

MEXICO - 2013

9th March – 20th March 2013

HIGHLIGHTS

Either for rarity value, excellent views or simply a group favourite.

- Tufted Jay
- Purplish-backed Jay
- Red-faced Warbler
- Mountain Trogon
- Military Macaw
- Colima Pygmy-Owl
- Orange-breasted Bunting
- Eared Poorwill
- Boat-billed Heron
- Blue Mockingbird
- Rosy Thrush-Tanager (Pair)
- Gray Silky-Flycatcher
- Golden-browed Warbler
- Spotted Wren
- Mexican Parrotlet
- Rufous-capped Brush-Finch
- Green-striped Brush-Finch
- Bumblebee Hummingbird
- Fan-tailed Warbler
- Northern Potoo
- Golden Vireo
- Flammulated Flycatcher
- Black-chested Sparrow
- San Blas Jay
- Red Warbler
- Citreoline Trogon
- Gray-collared Becard
- Collared Towhee
- Colima Warbler
- Red-headed Tanager
- Happy Wren
- White-naped Swift
- Transvolcanic Jay
- Yellow-winged Cacique
- Aztec Thrush
- Mexican Woodnymph
- Buff-collared Nightjar
- Elegant Quail
- Russet-crowned Motmot
- Rufous-necked Wood Rail
- Amethyst-throated Hummer!
- Banded Quail
- Great Horned Owl (at sunrise)
- Buff-collared Nightjar
- Golden-crowned Emerald
- Golden-cheeked Woodpecker
- Chestnut-sided Shrike-Vireo
- Green-fronted Hummingbird
- Gray-crowned Woodpecker
- Yellow-headed Blackbird (50,000)
- Rusty-crowned Ground-Sparrow

Leaders: Steve Bird and Gina Nichol

SUMMARY:

This was our very first tour to Mexico and I must say it exceeded all our expectations. A country fraught with bad press that it seems hard to shake off, we urge you to not believe all you hear and read. Mexico is a beautiful country teeming with good birds including many endemics, it has fantastic scenery, great hotels, fabulous food and lovely friendly people. We were all pleasantly surprised at just how friendly the locals were everywhere we went. Everyone smiled and waved at us and many locals would talk about the birdlife around their homes. Having been to Texas and Arizona several times each I think Mexico has everything those two States has and far more beside. If you want a mix of North American West coast warblers, alongside many Central American birds in their most Northern range, and then add lots of Endemics and specialities then Mexico has it all. Above all the secret to a very successful Mexico tour is using a guide that lives there. Dave our local guide has lived for 20 years in Mexico and led tours all over the country. With his experience and smooth running logistics we couldn't be in better hands. See some of the highlights above to get a flavour of the birds we saw, it was simply fantastic and we very much look forward to running this tour again as well as our new Southern Mexico tour set for April 2014.



A Group of stunning Tufted Jays were a delight to see – Photo Gina Nichol



Several nice Purplish-backed Jays

8th March 2013

Our group arrived late in the evening and were soon whisked away from the airport to our beachside hotel in the town of Mazatlan.

9th March 2013

This morning we were up at dawn looking out over the Pacific toward two large guano covered rocks and a pink glowing morning sky. The rocks were covered with birds including **Magnificent Frigatebirds**, **Blue-footed Boobies** and a few **Brown Boobies**. Gulls included **American Herring**, **Ring-billed**, **Laughing** and **Heermann's** and then a **Belted Kingfisher** flew across the bay just offshore. Squadrons of **Brown Pelicans** flew over and soon we were off to bird the scrubby habitats just outside the city. Our first stop found us **Thick-billed Kingbird**, **MacGillivray's Warbler**, **Sinaloa Wren**, and **Sinaloa Crow**. A flowering tree full of warblers held **Nashville**, **Black-throated Gray** and **Orange-crowned** and a group of **Yellow-winged Caciques** flew in and showed well from the top of a tree not far away. There were several **Gray Hawks** around as well as **Crested Caracaras** and male and female **Streak-backed Orioles** perched in some leafless branches. A **Ladder-backed Woodpecker** also perched in an open tree and we got to grips with **Common** and **Ruddy Ground Doves**. Male and female **Varied Buntings** were seen and a female **Yellow Grosbeak** looked fine in the morning sunlight. The **Yellow-winged Caciques** came closer and a few of them revealed their funky head feathers. A **White-collared Seedeater** with a lovely cinnamon breast came in revealing it to be the western Mexico race, (Cinnamon-rumped Seedeater) a likely split in the future. A **Common Yellowthroat** approached and showed well as **Northern Rough-winged** and **Tree Swallows** flew overhead. The next stop offered nice views of one of our main target birds **Purplish-backed Jay**, with three birds showing in some low trees and an **Orange-fronted Parakeet** perched on top of another tree. Nearby we had both **Happy Wren** and **Sinaloa Wren** showing well and a pair of **Golden-cheeked Woodpeckers** in a tree a little further away. Some **House Finches** were seen at some distance and an **American Kestrel** came in and perched on a power line not far away. Moving on we stopped for a couple of **Black-throated Magpie Jays** close to the road and around the next corner were a group of **Rufous-bellied Chachalacas** calmly feeding on some prickly poppy leaves. The next stop at the large fig tree had us watching an **Antelope Jackrabbit** and a **Curve-billed Thrasher** singing from the top of a cactus. A **Gila Woodpecker** flew over and perched offering good views and a **Pale-billed Woodpecker** was seen on a distant tree. At the next stop there was a female **Broad-billed Hummingbird** as we got out of the vehicle. The trees along the road held **Nashville**, **Black-throated Gray**, **Yellow-rumped**, and **Orange-crowned Warblers** and a fast moving **Lucy's**



Varied Buntings were seen most days



We were happy to see this Happy Wren



Endemic Black-throated Magpie-Jay

Warbler. A **Cinnamon Hummingbird** whizzed by and a **Black-headed Grosbeak** flew in and perched on some bare sticks in the background. Inside the thicket, we had a skulky **Yellow-breasted Chat** and then a **Western Tanager**. Our next stop along the road had us looking at a flock of huge **White-naped Swifts** and several **Barn Swallows** flying over some open fields. A female **Vermillion Flycatcher** flitted along the fence posts and a little pond held more than a dozen **Least Grebes**. Also on the pond were **Green-winged Teal**, **Northern Shoveler**, **Ruddy Duck**, and **Spotted Sandpiper**. Some **Cliff** and **Violet-green Swallows** were seen and a **Northern Harrier** coursed the fields low until it disappeared behind the tall grasses lining the pond. The next spot offered a **Loggerhead Shrike** perched on a dead bush and a few **Lark Sparrows** moving amongst the tall grasses. A **Sharp-shinned Hawk** flew over a pond that held more **Teal**, **Least Sandpipers** and **Spotted Sandpiper**. Down the road a tree held **Cassin's Kingbird**, **Thick-billed Kingbird**, and **Social Flycatcher** allowing good comparative views. Steve picked out a **Zone-tailed Hawk** that was mimicking the **Turkey** and **Black Vultures** in the area and the **Zone-tail** eventually flew right over us showing its banded tail and yellow cere and bill. In a small wooded area we had **Black-capped Gnatcatcher** and **Pacific-slope Flycatcher** and back along the road there were **Clay-coloured Sparrow** and **White-crowned Sparrow**. Several raptors were soaring above including dark and light morph **Short-tailed Hawks** and a **White-tailed Hawk**. The cowfield on the other side held a lone **Killdeer** that was eventually seen well. From here we went to a restaurant that served traditional pre-spanish food and then we drove the scenic Durango highway to our hotel at the sleepy town of Copala. In the afternoon we drove up to a dirt road with fantastic views of the Sierra. We walked the road and found a pair of **Western Tanagers** high in a tree and several groups of **Military Macaws** flying over the hills. Some flew low and looked fabulous in the afternoon light. Other birds this afternoon included **Pacific Slope Flycatcher**, a female **Golden-crowned Emerald**, **Rufous-capped Warbler**, **Greater Pewee**, **White-striped Woodcreeper** and **Golden-cheeked Woodpecker**. The sunset was spectacular and as darkness fell we heard what sounded like **Colima Pygmy Owl** but then had a quick glimpse of a **Blue Mockingbird** that was probably mimicking the Pygmy Owl. At least two **Vermiculated Screech-Owls** did call down the hillside but never came close enough to see. We then returned to our hotel for the night.

