



WEST MEXICO: TOUR REPORT 2017

21st FEBRUARY – 9th MARCH

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

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

- Rufous-bellied Chachalaca
- Elegant Quail
- Long-tailed Wood-Partridge
- Rufous-necked Wood-Rail
- Lesser Roadrunner
- Balsas Screech Owl
- Mexican Barred Owl
- Colima Pygmy Owl
- Northern Potoo
- Mexican Whip-poor-will
- Eared Poorwill
- Mexican Hermit
- Mexican Violetear
- Mexican Woodnymph
- Bumblebee Hummingbird
- Citreoline Trogon
- Coppery-tailed Trogon
- Russet-crowned Motmot
- Golden-cheeked Woodpecker
- Lilac-crowned Amazon
- Mexican Parrotlet
- Military Macaw
- Chestnut-sided Shrike-Vireo
- Black-capped Vireo
- Dwarf Vireo
- Golden Vireo
- San Blas Jay
- Tufted Jay
- Black-throated Magpie-Jay
- Flammulated Flycatcher
- Grey Silky-Flycatcher
- Spotted Wren
- Blue Mockingbird
- Brown-backed Solitaire
- Russet Nightingale-Thrush
- Olive Warbler
- Crescent-chested Warbler
- Colima Warbler
- Red-faced Warbler
- Golden-browed Warbler
- Red Warbler
- Collared Towhee
- Rusty-crowned Ground Sparrow
- Green-striped Brush-Finch
- Red-headed Tanager
- Red-breasted Chat
- Varied Bunting
- Orange-breasted Bunting

SUMMARY:

West Mexico is a birders paradise with a superb variety of habitats that harbour an exciting cast of endemics, along with an excellent supporting cast of amazing birds. Our tour produced 327 species seen, of which 47 were Mexican endemics. But it's not just about numbers and the overall experience of seeing a wide variety of wintering warblers usually in large flocks, some good shorebirds, and a wide variety of hummers, parrots and other really rare birds all in lovely warm sunshine certainly made this a very enjoyable tour. We travelled from Puerto Vallarta, where Blue Mockingbird was a garden bird, along the coast to Volcan de Fuego and its sister, Volcan de Nieve where we encountered Lesser Roadrunner, numerous Orange-breasted Buntings and the fabulous Chestnut-sided Shrike-Vireo. Incredible San Blas was next and a couple of boat rides were thoroughly enjoyed by everyone with views of Northern Potoo that just couldn't be beaten. Possibly the Tufted Jays along the Durango Highway were our birds of the trip, although some great night birds including Balsas Screech-Owl, Colima Pygmy-Owl, the huge Cinereous Owl, Mexican Whip-poor-will and Eared Poorwill also took some beating. With great food and an excellent local guide in Kim Risen this is a tour we cannot wait to repeat.

Days 1 - 2 UK – MEXICO CITY – PUERTO VALLARTA

Following an overnight flight via Mexico City we eventually arrived in the charming resort of Puerto Vallarta shortly after 8am. Everyone had decided to fly out two days early and get fully recharged before the tour officially commenced and so, of course, we began our birding immediately after meeting up with our excellent guide Kim Risen. Driving south out of the town we followed the coast road and made our first stop opposite a couple of large offshore islands where lots of **Brown Pelicans** were nesting. Several **Magnificent Frigatebirds** soared against the clear blue sky and we also saw loads of **Royal Terns** fishing offshore. All of a sudden a **Citreoline Trogon** flew past us and landed in a nearby large tree. How bizarre! As we followed this beauty a pair of **Greyish Saltators** were found, followed by **Nashville Warbler**, **San Blas Jay**, and an **Ivory-billed Woodcreeper**.

A short drive further along the coast road took us to the Botanical Gardens and this turned into a very productive session. Just below the car park we saw a large feeding flock containing **Hooded Orioles**, maybe 10+ stonking **Varied Buntings** (a bird I really wanted to see after missing it in west Texas & Arizona), several **Nashville Warblers**, **Orange-crowned Warbler**, a close **Black-throated Grey Warbler**, **Wilson's Warbler** and the first of many **Yellow-winged Caciques**. We headed down to the restaurant, where we were due to have lunch and spent a very enjoyable time watching the feeding station below us. Once some fruit was placed on the large 'bird table' a group of **Yellow-winged Caciques** flew in and provided us with much entertainment, although the presence of several superb **Golden-cheeked Woodpeckers** proved something of a distraction, as did a pair of **Godman's (Scrub) Euphonias**. A **MacGillivray's Warbler** decided to pounce around out in the open below the feeding station, a few **Green Jays** also put in an all-too brief appearance, and both **Plain-capped Starthroat** and **Cinnamon Hummingbird** were drawn to the hummer feeders here. Lunch was very nice and during this time we could observe the feeders, as well as a fruiting "Gumbo Limbo" tree which drew in **Orange-fronted Parakeets**, **Plumbeous Vireo**, **Social Flycatcher**, several **Rose-throated Becards**, 5+ **Masked Tityras**, and a **Lineated Woodpecker**. Phew! But for me the best sighting was the obliging pair of **Rusty-crowned Ground-Sparrows** that appeared below the feeders.



Golden-cheeked Woodpecker



Plain-capped Starthroat

Leaving here we walked along some of the trails and found a **Golden-crowned Emerald** and a cracking **Grey-crowned Woodpecker**. But by now it was well after 2pm so we decided to drive the 10 minutes to our wonderful lodge and just chill out for the remainder of the day. Needless to say the draw of new birds had us watching the surrounding forest and gardens from the veranda immediately upon arrival...! This was another cracking location and we had a fantastic view of the area and from the comfort of our chairs could observe our first **Grey-crowned Becard**, **Bright-rumped Attila**, **Streak-backed Oriole**, **Thick-billed Kingbird**, **Golden Vireo** and also get closer views of the **Orange-fronted Parakeets**. Things got even

better once we began walking around the garden with the major highlights being an uncharacteristically showy **Blue Mockingbird** and a **Russet-crowned Motmot** perched on a large boulder in the middle of the stream. Other goodies along the river included several female **Blue Buntings**, **Pacific-slope Flycatcher**, **Louisiana Waterthrush**, **Sinaloa Wren**, several **Audubon's Warblers** and a close **Wilson's Warbler**. In the garden an **Ivory-billed Woodcreeper** showed well, several **Stripe-headed Sparrows** gave their jangling song, and our first **Rufous-backed Thrushes** were much appreciated. There was also a **Clay-coloured Robin**, **Yellow-breasted Chat**, **Greater Pewee**, several **Berylline Hummingbirds** and a **Black-throated Grey Warbler**. We spent quite a while watching the buntings and warblers coming to drink in the middle of the stream and were also entranced by the motmot, but time passed all too quickly and tiredness began to creep in so we retired to the veranda for the checklist. This was continually interrupted by the ridiculously obvious **Blue Mockingbird**, some flyover **Lilac-crowned Amazons**, and a **Rufous-backed Thrush**. Oh and I forgot to mention the **Green Kingfisher** seen along the stream. Boy, we were loving the birding here in West Mexico and it's great to share this with such an enthusiastic group and an equally enthusiastic and knowledgeable guide. Cant wait for tomorrow...

