harpyhaliaetus solitarius*: One of the highlights of our cloud forest birding above Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge was when Jake spotted this species allowing us all to see this impressive bird soaring below us with what was likely a snake in its talons. After a careful search of the precipitous slope below us, it was Keith that spotted either the same bird or a second individual on its nest. After watching the bird through the scope it eventually moved to a side perch and shortly upon returning to the nest a very small white downy chick was briefly seen ambling over to its parent. Classified as Near-Threatened.
- Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle *Geranoaetus melanoleucus*: Small numbers were seen at Huacarpay Lake and at Lomas de Lachay.
- Roadside Hawk *Buteo magnirostris*: A common driftwood and beach-combing *Buteo* in the Manu lowlands, a place where roads are few and far between. The proposed Transoceanic highway, the Brazilian portion now already finished, will pass through Puerto Maldonado, the capital of the department, and also known as the capital of biodiversity for the world record species counts of butterflies, dragonflies and other organisms found in the surrounding area. Thankfully, the highway will avoid the three nearby National Parks, which are some of the largest in the world, Manu, Bahuaja-Sonene (formerly Tambopata-Candamo) and Madidi (in neighbouring Bolivia). Although the highway will pass through areas already disturbed by mining, many conservationists worry that the highway is already leading to development of side roads, deforestation and colonization in neighboring areas, and the potential loss of species new to science.
- Zone-tailed Hawk *Buteo albonotatus*: At the Blanquillo macaw clay lick a single bird was seen quite well in typical quartering flight, and lucky for us, the macaws either, 1) did not see it, 2) did not feel it was close enough to represent any threat, or 3) thought it was a vulture.
- Grey Hawk *Buteo nitidus*: A juvenile individual flew onto a close perch during our Puerto Maldonado birding. Sibley and Monroe treated the Middle America form *B. plagiata* as a separate species (keeping the same English name) and calling South American birds Grey-lined Hawk, however there is published rationale for treating the two as conspecific.
- Ornate Hawk-Eagle *Spizaetus ornatus* (H): A high-flying bird was heard quite high above the Cocha Salvador forest.
- Black-and-chestnut Eagle *Spizaetus isidori*: A soaring bird was spotted by Jake from the bus and we quickly piled out to successfully see it, with Sandy even able to follow his bird-of-the-trip briefly through the scope before it went behind the ridge.

FALCONIDAE

- Laughing Falcon *Herpetotheres cachinnans* (H): One individual was heard at Amazonia Lodge.
- Barred Forest-Falcon *Micrastur ruficollis*: This species was very responsive to playback of its own voice and was seen quite well on the slopes of Amazonia Lodge's hill forest.
- Lined Forest-Falcon *Micrastur gilvicollis* (H): This species was heard on two mornings at Amazonia Lodge, and as evidence of the area's diversity we discovered that this and the previous species live side-by-side.
- Southern Caracara *Caracara plancus*: One of the many recent invaders of the Puerto Maldonado lowlands following deforestation for cattle fields.
- Black Caracara *Daptrius ater*: Several river and oxbow lake sightings of both adults (reddish facial skin) and a juvenile (yellow facial skin) of this carrion-eating bird. The genus is derived from Greek and means 'to devour'.

Red-throated Caracara *Ibycter americanus* (H): A rainy day at Amazonia Lodge may be one reason we never saw these strange birds there and although we heard them quite close to the Manu Wildlife Centre lodge clearing, they just as quickly moved off. Sadly this species has undergone a massive decline in most of Middle America, but fortunately it seems to have decreased relatively little across its vast Amazonian range.

Mountain Caracara *Phalcoboenus megalopterus*: Singles were seen on a few occasions in the highlands.

American Kestrel *Falco sparverius*: Most birds were seen at Huacarpay Lake and over the inter-Andean valleys, but a few birds were also seen along the coast.

Bat Falcon *Falco ruficularis*: Seen perched during both our Manu and Madre de Dios River boat journeys.

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*: A very brief sighting in the Miraflores area.

PSOPHIIDAE

Pale-winged Trumpeter *Psophia leucoptera*: Wow! At Cocha Salvador one afternoon we had unsurpassed views of a bird that charged up to us in an area of open understorey. This species is found south of the Amazon River, and west of the Madeira River (a major dispersal barrier, the Madre de Dios River is one of its tributaries). Genetic data indicate the Gruidae (cranes) to be the sister family to the trumpeters.

RALLIDAE

Grey-necked Wood-Rail *Aramides cajanea*: We all had good views of this species at various locations starting at Amazonia Lodge and ending with one very cooperative bird near Puerto Maldonado.

Uniform Crake *Amaurolimnas concolor* (H): This species was fairly quiet during our visit and was only heard briefly in the evenings.

Rufous-sided Crake *Laterallus melanophaius*: The crake sighting of the tour -- a most cooperative bird came up onto a visible perch above the grass and sang. Very endearing!

Grey-breasted Crake *Laterallus exilis* (H): The alternate call of this species was clearly heard from the clay-lick hide.

Blackish Rail *Pardirallus nigricans* (H): At Amazonia this species was heard on our first night but was otherwise silent, probably because their marshy habitat near the lodge appeared completely dry.

Plumbeous Rail *Pardirallus sanguinolentus*: A single bird was seen quite well at Huacarpay Lake.

Common Gallinule (C Moorhen) *Gallinula chloropus*: Dozens seen at Huacarpay Lake and on the last day there were numerous birds seen near the coast.

Purple Gallinule (American P G) *Porphyrio martinica*: A few sightings from Amazonia Lodge and Cocha Salvador.

Slate-coloured Coot (Andean C) *Fulica ardesiaca*: Small numbers were seen on Huacarpay Lake but most numerous at the coastal marsh visited on the last day.

HELIORNITHIDAE

Sungrebe (American Finfoot) *Heliornis fulica*: A total of four were seen on Cocha Salvador with at least two of those seen quite well. The smallest member in the Finfoot family, the New World Sungrebe is unique in males having marsupial-like pouches underneath the wings in which they can transport the chicks in flight. This adaptation is unique among birds.

EURYPYGIDAE

Sunbittern *Eurypyga helias*: A great way to end our Puerto Maldonado birding, with a bird showing us its incredible upper wing pattern and singing its somewhat eerie song. This monotypic species is thought to be a distant relative of the Kagu of New Caledonia and their relationship is evidence for the former supercontinent of Gondwanaland.

CHARADRIIDAE

Pied Lapwing (Pied Plover) *Vanellus cayanus*: We repeatedly admired this handsome species during our boat trips.

Southern Lapwing *Vanellus chilensis*: A recent invader of the deforested environs of Puerto Maldonado of which we had many good views.

Andean Lapwing *Vanellus resplendens*: Small numbers were seen on the excursion to Huacarpay Lake and a single was seen the next day during the journey to the cloud forest.

Semipalmated Plover *Charadrius semipalmatus*: At least ten birds were distantly seen by some of us in the scope foraging near the Pacific ocean surf.

Killdeer *Charadrius vociferus*: One individual was seen near the thick-knees and others were heard there.

Collared Plover *Charadrius collaris*: Regular on sandbars and river edges of the Rio Manu. We even had one during a Rio Manu sandbar interlude that responded to playback of its call.

HAEMATOPODIDAE

American Oystercatcher *Haematopus palliatus*: Good looks through the scope at six birds during our short session on the beach near Lima.

RECURVIROSTRIDAE

Black-necked Stilt *Himantopus mexicanus*: A maximum of 10 birds were seen at Pantanos de Villa.

BURHINIDAE

Peruvian Thick-knee *Burhinus superciliaris*: Very good views of two birds in the native coastal grass vegetation north of Lima. Mostly Peruvian in its distribution, it also occurs in southern Ecuador and northern Chile.

SCOLOPACIDAE

Andean Snipe *Gallinago jamesoni* (H): A couple of aural encounters, an incredible sound, from the Manu temperate forest.

Hudsonian Whimbrel (H Curlew) *Numenius hudsonicus*: At least 50 were seen on the stretch of beach visited at Ventanilla.

Spotted Sandpiper *Actitis macularia*: The most frequently encountered wader in the Manu lowlands.

Greater Yellowlegs *Tringa melanoleuca*: Good numbers were seen in the highlands at Huacarpay Lake.

Solitary Sandpiper *Tringa solitaria*: One individual was seen perched on the stable corral of the dairy farm.

Sanderling *Calidris alba*: At least 25 birds were seen in the surf at Ventanilla, and given more time, it would have been fun to walk further up the beach to observe the numerous birds doing their best to try and make us miss our flight home!

Pectoral Sandpiper *Calidris melanotos*: Only a few birds seen this year, but what an incredible view of them when we pulled our boat up alongside them on the sandbar. So close! This species is occasionally abundant along the Manu River when passage migrants are moving through.

THINOCORIDAE

Least Seedsnipe *Thinocorus rumicivorus*: A very good spot made by Keith at Lomas de Lachay of a pair with chick, here of the coastal race *cuneicauda*. Note that *Thinocorus*, derived from Greek, literally means 'sand lark'. This species breeds here in the Lomas, but leaves the area after breeding.

JACANIDAE

Wattled Jacana *Jacana jacana*: Small numbers were seen in the grassy margins of the oxbow lakes.

LARIDAE

- Andean Gull *Chroicocephalus serranus*: Small numbers along the Rio Urubamba and near Huacarpay Lake.
- Grey Gull *Leucophaeus modestus*: Only around 30 birds were seen at the two beaches visited, but there were surely far more present in both areas. Another endemic of the Humboldt Current region, this one nesting in inland deserts of northern Chile and probably southern Peru, where it must endure the most intense temperature conditions of any gull. Like the Swallow-tailed Gull of the Galapagos this species is also unusual in largely foraging at night.
- Belcher's Gull (Band-tailed G) *Larus belcheri*: The most numerous gull in flight at Ventanilla, the second beach visited along the coast north of Lima. This is an endemic species of the Humboldt Current region.
- Kelp Gull *Larus dominicanus*: A maximum of 75 were seen along the coast on our last day. Also called the Southern Black-backed Gull, and a species that has been on the increase throughout its range with the expansion of fisheries and agriculture.
- Yellow-billed Tern *Sterna supercilialis*: Frequent sightings in the Manu lowlands, especially along the Rio Manu.
- Large-billed Tern *Phaetusa simplex*: Nearly 300 of this spectacular tern (including chicks) were seen during the trip, with most of them seen on the Rio Manu, here at its natural density, undisturbed by egg-collecting settlers.
- Royal Tern *Sterna maxima*: Five birds were seen in the waning hours of the trip.

RYNCHOPIDAE

- Black Skimmer *Rynchops niger*: This species was found to be most numerous along the Rio Manu, and in addition to many adults we saw some clumsy looking juveniles on the beaches. Likely as sensitive to human disturbance as the Large-billed Tern, suffering from egg collecting in areas with even a small human population.

COLUMBIDAE

- Ruddy Ground-Dove *Columbina talpacoti*: Two were seen in the cleared areas above Pilcopata and then greater numbers were seen in the Puerto Maldonado area.
- Picui Ground-Dove *Columbina picui*: A bird in flight was a leader-only sighting in the Puerto Maldonado area.
- Croaking Ground-Dove *Columbina cruziana*: This species is seasonally fairly common in the green herbaceous ground-cover at Lomas de Lachay where we saw several quite well.
- Bare-faced Ground-Dove *Metriopelia ceciliae*: Two were glimpsed by a few of us at Lake Huacarpay on the first day.
- Rock Pigeon (Feral Pigeon, R Dove) *Columba livia*: A common sight in Cusco and Lima, but a flock of birds were also seen in Pilcopata and Puerto Maldonado.
- Scaled Pigeon *Patagioenas speciosa*: This handsome pigeon was seen quite well in the deforested environs of Puerto Maldonado.
- Spot-winged Pigeon *Columba maculosa*: Up to 60 were seen in flight in the arid highlands en route to the Manu cloud forest.
- Band-tailed Pigeon *Columba fasciata*: Numerous around Pillahuata.
- Pale-vented Pigeon *Columba cayennensis*: Sometimes fairly numerous especially along rivers and oxbow lake margins.
- Ruddy Pigeon *Columba subvinacea* (H): Heard on a few occasions but never within view.
- Plumbeous Pigeon *Columba plumbea*: Another one that was common by voice with several seen in the lowlands, and also regularly heard or seen as high up as the Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge.
- Eared Dove *Zenaida auriculata*: Small numbers were seen in Lima and near Huacarpay Lake, but this species was particularly numerous in the Lomas de Lachay with over 20 seen. Here the white-tipped (tail) race *hypoleuca*.
- West Peruvian Dove (Pacific D) *Zenaida meloda*: A common dove in Lima and along the coast.

- Grey-fronted Dove *Leptotila rufaxilla*: A characteristic forest sound in lowland Amazonia, and several were also seen during the trip.
- Sapphire Quail-Dove *Geotrygon saphirina* (H): One bird was heard, but it was obviously too far for even an off-trail attempt.
- White-throated Quail-Dove *Geotrygon frenata*: A flushed bird was seen in flight in the Manu foothills.
- Ruddy Quail-Dove *Geotrygon montana*: Several birds were flushed from lowland forest trails and unfortunately we never had this one on the deck.