10th March 2013

This morning we enjoyed a nice breakfast prepared by Dave and then headed up into the Sierra for the day. Our first stop offered male and female **Hepatic Tanager**, **Yellow-rumped Warbler**, **Black-and-white Warbler**, **Black-throated Gray Warbler**, **Grace's Warbler**, **Hermit Warbler**, **Townsend's**



Good views of 3 Rufous-bellied Chachalacas



Lots of endemic White-naped Swifts



Magnificent flyby's by groups of Military Macaws in perfect sunlight



Not so skulking Blue Mockingbird

Warbler and **Eastern Bluebird** singing and perched atop a pine tree. A **Brown Creeper** worked the trunk of a tree up the bank and the first of many **Crescent-chested Warblers** showed well for us. Also seen were **Tufted Flycatcher**, **Arizona Woodpecker**, **Western Tanager**, **Ruby-crowned Kinglet**, **Painted Redstart** and the first of many **Slate-throated Whitestarts**. A **Mexican Chickadee** flew into a tall pine and several **Pine Flycatchers** were seen. **White-eared Hummingbirds** were common today and a few **Berylline Hummingbirds** were also seen. Some **Montezuma Quail** were calling from the forest and at one point two flew across the road in front of us. We approached quietly and got close, only to flush one that flew up the road offering decent flight views. A couple of Siskins flew over quickly and **White-striped Woodcreeper** was well seen. A **Bridled Titmouse** seemed very interested in us and gave good views, while **Brown-backed Solitaire** also put in a welcome appearance. We drove to another spot and found an **American Robin**, more **Hepatic Tanagers**, **Yellow-rumped Warblers** and our first **Spotted Towhees**. A lone **White-throated Swift** flew over and showed its white throat and white trailing wing edges, while nearby we had better views of **Spotted Towhee**, **Brown-throated Wren** and **Tufted Flycatcher**. A **Rufous-capped Brush-Finch** did its best to avoid detection but was eventually seen by most of us and the superb **Red-faced Warblers** were much appreciated for their showiness and stunning colour pattern. A **Hutton's Vireo** came by and a pair of **Mountain Trogons** were found by Mavis. Then there was a **Green-striped Brush-Finch** seen where some **Slate-throated Redstarts** had been feeding and then we were called back for a **Golden-browed Warbler** that finally showed well after a bit of chasing. Dave set up a fantastic picnic lunch overlooking the "Canyon of the Jackrabbit" and after this we started heading back down the mountain stopping for **Yellow-eyed Junco** and another **Hammond's Flycatcher** in an open area. It was getting late in the day and some were starting to get nervous about our main target which we had not yet seen. Suddenly Steve shouted, "There they are!" and directed Dave to swing the van into a pull off. We jumped out and saw at least 10 fantastic **Tufted Jays** in the trees up the slope feeding on acorns and generally showing off for us. Fabulous! Some **Pale-vented Pigeons** were also in attendance but our attention was focused on the stunning Jays and their antics. A few **Steller's Jays** were also noted but again paled by comparison to the lovely **Tufted Jays**. Pleased with our success we continued down the hill making one last stop on an overlook where we found three **Yellow Grosbeaks**. It had been a successful day and we celebrated with a nice dinner in Copala.

11th March 2013

This morning after breakfast we heading up to some mid-elevation tropical deciduous forest habitat for our morning



This was our first Painted Redstart seen singing from the tree tops in a mixed species flock



One of the commonest hummingbirds we saw this White-eared Hummingbirds posed for perfect photos



What a bird! This was one of several Red-faced Warblers that gave superb views in a wonderful mixed wood forest

birding session. There was a distinct chill in the air as several **Black-headed Siskins** were seen displaying in the shrubs up the hill from where we started. A **Colima Pygmy-Owl** called from the valley below and there were **Streak-backed Orioles**, **Eastern Bluebirds**, **Black-headed Grosbeak**, **Lesser Goldfinch**, many **Chipping Sparrows**, and a few **Yellow-rumped Warblers** in the shrubs in the field below us. A **Hooded Oriole** and a couple of **Black-vented Orioles** were nice finds and there were several **Grayish Saltators** around and few **Blue Grosbeaks**. A **Buff-breasted Flycatcher** flitted among the small trees below and a **Calliope Hummingbird** was seen well. The first of many **Lincoln's Sparrows** was seen foraging on the ground and **Blue Mockingbirds** were seen in a thicket and later on the top of fence posts in the morning sunlight. Warblers included **MacGillivray's** and **Wilson's** and as the sun came up we found **Lazuli Bunting**, **Indigo Bunting** and **Varied Bunting** all looking quite smart in the bright light. A **Grasshopper Sparrow** up the hill had us guessing for a few minutes but we had excellent views of this bird. We moved up the road where there were several **Lincoln's Sparrows** drinking and bathing in a roadside pool, and a couple of **Hepatic Tanagers** were seen in the trees above and a **Cassin's Vireo** was spotted and scoped. There were **Blue-gray Gnatcatchers** around, **Arizona Woodpeckers**, **Warbling Vireo**, **White-eared Hummingbird** and **Beryline Hummingbird** all seen well. A **Rusty-crowned Ground-Sparrow** skulked through the undergrowth and a non-brown-throated **House Wren** was seen. A skulking **Sinaloa Wren** had us going for awhile and then we moved further up the road and found **Orange-crowned Warbler**, **Slate-throated Redstart**, **Bridled Titmouse** and a lovely **Mountain Trogon**. The next stop was sunny and bright but quiet bird wise except for a pair of **Tufted Flycatchers**, **Crescent-chested Warbler**, **Red-hooded Tanager**, **Hermit Warbler** and **Bullock's Oriole**. We returned to our hotel for lunch where a pair of **Gila Woodpeckers** were working the tree in the car park. After lunch we headed toward San Blas. A comfort stop about two hours into the journey offered **Purplish-backed Jay** and then a little pond along the road had us looking at **Long-billed Dowitchers**, **Stilt Sandpipers**, **Neotropic Cormorants**, a selection of egrets and herons, a big flock of **Brown-headed** and **Bronzed Cowbirds**, **Greater** and **Lesser Yellowlegs**, **Northern Jacanas**, **Green-winged** and **Cinnamon Teal**, **Tropical Kingbird**, **American Coot**, **Least Grebe** and **Red-winged Blackbird**. A **White-faced Ibis** wandered into view and a **Caspian Tern** flew by in the evening light. A **Tricolored Heron** flew in and a **Green Kingfisher** perched on a line crossing the inlet to the pond across the road. Further on a **White-tailed Hawk** was seen and Terry got his first of many **Harris's Hawks**. We eventually arrived in the seaside village of San Blas and settled into our lovely accommodation for the night.



We saw a bunch of these Black-headed Siskins including several displaying



A showy Broad-billed Hummingbird



Fabulous views of this Mountain Trogon – photo by Gina Nichol

12th March 2013

This morning we enjoyed a light breakfast and then headed into the hills just inland of the coast to spend the entire day on Cerro de San Juan. As daylight dawned we saw a **Crab-eating Raccoon** along the road and officially added **Roseate Spoonbill** to the trip list. A **Killdeer** was seen at the same pond and then we left the main road heading up into the hills for the day. At our first stop at around 1000m elevation in brushy thickets and oak-thorn scrub, we had at least 30 **Gray-Silky Flycatchers** perched in a large tree. The birds showed very well for us and then flew across the valley perhaps joining another group for a total of over 60 birds! A troupe of **Black-throated Magpie Jays** flew from tree to tree across the valley and we had several **Thick-billed Kingbirds** today starting with a few perched in the tree tops in the morning sun. A **Calliope Hummingbird** fed in some nearby flowers while we scoped a **Brown-backed Solitaire** perched in the open on a bare tree. Above us in the tallest trees were **Bullock's Oriole**, **White-throated Thrush** and **Western Tanager** and there were a couple of **Blue Mockingbirds** around. In fact, in a bare tree, we could see two **Gray-crowned Woodpeckers** and two **Blue Mockingbirds** in the same view which was unprecedented. A **Green Jay** appeared in the same tree as did a **White-throated Thrush** and a **Grayish Saltator**. Across the valley was a **Masked Tityra** and as the day started heating up we had **Cooper's Hawk** and a young **Red-tailed Hawk** perched on one of the pines. We found several **Warbling Vireos** this morning and up the hill we had a few **Nashville Warblers**, **Black-throated Gray Warbler** and **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**. Further up the hill we had nice views of **Pale-billed Woodpecker** on a dead tree, **Yellow-rumped Warblers** and **Eastern Bluebird**. We reached an area where there was an avocado plantation with fruit laden trees and a nice **Zone-tailed Hawk** soaring above. A couple of **House Finches** flitted along the power poles and there were **Northern Rough-winged Swallows** around. We moved beyond the cultivated fields to a lovely road lined with superb pine-oak forests and spent the next hour or so waiting for some unique hummingbirds to visit a patch of salvia. The dominant bird here was **White-eared Hummingbird** and we saw several of these at close range during the course of the day. A **Fan-tailed Warbler** arrived and was seen briefly while a **Buff-breasted Flycatcher** flitted in the branches above. A **Helicopter Damselfly** was seen here and there were at least two **Malachite Butterflies**. Our next stop was quiet but playing the call of **Colima Pygmy-Owl** produced **Warbling Vireo**, **Tufted Flycatcher**, **Black-capped Gnatcatcher**, **Townsend's Warbler**, **Red-faced Warbler** and above us a **White-naped Swift**. We then heard a **Colima Pygmy-Owl** calling back and with perseverance Steve found the bird perched high in the trees. Our next stop at a ranch found us a nice **Eastern Bluebird** perched up on a soccer goal post. As we got out of the van a **Spotted Wren**



