

**Buckbird journeys Ltd**

**Fauna Paraguay**

**Paraguay – the figure of eight tour**

**Birds and mammals of the chaco, cerrado and Mesopotamian grasslands with a touch of Atlantic Forest and northern Argentina**

**Part 1**

**Saturday 2 – Monday 11 August**

**Dry and Humid Chaco**

(Jack Anderson, Marilyn Browne, Peter Buck, Paul Cunningham, Sue McClelland, Elaine Nye, Gloria Shrubbsall, Hugh Buck (Leader), Paul Smith (Guide))

**Part 2**

**Tuesday 12 – Thursday 21 August**

**Cerrado, Atlantic Forest. Mesopotamian Grasslands and northern Argentina**

(Marilyn Browne, Peter Buck, Elaine Nye, Gloria Shrubbsall, Hugh Buck, Paul Smith)

All photographs by Marilyn with the exception of Red-and-white Crake and Larger Hairy Opossum (Paul Smith)



“There’s a great big cat by the side of the road and I’m **not** joking” - Glo’s urgent voice summons the second vehicle by radio. That majestic Puma in the Medanos del Chaco was undoubtedly the mammalian highlight (in a big list) but was matched by some 300 species of birds, including most of the specials of the chaco and cerrado, in a trip that all will remember, for any number of reasons! I said before we started that a sense of adventure and humour were a necessity and our journey would test both

It had not started well. I had planned this trip at the end of the dry season with a main objective to visit the Paraguayan pantanal to give us our most realistic chance of the lusted for Jaguar. It was not to be – unseasonable heavy rain had left half of rural Asuncion afloat, had greened the Chaco into a veritable “green hell” and worst of all had made the pantanal totally inaccessible. Although the rain had abated by the time we arrived and we in fact got almost none, its legacy made big mammal spotting confined to the roads themselves, had dispersed the water loving bird species and surprisingly seemed to have evoked no song or other response from the birds in the chaco so we had to almost dig them out one by one.

But dig them out we did so that our final lists compared well enough with any others to this seldom visited country

The roads, dry or wet, were long and often (especially in the north) horrible, we had our fair share of vehicle problems and the accommodation was occasionally substandard. But Paul, of Fauna Paraguay worked unceasingly at the wildlife and logistics and was ably assisted by his two Paraguayan drivers, the redoubtable Danny and the engaging Francisco (Frankie), who added other skills, mechanical, culinary and even motor biking, to their already formidable driving.

To balance the problems most accommodation was comfortable, the food was good and copious in the extreme and good cheap, mostly Chilean, wine and local beer flowed throughout. My thanks to the Paraguay team and to you all for your cheerfulness in adversity and in making the trip a success – despite that d....d Jaguar

## **Itinerary**

### **Part 1**

#### **Saturday 2 August**

All have assembled (by different routes) in Asuncion by early evening and we are briefed by Paul before our overnight at the Hotel Portal del Sol

#### **Sunday 3 August**

Eventually our three 4 x 4's are assembled and fuelled and we are off on the Ruta Trans Chaco north through the very green humid chaco to our overnight at the Loma Plata Inn in the heart of Paraguay's Mennonite community. A number of birds, big and small, grace our lists by day's end but the mammals we see, notably a couple of Southern Tamanduas and a, sad, adult Giant Anteater are victims of the busy traffic on Paraguay's northern highway. Only our first, of many, Crab-eating Fox gets the mammal list going. Our first Paraguayan Churrascaria is our first introduction the formidable amounts of beef we will be offered in coming days!