PSITTACIDAE

- Blue-and-yellow Macaw *Ara ararauna*: Many spectacular views of this huge parrot, including views of perched birds near the lodge clearing of Manu Wildlife Centre.
- Scarlet Macaw *Ara macao*: Many great looks at perched and preening pairs, with a very memorable sighting of a pair perched above the trail just before we prepared to begin our catamaran float on Cocha Salvador.
- Red-and-green Macaw *Ara chloroptera*: Seen on a daily basis in the Manu lowlands along with the other two large macaws. The Tambo Blanquillo ccollpa (Quechua for clay lick) provided us with a great show, where over 60 were on the clay bank at once. This drama is repeated daily throughout the long dry season of southeast Peru as parrots and macaws are forced to choose from a diminishing supply of desirable seed trees, many of the seeds containing toxic defence compounds to prevent such predation. Seeds represent the bulk of a parrot's diet and all psittacids are referred to as seed-predators. This species is also called the Green-winged Macaw.
- Chestnut-fronted Macaw *Ara severa*: Common in the lowlands, and a few pairs frequented the clearing at Amazonia Lodge.
- Blue-headed Macaw *Primolius couloni*: We had excellent views from our boat of this species visiting a macaw-clay lick in the early morning hours when the light really brought out the details of this subtly plumaged macaw. A near-endemic with a fairly restricted range and an unmistakable call. Classified as Endangered.
- Red-bellied Macaw *Orthopsittaca manilata*: A few birds were seen in flight in the Manu lowlands and in Puerto Maldonado we had similarly silhouetted flight views of several more birds. This species is almost totally dependent on the presence of Moriche Palms (*Mauritia flexuosa*). Moriche palm fruit is packed with beta-carotene and in any given Amazonian town it is popular either whole or in juices, ice-cream and cakes.
- Mitred Parakeet *Aratinga mitrata* (H): Heard-only in the Machu Picchu area. The genera *Aratinga* and *Pyrrhura* are also referred to as conures.
- White-eyed Parakeet *Aratinga leucophthalmus*: Small numbers of birds were seen perched and otherwise we had some fly-bys of groups of up to 40 individuals in the Manu lowlands.
- Dusky-headed Parakeet *Aratinga weddellii*: We all had good views of perched birds at Amazonia Lodge. This widespread species is named after Hugh Algernon Weddell, a physician and botanist specializing in South American flora. In 1845 during a solitary journey through Peru and Bolivia, he succeeded in his quest to find the enigmatic fever bark tree, *Cinchona* (the source of quinine, an anti-malarial), and went on to describe 15 species in the genus. The seeds that he took to Paris were germinated and used to establish *Cinchona* forests in Java and the East Indies.
- Rose-fronted Parakeet (Red-crowned P) *Pyrrhura roseifrons*: After some rather quick flight views, we were rewarded with superb views of perched birds in the lower subcanopy.
- Black-capped Parakeet (Rock P) *Pyrrhura rupicola*: The other Manu *Pyrrhura* seen very well perched from the terra firme forest of Manu Wildlife Centre.
- Andean Parakeet *Bolborhynchus orbynesius*: One of the first birds seen was a group of three birds seen in close flight at the start of our morning at Pillahuata
- Cobalt-winged Parakeet *Brotogeris cyanopectus*: Numerous and widespread in the Manu lowlands.
- Tui Parakeet *Brotogeris sanctithomae*: Fantastic looks at the Blanquillo ccollpa.

Amazonian Parrotlet *Nannopsittaca dachilleae*: We were very lucky to so readily see this species and then to watch them foraging for so long as they hung upside down and posed repeatedly made the sighting even more special. Named after Barbara d'Achille, a conservationist who was murdered by Sendero Luminoso terrorists in the eighties. This species was first discovered in the field by Dr. Charles Munn and is the subject of Don Stap's *A Parrot Without A Name*, a book that richly details the pioneering work of John O'Neill and Ted Parker.

Scarlet-shouldered Parrotlet *Touit huetii* (H): Two separate heard-only records in the Manu lowlands, and unfortunately each time we were always under a thick layer of forest canopy when they were heard rocketing past overhead.

White-bellied Parrot *Pionites leucogaster*: This species came to us quite easily with marvellous views of perched birds from the Cocha Camungo tower. The English name caique is also used for this genus of parrots.

Orange-cheeked Parrot *Pionopsitta barrabandi*: Small numbers were seen at the Blanquillo ccollpa.

Blue-headed Parrot *Pionus menstruus*: Several hundred were present at the ccollpa, making for quite a spectacle.

Plum-crowned Parrot *Pionus tumultuosus*: A total of five birds were seen in the Manu cloud forest.

Yellow-crowned Parrot (Y-c Amazon) *Amazona ochrocephala*: Another parrot species seen in the Manu lowlands including at the Blanquillo ccollpa. This species is more common in Moriche flooded palm forests.

Scaly-naped Parrot (S-n Amazon) *Amazona mercenaria*: A couple of large groups totalling around 75 were seen high in the sky in the evenings as they returned to roosting sites from their feeding areas.

Mealy Parrot (M Amazon) *Amazona farinosa*: Around 200 were present this year at the Blanquillo ccollpa, and otherwise we found them to be fairly common in the Manu lowlands.

OPISTHOCOMIDAE

Hoatzin *Opisthocomus hoazin*: A social nesting bird, we observed groups of breeding birds at Amazonia Lodge and later we found them to be common at Cocha Salvador. Selected by Cathryn as her bird-of-the-trip! One of the very few birds that almost entirely subsist on a diet of leaves, this odd species has some peculiar attributes, including microbial foregut fermentation to convert plant cellulose in consumed foliage into simple sugars, and a highly modified skeleton to accommodate its large crop. Once thought to be the lost link to the feathered dinosaur *Archaeopteryx* because of the chick's clawed wings, these claws are now considered a recent secondary adaptation to the chicks having to clamber up vegetation if they are forced to evacuate the nest due to a threat. The placement of this order is still controversial, with the most comprehensive genetic data set to date unable to resolve its relationships, there being no evidence for a close relationship to any order within the Neoaves.

CUCULIDAE

Squirrel Cuckoo *Piaya cayana*: Common from the lowlands into the Cosñipata valley near Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge.

Black-bellied Cuckoo *Piaya melanogaster*: A pair in the canopy was seen well by most of us at Manu Wildlife Centre.

Greater Ani *Crotophaga major*: Nice close-ups of several individuals at Cocha Salvador and also Camungo. These communal nesters will coalesce around oxbow lake margins forming groups of up to 20 birds during the breeding season. They make a very foreboding sound when alarmed.

Smooth-billed Ani *Crotophaga ani*: This species was most abundant in the deforested plains above Pilcopata and around Puerto Maldonado.

Groove-billed Ani *Crotophaga sulcirostris*: Jake spotted a few during the Lomas de Lachay journey.

Pavonine Cuckoo *Dromococcyx pavoninus* (H): A painful dip, as the bird approached quite close only to subsequently retreat.

STRIGIDAE

Rufescent Screech-Owl *Megascops ingens* (H): A silhouette was all we got from this one before it all too quickly got away from us probably in large part due to the volume of evening road traffic.

Tawny-bellied Screech-Owl *Megascops watsonii*: One of the highlights of our birding at Amazonia was seeing this one perched at his roost site at dusk.

Crested Owl *Lophotrix cristata*: A few of us got lucky with this one in the Manu lowlands, with a responsive bird flying in to a high perch, its odd crests making quite a sight.

Spectacled Owl *Pulsatrix perspicillata*: An individual was heard and its shape was obviously seen flying to a perch impossible to spot at Cocha Salvador.

Band-bellied Owl *Pulsatrix melanota* (H): One bird was heard at Amazonia up in the hill forest.

Rufous-banded Owl *Ciccaba albitarsis* (H): A very distant heard-only from the Wayquecha Lodge.

Amazonian Pygmy-Owl (Hardy's P-O) *Glaucidium hardyi*: After hearing a couple of birds in impossibly dense, high canopy, we finally found the perfect situation of tree architecture to call one in with Henco first spotting the bird we all saw through the scope. Named after J.W. Hardy, who's published a series of tapes on Neotropical bird families.

Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl *Glaucidium brasilianum*: A singing bird at Pantiacolla flew out of the forest and literally right at our faces, then up the trail to a hidden perch.

Burrowing Owl *Athene cunicularia*: At least two were seen in a cattle pasture outside of Puerto Maldonado and we later saw as many as five birds at Lomas de Lachay.

NYCTIBIIDAE

Great Potoo *Nyctibius grandis* (H): Heard one pre-dawn morning from our Cocha Salvador tented camp, and two more were later heard during our night walk at Manu Wildlife Centre.

Andean Potoo *Nyctibius maculosus*: We scored big with this very desirable nightbird by finding its day roost in the Manu cloud forest. Great spotting, Henco!

CAPRIMULGIDAE

Sand-coloured Nighthawk *Chordeiles rupestris*: We saw several impressive day roosts of over 100 birds numbers, especially along the Rio Manu, with excellent views of flying birds as well.

Pauraque (Common P) *Nyctidromus albicollis*: A characteristic evening/pre-dawn sound in the Manu lowlands, and several birds were seen.

Ocellated Poorwill *Nyctiphrynus ocellatus*: We all had superb looks at an incubating male on a nest quite near to the trail. Amazing to think how many people have walked right by these birds quite a few times in the daytime without even noticing!

Silky-tailed Nightjar *Caprimulgus sericocaudatus*: A male foraging in the late afternoon inside the forest was first spotted by Keith when suddenly it flew right by us and then landed not far ahead on the trail! Almost everyone was then able to enjoy a scope look of this rare bird.

Ladder-tailed Nightjar *Hydropsalis climacocerca*: Our first was seen perched in the *Tessaria* of a sand bar during a river journey bush-stop, and a second was briefly seen near the start of one of the bamboo trails.

Swallow-tailed Nightjar *Uropsalis segmentata*: A fine male with a complete tail showed brilliantly and at close-range this year at Pillahuata. This was a favourite of Henco's.

Lyre-tailed Nightjar *Uropsalis lyra*: A male of this spectacular nightjar made multiple sallies from a close perch over the road for an unforgettable sighting and we also enjoyed superb daytime scope views of a roosting female.

APODIDAE

- White-chinned Swift *Cypseloides cryptus*: A group of four birds in a high-speed chase was pointed out by Dan Lane from the Amazonia Lodge clearing but the birds all too quickly disappeared and it was pretty much a leader(s) only sighting.
- Chestnut-collared Swift *Streptoprocne rutila*: Frequent encounters along the cloud forest road. Often placed in the genus *Cypseloides*. Both genera form the distinctive subfamily Cypseloidinae. They all show a distinct affinity for water and waterfalls as an essential component of their nesting/roosting ecology.
- White-collared Swift *Streptoprocne zonaris*: Regular sightings of this large swift, with at least one large flock seen in the foothills.
- Grey-rumped Swift *Chaetura cinereiventris*: Several groups were seen in the lowlands and foothills.
- Short-tailed Swift *Chaetura brachyura*: A small group of ten birds was seen above Pilcopata during our journey and later three were seen inside Manu National Park.
- Fork-tailed Palm-Swift (Neotropical Palm-Swift) *Tachornis squamata*: Small groups were seen several times with our first sighting above Pilcopata along the lower Manu road. A species tied to *Mauritia* palms, formerly placed in the genus *Reinarda*. The Latin root squam (scale) refers to the pale-edged feathers on the back giving a slight scaly appearance.
- Lesser Swallow-tailed Swift *Panyptila cayennensis*: Five birds were seen from the Amazonia Lodge clearing after a very rainy morning.

TROCHILIDAE

- White-necked Jacobin *Florisuga mellivora*: Both male and female plumaged birds were seen both in clearings and forest at Amazonia and Manu Wildlife Centre. This very smart looking hummingbird was one of Cathryn's favourites.
- Rufous-breasted Hermit (Hairy H) *Glaucis hirsuta*: This species was seen a few times in the Manu lowlands visiting flowers but we never had it together as a group.
- White-bearded Hermit *Phaethornis hispidus*: Seen well on several occasions, this species was a regular at Amazonia and a few were seen later in the Manu lowlands.
- Koepcke's Hermit *Phaethornis koepckeae*: Great views near the clearing at Amazonia Lodge and also in the hill forest. A Peruvian endemic, classified as Near-Threatened, and named after Maria Koepcke, who wrote the Dept. of Lima field guide and died in a plane crash along with 92 others in 1971. One of the sole survivors was her 17-year old daughter brought back in the rescue mission. An enthusiastic explorer and ornithological curator for the Lima museum, one of Koepcke's most important discoveries was a new species, endemic to Peru from the highland forests of Zarate, the White-cheeked Cotinga, *Zaratornis stresemanni*. From Peru she described three species of birds new to science and 13 new subspecies. In addition to the hermit bearing her name, the endemic Selva Cacique, *Cacicus koepckeae* and the Peruvian subspecies of Horned Curassow, *Pauxi unicornis koepckeae* were named in her honour. A bat, *Mimon koepckeae* and a lizard, *Tropidurus occipitalis koepckeorum*, are also named after her.
- Needle-billed Hermit *Phaethornis philippii*: This species made a brief appearance at the mammal clay lick of Manu Wildlife Centre with only a few of us getting a good view this lowland hummer.
- Brown Violetear *Colibri delphinae*: One individual visiting the garden at Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge obviously had genes predominantly of this species, but appeared to be a hybrid with the following species.
- Sparkling Violetear *Colibri coruscans*: This species is quite common at feeders in the cloud forest.
- Black-eared Fairy *Heliophryx aurita*: One sighting by Ted from his chalet at Manu Wildlife Centre.
- Black-throated Mango *Anthracothorax nigricollis*: A male was seen quite well in the woodland visited near Puerto Maldonado.
- Amethyst-throated Sunangel *Heliangelus amethysticollis*: Several encounters with adults and immatures of this gem of a hummingbird.