Day 3 PUERTO VALLARTA

After an 8am breakfast we drove maybe 15 minutes to a dirt road that took us up into the hills. Here amidst nice mixed pine-evergreen forest we spent an enjoyable couple of hours in perfect temperatures watching a real excellent cast of desirable species. We began with a pair of **Rusty Sparrows**, **Tropical Parula**, **Black-headed Siskin**, **Acorn Woodpecker**, and an extremely obliging **Grace's Warbler** that gave cripplingly close views. Driving higher the next stop was timely as we entered woodpecker heaven with **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**, a pair of **Arizona Woodpeckers**, **Lineated Woodpecker** and at least 3 **Grey-crowned Woodpeckers**. Some flowering bushes held **Bullock's Oriole**, along with a number of previously seen warblers, a **Squirrel Cuckoo** and called in a **Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet**.



Grace's Warbler



San Blas Jay

By now it was mid-morning and we decided to return to the Botanical Gardens as there were still a couple of birds we needed there. It was hot by the time we arrived so we made our way to the restaurant to view the feeding station, but it was all quiet. So we walked around the gardens hoping for **Mexican Hermit** and during our time here a few people in the group managed to catch a glimpse of it. But we did get a couple of **Short-tailed Hawks** and an immature **Red-tailed Hawk** flying over, and over the course of lunchtime a pair of **San Blas Jays** came in, along with a **White-throated Thrush**. There were also further reappearances of **Plain-capped Starthroat**, **Rusty-crowned Ground Sparrow** and **MacGillivray's Warbler**. Once we were done here most of us returned the short distance to our lodge for a rest, whilst Gary and Trevor remained behind and

managed a view of the hermit, along with a **Lucy's Warbler** and an **Orange-billed Nightingale Thrush**.

Back at the lodge and a cracking male **Blue Bunting** showed well, as did a **Sinaloa Wren** that allowed some decent photo opportunities. A last check around the gardens before dinner resulted in a pair of **Black-vented Orioles** and a **White-collared Seedeater**. Our first night-birding session drew a blank due to cool temperatures, light rain and low cloud! Go figure! But a **Common Pauraque** was found on its roosting branch in the lodge gardens before we retired for the night.

Day 4 PUERTO VALLARTA – COASTAL THORN FOREST – BARRA DE NAVIDAD



Colima Pygmy Owl

Breakfast was at 7am and then we headed towards the coast and a quiet country road that took us through rolling forested hills and into the thorn forest that is home to some very special birds. Along the way we stopped at an overlook where **Lilac-crowned Amazons** flew around us, **Acorn Woodpeckers** scolded from dead trees and cute little **Tropical Parulas** dazzled us in the morning sunshine. A burst of activity created by our owl tape brought in **Berylline**, **Broad-billed** and **Cinnamon Hummingbirds**, with our first **Violet-crowned Hummingbird** being particularly well received. Lower down the road and a pair of **Military Macaws** flew over calling raucously, a **Bright-rumped Attila** tried its best not to be seen despite calling constantly, and our first **Happy Wren** was seen pretty well. Our next stop proved to be a belter as we called in a **Colima Pygmy-Owl** and this bird came right in and perched up right beside us and continued to stay with us for ages, even when we became engrossed with scope views of **Coppery-tailed Trogon** – the split

from Elegant Trogon. Next up was a **Ferruginous Pygmy Owl** just a little bit further along the road and then I was so pleased when Julie called the stunning **Red-breasted Chat**. What a performance we had as two males and a female appeared and over the course of the next 20 minutes we worked on getting better and better views. Even a very obliging **Happy Wren** failed to distract us from this vision of crimson and white dancing around the bushes in front of us. One last stop of the morning was also a corker with several **Citreoline Trogons**, **Dusky-capped**, **Nutting's** and **Brown-crested Flycatchers** and **Lucy's Warbler**, with **White-tailed Hawk** and 3 **Grey Hawks** flying overhead. Oh and one final, and I mean it, stop proved a fitting climax to an already amazing morning's birding with a male **Orange-breasted Bunting** – and what a bird that is! A **Pale-billed Woodpecker** and **Common Black Hawk** were practically ignored as they just cannot compete with this vision of blue and orange!

Lunch was at a beachside restaurant, complete with **Royal Terns**, **Great Blue Heron** and several **American Oystercatchers**. Leaving here we set off on the drive south to Barra de Navidad, seeing **West Mexican Chachalaca** and **Vaux's Swift** on the drive. Some roadside wetlands were great as well on this route. The first one had a flock of **Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks**, a few **Fulvous Whistling-Ducks**, **White Ibis**, **Roseate Spoonbill**, **Green Heron**, **Tricoloured Heron**, **Anhinga**, **Northern Jacana**, **Blue-winged Teal**, **Least Grebe** and **Ruddy Duck**. The second one had a few **Stilt Sandpipers**, **Western Willet**, **American Avocet**, **Black-necked Stilt**, **Lesser Yellowlegs**, **Mangrove** and **Tree Swallows**, **Steak-backed Oriole** and a showy **Pacific-slope Flycatcher**. What a great couple of list

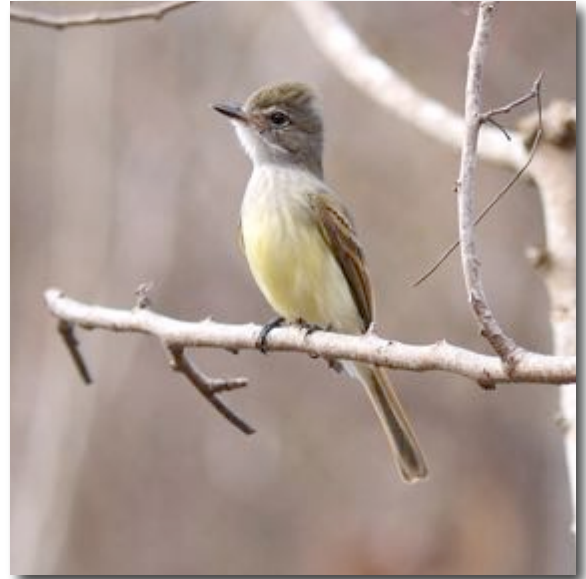


Red-breasted Chat

building sessions. We eventually reached our hotel at 6.30pm and enjoyed some cold beers and margaritas over dinner.

Day 5 PLAYA DE ORA ROAD - COLIMA

This was a slower day as we birded the famous Playa de Ora Road that transects some interesting dry thorn forest but these days the road is almost impassable and it took some neat manoeuvring to get our two vehicles along it. Around the fields at the base of the hills a cracking male **Orange-breasted Bunting** appeared, along with the usual high numbers of **Nashville Warblers**, and a few **Stripe-headed Sparrows**. An **Olive Sparrow** showed well, as did **Citreoline Trogon**, a few **Warbling Vireos**, a flock of **White-throated Magpie-Jays**, and another **Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl** before we eventually nailed the tricky endemic **Flammulated Flycatcher**. Then we drove down to the beach where a huge flock of **Blue-footed** and **Brown Boobies** were fishing way offshore. Along the beach we saw **American Kestrel**, **Ash-throated Flycatcher**, **Northern Mockingbird**, and a female **Blue Grosbeak**.



Flammulated Flycatcher

Driving back up across the hills we saw a **Swainson's Thrush** feeding along the road and eventually a **White-bellied Wren**.

Driving to Colima took about 90 minutes and along the way we saw a **Roadside Hawk**. We arrived at the motel at 5pm and took the opportunity for a rest before dinner.