#### **Monday 4 August**

All day exploring the Central Chaco Lagoons (IBA or Important Bird Area) including Laguna Capitan and Laguna Ganzu. Notable are our first (of many) Greater Rheas, Chilean Flamingo and Coscoroba Swan but the technique of playing the call of the much wanted Black-bodied Woodpecker at high volume from the vehicle seems to lead to a sighting only for Frankie and not the rest of us. Overnight at Loma Plata



### **Tuesday 5 August**

In place of the pantanal Paul has chosen the remote Defensores de Chaco “National Park” and it is a longish dust ridden drive which takes us there for a late lunch. A walk near the Park HQ gives us our first endemic Chacoan Mara and some chaco bird specials but our first exploratory evening and early night drive reveals only more Crab-eating Foxes. Our accommodation is basic and poorly maintained but our chefs rise to the occasion magnificently

### **Wednesday 6 and Thursday 7 August**

Follow a pattern of drives both east and (as far as the base of Cerro Leon) west to further increase our bird lists and add a few more mammals but of our Jaguar target only tracks in the roadside dust reveal its presence. A brief, heavy burst of rain on Thursday will prove our only real one of the trip

### **Friday 8 August**

A last early morning drive gives the lead vehicle a female of the endangered Chacoan Peccary briefly by the roadside and both Great Horned and, more unexpectedly, a Striped Owl allow views to all. Then it is the long drag back to Loma Plata and the now more appreciated luxuries of the Loma Plata Inn

### **Saturday 9 August**

A long day north west to Fortin Toledo where a breeding program gives us views of the formidable hairy box on sticks that is the Chacoan Peccary (and a small tame one accompanies us on our walk). All three Peccary species are here as is a nasty looking Mato Grosso Lancehead disturbed from under a piece of corrugated iron. But we dip again on any responsive Black-bodied Woodpecker and instead buckle down for the long drive into the dry chaco and the PN Teniente Agripino Enciso. The road is often appalling and it is after dark when we reach our, mercifully much better, accommodation at park HQ. Some things brighten our day, the secretive chaco form of the Olive-crowned Crescentchest, Chaco Owl, both Little and Scissor-tailed Nightjars, the fascinating Plains Viscacha and, between us, 3 species of Armadillo, two of them caught and examined in the hand



### **Sunday 10 August**

Early morning on the road outside park HQ gives us a good Spot-winged Falconet but not the much desired Quebracho Crested Tinamou. The strongly calling Crested Gallito eventually succumbs to all and an afternoon drive gives us the attractive Black-crested Finch, the chaco form of Ringed Warbling Finch and that wonderful Puma. Even a scuttling Yellow-toothed Cavy or two as well as a Viscacha catch up for all ease our return in the dark



### **Monday 11 August**

Further frustration in the early morning when a distant Tinamou crossing the road is probably a Crested but even in the scope I cannot be 100% sure. A couple of amorous Brazilian Tapirs do cross, followed shortly after by a third, but several people have departed for breakfast just before. Then all have to contend with a truly horrendous and long drive back to Asuncion but we all arrive safely at the Portal del Sol after, yes, a memorable few days!



### **Tuesday 12 August**

The roads for Part 2 are still long but, mercifully, mostly much better and we commence with the long drive northeast to our attractive rustic accommodation by the white sand shores of Laguna Blanca. The countryside is tamer, rolling and cultivated (a lot of soya bean) interspersed with patches of marshland, especially the extensive Arroyos y Esteros, where a number of birds including the evocative Strange-tailed Tyrant oblige. Around Laguna Blanca is some preserved cerrado but our first exploration reveals little and we get some rain in the night

### **Wednesday 13 August**

Perhaps our most productive day of the trip. It is bright and sunny and an early run into the cerrado gives us a virtual clean sweep of the bird specials. The research team have trapped a delightful little Agile Gracile Mouse-Opossum and we get to see this wee, nocturnal animal in the hand. Then back in the cerrado we find an enormous Pepper Frog (as big as the Rococo Toad we have been shown the evening before) – a lifer for Paul no less. We climax with a couple of the ultra rare White-winged Nightjar in flight and Paul leads us to a nonchalant male perched on a small termite mound which even allows Peter to touch it before flying off. The wine tastes good tonight



### **Thursday 14 August**

On via Curu Guaty (where a foursome of “long-necked” Mennonites in full finery and with young are a notable mammal tick!) to the nice accommodation and notable service at Jejui-Mi in the World Heritage Mbaracayu Biosphere Reserve at the edge of our first Atlantic Forest. Although a plethora of mosquitoes somewhat detract from its attractions!

