

Victor Emanuel Nature Tours

EASTERN VENEZUELA

06-17 March, 2007



White-plumed Antbird
Pithys albifrons
Photo: Peter Candido

Leader: David Ascanio

Compiled by: David Ascanio

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It may have been almost two decades when the first VENT tour came to eastern Venezuela, focused mainly in the large number of endemic species and by the avifauna of the ancestral tepuis. Nowadays, this excitement remains intact, although the region has changed in many ways. Back in the old days, going to Santa Elena de Uairen was a difficult task, since reaching Sierra de Lema was already a challenge. Today, with the paved road all the way to the border and with the refurbished road to El Pauji, the birdwatching opportunities have been expanded, and therefore our itinerary was adapted.

The VENT Eastern Venezuela tour is the only one of its type offering birdwatching opportunities from the Orinoco river all the way south to Santa Elena de Uairen, at the Venezuelan-Brazil border, . In our 2007 tour we covered lowland tropical forest, humid premontane forest, premontane grassland and wetlands. We enjoyed endemic bird species of the Orinoco basin such as the Orinocan Saltator, a good deal of the tepui endemics and species restricted to the international border with Brazil, in the Pacaraima mountains.

As this is my favorite birding destinations, rather than writing a short story I decided to enclosed parts of my journal, adding the birdlist at the end of the document. A big thank you goes to Peter for sharing some of his photos, and to all of you for joining me to bird this incredible region of Venezuela.



JOURNAL

7 March 2007.

We left the hotel very early for the one-hour flight to Puerto Ordaz. While on the air, we admired the Caribbean coast of Venezuela and before landing I noticed the low water level of the Orinoco. Once on Puerto Ordaz I made comments that this land needed a bit of rain (see tomorrow for wishes becoming reality!). In Puerto Ordaz we visited Cachamay park having photo opportunities for Orinocan Saltator, Russet-throated Puffbird (treated sometimes as Two-banded Puffbird), Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl and many tyrant-flycatchers. After a long drive we reached the gold-mining town of Las Claritas, our headquarters for the next three nights.

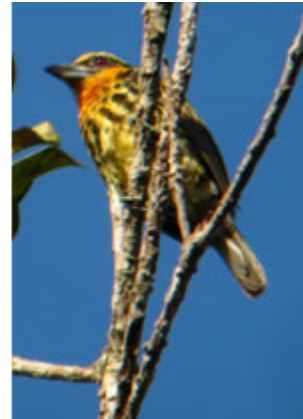
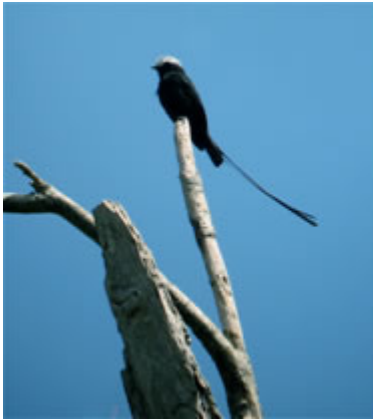


8 March 2007.

Today we spent the whole day in Sierra de Lema, starting at 850 meters and birding up to 1200 meters. While it rained for most of the morning, the afternoon was overcast and nice. It is a shame that many birders believe that birding in the rain is useless, and today was a good example of it. In between the short episodes of rain we managed to see (and scoped) Chestnut-tipped Toucanet, Masked Trogon and Guianan Cock-of-the-Rock. We also started identifying species attending a feeding flock and had numerous opportunities to get better views of several species. After our box lunch we had astonishing views of a pair of Guianan Toucanet and Short-tailed Pygmy-Tyrant, being the last one the smallest passerine in the world. The day finished with views of Roraiman Antbird, Black-eared Fairy, two species of hermits and Blue-fronted Lancebill.

9 March 2007.

Our day was schedule to find as many tepui endemic and restricted-distribution species as we could, and I believe we accomplished it. The morning started with views if the diminutive Ruddy Tody-Flycatcher, followed by Streak-backed Antshrike and two pairs of Roraiman Barbtail, the last ones having a territorial confrontation. The experience of seeing the barbtail singing and having agonistic behavior was unbeatable for the day. Nevertheless, the day continued with scope views of both, the Red-banded Fruiteater (male and female) and also a pair of Rose-collared Piha (Scoped as well). The afternoon was quieter, although golden-tufted mountain-grackles appeared while Orange-bellied Manakin and Tepui Brush-Finch made the afternoon for us.



10 March 2007.

Today, we headed again to Sierra de Lema where we found the secretive and rare Roraiman Flycatcher foraging in the understory. Also, we worked to see the *duidae* race of Yellow-olive Flycatcher (Flatbill), a pair of tepui spinetails and a male Scarlet-horned Manakin. We explored the Tapir trail seeing some evidence of its recent visit to the area. Late in the morning we located a male White Bellbird singing and projecting it's voice as far as it could, getting some nice photos and video. In the afternoon we headed to the southern section of the Gran Sabana, in Santa Elena de Uairen. In our drive across the transamazonic highway we had spectacular views of Ilu, Wadacapiapue, Yuruani and Kukenam tepuis. We also discussed about the geology of the area and saw an endemic species of termit. Gran Sabana road is indeed one of the most scenic highways of South America. Before we arrived to Santa Elena we also enjoyed great views of about 1200 individuals of tepui parrotlets flying to the roosting site in Roraima tepui while red-shouldered macaws were flying around the Morichal, and several tawny-headed swallows were foraging low over the grassland.



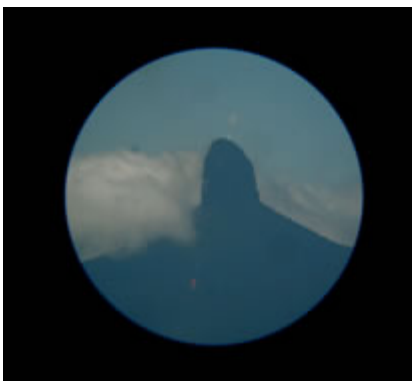
11 March 2007.

Our day started in a area were we birded for three solid hours. The morning was loaded with barbets, tanagers, flycatchers and scope views of Bicolored Hawk and Tiny Hawk. This year we were able to drive further west, towards El Pauji, since the road have been improve dramatically. In this location we learned about the Amazonian component of the avifauna t in this part of the guianan shield, and understood the differences about the habitats and the composition of the guianan versus the amazonian avifauna.



12 March 2007.

This was our only day to explore the southern Gran Sabana, and for that we had a tied schedule. We started in the Morichal, where both red-shouldered and red-bellied macaws were enjoyed. Later, bicolored wrens, White-throated Kingbird and Plain-crested Elaenia were seen. The first surprise of the morning was a pair of ash-throated crakes coming very close to our feet. Then, we explored secondary growth and riverine forest, finding a remarkable range extension for Cream-colored Woodpecker. Our drive back to Sierra de Lema was filled with astonishing views of the eastern chain of tepuis, being Wadacapiapue the favorite one.



13 March 2007.

This was what birders call a "clean-up day". Among the many species seen, the remarkable ones included Capuchinbird, Crimson Topaz, Tepui Whitestart and the yet to-be-published Sierra de Lema Flycatcher (Formerly Macconell's Flycatcher). After a drive northward we spent the evening in El Palmar wetlands, which are an extension of the Venezuelan llanos running mainly across the central part of the country. Here we had an introduction of the birds of the llanos, and ended the evening with views of Least Nighthawk soaring over the wetland.

