



The graceful Junin Grebe; going, going..... (Eustace Barnes).

CENTRAL PERU

8 – 26 NOVEMBER 2016

LEADER: EUSTACE BARNES

Central Peru is remote and little known. It is a region of unparalleled biogeographical complexity with a commensurate suite of endemics and stream of newly discovered taxa. The landscapes are dramatically varied from deserts to jagged snow-capped peaks and verdant cloud forests. Previously a tour for the more determined, we have incorporated many new sites and species into the itinerary and so it does far more than it 'says on the can' now. Staying at great new lodges and birding many new superb sites Central Peru does not suffer the tedium of a set routine or a predictable menu of near-tame lodge-based birds fed for our entertainment. It is an exciting region to visit where birding is as we used to know it with the element of the unknown added to the mix. All this while birding largely un-spoilt habitats set in the most spectacular landscapes in South America. This is usually the point at which I try to invent a new way of saying (a) we are the best, (b) we do have genius at work and (c) we have just seen more birds than anyone else in the history of bird tours. Apart from the evident truth of point (b) practically no one else does the tour anyway and we are certainly not in the business of working up big lists for the sake of it. Does anyone actually read these reports anyway? I think we will let the 100 photos do the talking. The tour went without a hitch and day after day we found our target species and many others besides, producing 482 species and a record breaking 110 write-ins plus a few BQ lifers and the inevitable selection of near-arctic waders.



Golden-backed Mountain-Tanager. What a stunning creature! (Eustace Barnes).

Oh, best not forget the highlights flagged up by the long-suffering clientele. Starting from the beginning, our time at Lomas de Lachay in the cactus clad canyon provided a pleasant session watching Cactus Canastero, Greyish and Thick-billed Miners and Raimondi's Yellow-finches. Working our way up into the Andes it was particularly satisfying to find a new site for the endangered Russet-bellied Spinetail. Conococha was a spectacular thronging mass of wildfowl with over one hundred Giant Coot present with good numbers of Silvery Grebes. The Cordillera Blanca is one of the most magnificent ranges of mountains anywhere and birding the polylepis forests is quite unforgettable. Needless to say, Bosque Unchog gave us repeated good looks at Golden-backed Mountain-Tanagers, Rufous-browed Hemispingus and Bay-vented Cotingas while our glorious morning on Lago Junin rewarded us with great views of the critically endangered Junin Grebe. The now much degraded Carpish tunnel sites gave us the rare Orange-breasted Falcon at their breeding cliff. Despite this success the site should be retired as so many new opportunities have opened. Talking of which, our stay at Villa Rica produced the proverbial 'walk away views' of Cloud-forest Screech Owl and the localized Creamy-bellied Ant wren; both Birdquest birds. Exploring the Mantaro drainage was great, folding what had been two days of grueling drives into one very pleasant session punctuated with numerous stops to see the endemics. The cloud forests above Apalla gave us a superb morning watching Blue-banded Toucanets and Golden-headed Quetzals along with the usual tanager flocks. Marcapomacocha bog was very dry with remarkably little activity but we still tracked down the enigmatic DSP and several pairs of White-bellied Cinclodes. You can't miss them really. On our last day in the Andes a patient wait at a site I found years ago produced the now rare Rufous-breasted Warbling-finch and numerous Bronze-tailed Comets but no Condors. Our pelagic is now a great morning instead of a long draining day that still produces the full selection of targets including, on this occasion, a stunning adult Waved Albatross over the boat. On the down side the higher elevation areas we visited were exceptionally dry with all the polylepis forests we visited 'sun-burnt', dried out and somewhat birdless, which may be quite usual in the Andes after El Nino. Other than this we suffered no climatic perturbation to interrupt our birding.



The Cordillera Huay Huash (Eustace Barnes)

I suppose, in summing up the character of this tour, contrasting our days in the Cordillera Blanca surrounded by spectacular snow-capped peaks with those in the bromeliad laden Elfin forests at Bosque Unchog and the pelagic session surrounded by storm-petrels and Dusky Dolphins gives a striking set of extremes that epitomizes the tour. The arid emptiness and silence of the coastal deserts, the somewhat lunar jagged peaks, steppic grasslands and lakes of the high Andes and the lush vitality of the sub-tropics are that fascinating mix of environments that make for an endlessly interesting tour. Of course, much of the birdlife is endemic, which certainly adds to the exciting mix of experiences enjoyed on the tour this year, especially now that it incorporates the complex avifauna of the sub-tropics and upper Mantaro drainage. This is a spectacular region and I hope this report will encourage birders to visit this exciting region. Maybe again!



The upper Satipo road has some of the best cloud-forest birding (Eustace Barnes).

Day 1 and again we all met up at the appointed hour with our bags. Scuttling up the coast in our Chinese rattletrap we made for a delightful cactus clad canyon at Lomas de Lachay. Exploring this site is always surprisingly productive. At precisely the given moment a pair of Cactus Canasteros tumbled from their shambolic nest into the morning light to be greeted with the unspeakable intrusion of their pre-recorded song blaring out across the canyon. Anyway, the poor little chaps obliged with good grace, accompanied by a flock of Raimondi's Yellow-Finches and a number of Greyish Miners gathered up in their post-breeding flocks. Burrowing Owls eyed us with some degree of pity while Purple-collared Woodstars and Oasis Hummingbirds buzzed about in the clear morning air. Time to get a move on.



The suitably attired Cactus Canastero (left) and Coastal Miner (right) at Lomas de Lachay (Eustace Barnes).

On to session two and the Loma vegetation where Coastal Miners and Least Seedsnipe busied themselves with their daily routines. Grassland Yellow-finches, Band-tailed Sierra-finches, Band-tailed Seedeaters and Peruvian Meadowlarks also checked in for inclusion on our list. The wind carved boulders on the high slopes gave vantage points for the resident Thick-billed Miners to express their disgust at my lousy recordings. Still, they did the job and once we had wolfed our field lunch and clocked the resident Mountain Parakeets it was time to move.



Lomas de Lachay (Eustace Barnes)



Burrowing Owl (left) and Peregrine Falcon (right) at Lomas de Lachay (Eustace Barnes)

We trundled off to Laguna Paraiso, which was not great. No Peruvian Terns hanging about and few waders as the water level was exceptionally high. Flamingoes and ducks in abundance but no waders and few terns. A quick scan over the rocky shoreline gave us Great Grebe, Blackish Oystercatcher and Hudsonian Whimbrel. Next up was a tranquil rural area on the edge of Huacho where we found the endemic Black-necked 'Flicker' and abundant Pacific Parrotlet which turned out to be a write-in! The first of many as we headed to the Albufera del Medio Mundo where we found numerous Grassland Yellow-finches. Still in Peru but somewhat distant a Wood Stork was spotted by Ken, while simultaneously Dave spotted a Roseate Spoonbill and an Osprey was picked up by Ian. List padding was then over for the day and proceedings were concluded in Barranca, where the miserable shambles characteristic of so many coastal towns in Peru entertained us briefly before we had to get our heads down for the night.



Bahia Paraiso near Huacho on the coast (Eustace Barnes)



Hudsonian Whimbrel and Blackish Oystercatcher on the rocks at Bahia Paraiso (Eustace Barnes).

Following neatly on from day one, day two was to be no less packed with sparkling repartee and lively banter while we searched for the many and various endemics on our way to Caraz. At the first stop, sometime after dawn, we enjoyed a pleasant breakfast having explored the riparian woodlands and adjacent farmlands. It was a very birdy session that produced the *rufescens* form of Bran-coloured Flycatcher. Our first target species of the day; surely a split and certainly another write-in. We also found Baird's Flycatchers, Scarlet-fronted and White-winged Parakeets, Pacific Parrotlets and Lesser Nighthawks which were also write-ins. A grand start, fueled by the first of many field breakfasts we headed east to the Andes where we worked a couple of sites on the west flank of the Cordillera Negra. At an appropriate elevation, we found the delightful Great Inca-Finch and somewhat higher at a new site we devoted some time to a very promising area of relictual pacific woodland. We quickly taped out a Canyon Canastero, although it did not perform as well as it might. However, of more import the large stick nests dotting the hillside gave a clue as to what we might be looking for and after a while a Russet-bellied Spinetail appeared and came downslope to our feet.



Russet-bellied Spinetail a new site (Jan Hillman).



Lunch in the Andes (Eustace Barnes).

This site will now replace our old site at Sinsicap, which has been dropped from the North Peru itinerary. Always good to come up with a new site for putatively endangered species. Keeps the troops entertained, getting such a surprise. Also, there were White-browed Chat-tyrants, Tumbesian Pewees and Giant Hummingbirds while the Spinetail fussed about giving great views before we found ourselves presented with lunch. I had forgotten about food but the ravenous group had not and they duly descended on the feast. Sat in the splendid tranquility of the Andes we discussed the perilous condition of much of the Cordillera Negra and therefore the status of *Synallaxis zimneri*. The prognosis for the species, at a site which also holds Piura Chat-tyrant and Rufous-breasted Warbling-finch, I would say was positive. We then clattered off to Conococha for some set piece wetland-birding. We all love a bit of that at the end of the day when we are tired of thinking. Chilean Flamingoes, various waders and ducks and dozens of Giant Coot pepped us up for the final drive to Caraz through the chaotic string of dusty Andean towns along the way.



Giant Coot (left) and Andean Lapwing (right) Eustace Barnes.