### **Friday 15 and Saturday 16 August**

Explorations at Langunitta, the Aguará – E Trail and Arroyo Moroti trails allow us to make some inroads into the special birdlife of this area and these include a Solitary Tinamou with chicks, the full set of big Toucans, both forest Trogons, Rufous-capped Motmot and the much appreciated Bare-necked Bellbird. Tufted Capuchin improves the mammal list which otherwise increases only with 3 species of bat and 2 of small rodents



### **Sunday 17 August**

Another longish travel day via Ciudad del Este to San Rafael and the Hostettler family accommodation at Nueva Gamba. We go out in the evening to see several Riparian Myotis bats hunting over a nearby dam before enjoying the first dinner and hospitality with Swiss “expatriate” Hans who owns the farm we are on and protects a nice tract of Atlantic Forest and grassland

### **Monday 18 August**

Another huge day with a morning walk round the Tuka Pakova Trail for a variety of birds including the elusive Creamy-bellied Gnatcatcher. Then the afternoon is taken up with the rough drive to the Kanguery Grasslands where the sting in the tail is a broken bridge. We improvise with a series of motor cycle transfers but the lack of vehicle and sound recording probably costs us the chance of roding Giant Snipe although most do connect with the bizarre and nonchalant Sickle-winged Nightjar on the way back. We are late back at Nueva Gamba for a late, cold dinner





### **Thursday 19 August**

The morning walk along a trail near to our accommodation adds a few more even if none of the real cripplers but the bi-annual cutting of a nearby patch of marsh (kindly delayed then put on especially for us) gives us excellent views of two individual disturbed Red-and-white Crakes as well as several Brazilian Guinea-Pigs, more than one examined in the hand. Han's son, on the tractor, may even have disturbed an individual of the tiny, and almost never seen, Speckled Rail but it eludes the rest of us. On via the Hotel Tirol (and its colony of daylight roosting White-lined Broad-nosed Bats) to Encarnacion and the comfortable Hotel de La Costa



### **Wednesday 20 August**

Our Paraguayan adventure closes this morning with the crossing of the Rio Parana into Argentina at Posadas and on for lunch (including Caiman empanadas!) at Ituzaiinga. Then it is a rough 150 km through pampas to the dusty little town of Carlos Pellegrini by the side of the great Ibera Marshes. We have no great expectations of our hotel so the charming Hotel Nande Reta is a nice surprise and it has a Barn Owl outside its kitchen!

## Thursday 21 August

We have come this far to search for the rare and declining Yellow Cardinal and it takes a bit of tracking down in the morning before a nice female perches up well for the ipod. But the area is rich in bird and other life and in particular the mammal list grows by several Marsh Deer, even more Capybaras and (for Glo and Peter on their lake tour) a Neotropical River Otter. Back to Posadas for the evening flight to Buenos Aires and the adventure is truly concluded on a highlight



CP = Carlos Pellegrini area, DC = Defensores del Chaco, E = PN Teniente Agripino Enciso and area, FT = Fortin Toledo, LB – Laguna Blanca, LP = Loma Plata area, M = Mbaracayu,

H = heard only

### Birds

(Follows IOC taxonomy)

1. Greater Rhea (*Rhea americana*)  
Pleasingly common in suitable habitat throughout. Up to 50 birds seen. Ssp *araneipes*
2. Solitary Tinamou (*Tinamus solitarius*)  
M. A single bird flushed from the roadside 15/8 left two chicks behind one of which we examined in the hand. Good spotting EN. Nominate ssp



3. Undulated Tinamou (*Crytorellus undulatus*)  
DC 1 7/8. M up to 3 seen and photographed (EN) 18/8. Frequently heard. Nominate ssp



4. Small-billed Tinamou (*Crypturellus parvirostris*)  
M several heard 16/8 (H)
5. Tataupa Tinamou (*Crypturellus tataupa*)  
E 1 seen in the scope 11/8 (probably HB only). Frequently heard here and elsewhere.  
Nominate ssp
6. Red-winged Tinamou (*Rhynchotus rufescens*)  
LB 2 flushed 13/8. CP one flushed 22/8. Nominate ssp