Day 6 VOLCAN DE FUEGO – LA CUMBRE

A great day began with a drive along some dry forest and fields and this resulted eventually in a good sighting of the endemic **Black-chested Sparrow** singing from a perch on the grassy slope above us after a bit of a



Orange-breasted Bunting

runaround. I was amazed at the number of **Orange-breasted Buntings** here too and we also saw **Stripe-headed Sparrow**, **Lark Sparrow**, and along the river **Yellow-crowned Night-Herons**, **Neotropic Cormorant** and a **Ringed Kingfisher**. Then we drove up to the recently and apparently continuously erupting Volcan de Fuego where along the lower slopes (the upper roads were closed) we thoroughly enjoyed our crippling views of a group of **Spotted Wrens**. Moving up and we discovered a fruiting tree with several **Brown-backed Solitaires** and **Grey Silky-Flycatchers** feeding. We also saw **Cassin's Kingbird**, **Cooper's Hawk**, **Ladder-backed Woodpecker** and a showy **Canyon Wren**

sang its heart out from a bridge. A side road really produced the goods with some confiding and stunning **Vermillion Flycatchers** that we spent some time with, and a flowering tree held loads of common warblers as well as our first and really stunning **Slate-throated Whitestart** and further up a few **West Mexican Chachalacas** as well. But I cannot tell you the exhilaration when, after some searching, Bill exclaimed "roadrunner,

roadrunner, roadrunner...". Holy Cow it was a **Lesser Roadrunner** sitting on a rock some 30 metres away calling back at my ipod. We lapped up the views, fired off a few photos and high-fived.! Perfect!

After a lengthy lunch with live music and pretty girl singers we explored the lowlands and found a pair of **Rufous-naped Wrens**, a perched **Laughing Falcon** along with **Hammond's Flycatcher** and **Cassin's Vireo**. We ended the day watching the sunset at La Cumbre before calling in a **Balsas Screech Owl** that showed very well for a minute before flying off.



Lesser Roadrunner

Day 7 VOLCAN DE FUEGO

Today we visited the other side of the 'Volcano of Fire' and began another cracking day's birding in Mexico with an **Elegant Euphonia** singing at the start of the dirt track. A little further up a **Hook-billed Kite** soared overhead before landing briefly in a nearby tree and in the same area we also saw several **Black-headed Grosbeaks**, **Curve-billed Thrasher**, **Orange-crowned Warbler**, **Short-tailed Hawk**, **Lincoln's Sparrow**, **Indigo Bunting** and **Western Tanager**. These lower slopes were mainly being used for agriculture and it was tricky to find some weedy/scrubby slopes but at one of the first ones we checked, a covey of **Banded Quail** scuttled out from the fence line and out of sight – but straight onto our life lists! Our luck was truly in today as we found another **Lesser Roadrunner**, this one doing what roadrunners should be doing and running along a dirt road. Fantastic! It came really close towards us and even perched up on a fence post before disappearing. Continuing up the sunny hillside via a bumpy dirt track we also found a few birds feeding in a fruiting tree including **Cassin's** and a **Dwarf Vireo**, **Blue Grosbeak**, **Greenish Elaenia**, **White-striped Woodcreeper**, **Grey Silky-Flycatcher**, and some of us saw a **Long-tailed Wood-Partridge** scuttle cross the track in front of us. Higher up amidst mixed oak-pine woodland we saw **Hermit Warbler**, **Plumbeous Vireo**, **Bridled Titmouse**, **Brown-backed Solitaire**, **Townsend's Warbler**, **Olive Warbler** and we also eventually nailed a superb **Chestnut-sided Shrike-Vireo**.

Our picnic lunch was in a nice location in the forest and during this time we kept ourselves busy with **Painted** and **Slate-throated Whitestarts**, **Tufted Flycatcher**, a gang of **Transvolcanic Jays**, **Crescent-chested Warbler**, **Red-faced Warbler**, and a pair of **Grey-barred Wrens**. Moving lower we found a pair of skulking **Golden-browed Warblers**, followed by a pair of **Collared Towhees** and also a brief **Rufous-capped Brush-Finch**.

Leaving here we visited the Ciudad Guzman wetlands and found **Cinnamon-rumped Seedeater** (split from **White-collared Seedeater**), **Solitary Sandpiper**, **Killdeer**, **Least Sandpiper**, **Cinnamon** and **Green-winged Teals** and lots of other common species along a quiet side road. Moving on to another nice spot we called in **Sora** and **Virginia Rails** before watching 1000's of **Yellow-headed Blackbirds** flying through the valley to their roost. It was quite a day!

Day 8 VOLCAN DE NIEVE

What better way to start another brilliant day's birding under a cloudless blue sky than with a calling **Collared Forest-Falcon**? We drove up to over 10,000 feet today along a better track than yesterday, but only just! Our next stop was at an open area where we scanned the opposite slope and discovered **Brown-throated Wren**, **Collared Towhee** and **Rufous-capped Brush-Finch**. I was really pleased to see **White-eared Hummingbird** this morning, having missed it in Arizona last year as we were too early. Once we reached the first conifers we saw **Brown Creeper**, another obliging **Chestnut-sided Shrike-Vireo**, and a bunch of other common warblers. It really is quite phenomenal to see so many warblers every day on this tour.



Chestnut-sided Shrike-Vireo

Continuing higher there was **Grace's Warbler**, a **Green-striped Brush-Finch** feeding in the track, **Hammond's Flycatcher**, **Ruby-crowned Kinglet** and **Rufous Hummingbird**, but only heard a **Mountain Pygmy Owl**.

Next up was **Olive Warbler**, **Hepatic Tanager**, **Golden-browed Warbler**, **Coppery-tailed** and **Mountain Trogons** and for a few lucky individuals an **Amethyst-throated Mountain-gem**. It's quite tricky getting to grips with hummers here as you have to stake out the lines of flowers in the forest and they don't stay very long, so be quick! But everyone saw more **White-eared Hummingbirds**, as well as **Rivoli's (Magnificent) Hummingbird**. As we got higher **Mexican Chickadees** became common although it took me a while to see the first one, and **Golden-crowned Kinglets** were numerous. A singing **Mexican Violetear** was scoped at the top of a conifer, and we watched a **Cinnamon-bellied Flowerpiercer** doing what it does among some red flowers, and a **Grey-breasted Wood-Wren** did its best to distract us. We'd been hoping all day for a **Red Warbler** and after a few brief single observer sightings we finally tracked one down for all to see at 5pm – it had only taken 10 hours to find it! It was unfortunate that only Gary really had a tickable view of a **Colima Warbler** in a quick-moving warbler flock later in the day.

But we still had time to visit the wetlands where **Sora** and **Virginia Rails** appeared again, plus **Black-crowned Night-heron**, **Tricoloured Heron**, **Common Yellowthroat** and **Least Grebe**.

Day 9 VOLCAN DE NIEVE



Russet Nightingale-Thrush

Started the day at sunrise on the slopes of Volcan de Nieve, and this time we made it up to around the Km15 marker before stopping. This necessitated a 6am departure from the hotel, with a quick stop to grab some coffee and food for breakfast from a gas station... Literally the first bird of the day was a superb Mexican endemic **Russet Nightingale-Thrush** posing beside the track and it really didn't seem to mind being watched and photographed as it remained in the same spot for several minutes. Yes! But we were on a mission to find some new hummers and with just a few hours to spare before the long drive north towards Puerto Vallarta we set off higher up the volcano to an



Grey Silky-Flycatcher

area that had a lot of flowers. Here we had a 'hummer fest' with **Mexican Violetear**, **White-eared**, a cracking male and several female **Rufous**, and several **Broad-tailed Hummingbirds**. I was particularly pleased to catch up with a female **Amethyst-throated Mountain-gem** which I had missed yesterday. However, the star bird and after a 21 year wait I finally nailed **Colima Warbler** – after poor views in Big Bend, Texas when I was just a nipper! It appeared right beside the track at head height, feeding quietly in a dense bush and was on view for just a short while but it was close and in the bag. OH YES! There were also plenty of **Grey Silky-Flycatchers**, a near-endemic as it just hops over the border into Guatemala. The other goodie of the

morning was a fantastic **Red Warbler** beside the track and apart from a large warbler flock containing all the usual suspects we had reached the end of our time here as it was 11am. When I tell you we finally reached the hotel on the seashore south of Puerto Vallarta at a little before 8pm, you'll understand how tired I was feeling having driven for 9 hours to get here! We did see a few birds along the road but nothing new and with the prospect of wifi and field notes to type it was a late night for me!