The Cordillera Blanca is all about scenery and the range of superlatives often deployed to describe it is as impressive as the Cordillera. Anyway, check the photos. The birding may have suffered from the intense sunny conditions but we had some great flocks with Rufous-eared Brush-Finches and Plain-tailed Warbling-Finches together with Tit-like Dacnis and Giant Conebills. The polylepis trees looked somewhat browned and all the mistletoe dried out and so perhaps it was not surprising that White-cheeked Cotinga was nowhere to be found. We later discovered they had not been seen at the site for much of the year. It was the austral summer and so the zero star-rated Ground-tyrants were not present. Ah those lists do give some a stick with which to beat us, along with the now ancient scripts describing long past itineraries. Thankfully, the schedules are now so much better, that any bureaucratic shortcomings are more than compensated for by the radically improved birding on offer. We quickly racked up the targets at a variety of stakeouts to add Ancash Tapaculo, Jelski's Chat-tyrant and Black Metaltail along with the usual upland bits and bobs to our burgeoning lists and rising expectations of what was to come.



The Cordillera Blanca in all its magnificence (Eustace Barnes).

We enjoyed our stay in the pretty little town of Caraz and the bucolic character of our colonial lodgings, located on a quiet plaza dotted with palm trees. On the recommendation of the proprietor we headed to a bio-dynamic restaurant run by a couple of Californian retirees happy of our company and clearly somewhat lonely in their otherwise idyllic mountain hideaway. Maybe a bit too hidden away? Although, now they have Trump it may be the best place keep their heads down for what promises to be another embarrassing episode in American history. Oddly, they apologized for the condition of American politics before the topic was even broached and then provided a great meal and selection of craft beers. A feature of modern life in Peru that definitely meets with European approval. The day of our departure we hit the scrubby hillsides nearby to see the Pale-tailed Canastero and Spot-throated Hummingbirds which both appeared in minutes of our arrival which was just as well since we had to get a move on.



The less than colourful Spot-throated Hummingbird and Ken in front of a Puya Raimondii (Eustace Barnes).

The drive to Huanuco was, as promised, a long and winding road through yet more spectacular vistas of dramatic snow-covered peaks, tranquil lakes and slopes dotted with monumental Puyas; huge flowering plants that have now become a tourist attraction in the Huascaran National Park. We clocked up another great selection of upland species including Andean Ibis, more Silvery Grebes, Andean Hillstar feeding on the puyas where a pair of Black-billed Shrike-Tyrants nested. The roads certainly tested the technical capabilities of our co-driver, more accustomed to city driving. Luckily the scenery and birding took our minds off his failings. We arrived to Huanuco after dark but fortunately in time for the proverbial 'initial exploration' of the area which turned up a pizzeria in the process. Sleep was then the order of the night before we laid siege to the delights of the Paty trail and Carpish tunnel. Dawn found us working the cut over fragments of cloud forest at the tunnel with swirling flocks of a good selection of cloud forest species. Looking a bit tired this area still produces much of targeted avifauna and we were not disappointed. Working the tunnel track and near vertical Paty trail we found Barred, Masked and Band-tailed Fruiteaters, Powerful Woodpeckers, Grey-breasted Mountain-Toucans and several groups of Peruvian Wrens. We also picked up Chestnut-breasted Wren, Rufous-tailed Tyrant, Tricoloured Brush-finch and the usual selection of brightly coloured Tanagers. Descending through the now much reduced forests I picked up the loud call of an Orange-breasted Falcon which then initiated a short wait for the bird to move or be spotted. Eventually the bird flew out across the valley and Ken picked out more or less where it landed. Distant but good enough for all. That basically dealt with much of our needs in the area but we still concluded the site should play a lesser role in future.

Punctuated with more pizzas, beers and some sleep we also visited the mythical Bosque Unchog; site of many discoveries in the recent past. We were now a team, together with the very capable Julio, our driver, cook and trouble shooter. We enjoyed a couple of great days hiking through the pajonal and working the elfin forest fragments at the site. The somewhat dingy Pardusco was the first of our targets found in a mobile flock. This was followed by a very obliging Rufous-browed Hemispingus that appeared rather more quickly than I thought it might. We did see a pair of birds again at the site but somewhat more fleetingly and not well enough for Jan to get pictures. Shame, with that lens reminding all, including the PNP, of some improvised ground to air missile system we should have been good for photos. We did suffer a bit of fog and our first Bay-vented Cotinga was lost to sight as the rising tropical air reduced visibility to a few meters. The Golden-backed Mountain-tanagers did not appear at the 'favoured' spot but duly appeared later and gave great views. After lunch, more Golden-backed Mountain-tanagers and a troublesome Neblina Tapaculo gave us the run around for a while but eventually waltzed about in front of us.



A blinking Bay-vented Cotinga; a very localized species (Eustace Barnes)

Dave and I also saw a stunning male Purple-backed Thornbill which was not relocated causing some frustration. Our return visit gave us a very responsive pair of Large-footed Tapaculos. The male almost landed on the speaker and came within a meter of my feet; a great bird with outsized feet. That was it, we saw all the endemics on both visits by 11am. The second visit produced another three Golden-backed Mountain-tanagers at point blank range. I forget the name Dave made up for them but it sounded great; something like Golden-studded Mountain-barbet. We were then treated to a 'Dave' name for most other species, many of which sounded better than the more conventional names. We walked down from our lunch spot and worked on Brown-flanked Tanager which eventually showed after some initial confusion with a Rufous-chested Tanager. A little lower and a pair of feisty Black-crested Tit-tyrants then put on a show just before the rains closed in. We descended further for some list padding in the dry valley below adding Plain-breasted Ground-dove, Fasciated Wren, Peruvian Pygmy Owl and Yellow-bellied Seedeater to the now impressive trip list. I think the ease with which we found the targets here was somewhat remarkable and one appreciated by all as the site is at or above 3200m.



Grey-breasted Mountain-Toucan; a perennial favorite captured here most splendidly (Jan Hillman).

Birding the Carpish ridge is very productive. We saw a number of Grey-breasted Mountain-Toucans and four Powerful Woodpeckers in the space of a few minutes. Flocks swirled through the tree tops and we were able to pick through them without having to crane our necks. In these flocks we usually see White-browed and Black-eared Hemispingus, Beryl-spangled, Flame-faced and Saffron-crowned Tanagers, Montane and Olive-backed Woodcreepers, Spectacled Whitestart and many others. We saw very raptors throughout the tour but we did see a good number of Swallow-tailed Kites and a White-rumped Hawk from the road or Paty trail.



A Streaked Tuftedcheek (left) and Powerful Woodpecker (right) (Jan Hillman).



Golden-backed Mountain-Tanager; they put on a sterling (pre-Brexit) performance (Eustace Barnes).

After a final morning at the Carpish truck-stop toilet we took ourselves off to Huariaca stopping only to clock the Rufous-backed Inca-finch. We had to hike up for them but they were on their favoured agaves and pictures duly secured. Peter observed that it took longer to find the birds than it took Julio to get lunch and therefore they must have been a little more difficult than usual. This was true but we had little else to look for. There were also White-bellied Hummingbirds, Andean Swift, Band-tailed Pigeon, Torrent Duck, Torrent Tyrannulet and Black Phoebe there as well to keep us entertained over lunch. We shuffled on to the magnificent urban sprawl that is Huariaca for a pleasant night and yet more trucha con papas fritas; a frequent staple on this trip.



Rufous-backed Inca-Finch (Jan Hillman).



Bosque Unchog – a magical place to go birding (Eustace Barnes).

There was not much to detain us between Huariaca and Junin but we stopped at La Quenua to explore some polylepis woodlands covering the slopes adjacent to the highway. Climbing those slopes high above the central highway we were able to witness the crushing tedium of driving on the highway as columns of trucks ground their way up to Cerro de Pasco in a thick plume of black smoke. A world away from the infrastructural failings of modern Peru we found d'Orbigny's Chat-tyrant, Pied-crested Tit-tyrant, Giant Conebill a rather elusive Stripe-headed Antpitta and several Brown-flanked Tanagers. Cream-winged and White-winged Cinclodes, Baron's Spinetails, Striated Earthcreepers and Rusty-crowned Tit-spinetails provided the ovenbird entertainment and then it was time to pack and make a move to Junin passing the monumental mining works of Cerro de Pasco.



Giant Conebill. This one came to have a look at us (Eustace Barnes).



The peaks of Huascarán National Park dominate the landscape in central Peru (Eustace Barnes).

Lago Junin was next on the schedule. At 4000m above sea level this might have been a struggle but we had now spent a good deal of time above 3500m and were at least partially acclimatized. The high plains produced great views of a pair of Aplomados, numerous Black Siskin and Common Miners plus several Ornate Tinamous before we reached Ondores to meet up with Cesar, an old friend and biologist who works for the park authorities. He is the Junin Rail man and has worked out where and how to get the little blighters to show themselves. In no time, we were positioned in the thick sedge, gradually sinking in freezing water, armed with the latest Bluetooth speakers and waiting for the reluctant stars of the show to appear, but appear they did and we all had good views. Rather easy in fact and, given it is a 'Black Rail', something of an anti-climax. Anyway, job done as we say and off to the Junin Cold Comfort Inn.



Aplomado Falcons and much of the group on Lago Junin (Eustace Barnes).

After a miserable night, we sped across the high puna back to Ondores for Cesar and on to the put in point at Pari to ply the waters of Lago Junin. The town is dominated by an old colonial church perched on a slight rise overlooking the lake. The dust devils whirled across the grasslands, an old lady sat and watched us in silence. The high plain winds whistled through the bell tower and any minute we expected Clint Eastwood to appear but instead it was Cesar carrying an 80kg outboard motor, jogging to the skiff! I could not even move the motor but Cesar puts it all together and off we go. We issued the green light and it was off for a long search of the lake. Heading out and working our way back and forth across the centre of the lake we eventually found three Junin Grebes. A recent census reported the population of Junin Grebes to be stable at about 400 but I can't think there are many more than 40 and Cesar, who practically lives on the lake, was in agreement. We watched our Grebe for a good long while and got some great photos. It was somewhat depressing watching a bird that faces imminent extinction. A combination of pollution from mines and lakeside towns plus the depredations of introduced Rainbow Trout have sealed the fate of this species. Were there Mink as well it would be gone already. Don't delay if you have any intention of seeing this species.