Up to 30 Gray-Silky Flycatchers were seen all perched in the tree tops together - photo Gina Nichol



We only saw female Calliope Hummingbirds and this one perched nicely for us

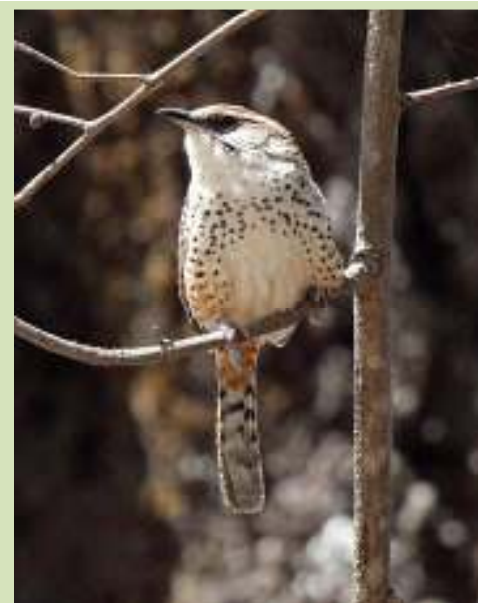


It took some finding calling in the tree tops but eventually we got it and had great scope views of this endemic Colima Pygmy-Owl

showed well by the buildings and continued to give great views all throughout our visit. The large tree above the building held **Acorn Woodpeckers** and there were **Chipping Sparrows** near the ground. A **Common Raven** flew over calling and we found a **Say's Phoebe** at the far end of the field. Other birds here included **Black-headed Siskin**, **Vermilion Flycatcher**, **Northern Rough-winged Swallow**, **Thick-billed** and **Western Kingbirds**. We went back to the salvia patch for lunch and staked it out for our target hummingbirds. The **White-eared Hummingbirds** were very active here and dominant chasing each other and anything else that came near. Jeff wandered up the road and found a **Bumblebee Hummingbird** that showed very well for us and earned him a well-deserved beer later that night at dinner. Other birds around were **Nashville Warbler**, **MacGillivray's Warbler**, **Cordilleran Flycatcher** and **Red-headed Tanager**. A **Fan-tailed Warbler** came in and showed well and a skulky **Golden-crowned Warbler** was seen. We decided to try another spot for our next target hummingbird and this was a good move as after just a few minutes we had nice views of **Mexican Woodnymph**. In the same area an **Elegant Trogon** was seen in the trees above and a **Short-tailed Hawk** flew over. We then headed back toward San Blas along the Pacific Coast through a town that hosted hundreds of **Magnificent Frigatebirds**, **Brown Pelicans**, **Yellow-crowned Night Herons**, **Willetts**, **Black-necked Stilts**, **Spotted Sandpiper**, **Caspian Tern**, **Laughing**, **Herring** and **Ring-billed Gulls**. Another stop in a parking lot yielded great views of a pair of the endemic **Citreoline Trogon** and a few **Cinnamon Hummingbirds**. A **Gray Hawk** was tending to a nest and a few **Gnatcatchers** were around. Our last stop of the day was at some sewage ponds which held **Sora**, **Purple Gallinule**, **American Coots**, **White-faced Ibis**, **Marsh Wren**, **Common Yellowthroat**, **Pacific-slope Flycatcher**, **McGillivray's Warbler**, **Northern Waterthrush**, **Black-necked Stilt**, **White-throated Flycatcher**, **Blue-winged Teal** and a **Lineated Woodpecker** on a dead palm tree. We had put up with the gnats long enough and headed back to the hotel for a lovely dinner and review of the great day of birding we had enjoyed.

13th March 2013

This morning we birded an area closer to San Blas that led into a large area of coffee plantation. At the first stop we had a nice male **Painted Bunting**, **Golden-cheeked Woodpecker**, **Grayish Saltator**, **Blue Mockingbird** and we had great scope views of a **Russet-crowned Motmot** perched in a nearby tree. There were several **Cinnamon Hummingbirds**, **Blue-gray Gnatcatchers**, **Warbling Vireos** and a **Blue Grosbeak**. A **Collared Forest Falcon** calling from up the hill showed briefly but then went into hiding behind a tall palm. There were several **Great Kiskadees** around, **Citreoline Trogon**, **Masked Tityra**,



Varied A pair of Spotted Wrens gave fabulous views



One of our top target species this Bumblebee Hummingbird is the second smallest bird in the world



Yet another of our endemics this was one of our first Citreoline Trogons

Yellow-winged Cacique and a **Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl** that came into a tree just above our heads. A couple of **Rufous-backed Robins** had us looking carefully as one was very pale and looked like the **Grayson's** variety. We moved on to a soccer pitch where we found **Lineated** and **Pale-billed Woodpeckers** together in a tree, a female **Painted Bunting** and a **Plain-capped Starthroat**. Another **Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl** came into a nearby tree and another **Russet-crowned Motmot** was seen. A **White-throated Thrush** perched on a dead tree near the **Starthroat** and then our attention was drawn to three **San Blas Jays** in a fruiting tree not far away. Across the field were a pair of **Scrub (Godman's) Euphonias** and four **Mexican Parrotlets** flew by and disappeared behind a tree. We moved up into the coffee plantation which had numerous fruiting and flowering Inga trees planted in with the coffee. There were several **Berylline Hummingbirds** and **Cinnamon Hummingbirds** around and a pair of **Lilac-crowned Parrots** flew over. A **Greenish Elaenia** was seen and an **Elegant Trogon** showed in some distant trees. There were lots of **Grayish Saltators** around but the big surprise was a pair of **Rosy Thrush Tanagers** that sat together and showed very well for all of us not exhibiting their usual skulky behavior. Also along this road were **Squirrel Cuckoo**, **Bullock's Orioles**, **Masked Tityra** and a couple of **Orange-fronted Parakeets**. A flock of warblers held many **Nashvilles** and a **Tropical Parula**. Later in the morning, we visited a nice swampy pond that held **Green-winged** and **Blue-winged Teal**, **American Wigeon**, **Cinnamon Teal**, **Bare-throated Tiger-Heron**, **Limpkin** and the usual **Northern Jacanas** and egrets. Some noisy **Mexican Parrotlets** called our attention to a large fig tree and we spent time picking out the little beauties camouflaged amongst the leaves. Also here were **Tricolored Heron**, **Streak-backed Oriole**, **MacGillivray's Warbler**, **Wilson's Warbler**, a distant **Groove-billed Ani**, and a large flock of **White-faced Ibis** that flew in. A young **Snail Kite** was seen perched and then flying, and Terry got more views of **Harris's Hawk**. The last stop of the morning was at the mangrove lined ponds outside San Blas which held very close **Stilt Sandpiper** and **Least Sandpiper**. Of note here were **Marbled Godwit**, **American Avocet**, **Whimbrel**, **Mexican Ducks**, a flyover **Gull-billed Tern**, **Roseate Spoonbills**, **Willetts** and some rather large **American Crocodiles**. We had a nice lunch and a short siesta before heading to to a dock where we boarded our boat for an afternoon mangrove trip. We spent 4 hours navigating the narrow tunnels of mangrove and more open twisted tree-lined ponds, but started off going along the shore-line of the Tovara River. It wasn't long before our first of 5 **Rufous-necked Wood Rails** appeared feeding out in the open along the mangrove edge. Further along we saw **Caspian Terns**, **Great Blue Herons** and **Yellow-crowned Night Herons**, a perched **Common Black Hawk** and **Osprey**. We then crossed over to a narrower creek where the scenery was



We only saw two Russet-crowned Motmots and this was the first



Close Limpkin from our boat trip



Very close Stilt Sandpiper



No less than 5 Rufous-necked Woodrails

spectacular and amongst the bird highlights we found **Bare-throated Tiger-Heron**, **Belted**, **Green** and **Ringed Kingfishers**, a fabulous colony of **Boat-billed Herons** and a superb **Northern Potoo** on a daytime roost. As a glorious sunset blazed across the evening sky we waited for dusk and then headed slowly back spotlighting along the way. Several **Common Pauraquas** were seen and at least another 4 **Northern Potoos** which gave great views perched up with bulging yellow eyes! It was a great boat trip and we finished off the day with another great meal back at the hotel.