7. Brushland Tinamou (*Nothoprocta cinerascens*)  
DC 1 flushed 7/8. E 1 11/8. Heard elsewhere. Nominate ssp
8. Chaco Nothura (*Nothura chacoensis*)  
Near LP 2 birds alongside the Trans Chaco 3/8 but seen only by MB, HB and PS. The absence of this only Paraguayan endemic elsewhere was a disappointment but it is a tentative species at best
9. Spotted Nothura (*Nothura maculosa*)  
Arroyos y Esteros 1 on 12/8. 2 at Kanguerey Grasslands 18/8 and 2 at CP 20/8.  
Nominate ssp
10. Quebracho Crested Tinamou (*Eudromia formosa*)  
Heard FT 9/8 and E 10 and 11/8. A single crossing the road by the park HQ 11/8 seen in the scope by HB and PS was almost certainly this species but was just too far away to be 100% sure. A frustration
11. Least Grebe (*Tachybaptus dominicus*)  
LP 1 4/8 probably PS only. Ssp *speciosus*
12. Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*)  
LP 2 4/8. Ssp *antarcticus*
13. Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*)  
Common. Nominate ssp
14. Rufescent Tiger-Heron (*Tigrisoma lineatum*)  
DC 2 7/9. CP 1 21/8. Ssp *marmoratum*
15. Whistling Heron (*Syrigma sibilatrix*)  
Regularly encountered. Nominate ssp
16. Cocoi Heron (*Aredea cocoi*)  
Regularly encountered.

17. Great Egret (*Ardea alba*)  
Common. Ssp *egretta*
18. Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*)  
Common. Probably ssp *thula*
19. Western Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*)  
Common. Again split by IOC
20. Black-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*)  
E by a few 11/8
21. Bare-faced Ibis (*Phimosus infuscatus*)  
LP several 3 and 4/8. Nominate ssp
22. White-faced Ibis (*Plegadis chihi*)  
LP a couple amongst the Bare-faced 3/8 but only picked out by a few
23. Plumbeous Ibis (*Theristicus caerulescens*)  
Occasional noisy birds on several days
24. Buff-necked Ibis (*Theristicus caudatus*)  
LP 2 4/8. FT 1 9/8. Ssp *hyperorius*
25. Roseate Spoonbill (*Platalea ajaja*)  
LP up to 20 3/8
26. Wood Stork (*Mycteria americana*)  
Again several around LP 3/8
27. Maguari Stork (*Ciconia maguari*)  
Occasional birds seen at several places
28. Jabiru (*Jabiru mycteria*)  
Several around LP 3 – 6/8, CP 1 21/8
29. Chilean Flamingo (*Phoenicopterus chilensis*)  
LP a nice flock of 40+ birds at Laguna Capitan 4/8



30. Southern Screamer (*Chauna torquata*)  
Several encounters with this evocative species especially around LP and CP
31. Coscoroba Swan (*Coscoroba coscoroba*)  
30 or so with the Flamingos at Laguna Capitan 4/8
32. Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*)  
LP small numbers 3 and 4/8.
33. Fulvous Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna bicolor*)  
LP around 20 4/8
34. White-faced Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna viduata*)  
LP regularly encountered 3 and 4/8. Also a few at CP 21/8

35. Muscovy Duck (*Cairina moschata*)  
DC a single 7/8. CP several 20 and 21/8
36. Ringed Teal (*Callonetta leucophrys*)  
This pretty range restricted little duck was common around LP 3 and 4/8 and also seen at LB 13/8 and CP 21/