Junin Grebe. Only 'extinction prone' when Homo 'destructans' starts messing about (Eustace Barnes).

This lake offers a magical experience and certainly one of the best boat trips; phenomenal scenery and huge numbers of wildfowl. That is, even if all is not well in paradise. The snow-capped Cordillera Huay Huash is reflected in the mirror-like waters, home to thousands of Chilean Flamingos, Andean Avocet, the usual wildfowl, Puna Ibis and, on this occasion a Godsonian Halfwit (Hudsonian Godwit) as Dave called it. The Silvery Grebes were also way down in number but much of the other birdlife seems to be thriving. Off the lake we found a Lesser Horned Owl roosting in the village while we looked at Black-breasted Hillstars in a barn. All good stuff but time to make a move to the sub-tropics.



Chilean Flamingos at Lago Junin (Eustace Barnes).



Lesser Horned Owl roosting in an ancient polylepis tree (Eustace Barnes).

Leaving Junin we headed to Villa Rica which was some distance but luckily we had a short cut. It worked out well at first with great views of Vicuna scattered across the Puna. However, the predictable problem arose and we had a diversion to get around some road works. We took a variety of mule tracks through hilly open country and along the edge of a gorge (3700m hills that is) and we ended up with the usual sort of short cut. As it turned out it was along one of the most spectacular roads in Peru with the scenery reminding me of central Turkey and therefore a very memorable route. So, arriving somewhat later than planned to Villa Rica, as always, after winding down through a spectacularly forested ravine we eat the trucha and papas fritas and headed off to bed.



Rural Andean Peru; quiet, clean and green (Eustace Barnes).



Band-tailed Fruiteater (left) (Eustace Barnes) and Golden-headed Quetzal (right) (Jan Hillman).

Villa Rica is a wealthy town sitting in coffee country. It is a popular destination for well-healed Limenos with a need to escape the grimey coastal Garua and check their investments. We were in the humid sub-tropics and the climate was more to my liking as were the biodiversity indices. The write-ins just piled up as we worked our way through a nearby coffee plantation and some great birding. In this case this means great mixed flocks with yet another Birdquest bird; the incomparable Creamy-bellied Antwren. We got some good looks at this common resident of the area along with another 34 write-ins; Tataupa Tinamou, White Hawk, Black hawk Eagle, Blue-tailed Emerald, Lineated Woodpecker, Red-throated Caracara, Black-winged Parrot, Military Macaw, White-eyed Parakeet, Blue-headed Parrot, Ash-browed Spinetail, Montane Foliage-gleaner, Western Wood-pewee, Yellow-cheeked Becard, Olive-faced Flatbill, White-winged becard, Chestnut-backed Antshrike, Coraya Wren, Blue-naped Chlorophonia and Slate-throated Whitestart to give few examples. As we made our way to Oxapampa we heard Maroon-chested Ground-dove and saw several Slaty Finches in dense thickets of seeding bamboo as well as a number of Masked Fruiteaters. Carpish was looking weak and we had only had a single morning at Bosque Sho'let! We made it to our next destination for lunch.



Cloud-forest Screech-Owl. It came and saw us off (Dave Murden).

In the afternoon we headed out to explore more great forest. We found practically all the Carpish cloud forest species in short order and also turned up Jet Manakin; a rare bird at the best of times. We also found a few Sickle-winged Guans and a Golden-headed Quetzal. The Grey-breasted Wood-Wren here sounds more like Inca Wren and work has begun on assessing their status. It is true that many populations have unique vocal repertoires and the Colombians have begun to revise the taxonomy of the their taxa but this is, perhaps, a little premature, shall we say. We worked on both Rufous-vented Tapaculo and Trilling Tapaculo which we managed to see much everyone's relief as they had eluded us to date.

As dusk fell Eduardo found a spectacular Swallow-tailed Nightjar perched on an old post by the track which watched us watching it. Rufous-banded Owls called but I left them alone as we were in search more elusive quarry; the enigmatic Cloud-forest Screech Owl. The former would certainly eat the latter given the opportunity. The Screech Owl failed to materialize and we decided to make another attempt after dinner. We were able to watch a superb adult calling for twenty minutes or so and eventually returned to the lodge for a celebratory beer or two having to leave the bird. It certainly saw us off anyway.



Swallow-tailed Nightjar; sat on a post watching us (Jan Hillman).

The following morning we birded some forest fragments in the area before we had to head off to the Satipo road. We descended to lower foothill forest and on to Satipo in the tropics where, needless to say, another tranche of Peru's lowland avifauna had to be written in to the list. I tried to get Juan to put his foot down to reduce the seemingly endless additions to the list and the risk of RSI spreading through the group, but to no avail. Our next accommodations were of a more rustic quality but certainly the best available. The local community made a supreme effort to take care of us and the fact they had cold beer washed away much of the usual dismay that might have been visited upon leaders under such circumstances. Actually, Stephen and Ian noted that it was a peaceful and remarkably pleasant night.

The Andamarca road was a pleasure to bird. Passing through pristine cloud forest we crossed into the Mantaro drainage and headed to yet another gully where we immediately found 'Mantaro' Wren. A new taxon probably best thought of as a new species to science and truly abundant in the valley. At the same site we found Black-spectacled Brush-finches and eventually secured great views of a pair. A Rufous Antpitta of the form *obscura* gave great views but the Creamy-crested Spinetails never performed for camera. These scraps of scrub never hold a great deal of life but we did find an Andean Guan there and several Red-crested Cotingas; the first of the trip. As the day warmed up the birding did slow but we found several pairs of the 'Mantaro' Thornbird that looks like a dark rather richly coloured Streak-fronted Thornbird, if one that behaves and sounds more like a Russet-mantled Sofftail. Our lunch spot then held White-winged Black-Tyrant and a White-capped Dipper. Shortly after lunch, we headed to the treeline pajonal where, standing at a single spot, I taped in four or five Fiery-throated Metaltails, a Millpo Tapaculo and an Eye-ringed Thistletail. All of which then circled us providing 'crippling' views.



Eye-ringed Thistletail (left) and Violet-throated (Huanuco) Starfrontlet (right) (Jan Hillman)

The Mantaro drainage and associated catchments provide some of the best birding in Peru. We saw a good range of more widespread species as well as the endemic targets we were looking for such as the Eye-ringed Thistletail and Huanuco Starfrontlet above. One of our principal targets was the recently described Black-spectacled Brush-Finch which we found and enjoyed great views of. At the same site we saw several pairs of the 'Mantaro' Wrens but no Taczanowski's Tinamou. As you can see I had to include this picture in the main report. Always good to get great views of the target birds! No leader-only glimpses of feathered forms vanishing into thickets, as one so often reads.



Black-spectacled Brush-finch gave great views in the Mantaro valley (Jan Hillman).



Fiery-throated Metaltail (left) (EB) and Black-billed Shrike-Tyrant (right) (JH).

It was time to work the cloud forests which were good for tanager flocks and more Slaty Finches and Paramo Seedeaters at the seeding bamboo. Golden-collared Tanager, Scarlet-bellied and Hooded Mountain-tanagers were also much appreciated as they swirled through. It would have been great to have had a full day birding these very interesting forests but we had a number of other species to find and so we descended to mid-elevation forests. We quickly found the white-crowned *weskei* form of Marcapata Spinetail. One has to imagine this is a good species as it does have a distinctive call and song. At the same site we had Peruvian Wrens, Violet-throated Starfrontlets (the local form currently proposed as a separate species; the Huanuco Starfrontlet) and a Sword-billed Hummingbird.



A very cooperative Ornaté Tinamou and a very good photo of it (Stephen Lowe).

Lower still the Bay Antpittas were calling on every bend. We had tried long and hard to see this elusive species deploying the full gamut of strategies to extract them from their thickets. The very first one we found next to the road I tried the most basic strategy; stand in road and issue playback of individual. Worked a treat and the bird climbed a small bush and called in the open. All those tricksey approaches using Bluetooth speakers and trying to draw birds back and forth in front of groups across trails or gaps had come to nothing. Strategy 1, basic playback coupled with persistence gave us the result we needed. Suddenly it was dark and time to head off to our next community hall for the night. A spectacular setting undoubtedly amazing for moths as Jan ruefully observed. On the other hand, Ken commented that it would definitely be 'better birding than at any city hotel' (a reference to our noisy stay in down town Huanuco, as it happens for the last time). Again, the locals were very welcoming and did what they could for us.



A splendid White-bellied Cinclodes (Eustace Barnes).

Having found all of our targets in style the day before it was time to relax and we headed to the upper subtropics for a few hours of very enjoyable birding. We watched the lovely Crimson-mantled Woodpecker and several Blue-banded Toucanets as well as a couple of pairs of Strong-billed Woodcreepers and several huge tanager flocks streaming through the vegetation but we had a long way to go and so we hurried on. Again, a day birding these forests would be very rewarding with many uncommon species known to occur here. We climbed up through Carrizales to the high puna where a brief stop produced Puna Miner at its most northerly known site. Trucha con papas fritas for lunch provided a welcome break from the drive and on we went to La Oroya and from there to San Mateo. The traffic was appalling, as we had expected, and we were delayed to such an extent that we had little or no time to bird Ticlio bog. Time enough to find White-bellied Cinclodes and watch them display before we had to draw proceedings to a close and get to San Mateo. The Gas station Roadside-inn in San Mateo was perfectly acceptable and the meal they provided in the truckers diner below was simple but good; trucha con papas fritas.