- Wire-crested Thorntail *Popelairia popelairia*: The cracking males at Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge were a definite highlight. The genus name honours Baron Popelaire de Terloo, a 19th century Belgian collector and naturalist in Peru.
- Rufous-crested Coquette *Lophornis delattrei*: We had brilliant close-ups of both male and female plumaged birds at Amazonia, with even several amazing mid-air duels between the sexes seen.
- Festive Coquette *Lophornis chalybeus*: A female at Pantiacolla Lodge was visiting flowers in the lodge clearing during our visit.
- Peruvian Piedtail *Phlogophilus harterti*: In the cloud forest we had an excellent view of a territorial bird hovering before our awe-struck faces. A restricted-range species, 'restricted-range' is defined by Birdlife International as a species confined to an area of less than 50,000 square kilometres. Peru has the highest number of restricted-range species in the Neotropics and is second in the world only to Indonesia.
- Speckled Hummingbird *Adelomyia melanogenys*: Somewhat common around Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge, this cloud forest hummingbird is reminiscent of a hermit hummingbird in appearance.
- Long-tailed Sylph *Agelaiocercus kingi*: Several sightings of both male and female birds. Named after Rear Admiral Philip Parker King (1791-1856), British marine surveyor, collector and traveller in the American tropics.
- Green-tailed Trainbearer *Lesbia nuna*: We had a couple of sightings from the arid scrub around Huacarpay Lake as well as the arid country of the Sacred Valley.
- Bearded Mountaineer *Oreonympha nobilis*: A restricted-range, Peruvian endemic that was first seen at Huacarpay but best of all were the two individuals seemingly resident at our Sacred Valley hotel.
- Tyrian Metaltail *Metallura tyrianthina*: Both males and females were seen well foraging in the area of Pillahuata, here of the deep blue-tailed race *smaragdnicollis*.
- Scaled Metaltail *Metallura aeneocauda*: A scolding male in the upper temperate forest gave most of us a very good view perched.
- Shining Sunbeam *Aglaeactis cupripennis*: A total of over ten birds of which several gave many good looks in the highlands.
- Violet-throated Starfrontlet *Coeligena violifer*: Just one individual of this large hummer was seen feeding at flowers in the upper temperate forests of the Manu road.
- Sword-billed Hummingbird *Ensifera ensifera*: A juvenile of this species at Pillahuata was at first puzzling due to its shorter bill and to see this morphology is uncommon making our sighting special.
- Great Sapphirewing *Pterophanes cyanopterus*: Incredibly a male of this large and impressive hummer was visiting the garden of our Sacred Valley hotel.
- Booted Racket-Tail *Ocreatus underwoodii*: Most of us had brilliant close-ups of this species at Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge. Here the buff-booted race *annae*.
- Gould's Jewelfront *Heliodoxa aurescens*: One of the favourite hummers of the trip and in fact was the first hummer seen at Amazonia! Later we also saw at least one visiting the feeder at Manu Wildlife Centre. Named after John Gould, the famous English 19th century naturalist.
- Violet-fronted Brilliant *Heliodoxa leadbeateri*: Excellent studies of both males and females at Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge.
- Giant Hummingbird *Patagona gigas*: One was seen at Huacarpay Lake, but our best views were of several birds in our garden at Sacred Valley. The planet's largest hummer, here of the race *peruviana*.
- Long-billed Starthroat *Heliomaster longirostris*: At least one bird was seen quite well on two afternoons at Manu Wildlife Centre.
- Oasis Hummingbird *Rhodopsis vesper*: This was the long-billed hummer seen at Lomas de Lachay (a mist-oasis). A superb near-endemic of a variety of desert habitats, here of the longest-billed, nominate race.

Peruvian Sheartail *Thaumastura cora*: One female-plumaged bird was seen at Lomas de Lachay.

White-bellied Woodstar *Chaetocercus mulsant*: A female hovering at extremely close-range at our Sacred Valley hotel was yet another of the great prizes from the garden there.

Blue-tailed Emerald *Chlorostilbon mellisugus*: Both sexes showed well at Amazonia's vervain flowers.

Violet-headed Hummingbird *Klais guimeti*: At least two individuals were present on the shrubs of Amazonia Lodge throughout both of our days there.

Grey-breasted Sabrewing *Campylopterus largipennis*: A regular visitor to the feeders at Amazonia.

Fork-tailed Woodnymph *Thalurania furcata*: We had some nice views of the male's incredible iridescence.

Many-spotted Hummingbird *Taphrospilus hypostictus*: We had repeated good views of this species at Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge.

White-bellied Hummingbird *Amazilia chionogaster*: A fairly common species in the arid country of the Ollantaytambo area.

Green-and-white Hummingbird *Amazilia viridicauda*: Numerous individuals of this endemic species were seen very well in the Sacred Valley and at Aguas Calientes.

Amazilia Hummingbird *Amazilia amazilia*: One individual was seen only briefly en route to Lomas de Lachay.

Sapphire-spangled Emerald *Amazilia lactea*: Several birds were regularly visiting the shrubs at Amazonia Lodge.

Golden-tailed Sapphire *Chrysuronia oenone*: This species was a regular visitor to the clearing at Amazonia Lodge. Here the race *josephinae*, in which males have a green throat (not an entirely blue hood like the nominate birds some of you may have seen in Ecuador).

White-chinned Sapphire *Hylocharis cyanus*: A male singing on his lek perch made for a great sighting after the heavy rain shower at the mammal clay lick.

TROGONIDAE

Pavonine Quetzal *Pharomachrus pavoninus*: A fantastic way to kick off our birding at Manu Wildlife Centre with superb scope views of a close male. This Amazonian species can be the trickier of the New World quetzals to see.

Golden-headed Quetzal *Pharomachrus auriceps*: Several cracking views of this superb frugivore, here of the nominate race.

Crested Quetzal *Pharomachrus antisianus*: Near Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge we all enjoyed great scope views of both sexes perched.

Black-tailed Trogon *Trogon melanurus*: A male from the Camungo tower was nice but even better was a closer male seen brilliantly through the scope in the terra firme forest.

Amazonian Violaceous Trogon *Trogon violaceus* (H): Somehow this species was scarce for us this year with only a few heard-only encounters, here of the race *ramonianus*.

Blue-crowned Trogon *Trogon curucui*: Two sightings, with the male spreading his wings and tail to dry his feathers after the rain at Amazonia Lodge being especially nice.

Collared Trogon *Trogon collaris*: Regularly seen/heard in the Manu lowlands (nominate race).

Masked Trogon *Trogon personatus*: This cloud forest species took a bit of work, but some fine spotting by the group allowed us all to have great views of a bird perched over the road.

ALCEDINIDAE

Ringed Kingfisher *Ceryle torquata*: Small numbers of this impressive birds were seen in the Manu lowlands.

Amazon Kingfisher *Chloroceryle amazona*: A total of 11 individuals were seen in the Manu lowlands, but our first was seen in the foothills of the Manu road.

Green Kingfisher *Chloroceryle americana*: A handful of sightings from the Manu lowlands with our first being seen at Cocha Salvador.

Green-and-rufous Kingfisher *Chloroceryle inda*: A bird was seen briefly in flight a couple of times during our catamaran ride on Cocha Salvador.

MOMOTIDAE

- Broad-billed Motmot *Electron platyrhynchum* (H): Best heard during our late afternoon forest walk at Manu Wildlife Centre.
- Rufous Motmot *Baryphthengus martii* (H): Heard on several occasions in the Manu lowlands but never within reach.
- Blue-crowned Motmot *Momotus momota*: We had two sightings of this widespread species from Pantiacolla Lodge and Manu Wildlife Centre. A serious candidate for future splitting (in fact, once upon a time several forms were considered distinct species), our birds belonging to *ignobilis*, one of the Amazonian races.
- Highland Motmot *Momotus aequatorialis*: A great bird, seen on two separate days in the Manu cloud forest with a total of three birds seen. A bigger and higher-elevation replacement of the previous.

GALBULIDAE

- Purus Jacamar (Chestnut J) *Galbalcyrrhynchus purusianus*: We first saw this species from one of our bamboo trails and later had superb views of this chunky jacamar from the Puerto Maldonado area where they were particularly numerous. It is named after the Purús River, a tributary of the Amazon, which together with the Manu River form a large, roadless wilderness area home to two uncontacted indigenous groups, termed the Mashco and the Curanjeño, both living in voluntary isolation. In 1894 the Peruvian rubber baron Carlos Fitzcarrald left the Ucayali-Urubamba watershed and crossed an overland isthmus (now known as the Fitzcarrald Arch) into what he thought was the Purús River, but which was actually the Manu River. He eventually brought a steam-ship (having to disassemble it) from Iquitos over the 10 kilometre long isthmus, terrorizing Indians along the Rio Manu as he went, an exploit dramatized, although inaccurately, by the German producer Werner Herzog's film "Fitzcarraldo."
- White-throated Jacamar *Brachygalba albogularis*: Seeing this small jacamar was one of the highlights of our Puerto Maldonado birding. A great spot by Henco of this speciality of southwest Amazonia.
- Bluish-fronted Jacamar *Galbula cyanescens*: Another elegant member of this showy family, granting many good views.

BUCCONIDAE

- White-necked Puffbird *Notharcus hyperrhynchus* (H): We heard this canopy puffbird but always when we were grounded and it was frustratingly absent from our canopy platform birding.
- Chestnut-capped Puffbird *Bucco macrodactylus*: A very good sighting and our last new bird from Manu Wildlife Centre on our last afternoon there. Note that Handbook of the Birds of the World resurrects the monospecific genus *Argicus* for this species (among other distinguishing features, the Chestnut-capped Puffbird lacks the 'bifid' bill of other species of the subfamily Bucconinae).
- Striolated Puffbird *Nystalus striolatus* (H): A singing bird at Amazonia proved impossible to find and despite quite a bit of fishing with the tape we never connected with this one.
- Semicollared Puffbird *Malacoptila semicincta*: This sought-after understorey puffbird granted excellent close-range views near its nest at Manu Wildlife Centre. A restricted-range species of south-western Amazonia.
- Lanceolated Monklet *Micromonacha lanceolata*: An excellent sighting of a bird perched for quite some time and even flying into a closer perch after being spotted from the moving bus. Not long afterwards we found a second bird that was injured and helpless in the middle of the road that we did our best to assist.
- Rufous-capped Nunlet *Nonnula ruficapilla*: A single bird in the bamboo near Manu Wildlife Centre was seen fairly well by most in the group.

Black-fronted Nunbird *Monasa nigrifrons*: Near-daily in the Manu lowlands.

White-fronted Nunbird *Monasa morphoeus*: A species which replaces the former in terra-firme forests, where at Manu Wildlife Centre we enjoyed a chattering family group.

Swallow-wing Puffbird (Swallow-winged Puffbird) *Chelidoptera tenebrosa*: A common sight in riverside treetops. The most aberrant puffbird, highly adapted for aerial activity.

CAPITONIDAE

Gilded Barbet *Capito auratus* (H): Despite several attempts to see this canopy bird it remained a heard-only.

Lemon-throated Barbet *Eubucco richardsoni*: A pretty barbet, with a male first seen at Amazonia and then a pair was seen quite close in the garden of Manu Wildlife Centre. Here the yellow-naped race *aurantiicollis*.

Scarlet-hooded Barbet *Eubucco tucinkae*: A superb near-endemic, and to have that male fly onto a nearby perch was mind-blowing stuff at Pantiacolla Lodge.

Versicoloured Barbet *Eubucco versicolor*: Several cracking sightings of this montane barbet near the Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge, and especially the male is really a work of art! Here the southernmost, nominate subspecies, in which the male shows a bright blue malar and lower throat.

RAMPHASTIDAE

Channel-billed Toucan *Ramphastos vitellinus*: Eventually seen with certainty from the Manu Wildlife Centre tower (a distant bird emitting the right call), this is Western Amazonia's 'croaker', perfectly mimicking its larger, 'yelping' cousin.

White-throated Toucan (Red-billed T) *Ramphastos tucanus*: Always impressive, but often (when silent) tricky to tell apart from the previous species.

Black-throated Toucanet *Aulacorhynchus atrogularis*: This species was spotted by Henco for good views by all at Pantiacolla Lodge.

Blue-banded Toucanet *Aulacorhynchus coeruleicinctis*: This handsome speciality granted good views in the mid-elevation cloud forest of Manu.

Grey-breasted Mountain-Toucan *Andigena hypoglauca*: What a thrill to see these birds so well in the cloud forest! One of the group favourites. Classified as Near-Threatened.

Golden-collared Toucanet *Selenidera reinwardtii*: In the Cocha Salvador area we watched a responsive bird conduct its bizarre head-bobbing, tail-swing song routine through the scope. A favourite for Jake.

Lettered Aracari *Pteroglossus incriptus*: This plain breasted species was seen visiting a fruiting tree at Cocha Salvador.

Ivory-billed Aracari *Pteroglossus azara*: Seen fairly well on two occasions in the Manu lowlands.

Chestnut-eared Aracari *Pteroglossus castanotis*: Common at a couple of locations in the lowlands, especially from the clearing of Amazonia.

PICIDAE

Ocellated Piculet *Picumnus dorbignyanus*: This species came easy this year along the Rio Urubamba.

Fine-barred Piculet (Marcapata P) *Picumnus subtilis*: This restricted-range endemic made a timely appearance just after the morning rain shower at Amazonia Lodge.

Yellow-tufted Woodpecker *Melanerpes cruentatus*: Several encounters with this red-bellied species, the only representative of the genus in the Amazon basin.

Little Woodpecker *Veniliornis passerinus*: A good sighting of a bird spotted by Ted from the Manu National Park station of Limonal.

Red-stained Woodpecker *Veniliornis affinis*: This forest woodpecker was finally seen towards the end of our stay at Manu Wildlife Centre where we had very good scope views from the garden.

- Golden-green Woodpecker *Piculus chrysochloros*: Most of us had a good view of this species in the terra firme canopy of Manu Wildlife Centre.
- Golden-olive Woodpecker *Piculus rubiginosus*: We had two sightings from the Cosñipata valley near Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge.
- Spot-breasted Woodpecker (S-b Flicker) *Colaptes punctigula*: Interestingly this species stuck its head out of a nesting cavity placed in a dead snag along the edge of Cocha Salvador. Later we had a second in the Puerto Maldonado area.
- Andean Flicker *Colaptes rupicola*: A single bird was seen briefly in passing during the journey to Pillahuata. This woodpecker is restricted to the arid puna zone from Northern Peru to Northern Chile and northwest Argentina. Here we saw the race *puno*.
- Scale-breasted Woodpecker (Scaly-b W) *Celeus grammicus*: A single bird was seen well this year by everyone from Cocha Salvador.
- Cream-coloured Woodpecker *Celeus flavus*: One of the most distinctive of the genus, a trio having it out in our canopy platform *Ceiba* made for a great sighting.
- Rufous-headed Woodpecker *Celeus spectabilis*: At Pantiacolla a bird miraculously landing on a perch directly overhead came as a completely unannounced surprise and then further attempts with a second individual resulted in flight views and at least Ted seeing it in the scope.
- Lineated Woodpecker *Dryocopus lineatus*: Several sightings from Amazonia and Cocha Salvador. A relative of the Pileated Woodpecker *D. pileatus* of North America, and the Black Woodpecker *D. martius* in Europe.
- Crimson-bellied Woodpecker *Campephilus haematogaster*: A great find in the cloud forest, and a great view as well, this rather rare bird was a highlight of our birding at Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge.
- Red-necked Woodpecker *Campephilus rubricollis*: What a treat to hear the heavy thuds of this species and then just look up and see it working so low on a big snag at Manu Wildlife Centre. Superb scope studies! This species occurs in the interior of tall, mature forest.
- Crimson-crested Woodpecker *Campephilus melanoleucus*: In southeast Peru most often found in riverine forest and floodplain forest bordering oxbow lakes.