14 March 2007.

This is our first of the two full days at Rio Grande, which is part of the Imataca forestry reserve, in the Delta Amacuro. Our morning started in the grounds of Parador Taguapire, where we enjoyed Venezuela's national bird, the Venezuelan Troupial, as well as Social Flycatcher and White-eyed Parakeet. After breakfast we drove to Rio Grande (which is indeed a *Rio Pequeño!*). There we had astonishing views of Crimson Topaz (male and female), White-necked Jacobin and Fork-tailed Woodnymph. We spent the rest of the morning exploring the reserve, having views of Cinnamon-rumped Foliage-Gleaner, Rufous-tailed Flatbill, Rufous-bellied Antwren, Ferruginous-backed Antbird and Great Jacamar. We came across a feeding flock and studied the flock leaders, and the many antwrens following the flock. In the afternoon we changed location, to Codaima, where the Harpy Eagle nest of this year is located. There we spent the late afternoon, enjoying the 4 months old chick as well as aracaries, parrots, nunbirds, woodpeckers and flycatchers. On our return drive we spotted Long-tailed Potoo, Pauraque and a third *Caprimulgidae*, one that I could not identify.



15 March 2007.

Our second full day in this bird-rich region was a copy of yesterday. We started in Rio Grande, where we located the *bivouac* of an army ant colony, experiencing the frenetic calls of rufous-throated and white-plumed antbirds, and having extremely close views of both species. The beautiful Rose-breasted Chat was also seen. In the afternoon we headed to the Harpy Eagle site, and spent most of the afternoon birding that area.

16 March 2007.

After a morning in the Harpy Eagle nest, we headed back to Puerto Ordaz to fly to Caracas. A delicious dinner was a good momentum to refresh our memories of the best experiences of the tour.

I hope you enjoyed this trip, the same way I have been doing for over 20 years. Please, stay posted with the forthcoming birding tours in South America, where the sun brights every day and birds sing for the whole year!

The Birdlist



English name	Latin name	
<u>Tinamous</u>		
Little Tinamou	<i>Crypturellus soui.</i>	Heard frequently in forested areas.
Variegated Tinamou	<i>Crypturellus variegatus.</i>	Heard mainly in Rio Grande.
<u>Grebes</u>		
Least Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus dominicus.</i>	Seen once in Sierra de Lema.
<u>Cormorants</u>		
Neotropic Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax brasilianus</i>	Common around Puerto Ordaz and in El Palmar wetland.
<u>Aningas & Darters</u>		
Anhinga	<i>Anhinga anhinga</i>	Seen twice. Once in Puerto Ordaz and also in El Palmar.
<u>Frigatebirds</u>		
Magnificent Frigatebird	<i>Fregata magnificens</i>	Common species along the Caribbean sea.
<u>Herons, Egrets & Bitterns</u>		
Whistling Heron	<i>Syrigma sibilatrix</i>	4 along the road south of Tumeremo.
Capped Heron	<i>Ptilerodius pileatus</i>	Great views in Cachamay.
Cocoi Heron	<i>Ardea cocoi</i>	Seen twice in El Palmar.
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	Common in El Palmar area.
Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	Seen once in El Palmar.
Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	Many sights along the road.
Rufescent Tiger-Heron	<i>Tigrisoma lineatum</i>	1 juvenile in Rio Grande.
<u>Ibises & Spoonbills</u>		
Buff-necked Ibis	<i>Theristicus caudatus</i>	3 individuals south of Tumeremo.
Green Ibis	<i>Mesembrinibis cayennensis</i>	Seen three times, in the Cuyuni river and in El Palmar.
<u>Ducks and Geese</u>		
White-faced Whistling-Duck	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>	A handful of individuals in El Palmar.
<u>Vultures</u>		
Black Vulture	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>	Common and widespread in non-forested areas.
Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	Common and widespread in non-forested areas.
Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture	<i>Cathartes burrovianus</i>	A single individual in El Palmar savannas.
Greater Yellow-headed Vulture	<i>Cathartes melambrotus</i>	Several individuals flying over forested areas.
King Vulture	<i>Sarcoramphus papa</i>	Great views in Rio Grande.

English name	Latin name	
<u>Osprey</u>		
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Various on La Llovizna park.
<u>Hawks, Eagles & Kites</u>		
Swallow-tailed Kite	<i>Elanoides forficatus</i>	Various individuals flying usually over forested areas.
Pearl Kite	<i>Gampsonyx swainsonii</i>	One individual in El Palmar.
White-tailed Kite	<i>Elanus leucurus</i>	One individual in El Palmar.
Double-toothed Kite	<i>Harpagus bidentatus</i>	Seen twice in Sierra de Lema.
Plumbeous Kite	<i>Ictinia plumbea</i>	Several sights.
Tiny Hawk	<i>Accipiter superciliosus</i>	A individual scoped in the Pacaraima mountains.
Bicolored Hawk	<i>Accipiter bicolor</i>	1 juvenile in the Pacaraima mountains.
White Hawk	<i>Leucopternis albicollis</i>	Seen various times in Sierra de Lema.
Great Black-Hawk	<i>Buteogallus urubitinga</i>	One flying across the Uairen river.
Savanna Hawk	<i>Buteogallus meridionalis</i>	Several times in El Palmar.
Gray Hawk	<i>Asturina (Buteo) nitida</i>	Two individuals in Rio Grande.
Roadside Hawk	<i>Buteo magnirostris</i>	Seen several times in disturbed habitat.
Broad-winged Hawk	<i>Buteo platypterus</i>	One in Sierra de Lema at 750m.
Short-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo brachyurus</i>	Scattered sights in Sierra de Lema.
White-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo albicaudatus</i>	Mostly dark morph individuals in Gran Sabana.
Harpy Eagle	<i>Harpia harpyja</i>	Despite much effort, we saw the chick many times but not the adults.
Black-and-white Hawk-Eagle	<i>Spizastur melanoleucus</i>	Seen twice in Sierra de Lema.
Black Hawk-Eagle	<i>Spizaetus tyrannus</i>	One individuals soaring overhead in Sierra de Lema.
<u>Caracaras & Falcons</u>		
Red-throated Caracara	<i>Ibycter americanus</i>	Seen only once in Rio Grande. A possible sign of forest degradation.
Crested Caracara	<i>Caracara cheriway</i>	Many sights in disturbed areas.
Yellow-headed Caracara	<i>Milvago chimachima</i>	Many sights in disturbed areas.
Laughing Falcon	<i>Herpetotheres cachinnans</i>	One individual in El Palmar.
Lined Forest-Falcon	<i>Micrastur gilvicollis</i>	Heard twice in Cuyuni road and in Rio Grande.
Collared Forest-Falcon	<i>Micrastur semitorquatus</i>	Heard in Rio Grande.
American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>	Seen in the Gran Sabana and in the lowlands.
Bat Falcon	<i>Falco ruficularis</i>	Seen in Sierra de Lema and in Gran Sabana.
<u>Guan, Chachalacas & Allies</u>		
Little Chachalaca	<i>Ortalis motmot</i>	We enjoyed three individuals in the same spot where David found it in January 2007.
Spix's Guan	<i>Penelope jacquacu</i>	Seen twice in Sierra de Lema.
<u>New World Quail</u>		
Crested Bobwhite	<i>Colinus cristatus</i>	Seen twice in El Palmar.
<u>Rails, Gallinules & Coots</u>		
Ash-throated Crake	<i>Porzana albicollis</i>	Great views in Gran Sabana. A pair came almost to our feet!