Breakfast overlooking the gas station forecourt was another of Julio's mega breakfasts that set us up for the day. Then we climbed back up to Marcapomacocha to search out our few remaining target species. There were more White-bellied Cinclodes, several pairs of Rufous-bellied Seedsnipe and a few Grey-breasted Seedsnipe. At a number of bogs, we found Puna Snipe, Andean Swallows and White-fronted Ground-tyrants but all the bogs were dry and there seemed to be no flowers for the Olivaceous Thornbill which we ended up missing inspite of a major effort. I have never really had to look for this species before so it was a shock to miss it. One of the better bogs held a couple of Diademed Sandpiper Plovers and a couple of pairs of White-bellied Cinclodes as well as more Rufous-bellied Seedsnipe.



Diademed Sandpiper-Plover at Marcapomacocha (Eustace Barnes).

We then descended the Santa Eulalia valley for a late lunch at a nice spot for polylepis species. It was very dry with many of the trees appearing burnt. This was my secondary site for White-cheeked Cotinga but it was not to be and despite a lengthy wait we did not find one. There were a couple of Black-breasted Hillstars, several pairs of the uncommon Spot-winged Pigeons, a Striated Earthcreeper, Rusty-crowned Tit-Spinetail, Pied-crested Tit-tyrant, Stripe-headed Antpitta and a couple of Thick-billed Siskins. It all kept us entertained and made for a well worthwhile afternoon session.



Peruvian Sheartail (Eustace Barnes).



Rufous-bellied Seedsnipe well above Marcapomacocha (Jan Hillman)

Birding the high Puna above the bogs at Marcapomacocha is often very productive, often giving great views of Rufous-bellied Seedsnipe and the localized Puna Snipe.



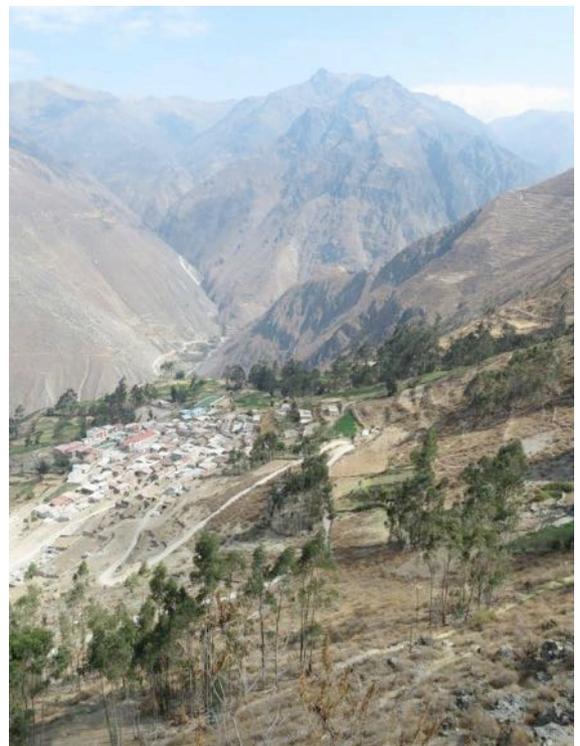
Puna Snipe hiding in the bofedales (Jan Hillman)

On to Santa Eulalia for the night and, having arrived late, we had to make do with a takeaway grease-fest from grimey Bob's pizza emporium and some cold flavorless beer. The days birding at 4500m and higher with all that magnificent scenery, the Diademed Sandpiper Plovers and the Rufous-bellied Seedsnipe did leave everyone reasonably happy but I had the suspicion a decent meal was in order. Not least for yours truly!



Spot-winged Pigeon (left) and Pied-crested Tit-Tyrant (right) (Eustace Barnes).

The following morning, we arrived at the final gully of the tour where we worked the slopes, enjoyed a field breakfast and the balmy tranquility of the high Andes for the last time. Rusty-bellied Brush-finches, Black-necked Woodpeckers and numerous Bronze-tailed Comets were much in evidence. A couple of Peruvian Pygmy Owls came to check us out and a few Andean Tinamous were spotted scratching around in the dirt but no Peruvian Sheartails were found. However, there were no flowering shrubs and it was so dry we concluded they must be lower. The principal target of the day was then located and after sometime all obtained good views of the rare Rufous-breasted Warbling-finch. Job done and time to go and so we headed back to our delightful hotel for lunch where we found Peruvian Sheartail in the gardens.



A Black-necked Woodpecker (left) and the upper Santa Eulalia Valley (right) (Eustace Barnes).



Bronze-tailed Comet (Jan Hillman)

Leaving the high Andes, we soon had to engage with the traffic, noise and stench of urban Peru. Grinding through the Ate Vitarte industrial corridor left me thinking the Thames corridor at Thurrock was a traffic free semi-rural paradise. Once clear of the orbital freeway we wound our way along the via expressa to Miraflores where we had a few hours to clean up and unwind at the end of a great tour. As this was our last night in Peru we headed out for a meal at the Rosa Nautica on the seafront. A very good meal as it happens and a restaurant to be recommended to all staying in Lima.



A baleful stare; the last Peruvian Pygmy Owl of our epic adventure (Eustace Barnes).

The Andes had been magnificent but it was time for something completely different. That started with the vulgar horrors of the glitzy middle-classes. I believe we were served dinner by someone called Dipsey. Possibly Dipsey Bling together with her muscle bound side kick, Dim Weasel; the post-modern universals devoid of irony or any hint of self-awareness. No worse than anywhere else I suppose.



The high Andes (Eustace Barnes).



Waved Albatross over the boat (Jan Hillman).

Our final morning took us to sea for a great pelagic off Callao. The sea; a vast expanse of water with birds. On this occasion water with waves! Not rough by sub-antarctic standards but certainly rough by Equatorial standards and too rough for much photography. However, the sheer number of seabirds was quite astonishing and when you compare the Humboldt with more or less anywhere else there are ten times the number of birds present. Ten years ago there used to be 40 million Guanay Cormorants but the number is now thought to be down to 2 million! Still a phenomenal sight. The same level of decline is recorded for many other species. It must have been an over whelming experience to travel the seas here in the 1970s. Over fishing, guano harvesting and now climate change are having a drastic effect on the seabird colonies. As we headed out we picked up our only Grey Gulls as well as Kelp and Belcher's Gulls in company of Franklin's and Grey-hooded Gulls, Elegant and South American Terns. We saw reasonable numbers of Sabine's Gulls and Grey Phalarope as well as Long-tailed and Pomarine Skuas. After several distant sightings, we eventually enjoyed good looks at Peruvian Diving Petrel; now a rare species. The numbers of Storm petrels gradually built up and at the continental shelf we saw Elliott's Storm-Petrels in large numbers along with White-chinned Petrel and Sooty Shearwaters. Amongst the Elliott's Storm-Petrels there were several Wedge-rumped and Ringed Storm-petrels, a couple of Markham's Storm-Petrels and a single Black Storm-Petrel. There was also only one adult Salvin's Albatross seen on a couple of occasions and a single Waved Albatross that quartered over the boat giving spectacular views; probably one of the most impressive sightings of the tour. In fact, the bird seemed almost as big as the boat. We then headed to the Isla Palominas seeing a single Chilean Skua on the way as well as more Peruvian Diving Petrels.



Inca Terns. A magic shot. (Stephen Lowe)



Peruvian Diving-Petrel and Swallow-tailed Gull provided welcome distractions from the waves (Jan Hillman)

The islands provide home for huge numbers of Peruvian Pelicans, Peruvian Boobies, Red-legged and Guanay Cormorants as well as tens of thousands of Inca Terns. On a neighbouring islet the noise and stench of the huge sea lion colonies provided another unforgettable spectacle. Was it Ian who spotted a Peruvian Seaside Cinclodes amongst the hulking beasts? I think so. Anyway, we watched the bird picking up its invertebrate snacks from between the heaving blubber bound bodies while we bobbed about in our boat. A fitting finale for our pelagic. We then battened down the hatches and roared back to Callao. On our way to the hotel Gunnar mentioned the wintering gulls in Callao and so we made a brief detour to see the wintering Franklin's Gulls. What a sight! We calculated there may have been 200,000 birds or probably more. It was then time to head to our hotel for a wash and brush up in time for check-in and homeward flights. I had a few hours before I was due in the Amazon for another round of madness. What a country! There really is nowhere else quite like it.



Franklin's Gulls in Callao (Eustace Barnes).



Peruvian Booby, Inca Terns, Guanay Cormorants and Red-legged Shag (Jan Hillman).

Thanks must go to Julio and the crew for working so hard looking after us and getting us to the sites on time. Also, for my part, many thanks to all in the group for making it such a great trip. Certainly one of the best. It certainly exceeded our expectations, both in terms of birding and the scenery. Thanks to Stephen Lowe, Dave Murden and Jan Hillman for sending their photos, many of which are incorporated into this report.



White-chinned Petrel (Jan Hillman).



Unstreaked Tit Tyrant (Eustace Barnes)

TOP TEN

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 - Golden-back Mountain Tanager | 6 - Rufous-browed Hemispingus |
| 2 - Waved Albatross | 7 - Rufous-breasted Warbling-finch |
| 3 - Cloud-forest Screech Owl | 8 - White-bellied Cinclodes |
| 4 - Diademed Sandpiper Plover | 9 - Bay Antpitta |
| 5 - Junin Grebe | 10 - Bay-vented Cotinga |

Other highlights

Vicuna
Viscacha
South American Sealions
Dusky Dolphins



Cloud-forest Screech-owl; a very pretty screech-owl (Jan Hillman).

SYSTEMATIC LIST OF SPECIES RECORDED DURING THE TOUR

The species names and taxonomy used in the report mostly follows Gill, F & D Donsker (Eds). **IOC World Bird Names**. This list is updated several times annually and is available at <http://www.worldbirdnames.org>.

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

Species which were only recorded by the leader are indicated by the symbol (LO).