Day 10 PUERTO VALLARTA – SAN BLAS

It was nice to wake up to the sound of waves crashing on the shore just 30 metres from our hotel rooms and **American Oystercatchers** calling away. After a huge breakfast we birded our way back to the highway some 40kms away and began with a pair of **West Mexican Chachalacas** beside the track leading away from the hotel, a close flyby from a **Northern Crested Caracara**, followed by the first of many **Orange-breasted Buntings**, **Nutting's Flycatcher**, **Thick-billed Kingbird** and a **Northern Beardless Tyrannulet** all coming in to our owl impersonation. A short way further along the road and more birds came in to our owl tape including our first **Ruby-throated Hummingbird** and a showy **White-bellied Wren** amongst lots of commoner species.

The next stop was great as so many birds appeared in the trees around us, but this time we saw quite a few **Lucy's Warblers**, along with a young male **Citreoline Trogon**, a **Yellow-breasted Chat** scolded away from a brush pile in the field behind us, a **Black-and-white Warbler** clambered around the branches of a bare tree right next to us and a **Willow Flycatcher** called from its perch nearby. As we drove a few more kilometres we noticed a small pool had lots of birds and my vehicle stopped to scan the area and resulted in 5 species of bunting coming in and pride of place went to the two male **Painted Buntings**, but there was also **Blue**, **Orange-breasted**, **Lazuli** and **Indigo** as well. Meanwhile the front van had cripplingly close views of a **Red-breasted Chat**. Once everyone had seen the buntings, and it was a shame we couldn't get on to the calling **Purplish-backed Jays** we returned to see the **Red-breasted Chat**. This time a **Ferruginous Pygmy Owl** flew in. Further on a **Bat Falcon** was spotted by Julie, before a **Grey Hawk** and 2 **Hook-billed Kites** flew over, and a **Green-crowned Emerald** appeared. And our best and closest view of a



Citreoline Trogon

male **Citreoline Trogon** appeared in a small village along the way as well. Our final stop of the morning, and by now it was almost 11am, finally scored with a female **Black-capped Vireo** appearing amidst a flurry of other agitated birds including **Bell's Vireo** and **Rufous-capped Warbler**. Then we drove through Puerto Vallarta and further north towards San Blas, seeing **Roadside Hawk**, **Belted Kingfisher**, our first **Sinaloa Crow**, brief **Black-throated Magpie-Jays** and a flyover **Western Osprey**. Once at San Blas we checked out some pools and enjoyed an hour's worth of easy birding, seeing **Roseate Spoonbills**, **American Avocets**, **Short-billed Dowitchers**, **Stilt Sandpipers**, **Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs**, **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron**, **Least Sandpiper**, lots of **Blue-winged Teal**, **Cinnamon Teal**, and lots of **American Alligators**. It was a nice surprise to arrive at such a delightful hotel in the old town.

Day 11 SAN BLAS RIVER TRIP – SAN BLAS

We spent the first 4 hours of daylight on the San Blas River cruising along a wide channel through the mangroves and what a relaxing time we had to endure! The main prize was the **Rufous-necked Wood-Rail** we had crawling around the mangrove branches before wandering around on the muddy floor. It was unfortunate that it decided to get in touch with its inner Usain Bolt as Kim described, as every time it came to the clearing in front of us it would run extremely fast across it! But we enjoyed fine views of many common (ish) species but thoroughly enjoyed the close views of **Common Black Hawk**, **Western Osprey**, **Snail Kite**, **Crane Hawk**, **Green and Belted Kingfishers**, **Limpkin**, **American Gallinule**, **Mangrove Warbler**, and all the expected ibis, egrets and herons. Once we reached a wide lagoon our first **Bare-throated Tiger-Heron** showed and there was a **Swainson's Hawk** flying over, lots of **Black-bellied** and a few **Fulvous Whistling-Ducks**, **Northern Pintail** etc. We tried to sail out to some rocks in the Pacific Ocean but the waves were too high so had to do with a **Reddish Egret** dashing around the shallows in typical fashion, with the ever present **Magnificent Frigatebirds** patrolling overhead. After lunch and a siesta we drove to some quiet back roads and immediately found a group of **Rufous-bellied Chachalacas**, and a short while later a flock of **Mexican Parrotlets** feeding in a fruiting tree. Result! A pair of **White-fronted Parrots** also flew over and some **Painted Buntings** showed nicely to end a fine day. Again..!



Bare-throated Tiger-Heron

Day 12 SAN BLAS

We connected with the calling **Mottled Owl** in the car park this morning whilst loading the luggage before dawn. Then we drove up into the hills, checking a roadside site that held 3 brief **Purplish-backed Jays**, as well as **San Blas Jay** and a **Russet-crowned Motmot**. Then we drove higher and went to one of Kim's secret sites where we played with a group of stunning **Elegant Quails** that took some effort but it was worthwhile, as eventually everyone got very good views. At this spot we also enjoyed fantastic looks at a gang of noisy **Black-throated Magpie-Jays** in a large tree right over our picnic table. There was also close **Boat-billed Flycatcher**,



Elegant Quail

Orange-fronted Parakeets and another **Russet-crowned Motmot** interrupting our field breakfast. Moving up the cobbled track a group of 5 **Swainson's Hawks** were seen migrating north, but with time pressing we drove to another area to search for Five-striped Sparrow. This drew a blank but a **Blue Mockingbird** showed well, as did **MacGillivray's Warbler**, **Varied Bunting** and others.

Lunch was taken at a beachside restaurant in San Blas complete with **Vaux's Swifts** flying overhead and then we had a short siesta before we drove to the small quay for our late afternoon boat trip. This time we went along the main river, getting close and I mean very close to common herons and egrets perched on some rocks before heading into a narrow channel. We again enjoyed nice close views of lots of birds including a few very



Sunset along the San Blas River



Northern Potoo

confiding **Boat-billed Herons**, and it was a shame that a calling **Spotted Rail** never showed. But our main purpose for doing this boat trip would have to wait until our boatman took us to a day roosting **Northern Potoo**, and this incredible bird was much larger than we expected with the cryptic plumage being a sight to behold. After dark we spotlighted at least 2 different **Northern Potoos**, as well as **Common Pauraque** and lots of **Lesser Nighthawks** before returning to the quay. It had been yet another fantastic experience.

Day 13 SAN BLAS – CERRO DE SAN JUAN - COPALA

At first light we checked out some coastal areas around San Blas and this proved to be rather productive as at a small beach we found a gathering of **Ring-billed Gulls**, along with a few **Laughing** and a single 1st year **American Herring Gull**. But the **Elegant Terns** perched on the rocks were much appreciated, and in perfect light we watched them for a little while and thoroughly enjoyed our time here. There was also a few **Cinnamon-rumped Seedeaters** present across a small creek as well before we set off along a winding road that took us up into the hills where we saw a flock of cracking **Mexican Parrotlets** and some more **Black-throated Magpie-Jays**.