English name	Latin name	
Azure Gallinule	<i>Porphyrio flavirostris</i>	One flushed in El Palmar.
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	Few in El Palmar wetland.
Jacanas		
Wattled Jacana	<i>Jacana jacana</i>	Seen many times. Associated with wetlands.
Plovers & Lapwings		
Southern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus chilensis</i>	Seen few times mainly in El Palmar.
Sandpipers & Allies		
Solitary Sandpiper	<i>Tringa solitaria</i>	Two individuals in El Palmar wetland.
Spotted Sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularia</i>	Seen three times in the trip. One in the Cuyuni river and two in El Palmar area.
Least Sandpiper	<i>Calidris minutilla</i>	More than eight individuals in El Palmar wetland.
Pigeons & Doves		
Rock Pigeon (I)	<i>Columba livia</i>	Yes, I know. This species shouldn't be here...It is in the list just to point out that is found exclusively associated with human populated areas. Not really a wild bird.
Scaled Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas speciosa</i>	Two sights for the whole trip. Scoped!
Pale-vented Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas cayennensis</i>	Common in semi-open areas as well as in riverine forest.
Plumbeous Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas plumbea</i>	Heard in Rio Grande.
Ruddy Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas subvinacea</i>	Seen in Iema and near the Pacaraima mountains.
Ruddy Ground-Dove	<i>Columbina talpacoti</i>	Common in the lowlands. Usually associated with scrubby vegetation.
Scaled Dove	<i>Columbina squammata</i>	Basically in Puerto Ordaz.
Blue Ground-Dove	<i>Claravis pretiosa</i>	Heard in the Pacaraima mountains.
White-tipped Dove	<i>Leptotila verreauxi</i>	Seen regularly in El Palmar.
Gray-fronted Dove	<i>Leptotila rufaxilla</i>	Seen regularly in the upper Cuyuni area.
Parrots, Macaws & Allies		
Red-and-green Macaw	<i>Ara chloroptera</i>	Seen in Sierra de Lema and in Rio Grande.
Red-bellied Macaw	<i>Orthopsittaca manilata</i>	Group leaving the roost area in Gran Sabana.
Red-shouldered Macaw	<i>Diopsittaca nobilis</i>	Seen in Gran Sabana and in E Palmar, the last one being a range extension.
White-eyed Parakeet	<i>Aratinga leucophthalmus</i>	Seen in Tumeremo and in Rio Grande.
Brown-throated Parakeet	<i>Aratinga pertinax</i>	Pair in Gran Sabana, in a Morichal.
Painted Parakeet	<i>Pyrrhura picta</i>	Two groups flying across the road near the Pacaraima mountains.
Fiery-shouldered Parakeet (E)	<i>Pyrrhura egregia</i>	Scoped in Sierra de Lema.
Green-rumped Parrotlet	<i>Forpus passerinus</i>	Common around cities and farms.
Orange-chinned Parakeet	<i>Brotogeris jugularis</i>	A pair in Cachamay. This is the only site known for this species in SE Venezuela. Although first found south of the Orinoco almost a decade ago, it has not expanded towards the savannas of El Palmar or Tumeremo.

English name	Latin name	
Golden-winged Parakeet	<i>Brotogeris chrysopterus</i>	A replacement of the previous species, usually restricted to forested areas.
Tepui Parrotlet	<i>Nannopsittaca panychlora</i>	Great views of 1500+ individuals flying over in Gran Sabana,
Black-headed Parrot	<i>Pionites melanocephala</i>	Three pairs. Always in the lowlands.
Caica Parrot	<i>Pionopsitta caica</i>	Usually flying by the road. Most common in Rio Grande.
Blue-headed Parrot	<i>Pionus menstruus</i>	The commonest Psittacid of the trip.
Dusky Parrot	<i>Pionus fuscus</i>	A single individual scoped in Rio Grande.
Blue-cheeked Parrot	<i>Amazona dufresniana</i>	Heard mostly in Sierra de Lema and in the alto Cuyuni road.
Yellow-crowned Parrot	<i>Amazona ochrocephala</i>	Scoped in El Palmar.
Orange-winged Parrot	<i>Amazona amazonica</i>	along with the Blue-headed Parrot, another very common species in SE Venezuela.
Mealy Parrot	<i>Amazona farinose</i>	Seen mainly in the upper Cuyuni area.
<u>Cuckoos</u>		
Squirrel Cuckoo	<i>Piaya cayana</i>	Seen in Sierra de Lema and in the Gran Sabana.
Smooth-billed Ani	<i>Crotophaga ani</i>	Very common in shrubby areas and open grasslands.
Rufous-winged Ground-Cuckoo	<i>Neomorphus rufipennis</i>	Heard with the army ants but never responsive to playback. Unfortunately only heard!
<u>Typical Owls</u>		
Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl	<i>Glaucidium brasilianum</i>	Nice photos at Cachamay.
<u>Potoos</u>		
Great Potoo	<i>Nyctibius grandis</i>	One seen at day time on the Rio Grande trail entrance.
Long-tailed Potoo	<i>Nyctibius aethereus</i>	One flushed well inside the forest when driving back from the Harpy Eagle.
Common Potoo	<i>Nyctibius griseus</i>	Heard in the alto Cuyuni forest.
<u>Nightjars & Allies</u>		
Least Nighthawk	<i>Chordeiles pusillus</i>	More than five individuals flying over the Inapuca wetland, in El Palmar. Not a common species there!
Lesser Nighthawk	<i>Chordeiles acutipennis</i>	A commoner species. Many seen in El Palmar area.
Pauraque	<i>Nyctidromus albicollis</i>	The commonest of the goatsuckers. Seen daily along the road, although not in dense forested areas and more likely to occur in forest edge.
<u>Swifts</u>		
White-collared Swift	<i>Streptoprocne zonaris</i>	About six individuals were seen in the alto Cuyuni road.
Tepui Swift (E)	<i>Cypseloides chapmani</i>	A single individual flying over the Sierra de Lema. Also seen in the upper Cuyuni road.
Band-rumped Swift	<i>Chaetura spinicaudus</i>	Common in Sierra de Lema.
Short-tailed Swift	<i>Chaetura brachyuran</i>	Very common in the lowlands.
White-tipped Swift	<i>Aeronautes montivagus</i>	Usually scarce and difficult unless you gain enough elevation. See in Sierra de Lema.
Fork-tailed Palm-Swift	<i>Tachornis squamata</i>	Usually associated with the Moriche palms. Seen in Gran Sabana.
<u>Hummingbirds</u>		
Eastern Long-tailed Hermit	<i>Phaethornis superciliosus</i>	Common in the lowlands.