FURNARIIDAE

- Black-tailed Leaf-tosser (B-t Leafscrapper) *Sclerurus caudacutus*: We had an excellent result with this species, with all of us watching one forage busily nearby in the understory.
- Coastal Miner *Geositta peruviana*: Excellent views of this endemic in the desert north of Lima. Miners are so called because of their habit of nesting in holes dug in the ground (like earthcreepers). A bit reminiscent of a small lark and filling a comparable niche.
- Slender-billed Miner *Geositta tenuirostris*: A pair of this highland species was an added bonus during the journey to the cloud forest, with a pair showing very well in the arid country near the road.
- Greyish Miner *Geositta maritima*: At Lomas de Lachay we saw this species in record numbers in the arid canyon country with numerous flocks of birds numbering over 100 moving across the rocky slopes.
- Thick-billed Miner *Geositta crassirostris*: It took a bit of searching after a territorial pair failed to respond but then a responsive bird somehow sneaked in close behind us for excellent scope studies of this speciality at Lomas de Lachay, a restricted-range Peruvian endemic.
- Pale-legged Hornero *Furnarius leucopus*: Great looks at this charismatic bird, here of the race *tricolor* of the nominate group. Horneros build domed, earthen nests resembling primitive clay ovens from which the family takes its vernacular name (*horno* in Spanish).
- Wren-like Rushbird *Phleocryptes melanops*: Good views of two birds at Huacarpay Lake.
- Puna Thistletail *Schizoeaca helleri*: On our first afternoon in the cloud forest we had good views of one bird near the road. A near-endemic that barely creeps into Bolivia.
- Azara's Spinetail *Synallaxis azarae*: A common cloud forest edge bird, here of the race *urubambae*, named after the river running through the Sacred Valley and below Machu Picchu. Birds

in this genus are typically skulkers of brushy edges, shrubby areas and/or forest understorey.

- Dark-breasted Spinetail *Synallaxis albigularis* (H): We tried without success to see several birds in the Manu lowlands but they were always impossible to see in the rank undergrowth.
- Cabanis's Spinetail *Synallaxis cabanisi*: Good views of a pair in lowland *Guadua* bamboo. This species is mostly confined to Peru and western Bolivia.
- Plain-crowned Spinetail *Synallaxis gujanensis*: Great views of probably more than one bird in the lodge clearing at Amazonia Lodge. Here of the race *canipileus*, more than one species probably being involved.
- Marcapata Spinetail *Cranioleuca albicapilla*: This attractive endemic responded well to the tape at Pillahuata. Unlike *Synallaxis* spinetails, members of this genus are typically arboreal.
- Creamy-crested Spinetail *Cranioleuca albicapilla*: A handsome endemic of southern Peru's arid inter-montane valleys, seen beautifully above Paucartambo. Classified as Vulnerable.
- Ash-browed Spinetail *Cranioleuca curtata*: Several folks saw this species with a mixed flock in the cloud forest.
- Speckled Spinetail *Cranioleuca gutturata*: During our birding near Manu Wildlife Centre we all had good views of foraging birds with a subcanopy flock.
- Plain Softtail *Phacellodomus fusciceps*: At Amazonia Lodge this species was seen wonderfully with more of these vine-loving furnarids obliging very well at Manu Wildlife Centre.
- Rusty-fronted Canastero *Asthenes ottonis*: After some vocal exchange this restricted-range, Peruvian endemic came out for good views in the xeric scrub around Huacarpay Lake.
- Cactus Canastero *Asthenes cactorum*: A Peruvian endemic discovered and described by Maria Koepcke of which we had excellent views at Lomas de Lachay.
- Streak-fronted Thornbird *Phacellodomus striaticeps*: This sneaky species performed rather well in the arid scrub of Huacarpay Lake.
- Orange-fronted Plushcrown *Metopothrix aurantiaca*: A pair accompanied by a juvenile showed quite well with the Speckled Spinetail flock and then we had this species again on The Grid.
- Pearled Treerunner *Margarornis squamiger*: A most handsome cloudforest denizen, seen a few times in mixed flocks at higher elevations.
- Point-tailed Palmcreeper *Berlepschia rikeri*: This Moriche palm specialist was seen brilliantly near Puerto Maldonado. A bird that was listed on several top-ten lists!
- Montane Foliage-gleaner *Anabacerthia striaticollis*: This buffy spectacled furnariid was common in cloud forest mixed flocks.
- Peruvian Recurvebill *Simoxenops ucayalae*: This year we had varying levels of success with this species, with some of us seeing the entire bird with bill perched and others having only flight views. Named after the Ucayali River, one of the major tributaries of the Amazon and an important dispersal barrier. Classified as Near-Threatened.
- Chestnut-winged Hookbill *Ancistrops strigilatus*: Repeated good views of this impressive looking bird in the subcanopy of Manu Wildlife Centre's terra firme.
- Rufous-tailed Foliage-gleaner *Philydor ruficaudatum*: This one showed well in the subcanopy mixed shrike-tanager flock at Amazonia Lodge.
- Chestnut-winged Foliage-gleaner *Philydor erythropterus* (H): This species could be heard in the mixed flock that never approached our tower tree.
- Buff-fronted Foliage-gleaner *Philydor rufum*: Two vocalizing birds were easily seen in the *Guadua* bamboo near Manu Wildlife Centre.
- Cinnamon-rumped Foliage-gleaner *Philydor pyrrhodes* (H): A heard-only record from the Manu lowlands.
- Striped Treehunter *Thripadectes holostictus*: A cloudforest understorey skulker, showing fairly well to some in response to playback.
- Buff-throated Foliage-gleaner *Automolus ochrolaemus* (H): At Manu Wildlife Centre this species eluded us.

- Olive-backed Foliage-gleaner *Automolus infuscatus*: Seeing this forest bird came quite easily this year at Manu Wildlife Centre with an understory bird perching clearly on young saplings and giving multiple great views in song.
- Brown-rumped Foliage-gleaner *Automolus melanopezus*: One of several bamboo specialities we saw at Pantiacolla, with some of us even seeing this ultra-responsive individual in the scope, but it was a struggle to get this skulker to show to all.
- Chestnut-crowned Foliage-gleaner *Automolus rufipileatus*: We all had excellent views of this often skulking species in the secondary woodland of Puerto Maldonado.
- Slender-billed Xenops *Xenops tenuirostris*: A pair was seen with a mixed flock in the floodplain forest at Amazonia Lodge.
- Plain Xenops *Xenops minutes*: A single sighting at Amazonia Lodge.
- Streaked Xenops *Xenops rutilans*: We had great views below Machu Picchu.
- Plain-brown Woodcreeper *Dendrocincla fuliginosa* (H): Several were heard but never responded to playback.
- Long-tailed Woodcreeper *Deconychura longicauda* (H): Late one afternoon at Cocha Salvador we heard the distinctive voice of this one but it refused to come any closer, here the race *pallida*.
- Olivaceous Woodcreeper *Sittasomus griseicapillus*: Several sightings from the Manu lowlands, here of the race *amazonus*. The hitherto monotypic *Sittasomus* will result in several easy armchair ticks if ever ornithologists tackle the taxonomy of this widespread (group of) species. Currently there are five subspecies groups that possibly deserve separate species status.
- Wedge-billed Woodcreeper *Glyphorhynchus spirurus*: Several sightings from the lowlands of this cosmopolitan woodcreeper.
- Long-billed Woodcreeper *Nasica longirostris*: Several good looks at this species at Cocha Salvador.
- Cinnamon-throated Woodcreeper *Dendrozetetes rufiflora*: A singing pair was seen by all at Pantiacolla Lodge.
- Strong-billed Woodcreeper *Xiphocolaptes promeropirhynchus*: This impressive looking woodcreeper flew onto an eye-level trailside perch from which it refused to budge and we eventually left it there after prolonged views, here the subspecies *berlepschi*.
- Straight-billed Woodcreeper *Xiphorhynchus picus*: This floodplain species was seen in the open woodland country near Puerto Maldonado.
- Tschudi's Woodcreeper *Xiphorhynchus chunchotambo*: Above Amazonia we had fairly good views of a calling bird that was part of a mixed flock.
- Juruá Woodcreeper *Xiphorhynchus juruanus*: Good views of several different birds from Manu National Park and Manu Wildlife Centre. Four of the largest rivers in the Amazon basin start as streams in the low foothills of the Fitzcarrald Arch in south-eastern Peru- the Madeira, Ucayali and Juruá.
- Lafresnaye's Woodcreeper *Xiphorhynchus guttatoides*: We saw this species on a number of occasions and heard it even more frequently. Always impressive, it was one of Tony's favourite birds of the trip.
- Montane Woodcreeper *Lepidocolaptes lacrymiger*: Four birds in all seen of this common mixed flock species of the upper cloud forests.
- Lineated Woodcreeper *Lepidocolaptes albolineatus*: This species was seen very well from the Manu Wildlife Centre tower.
- Red-billed Scythebill *Campylorhamphus trochilirostris*: A juvenile bird with a rather short, dark bill was seen in the floodplain forest of Amazonia Lodge. In southern Peru, this species is found mostly in bamboo, here likely the race *devius*.

THAMNOPHILIDAE

- Fasciated Antshrike *Cymbilaimus lineatus* (H): One heard-only record from Manu Wildlife Centre from which we didn't get a response.

- Bamboo Antshrike *Cymbilaimus sanctaemariae*: Good views of a male of this specialist from the Manu road. A southwest Amazonian endemic, it was originally described as an obscure subspecies of the previous, until 'Fasciated Antshrikes' with a totally different song were found in dense bamboo stands in se Peru, within walking distance of regularly sounding Fasciated Antshrikes in their typical tree fall/vine habitat!
- Great Antshrike *Taraba major*: Three sightings of this spectacular antshrike, here of the upper Amazonian subspecies *melanurus*.
- Barred Antshrike *Thamnophilus doliatus*: Good views in second-growth near Puerto Maldonado.
- Chestnut-backed Antshrike *Thamnophilus palliatus*: Two pairs at Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge made quite an impression.
- Plain-winged Antshrike (Black-capped A) *Thamnophilus schistaceus*: A common species by voice and one that we had good views of. The new name is preferable over the old one since over large portions of its range males do not have any black in the crown at all, including those in Manu, which are of the nominate race.
- Variable Antshrike *Thamnophilus caerulescens*: An excellent sighting from the Manu Picchu area.
- Dusky-throated Antshrike *Thamnomanes ardesiacus*: Several encounters in mixed understorey flocks, though not as numerous as the next species. Here the nominate race, where the male's black on the throat is often absent, making it visually identical to the next species. However voice and female plumage are very distinct.
- Bluish-slate Antshrike *Thamnomanes schistogynus*: Regular sightings. The notorious leader of the roving understorey flocks of the Amazonian lowlands, and a geographic replacement of the closely related Cinereous Antshrike, which is the flock leader at e.g. Ecuador's La Selva.
- Spot-winged Antshrike *Pygiptila stellaris*: A female at Cocha Salvador was strangely our only sighting this year.
- White-eyed Antwren *Epinecrophylla leucophthalma*: Good views of several birds in the Manu lowlands. Here the race *meridionalis*, lacking the chestnut saddle shown by e.g. Ecuadorian birds.
- Stipple-throated Antwren *Epinecrophylla haematonota* (H): Late one afternoon this species responded vocally from within an understorey mixed-flock that quickly slipped away.
- Foothill Antwren *Epinecrophylla spodionota*: Great views of this species foraging in the Manu foothills.
- Ornate Antwren *Epinecrophylla ornata* (H): We tried with a couple of unresponsive birds.
- Rufous-tailed Antwren *Epinecrophylla erythrura*: At least four individuals showed extremely well in the understorey of Amazonia Lodge's hill forest.
- Pygmy Antwren *Myrmotherula brachyura*: This almost-tailless, subcanopy antwren was seen well at Amazonia Lodge and heard elsewhere. Differs from the following species in its foraging height (Pygmy always lower) and its white throat.
- Sclater's Antwren *Myrmotherula sclateri* (H): Little flock activity in the canopy greatly diminished our chances with this species and our terrestrial attempts were unsuccessful. One of several birds named after Philip Sclater, an English zoologist who set up the six zoogeographical regions (Palearctic, Nearctic, etc.) still in use today and whose publications include Argentine Ornithology (1888-89).
- Amazonian Streaked-Antwren *Myrmotherula multostriata*: A pair was seen by all in thick oxbow lake vegetation of Cocha Salvador. Botanists are now learning that the oxbow lake flora is actually a very specialized plant community with many species found nowhere else.
- Stripe-chested Antwren *Myrmotherula longicauda*: A foothill relative of the previous, seen nicely above Atalaya.
- Plain-throated Antwren *Myrmotherula hauxwelli*: Small numbers of this distinctive antwren were seen and heard. Of all the Amazonian antwrens, the one that lives closest to the ground.
- White-flanked Antwren *Myrmotherula axillaris*: A common member of mixed flocks in the Manu lowlands.