Then we drove to Cerro de San Juan, a forested mountain where we had a great time and found the endemic **Mexican Woodnymph** and the much-wanted **Bumblebee Hummingbird** feeding amidst the roadside flower banks, along with a flock of endemic **Red-headed Tanagers**. There were also **Eastern Bluebirds**, **Cassin's Vireo**, **Greater Pewee**, and lots of the by now more familiar warblers seen before we left on the longish drive to Copala near the Durango Highway.

Day 14 DURANGO HIGHWAY

Our day birding along the Durango Highway began in spectacular fashion with a flock of 15+ **Tufted Jays** and they instantly became our bird of the trip. Not only are they stunningly beautiful, but they are a very localised



Tufted Jay

endemic and hung around for a good 25 minutes or so. Well, that was too easy! We decided to have our field breakfast here and by hanging around we were lucky that a large flock moved through with **Painted Redstart**, 8+ **Olive Warblers**, several **Grace's Warblers**, **Ruby-crowned Kinglet**, **Black-and-white Warbler**, both **Cassin's** and **Plumbeous Vireos**, **Yellow-eyed Junco** and **Mexican Chickadee**. Across the road a **White-breasted Nuthatch** appeared and is of the western form that is due to be split. Moving on, a **Zone-tailed Hawk** flew over and we enjoyed great views of **Flame-coloured Tanager**, **Bridled Titmouse** and **Brown Creeper**. The rest of the morning was spent birding along the quiet highway, and our setting was fantastic as the views were unbelievably stunning as we looked across the deep canyons to forested ridges stretching away to the horizon. Amongst plenty of species seen this morning we saw **Scott's Oriole**, **Red-faced Warbler**,

several **Blue-throated Mountaingems** at a large flower bank, along with **Green-crowned Emerald**, **White-eared Hummingbird**, and both **Green-striped** and **Rufous-capped Brush-Finches**. From here we drove up to the Tufted Jay Reserve where we had our picnic lunch. Here we had a territorial **Mountain Trogon** giving it large and flying in to check us out, as well as a **Red warbler** of the form with dark grey cheeks.

We got back to the lodge at 5pm and had a short while to shower and even admire some low-flying **Military Macaws** before taking an early dinner and then we drove out in the dark to a quiet road where a **Mexican Whip-poor-will** played hard to get but fortunately most of the group saw it perched before it flew away. A calling **Vermiculated Screech-Owl** was here as well, but failed to show itself.

Day 15 COPALA - TEPIC

We spent the first couple of hours looking for **Five-striped Sparrow** without any joy, but picked up our only **Yellow Grosbeak** of the tour along with plenty of other previously seen species, including more **Military Macaws** and **Mexican Parrotlets**. By mid-morning it was time to set out on the drive south towards Tepic and we made pretty good time arriving around 2pm. After a long siesta we headed up into the hills shortly after sunset where one of the major highlights of the tour appeared within just a few short minutes of our arrival. Surrounded by large oak and pine trees the huge shadow of a **Cinereous (Mexican Barred) Owl** flew over us and we tracked it down to an overhanging branch where this monster stared balefully back at us from its perch. What a view we had and for once there wasn't a branch or a leaf across the bird in question! At the same spot a **Mexican Whip-poor-will** called repeatedly but we couldn't locate that sucker as it remained high in the canopy around us. But just a short distance away we were surprised to hear an **Eared Poorwill** calling and after a little judicious tape playback it landed on a nearby branch where we enjoyed nailing this



Cinereous Owl

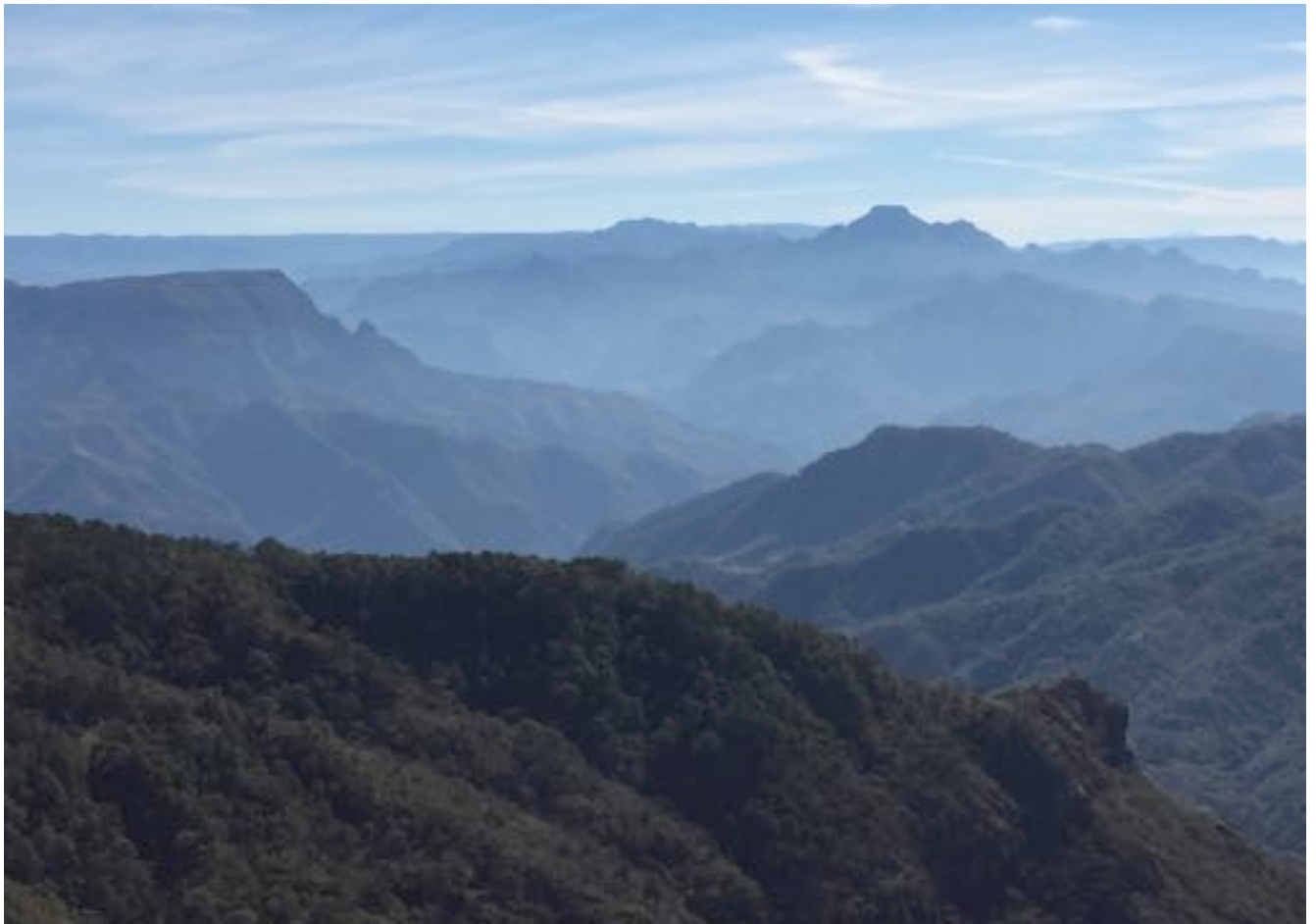
much-wanted species. And we ended a really excellent spot of night-birding with a **Mexican Whip-poor-will** flying down the road in front of our vehicle.