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

Species marked with the diamond symbol (◊) are either endemic to the country or local region or considered 'special' birds for some other reason (e.g. it is only seen on one or two Birdquest tours; it is difficult to see across all or most of its range; the local form is endemic or restricted-range and may in future be treated as a full species).

Brown Tinamou ◊ *Crypturellus obsoletus* (H) Commonly heard.
Tataupa Tinamou *Crypturellus tataupa* (H) Heard at Villa Rica.
Ornate Tinamou ◊ *Nothoprocta ornata* Up to 8 seen around Junin.
Andean Tinamou *Nothoprocta pentlandii* Several seen in the Santa Eulalia valley.
Puna Tinamou ◊ *Tinamotis pentlandii* (H) Heard distantly in the Cordillera Huay Huash
Torrent Duck *Merganetta armata* A few noted.



Andean Goose (Jan Hillman)

Andean Goose *Chloephaga melanoptera*
Crested Duck *Lophonetta specularioides*
Cinnamon Teal *Anas cyanoptera*
White-cheeked Pintail *Anas bahamensis* Huge numbers at Conococha.
Yellow-billed Teal *Anas flavirostris*
Yellow-billed Pintail *Anas georgica*
Puna Teal *Anas puna*
Andean Duck *Oxyura ferruginea*
Speckled Chachalaca *Ortalis guttata* (H) Heard calling below us on the Paty trail.
Andean Guan *Penelope montagnii* Seen on the Satipo road.
Sickle-winged Guan *Chamaepetes goudotii* Very obliging birds seen near Oxapampa.
Rufous-breasted Wood Quail ◊ *Odontophorus speciosus* (H)
Humboldt Penguin ◊ *Spheniscus humboldti*
Waved Albatross ◊ *Phoebastria irrorate* A superb adult seen on our pelagic.
Salvin's Albatross *Thalassarche salvini*
White-chinned Petrel *Procellaria aequinoctialis*
Sooty Shearwater *Puffinus griseus*
Wilson's Storm Petrel *Oceanites oceanicus* Only one noted.
Elliot's Storm Petrel ◊ *Oceanites gracilis*
Wedge-rumped Storm Petrel ◊ *Oceanodroma Tethys* Maybe six or so seen beyond the continental shelf.
Markham's Storm Petrel ◊ *Oceanodroma markhami* One seen quite well.
Black Storm Petrel *Oceanodroma melania* One seen flying away from us.
Hornby's Storm Petrel ◊ *Oceanodroma hornbyi* Several of this pretty storm-petrel noted
Peruvian Diving Petrel ◊ *Pelecanoides garnotii* A good number noted.
White-tufted Grebe *Rollandia rolland*
Great Grebe *Podiceps major* Noted on the sea at Bahia Paraiso.



Silvery Grebes on Lago Junin (Jan Hillman)

Silvery Grebe *Podiceps occipitalis* Numbers down on Lago Junin.

Junin Grebe ◊ *Podiceps taczanowskii* Maybe four birds seen. In trouble now.

Chilean Flamingo *Phoenicopterus chilensis* Thousands on Lago Junin with smaller numbers elsewhere throughout.



Silvery Grebe in Huasacaran NP (Eustace Barnes)

Wood Stork *Mycteria Americana* One at Albufera del Medio Mundo.

Andean Ibis ◊ *Theristicus branickii* Several groups noted in the high Andes.

Puna Ibis *Plegadis ridgwayi*

Roseate Spoonbill *Platalea ajaja*

Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*

Striated Heron *Butorides striata*

Western Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*

Cocoi Heron *Ardea cocoi* This was a write in!

Great Egret *Ardea alba*

Little Blue Heron *Egretta caerulea*

Snowy Egret *Egretta thula*

Peruvian Pelican ◊ *Pelecanus thagus* This is common on the coast.

Peruvian Booby ◊ *Sula variegata*

Red-legged Cormorant ◊ *Phalacrocorax gaimardi* A splendid cormorant seen on Isla Palomina.

Neotropic Cormorant *Phalacrocorax brasilianus*

Guanay Cormorant ◊ *Leucocarbo bougainvillii* This is common on the coast.

Turkey Vulture *Cathartes aura*

Black Vulture *Coragyps atratus*
Western Osprey *Pandion haliaetus* One at Albufera del Medio Mundo.
Swallow-tailed Kite *Elanoides forficatus*
Black Hawk-Eagle *Spizaetus tyrannus* (H) Calling from way above us near Oxapampa.
Plumbeous Kite *Ictinia plumbea* Recorded near Satipo.
Roadside Hawk *Rupornis magnirostris*
Harris's Hawk *Parabuteo unicinctus* Common on the coast.
White-rumped Hawk *Parabuteo leucorrhous* A single bird seen from the Paty trail.
Variable Hawk *Geranoaetus polyosoma*
Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle *Geranoaetus melanoleucus*
White Hawk *Pseudastur albicollis* Seen Bosque Sho'llet
Broad-winged Hawk *Buteo platypterus*
Junin (Black) Rail ♦ *Laterallus jamaicensis tuerosi* One or probably two seen near Ondores. Now a fixture.
Plumbeous Rail *Pardirallus sanguinolentus* This is common on the coast.
Common Gallinule *Gallinula galeata*
Andean Coot *Fulica ardesiaca*
Giant Coot *Fulica gigantea* Common on high altitude lakes.
Blackish Oystercatcher *Haematopus ater* A nice pair having a spat with some American Oystercatchers.
American Oystercatcher *Haematopus palliatus*
Black-necked Stilt *Himantopus mexicanus*
Andean Avocet *Recurvirostra andina* A few at Lago Junin.
Andean Lapwing *Vanellus resplendens*



Andean Ibis (Eustace Barnes)

American Golden Plover *Pluvialis dominica*
Semi-palmated Plover *Charadrius semipalmatus*
Killdeer *Charadrius vociferus*
Diademed Sandpiper Plover ♦ *Phegornis mitchellii* An adult and an immature seen at Marcapomacocha.
Rufous-bellied Seedsnipe ♦ *Attagis gayi* Several groups found at Marcapomacocha.
Grey-breasted Seedsnipe *Thinocorus orbignyianus*
Least Seedsnipe *Thinocorus rumicivorus*
Puna Snipe ♦ *Gallinago andina* Common at Marcapomacocha.
Hudsonian Godwit *Limosa haemastica* One at Conococha and another at Lago Junin.
(Hudsonian) Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*
Greater Yellowlegs *Tringa melanoleuca* This is common on the coast.
Lesser Yellowlegs *Tringa flavipes*
Spotted Sandpiper *Actitis macularius*
Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*

Surfbird *Aphriza virgate* Seen in Callao harbor.
Sanderling *Calidris alba*
Baird's Sandpiper *Calidris bairdii*
Semi-palmated Sandpiper *Calidris pusilla* This is common on the coast.
Western Sandpiper *Calidris mauri*
Least Sandpiper *Calidris minutilla*
Wilson's Phalarope *Phalaropus tricolor*
Red Phalarope *Phalaropus fulicarius* Out to sea in their grey attire.
Black Skimmer *Rynchops niger*
Swallow-tailed Gull ♦ *Creagrus furcatus* A small flock noted near Callao. A beautiful gull.
Sabine's Gull *Xema sabini* Good to see this species in such numbers.
Andean Gull *Chroicocephalus serranus*
Grey-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus*
Franklin's Gull *Leucophaeus pipixcan* 200,000 in Callao harbor. Maybe more!
Grey Gull ♦ *Leucophaeus modestus* Two seen just off Callao.
Belcher's Gull ♦ *Larus belcheri* Yet another Gull.
Kelp Gull *Larus dominicanus*
Royal Tern *Thalasseus maximus* Three seen Bahia Paraiso.
Elegant Tern *Thalasseus elegans* Common off Callao.
South American Tern *Sterna hirundinacea*
Black Tern *Chlidonias niger* One bird seen out to sea. A Peru bird for your leader.
Inca Tern ♦ *Larosterna inca* The best tern.
Chilean Skua ♦ *Stercorarius chilensis*
Pomarine Skua *Stercorarius pomarinus* A few noted.
Long-tailed Jaeger *Stercorarius longicaudus* Always good to see a few of these.



Diademed Sandpiper Plover at Marcapomacocha (Jan Hillman).

Rock Dove *Columba livia*

Spot-winged Pigeon *Patagioenas maculosa* A small flock noted in the upper Santa Eulalia valley where rare.

Band-tailed Pigeon *Patagioenas fasciata*

Eared Dove *Zenaida auriculata*

West Peruvian Dove *Zenaida meloda*

Plain-breasted Ground Dove *Columbina minuta* A few near Huanuco.

Ruddy Ground Dove *Columbina talpacoti*



Croaking Ground Dove (Stephen Lowe).

Croaking Ground Dove ◊ *Columbina cruziana*

Maroon-chested Ground Dove *Claravis mondetoura* (H) Heard below Bosque Sho'lett. We needed a morning here.

Bare-faced Ground Dove *Metriopelia ceciliae*

Black-winged Ground Dove *Metriopelia melanoptera*

White-tipped Dove *Leptotila verreauxi*

White-throated Quail-Dove *Geotrygon frenata* (H)

Smooth-billed Ani *Crotophaga ani*

Groove-billed Ani *Crotophaga sulcirostris*

Squirrel Cuckoo *Piaya cayana*

Cloud-forest Screech Owl *Megascops marshalli* Totally brilliant! Walk away views of one bird.

Lesser Horned Owl *Bubo magellanicus* A roosting bird found at Ondores.

Rufous-banded Owl *Strix albitarsis* (H)

Pacific Pygmy Owl *Glaucidium peruanum*

Burrowing Owl *Athene cunicularia*

Lesser Nighthawk *Chordeiles acutipennis* Common on the coast.

Swallow-tailed Nightjar *Uropsalis segmentata* A superb adult found near Oxapampa. Mega views.