- Long-winged Antwren *Myrmotherula longipennis*: Very responsive and excellent views. A species exhibiting a fair bit of geographic variation, as so often more so in female than in male plumage. Here the race *garbei*.
- Ihering's Antwren *Myrmotherula iheringi*: At Pantiacolla we all had excellent views of a dapper male.
- Grey Antwren *Myrmotherula menetriesii*: We had at least four sightings of this drab but common antwren of mid-levels. Here the nominate race, in males usually showing a variable black throat patch (unlike e.g. Ecuadorian birds which have no black on the throat).
- Banded Antbird (B Antwren) *Dichrozona cincta*: A territorial individual walking along the ground and perching on fallen logs was a highlight from the Manu Wildlife Centre floodplain forest.
- Yellow-breasted Antwren *Herpsilochmus axillaris* (H): Just one heard-only of a bird with a fast-moving flock.
- Dot-winged Antwren *Microrhopias quixensis*: One of the prettier antwrens, named after the Rio Quijos in Ecuador. Also this one shows a fair amount of geographical variation, birds in the Manu region being of the race *albicauda*.
- Striated Antbird *Drymophila devillei*: A cooperative and very elegant bamboo denizen. Peruvian Warbling-Antbird *Hypocnemis peruviana*: This was the white-breasted form seen in the forest interior of Manu Wildlife Centre.
- Yellow-breasted Warbling-Antbird *Hypocnemis subflava*: We saw this yellow-bellied species on several occasions in the Manu lowlands, always in bamboo.
- Chestnut-shouldered Antwren *Terenura humeralis*: One individual showed fairly well in the lower canopy but only Tony was able to see it clearly.
- Yellow-rumped Antwren *Terenura sharpei* (H): A heard-only record from the Manu road.
- Grey Antbird *Cercomacra cinerascens*: A bird of mid-storey vine tangles, with a male perching out surprisingly well during our canopy birding. Here the race *sclateri*, with prominent white wing-covert spotting.
- Riparian Antbird *Cercomacra fuscicauda*: We saw this lowland form on the bamboo trail of Manu Wildlife Centre; it is often lumped with vocally distinct Andean foothill forms as Blackish Antbird *C. nigrescens*.
- Black Antbird *Cercomacra serva*: A pair responded fairly well to playback with almost everyone getting good views along the lower Manu road.
- Manu Antbird *Cercomacra manu*: Really excellent views of a male of this bamboo specialist, a species only recently described from this area, but now found locally in bamboo in Bolivia and Brazil. This antbird is one of the 6 obligate bamboo users in southeast Peru, where in total there are 19 species of birds considered to be bamboo-specialists, all varying in their dependence on bamboo. Many of these have sister taxa in southeast Brazil which are also bamboo specialists, suggesting that this specialization may have evolved when the two areas were connected by bamboo during the Miocene. Through satellite imagery we know that in southeast Peru, bamboo forests cover more than 180,000 sq. km., an area three times the size of Costa Rica.
- White-backed Fire-eye *Pyriglena leuconota*: Though we tried on several occasions to call this skulker into view, only Cathryn and Henco would see it below Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge. Here of the race *marcapatensis*, in the *maura* subspecies group, more than one species may be involved.
- White-browed Antbird *Myrmoborus leucophrys*: We all had great looks at this stunning antbird from Amazonía Lodge and the Manu lowlands.
- Black-faced Antbird *Myrmoborus myotherinus*: This species was very confiding this year, with very good looks at a male from Cocha Salvador. Another geographically variable species, with more than one species possibly being involved; here the nominate race.
- Band-tailed Antbird *Hypocnemoides maculicauda* (H): One showed briefly at Amazonia Lodge but then disappeared all too quickly. An antbird that rarely strays from humid areas and bodies of water.

- Silvered Antbird *Sclateria naevia*: A male at Cocha Salvador was seen well. This antbird occupies low hanging branches and vegetation at oxbow-lake margins and is rarely found away from the edge of water.
- White-lined Antbird *Percnostola lophotes*: Good looks at both sexes of this restricted-range, southeast Peru near-endemic. Until just a few decades ago the female of this species was known as the Rufous-crested Antbird *P. macrolopha*, a nice illustration of how Peruvian ornithology emerged out of the dark ages in the seventies and eighties. A SE Peru near-endemic.
- Brownish-headed Antbird *Schistocichla brunneiceps*: This is the recently-split form of Spot-winged Antbird *S. leucostigma* that we all heard but only a few of us managed to see at Amazonia Lodge.
- Chestnut-tailed Antbird (Southern Chestnut-tailed A) *Myrmeciza hemimelaena*: We did fairly well with this handsome skulker on a couple of occasions.
- Black-throated Antbird *Myrmeciza atrothorax* (H): This edge species was unresponsive and eluded us numerous times.
- Goeldi's Antbird *Myrmeciza goeldii*: A male at Pantiacolla Lodge showed very well. In this restricted-range species both song and male plumage are quite similar to that of the White-shouldered Antbirds (*M. melanoceps*), which it replaces southward. Females differ dramatically though.
- Plumbeous Antbird *Myrmeciza hyperythra*: At Manu Wildlife Centre a pair of this species showed well in the forest understorey.
- Sooty Antbird *Myrmeciza fortis*: Encountered at least twice, but neither showed well, with a pair at Amazonia Lodge being our closest encounter.
- White-throated Antbird *Gymnopithys salvini*: Everyone had good looks at a female of this species at Manu Wildlife Centre. Named after the 19th century ornithologist, Osbert Salvin of the British Museum.
- Spot-backed Antbird *Hylophylax naevia*: This antbird did not come easy this year, with only about half of us seeing it well at Cocha Salvador.
- Scale-backed Antbird *Hylophylax poecilonota*: Two in the Cocha Salvador area played hard-to-get, with a few of us seeing one of the pair perched up.
- Black-spotted Bare-eye *Phlegopsis nigromaculata*: Without any ant-swarms it made our antbirding hard, with this species responding to playback but never perching long enough to get it in the bins.

FORMICARIIDAE

- Rufous-capped Antthrush *Formicarius colma*: One of the definite highlights from Cocha Salvador when this one flew to a perch just a foot off the ground, within close-focus range and with its head turned to perfectly accentuate its bright rufous cap. A sighting that made Ted's top-ten. Genetic data shows that *Formicarius* and *Chamaeza* antthrushes are in fact more closely related to furnarids and tapaculos than to the antbirds!
- Black-faced Antthrush *Formicarius analis*: The most abundant of the lowland antthrush species, and between the three sightings we all had good views. More than one species may be involved.
- Rufous-fronted Antthrush *Formicarius rufifrons*: It took a great deal of patiently tense work but eventually we all achieved very good views of this Peruvian near-endemic, a restricted-range species classified as Near-Threatened. First described in 1957 and only discovered in life by the late Ted Parker 25 years later. Known only from a handful of localities, this species inhabits *Heliconia* dominated river edges and will usually leave an area once this successional habitat ages.
- Striated Antthrush *Chamaeza nobilis* (H): Heard distantly in the Cocha Salvador area.

GRALLARIIDAE

Scaled Antpitta *Grallaria guatemalensis* (H): Always too distant for even a lucky break. Genetic data call for *Grallaria* to be placed in its own family, separate from *Formicarius* and *Chamaeza*.

White-throated Antpitta *Grallaria albigula* (H): One bird was heard-only in rank undergrowth at middle elevations in the cloud forest.

Red-and-white Antpitta *Grallaria erythroleuca*: One individual hopped across an open patch of understorey, but just Henco was quick enough to get it in his bins and others had to be content with bin-less views or worse after our later attempts came up empty-handed.

Amazonian Antpitta *Hylopezus berlepschi*: I never dreamed that last year's scope views would be outdone, but thanks to Cathryn's great spotting we all suddenly found ourselves eyeball-to-eyeball with an aggressive bird swinging on a liana, and then descending to nearly charge us from the forest floor. Named for Hans Hermann Carl Ludwig Von Berlepsch (1850-1915), a German ornithologist who sponsored several expeditions to South America.

Thrush-like Antpitta *Myrmothera campanisona*: At Amazonía Lodge this shy one showed well on the forest floor to almost everyone but unfortunately Tony missed this one.

CONOPOPHAGIDAE

Slaty Gnateater *Conopophaga ardesiaca*: We had good views of a male of this skulker including his white ear-tufts in the cloud forest understorey.

RHINOCRYPTIDAE

Rusty-belted Tapaculo *Liosceles thoracicus*: A singing bird was extremely obliging at Amazonia Lodge, perching up off the ground in plain view and vocalizing all the while. Great stuff!

Trilling Tapaculo (Grey T) *Scytalopus parvirostris*: Our first, late-afternoon attempt turned out to be our only sighting but with just Henco and Jake seeing it.

White-crowned Tapaculo (Northern White-crowned T) *Scytalopus atratus*: Our sighting near Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge was a great result with this understorey skulker. Recent analysis has shown that Manu birds are more closely allied to the Northern White-crowned rather than Bolivian (Southern White-crowned T) birds, *S. bolivianus*, which occur north only to Puno.

TYRANNIDAE

Ashy-headed Tyrannulet *Phyllomyias cinereiceps*: We did quite well with this species in a mixed flock near Aguas Calientes.

Sclater's Tyrannulet *Phyllomyias sclateri*: Good views of a couple of individuals in the forest below Machu Picchu.

Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet *Tyrannulus elatus*: Such close views of the often heard but not so easily seen 'free-beer' bird was a picnic lunch highlight and a great start to our birding in the Manu lowlands.

Forest Elaenia *Myiopagis gaimardii*: Common by voice, and one was seen from the Cocha Camungo canopy platform.

White-crested Elaenia *Elaenia albiceps*: Two birds were heard and seen at Ollantaytambo.

Mottle-backed Elaenia *Elaenia gigas*: Just one sighting of this large elaenia from the garden of Amazonia Lodge.

Sierran Elaenia *Elaenia pallatangae*: Fairly common at upper elevations, here the race *intensa*.

White-lored Tyrannulet *Ornithion inerme*: A bird finally responded to playback showing well during our rainy morning veranda birding at Amazonia Lodge.

White-banded Tyrannulet *Mecocerculus stictopterus*: Regular with mixed flocks in the temperate zone, here of the race *taeniopterus*.

White-throated Tyrannulet *Mecocerculus leucophrys*: Frequent encounters at higher elevations, of the subspecies *brunneomarginatus*.

- Yellow-billed Tit-Tyrant *Anairetes flavirostris*: A pair of this species showed quite well in the dry scrub near Huacarpay Lake.
- Ringed Antpiper *Corythopsis torquata*: A good sighting from Cocha Salvador, this aberrant, terrestrial flycatcher was seen eventually by everyone walking in an area of thick fern undergrowth.
- Bolivian Tyrannulet *Zimmerius bolivianus* (H): Despite being on the lookout for this one, we only heard one individual that would not respond to playback.
- Slender-footed Tyrannulet *Zimmerius gracilipes* (H): One heard-only record from Manu Wildlife Centre of a bird that could not be located in the canopy.
- Marble-faced Bristle-Tyrant *Phylloscartes ophthalmicus*: A single bird was seen by only part of the group near Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge, here of the rather distinct subspecies *ottonis*.
- Mottle-cheeked Tyrannulet *Phylloscartes ventralis*: We found this species to be fairly common below Machu Picchu with four seen.
- Cinnamon-faced Tyrannulet *Phylloscartes parkeri*: One with a mixed flock was seen well below Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge. Only described about twelve years ago, the type specimen was collected from the hill forest behind Amazonia Lodge. This canopy species is confined to the forested foothills of southeast Peru and immediately adjacent Bolivia.
- Streak-necked Flycatcher *Mionectes striaticollis*: A common sight in the cloud forest, this genus of frugivorous flycatchers forms loose lek displays consisting of nervous wing-twitches and monotonous songs.
- Ochre-bellied Flycatcher *Mionectes oleaginous*: Two sightings from Amazonia Lodge this year with others heard elsewhere in the Manu lowlands.
- Sepia-capped Flycatcher *Leptopogon amaurocephalus*: A fairly common species in forest edge situations.
- Slaty-capped Flycatcher *Leptopogon superciliaris*: Three birds seen in all near the Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge, here of the southernmost race *albidiventer*. More than one species may be involved.
- Inca Flycatcher *Leptopogon taczanowskii*: This restricted-range endemic was seen by all in the cloud forest. Members of this genus build a fibrous hanging nest lined with a thick layer of balsa or ceiba (kapok) cotton. This one named after Wladyslaw Taczanowski, a renowned Polish zoologist and author of Ornithology of Peru 1884-1886.
- Ornate Flycatcher *Myiotriccus ornatus*: One in the Manu foothills obliged for several good views, making a favourable impression on all!
- Many-coloured Rush Tyrant *Tachuris rubrigastra* (H): After the wind picked up at Huacarpay we did not have much of a chance with this species.
- Short-tailed Pygmy-Tyrant *Myiornis ecaudatus*: Two at Amazonia were very obliging on low perches. The world's smallest passerine, together with the closely related Black-capped Pygmy-tyrant *M. atricapillus*.
- Scale-crested Pygmy-Tyrant *Lophotriccus pileatus*: One was only just glimpsed at Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge, here of the race *hypochlorus*.
- Flammulated Pygmy-Tyrant (F Bamboo-T) *Hemitriccus flammulatus*: Only about half of the group had views of the devilish 'flam-bam' from our bamboo endeavours.
- White-bellied Tody-Tyrant *Hemitriccus griseipectus*: It took several neck-breaking attempts before we had good views of a bird perched rather low over the trail at Manu Wildlife Centre.
- Johannes's Tody-Tyrant *Hemitriccus iohannis*: This handsome little flycatcher waited until our last possible site to finally show itself to everyone. Named after a certain John, an otherwise unknown collector on the Museum Goeldi expedition to the Rio Purús region of Brazil in 1904.
- Black-throated Tody-Tyrant *Hemitriccus granadensis*: A great result from the temperate forest of Pillahuata with good views of the buff-lored *pyrrhops* race.
- White-cheeked Tody-Tyrant *Poecilotriccus albifacies*: Two separate sightings with superb views had of both individuals in their preferred bamboo habitat.
- Rusty-fronted Tody-Flycatcher *Todirostrum latirostre*: A catch-up bird for us after hearing a couple of others, we all had a good view of this edge-growth skulker near Puerto Maldonado.