14th March 2013

This morning we departed San Blas for Barra de Navidad making birding stops along the way. Our first stop found us an **Orchard Oriole**, the usual **Yellow-winged Caciques** and with some perseverance two **Elegant Quail** that perched up on a tree branch allowing prolonged excellent views. On the way out there were several **Stripe-headed Sparrows** near the road. Our next stop was a road traversing some agricultural fields where we found **Varied Bunting**, **Crested Caracara**, **Common Yellowthroat**, **White-throated Flycatcher**, **Yellow-breasted Chat**, **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**, **Lincoln's Sparrow**, **Say's Phoebe**, **Willow Flycatcher**, **White-collared Seedeater** and **Eastern Meadowlark**. A **Great Black Hawk** was scoped at distance perched in a tree at the edge of one of the fields. We walked into one of the fields and found **American Redstart**, **Northern Mockingbird** and **Vermilion Flycatcher** as well as another **Yellow-breasted Chat**. Back out on the road, a **Bell's Vireo** caught our attention and then we continued on south. A comfort stop found us **Least Grebe** on a river, a couple of nice **Crane Hawks**, **White-faced Ibis**, **Yellow Warbler**, **Blue Grosbeak**, **Blue-black Grassquit**, **Brown-crested Flycatcher** and a group of **Black-throated Magpie Jays** flushed off some bamboo by a **Short-tailed Hawk**. We drove through Puerto Vallarta and then ascended into the hills on the other side of the city. Our lunch stop at an old quarry was productive bird wise starting with **Nutting's Flycatcher** another **Brown-crested Flycatcher**, **Tropical Parula**, up to three **Golden Vireos**, **Golden-crowned Emerald**, **Nashville Warbler**, **Black-and-white Warbler**, **Ladder-backed Woodpecker** and **Scrub Euphonia**. Our next stop offered a stunning male **Orange-breasted Bunting** and a **Green-fronted Hummingbird** which was way out of range. A **Summer Tanager** was very vocal and a **Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl** came in as usual. Later in the day we arrived at the seaside village of Barra de Navidad and checked into our hotel as the sun set over the sea.

15th March 2013

This morning after breakfast we birded Barranca el Choncho a road following a small canyon up into a wooded area with some special birds. We started with **Greater Pewee** and a quick **Fan-tailed Warbler**, **Golden-browed Warbler**, a



Some Boat-billed Herons in a colony of 30 were sat out in the open



Beautiful scenic boat trip



Can you believe the eye on this Northern Potoo! We saw 5 on our boat trip

nice male **Blue Bunting**, **Louisiana Waterthrush**, **Sinaloa Wren** and **Rufous-backed Robin**. Up the hill in a fruiting tree a **Yellow-winged Cacique** was seen chasing a **Rose-throated Becard** and several **Summer Tanagers** were also around. **Warbling Vireos** were present in good numbers and **Northern Beardless Tyrannulets** were seen. A tree full of **Gnatcatchers** also had **Pacific-slope Flycatcher** and a **Plumbeous Vireo**, **McGillivray's Warbler**, and **Tufted Flycatcher**. We walked on and found a **Flammulated Flycatcher** which tried to elude us but varying views were obtained. **San Blas Jays** were ignored while we worked on the flycatcher but we saw them again later and gave them their due attention. There were several other *Myiarchus* flycatchers seen during the morning including **Nutting's**, **Ash-throated** and **Brown-crested** and we got to grips with the subtle differences of each. Up the hill a bit we crossed paths with a group of 6 or so **Citreoline Trogons**. Some **Masked Tityras** called from the tree tops as did **Bright-rumped Attila** and a **Red-crowned Ant Tanager** called from the understory. Other birds this morning included **Golden Vireo**, **White-throated Thrush**, **Dusky Flycatcher** and **White-tipped Dove**. A **Pale-billed Woodpecker** was watched working on a dead tree up at the top of the road and then we made our way back down to the van. We went back to town to pick up our luggage and enjoyed lunch overlooking the bay where we picked up a few more birding including **Brown Pelican**, **Magnificent Frigatebirds**, **Caspian Tern**, a couple of **Elegant Terns**, **Laughing Gull**, **Spotted Sandpiper**, **Whimbrel** and **Mangrove Swallows**. We then headed to Autlan encountering the first rain of the trip and the first rain recorded in the area since New Year's Eve. We checked into our hotel and then when up into the hills for the rest of the afternoon. As soon as we left the main road we stopped for a **Orange-breasted Bunting** and this stop yielded our first **Black-chested Sparrows** as well as a **Stripe-headed Sparrow**. Also along the road we saw a pair of **Streak-backed Orioles**, **Black-capped Gnatcatcher**, **Ash-throated Flycatcher**, **Broad-billed Hummingbird**, **Nashville Warbler** and **Warbling Vireo**. We walked into an open field where a **Red-tailed Hawk** flew off. Steve thought he heard the sound of some quail disturbed by the hawk so we set off in that direction and soon found a couple of confiding **Rufous-crowned Ground Sparrows**. There was also a few **Black-headed Grosbeaks** around and then a group of **Banded Quail** took flight near the edge of the field. We followed them only to have them fly off again allowing only flight views. As darkness fell we headed down the road with a spotlight and succeeded in finding a superb **Buff-collared Nightjar** perched beside the road.

16th March 2013

This morning we had breakfast and then we went back up the radio tower road to about 4000 feet. Our first **Violet-crowned Hummingbirds** came in around a cactus chasing



We had many good close views of flocks of White-throated Swifts



There were plenty of Crescent-chested Warblers in most of the flocks we found



Several Gray-crowned Woodpeckers put on good performances for us

each other. We birded the road through stunted growth mid-elevation forest and found **MacGillivray's Warbler**, **Black-chinned Hummingbird (female)**, **Boat-billed Flycatcher**, **Pacific-slope Flycatcher** and **Ash-throated Flycatcher**. A **Virginia's Warbler** got away quickly and we had varying views as it flitted down the hillside. As the sun heated up the morning air, raptors began to float up on thermals including **Sharp-shinned Hawk**, a surprise **Hook-billed Kite** and the usual **Black** and **Turkey Vultures**. Continuing up we had **Thick-billed Kingbird**, **Brown-crested Flycatcher** and three very nice **Black-chested Sparrows** displaying. Still further up where the land levelled out we had **Stripe-headed Sparrows**, **Blue Grosbeak**, **Eastern Bluebird**, a glowing **Vermilion Flycatcher**, **Rusty-crowned Ground Sparrow** and **Dusky Flycatcher**. Later in the morning we headed back to our hotel for lunch and packed up the van. A flowering tree in the parking lot held **Orchard Orioles**, **Golden-cheeked Woodpecker**, **Audubon's Warbler** and **Western Tanager**. We then headed south stopping along the road to check a patch of pines which turned out to be quite productive with **Collared Towhee**, **Brown-backed Solitaire**, **Orange-billed Nightingale-Thrush**, **Rufous-capped Brush-Finch**, **Calliope Hummingbird**, **Hepatic Tanager**, **Greater Pewee**, **Rufous-capped Warbler**, **Chipping Sparrow**, **Varied Bunting**, **Gray Silky-Flycatcher**, **Buff-breasted Flycatcher**, **Lincoln's Sparrow**, a brief **Rusty Sparrow**, **White-breasted Nuthatch**, **Blue Mockingbird**, **Spotted Wren** and a **Bushtit**. A couple of **Red Crossbills** flew over (future endemic) and some **Canyon Towhees** were found. Up on a hillside we spotted a **Pygmy Nuthatch** working on a pine trunk and overhead were lots of **White-collared Swifts**. The next stop yielded **Nashville Warbler**, **Townsend's Warbler**, **Orange-crowned Warbler**, **Acorn Woodpecker**, **White-eared Hummingbird**, **Yellow Warbler** and **Yellow-eyed Junco**. We reached Ciudad Guzman just as it started to rain so we stopped to put the luggage into the van and checked a flock of thousands of **Yellow-headed Blackbirds** feeding on manure in a farm field across the road. This was one of many large flocks of **Yellow-headed Blackbirds** seen flying or foraging in the area. Incredibly we estimated around 50,000 in the area. Quite a sight! There were also many **Brown-headed Cowbirds** in the flocks and seeing them all fly was nothing short of a spectacle with the sheer numbers of birds making it truly astounding. Our last stop of the day was at Laguna Zapatlan where there were several **American White Pelicans**, **Northern Shovelers**, **Black-crowned Night Heron**, **Mexican "Mallard" Duck**, **Neotropic Cormorant**, **Least Grebe**, **Great Egret**, **Caspian Tern**, **Cliff**, **Tree** and **Barn Swallows**, and one of our target species a lone **Clark's Grebe**. A small pond across the road held a group of **Long-billed Dowitchers**. At last we arrived in Sayula navigating through the flooded streets to our hotel. It was unusually cold and we wondered what our trip up the volcanoes would hold in store for us tomorrow.



This Hook-billed Kite was a surprise



Close Rufous-capped Warbler



Hundreds of American White Pelicans



Gray-barred Wrens were very noisy

17th March 2013

This morning we headed up to Volcan del Fuego and during the morning birded the mid-elevation habitats. The sky had cleared and it was a beautiful day with the volcano looking glorious in the background. As we climbed in elevation we stopped to enjoy the view of both volcanos noting the smoke coming out of Fuego and the snow cover on Nevado.