Day 16 TEPIC – PUERTO VALLARTA

We spent a few hours at Cerro de San Juan this morning and got off to a decent start with a displaying male **Bumblebee Hummingbird**, although it was more heard than seen but still an amazing sighting. The first of many **Rufous-capped Warblers** gave crippling views and excellent photographic opportunities, and there was also a female **Anna's/Allen's Hummingbird**, and both **Broad-billed & White-eared Hummingbirds** present as well. Moving higher up the mountain, a large flock of buntings were feeding in the fields and we were particularly pleased to see our first **Lazuli Buntings** amongst the numerous **Indigo** and a few **Varied Buntings**, with **White-collared Seedeater** and both **Stripe-headed** and **Rusty Sparrows** as well. A walk through the pine forest was pretty quiet but a close **White-striped Woodcreeper** and **Crescent-chested Warbler** showed exceptionally well. And that was it, the Fat Lady was singing and we had to head back to the highway and drive 3 hours to Puerto Vallarta for a shower and change of clothes before our evening flight to Mexico City and onward journey to London.

We had enjoyed a fabulous time in Mexico with Kim Risen, nailing 327 species seen and of those, 47 were Mexican endemics. Not too shabby huh?

Nick Bray.



There's some impressive scenery along the Durango Highway

SYSTEMATIC LIST – WEST MEXICO: FEB/MARCH 2017

(Mexican endemics marked in bold), NE – Near Endemic

ANSERIFORMES: Anatidae

Black-bellied Whistling Duck
Fulvous Whistling Duck
Gadwall
Mallard
Blue-winged Teal
Cinnamon Teal
Northern Shoveler
Northern Pintail
Green-winged Teal
Ruddy Duck

Dendrocygna autumnalis
Dendrocygna bicolor
Anas strepera
Anas platyrhynchos
Anas discors
Anas cyanoptera
Anas clypeata
Anas acuta
Anas carolinensis
Oxyura jamaicensis

GALLIFORMES: Cracidae

Rufous-bellied Chachalaca
West Mexican Chachalaca

Ortalis wagleri
Ortalis poliocephala

GALLIFORMES: Odontophoridae

Bearded Wood Partridge
Long-tailed Wood Partridge
Elegant Quail
Banded Quail
Singing Quail (H)

Dendrortyx barbatus
Dendrortyx macroura
Callipepla douglasii
Philortyx fasciatus
Dactylortyx thoracicus

PODICIPEDIFORMES: Podicipedidae

Least Grebe
Pied-billed Grebe

Tachybaptus dominicus
Podilymbus podiceps

PHAETHONTIFORMES: Phaethontidae

Red-billed Tropicbird

Phaethon aethereus

CICONIIFORMES: Ciconiidae

Wood Stork

Mycteria americana

PELECANIFORMES: Threskiornithidae

American White Ibis
White-faced Ibis
Roseate Spoonbill

Eudocimus albus
Plegadis chihi
Platalea ajaja

PELECANIFORMES: Ardeidae

Bare-throated Tiger Heron
Boat-billed Heron
Least Bittern (H)
Black-crowned Night Heron
Yellow-crowned Night Heron
Green Heron
Western Cattle Egret
Great Blue Heron
Great Egret

Tigrisoma mexicanum
Cochlearius cochlearius
Ixobrychus exilis
Nycticorax nycticorax
Nyctanassa violacea
Butorides virescens
Bubulcus ibis
Ardea herodias
Ardea alba

Reddish Egret
Tricolored Heron
Little Blue Heron
Snowy Egret

Egretta rufescens
Egretta tricolor
Egretta caerulea
Egretta thula

PELECANIFORMES: Pelecanidae

American White Pelican
Brown Pelican

Pelecanus erythrorhynchos
Pelecanus occidentalis

SULIFORMES: Fregatidae

Magnificent Frigatebird

Fregata magnificens

SULIFORMES: Sulidae

Blue-footed Booby
Brown Booby

Sula nebouxii
Sula leucogaster

SULIFORMES: Phalacrocoracidae

Neotropic Cormorant
Double-crested Cormorant

Phalacrocorax brasilianus
Phalacrocorax auritus

SULIFORMES: Anhingidae

Anhinga

Anhinga anhinga

ACCIPITRIFORMES: Cathartidae

Turkey Vulture
Black Vulture
King Vulture

Cathartes aura
Coragyps atratus
Sarcoramphus papa

ACCIPITRIFORMES: Pandionidae

Western Osprey

Pandion haliaetus

ACCIPITRIFORMES: Accipitridae

White-tailed Kite
Hook-billed Kite
Cooper's Hawk
Snail Kite
Crane Hawk
Common Black Hawk
Roadside Hawk
Harris's Hawk
White-tailed Hawk
Grey Hawk
Short-tailed Hawk
Swainson's Hawk
Zone-tailed Hawk
Red-tailed Hawk

Elanus leucurus
Chondrohierax uncinatus
Accipiter cooperii
Rostrhamus sociabilis
Geranoospiza caerulescens
Buteogallus anthracinus
Rupornis magnirostris
Parabuteo unicinctus
Geranoaetus albicaudatus
Buteo plagiatus
Buteo brachyurus
Buteo swainsoni
Buteo albonotatus
Buteo jamaicensis

GRUIFORMES: Rallidae

Aztec Rail (H)
Virginia Rail
Rufous-necked Wood Rail
Sora

Rallus tenuirostris
Rallus limicola
Aramides axillaris
Porzana carolina

Spotted Rail (H)
Purple Gallinule
Common Gallinule
American Coot

Pardirallus maculatus
Porphyrio martinica
Gallinula galeata
Fulica americana

GRUIFORMES: Aramidae

Limpkin

Aramus guarauna

CHARADRIIFORMES: Haematopodidae

American Oystercatcher

Haematopus palliatus

CHARADRIIFORMES: Recurvirostridae

Black-necked Stilt

Himantopus mexicanus

American Avocet

Recurvirostra americana

CHARADRIIFORMES: Charadriidae

Semipalmated Plover

Charadrius semipalmatus

Killdeer

Charadrius vociferus

CHARADRIIFORMES: Jacanidae

Northern Jacana

Jacana spinosa

CHARADRIIFORMES: Scolopacidae

Wilson's Snipe

Gallinago delicata

Short-billed Dowitcher

Limnodromus griseus

Whimbrel

Numenius phaeopus

Greater Yellowlegs

Tringa melanoleuca

Lesser Yellowlegs

Tringa flavipes

Solitary Sandpiper

Tringa solitaria

Western Willet

Tringa semipalmata inornata

Spotted Sandpiper

Actitis macularius

Surfbird (S)

Aphriza virgata

Least Sandpiper

Calidris minutilla

Stilt Sandpiper

Calidris himantopus

CHARADRIIFORMES: Laridae

Laughing Gull

Leucophaeus atricilla

Heermann's Gull

Larus heermanni

Ring-billed Gull

Larus delawarensis

American Herring Gull

Larus smithsonianus

Caspian Tern

Hydroprogne caspia

American Royal Tern

Thalasseus maximus

Elegant Tern

Thalasseus elegans

COLUMBIFORMES: Columbidae

Rock Dove

Columba livia

Band-tailed Pigeon

Patagioenas fasciata

Red-billed Pigeon

Patagioenas flavirostris

Eurasian Collared Dove

Streptopelia decaocto

Inca Dove

Columbina inca

Common Ground Dove

Columbina passerina

Ruddy Ground Dove

Columbina talpacoti

White-tipped Dove
Mourning Dove
White-winged Dove

CUCULIFORMES: Cuculidae

Groove-billed Ani
Lesser Ground Cuckoo (H)
Lesser Roadrunner
Mexican Squirrel Cuckoo