37. Brazilian Duck (*Amazonatta brasiliensis*)  
Probably the most commonly encountered Duck. *Ssp ipecutiri*
38. Speckled Teal (*Anas flavirostris*)  
CP a few 21/8
39. White-cheeked Pintail (*Anas bahamensis*)  
LP a couple 4/8. *Ssp rubrirostris*
40. Rosy-billed Pochard (*Netta peposeca*)  
CP a few on the Ibera Marshes 21/8 (PB, GS)
41. Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*)  
Abundant. *Ssp brasiliensis*
42. Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*)  
Equally so. *Ssp ruficollis*
43. Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture (*Cathartes burrovinaus*)  
Common around LP and occasional birds identified elsewhere. *Ssp urubitinga*
44. White-tailed Kite (*Elanus leucurus*)  
M a single en route to SR 17/8. Nominate ssp
45. Snail Kite (*Rostrhamus sociabilis*)  
FT common along the Trans Chaco. Also seen at Arroyos y Esteros 12/8. Nominate ssp
46. Long-winged Harrier (*Circus buffoni*)  
Arroyos E Esteros, LB, SF, CP and elsewhere. Several encounters
47. Crane Hawk (*Geranospiza caerulescens*)  
DC singles on 7 and 8/8. A variable species ranging from Mexico to Argentina, ours were *ssp flexipes*
48. Great Black Hawk (*Buteogallus urubitinga*)  
DC several encounters 6, 7 and 8/8. Also at LB 11/8. Nominate ssp
49. Savanna Hawk (*Heterospizias meridionalis*)  
Relatively common throughout
50. Harris' Hawk (*Parabuteo unicinctus*)  
Again regularly encountered. Nominate ssp
51. Black-collared Hawk (*Busarellus nigricollis*)  
CP inexplicable only a single (PB, GS) at the Ibera Marshes 21/8

52. Roadside Hawk (*Rupornis magnirostris*)  
The default Hawk over most of our journey. Mostly the grey and white ssp *saturatus* but probably the browner *magniplumis* around CP
53. Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle (*Geranoaetus melanoleucus*)  
FT 3 9/8. Nominate ssp
54. White-tailed Hawk (*Geranoaetus albicaudatus*)  
E occasional birds 9, 10 and 11/8. Nominate ssp
55. Southern Crested Caracara (*Caracara plancus*)  
Daily
56. Yellow-headed Caracara (*Milvago chimachima*)  
Around Asuncion 3/8, and also at LB and CP. Nominate ssp
57. Chimango Caracara (*Milvago chimago*)  
Common in the east and around CP. Nominate ssp
58. Barred Forest Falcon (*Micrastur ruficollis*)  
M heard only at dawn 15/8. Nominate ssp. (H)
59. Spot-winged Falconet (*Spizapteryx circumcincta*)  
E a splendid individual at the park HQ gave a series of excellent views 10/8. Restricted to the chaco of Bolivia, Paraguay and and a key target species



60. American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*)  
Regularly encountered. A number of ssp of this wide ranging bird, ours were *cinnamominus*
61. Aplomado Falcon (*Falco femoralis*)  
Encountered here and there and much appreciated. Nominate ssp
62. Bat Falcon (*Falco rufigularis*)  
E only a single from a speeding vehicle 9/8 and only seen by a few. Nominate ssp
63. Chaco Chachalaca (*Ortalis canicollis*)  
DC, FT and E with several encounters. Lost their allure by getting onto the road just as we were trying to confirm the Crested Tinamou on 11/8. Nominate ssp
64. Ocellated Crake (*Micropygia schomburgkii*)  
M frustratingly heard only at Lagunita 15 and 16/8. Ssp *chapmani*. (H)
65. Russet-crowned Crake (*Laterallus viridis*)  
M even more frustratingly heard down a few feet 15 and 16/8 but as ever invisible in the dense growth. When am I ever going to see this species?! Nominate ssp. (H)
66. Red-and-white Crake (*Laterallus leucopyrrhus*)  
SF 20/8. Heard at Kanguery 18/8 and two birds flushed by the tractor during the marsh cutting exercise 19/8 giving us excellent views in the open. A seldom seen regional endemic