We birded the quiet road where we found **Hammond's Flycatcher**, **Hepatic Tanager** and heard the calls of several **Long-tailed Wood Partridge** in the forest. We stalked them and stood for some time hoping to get a glimpse but the birds were not cooperating. Other birds were seen and included **Black-headed Grosbeak**, **Pine Flycatcher**, **Warbling Vireo**, **Transvolcanic Jay**, **Hutton's Vireo** and **Summer Tanager**. A female **Gray-collared Becard** came to inspect us and we saw the first of many groups of noisy **Gray-barred Wrens**. Our list of birds seen today grew with **Tufted Flycatcher**, **Greater Pewee**, **Bullock's Oriole** and **Orange-billed Nightingale Thrush** as we worked our way up to 8,000 feet and the entrance of the national park. Here we found **Crescent-chested Warbler**, **Calliope Hummingbird**, **Mountain Trogon**, **Golden-browed Warbler**, **Green-striped Brush-Finch**, and **Flame-coloured Tanager**. The first sightings of **Red Warbler** were fabulous and well received over the next two days, and we enjoyed this bird immensely. Also here were **Rufous-capped Brush-Finch** and **Gray Silky-Flycatchers**. There was still a chill in the air as we enjoyed our picnic lunch and afterward we continued on up the road for the afternoon. Birds seen this afternoon included **Cordilleran Flycatcher**, **Wilson's Warbler**, **Ruby-crowned Kinglet**, **Hermit Thrush**, and **Magnificent Hummingbird**. A **Mountain Pygmy-Owl** came in close and Steve spotted it in the trees above and set up nice scope views of the bird. The bird flew off and we could hear some calls of the much wanted **Aztec Thrush** nearby so we followed the sound. Suddenly an adult male appeared but a **Sharp-shinned Hawk** came in and flushed it away before we could get good views of it. Our consolation was a **Greenish Elaenia** but around the next corner it got more exciting. A **Chestnut-sided Shrike Vireo** called from the tree tops and after a bit of searching Gina spotted it and put it in the scope. The bird flew to another tree above us and we tracked it until we all got great views of the bird for several minutes. After that we found **Gray-breasted Wood-Wren**, a female **Blue-throated Hummingbird** and a female **Amethyst-throated Hummingbird**. Later in the day we began to descend the mountain stopping for a couple of **Crested Guans** that promptly disappeared into a pine tree. Further down near the avocado plantation we stopped to check some Swifts and found some **White-throated Swifts** flying above the valley. Meanwhile Steve spotted a **Long-tailed Wood-Partridges** on the other side but it quickly disappeared into the dense scrub on the hillside. We got out and birded the area finding



This was the only Gray-collared Becard we found during the tour!



One of our favourites the superb Red Warbler showed well to everyone on a number of occasions



We waited a long time for this Aztec Thrush to return to a fruiting tree – photo by Gina Nichol

Eastern Bluebird, a **Least Grebe** in an irrigation pond, **Audubon's Warblers**, **Acorn Woodpecker** and **Chipping Sparrows**. Up the hill on the other side a **Red-tailed Hawk** flew in and landed on a treetop and an **American Kestrel** proceeded to dive bomb it. We continued on back to our hotel this time enjoying a warmer evening and a review of our list of birds after dinner.

18th March 2013

This morning we had an early breakfast and left the hotel so as to arrive on the lower slopes of Volcano Fuego before dawn. A couple of roadside stops here, soon had us listening to several **Buff-collared Nightjars** with one being spotlighted nicely on a tree branch. We could hear a couple of **Great Horned Owls** which may have put pay to us not hearing any **Balsas Screech-Owls** in the area. We then heard an **Eared Poorwill** and got superb sunrise looks at one of the **Great Horned Owls** silhouetted against the red morning light. We then drove on high into the forested mountain and stopped in an area we were yesterday where we had found some fruiting trees. There were **Brown-backed Solitaires** calling everywhere and several showing well. A couple of **Chestnut-sided Shrike-Vireos** were seen and good numbers of **White-throated Thrushes**. In the low flowers a **Magnificent Hummingbird** fed, and an **Olivaceous Woodcreeper** called but never showed itself. Gina went to check out one particular tree and came running back having found several **Aztec Thrushes** feeding in it. We quickly found our way to the spot and focused on this lone tree laden with berries. Lots of **White-throated Thrushes** were coming and going and several warblers including **Townsend**, **Crescent-chested** and a fabulous **Red Warbler**. Then after an anxious wait Gina had one of the **Aztec Thrushes** in her scope! We all got super views of this much wanted bird. Moving on a little we found **Black-and-white Warblers**, **Hermit Warblers**, **Slate-throated Whitestart's**, **Nashville's**, **Wilson's** and more views of **Red Warblers**. A group of **Transvolcanic Jays** flew through the canopy, **White-striped Woodcreeper** showed briefly and a couple of **Golden-browed Warblers** and **Green-striped Brush-Finches** worked the understory. We then found a female **Amethyst-throated Hummingbird**, and shortly after we spotted a female **Cinnamon-bellied Flowerpiercer**. As our picnic lunch was being prepared a male **Flowerpiercer** was seen and we got super scope views of a male **Amethyst-throated Hummingbird**. After a relaxed lunch a small flock held the usual warblers plus a nice male **Olive Warbler**. A **Nightingale Thrush** was glimpsed by a few but not identified and a couple of **Flame-coloured Tanagers** fed quietly in a tree. Nearby a **Hairy Woodpecker** chiseled away at a dead tree while in the background Fuego Volcano let off two big blasts! It was now hot and quiet so we headed down the mountain. A stop in the scrubby lowlands produced a **Scotts Oriole**, **Eastern Bluebirds**, **Curve-billed**



Great Horned Owl in the morning sunrise



Another favourite this Chestnut-sided Shrike-Vireo was great in the scope

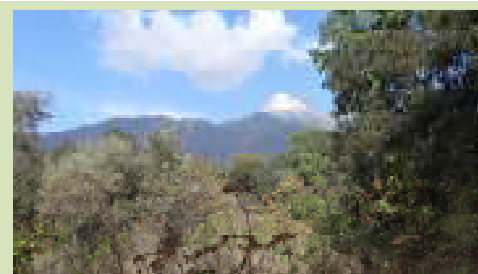


Fuego Volcano

Thrashers, a Northern Flicker, Ladder-backed Woodpecker, Blue Mockingbirds, Vermilion Flycatchers, White-tailed Kite, Loggerhead Shrike, Spotted Wrens and Northern Harrier. As we had had an early start today we decided to head back to our hotel just a little earlier than normal. Another quick stop though got us good views of a group of about 15 **Banded Quails**.

19th March 2013

This morning we had another early breakfast and headed up to Volcano del Fuego before dawn to look for some nocturnal species in the last hours of darkness. As we ascended the hill some eye shine revealed a **Bobcat** crossing the road and disappearing into the blackness. Further on we heard **Buff-collared Nightjar** and then one of our targets an **Eared Poorwill**. With patience and perseverance, we eventually got fabulous close views of this bird perched low in a small bush. Daylight came up quickly and soon we were birding the lower elevations picking up **Rusty Sparrow, Collared Towhee, Greater Pewee, Gray-crowned Woodpecker** and hundreds of **White-throated Swifts** circling overhead as we walked down the road. We made our way down to a homestead just before the avocado plantation and heard the mournful call of a **Lesser Roadrunner** but the bird stayed hidden from view. In the open area around the avocado trees we found **Black-vented Oriole** and once again we heard **Long-tailed Wood-Partridge** calling from the scrubby hillside above. In fact at least three groups of birds called back and forth but none came into view. Other birds around included **Blue Mockingbird, Lesser Goldfinch, Nutting's Flycatcher, Common Raven** and **Elegant Euphonia**. Further down, a flock of **Banded Quail** were seen crossing the road. We enjoyed lunch in a lovely town along the road and then birded an area of near a swamp that offered **Nutting's Flycatcher, Rusty-crowned Ground-Sparrow, Black-capped Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Varied Bunting, Black-capped Gnatcatcher, Townsend's Warbler, Wilson's Warbler, Red-crowned Ant-Tanager, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** and a lovely male **Golden-crowned Emerald**. A **Hooded Oriole** was seen here as well. Our next stop at La Laguna Maria had us looking out over a lake to see **Great Blue Heron, Least Grebes, Blue-winged Teal, Ruddy Ducks, Cinnamon Teal, Green-winged Teal** and **Great Egret**. A **Least Flycatcher** flitted away in the trees around the picnic area and a fruiting tree offered **White-throated Thrushes, Summer and Western Tanagers**, an **Orange-billed Nightingale-Thrush** that stayed well hidden under a nearby log and a **Northern Waterthrush** called loudly from the forest. On the way out we stopped to look at a **Black-throated Green Warbler** in a tree by the road and then we headed to Manzanillo for the night.