English name	Latin name	
Straight-billed Hermit	<i>Phaethornis bourcierii</i>	Commoner in the slopes of Sierra de Lema.
Reddish Hermit	<i>Phaethornis ruber</i>	Nice views of a male singing in the alto Cuyuni road.
Blue-fronted Lancebill	<i>Doryfera johannae</i>	What a view of this rare species of SE Venezuela! Seen foraging in Sierra de Lema at eye level.
Gray-breasted Sabrewing	<i>Campylopterus largipennis</i>	Common in the forested lowlands.
Rufous-breasted Sabrewing	<i>Campylopterus hyperythrus</i>	A replacement of the previous species in the tepuis. A guianan shield specialist. Seen in Sierra de Lema.
White-necked Jacobin	<i>Florisuga mellivora</i>	Various sights in the Cuyuni road and in Rio Grande.
Brown Violet-ear	<i>Colibri delphinae</i>	Common and singing regularly in Sierra de Lema.
Crimson Topaz	<i>Topaza pella</i>	What a bird! Scoped in the upper Cuyuni road.
Blue-tailed Emerald	<i>Chlorostilbon mellisugus</i>	A male in the Rio Uairen, in Gran Sabana.
Fork-tailed Woodnymph	<i>Thalurania furcata</i>	A common beauty in forested areas. Seen many times.
Rufous-throated Sapphire	<i>Hylocharis sapphirina</i>	A male singing in a exposed branch inside the forest in Rio Grande.
White-chinned Sapphire	<i>Hylocharis cyanus</i>	Heard in Rio Grande.
Tepui Goldenthrroat (E)	<i>Polytmus milleri</i>	What a view! After much effort we finally nailed one in Gran Sabana.
Versicolored Emerald	<i>Agyrtia versicolor</i>	A rather more difficult bird to see in comaprison with the next species. We saw only one at Rio Grande.
White-chested Emerald	<i>Agyrtia brevirostris</i>	A common forested lowland species. Seen singing in Rio Grande.
Glittering-throated Emerald	<i>Polyerata fimbriata</i>	Common and widespread in the warm lands of the Orinoco. Seen in Cachamay and in the edge habitat of Rio Grande.
Copper-tailed Hummingbird	<i>Saucerottia cupreicauda</i>	A recent split from Green-bellied Hummingbird. One seen in the Icabaru road. A near-endemic species.
Velvet-browed Brilliant (E)	<i>Heliodoxa xanthogonys</i>	Great views of various individuals in Sierra de Lema.
Black-eared Fairy	<i>Heliiothryx aurita</i>	This species is so beautiful that seems like an immaculate soul flying inside the forest. We saw two individuals in Sierra de Lema.
Long-billed Starthroat	<i>Heliomaster longirostris</i>	Two individuals in the Icabaru road.
Trogon		
White-tailed Trogon	<i>Trogon viridis</i>	Seen in the Pacaraima mountains and in Rio Grande.
Violaceous Trogon	<i>Trogon violaceus</i>	A male with a narrow creamy (not yellow) eyering in Rio Grande.
Masked Trogon	<i>Trogon personatus</i>	Common in Sierra de Lema.
Black-tailed Trogon	<i>Trogon melanurus</i>	One male in the Pacaraima mountains.
Kingfishers		
Ringed Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle torquata</i>	Mainly seen in El Palmar wetland.
Amazon Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle amazona</i>	One from the Rio Grande bridge.
Motmots		
Blue-crowned Motmot	<i>Momotus momota</i>	Heard on the Icabaru road.
Jacamars		
Brown Jacamar	<i>Brachygalba lugubris</i>	Family groups were seen a couple of times at Gran Sabana.

English name	Latin name	
Green-tailed Jacamar	<i>Galbula galbula</i>	Very nice views (photographed!) in the edge of a river in El Palmar.
Paradise Jacamar	<i>Galbula dea</i>	One individual perched on a Cecropia branch in Rio Grande.
Great Jacamar	<i>Jacamerops aureus</i>	One individual scoped in Rio Grande.
<u>Puffbirds</u>		
Pied Puffbird	<i>Notharchus tectus</i>	One perched on the canopy of an emergent tree in the upper Rio Cuyuni road.
Russet-throated Puffbird	<i>Hypnelus ruficollis</i>	Great views in Cachamay.
Black Nunbird	<i>Monasa atra</i>	A family group from the Harpy eagle site, in El Palmar.
Swallow-wing	<i>Chelidoptera tenebrosa</i>	Many individuals seen. Specially fond to open areas surrounded by forest.
<u>Barbets</u>		
Gilded Barbet	<i>Capito auratus</i>	Great views of a very responsive pair in the Pacaraima mountains.
Black-spotted Barbet.	<i>Capito niger</i>	Only heard in Rio Grande.
<u>Toucans</u>		
Chestnut-tipped Toucanet	<i>Aulacorhynchus derbianus</i>	One individual in Sierra de Lema at 900m.
Green Aracari	<i>Pteroglossus viridis</i>	Seen in Las Claritas and in Rio Grande.
Black-necked Aracari	<i>Pteroglossus aracari</i>	Almost daily views. The most common Ramphastidae of the trip.
Guianan Toucanet	<i>Selenidera culik</i>	Great views of a pair in Sierra de Lema.
Channel-billed Toucan	<i>Ramphastos vitellinus</i>	Seen in the upper Cuyuni area as well as in Rio Grande.
Red-billed Toucan	<i>Ramphastos tucanus</i>	(White-throated Toucan) Almost daily views while we were in Rio Grande.
<u>Woodpeckers & Allies</u>		
Golden-spangled Piculet	<i>Picumnus exilis</i>	Heard many times and finally seen in Rio Grande.
Yellow-tufted Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes cruentatus</i>	Many sights in open areas within forest.
Red-crowned Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes rubricapillus</i>	Mainly in Puerto Ordaz and south to Tumeremo.
Golden-collared Woodpecker	<i>Veniliornis cassini</i>	A pair in Sierra de Lema.
Yellow-throated Woodpecker	<i>Piculus flavigula</i>	Although one male was singing regularly in Rio Grande it wasn't very responsive to playback. Only heard.
Golden-olive Woodpecker	<i>Piculus rubiginosus</i>	Seen in various occasions in Sierra de Lema.
Waved Woodpecker	<i>Celeus undatus</i>	Heard in Sierra de Lema and seen well in Rio Grande.
Cream-colored Woodpecker	<i>Celeus flavus</i>	An important range extension. One responsive male was tape recorded in the Uairen river, in the Gran Sabana.
Lineated Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus lineatus</i>	Seen various times in Gran Sabana and in Rio Grande.
Red-necked Woodpecker	<i>Campephilus rubricollis</i>	Two individuals working on a nest in the Pacaraima mountains.
Crimson-crested Woodpecker	<i>Campephilus melanoleucos</i>	More than 6 individuals in Rio Grande.
<u>Ovenbirds</u>		
Pale-breasted Spinetail	<i>Synallaxis albescens</i>	Heard various times in Gran Sabana and in Rio Grande.
MacConnell's Spinetail	<i>Synallaxis macconnelli</i>	One individual with nesting material in Sierra de Lema.