Chestnut-collared Swift *Streptoprocne rutila*

White-collared Swift *Streptoprocne zonaris*

Short-tailed Swift *Chaetura brachyura*

Andean Swift *Aeronautes andecolus* Good numbers of these on the west flank.

Neotropical Palm Swift *Tachornis squamata*



Peruvian Sheartail in our hotel gardens (Stephen Lowe).

Lesser Violetear *Colibri cyanotus*

Black-throated Mango *Anthracothorax nigricollis*

Blue-tailed Emerald *Chlorostilbon mellisugus*

Spot-throated Hummingbird ◇ *Leucippus taczanowskii* One or two near Caraz.

White-bellied Hummingbird *Amazilia chionogaster*

Green-and-white Hummingbird ◇ *Amazilia viridicauda* (LO) Seen near Villa Rica rather briefly.

Amazilia Hummingbird ◇ *Amazilia amazilia*

Speckled Hummingbird *Adelomyia melanogenys*

Chestnut-breasted Coronet *Boissonneaua matthewsii*

Shining Sunbeam *Aglaeactis cupripennis*

Andean Hillstar ◇ *Oreotrochilus estella*

Black-breasted Hillstar ◇ *Oreotrochilus melanogaster* A superb male in the upper Santa Eulalia valley.

Mountain Velvetbreast *Lafresnaya lafresnayi*

Bronzy Inca *Coeligena coeligena*

Collared Inca *Coeligena torquata*

Violet-throated Starfrontlet ◇ *Coeligena violifer* Could be another split; the Huanuco Starfrontlet.



Sword-billed Hummingbird (Eustace Barnes)

Sword-billed Hummingbird *Ensifera ensifera* One near Apalla.



Emerald-bellied Puffleg (Jan Hillman).

Great Sapphirewing *Pterophanes cyanopterus*

Giant Hummingbird *Patagona gigas*

Amethyst-throated Sunangel *Heliangelus amethysticollis*

Emerald-bellied Puffleg ◇ *Eriocnemis alina* A couple on the Paty trail.

Booted Racket-Tail *Ocreatus underwoodii*

Green-tailed Trainbearer *Lesbia nuna*

Bronze-tailed Comet ◇ *Polyommus caroli* Common in the Santa Eulalia valley where displaying.

Purple-backed Thornbill *Ramphomicron microrhynchum* One male at Bosque Unchog.

Tyrian Metaltail *Metallura tyrianthina*

Coppery Metaltail ◇ *Metallura theresiae* Very common at Bosque Unchog of the nominate form.

Fiery-throated Metaltail ◇ *Metallura eupogon* Common in upper Mantaro drainage.

Black Metaltail ◇ *Metallura phoebe*

Blue-mantled Thornbill ◇ *Chalcostigma stanleyi*

Long-tailed Sylph *Aglaiocercus kingii*

Wedge-billed Hummingbird *Schistes geoffroyi* One found on the Paty trail.

Oasis Hummingbird ◇ *Rhodopis vesper*

Peruvian Sheartail ◇ *Thaumastura cora*

Purple-collared Woodstar *Myrtis fanny*

White-bellied Woodstar *Chaetocercus mulsant*

Golden-headed Quetzal *Pharomachrus auriceps* Found near Oxapampa.

Masked Trogon *Trogon personatus*



Grey-breasted Mountain-Toucan (Eustace Barnes)

Green Kingfisher *Chloroceryle Americana* One near Barranca.

Andean Motmot *Momotus aequatorialis*

Bluish-fronted Jacamar *Galbula cyanescens* Seen near Villa Rica.

Blue-banded Toucanet *Aulacorhynchus coeruleicinctis* Several pairs noted above Apalla on the Satipo road.

Chestnut-eared Aracari *Pteroglossus castanotis*

Grey-breasted Mountain Toucan *Andigena hypoglauca* Great views at the Carpish tunnel.



'Pale-tailed' Canastero at Pueblo Libre (Jan Hillman)

Ocellated Piculet *Picumnus dorbignyanus* Seen on the Paty trail and near Villa Rica.

Crimson-mantled Woodpecker *Colaptes rivolii*

Black-necked Woodpecker ♦ *Colaptes atricollis* Common.

Andean Flicker *Colaptes rupicola*

Lineated Woodpecker *Dryocopus lineatus*

Powerful Woodpecker *Campephilus pollens* Up to three seen along the Paty trail.

Red-throated Caracara *Ibycter americanus* Common around Villa Rica.

Mountain Caracara *Phalcoboenus megalopterus*

Yellow-headed Caracara *Milvago chimachima*

American Kestrel *Falco sparverius*

Aplomado Falcon *Falco femoralis* A superb pair found near Ondores.

Orange-breasted Falcon ◊ *Falco deiroleucus* A large female found on the Paty trail.
Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*
Military Macaw *Ara militaris* (H) Heard near Villa Rica.
Scarlet-fronted Parakeet *Psittacara wagleri* Abundant in lower Fortaleza valley.
Mitred Parakeet *Psittacara mitratus* (H)
White-eyed Parakeet *Psittacara leucophthalmus*
Mountain Parakeet ◊ *Psilopsiagon aurifrons* Seen at Lomas de Lachay.
Barred Parakeet *Bolborhynchus lineola* A large flock noted at the Carpish tunnel.
Pacific Parrotlet *Forpus coelestis* Common in the lower Fortaleza valley.
White-winged Parakeet *Brotogeris versicolurus* Good numbers in the lower Fortaleza valley.
Black-winged Parrot ◊ *Hapalopsittaca melanotis* (H) Heard Bosque Sho'lett
Blue-headed Parrot *Pionus menstruus*
Plum-crowned Parrot *Pionus tumultuosus*
Scaly-naped Amazon *Amazona mercenarius*
Common Miner *Geositta cunicularia* Common at Junin.
Puna Miner *Geositta punensis* A good site for this local species near Concepcion.
Slender-billed Miner *Geositta tenuirostris*
Greyish Miner ◊ *Geositta maritima* Lomas de Lachay, where quite numerous.
Coastal Miner ◊ *Geositta peruviana*
Dark-winged Miner ◊ *Geositta saxicolina*
Thick-billed Miner ◊ *Geositta crassirostris* Lomas de Lachay, where a couple of pairs noted.



Tawny-rumped Tyrannulet (Eustace Barnes)

Buff-breasted Earthcreeper *Upucerthia validirostris*
Striated Earthcreeper ◊ *Geocerthia serrana* Common in Cordillera Blanca.
Cream-winged Cinclodes *Cinclodes albiventris*
White-winged Cinclodes *Cinclodes atacamensis*
White-bellied Cinclodes ◊ *Cinclodes palliatus* Several pairs noted at Ticlio and Marcapomacocha.
Peruvian Seaside Cinclodes ◊ *Cinclodes taczanowskii*
Tawny Tit-Spinetail ◊ *Leptasthenura yanacensis* A few noted in the Huascafran NP.
Rusty-crowned Tit-Spinetail ◊ *Leptasthenura pileate* Another furnarid of the high Andes.
Streak-backed Tit-Spinetail ◊ *Leptasthenura striata* A couple noted in the lower Santa Eulalia valley.
White-chinned Thistletail ◊ *Asthenes fuliginosa* Another furnarid of the high Andes.
Eye-ringed Thistletail ◊ *Asthenes palpebralis* Seen in upper Mantaro drainage and at Carrizales from the bus.
Canyon Canastero ◊ *Asthenes pudibunda* Seen at several places on the west flank.
Streak-throated Canastero ◊ *Asthenes humilis*

Pale-tailed Canastero ◊ *Asthenes huancavelicae* Seen at Caraz.

Streak-backed Canastero *Asthenes wyatti*

Line-fronted Canastero ◊ *Asthenes urubambensis*

Many-striped Canastero *Asthenes flammulata*



Junin Canastero (Jan Hillman)

Junin Canastero ◊ *Asthenes virgate* Found at Marcapomacocha.

Cactus Canastero ◊ *Pseudasthenes cactorum* Seen at Lomas de Lachay at 8am, not a moment sooner.

Rufous Spinetail *Synallaxis unirufa*

Azara's Spinetail *Synallaxis azarae*

Russet-bellied Spinetail ◊ *Synallaxis zimmeri* Seen well at our new site.

Marcapata Spinetail ◊ *Cranioleuca marcapatae weskei* A pair found above Apalla. Probably a distinct species.

Creamy-crested Spinetail ◊ *Cranioleuca albicapilla* Seen in Mantaro drainage.

Ash-browed Spinetail *Cranioleuca curtata*

Baron's Spinetail ◊ *Cranioleuca baroni*

'Mantaro' Thornbird ◊ *Phacellodomus sp nov* Seen in mid-Mantaro drainage where common.

Wren-like Rushbird *Phleocryptes melanops*

Spotted Barbtail *Premnoplex brunnescens* Ulcumano lodge where not common.

Pearled Treerunner *Margarornis squamiger*

Streaked Tuftedcheek *Pseudocolaptes boissonneautii* All cloud forest sites.

Montane Foliage-Gleaner *Anabacerthia striaticollis*

Buff-browed Foliage-Gleaner *Syndactyla rufosuperciliata*

Striped Treehunter *Thripadectes holostictus* Taped in to give great views.

Streaked Xenops *Xenops rutilans*



Uniform Antshrike (Eustace Barnes)

Strong-billed Woodcreeper *Xiphocolaptes promeropirhynchus* Found above Apalla on Satipo road.

Olive-backed Woodcreeper *Xiphorhynchus triangularis*

Montane Woodcreeper *Lepidocolaptes lacrymiger*

Great Antshrike *Taraba major*

Chestnut-backed Antshrike *Thamnophilus palliatus* (H) Heard near Villa Rica.