Fuego Volcano



Our prize views of Eared Poorwill



A stunning Golden-crowned Emerald



A bright orange Hooded Oriole

20th March 2013

After our final trip dinner last night, complete with margaritas, tequila sunrises, and plenty of our beloved guacamole, we were up early for one last morning of birding before leaving Mexico. We birded a cobblestone road next to a mango orchard and it was quiet at first but soon the first **Yellow-winged Caciques** started squawking. **San Blas Jays** were also around in number and Jeff was particularly pleased to see a nice male **Orange-breasted Bunting** perched up and glowing in the dull morning light. There were **Streak-backed Orioles** around and a **Golden-cheeked Woodpecker** and two **White-throated Magpie-Jays** flew by. We walked along the road into the forest and crossed paths with a group of four **Citreoline Trogons** and our first of several **White-bellied Wrens**. David spotted a **Rose-throated Becard** that flew off quickly, and there were several **Cinnamon Hummingbirds** flitting around and a **Happy Wren**. By mid-morning we headed to the airport. We said our goodbye's to Dave our local guide who had shown us the diverse landscapes and birds of Western Mexico, and we told him to expect us back next year to see more of the avian treasures of this wonderful country.



Not rare, endemic or even special to Mexico! It was just a very nice picture taken on our boat trip.

BIRDLIST FOR MEXICO 2013

A = Number of species recorded on tour B = Number of days out of 12 recorded
C = Highest daily count E=Endemic

A	SPECIES	SCIENTIFIC NAME	B	C
1	American Wigeon	<i>Anas americana</i>	2	10
2	Mallard (Mexican Duck)	<i>Anas platyrhynchos diazi</i>	3	6
3	Blue-winged Teal	<i>Anas discors</i>	6	12
4	Cinnamon Teal	<i>Anas cyanoptera</i>	4	4
5	Northern Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>	5	150
6	Green-winged Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>	4	10
7	Ruddy Duck	<i>Oxyura jamaicensis</i>	3	8
8	Rufous-bellied Chachalaca	E <i>Ortalis wagleri</i>	3	3
9	West Mexican Chachalaca	E <i>Ortalis poliocephala</i>	2	3
10	Crested Guan	<i>Penelope purpurascens</i>	2	2
11	Elegant Quail	E <i>Callipepla douglasii</i>	2	2
12	Montezuma Quail	<i>Cyrtonyx montezumae</i>	1	2
13	Long-tailed Wood-Partridge	E <i>Dendrortyx macroura</i>	3	Heard only
14	Banded Quail	E <i>Philortyx fasciatus</i>	3	15
15	Least Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus dominicus</i>	6	15
16	Clark's Grebe	<i>Aechmophorus clarkii</i>	1	1
17	Wood Stork	<i>Mycteria americana</i>	5	20
18	Neotropic Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax brasilianus</i>	7	40
19	Magnificent Frigatebird	<i>Fregata magnificens</i>	7	300
20	Brown Pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>	8	60
21	American White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i>	2	200
22	Blue-footed Booby	<i>Sula nebouxii</i>	1	4
23	Brown Booby	<i>Sula leucogaster</i>	1	60
24	Bare-throated Tiger-Heron	<i>Tigrisoma mexicanum</i>	2	3

25	Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>	7	10+
26	Great Egret	<i>Casmerodius albus</i>	7	250
27	Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	6	6
28	Little Blue Heron	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>	3	4
29	Tricolored Heron	<i>Egretta tricolor</i>	3	10
30	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	8	Common
31	Green Heron	<i>Butorides virescens</i>	2	10
32	Black-crowned Night-Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	2	4
33	Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	<i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>	2	12
34	Boat-billed Heron	<i>Cochlearius cochlearius</i>	1	30
35	White Ibis	<i>Eudocimus albus</i>	5	30
36	White-faced Ibis	<i>Plegadis chihi</i>	4	40
37	Roseate Spoonbill	<i>Platalea ajaja</i>	4	12
38	Black Vulture	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>	12	Common
39	Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	12	Common
40	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	1	2
41	Hook-billed Kite	<i>Chondrohierax uncinatus</i>	1	1
42	White-tailed Kite	<i>Elanus leucurus</i>	2	2
43	Snail Kite	<i>Rostrhamus sociabilis</i>	1	4
44	Northern Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	4	3
45	Sharp-shinned Hawk	<i>Accipiter striatus</i>	4	1
46	Cooper's Hawk	<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>	3	2
47	Crane Hawk	<i>Geranospiza caerulescens</i>	1	2
48	Common Black-Hawk	<i>Buteogallus anthracinus</i>	1	4
49	Great Black-Hawk	<i>Buteogallus urubitinga</i>	1	1
50	Harris's Hawk	<i>Parabuteo unicinctus</i>	3	4
51	Gray Hawk	<i>Buteo nitidus</i>	11	6
52	Short-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo brachyurus</i>	7	2
53	White-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo albicaudatus</i>	2	1
54	Zone-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo albonotatus</i>	3	1
55	Red-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>	9	3
56	Northern Crested Caracara	<i>Caracara cheriway</i>	7	10
57	Laughing Falcon	<i>Herpetotheres cachinnans</i>	1	Heard only
58	Collared Forest-Falcon	<i>Micrastur semitorquatus</i>	1	1
59	American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>	10	8
60	Bat Falcon	<i>Falco ruficularis</i>	1	1
61	Limpkin	<i>Aramus guarauna</i>	2	3
62	Rufous-necked Wood-Rail	<i>Aramides axillaris</i>	1	5
63	Sora	<i>Porzana carolina</i>	2	6
64	Spotted Rail	<i>Pardirallus maculatus</i>	1	Heard only
65	Purple Gallinule	<i>Porphyrio martinica</i>	2	4
66	Common Gallinule	<i>Gallinula cachinnans</i>	2	6
67	American Coot	<i>Fulica americana</i>	7	20+
68	Black-necked Stilt	<i>Himantopus mexicanus</i>	5	100
69	American Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra americana</i>	1	10
70	Killdeer	<i>Charadrius vociferus</i>	2	1
71	Spotted Sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularius</i>	8	3
72	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	2	4
73	Marbled Godwit	<i>Limosa fedoa</i>	1	2
74	Long-billed Dowitcher	<i>Limnodromus scolopaceus</i>	2	8
75	Greater Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>	1	2
76	Willet	<i>Tringa semipalmata</i>	3	8

77	Lesser Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa flavipes</i>	2	8
78	Least Sandpiper	<i>Calidris minutilla</i>	4	4
79	Stilt Sandpiper	<i>Calidris himantopus</i>	2	3
80	Heermann's Gull	<i>Larus heermanni</i>	2	50+
81	Ring-billed Gull	<i>Larus delawarensis</i>	2	20
82	American Herring Gull	<i>Larus smithsonianus</i>	2	10+
83	Laughing Gull	<i>Leucophaeus atricilla</i>	5	50+
84	Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>	1	6
85	Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>	6	30
86	Royal Tern	<i>Thalasseus maximus</i>	2	20+
87	Elegant Tern	<i>Thalasseus elegans</i>	1	3
88	Black Skimmer	<i>Rynchops niger</i>	1	2?
89	Rock Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	10	Common
90	Red-billed Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas flavirostris</i>	4	10
91	Band-tailed Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas fasciata</i>	4	8
92	Eurasian Collared-Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	3	6
93	Mourning Dove	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	4	10
94	White-winged Dove	<i>Zenaida asiatica</i>	7	Common
95	Common Ground-Dove	<i>Columbina passerina</i>	8	30+
96	Ruddy Ground-Dove	<i>Columbina talpacoti</i>	5	10
97	Inca Dove	<i>Columbina inca</i>	9	Common
98	White-tipped Dove	<i>Leptotila verreauxi</i>	7	2
99	Military Macaw	<i>Ara militaris</i>	2	20
100	Orange-fronted Parakeet	<i>Aratinga canicularis</i>	5	12
101	Mexican Parrotlet	E <i>Forpus cyanopygius</i>	1	25
102	Lilac-crowned Parrot	E <i>Amazona finschi</i>	2	2
103	Squirrel Cuckoo	<i>Piaya cayana</i>	5	1
104	Lesser Roadrunner	<i>Geococcyx velox</i>	1	Heard only
105	Groove-billed Ani	<i>Crotophaga sulcirostris</i>	4	3
106	Vermiculated Screech-Owl	<i>Megascops guatemalae</i>	1	Heard only
107	Great Horned Owl	<i>Bubo virginianus</i>	2	2
108	Northern Pygmy-Owl (Mountain)	<i>Glaucidium gnoma gnoma</i>	1	1
109	Colima Pygmy-Owl	E <i>Glaucidium palmarum</i>	3	1
110	Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl	<i>Glaucidium brasilianum</i>	3	3
111	Northern Potoo	<i>Nyctibius jamaicensis</i>	1	5
112	Common/Lesser Nighthawk?	<i>Chordeiles sp</i>	1	1
113	Pauraque	<i>Nyctidromus albicollis</i>	2	3
114	Eared Poorwill	E <i>Nyctiphrynus mcleodii</i>	2	1
115	Buff-collared Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus ridgwayi</i>	3	2
116	White-collared Swift	<i>Streptoprocne zonaris</i>	1	12
117	White-naped Swift	E <i>Streptoprocne semicollaris</i>	4	40
118	Vaux's Swift	<i>Chaetura vauxi</i>	4	10
119	White-throated Swift	<i>Aeronautes saxatalis</i>	3	120+
120	Great Swallow-tailed Swift	<i>Panyptila sanctihieronymi</i>	1	1
121	Green Violet-ear	<i>Colibri thalassinus</i>	1	Heard only
122	Golden-crowned Emerald	E <i>Chlorostilbon auriceps</i>	4	2
123	Broad-billed Hummingbird	<i>Cynanthus latirostris</i>	5	4
124	Mexican Woodnymph	E <i>Thalurania ridgwayi</i>	2	1
125	White-eared Hummingbird	<i>Hylocharis leucotis</i>	6	6
126	Cinnamon Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia rutila</i>	5	10
127	Violet-crowned Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia violiceps</i>	1	3
128	Green-fronted Hummingbird	E <i>Amazilia viridifrons</i>	1	1