English name	Latin name	
Plain-crowned Spinetail	<i>Synallaxis gujanensis</i>	Good views in Rio Grande.
Tepui Spinetail (E)	<i>Cranioleuca demissa</i>	Good views of a pair in Sierra de Lema.
Yellow-chinned Spinetail	<i>Certhiaxis cinnamomea</i>	Pair in El Palmar wetland.
Roraiman Barbtail (E)	<i>Roraimia adusta</i>	Great views of two males displaying and delivering agonistic behavior and an ample repertoire.
Plain Xenops	<i>Xenops minutus</i>	Seen in Sierra de Lema and in Rio Grande.
Striped Woodhaunter	<i>Hyloctistes subulatus</i>	Heard in Sierra de Lema.
Cinnamon-rumped Foliage-gleaner	<i>Philydor pyrrhodes</i>	Secretive pair in Rio Grande. It was indeed very difficult to see it.
Woodcreepers		
Plain-brown Woodcreeper	<i>Dendrocincla fuliginosa</i>	One individual with the army ants in Rio Grande.
Olivaceous Woodcreeper	<i>Sittasomus griseicapillus</i>	Seen twice in Sierra de Lema.
Wedge-billed Woodcreeper	<i>Glyphorhynchus spirurus</i>	The commonest and widespread Dendrocolaptidae of the trip.
Black-banded Woodcreeper	<i>Dendrocolaptes picumnus</i>	One individual with the army ants in Rio Grande.
Buff-throated Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphorhynchus guttatus</i>	One individual with the army ants in Rio Grande. Also seen in the lower areas of Sierra de Lema.
Chestnut-rumped Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphorhynchus pardalotus</i>	Particularly common in Sierra de Lema.
Streak-headed Woodcreeper	<i>Lepidocolaptes souleyetii</i>	Pair in Cachamay.
Typical Antbirds		
Great Antshrike	<i>Taraba major</i>	Pair seen in Gran Sabana.
Black-crested Antshrike	<i>Sakesphorus canadensis</i>	Pair also seen in the Gran Sabana.
Barred Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus doliatus</i>	One male in El Dorado road.
Mouse-colored Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus murinus</i>	Heard in the Pacaraima mountains and in Rio Grande.
Northern (Guianan) Slaty-Antshrike	<i>Thamnophilus punctatus</i>	A male seen singing in the edge of premontane forest in Gran Sabana.
Streak-backed Antshrike (E)	<i>Thamnophilus insignis</i>	A pair was seen singing spontaneously in Sierra de Lema. Great views!
Plain Antwren	<i>Dysithamnus mentalis</i>	A male in the same location where we found the Roraiman Flycatcher in Sierra de Lema.
Dusky-throated Antshrike	<i>Thamnomanes ardesiacus</i>	Two individuals were seen leading a feeding flock in Rio Grande.
Cinereous Antshrike	<i>Thamnomanes caesius</i>	One individual was also seen with the same feeding flock of the above species.
Pygmy Antwren	<i>Myrmotherula brachyura</i>	Heard in the Pacaraima mountains.
Guianan (Streaked) Antwren	<i>Myrmotherula surinamensis</i>	One male in Rio Grande.
Rufous-bellied Antwren	<i>Myrmotherula guttata</i>	Great views of a very responsive male inside the forest in Rio Grande. One of my favorite antwrens!
Brown-bellied Antwren	<i>Myrmotherula gutturalis</i>	Interesting enough, this species was very responsive this time. Sometimes is heard but not see. We managed to see well in Rio Grande.
Long-winged Antwren	<i>Myrmotherula longipennis</i>	Seen in Rio Grande with the feeding flock.
Gray Antwren	<i>Myrmotherula menetriesii</i>	A male seen in Sierra de Lema at 900m.

English name	Latin name	
Spot-tailed Antwren	<i>Herpsilochmus sticturus</i>	Heard in the upper Cuyuni road and in Rio Grande. Although we tried several times we did not manage to see this species.
Todd's Antwren	<i>Herpsilochmus stictocephalus</i>	Pair seen in the upper Cuyuni road. A neck-killer!
Roraiman Antwren (E)	<i>Herpsilochmus roraimae</i>	Great views several times in Sierra de Lema!
Gray Antbird	<i>Cercomacra cinerascens</i>	One male seen in Sierra de Lema at 900m.
Dusky Antbird	<i>Cercomacra tyrannina</i>	A pair was seen in Rio Grande.
Warbling Antbird	<i>Hypocnemis cantator</i>	Two races seen of this about-to-be-split species. The race <i>flavescens</i> was seen in the Pacaraima mountains while the race <i>notaea</i> was seen in Rio Grande.
Black-chinned Antbird	<i>Hypocnemoides melanopogon</i>	Only heard in the upper Cuyuni road. Not responsive to playback.
Roraiman Antbird	<i>Schistocichla saturata</i>	This recent split from Spot-winged Antbird was seen very well by everyone in Sierra de Lema.
White-bellied Antbird	<i>Myrmeciza longipes</i>	Two individuals heard in Rio Grande.
Ferruginous-backed Antbird	<i>Myrmeciza ferruginea</i>	Another of my favorite antbirds. Great views of this striking species in Rio Grande.
Black-throated Antbird	<i>Myrmeciza atrothorax</i>	Pair seen in the Pacaraima mountains.
White-plumed Antbird	<i>Pithys albifrons</i>	What a view! We saw at least three individuals attending an ant swarm. Great photos from Peter!
Rufous-throated Antbird	<i>Gymnopithys rufigula</i>	As good as the previous one, we saw at least seven individuals attending the same ant swarm. Great shots as well!
Scale-backed Antbird	<i>Hylophylax poecilinota</i>	One male seen in the upper Cuyuni road.
<u>Antthrushes & Antpittas</u>		
Antpittas were particularly quiet this year. Presumably due to the drought. We managed to see two species, although the Antpitta was quite confiding and difficult to see.		
Rufous-capped Antthrush	<i>Formicarius colma</i>	Great views of one individual in the upper Cuyuni road.
Tepui Antpitta (E)	<i>Myrmothera simplex</i>	Glimpsed only once. Basically heard.
<u>Cotingas</u>		
Sharpbill	<i>Oxyruncus cristatus</i>	One individual (presumably a male?) in Sierra de Lema.
Red-banded Fruiteater (E)	<i>Pipreola whitelyi</i>	Great views (scoped) of a very responsive pair. What an incredible contrast of colors! Certainly a very odd fruiteater.
Screaming Piha	<i>Lipaugus vociferans</i>	Apparently the loudest bird in the world. We went across a lek in Rio Grande and scoped one individual singing.
Rose-collared Piha (E)	<i>Lipaugus streptophorus</i>	Great views of a pair in Sierra de Lema.
Pompadour Cotinga	<i>Xipholena punicea</i>	One female in the Pacaraima mountains.
Capuchinbird	<i>Perissocephalus tricolor</i>	The lek was incredibly quiet this year. Presumably due to the drought although I am concerned about human disturbance. One male was foraging right along the road and was seen by everyone.
White Bellbird	<i>Procnias alba</i>	A great view of a male singing atop a dead tree in Sierra de Lema.
Bearded Bellbird	<i>Procnias averano</i>	Several times heard in Sierra de Lema and seen as well.
Guianan Cock-of-the-rock	<i>Rupicola rupicola</i>	Great scope views of this astonishing species. What a plumage! What a beautiful bird!