Spotted Tody-Flycatcher *Todirostrum maculatum*: This young successional growth species showed quite well in young *Tessaria* during a Rio Manu bush stop.

Yellow-browed Tody-Flycatcher *Todirostrum chrysocrotaphum*: A regularly heard but hard to see canopy dweller, that always stayed in dense leaf clusters for us and was untickably seen only in flight

Fulvous-breasted Flatbill *Rhynchocyclus fulvipectus*: One of the results of our trail walking during our trail session behind Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge.

Grey-crowned Flycatcher (G-c Flatbill) *Tolmomyias poliocephalus*: Quite a few individuals inhabit the second growth woodland around Amazonía.

Golden-crowned Spadebill *Platyrinchus coronatus* (H): This small flycatcher stayed hidden.

White-crested Spadebill *Platyrinchus platyrhynchos*: After a long wait, a vocalizing bird was spotted by Keith allowing us all to have at least a look at this neat bird.

Amazonian Royal Flycatcher *Onychorhynchus coronatus* (H): One was heard in the Cocha Salvador area but despite a thorough search we could not find it.

Unadorned Flycatcher *Myiophobus inornatus*: This often difficult to find speciality of SE Peru showed quite well at a staked-out territory.

Handsome Flycatcher *Myiophobus pulcher*: A few with mixed flocks in the cloud forest, here of the widely disjunct southern race *oblitus*.

Bran-coloured Flycatcher *Myiophobus fasciatus*: One was seen well at the edge of open woodland at our picnic lunch stop above Pilcopata.

Cinnamon Flycatcher *Pyrrhomyias cinnamomea*: A ubiquitous cloud forest flycatcher, of the nominate race.

Euler's Flycatcher *Lathrotriccus euleri* (H): A single heard-only record of an unresponsive bird from the Cocha Salvador area.

Fuscous Flycatcher *Cnemotriccus fuscatus*: One was seen during our bamboo birding, here of the race *fuscator*.

Alder Flycatcher *Empidonax alnorum*: We had good views of this species along the Rio Urubamba, an elevation at which this species is rarely recorded.

Smoke-coloured Pewee *Contopus fumigatus*: A common bird in the cloud forest.

Western Wood-Pewee *Contopus sordidulus*: Three sightings, each of calling birds, from below Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge.

Black Phoebe *Sayornis nigricans*: Several pairs were seen in river beds at middle elevations.

Vermilion Flycatcher *Pyrocephalus rubinus*: Several birds were seen in the Lomas de Lachay, where of the resident race *obscurus*; the latter has a melanistic morph, which was seen in Miraflores from the van.

Andean Negrito *Knipolegus signatus*: We scoped a single bird at Huacarpay Lake.

White-winged Black-Tyrant *Knipolegus aterrimus*: A single male was seen at our spintail site above Paucartambo, here of the race *anthracinus*.

Drab Water-Tyrant *Ochthornis littoralis*: An abundant flycatcher along the lowland rivers.

Little Ground-Tyrant *Muscisaxicola fluviatilis*: This mostly terrestrial tyrannid was seen well at the macaw clay lick where they seem to have doubled in numbers.

Rufous-naped Ground-Tyrant *Muscisaxicola rufivertex*: A total of six birds were seen foraging near Huacarpay.

Maroon-chested Chat-Tyrant (M-belted C-T, Chestnut-b C-T) *Ochthoeca thoracica*: Magnificent close-ups of a very responsive bird below Pillahuata.

Rufous-breasted Chat-Tyrant *Ochthoeca rufipectoralis*: This chat-tyrant was quite common along the upper Manu road, where of the race *tectricialis*.

Brown-backed Chat-Tyrant *Ochthoeca fumicolor*: A few birds were seen near the Acjanaco pass. Here the southernmost, white-browed and grey-crowned race *berlepschi*.

White-browed Chat-Tyrant *Ochthoeca leucophrys*: A few at Huacarpay.

Short-tailed Field-Tyrant *Muscigralla brevicauda*: Great views through the scope of several birds at Lomas de Lachay.

Long-tailed Tyrant *Colonia colonus*: Two birds were seen in the humid foothills below Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge.

Piratic Flycatcher *Legatus leucophaeus*: We had good views of calling birds from Cocha Salvador. This vociferous bird is named for its habit of appropriating a newly finished nest in which it proceeds to raise its own family.

Rusty-margined Flycatcher *Myiozetetes cayanensis*: Another of our many write-ins from the Puerto Maldonado area. We saw this one quite well perching on a telephone wire over a wet marshy area.

Social Flycatcher *Myiozetetes similis*: Numerous in the lowlands and lower foothills.

Grey-capped Flycatcher *Myiozetetes granadensis*: A fairly common bird at Amazonía Lodge and also seen out in the Manu lowlands.

Great Kiskadee *Pitangus sulphuratus*: This cosmopolitan species was seen often along the river margins.

Lesser Kiskadee *Philohydor lictor*: This bird of lake and (to a lesser extent) river edges was seen at Cocha Salvador. Formerly in the genus *Pitangus*, this species was recently placed in its own monotypic genus *Philohydor*, based on its different syrinx and its cup-shaped nest, the latter very different from the Great Kiskadee's large globular nest with a side entrance.

Lemon-browed Flycatcher *Conopias cinchoneti*: We had good scope views of a total five individuals of this upper foothill speciality.

Golden-crowned Flycatcher *Myiodynastes chrysocephalus*: We had four sightings of this species at middle elevations from the Manu cloud forest.

Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher *Myiodynastes luteiventris*: A boreal migrant from North America, seen well at several sites including Amazonia Lodge and Cocha Salvador.

Streaked Flycatcher *Myiodynastes maculatus*: Two sightings from the Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge area.

Boat-billed Flycatcher *Megarynchus pitangua*: A few were seen in the open woodland around Puerto Maldonado.

Sulphury Flycatcher *Tyrannopsis sulphurea*: A couple of us first saw this species in the Pantiacolla Lodge clearing. A pair showed later to everyone near Puerto Maldonado.

Variiegated Flycatcher *Empidonomus varius*: A new elevational breeding record for this species, with two individuals seen singing on territory and even chasing and mobbing oropendolas in the Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge car park.

Tropical Kingbird *Tyrannus melancholicus*: Numerous.

Eastern Kingbird *Tyrannus tyrannus*: Good numbers of this North American migrant were seen in the Manu lowlands with counts of over 25 individuals seen on several days.

Greyish Mourner *Rhytipterna simplex*: Good looks at this miniature replica of the Screaming Piha.

Eastern Sirystes *Sirystes sibilator* (H): A distant heard-only from the Manu lowlands was strangely our only encounter.

Dusky-capped Flycatcher *Myiarchus tuberculifer*: Seen twice in the Manu lowlands.

Swainson's Flycatcher *Myiarchus swainsoni*: An austral migrant that was seen well through the scope near Puerto Maldonado. Named for William Swainson (1789-1855), an English artist who was the first to use lithography in bird book illustration and whose works include *A Selection of the Birds of Brazil and Mexico* (1841).

Short-crested Flycatcher *Myiarchus ferox*: First seen in the open country at Chontachaca, but then we had at least two more in the Puerto Maldonado area.

Large-headed Flatbill *Ramphotricon megacephala*: We all had good views of this species from our bamboo birding near Manu Wildlife Centre.

Rufous-tailed Flatbill *Ramphotricon ruficauda* (H): This species was heard late one afternoon in the terra firme of Manu Wildlife Centre.

Dusky-tailed Flatbill *Ramphotricon fuscicauda*: It took some clever tricks to see but eventually one was reeled in for a great view at Pantiacolla.

Dull-capped Attila (White-eyed A) *Attila bolivianus*: This smart attila showed superbly well to all near Cocha Salvador.

Bright-rumped Attila *Attila spadiceus*: One was seen just before an afternoon walk from our Cocha Salvador tented-camp clearing and a second was seen during our bamboo birding near Manu Wildlife Centre.

COTINGIDAE

Barred Fruiteater *Pipreola arcuata*: An excellent sighting of two feeding birds in a fruiting tree immediately adjacent to the cloud forest road that made for easy viewing of these magnificent birds.

Andean Cock-of-the-rock *Rupicola peruviana*: At Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge we watched the unreal spectacle of several males of this superb cotinga delivering their loud pig-like squeals and doing their display jumps at their lek. Nowhere in South America is an active lek of these fantastic creatures so accessible and easily viewable as it is here.

Plum-throated Cotinga *Cotinga maynana*: Good views of males from Cocha Salvador.

Screaming Piha *Lipaugus vociferans*: For anyone that has never heard this species it is unbelievably loud. We heard and saw this unreal sounding cotinga at Cocha Salvador.

Black-faced Cotinga *Conioptilon mcilhennyi*: A pair of this localized cotinga perched up in one of the tall trees above Cocha Salvador. Sometimes called the Tabasco Cotinga after being described by George Lowery and John O'Neill in 1966 and named for the Mcilhenny family for all their donor support of Neotropical Ornithology.

Bare-necked Fruitcrow *Gymnoderus foetidus*: An odd cotinga that we found most numerous at Cocha Salvador but also had good views of in the canopy of Manu Wildlife Centre.

Purple-throated Fruitcrow *Querula purpurata*: We saw the throat colour nicely on a calling male near Cocha Salvador.

Amazonian Umbrellabird *Cephalopterus ornatus*: We all had very good looks at a female perched above the road, and our timing could not have been more perfect.

PIPRIDAE

Dwarf Tyrant-Manakin *Tyrannutes stolzmanni*: After enjoying a wonderful view through the scope of a calling bird we could not help but have a chuckle each time we heard birds doing their incessantly unvaried song routine. Interestingly very little is known of their behavioural ecology. Named after Jean Stanislaus Stolzmann (1854-1928), a Polish ornithologist. In 1871 he travelled to Peru on behalf of the zoological museum of Warsaw University.

Fiery-capped Manakin *Machaeropterus pyrocephalus* (H): A phantom-like little bird, regularly heard, and despite some careful searching we were not able to find the song perch of singing birds.

Blue-crowned Manakin *Pipra coronata*: Both sexes were seen in the understorey at Pantiacolla.

Blue-backed Manakin *Chiroxiphia pareola* (H): A few heard in the Manu lowlands but never responsive.

Yungas Manakin *Chiroxiphia boliviana*: We struggled with this one, with only a couple of us seeing a perched male in the bins, and most only managed a glimpse when one of the birds moved off.

Band-tailed Manakin *Pipra fasciicauda*: At Amazonia Lodge we saw at least two males at their lek.

Round-tailed Manakin *Pipra chloromeros*: Lekking males were seen well in the hill forest at Amazonia Lodge.

TITYRIDAE

Black-tailed Tityra *Tityra cayana*: Both males and females were numerous in the Manu lowlands, here the nominate race.

Masked Tityra *Tityra semifasciata*: Several sightings from the Manu foothills and lowlands.

Greater Schiffornis (Varzea Schiffornis, V Mourner) *Schiffornis major* (H): One heard-only record from the Manu lowlands. This genus was formerly placed with the manakins, but morphological and genetic data place it in a group with tityras and becards.

- Amazonian Schiffornis *Schiffornis amazona* (H): One individual was heard from quite close in the terra firme of Manu Wildlife Centre, but then it refused to give any sort of response.
- Cinereous Mourner *Laniocera hypopyrra*: Two sightings, with the first at Cocha Salvador being seen by all and the second at Manu Wildlife Centre moving off fairly quickly.
- White-browed Purple-tuft *Iodopleura isabellae*: A family group of five birds foraging with sallying flights from the treetops of Amazonia's hill forest was the major highlight from the canopy platform.
- Barred Becard *Pachyramphus versicolor*: A pair of this lovely species showed fairly well in the Manu cloud forest.
- White-winged Becard *Pachyramphus polychopterus*: Good views of a male at Boca Manu, here the Amazonian race *nigriventris*, the males of which are nearly all black, apart from the white on the wings.
- Black-capped Becard *Pachyramphus marginatus*: A pair of this canopy species was seen with a flock at Cocha Camungo.
- Pink-throated Becard *Pachyramphus minor*: The smart-looking male was one of the highlights of our birding in the terra firme forest of Manu Wildlife Centre.
- Wing-barred Piprites (Wing-b Manakin) *Piprites chloris* (H): Heard at Cocha Camungo but we were unable to find the calling bird.

VIREONIDAE

- Red-eyed Vireo *Vireo olivaceus*: Somewhat common at Amazonia Lodge.
- Dusky-capped Greenlet *Hylophilus hypoxanthus*: A nuclear species of lowland canopy flocks, showing well to us at Cocha Camungo.
- Tawny-crowned Greenlet *Hylophilus ochraceiceps*: A retiring species, heard regularly, and seen by some of us in the mixed flock in Amazonia's hill forest.

CORVIDAE

- White-collared Jay *Cyanolyca viridicyanus*: We had some really great views of this beautiful cloud forest jay in the upper elevations of Manu. Note the correct spelling of the specific name.
- Violaceous Jay *Cyanocorax violaceus*: This species was commonly observed at Amazonia Lodge as well as the Alto Rio Madre de Dios.
- Purplish Jay *Cyanocorax cyanomelas*: Fairly common at Amazonia Lodge this year Southeast Peru is the only place where the ranges of this and the following species overlap.
- Inca Jay *Cyanocorax yncas*: This stunning bird of middle elevations was easily seen above Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge.