Uniform Antshrike *Thamnophilus unicolor*

Creamy-bellied Antwren ◊ *Herpsilochmus motacilloides* A BQ lifer! Seen very well at Villa Rica.

Streak-headed Antbird ◊ *Drymophila striaticeps*

Blackish Antbird *Cercomacra nigrescens* Ulcumano lodge where common.

Undulated Antpitta ◊ *Grallaria squamigera* Seen rather briefly by some below Bosque Unchog.



Stripe-headed Antpitta (Jan Hillman)

Stripe-headed Antpitta ◊ *Grallaria andicolus* Seen upper Santa Eulalia valley.



Creamy-bellied Antwren; one of our BQ lifers (Jan Hillman)

- Bay Antpitta** ◊ *Grallaria capitalis* Great views near Apalla.
- Rufous Antpitta** ◊ *Grallaria rufula obscura* Great views on Andamarca road.
- Chestnut Antpitta** ◊ *Grallaria blakei* (H)
- Rusty-breasted Antpitta** ◊ *Grallaricula ferruginepectus* Seen very fleetingly on Paty trail.
- Rufous-vented Tapaculo** ◊ *Scytalopus femoralis* Seen near Oxapampa.
- Trilling Tapaculo** *Scytalopus parvirostris* Seen Bosque Sho'lett.
- Tschudi's Tapaculo** ◊ *Scytalopus acutirostris* Common at Carpish tunnel.
- Ancash Tapaculo** ◊ *Scytalopus affinis* A few in Cordillera Blanca.
- Neblina Tapaculo** ◊ *Scytalopus altirostris* Seen well at Bosque Unchog.
- Junin Tapaculo** ◊ *Scytalopus gettyae* Recorded in upper Mantaro drainage.
- Large-footed Tapaculo** ◊ *Scytalopus macropus* A mega pair performed very well at Bosque Unchog.
- Black-capped Tyrannulet** *Phyllomyias nigrocapillus*
- Tawny-rumped Tyrannulet** *Phyllomyias uropygialis* Several along Paty trail.
- Highland Elaenia** *Elaenia obscura*
- Sierran Elaenia** *Elaenia pallatangae*
- Southern Beardless Tyrannulet** *Camptostoma obsoletum*
- White-throated Tyrannulet** *Mecocerculus leucophrys* Another flycatcher of the high Andes.
- White-tailed Tyrannulet** *Mecocerculus poecilocercus*
- White-banded Tyrannulet** *Mecocerculus stictopterus*
- Black-crested Tit-Tyrant** ◊ *Anairetes nigrocristatus* Below Bosque Unchog
- Pied-crested Tit-Tyrant** ◊ *Anairetes reguloides*
- Ash-breasted Tit-Tyrant** ◊ *Anairetes alpinus* (H) Would not budge, rather unusually.
- Yellow-billed Tit-Tyrant** *Anairetes flavirostris*
- Tufted Tit-Tyrant** *Anairetes parulus*
- Unstreaked Tit-Tyrant** ◊ *Uromyias agraphia* Found at the Carpish tunnel.



Band-tailed Pigeon (Eustace Barnes)

Torrent Tyrannulet *Serpophaga cinerea*

Rufous-headed Pygmy Tyrant *Pseudotriccus ruficeps* Another flycatcher of the high Andes.

Tawny-crowned Pygmy Tyrant *Euscarthmus meloryphus*

Peruvian Tyrannulet ♦ *Zimmerius viridiflavus* Another flycatcher of the high Andes.



A male Swallow-tailed Nightjar in all his glory at Oxapampa (Jan Hillman).

Mottle-cheeked Tyrannulet *Phylloscartes ventralis* An Oxapampa bird.
Streak-necked Flycatcher *Mionectes striaticollis*
Inca Flycatcher ◊ *Leptopogon taczanowskii* Common on the Carpish ridge.
Flavescent Flycatcher *Myiophobus flavicans* Commonly seen on the Paty trail.
Bran-colored Flycatcher *Myiophobus fasciatus rufescens* A couple seen in the lower Fortaleza valley.
Ochraceous-breasted Flycatcher *Nephelomyias ochraceiventris* A few at Bosque Unchog.
Many-colored Rush Tyrant *Tachuris rubrigastra*
Scale-crested Pygmy Tyrant *Lophotriccus pileatus*
Yellow-browed Tody-Flycatcher *Todirostrum chrysocrotaphum*
Olive-faced Flatbill *Tolmomyias viridiceps*
Cinnamon Flycatcher *Pyrrhomyias cinnamomeus* Another flycatcher of the high Andes.
Cliff Flycatcher *Hirundinea ferruginea*



Cinereous Ground Tyrant (Eustace Barnes)

Black Phoebe *Sayornis nigricans*
Smoke-colored Pewee *Contopus fumigatus*
Western Wood Pewee *Contopus sordidulus* Found around Villa rica.
Tumbes Pewee ◊ *Contopus punensis* A couple found in the Cordillera Negra.
Vermilion Flycatcher *Pyrocephalus rubinus*
Andean Negrito *Lessonia oreas* Another flycatcher of the high Andes.
Rufous-tailed Tyrant *Knipolegus poecilurus* A single bird located on the Paty trail.
White-winged Black Tyrant *Knipolegus aterrimus*
Puna Ground Tyrant *Muscisaxicola juninensis*
Cinereous Ground Tyrant *Muscisaxicola cinereus* Another tyrannid of the high Andes.
White-fronted Ground Tyrant *Muscisaxicola albifrons*
Black-billed Shrike-Tyrant *Agriornis montanus* Another flycatcher seen in Huascarán NP.
Streak-throated Bush Tyrant *Myiotheretes striaticollis* Seen near Apalla.
Smoky Bush Tyrant *Myiotheretes fumigatus*
Rufous-webbed Bush Tyrant *Polioxolmis rufipennis* Recorded in Huascarán NP.
Jelski's Chat-Tyrant ◊ *Silvicoltrix jelski* A pair found in Huascarán NP.
Maroon-belted Chat-Tyrant *Ochthoeca thoracica*
Rufous-breasted Chat-Tyrant *Ochthoeca rufipectoralis* Common in the high Andes.
Brown-backed Chat-Tyrant *Ochthoeca fumicolor*
D'Orbigny's Chat-Tyrant *Ochthoeca oenanthoides*
White-browed Chat-Tyrant *Ochthoeca leucophrys* Common in the high Andes.
Long-tailed Tyrant *Colonia colonus*
Social Flycatcher *Myiozetetes similis*

Grey-capped Flycatcher *Myiozetetes granadensis*
Great Kiskadee *Pitangus sulphuratus*
Golden-crowned Flycatcher *Myiodynastes chrysocephalus* Found Bosque Sho'lett.
Baird's Flycatcher *Myiodynastes bairdii* Common in the lower Fortaleza valley.
Tropical Kingbird *Tyrannus melancholicus*



Yellow-cheeked Becard (Jan Hillman)

Dusky-capped Flycatcher *Myiarchus tuberculifer*
Short-crested Flycatcher *Myiarchus ferox*
Red-crested Cotinga *Ampelion rubrocristatus* Common in the high Andes.
Bay-vented Cotinga ◊ *Doliornis sclateri* Several noted at Bosque Unchog.
Green-and-black Fruiteater ◊ *Pipreola riefferii tallmanorum* (NL) Noted by a couple of people along the Paty trail.
Band-tailed Fruiteater ◊ *Pipreola intermedia* Seen on the Paty trail.
Barred Fruiteater ◊ *Pipreola arcuata*
Masked Fruiteater ◊ *Pipreola pulchra* Seen on the Paty trail and at Bosque Sho'lett.
Jet Manakin ◊ *Xenopipo unicolor* Found near Oxapampa.
Yellow-cheeked Becard *Pachyramphus xanthogenys* Recorded near Villa Rica.
Barred Becard *Pachyramphus versicolor* Common in the high Andes.
White-winged Becard *Pachyramphus polychopterus*
Black-and-white Becard *Pachyramphus albogriseus* Found on the Paty trail.
White-collared Jay *Cyanolyca viridicyanus*
Violaceous Jay *Cyanocorax violaceus*
Inca Jay *Cyanocorax yncas*
Sand Martin *Riparia riparia*
Blue-and-white Swallow *Notiochelidon cyanoleuca*
Brown-bellied Swallow *Notiochelidon murina*
Andean Swallow *Haplochelidon andecola* Common in the high Andes.
White-banded Swallow *Atticora fasciata*
Southern Rough-winged Swallow *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*
Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*
Chestnut-collared Swallow ◊ *Petrochelidon rufocollaris* Numerous Lomas de Lachay and Fortaleza valley



Great Egret on Lago Junin (Eustace Barnes)

Fasciated Wren ◊ *Campylorhynchus fasciatus*

Peruvian Wren ◊ *Cinnycerthia peruana* Common at Carpish tunnel.

Sedge Wren *Cistothorus platensis*



'Mantaro' Wren showing faintly barred tail (Stephen Lowe)

'Mantaro' Wren ◊ *Pheugopedius sp nov* Almost certainly a new species. Abundant in Mantaro drainage.

Coraya Wren *Pheugopedius coraya*

House Wren *Troglodytes aedon*

Mountain Wren *Troglodytes solstitialis*

Grey-breasted Wood Wren *Henicorhina leucophrys*

Chestnut-breasted Wren ◊ *Cyphorhinus thoracicus* Three found on the Paty trail.

Tropical Gnatcatcher *Polioptila plumbea*

Long-tailed Mockingbird ◊ *Mimus longicaudatus* Seen at drier sites on west flank.

Andean Solitaire *Myadestes ralloides*

Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrush *Catharus fuscater* One at dusk on the Paty trail.

White-eared Solitaire ◊ *Entomodestes leucotis* Very common on this tour.

Great Thrush *Turdus fuscater*

Chiguanco Thrush *Turdus chiguanco* Seen at drier sites on west flank.