129	Berylline Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia beryllina</i>	6	4
130	Amethyst-throated Hummingbird	<i>Lampornis amethystinus</i>	2	1
131	Blue-throated Hummingbird	<i>Lampornis clemenciae</i>	2	2
132	Magnificent Hummingbird	<i>Eugenes fulgens</i>	2	3
133	Plain-capped Starthroat	<i>Helioaster constantii</i>	3	1
134	Black-chinned Hummingbird	<i>Archilochus alexandri</i>	1	1
135	Bumblebee Hummingbird E	<i>Atthis heloisa</i>	1	3
136	Calliope Hummingbird	<i>Stellula calliope</i>	6	2
137	Broad-tailed Hummingbird	<i>Selasphorus platycercus</i>	6	3
138	Citreoline Trogon E	<i>Trogon citreolus</i>	3	6
139	Mountain Trogon	<i>Trogon mexicanus</i>	4	2
140	Elegant Trogon	<i>Trogon elegans</i>	4	1
141	Ringed Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle torquatus</i>	1	1
142	Belted Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle alcyon</i>	5	10
143	Green Kingfisher	<i>Chloroceryle americana</i>	3	10
144	Russet-crowned Motmot	<i>Momotus mexicanus</i>	2	2
145	Acorn Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes formicivorus</i>	6	6
146	Golden-cheeked Woodpecker E	<i>Melanerpes chrysogenys</i>	9	3
147	Gila Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes uropygialis</i>	5	2
148	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	<i>Sphyrapicus varius</i>	1	1
149	Ladder-backed Woodpecker	<i>Picoides scalaris</i>	10	2
150	Arizona Woodpecker	<i>Picoides arizonae</i>	4	2
151	Hairy Woodpecker	<i>Picoides villosus</i>	1	1
152	Gray-crowned Woodpecker E	<i>Colaptes auricularis</i>	2	3
153	Northern Flicker	<i>Colaptes auratus</i>	1	1
154	Lineated Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus lineatus</i>	3	4
155	Pale-billed Woodpecker	<i>Campephilus guatemalensis</i>	4	2
156	Olivaceous Woodcreeper	<i>Sittasomus griseicapillus</i>	1	Heard only
157	Ivory-billed Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphorhynchus flavigaster</i>	1	Heard only
158	White-striped Woodcreeper E	<i>Lepidocolaptes leucogaster</i>	6	7
159	Greenish Elaenia	<i>Myiopagis viridicata</i>	4	2
160	Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet	<i>Camptostoma imberbe</i>	5	2
161	Willow Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax traillii</i>	1	1
162	White-throated Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax albigularis</i>	2	3
163	Least Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax minimus</i>	1	1
164	Hammond's Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax hammondii</i>	5	5
165	Dusky Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax oberholseri</i>	2	2
166	Pine Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax affinis</i>	2	2
167	Pacific-slope Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax difficilis</i>	8	4
168	Cordilleran Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax occidentalis</i>	4	2
169	Buff-breasted Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax fulvifrons</i>	4	1
170	Tufted Flycatcher	<i>Mitrephanes phaeocercus</i>	6	4
171	Greater Pewee	<i>Contopus pertinax</i>	8	2
172	Say's Phoebe	<i>Sayornis saya</i>	2	1
173	Vermilion Flycatcher	<i>Pyrocephalus rubinus</i>	8	6
174	Social Flycatcher	<i>Myiozetetes similis</i>	7	5
175	Great Kiskadee	<i>Pitangus sulphuratus</i>	7	6
176	Boat-billed Flycatcher	<i>Megarynchus pitangua</i>	1	1
177	Tropical Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i>	7	Common
178	Cassin's Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus vociferans</i>	5	10
179	Thick-billed Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus crassirostris</i>	12	Common
180	Western Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus verticalis</i>	2	1

181	Dusky-capped Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus tuberculifer</i>	4	1
182	Ash-throated Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus cinerascens</i>	2	6
183	Nutting's Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus nuttingi</i>	4	4
184	Brown-crested Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus tyrannulus</i>	5	2
185	Bright-rumped Attila	<i>Attila spadiceus</i>	4	Heard only
186	Flammulated Flycatcher	E <i>Deltarhynchus flammulatus</i>	1	1
187	Masked Tityra	<i>Tityra semifasciata</i>	4	6
188	Gray-collared Becard	<i>Pachyramphus major</i>	1	1
189	Rose-throated Becard	<i>Pachyramphus aglaiae</i>	1	2
190	Tree Swallow	<i>Tachycineta bicolor</i>	3	No count
191	Violet-green Swallow	<i>Tachycineta thalassina</i>	3	No count
192	Northern Rough-winged Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx serripennis</i>	7	No count
193	Mangrove Swallow	<i>Tachycineta albilinea</i>	2	20
194	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	6	No count
195	Cliff Swallow	<i>Petrochelidon pyrrhonota</i>	2	10
196	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	<i>Regulus calendula</i>	5	3
197	Gray Silky-Flycatcher	<i>Ptilogonys cinereus</i>	5	50
198	Gray-barred Wren	E <i>Campylorhynchus megalopterus</i>	2	10
199	Spotted Wren	E <i>Campylorhynchus gularis</i>	4	4
200	Canyon Wren	<i>Catherpes mexicanus</i>	1	Heard only
201	Happy Wren	E <i>Pheugopedius felix</i>	5	3
202	Sinaloa Wren	E <i>Thryothorus sinaloa</i>	6	4
203	House Wren	<i>Troglodytes aedon</i>	3	3
204	Brown-throated Wren	E <i>Troglodytes aedon brunneicollis</i>	1	2
205	Marsh Wren	<i>Cistothorus palustris</i>	2	1
206	White-bellied Wren	<i>Uropsila leucogastra</i>	1	6
207	Gray-breasted Wood-Wren	<i>Henicorhina leucophrys</i>	2	1
208	Northern Mockingbird	<i>Mimus polyglottos</i>	4	1
209	Curve-billed Thrasher	<i>Toxostoma curvirostre</i>	5	4
210	Blue Mockingbird	E <i>Melanotis caerulescens</i>	9	8
211	Eastern Bluebird	<i>Sialia sialis</i>	8	6
212	Brown-backed Solitaire	<i>Myadestes occidentalis</i>	8	6
213	Orange-billed Nightingale-Thrush	<i>Catharus aurantiirostris</i>	3	1
214	Hermit Thrush	<i>Catharus guttatus</i>	1	1
215	White-throated Thrush	<i>Turdus assimilis</i>	6	30
216	Rufous-backed Thrush	E <i>Turdus rufopalliatu</i>	3	10
217	Rufous-backed Thrush	E <i>Turdus rufopalliatu graysoni</i>	1	2
218	American Robin	<i>Turdus migratorius</i>	1	1
219	Aztec Thrush	E <i>Ridgwayia pinicola</i>	2	2
220	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	<i>Polioptila caerulea</i>	9	6
221	Black-capped Gnatcatcher	<i>Polioptila nigriceps</i>	7	2
222	Bushtit	<i>Psaltriparus minimus</i>	1	2
223	Mexican Chickadee	<i>Poecile sclateri</i>	2	1
224	Bridled Titmouse	<i>Baeolophus wollweberi</i>	2	2
225	White-breasted Nuthatch	<i>Sitta carolinensis</i>	1	1
226	Pygmy Nuthatch	<i>Sitta pygmaea</i>	1	1
227	Brown Creeper	<i>Certhia americana</i>	2	1
228	Loggerhead Shrike	<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>	2	1
229	Steller's Jay	<i>Cyanocitta stelleri</i>	1	2
230	Black-throated Magpie-Jay	<i>Calocitta colliei</i>	7	10
231	White-throated Magpie-Jay	<i>Calocitta formosa</i>	1	2
232	Tufted Jay	E <i>Cyanocorax dickeyi</i>	1	10