67. Giant Wood-Rail (*Aramides ypecaha*)  
E seen by a few 11/8 but common around CP 20 and 21/8 with several encounters
68. Ash-throated Crake (*Porzana albicollis*)  
1 seen en route to LB 12/8 and at LB 11/8. Heard elsewhere. Nominate ssp  
(Speckled Rail (*Coturnicops notatus*)  
It is perhaps worth mentioning that, during the marsh cutting exercise on 19/8, Han's son probably disturbed an individual of this tiny and seldom seen endemic but it got away from the rest of us. From his descriptions not the first time he has seen it!)
69. Spot-flanked Gallinule (*Gallinula melanops*)  
LP up to 4 seen 4/8. Nominate ssp
70. Common Gallinule (*Gallinula galeata*)  
A few here and there. Now split from Old World forms. Nominate ssp
71. Limpkin (*Aramus guarauna*)  
Noisy and conspicuous and seen at several locations. Monotypic. Nominate ssp
72. Black-legged Seriema (*Chunga burmeisteri*)  
We fared well with this chaco endemic seeing several (up to 5 in a day) at various locations
73. Red-legged Seriema (*Cariama cristata*)  
Normally the easier of the two to see but heard only at LB 17/8. (H)
74. Wattled Jacana (*Jacana jacana*)  
Regularly encountered. Nominate ssp
75. White-backed Stilt (*Himantopus melanurus*)  
LP common. Also encountered around CP. Remains split from Black-necked by IOC
76. Southern Lapwing (*Vanellus chilensis*)  
Common and noisy. *Ssp lampronotus*
77. Collared Plover (*Charadrius collaris*)  
LP up to 10 Lagunas Capitan and Ganzu 4/8
78. South American Snipe (*Gallinago paraguaiiae*)  
Seen and heard drumming Arroyos y Estera, LB, Kanguery and CP . Nominate ssp
79. Giant Snipe (*Gallinago undulata*)  
Another major frustration. Heard distantly at LB and Kanguery but that broken bridge probably cost us any chance of pulling one in at the latter. To rub salt in the wound the brown bird flushed from a pool on the road on the way out could have been this species but the view in the headlights was momentary. *Ssp gigantea*. (H)
80. Lesser Yellowlegs (*Tringa flavipes*)  
LP many at Lagunas Capitan and Ganzu 4/8
81. Pectoral Sandpiper (*Calidris melanotos*)  
LP 20 or so at Laguna Ganzu 4/8
82. Wilson's Phalarope (*Phalaropus tricolor*)  
LP 6 at Laguna Ganzu 4/8
83. Scaled Pigeon (*Patagioenas speciosa*)  
M 1 in flight (HB) 15/8
84. Picazuro Pigeon (*Patagioenas picazuro*)  
Abundant. Nominate ssp
85. Spot-winged Pigeon (*Patagioenas maculosa*)  
Seemed to replace 84. around CP 20 and 21/8 where several seen. Nominate ssp



86. Eared Dove (*Zenaida auriculata*)  
Abundant. Nominate ssp
87. Picui Ground-Dove (*Columbina picui*)  
Abundant, at E almost in Passenger Pigeon like numbers. Nominate ssp
88. Ruddy Ground-Dove (*Columbina talpacoti*)  
Especially abundant on the approach roads to M. Nominate ssp
89. Scaled Dove (*Scardafella squammata*)  
E, LB and SR. Nominate ssp
90. Grey-fronted Dove (*Leptotila rufaxilla*)  
M heard 18 and 19/8. One on the forest trail 19/8 gave brief hopes of something much better! Ssp *reichenbachii*
91. White-tipped Dove (*Leptotila verreauxi*)  
Especially abundant in the chaco. Ssp *chalcauchenia*
92. Blue-crowned Parakeet (*Thectrocercus acuticuadata*)  
Common in the chaco. Nominate ssp
93. White-eyed Parakeet (*Psittacara eucoptalmus*)  
Flocks at LB and M. Nominate ssp
94. Nanday Parakeet (*Aratinga neanday*)  
Fairly common in the chaco but not easily seen perched. Threatened by the cage bird trade
95. Maroon-bellied Parakeet (*Pyrrhura frontalis*)  
Common LB, M and SR. Ssp *chiripepe*
96. Monk Parakeet (*Myiopsitta monachus*)  
Abundant, its great stick nests were a feature of the chaco. Ssp *cotorra*
97. Yellow-chevroned Parakeet (*Brotogeris chiriri*)  
Occasional sightings throughout. Nominate ssp
98. Scaly-headed Parrot (*Pionus maximiliani*)  
LB, M and SR singles in flight 14, 15 and 19/8. Ssp *siy*
99. Turquoise-fronted Amazon (*Amazona aestiva*)  
The common big parrot in the chaco and at LB. Ssp *xanthopteryx*
100. Squirrel Cuckoo (*Piaya cayana*)  
Regularly encountered LB, M and SR. Ssp *macroua*
101. Pavonine Cuckoo (*Dromococcyx pavoninus*)  
SR heard at Nueva Gamba 17 and 19/8. (H)
102. Smooth-billed Ani (*Crotophaga ani*)  
Plenty
103. Guira Cuckoo (*Guira guira*)  
These engaging characters were seen almost daily
103. Striped Cuckoo (*Tapera naevia*)  
FT a persistent call in the distance. Nominate ssp
104. Western Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*)  
Heard M 14/8 and seen by some at CP 21/8. Ssp *tuidara*
105. Tropical Screech-Owl (*Megascops choliba*)  
Heard and individuals seen E10/8 and (2) M 16/8. Probably *wetmorei* in the chaco and nominate at M
106. Great Horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus*)  
DC 1 8/8, E 1 10/8. Ssp *nacurutu*