Glossy-black Thrush *Turdus serranus*

Black-billed Thrush *Turdus ignobilis*

Swainson's Thrush Seen in Huascarán NP One found in Huascarán NP.
White-capped Dipper *Cinclus leucocephalus*
House Sparrow *Passer domesticus* Found on the coast where common
Hooded Siskin *Spinus magellanicus*
Black Siskin *Spinus atrata*
Yellow-rumped Siskin ◊ *Spinus uropygialis* A few seen in the Huascarán National Park, where seemingly resident.
Thick-billed Siskin ◊ *Spinus crassirostris* Seen Cordillera Blanca and upper Santa Eulalia valley.
Purple-throated Euphonia *Euphonia chlorotica*
Thick-billed Euphonia *Euphonia laniirostris*
Orange-bellied Euphonia *Euphonia xanthogaster*
Blue-naped Chlorophonia *Chlorophonia cyanea*



Black Siskin (Eustace Barnes)

Blackburnian Warbler *Setophaga fusca* A few noted.
Citrine Warbler *Myiothlypis luteoviridis*
Pale-legged Warbler *Myiothlypis signata* (H)
Black-crested Warbler *Myiothlypis nigrocristata* (H)
Russet-crowned Warbler *Myiothlypis coronata*
Three-striped Warbler *Basileuterus tristriatus*
Slate-throated Whitestart *Myioborus miniatus*
Spectacled Whitestart *Myioborus melanocephalus*
Crested Oropendola *Psarocolius decumanus*
Dusky-green Oropendola *Psarocolius atrovirens* Common around Oxapampa.
Russet-backed Oropendola *Psarocolius angustifrons*
Yellow-rumped Cacique *Cacicus cela*
Northern Mountain Cacique *Cacicus leucoramphus* (H)
Orange-backed Troupial *Icterus croconotus*
Giant Cowbird *Molothrus oryzivorus*
Shiny Cowbird *Molothrus bonariensis* Common in Callao.
Scrub Blackbird *Dives waczewicz* Seen at drier sites on west flank.
Peruvian Meadowlark *Sturnella bellicosa*
Bananaquit *Coereba flaveola*
Rufous-collared Sparrow *Zonotrichia capensis*
Yellow-browed Sparrow *Ammodramus aurifrons*
Grey-browed Brush Finch *Arremon assimilis*
Tricolored Brush Finch ◊ *Atlapetes tricolor* Seen on Paty trail and Oxapampa.
Rufous-eared Brush Finch ◊ *Atlapetes rufigenis* Common Huascarán NP.



Black-spectacled Brush-Finch (left) and Rufous-eared Brush-finch (right) (Jan Hillman)

- Black-spectacled Brush Finch** ◇ *Atlapetes melanopsis* A few in upper Mantaro drainage.
- Slaty Brush Finch** *Atlapetes schistaceus*
- Bay-crowned Brush Finch** ◇ *Atlapetes seebohmi* A few upper Fortaleza valley.
- Rusty-bellied Brush Finch** ◇ *Atlapetes nationi* Common in Santa Eulalia valley.
- Common Bush Tanager** *Chlorospingus flavopectus*
- Rufous-crested Tanager** *Creurgops verticalis* (NL) Not sure who saw this?
- Magpie Tanager** *Cissopis leverianus*
- White-browed Hemispingus** ◇ *Hemispingus auricularis* Seen at wetter sites on east flank.
- Superciliaried Hemispingus** *Hemispingus superciliaris*
- Oleaginous Hemispingus** *Hemispingus frontalis*
- Black-eared Hemispingus** *Hemispingus melanotis*
- Rufous-browed Hemispingus** ◇ *Hemispingus rufosuperciliaris* Superb singing male found Bosque Unchog.
- Drab Hemispingus** ◇ *Hemispingus xanthophthalmus*
- Grey-hooded Bush Tanager** *Cnemoscopus rubrirostris*
- Rufous-chested Tanager** *Thlypopsis ornata*



Brown-flanked Tanager is not uncommon in central Peru (Eustace Barnes).

- Brown-flanked Tanager** ◇ *Thlypopsis pectoralis* Seen at several sites.
- Pardusco** ◇ *Nephelornis oneilli* Common at Bosque Unchog.
- Silver-beaked Tanager** *Ramphocelus carbo*
- Blue-grey Tanager** *Thraupis episcopus*

Palm Tanager *Thraupis palmarum* Seen at several sites.
Blue-capped Tanager *Thraupis cyanocephala*
Blue-and-yellow Tanager *Thraupis bonariensis* Seen at several sites.
Hooded Mountain Tanager *Buthraupis montana*
Golden-backed Mountain Tanager ◊ *Buthraupis aureodorsalis* Two groups seen on four occasions over two days.
Lacrimose Mountain Tanager *Anisognathus lacrymosus*
Scarlet-bellied Mountain Tanager *Anisognathus igniventris*
Blue-winged Mountain Tanager *Anisognathus somptuosus*
Grass-green Tanager *Chlorornis riefferii* Seen at several sites.
Buff-breasted Mountain Tanager *Dubusia taeniata*
Chestnut-bellied Mountain Tanager *Delothraupis castaneiventris*



Golden-collared Tanager (left) and Flame-faced Tanager (right) (Jan Hillman)

Golden-collared Tanager ◊ *Iridosornis jelskii* Seen near Apalla.
Yellow-scarfed Tanager ◊ *Iridosornis reinhardti* Common at Carpish although not too showy.
Fawn-breasted Tanager *Pipraeidea melanonota*
Saffron-crowned Tanager *Tangara xanthocephala* Seen at several sites.
Flame-faced Tanager *Tangara parzudakii*
Spotted Tanager *Tangara punctata*
Blue-necked Tanager *Tangara cyanicollis* Seen at Villa Rica.
Beryl-spangled Tanager *Tangara nigroviridis*
Blue-and-black Tanager *Tangara vassorii* Seen at several sites.
Silver-backed Tanager *Tangara viridicollis*
Blue Dacnis *Dacnis cayana* Seen at Villa Rica
Purple Honeycreeper *Cyanerpes caeruleus*
Tit-like Dacnis ◊ *Xenodacnis parina* Abundant in Huascarán NP.
Cinereous Conebill *Conirostrum cinereum* Seen at drier sites on west flank.
Blue-backed Conebill *Conirostrum sitticolor* Seen at Apalla.
Capped Conebill *Conirostrum albifrons*
Giant Conebill ◊ *Oreomanes fraseri* Recorded La Quenua and Huascarán NP.
Moustached Flowerpiercer *Diglossa mystacalis*
Black-throated Flowerpiercer *Diglossa brunneiventris* Seen at several sites.
Bluish Flowerpiercer *Diglossa caerulescens*
Masked Flowerpiercer *Diglossa cyanea*
Peruvian Sierra Finch ◊ *Phrygilus punensis*
Mourning Sierra Finch *Phrygilus fruticeti* Seen at drier sites on west flank.
Plumbeous Sierra Finch *Phrygilus unicolor*
Ash-breasted Sierra Finch *Phrygilus plebejus*
Band-tailed Sierra Finch *Phrygilus alaudinus* Seen at Lomas de Lachay.

Slaty Finch *Haplospiza rustica* Found in seeding bamboo near Villa rica.

White-winged Diuca Finch *Diuca speculifera*



Great Inca Finch (Jan Hillman)

Great Inca Finch ◇ *Inca spiza pulchra*

Rufous-backed Inca Finch ◇ *Inca spiza personate* Seen in canyon below Huariaca.

Plain-tailed Warbling Finch ◇ *Poospiza alticola* Numerous in Huascarán NP.

Rufous-breasted Warbling Finch ◇ *Poospiza rubecula* One or maybe two seen near Huachupampa.

Collared Warbling Finch ◇ *Poospiza hispaniolensis*



Bright-rumped yellow-Finch (Jan Hillman).

Bright-rumped Yellow Finch *Sicalis uropigyalis* Seen at several sites.

Greenish Yellow Finch *Sicalis olivascens*

Grassland Yellow Finch *Sicalis luteola*

Raimondi's Yellow Finch ◇ *Sicalis raimondii* A few at Lomas de Lachay.

Blue-black Grassquit *Volatinia jacarina*

Yellow-bellied Seedeater *Sporophila nigricollis*

Chestnut-bellied Seedeater *Sporophila castaneiventris*

Chestnut-throated Seedeater *Sporophila telasco*

Band-tailed Seedeater *Catamenia analis* Seen at several sites.

Plain-colored Seedeater *Catamenia inornata*

Paramo Seedeater *Catamenia homochroa* Quite a few found in seeding bamboo above Apalla.

Plushcap *Catamblyrhynchus diadema*

Southern Yellow Grosbeak *Pheucticus chrysogaster* Seen at several sites.

Buff-throated Saltator *Saltator maximus*

Golden-billed Saltator *Saltator aurantirostris*

Streaked Saltator *Saltator striatipectus* Abundant in the Fortaleza valley of the un-streaked variety.



Bay-vented Cotinga at Bosque Unchog (Eustace Barnes).

MAMMALS (Not a mammal trip).

Montane Guinea Pig *Cavia tschudii* Several at Lago Junin.

Ashy Chinchilla Rat *Abrocoma cinerea* I think this is the creature we saw at Junin.

Northern Viscacha (Mountain V) *Lagidium peruanum* These can be common in the Andes, where not hunted.



South American Sea-Lion on Isla Palominas (Eustace Barnes)

South American Sea-Lion *Otaria flavescens*

Dusky Dolphin *Lagenorhynchus obscurus*



Vicuña is now fairly common on the puna in Junin and Lima (Eustace Barnes).

Vicuña *Vicugna vicugna* We saw this rare camelid near Junin and for the first time at Marcapomacocha.