233	Green Jay		<i>Cyanocorax yncas</i>	1	6
234	San Blas Jay	E	<i>Cyanocorax sanblasianus</i>	2	8
235	Purplish-backed Jay	E	<i>Cyanocorax beecheii</i>	2	4
236	Transvolcanic Jay	E	<i>Aphelocoma ultramarina</i>	2	10
237	Sinaloa Crow	E	<i>Corvus sinaloae</i>	5	100+
238	Common Raven		<i>Corvus corax</i>	5	4
239	House Sparrow		<i>Passer domesticus</i>	7	No count
240	Bell's Vireo		<i>Vireo bellii</i>	1	1
241	Black-capped Vireo		<i>Vireo atricapilla</i>	1	1
242	Plumbeous Vireo		<i>Vireo plumbeus</i>	2	2
243	Cassin's Vireo		<i>Vireo cassinii</i>	3	2
244	Hutton's Vireo		<i>Vireo huttoni</i>	4	3
245	Golden Vireo	E	<i>Vireo hypochryseus</i>	3	6
246	Warbling Vireo		<i>Vireo gilvus</i>	9	10
247	Chestnut-sided Shrike-Vireo		<i>Vireolanus melitophrys</i>	2	1
248	Scrub Euphonia (Godman's)		<i>Euphonia affinis godmani</i>	3	4
249	Elegant Euphonia		<i>Euphonia elegantissima</i>	1	2
250	House Finch		<i>Carpodacus mexicanus</i>	5	4
251	Red Crossbill		<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>	1	2
252	Pine Siskin		<i>Carduelis pinus</i>	1	10
253	Black-headed Siskin		<i>Carduelis notata</i>	3	12
254	Lesser Goldfinch		<i>Carduelis psaltria</i>	5	6
255	Olive Warbler		<i>Peucedramus taeniatus</i>	1	2
256	Orange-crowned Warbler		<i>Vermivora celata</i>	10	Common
257	Nashville Warbler		<i>Vermivora ruficapilla</i>	10	12
258	Virginia's Warbler		<i>Vermivora virginiae</i>	1	2
259	Colima Warbler		<i>Vermivora crissalis</i>	1	2
260	Lucy's Warbler		<i>Vermivora luciae</i>	1	1
261	Crescent-chested Warbler		<i>Parula superciliosa</i>	5	8
262	Tropical Parula		<i>Parula pitiayumi</i>	4	3
263	Yellow Warbler		<i>Setophaga petechia</i>	4	4
264	Yellow-rumped Warbler		<i>Setophaga coronata</i>	11	10
265	Black-throated Gray Warbler		<i>Setophaga nigrescens</i>	11	5
266	Black-throated Green Warbler		<i>Setophaga virens</i>	1	1
267	Townsend's Warbler		<i>Setophaga townsendi</i>	6	8
268	Hermit Warbler		<i>Setophaga occidentalis</i>	4	4
269	Grace's Warbler		<i>Setophaga graciae</i>	2	6
270	Black-and-white Warbler		<i>Mniotilta varia</i>	8	2
271	American Redstart		<i>Setophaga ruticilla</i>	2	1
272	Northern Waterthrush		<i>Seiurus noveboracensis</i>	2	10
273	Louisiana Waterthrush		<i>Seiurus motacilla</i>	1	1
274	MacGillivray's Warbler		<i>Oporornis tolmiei</i>	8	2
275	Common Yellowthroat		<i>Geothlypis trichas</i>	4	8
276	Wilson's Warbler		<i>Wilsonia pusilla</i>	12	Common
277	Red-faced Warbler		<i>Wilsonia canadensis</i>	2	4
278	Red Warbler	E	<i>Ergaticus ruber</i>	2	4
279	Painted Redstart		<i>Myioborus pictus</i>	3	4
280	Slate-throated Redstart		<i>Myioborus miniatus miniatus</i>	4	6
281	Fan-tailed Warbler		<i>Euthlypis lachrymosa</i>	4	1
282	Golden-crowned Warbler		<i>Basileuterus culicivorus</i>	1	2
283	Rufous-capped Warbler		<i>Basileuterus rufifrons</i>	5	2
284	Golden-browed Warbler		<i>Basileuterus belli</i>	3	2

285	Yellow-breasted Chat	<i>Icteria virens</i>	4	1
286	Rosy Thrush-Tanager	<i>Rhodinocichla rosea</i>	1	2
287	Red-crowned Ant-Tanager	<i>Habia rubica</i>	2	1
288	Hepatic Tanager	<i>Piranga flava</i>	6	8
289	Summer Tanager	<i>Piranga rubra</i>	4	3
290	Western Tanager	<i>Piranga ludoviciana</i>	5	3
291	Flame-coloured Tanager	<i>Piranga bidentata</i>	3	3
292	Red-headed Tanager	<i>Piranga erythrocephala</i>	3	4
293	Blue-black Grassquit	<i>Volatinia jacarina</i>	1	2
294	White-collared Seedeater	<i>Sporophila torqueola torqueola</i>	1	20
295	Cinnamon-bellied Flowerpiercer	<i>Diglossa baritula</i>	1	2
296	Rufous-capped Brush-Finch	<i>Atlapetes pileatus</i>	3	6
297	Green-striped Brush-Finch	<i>Arremon virenticeps</i>	3	3
298	Rusty-crowned Ground-Sparrow	<i>Melospiza kieneri</i>	5	2
299	Collared Towhee	<i>Pipilo ocai</i>	3	2
300	Spotted Towhee	<i>Pipilo maculatus</i>	1	3
301	Canyon Towhee	<i>Pipilo fuscus</i>	4	4
302	Stripe-headed Sparrow	<i>Aimophila ruficauda</i>	4	3
303	Black-chested Sparrow	<i>Aimophila humeralis</i>	2	4
304	Rusty Sparrow	<i>Aimophila rufescens</i>	2	3
305	Chipping Sparrow	<i>Spizella passerina</i>	6	20+
306	Clay-coloured Sparrow	<i>Spizella pallida</i>	2	4
307	Lark Sparrow	<i>Chondestes grammacus</i>	1	1
308	Grasshopper Sparrow	<i>Ammodramus savannarum</i>	1	1
309	Lincoln's Sparrow	<i>Melospiza lincolnii</i>	5	20
310	White-crowned Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia leucophrys</i>	1	1
311	Yellow-eyed Junco	<i>Junco phaeonotus</i>	2	4
312	Grayish Saltator	<i>Saltator coerulescens</i>	5	3
313	Yellow Grosbeak	<i>Pheucticus chrysopeplus</i>	2	2
314	Black-headed Grosbeak	<i>Pheucticus melanocephalus</i>	10	10
315	Blue Bunting	<i>Cyanocompsa parellina</i>	4	6
316	Blue Grosbeak	<i>Passerina caerulea</i>	4	2
317	Lazuli Bunting	<i>Passerina amoena</i>	1	2
318	Indigo Bunting	<i>Passerina cyanea</i>	2	2
319	Orange-breasted Bunting	<i>Passerina leclancherii</i>	3	2
320	Varied Bunting	<i>Passerina versicolor</i>	9	6
321	Painted Bunting	<i>Passerina ciris</i>	3	3
322	Red-winged Blackbird	<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>	1	No count
323	Eastern Meadowlark	<i>Sturnella magna</i>	1	3
324	Yellow-headed Blackbird	<i>Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus</i>	2	50,000
325	Great-tailed Grackle	<i>Quiscalus mexicanus</i>	8	Common
326	Bronzed Cowbird	<i>Molothrus aeneus</i>	4	No count
327	Brown-headed Cowbird	<i>Molothrus ater</i>	3	200
328	Black-vented Oriole	<i>Icterus wagleri</i>	2	3
329	Orchard Oriole	<i>Icterus spurius</i>	2	6
330	Hooded Oriole	<i>Icterus cucullatus</i>	3	4
331	Streak-backed Oriole	<i>Icterus pustulatus</i>	10	Common
332	Bullock's Oriole	<i>Icterus bullockii</i>	7	10
333	Scott's Oriole	<i>Icterus parisorum</i>	1	1
334	Yellow-winged Cacique	<i>Cacicus melanicterus</i>	8	30+

MAMMALS & Others

1.	Antelope Jackrabbit	<i>Lepus alleni</i>	1	1
2.	Rock Squirrel	<i>Otospermophilus variegatus</i>	2	4
3.	Mexican Grey Squirrel	<i>Sciurus aureogaster</i>	3	No count
4.	Eastern Cottontail	<i>Sylvilagus floridanus</i>	1	1
5.	Bobcat	<i>Lynx rufus</i>	1	1
6.	Crab-eating Raccoon	<i>Procyon cancrivorus</i>	1	1
7.	White-nosed Coati	<i>Nasua narica</i>	1	1
8.	Greater Bulldog Bat	<i>Noctilio leporinus</i>	1	4
9.	Black Iguana	<i>Ctenosaura similis</i>	2	6
10.	American Crocodile	<i>Crocodylus acutus</i>	1	20

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The rest of the photos were taken by Steve Bird.**