English name	Latin name	
Manakins		
Olive Manakin (E)	<i>Chloropipo uniformis</i>	A male was seen singing in the Sierra de Lema.
White-bearded Manakin	<i>Manacus manacus</i>	A lek enjoyed in the Pacaraima mountains.
White-throated Manakin	<i>Corapipo gutturalis</i>	One juvenile male in Rio Grande.
White-crowned Manakin	<i>Dixiphia pipra</i>	Heard many times in the Pacaraima mountains.
Blue-crowned Manakin	<i>Lepidothrix coronata</i>	This is one of the least common manakins in SE Venezuela. We saw four males in Sierra de Lema.
Golden-headed Manakin	<i>Pipra erythrocephala</i>	Two males in Rio Grande.
Scarlet-horned Manakin	<i>Pipra cornuta</i>	We enjoyed views of three males in Sierra de Lema. One male scoped!
Tepui Manakin	<i>Lepidothrix suavissima</i>	Although is treated as Tepui Manakin in Clements, I encourage fellow birders to use the name given in Hilty (2003) as Orange-bellied Manakin (<i>Pipra suavissima</i>). We enjoyed a male singing in Sierra de Lema.
Dwarf Tyrant-Manakin	<i>Tyranneutes stolzmanni</i>	Heard many times in the Pacaraima mountains.
Tiny Tyrant-Manakin	<i>Tyranneutes virescens</i>	After some effort we capture a great view of this species inside the forest in Rio Grande. Scoped!
Wing-barred Piprites	<i>Piprites chloris</i>	Seen twice always with feeding flocks.
Thrush-like Schiffornis	<i>Schiffornis turdinus</i>	One male in Rio Grande.
Tyrant Flycatchers		
Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet	<i>Camptostoma obsoletum</i>	This intrepid small species was seen harassing a Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl in Cachamay.
Mouse-colored Tyrannulet	<i>Phaeomyias murina</i>	Heard in the Rio Uairen, in Gran Sabana.
Forest Elaenia	<i>Myiopagis gaimardii</i>	Heard in El Dorado road, near the Cuyuni river.
Yellow-bellied Elaenia	<i>Elaenia flavogaster</i>	Seen in the Gran Sabana. It's widespread along SE Venezuela.
Plain-crested Elaenia	<i>Elaenia cristata</i>	Seen in Gran Sabana, in a Morichal.
Ochre-bellied Flycatcher	<i>Mionectes oleagineus</i>	Seen only once singing inside the forest in Rio Grande.
Sierra de Lema Flycatcher (E)	<i>Mionectes macconnelli roraimae</i>	A split-to-come of McConell's Flycatcher. This will be a new pantepui endemic. A male seen in the lek where Hilty and myself recorded this species for the first time some years ago.
Black-fronted Tyrannulet (E)	<i>Phylloscartes nigrifrons</i>	More than four individuals seen in Sierra de Lema.
Sooty-headed Tyrannulet	<i>Phyllomyias griseiceps</i>	Seen in the Harpy site, in El Palmar.
Slender-footed Tyrannulet	<i>Zimmerius gracilipes</i>	Only heard in the upper Cuyuni road.
Short-tailed Pygmy-Tyrant	<i>Myiornis ecaudatus</i>	Great views in Sierra de Lema. The smallest passerine in the world!
Helmeted Pygmy-Tyrant	<i>Lophotriccus galeatus</i>	Seen well in Sierra de Lema and heard several times in the trip.
Slate-headed Tody-Tyrant (Flycatcher)	<i>Poecilotriccus sylvia</i>	Pair seen in Rio Grande. Another small beauty!
Ruddy Tody-Flycatcher	<i>Poecilotriccus russatus</i>	Great views of this diminutive beauty in Sierra de Lema.
Painted Tody-Flycatcher	<i>Todirostrum pictum</i>	One individual (presumably a male) seen in the tree contiguous to the Harpy Eagle tree, in Rio Grande.

English name	Latin name	
Common Tody-Flycatcher	<i>Todirostrum cinereum</i>	Remember, a nose attached to a bird! We saw in edge of dry to moist forest in El Palmar, Cahcamay and Tumeremo.
Rufous-tailed Flatbill	<i>Ramphotrigon ruficauda</i>	Great views of a pair inside the forest in Rio Grande.
Yellow-olive Flycatcher	<i>Tolmomyias sulphurescens</i>	Seen three times. The most important record is the one from Sierra de Lema (race <i>duidae</i>). Expect a multiple split here!
Yellow-margined Flycatcher (Zimmer's Flatbill)	<i>Tolmomyias assimilis</i>	Good views in Sierra de Lema. Quite vocal this time of the year.
Gray-crowned Flycatcher (Gray-crowned Flatbill)	<i>Tolmomyias poliocephalus</i>	This tree-top dweller was seen in Rio Grande.
Yellow-breasted Flycatcher (Ochre-lored Flatbill)	<i>Tolmomyias flaviventris</i>	Heard in El Palmar. Not seen this time!
Golden-crowned Spadebill	<i>Platyrinchus coronatus</i>	Two individuals were scoped in Rio Grande. They were quite active vocalizing regularly.
White-throated Spadebill	<i>Platyrinchus mystaceus</i>	Pair vocalizing and seen in Sierra de Lema, at 1320m . Race <i>ptaritepui</i> ?
White-crested Spadebill	<i>Platyrinchus platyrhynchos</i>	Heard in Rio Grande.
Roraiman Flycatcher	<i>Myiophobus roraimae</i>	This was the surprise of the trip since I have been looking for this species in Sierra de Lema for decades. Our individual was foraging with a loose feeding flock, very low (1.5 meters from the ground), in the understory of the forest. It did not pay attention to the playback of the song from the birds in Bolivia. Surely, this species is calling for a taxonomical revision!
Cliff Flycatcher	<i>Hirundinea ferruginea</i>	Pair in the monument in Sierra de Lema.
Euler's Flycatcher	<i>Lathrotriccus euleri</i>	One individual in the riverine forest of the Rio Uairen.
Olive-sided Flycatcher	<i>Contopus cooperi</i>	An interesting photo record of one individual in northern Gran Sabana. Not a common species there!
Smoke-colored Pewee	<i>Contopus fumigatus</i>	Common in Sierra de Lema.
White-headed Marsh-Tyrant	<i>Arundinicola leucocephala</i>	A pair along the road to Tumeremo and another two in la Llovizna, in Puerto Ordaz.
Long-tailed Tyrant	<i>Colonia colonus</i>	Three individuals in the road to Icabaru.
Cattle Tyrant	<i>Machetornis rixosus</i>	Seen in the farmland of El Palmar.
Cinnamon Attila	<i>Attila cinnamomeus</i>	Heard in Rio Grande and seen very well (eye level) in El Palmar.
Bright-rumped Attila	<i>Attila spadiceus</i>	Heard only in El Palmar.
Grayish Mourner	<i>Rhytipterna simplex</i>	One seen picking insects on the ground on the upper Cuyuni road. Interesting behavior.
Dusky-capped Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus tuberculifer</i>	Heard in the upper Cuyuni road.
Swainson's Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus swainsoni</i>	One individual in the riverine forest of the Rio Uairen.
Short-crested Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus ferox</i>	Seen in southern Gran Sabana and heard in El Palmar.
Lesser Kiskadee	<i>Philohydor lictor</i>	Pair in the bridge of Rio Grande.
Great Kiskadee	<i>Pitangus sulphuratus</i>	Common in disturbed areas and in farmland.
Boat-billed Flycatcher	<i>Megarynchus pitangua</i>	Several sights in dry country.
Rusty-margined Flycatcher	<i>Myiozetetes cayanensis</i>	Seen in riverine habitat and in El Palmar.
Social Flycatcher	<i>Myiozetetes similis</i>	Seen only in El Palmar. Race without dusky cheeks and faint wing bars.