HIRUNDINIDAE

- Blue-and-white Swallow *Pygochelidon cyanoleuca*: Several groups seen in the cloud forest as well as large numbers along the coast.
- Brown-bellied Swallow *Orochelidon murina*: Small numbers were seen over the Paucartambo River. Note that the SACC recently resurrected *Orochelidon*.
- Pale-footed Swallow *Orochelidon flavipes*: A flock of about a dozen birds passed low overhead at Pillahuata, with their voices making them all the more distinctive.
- White-banded Swallow *Atticora fasciata*: An elegant looking swallow that we enjoyed regularly in the lowlands.
- Southern Rough-winged Swallow *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*: Good numbers seen frequently in the lowlands with daily totals sometimes averaging 40 birds.
- Brown-chested Martin *Phaeoprogne tapera*: Numerous during our boat journeys on the Manu River.
- Grey-breasted Martin *Progne chalybea*: A handful seen in the Puerto Maldonado area, including what was apparently a nesting bird in the tall, dead roadside snag.
- White-winged Swallow *Tachycineta albiventer*: Numerous over rivers and oxbow lakes.
- Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*: Several birds were seen in the Manu lowlands and over agricultural fields along the coast.

TROGLODYTIDAE

- Scaly-breasted Wren (Southern Nightingale-Wren) *Microcerculus marginatus*: A fairly responsive bird showed rather well on a large stump in the floodplain forest of Manu Wildlife Centre.
- Southern House Wren *Troglodytes musculus*: Scattered sightings in the highlands and lowlands, but most common at Lomas de Lachay.
- Mountain Wren *Troglodytes solstitialis*: Two observations of birds accompanying mixed flocks in the cloud forest. Two races intergrade in the area, the Peruvian *macrourus* and the Bolivian *frater*.
- Grass Wren *Cistothorus platensis* (H): A heard-only bird in the Manu puna zone that we could not entice out of the grass.
- Thrush-like Wren *Campylorhynchus turdinus*: Regularly heard, but a group of four birds seen briefly along the bamboo trail was our only sighting.
- Inca Wren *Thryothorus eisenmanni*: A pair showed several times near the road below Machu Picchu. A restricted-range endemic. Named for Eugene Eisenmann (1906-1981), who made a tremendous contribution to Neotropical ornithology as a life-long research associate of the American Museum of Natural History.
- Moustached Wren *Thryothorus genibarbis*: This skulker was seen by all from the garden at Manu Wildlife Centre.
- Buff-breasted Wren *Thryothorus leucotis*: One individual showed well only briefly to a few of us in the Puerto Maldonado area.
- Fulvous Wren *Cinnycerthia fulva*: We all had excellent views of a confiding family group of roadside birds in the cloud forest.
- Grey-breasted Wood-Wren *Henicorhina leucophrys*: Good views of at least two birds in the Manu cloud forest, and another pair was seen in the Machu Picchu area. Here the nominate race, more than one species likely being involved.
- Chestnut-breasted Wren *Cyphorhinus thoracicus* (H): A few were heard at middle elevations but none were ever close enough to work with.
- Musician Wren *Cyphorhinus arada*: One of the highlights of our non-bamboo birding at Pantiacolla Lodge, a bird that stopped on understorey perches several times for good views.

POLIOPTILIDAE

- Half-collared Gnatwren *Microbates cinereiventris* (H): We came really close to seeing a few of these shy birds in the understorey.

DONACOBIIIDAE

- Black-capped Donacobius (B-c Mockingthrush) *Donacobius atricapillus*: We had excellent views of at least 10 birds at Cocha Salvador with more of this charismatic bird seen at Cocha Camungo. Formerly included with the wrens, recent genetic data link it with the old world Sylvioidea, its closest relative family being the Megaluridae (grassbirds, etc).

CINCLIDAE

- White-capped Dipper *Cinclus leucocephalus*: Our first was spotted by Henco along the Rio Kosñipata in the Manu cloud forest and a second was seen on the Urubamba River.

TURDIDAE

- Andean Solitaire *Myadestes ralloides*: Great scope views of a vocalizing bird spotted by Keith at middle elevations in the cloud forest.
- Swainson's Thrush *Catharus ustulatus*: A single bird at Amazonia Lodge was our only sighting.
- White-eared Solitaire *Entomodestes leucotis*: We were lucky with this species in the Manu cloud forest with two very good sightings of this capricious frugivore.
- Hauxwell's Thrush *Turdus hauxwelli*: We worked with a couple of vocal individuals with considerable effort and eventually seen by most of us at Amazonia Lodge and Manu

Wildlife Centre. Named after John Hauxwell, an English ornithologist and collector who married an indigenous woman with whom he raised a family in the Amazon. His collection of avian specimens from the Ucayali and Huallaga River basins between 1850-1870 are highly regarded.

- Black-billed Thrush *Turdus ignobilis*: A commonly observed thrush in clearings and edges in Manu.
Great Thrush *Turdus fuscater*: Common at higher elevations in temperate cloud forest, here of the darker race *ockendeni*.
Chiguanco Thrush *Turdus chiguanco*: Especially numerous in the drier valleys east of Cuzco, here the race *conradi*.
Glossy-black Thrush *Turdus serranus* (H): A heard-only record along the Manu road.
White-necked Thrush *Turdus albicollis*: This one was extremely obliging in the floodplain forest of Manu Wildlife Centre.

THRAUPIDAE

- Red-capped Cardinal *Paroaria gularis*: Repeated encounters with this handsome edge-growth dweller. Traditionally *Paroaria* was placed in Emberizidae next to the cardinal grosbeaks, which in the new taxonomy means they would actually be placed in the Cardinalidae. Recent genetic data indicate however they are tanagers!
- Black-faced Tanager *Schistochlamys melanopis*: This species was very much in evidence in the Puerto Maldonado pasture areas with birds perching out on barbed wire fences right next to our bus.
- Magpie Tanager *Cissopis leveriana*: A few sightings in open, disturbed or successional habitats.
- White-browed Hemispingus *Hemispingus auricularis*: One sighting of four birds from the upper elevation cloud forest.
- Superciliaried Hemispingus *Hemispingus superciliaris*: Several encounters, here with the yellow-bellied race *urubambae*.
- Oleaginous Hemispingus *Hemispingus frontalis*: Two individuals of this drab tanager were seen below Machu Picchu.
- Black-eared Hemispingus *Hemispingus melanotis*: A smart hemispingus showing well in the cloud forests. A highly variable species, here of the subspecies *berlepschi*.
- Drab Hemispingus *Hemispingus xanthophthalmus*: Two pairs were seen very well on separate days in the Manu temperate forest.
- Rust-and-yellow Tanager *Thlypopsis ruficeps*: Attention from this tanager in the temperate forest was diverted by the Black-throated Tody-Tyrant.
- Yellow-crested Tanager *Tachyphonus rufiventer*: A single bird from the hill forest at Amazonia Lodge was seen by a few of us.
- White-shouldered Tanager *Tachyphonus luctuosus*: Two individuals were seen in the lowlands.
- White-winged Shrike-Tanager *Lanio versicolor*: A persistent flock leader, easy to see as it perched in the subcanopy.
- Masked Crimson Tanager *Ramphocelus nigrogularis*: Several encounters with this species and best of all feeding on bananas at Amazonia.
- Silver-beaked Tanager *Ramphocelus carbo*: Common throughout the lowlands, all the way up the Kosñipata valley to Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge.
- Blue-grey Tanager *Thraupis episcopus*: Common.
- Palm Tanager *Thraupis palmarum*: Regularly seen in the lowlands and foothills.
- Blue-capped Tanager *Thraupis cyanocephala*: Several sightings in the cloud forest of this large tanager.
- Blue-and-yellow Tanager *Thraupis bonariensis*: A few were seen in the dry habitat surrounding Huacarpay Lake and our Sacred Valley hotel.
- Hooded Mountain-Tanager *Buthraupis montana*: The largest mountain-tanager in the area, showing beautifully.
- Scarlet-bellied Mountain-Tanager *Anisognathus igniventris*: Many good looks at this stunner in the Pillahuata area. One of Keith's favourites.

- Blue-winged Mountain-Tanager *Anisognathus somptuosus*: We had good views of the southern subspecies at Pillahauta, this southern form with its far-carrying song possibly representing a separate species.
- Grass-green Tanager *Chlorornis riefferii*: Incredible close-ups of this special bird with a mixed flock at Pillahuata on our first day on the Manu road and an additional three seen the following day.
- Chestnut-bellied Mountain-Tanager *Delothraupis castaneiventris*: After mist-cloaked views of a first bird, a second was seen brilliantly with the previous species.
- Yellow-throated Tanager *Iridosornis analis*: A very handsome cloud forest tanager, a pair of which was seen at middle-elevations.
- Golden-collared Tanager *Iridosornis jelskii*: A pair excitedly posed at incredibly close range for several minutes at Pillahuata. This one's named after Konstanty Jelski, 19th century Polish zoologist and curator of the Lima museum.
- Fawn-breasted Tanager *Pipraeidea melanonota*: A few were seen in the Machu Picchu area. A monotypic genus, the name of which literally means 'having the form of a manakin'. This refers to this species' bill, which was considered to be manakin-like.
- Orange-eared Tanager *Chlorochrysa calliparaea*: A total of three were seen in the San Pedro area. Here the race *fulgentissima*, with breast and belly mostly deep cobalt blue.
- Golden-naped Tanager *Tangara ruficervix*: A single bird was seen in the Cock-of-the-Rock
- Silvery Tanager (Silver-backed T) *Tangara viridicollis*: A pair of this middle-elevation tanager showed well near Aguas Calientes.
- Blue-necked Tanager *Tangara cyanicollis*: Many good views of this colourful foothill species.
- Yellow-bellied Tanager *Tangara xanthogastra*: Two birds were seen briefly with the shrike-tanager subcanopy flock at Amazonia Lodge.
- Spotted Tanager *Tangara punctata*: Four were seen in the vicinity of Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge.
- Blue-and-black Tanager *Tangara vassorii*: Just three birds were seen in the Manu temperate forest. Many often comment how different the birds in southern Peru of the southern race *atrocoerulea* seem from birds in Venezuela, Colombia and Ecuador.
- Beryl-spangled Tanager *Tangara nigroviridis*: Just two were seen briefly with mixed flocks in the cloudforest, of the southern race *berlepschi*.
- Turquoise Tanager *Tangara mexicana*: Several sightings of this handsome tanager. A scientific misnomer, since this species is not found in Mexico and not even anywhere in Central America! To those of you who have been to SE Brazil, note that birds there are sometimes split off as a separate species, White-bellied Tanager *T. brasiliensis*.
- Paradise Tanager *Tangara chilensis*: Delightfully numerous, here of the entirely red-rumped nominate race. Another silly scientific name, since this species doesn't occur anywhere near Chile.
- Opal-crowned Tanager *Tangara callophrys*: Some good looks at two birds from the Cocha Camungo tower.
- Bay-headed Tanager *Tangara gyrola*: A single bird was seen near Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge.
- Golden-eared Tanager *Tangara chrysotis*: A single bird showed quite well in a fairly leafless tree on our first morning of birding above Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge.
- Saffron-crowned Tanager *Tangara xanthocephala*: Another superb montane tanager, here of the southern race *lamprotis*, with orange crown and yellow sides to the head.
- Green-and-gold Tanager *Tangara schrankii*: Another regularly seen canopy gem.
- Golden Tanager *Tangara arthus*: Many good looks at this one near Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge.
- Black-faced Dacnis *Dacnis lineata*: Our first was seen at Pantiacolla and then we had good scope views of a male from the canopy platform at Manu Wildlife Centre.
- Yellow-bellied Dacnis *Dacnis flaviventer*: We had good scope views of a male from the Camungo platform.
- Blue Dacnis *Dacnis cayana*: Two sightings from Cocha Salvador and the Camungo platform.
- Green Honeycreeper *Chlorophanes spiza*: Scattered sightings from below San Pedro, Amazonia Lodge and Manu Wildlife Centre.
- Purple Honeycreeper *Cyanerpes caeruleus*: We saw a single male at Amazonia Lodge.

- Guira Tanager *Hemithraupis guira*: A male was seen with the plushcrown flock near Manu Wildlife Centre.
- Chestnut-vented Conebill *Conirostrum speciosum*: One individual was seen well in the floodplain forest of Amazonia Lodge.
- Cinereous Conebill *Conirostrum cinereum*: Our first birds were seen in the arid valleys around and en route to Cusco (nominata), and small numbers were then found in the Lomas de Lachay (*littorale*). Both races are very grey and quite different-looking from the brownish birds in Ecuador (*fraseri*).
- Capped Conebill *Conirostrum albifrons*: Multiple encounters, here of the blue-crowned (in males) race *sordidum*.
- White-browed Conebill *Conirostrum ferrugineiventre*: Two good sightings in the temperate scrub of the pass at Acjanacu.
- Rusty Flowerpiercer *Diglossa sittoides*: A male was seen in the gardens of our Sacred Valley hotel.
- Moustached Flowerpiercer *Diglossa mystacalis*: Quite common at the highest elevations in the cloudforest. One of the prettiest in the genus, here of the se Peruvian race *albilinea*, with buffy white moustache and no pectoral band.
- Black-throated Flowerpiercer *Diglossa brunneiventris*: Common in the inter-Andean valleys above Paucartambo.
- Deep-blue Flowerpiercer *Diglossa glauca*: A single male was seen during the journey from Wayquecha to Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge.
- Masked Flower-piercer *Diglossopsis cyanea*: A total of six individuals were seen in the upper elevations.

INCERTAE SEDIS

- Common Bush-Tanager *Chlorospingus ophthalmicus*: A common bird at mid-elevations. This wide-ranging species exhibits complex geographic variation, birds here belonging to the race *peruvianus*, with pale iris but no white postocular spot. They were very vocal during our visit, and the song differs dramatically from that of e.g. Ecuadorian birds. The following incertae sedis species almost certainly do not belong in their traditional families. Genetic data indicate *Chlorospingus* to be in fact an emberizid (sparrows).
- Yellow-throated Bush-Tanager *Chlorospingus flavigularis*: Numerous in mixed flocks at lower elevations.
- Bananaquit *Coereba flaveola* (H): Several were heard during the journey to Atalaya.
- Dull-coloured Grassquit *Tiaris obscurus*: Repeated good looks at this LBJ as they fed on seeding roadside grass near Aguas Calientes.
- Slate-coloured Grosbeak *Saltator grossus*: One was seen in the foothills at Amazonia Lodge.
- Buff-throated Saltator *Saltator maximus*: A regular visitor to the bananas of Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge and common around Manu Wildlife Centre.
- Greyish Saltator *Saltator coerulescens*: Fairly common in the Manu lowlands.
- Golden-billed Saltator *Saltator aurantirostris*: Good views of this highland bird at Huacarpay with a couple more from the grounds of our Sacred Valley hotel.