STRIGIFORMES: Strigidae

Balsas Screech Owl

Vermiculated Screech Owl (H)

Cinereous (Mexican Barred) Owl

Mottled Owl

Mountain Pygmy Owl (H)

Colima Pygmy Owl

Ferruginous Pygmy Owl

Leptotila verreauxi
Zenaida macroura
Zenaida asiatica

Crotophaga sulcirostris
Morococcyx erythropygus
Geococcyx velox
Piaya cayana mexicana

Megascops seductus

Megascopus vermiculatus

Strix sartorii

Strix virgata

Glaucidium gnoma

Glaucidium palmarum

Glaucidium brasilianum

CAPRIMULGIFORMES: Nyctibiidae

Northern Potoo

Nyctibius jamaicensis

CAPRIMULGIFORMES: Caprimulgidae

Lesser Nighthawk
Common Pauraque
Eared Poorwill
Mexican Whip-poor-will

Chordeiles acutipennis
Nyctidromus albicollis
Nyctiphrynus mcleodii
Antristomus arizonae

APODIFORMES: Apodidae

Vaux's Swift
White-throated Swift

Chaetura vauxi
Aeronautes saxatalis

APODIFORMES: Trochilidae

Mexican Hermit

Mexican Violetear

Golden-crowned Emerald

Broad-billed Hummingbird

Mexican Woodnymph

Cinnamon Hummingbird

Violet-crowned Hummingbird

Berylline Hummingbird

Blue-throated Mountaingem

Amethyst-throated Mountaingem

White-eared Hummingbird

Rivoli's (Magnificent) Hummingbird

Plain-capped Starthroat

Ruby-throated Hummingbird

Black-chinned Hummingbird (1 poss)

Bumblebee Hummingbird

Broad-tailed Hummingbird

Rufous Hummingbird

Phaethornis mexicanus

Colibri thalassinus

Chlorostilbon auriceps

Cynanthus latirostris

Thalurania ridgwayi

Amazilia rutila

Amazilia violiceps

Amazilia beryllina

Lampornis clemenciae

Lampornis amethystinus

Basilinna leucotis

Eugenes fulgens

Helimaster constantii

Archilochus colubris

Archilochus alexandri

Atthis heloisa margarethae

Selasphorus platycercus

Selasphorus rufus

TROGONIFORMES: Trogonidae

Citreoline Trogon

Elegant Trogon
Mountain Trogon

Trogon citreolus

Trogon elegans

Trogon mexicanus

CORACIIFORMES: Alcedinidae

Green Kingfisher
Ringed Kingfisher
Belted Kingfisher

Chloroceryle americana

Megaceryle torquata

Megaceryle alcyon

CORACIIFORMES: Momotidae

Russet-crowned Motmot **NE**

Momotus mexicanus

PICIFORMES: Picidae

Acorn Woodpecker

Golden-cheeked Woodpecker

Golden-fronted Woodpecker

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

Ladder-backed Woodpecker

Arizona Woodpecker

Hairy Woodpecker (H)

Grey-crowned Woodpecker

Lineated Woodpecker

Pale-billed Woodpecker

Melanerpes formicivorus

Melanerpes chrysogenys

Melanerpes aurifrons

Sphyrapicus varius

Dryobates scalaris

Leuconotopicus arizonae

Leuconotopicus villosus

Colaptes auricularis

Dryocopus lineatus

Campephilus guatemalensis

FALCONIFORMES: Falconidae

Northern Crested Caracara

Laughing Falcon

Collared Forest Falcon

American Kestrel

Merlin

Bat Falcon

Peregrine Falcon

Caracara cheriway

Herpetotheres cachinnans

Micrastur semitorquatus

Falco sparverius

Falco columbarius

Falco rufigularis

Falco peregrinus

PSITTACIFORMES: Psittacidae

White-fronted Amazon

Lilac-crowned Amazon

Mexican Parrotlet

Orange-fronted Parakeet

Military Macaw

Amazona albifrons

Amazona finschi

Forpus cyanopygius

Eupsittula canicularis

Ara militaris

PASSERIFORMES: Furnariidae

Ivory-billed Woodcreeper

White-striped Woodcreeper

Xiphorhynchus flavigaster

Lepidocolaptes leucogaster

PASSERIFORMES: Tyrannidae

Greenish Elaenia

Northern Beardless Tyrannulet

Northern Tufted Flycatcher

Greater Pewee

Willow Flycatcher

White-throated Flycatcher

Myiopagis viridicata

Camptostoma imberbe

Mitrephanes phaeocercus

Contopus pertinax

Empidonax traillii

Empidonax albigularis

Hammond's Flycatcher
American Grey Flycatcher
Pacific-slope Flycatcher
Vermilion Flycatcher
Social Flycatcher
Great Kiskadee
Boat-billed Flycatcher
Tropical Kingbird
Cassin's Kingbird
Thick-billed Kingbird
Western Kingbird
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher
Dusky-capped Flycatcher
Ash-throated Flycatcher
Nutting's Flycatcher
Brown-crested Flycatcher
Flammulated Flycatcher
Bright-rumped Attila

PASSERIFORMES: Tityridae

Masked Tityra
Grey-collared Becard
Rose-throated Becard

PASSERIFORMES: Vireonidae

Chestnut-sided Shrike-Vireo **NE**
Bell's Vireo
Black-capped Vireo
Dwarf Vireo
Grey Vireo
Plumbeous Vireo
Cassin's Vireo
Blue-headed Vireo (L)
Hutton's Vireo
Golden Vireo
Warbling Vireo

PASSERIFORMES: Corvidae

San Blas Jay
Purplish-backed Jay
Tufted Jay
Green Jay
Black-throated Magpie-Jay
White-throated Magpie-Jay
Transvolcanic Jay
Sinaloa Crow
Northern Raven

PASSERIFORMES: Ptiliogonatidae

Grey Silky-flycatcher **NE**

Empidonax hammondii
Empidonax wrightii
Empidonax difficilis
Pyrocephalus rubinus
Myiozetetes similis
Pitangus sulphuratus
Megarynchus pitangua
Tyrannus melancholicus
Tyrannus vociferans
Tyrannus crassirostris
Tyrannus verticalis
Tyrannus forficatus
Myiarchus tuberculifer
Myiarchus cinerascens
Myiarchus nuttingi
Myiarchus tyrannulus
Deltarhynchus flammulatus
Attila spadiceus

Tityra semifasciata
Pachyramphus major
Pachyramphus aglaiae

Vireolanius melitophrys
Vireo bellii
Vireo atricapilla
Vireo nelsoni
Vireo vicinior
Vireo plumbeus
Vireo cassinii
Vireo solitarius
Vireo huttoni
Vireo hypochryseus
Vireo gilvus

Cyanocorax sanblasianus
Cyanocorax beecheii
Cyanocorax dickeyi
Cyanocorax luxuosus
Calocitta colliei
Calocitta formosa
Aphelocoma ultramarina
Corvus sinaloae
Corvus corax

Ptiliogonys cinereus

PASSERIFORMES: Paridae

Bridled Titmouse
Mexican Chickadee **NE**

Baeolophus wollweberi
Poecile sclateri

PASSERIFORMES: Hirundinidae

Sand Martin (Bank Swallow)
Tree Swallow
Mangrove Swallow
Violet-green Swallow
Grey-breasted Martin
Northern Rough-winged Swallow
Barn Swallow
American Cliff Swallow