English name	Latin name	
Yellow-throated Flycatcher	<i>Conopias parva</i>	One in the Pacaraima mountains. Found usually in the top of ample-canopy trees.
Streaked Flycatcher	<i>Myiodynastes maculatus</i>	Several sights in Cuyuni, Rio Grande and El Palmar.
Piratic Flycatcher	<i>Legatus leucophaeus</i>	Seen in Tumeremo, Cuyuni and Rio Grande. A pair nesting in a Red-rumped Cacique nesting colony, west of Santa Elena de Uairen.
Variegated Flycatcher	<i>Empidonomus varius</i>	One in Rio Grande.
White-throated Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus albogularis</i>	This species is restricted to the SE corner of Venezuela. We saw two males in southern Gran Sabana.
Tropical Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i>	Seen many times. Regularly in open country.
Fork-tailed Flycatcher	<i>Tyrannus savana</i>	Several individuals seen in Gran Sabana.
Black-capped Becard	<i>Pachyramphus marginatus</i>	Heard in the upper Cuyuni road.
Black-tailed Tityra	<i>Tityra cayana</i>	Various sights in El Palmar and in the Pacaraima mountains.
Black-crowned Tityra	<i>Tityra inquisitor</i>	One male in El Palmar.
<u>Swallows</u>		
Gray-breasted Martin	<i>Progne chalybea</i>	Common around El Palmar, and in the Cuyuni bridge.
White-winged Swallow	<i>Tachycineta albiventer</i>	Many sights in wetlands along the road.
Blue-and-white Swallow	<i>Notiochelidon cyanoleuca</i>	Various sights in Sierra de Lema. A breeding colony below the checkpoint.
Black-collared Swallow	<i>Atticora melanoleuca</i>	Two adults and four chicks in Cachamay.
White-thighed Swallow	<i>Neochelidon tibialis</i>	Great views of this rare species restricted to southern Venezuela. We enjoyed 3 individuals perched along the Icabaru road.
Tawny-headed Swallow	<i>Alopochelidon fucata</i>	Many good views of individuals flying over the Gran Sabana.
Southern Rough-winged Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx ruficollis</i>	Seen near Santa Elena de Uaire.
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Various sights in both Gran Sabana north and south.
<u>Pipits & Wagtails</u>		
Yellowish Pipit	<i>Anthus lutescens</i>	One individual flushed in the area of the large termite nests.
<u>Wrens</u>		
Bicolored Wren	<i>Campylorhynchus griseus</i>	Two individuals in southern Gran Sabana.
Coraya Wren	<i>Thryothorus coraya</i>	Seen well in Sierra de Lema. A future split from the lowland forms.
Buff-breasted Wren	<i>Thryothorus leucotis</i>	Heard from the Rio Cuyuni bridge.
House Wren	<i>Troglodytes aedon</i>	Usually found in human populated areas. Fairly common in El Palmar.
White-breasted Wood-Wren	<i>Henicorhina leucosticta</i>	Heard in Rio Grande.
Flutist Wren (E)	<i>Microcerculus ustulatus</i>	Heard in Sierra de Lema. Not very responsive this time.
Musician Wren	<i>Cyphorhinus aradus</i>	Very good views of two individuals in Rio Grande.
<u>Mockingbirds</u>		
Tropical Mockingbird	<i>Mimus gilvus</i>	Many sights in open dry areas.
<u>Thrushes</u>		
Rufous-brown Solitaire	<i>Cichlopsis leucogenys</i>	Sights in Sierra de Lema.

English name	Latin name	
Yellow-legged Thrush	<i>Platycichla flavipes</i>	A male in Sierra de Lema. Race polionota.
Pale-breasted Thrush	<i>Turdus leucomelas</i>	Sights in Cachamay, in the Gran Sabana and in El Palmar.
Black-billed Thrush	<i>Turdus ignobilis</i>	Scattered sights in Sierra de Lema.
Bare-eyed Thrush	<i>Turdus nudigenis</i>	Heard in riverine forest of the Rio Uairen.
White-necked Thrush	<i>Turdus albicollis</i>	A family group in Rio Grande.
Gnatcatchers		
Long-billed Gnatwren	<i>Ramphocaenus melanurus</i>	Two individuals came all the way to the ground after playback in Rio Grande. Very good views!
Tropical Gnatcatcher	<i>Poliophtila plumbea</i>	Many pairs at Cachamay.
Jays		
Cayenne Jay	<i>Cyanocorax cayanus</i>	The species was seen well in the upper Cuyuni road and also in Rio Grande.
Vireos & Allies		
Red-eyed Vireo	<i>Vireo olivaceus</i>	Seen mainly in Cachamay. Sometimes treated as a separate species: Chivi Vireo.
Tepui Greenlet (E)	<i>Hylophilus sclateri</i>	Great views of two individuals in Sierra de Lema.
Buff-cheeked Greenlet	<i>Hylophilus muscicapinus</i>	Heard in Sierra de Lema, upper Cuyuni road and in Rio Grande. Not seen by everyone.
Scrub Greenlet	<i>Hylophilus flavipes</i>	Various sights in Cachamay.
Tawny-crowned Greenlet	<i>Hylophilus ochraceiceps</i>	One individual in the slope of Sierra de Lema.
Slaty-capped Shrike-Vireo	<i>Vireolanius leucotis</i>	Heard in Sierra de Lema.
Rufous-browed Peppershrike	<i>Cyclarhis gujanensis</i>	Common species in forested regions. Notice the ones south of the Orinoco have orange iris.
Siskins & allies		
Plumbeous Euphonia	<i>Euphonia plumbea</i>	Two individuals in an old Phelps museum collecting site, Minas del Polaco.
Purple-throated Euphonia	<i>Euphonia chlorotica</i>	Two in the upper Cuyuni road. Veery similar to Trinidad Euphonia and male plumages almost inseparable in the field although they have different habitat preference.
Trinidad Euphonia	<i>Euphonia trinitatis</i>	Three individuals in El Palmar.
Finsch's Euphonia	<i>Euphonia finschi</i>	Only heard in the riverine forest of the Uairen river.
Violaceous Euphonia	<i>Euphonia violacea</i>	Thew commonest Euphonia of the trip. Seen in almost every forested region.
Orange-bellied Euphonia	<i>Euphonia xanthogaster</i>	Common only in Sierra de Lema. Individuals from SE Venezuela don't show much orange on the belly.
Blue-naped Chlorophonia	<i>Chlorophonia cyanea</i>	Heard in Sierra de Lema.
Hooded Siskin	<i>Carduelis magellanica</i>	Seen by Nancy in Gran Sabana. Good one!
New World Warblers		
Tropical Parula	<i>Parula pitiayumi</i>	Seen in Cachamay and in Sierra de Lema.
Yellow Warbler	<i>Dendroica petechia</i>	Many in dryer regions.
Blackburnian Warbler	<i>Dendroica fusca</i>	One in Sierra de Lema. Not so common to see boreal migrants in this part of the country.

English name	Latin name	
Blackpoll Warbler	<i>Dendroica striata</i>	A male in winter plumage in the road to Icabaru, in Pacarima.
American Redstart	<i>Setophaga ruticilla</i>	One male in Sierra de Lema.
Slate-throated Redstart (Slate-throated Whitestart)	<i>Myioborus miniatus</i>	Common in the slope of Sierra de Lema.
Tepui Redstart (E) (Tepui Whitestart)	<i>Myioborus castaneocapillus</i>	Great views in Sierra de Lema.
Roraiman Warbler	<i>Basileuterus (b.) roraimae</i>	Sometimes treated as Two-banded Warbler (<i>Basileuterus bivittatus</i>). Many pairs were vocalizing in Sierra de Lema. Great views of this one.
Rose-breasted Chat	<i>Granatellus pelzelni</i>	One male in Rio Grande. Everyone loved this one!
<u>Bananaquit</u>		
Bananaquit	<i>Coereba flaveola</i>	Although it's a widespread species it will face some taxonomical challenges. We saw two races, the lowlands one bolivari, which resembles the ones of the rest of the country and the more distinctive roraimae, with diferent plumage and voice, restricted to the tepui area.
<u>Tanagers & Allies</u>		
Black-faced Tanager	<i>Schistochlamys melanopis</i>	Two adulst. One carrying nesting material. Gran Sabana.
Magpie Tanager	<i>Cissopis leveriana</i>	One in the Icabaru road.
Guira Tanager	<i>Hemithraupis guira</i>	Pair responding very well to vocalizations from the Atlantic rainforest of Brazil. Rio Uairen, Gran Sabana.
Yellow-backed Tanager	<i>Hemithraupis flavicollis</i>	Four individuals (family group) in the Icabaru road.
Olive-backed Tanager (E)	<i>Mitrospingus oleagineus</i>	A couple of family groups in Sierra de Lema.
Fulvous Shrike-Tanager	<i>Lanio fulvus</i>	We saw about four individuals with a feeding flock in Sierra de Lema.
Flame-crested Tanager	<i>Tachyphonus cristatus</i>	Two males in the Pacaraima mountains.
Fulvous-crested Tanager	<i>Tachyphonus surinamus</i>	A couple of encounters of individuals singing in the upper Cuyuni road.
White-lined Tanager	<i>Tachyphonus rufus</i>	A pair in El Dorado road and another pair in El Palmar.
Red-shouldered Tanager	<i>Tachyphonus phoenicius</i>	Two pairs in Sierra de Lema.
Hepatic Tanager	<i>Piranga flava</i>	Soemtimes treated as Highland Hepatic Tanager <i>Piranga (f.) lutea</i> . One adult and one sub-adult in Sierra de Lema.
White-winged Tanager	<i>Piranga leucoptera</i>	A pair in Sierra de Lema.
Silver-beaked Tanager	<i>Ramphocelus carbo</i>	A common edge species. Seen almost every day.
Blue-gray Tanager	<i>Thraupis episcopus</i>	Common and widespread. Very tolerant to various habitats.
Palm Tanager	<i>Thraupis palmarum</i>	Seen almost every day but less numerous than previous species.
Turquoise Tanager	<i>Tangara mexicana</i>	A pair in the upper Cuyuni river and another one in Rio Grande.
Paradise Tanager	<i>Tangara chilensis</i>	Certainly one of the most striking tanagers of the neotropics. We went across various flocks in Sierra de Lema and in the upper Cuyuni road.
Green-and-gold Tanager	<i>Tangara schrankii</i>	This one was seen in the Pacaraima mountains. Is one of those amazonian species that spread into the W corner of SE Venezuela.