EMBERIZIDAE

- Rufous-collared Sparrow *Zonotrichia capensis*: Conspicuous in open areas at higher elevations, but also numerous in the Lomas de Lachay.
- Grassland Sparrow *Ammodramus humeralis*: A recent colonist from neighbouring Brazil which we saw really well in song near Puerto Maldonado.
- Yellow-browed Sparrow *Ammodramus aurifrons*: Numerous along river margins and also a few were seen around Puerto Maldonado.
- Peruvian Sierra-Finch (Olive-backed S-F) *Phrygilus punensis*: We all had some good looks at this species in the highlands above Cusco. Named for the arid puna grasslands that dominate the altiplano region of the southern Andes.

- Mourning Sierra-Finch *Phrygilus fruticeti*: At least 15 were seen on our first morning in the highlands, here of the race *peruvianus*.
- Ash-breasted Sierra-Finch *Phrygilus plebejus*: A few were seen in the arid valleys en route to Pillahuata.
- Band-tailed Sierra-Finch *Phrygilus alaudinus*: Numerous in the Lomas de Lachay, where in full song, and even song flights were observed.
- Chestnut-breasted Mountain-Finch *Poospiza caesar*: This restricted-range Peruvian endemic obliged very well again this year with very nice close-ups of two birds on our first morning in the highlands.
- Collared Warbling-Finch *Poospiza hispaniolensis*: At least a dozen individuals were seen at Lachay this year.
- Greenish Yellow-Finch *Sicalis olivascens*: Four birds were seen in the Ollantaytambo area.
- Saffron Finch *Sicalis flaveola*: This species has now established itself in the “urban” area of Puerto Maldonado where a few of us saw a handful of birds perched on electric cables. These birds were brought in from the north by a caged bird trader who released a large suitcase-full in order to avoid imminent arrest by wildlife authorities.
- Blue-black Grassquit *Volatinia jacarina*: Small numbers were seen in the pasture areas of Chontachaca and then they were fairly numerous around Puerto Maldonado.
- Lined Seedeater *Sporophila lineola*: We all had close studies of males in the Puerto Maldonado area.
- Black-and-white Seedeater *Sporophila luctuosa*: We saw over a dozen birds looking very much at home in the Amazonia Lodge clearing.
- Double-collared Seedeater *Sporophila caerulescens*: Small numbers were seen in wet, grassy areas around Puerto Maldonado.
- Chestnut-bellied Seedeater *Sporophila castaneiventris*: A lovely seedeater posing nicely for us on several occasions.
- Chestnut-bellied Seed-Finch (Lesser S-F) *Oryzoborus angolensis*: Good scope views of a male in the Puerto Maldonado area.
- Black-billed Seed-Finch *Oryzoborus atrirostris*: We all had long studies of a pair of this very localized species perched at the cochas’s grassy edge that was very much appreciated.
- Band-tailed Seedeater *Catamenia analis*: The most abundant seedeater in the dry scrub of the high elevations.
- Plain-coloured Seedeater *Catamenia inornata*: We saw two birds calmly perched on top of a bush near the Acjanaco pass.
- Pectoral Sparrow *Arremon taciturnus*: This year we had some really nice looks at a couple of birds at Amazonía Lodge.
- Olive Finch *Arremon castaneiceps*: A singing bird in the Manu foothills gave us all some astoundingly great looks perched above the understorey in great light.
- Black-faced Brush-Finch (Dark-f B-F) *Atlapetes melanolaemus*: Numerous in the cloudforest, occupying quite a broad altitudinal range, doubtless due to the lack of other *Atlapetes* species.

CARDINALIDAE

- Scarlet Tanager *Piranga olivacea*: Good views of a male at Cocha Salvador.
- Red-crowned Ant-Tanager *Habia rubica*: Nice views of the race *peruviana*, females of which look quite different from those of other subspecies. We first encountered this species at Cocha Salvador, but it seemed more numerous at Manu Wildlife Centre.
- Olive Tanager *Chlorothraupis frenata*: Two birds were seen during our foray into Amazonia’s hill forest.
- Black-backed Grosbeak *Pheucticus aureoventris*: Three individuals were seen in the Sacred Valley.
- Blue-black Grosbeak *Cyanocompsa cyanoides* (H): We tried, but couldn’t get this one to respond at Amazonia.

PARULIDAE

- Tropical Parula *Parula pitiayumi*: Two were seen foraging over the road below the San Pedro area.
- Canada Warbler *Wilsonia canadensis*: We all had good views of this boreal migrant at the base of Amazonia's hill forest. Expect a major shake-up in the allocation of warbler genera in the coming years as genetic data changes our understanding of their taxonomy.
- Slate-throated Redstart (S-t Whitestart) *Myioborus miniatus*: Numerous on the Manu road and below Machu Picchu.
- Spectacled Redstart (S Whitestart) *Myioborus melanocephalus*: Replacing the previous species at higher elevations. Here the southernmost race *bolivianus*, with a solid black crown.
- Two-banded Warbler *Basileuterus bivittatus*: Singing birds below Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge area were eventually seen by everyone, but it was a struggle, here of the nominate race.
- Golden-bellied Warbler *Basileuterus chrysogaster*: A Peruvian endemic that was seen well in Amazonia's hill forest and at lower elevations on the Manu road.
- Citrine Warbler *Basileuterus luteoviridis*: Good looks at this high-elevation warbler, here of the race *striaticeps*.
- Pale-legged Warbler *Basileuterus signatus*: A typical warbler of the upper subtropical and lower temperate zones; we had several pairs respond quite well to playback along the Manu road.
- Russet-crowned Warbler *Basileuterus coronatus*: This species was seen quite readily at Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge.
- Buff-rumped Warbler *Basileuterus fulvicauda* (H): One heard-only record in the Manu foothills of a bird that remained hidden from view.

ICTERIDAE

- Russet-backed Oropendola *Psarocolius angustifrons*: The most commonly seen oropendola, here of the yellowish-billed race *alfredi*.
- Dusky-green Oropendola *Psarocolius atrovirens*: A middle-elevation oropendola that nests in small colonies; we saw it best above Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge and saw more near Machu Picchu.
- Crested Oropendola *Psarocolius decumanus*: Regular sightings. 'Decumanus' is Latin for a legionnaire of the tenth legion; this name refers to the dagger- or sword-like bill and the shield-like casque of this species.
- Olive Oropendola (Amazonian O) *Gymnostinops yuracares*: A handsome large oropendola, and we were fortunate to find a nesting colony at Manu Wildlife Centre which was very impressive. Named after the Yuracarés, an Indian tribe in Bolivia.
- Casqued Oropendola *Psarocolius oseryi*: Just two sightings, one in flight, from Cocha Salvador and Manu Wildlife Centre.
- Yellow-rumped Cacique *Cacicus cela*: Ubiquitous at lower elevations, here of the nominate race.
- Orange-backed Troupial *Icterus croconotus*: A bird flaunting its incredible colours was quite a sight as it perched within close-focus range in our canopy tree at Cocha Camungo.
- Scrub Blackbird *Dives warszewiczi*: Good views for all of two birds in the garden of our Miraflores hotel.
- Pale-eyed Blackbird *Agelaius xanthophthalmus*: A total of two birds were seen very well at Cocha Camungo. A species still only known from less than a dozen scattered localities in Amazonian Ecuador and Peru.
- Giant Cowbird *Scaphidura oryzivora*: Most numerous on the riverbanks.
- Red-breasted Meadowlark *Sturnella militaris*: This recent invader of the Puerto Maldonado pastures was at times abundant in some of the fields.
- Peruvian Meadowlark (P Red-breasted M) *Sturnella bellicosa*: Small numbers were seen at Lomas de Lachay.

FRINGILLIDAE

- Hooded Siskin *Carduelis magellanica*: Very numerous at Huacarpay and also in the Sacred Valley.

- Olivaceous Siskin *Carduelis olivacea*: A few encounters with this siskin in humid habitats at lower and middle elevations.
- Thick-billed Euphonia *Euphonia laniirostris*: Good views from the lodge clearing at Amazonia Lodge.
- White-lored Euphonia (Golden-bellied E) *Euphonia chrysopasta*: A few sightings from Amazonia and the floodplain forest of Manu Wildlife Centre.
- Bronze-green Euphonia *Euphonia mesochrysa* (H): One heard-only bird that we looked quite hard for below Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge.
- Orange-bellied Euphonia *Euphonia xanthogaster*: Most numerous at lower elevations along the Manu road. Here the race *brunneifrons*, males of which have a rufous crown, and a fairly ochraceous tinge below.
- Rufous-bellied Euphonia *Euphonia rufiventris*: What was possibly the same male was seen daily at Amazonia Lodge.
- Blue-naped Chlorophonia *Chlorophonia cyanea*: Near Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge we enjoyed excellent views of a roadside bird.

PASSERIDAE

- House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*: Common in Puerto Maldonado and at our Pan-American highway petrol station stop on the last day.

MAMMALS

- Saddleback Tamarin *Saguinus fuscicollis*: A few encounters with this small, nervous primate, The subfamily of tamarins and marmosets differ from the cebid new-world monkeys (capuchins, spiders, etc.) by giving birth to twins, having female-dominant family groups, and by their specialized feeding habits.
- White-fronted Capuchin Monkey (Brown Pale-f C) *Cebus albifrons*: This species travels in larger groups than the following species. On average, they forage in taller trees than the Brown Capuchin and also differ in that one dominant male does not govern them as in that species.
- Brown Capuchin Monkey (Black-capped C) *Cebus apella*: Widespread in South America and highly intelligent. In northeast Brazil I was the first to confirm tool-use in a family group of this species that actually used large round stones in a Schwarzenegger dead lift to break open *Attalea* palm nuts. Photographs by Peter Oxford of this same family of monkeys were recently featured in the January 2003 issue of BBC Wildlife.
- Black-headed Night Monkey *Aotus nigriceps* (H): A night sound at Pantiacolla Lodge.
- Dusky Titi Monkey (Dusky T) *Callicebus moloch* (H): Their loud hysterics were heard near Manu Wildlife Centre.
- Common Squirrel Monkey *Saimira sciureus*: An active insectivore that moves in large groups and cover huge territories, some days up to five kilometres. These large troops are governed by groups of females who make alliances and dominate the males!
- Red Howler Monkey (Red H) *Alouatta seniculus*: Entertaining moments watching these mostly folivorous primates.
- Peruvian Spider Monkey *Ateles chamek*: Several sightings of this hefty (over 25 lbs (12 kilos)) arboreal acrobat foraging in the floodplain forest around Cocha Salvador and Manu Wildlife Centre. Spider monkey taxonomy is quite complex; this form of southwest Amazonia (including Manu) is now considered a separate species.
- Common Woolly Monkey *Lagothrix lagothricha*: Excellent views of these muscular frugivores from the cloud forest as well as in the terra firme near Cocha Salvador.
- Giant Otter *Pteronura brasiliensis*: For a lengthy period we watched a family group of 5 actively fishing on Cocha Salvador. Currently holding the largest extant population on Earth, Manu National Park protects over two hundred individuals of this endangered species. Today it is thought only between two and three thousand of these fierce predators are left in the world after extensive persecution for their hides.

White-lipped Peccary *Tayassu pecari*: A group of about 75 provided some exhilarating moments as we quietly watched these high-strung beasts cross the trail.

Collared Peccary *Tayassu tajacu*: A single was seen foraging alone at Manu Wildlife Centre.

Bolivian Squirrel *Sciurus ignitus*: These were the banana thieves at Cock-of-the-Rock Lodge.

Southern Amazon Red Squirrel *Sciurus spadiceus*: Regular sightings in the Manu lowlands of this impressive looking squirrel.

Capybara *Hydrochaerus hydrochaeris*: Two individuals were the mammal highlight of our boat journey to Puerto Maldonado.

Brown Agouti *Dasyprocta variegata*: Seen in the lowlands, this is the only mammal in the rainforest capable of opening the thick coconut like outer shell of Brazil-nut fruits.

Amazon Bamboo Rat *Dactylopsax dactylinus* (H): An ominous nocturnal sound we heard from the dinner table at Pantiacolla Lodge (no, it was not coming from the kitchen).

REPTILES

Yellow-spotted Side-neck Turtle *Podocnemis unifilis*: We saw a few groups of sunning groups with their nose-salt-licking butterflies on exposed trunks in the Manu and Madre de Dios Rivers, an uncommon sight elsewhere in the Amazon. Although this is the only member of this genus, it has two local names: taricaya and charapa. They are heavily persecuted for their eggs, a veritable delicacy.

Black Caiman *Melanosuchus niger*: Manu is one of the few places where healthy populations of Black Caiman still exist. They are listed as “endangered” by CITES, after having been hunted to near extinction for their relatively soft hides.

Amazon Race Runner *Ameiva ameiva*: Females and males have reversed coloration. Commonly seen in the lodge clearings.

Teiid Lizard *Tupinambis nigropunctatus*: The large lizards we saw sunning at the edge of the lodge clearings.

Plica plica: A massive and extremely impressive individual was seen on a tree on the bamboo trail.

TOP TEN BIRDS OF THE TRIP

1 st	Amazonian Antpitta
2 nd	Pale-winged Trumpeter
	Andean Potoo
3 rd	Lanceolated Monklet
	Lemon-throated Barbet
4 th	Starred Wood-Quail
	Point-tailed Palmcreeper
5 th	Lyre-tailed Nightjar
	Musician Wren
	Hoatzin

Total of 45 spp.