Riparia riparia
Tachycineta bicolor
Tachycineta albilinea
Tachycineta thalassina
Progne chalybea
Stelgidopteryx serripennis
Hirundo rustica
Petrochelidon pyrrhonota

PASSERIFORMES: Aegithalidae

American Bushtit

Psaltiriparus minimus

PASSERIFORMES: Regulidae

Golden-crowned Kinglet
Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Regulus satrapa
Regulus calendula

PASSERIFORMES: Troglodytidae

Grey-barred Wren
Sclater's Wren
Spotted Wren
Canyon Wren
Happy Wren
Sinaloa Wren
Northern House Wren
Brown-throated House Wren
White-bellied Wren
Grey-breasted Wood Wren

Campylorhynchus megalopterus
Campylorhynchus humilis
Campylorhynchus gularis
Catherpes mexicanus
Pheugopedius felix
Thryophilus sinaloa
Troglodytes aedon
Troglodytes aedon brunneicollis
Uropsila leucogastra
Henicorhina leucophrys

PASSERIFORMES: Polioptilidae

Blue-grey Gnatcatcher

Polioptila caerulea

PASSERIFORMES: Sittidae

White-breasted Nuthatch

Sitta carolinensis

PASSERIFORMES: Certhiidae

Brown Creeper

Certhia americana

PASSERIFORMES: Mimidae

Northern Mockingbird
Curve-billed Thrasher
Blue Mockingbird

Mimus polyglottos
Toxostoma curvirostre
Melanotis caerulescens

PASSERIFORMES: Turdidae

Eastern Bluebird
Brown-backed Solitaire
Orange-billed Nightingale-Thrush
Russet Nightingale-Thrush

Sialia sialis
Myadestes occidentalis
Catharus aurantirostris
Catharus occidentalis

Swainson's Thrush
Hermit Thrush
White-throated Thrush
Clay-colored Thrush
Rufous-backed Thrush
American (san Lucas) Robin

Catharus ustulatus
Catharus guttatus
Turdus assimilis
Turdus grayi
Turdus rufopalliatus
Turdus migratorius confinus

PASSERIFORMES: Passeridae

House Sparrow

Passer domesticus

PASSERIFORMES: Peucedramidae

Olive Warbler

Peucedramus taeniatus

PASSERIFORMES: Fringillidae

House Finch
Lesser Goldfinch
Black-headed Siskin
Scrub (Godman's) Euphonia
Elegant (Blue-hooded) Euphonia

Haemorhous mexicanus coccineus
Spinus psaltria
Spinus notatus
Euphonia affinis godmani
Euphonia elegantissima

PASSERIFORMES: Parulidae

Ovenbird
Louisiana Waterthrush
Northern Waterthrush
Black-and-white Warbler
Crescent-chested Warbler
Orange-crowned Warbler
Colima Warbler **NE**
Lucy's Warbler
Nashville Warbler
MacGillivray's Warbler
Common Yellowthroat
American Redstart
Tropical Parula
American Yellow Warbler
Mangrove Warbler
Chestnut-sided Warbler
Audubon's Warbler
Grace's Warbler
Black-throated Grey Warbler
Townsend's Warbler
Hermit Warbler
Rufous-capped Warbler
Golden-browed Warbler
Wilson's Warbler
Red-faced Warbler **NE**
Red Warbler
Painted Whitestart
Slate-throated Whitestart

Seiurus aurocapilla
Parkesia motacilla
Parkesia noveboracensis
Mniotilta varia
Oreothlypis superciliosa
Leiothlypis celata
Leiothlypis crissalis
Leiothlypis luciae
Leiothlypis ruficapilla
Geothlypis tolmiei
Geothlypis trichas
Setophaga ruticilla
Setophaga pitiauyumi
Setophaga aestiva
Setophaga petechia rhizophorae
Setophaga pensylvanica
Setophaga auduboni
Setophaga graciae
Setophaga nigrescens
Setophaga townsendi
Setophaga occidentalis
Basileuterus rufifrons
Basileuterus belli
Cardellina pusilla
Cardellina rubrifrons
Cardellina rubra
Myioborus pictus
Myioborus miniatus

PASSERIFORMES: Incertae Sedis 2

Yellow-breasted Chat

Icteria virens

PASSERIFORMES: Icteridae

Yellow-headed Blackbird

Eastern Meadowlark

Mexican (Yellow-winged) Cacique

Scott's Oriole

Audubon's (Dickey's) Oriole **NE**

Bullock's Oriole

Streak-backed Oriole

Black-vented Oriole

Hooded Oriole

Orchard Oriole

Bicolored Blackbird

Red-winged Blackbird

Bronzed Cowbird

Brown-headed Cowbird

Brewer's Blackbird

Great-tailed Grackle

Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus

Sturnella magna

Cassiculus melanicterus

Icterus parisorum

Icterus graduacauda dickeyae

Icterus bullockii

Icterus pustulatus

Icterus wagleri

Icterus cucullatus nelsoni

Icterus spurius

Agelaius phoeniceus gubernator

Agelaius phoeniceus

Molothrus aeneus

Molothrus ater

Euphagus cyanocephalus

Quiscalus mexicanus

PASSERIFORMES: Emberizidae

Lincoln's Sparrow

Yellow-eyed Junco

Chipping Sparrow

Lark Sparrow

Stripe-headed Sparrow

Black-chested Sparrow

Rusty Sparrow

Collared Towhee

Canyon Towhee

Rusty-crowned Ground-Sparrow

Olive Sparrow

Green-striped Brushfinch

Rufous-capped Brushfinch

Melospiza lincolnii

Junco phaeonotus

Spizella passerina

Chondestes grammacus

Peucaea ruficauda

Peucaea humeralis

Aimophila rufescens

Pipilo ocai

Melospiza fusca

Melospiza kieneri

Arremonops rufivirgatus

Arremon virenticeps

Atlapetes pileatus dilutus

PASSERIFORMES: Thraupidae

Cinnamon-bellied Flowerpiercer

Greyish Saltator

White-collared Seedeater

Cinnamon-rumped Seedeater

Rosy Thrush-Tanager (H)

Diglossa baritula

Saltator coerulescens

Sporophila torqueola

Sporophila atriceps

Rhodinocichla rosea schistacea

PASSERIFORMES: Cardinalidae

Flame-colored Tanager

Hepatic Tanager

Summer Tanager

Western Tanager

Red-headed Tanager

Yellow Grosbeak

Black-headed Grosbeak

Red-breasted Chat

Northern Cardinal (H)

Pyrrhuloxia

Blue Bunting

Piranga bidentata

Piranga hepatica

Piranga rubra

Piranga ludoviciana

Piranga erythrocephala

Pheucticus chrysopheplus

Pheucticus melanocephalus

Granatellus venustus

Cardinalis cardinalis sinaloensis

Cardinalis sinuatus

Cyanocompsa parellina

Blue Grosbeak
Indigo Bunting
Lazuli Bunting
Varied Bunting **NE**
Painted Bunting
Orange-breasted Bunting

Passerina caerulea
Passerina cyanea
Passerina amoena
Passerina versicolor
Passerina ciris
Passerina leclancherii



Blue Mockingbird (top left), Blue Bunting (top right)
Bumblebee Hummingbird (bottom left), White-eared Hummingbird (bottom right)

All photos in this report by Nick Bray



email: info@zoootherabirding.com
web: www.zoootherabirding.com
Tel: (+44) 01803 390721