English name	Latin name	
Yellow-bellied Tanager	<i>Tangara xanthogastra</i>	Few sights in Sierra de Lema.
Spotted Tanager	<i>Tangara punctata</i>	Only three individuals seen in the Pacaraima mountains.
Speckled Tanager	<i>Tangara guttata</i>	This one of the three similar species (including the two above) was seen in Sierra de Lema and in Gran Sabana, at the ecotone forest-savanna.
Bay-headed Tanager	<i>Tangara gyrola</i>	Common in Sierra de Lema.
Burnished-buff Tanager	<i>Tangara cayana</i>	Seen on the Gran Sabana and in El Palmar area.
Masked Tanager	<i>Tangara nigrocincta</i>	Various individuals in the road to Icabaru and in the Rio Uairen riverine forest.
Black-headed Tanager	<i>Tangara cyanoptera</i>	Various pairs. Finally tape recorded! Expect some taxonomical revision of this race.
Black-faced Dacnis	<i>Dacnis lineata</i>	Adult and juveniles on Gran Sabana.
Blue Dacnis	<i>Dacnis cayana</i>	Seen on Gran Sabana and in the upper Cuyuni road.
Green Honeycreeper	<i>Chlorophanes spiza</i>	Pair in the riverine forest of Rio Uairen.
Purple Honeycreeper	<i>Cyanerpes caeruleus</i>	Many in Sierra de Lema. Also in Rio Grande.
Red-legged Honeycreeper	<i>Cyanerpes cyaneus</i>	Less common than the previous species. Seen in Kama falls (Gran Sabana).
Swallow-Tanager	<i>Tersina viridis</i>	Pair in the riverine forest of the Rio Uairen.
<u>Sparrows, Seedeaters</u>		
Blue-black Grassquit	<i>Volatinia jacarina</i>	Various males displaying. Unfortunately expanding south due to the forest degradation.
Plumbeous Seedeater	<i>Sporophila plumbea</i>	One female seen on the road to Icabaru. Also a male flushed on the same road.
Gray Seedeater	<i>Sporophila intermedia</i>	Seen in Cachamay and in El Dorado road.
Yellow-bellied Seedeater	<i>Sporophila nigricollis</i>	Couple of sights in El Palmar. This species have an interesting tendency to occur in the slopes of the mountains, but in the Orinoco delta as well as in the south of the country apparently spread into the flat grasslands.
Ruddy-breasted Seedeater	<i>Sporophila minuta</i>	Various sights in El Palmar.
Chestnut-bellied Seed-Finch (Lesser Seed-Finch)	<i>Oryzoborus angolensis</i>	This species is almost extincted in Suriname and Guyana and under tremendous pressure in Venezuela by the bird trappers. We enjoyed two males and a female.
Saffron Finch	<i>Sicalis flaveola</i>	Sights in Tumeremo and El Palmar.
Wedge-tailed Grass-Finch	<i>Emberizoides herbicola</i>	One scoped in northern Gran Sabana.
Red-capped Cardinal	<i>Paroaria gularis</i>	Great views in Cachamay. Actually under taxonomical revision. Sometimes treated as Masked Cardinal.
Tepui Brush-Finch (E)	<i>Atlapetes personatus</i>	Pair in Sierra de Lema. Not particularly common this time!
Pectoral Sparrow	<i>Arremon taciturnus</i>	A very responsive species this time of the year. Heard many times and seen twice, in Sierra de Lema and in Rio Grande.
Rufous-collared Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia capensis</i>	A common and widespread andean species. We saw the race roraimae over Gran Sabana.
<u>Saltators, Cardinals & Allies</u>		
Red-and-black Grosbeak	<i>Periporphyrus erythromelas</i>	Although we heard a male very close it did not respond to playback. We spent about 40 minutes trying to get this one, but unfortunately we only heard it.

English name	Latin name	
Grayish Saltator	<i>Saltator coerulescens</i>	Sometimes treated as Northern Grayish Saltator. One individual seeing at the entrance of Rio Grande.
Slate-colored Grosbeak	<i>Saltator grossus</i>	Heard in Rio Grande.
Orinocan Saltator	<i>Saltator orenocensis</i>	Great views and photos in Cachamay.
Yellow-green Grosbeak	<i>Caryothraustes canadensis</i>	Various sights in Sierra de Lema and in Rio Grande.
Blue-black Grosbeak	<i>Cyanocompsa cyanooides</i>	One juvenile in the upper Cuyuni river.
<u>Troupials & Allies (Icterids)</u>		
Red-breasted Blackbird	<i>Sturnella militaris</i>	Several males in the El Palmar grasslands.
Eastern Meadowlark	<i>Sturnella magna</i>	Seen over Gran Sabana and along the El Palmar grasslands.
Carib Grackle	<i>Quiscalus lugubris</i>	Restricted to Puerto Ordaz and in El Palmar. A well distributed species north of the Orinoco.
Giant Cowbird	<i>Molothrus oryzivorus</i>	Pair in El Palmar.
Moriche Oriole	<i>Icterus chryscephalus</i>	The individual seen at 900m in Sierra de Lema represents the highest for SE Venezuela.
Yellow Oriole	<i>Icterus nigrogularis</i>	Seen many times in El Palmar.
Orange-crowned Oriole	<i>Icterus auricapillus</i>	10+ individuals around the Harpy eagle nest site. Interesting flocking behavior.
Venezuelan Troupial	<i>Icterus icterus</i>	A regular visitor to the feeder of El Palmar hotel. Venezuela's national bird.
Yellow-rumped Cacique	<i>Cacicus cela</i>	Various sights mainly along the El Palmar road.
Red-rumped Cacique	<i>Cacicus haemorrhous</i>	Impressive views of three large nesting colonies on the road to Icabaru.
Crested Oropendola	<i>Psarocolius decumanus</i>	Actually expanding due to the primary forest degradation. Common nowadays along the main road across the lowlands.
Green Oropendola	<i>Psarocolius viridis</i>	Seen mainly in the lower slope of Sierra de Lema. Declining in SE Venezuela.
Golden-tufted Grackle	<i>Macroagelaius imthurni</i>	Various groups in Sierra de Lema.