107. Chaco Owl (*Strix chacoensis*)  
E a good string of sightings of this chaco endemic with 4 on 9/8 and 3 on 10/8. Especially memorable was the pair pulled into the tree right by our barbecue which then proceeded to call for most of the night!
108. Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl (*Glaucidium brasilianum*)  
LB 1 14/8. Heard elsewhere. Nominate ssp
109. Burrowing Owl (*Athene cunicularia*)  
Always popular and especially visible in the east (*cunicularia*) and (*partridgei*) in Argentina
110. Striped Owl (*Pseudoscops clamator*)  
DC1 apparently investigating the Horned Owl tape 8/8. Ssp *midas*
111. Pauraque (*Nyctidromus albicollis*)  
Several seen at M and SR. Ssp *derbyanus*.
112. Little Nightjar (*Caprimulgus parvula*)  
E a few identified at night 9/8 and 10/8. Nominate ssp
113. Scissor-tailed Nightjar (*Hydropsalis torquata*)  
Common on the roads after dark at DC, E and LB including several full tailed males. Ssp *furcifera*



114. Sickie-winged Nightjar (*Eleothreptus anomalus*)  
It looked bad at Kanguery without the vehicle on 18/8 but HB on foot (down to a foot away) and Danny and GS on a bike had a couple on the way back in the dark and this prompted us to ferry MB and EN back on the motor bike to clinch this odd and most wanted species. A rarely seen endemic confined to se Brazil, Paraguay and n Argentina
115. White-winged Nightjar (*Eleothreptus candicans*)  
Perhaps the star of the show on Part 2 with 2 birds in flight at LB 13/8. Paul tracked one and most of us stumbled through the shrubs and bunch grass in the dark to get walk away views at point blank range as a male sat unconcerned on a small anthill. Now known with certainty from only two cerrado spots in Paraguay and one in Brazil this beauty is probably one of the most threatened birds in the world
116. Grey-rumped Swift (*Chaetura cinereiventris*)  
M a couple 15/8. Nominate ssp
117. Scale-throated Hermit (*Phaethornis eurynome*)  
SR a single gave brief views 18/8. Ssp *paraguayensis*
118. Plovercrest (*Stephanoxis lalandi*)  
SR a female 18/8 and a glittering male at Nueva Gamba 19/8. Ssp *loddigessii*, a potential split from forms further east in Brazil
119. Gilded Sapphire (*Hylocharis chrysurus*)  
A few LP and FT

120. Glittering-bellied Emerald (*Chlorostilbon lucidus*)  
A few around LP, DC and FT. Ssp *berlepschi*
121. Versicolored Emerald (*Amazilia vesicololr*)  
SR 1 19/8. Ssp *kubtcheki*
122. Blue-tufted Starthroat (*Haliomaster furcifer*)  
Several of this smart chaco endemic seen LP, DC and FT



123. Black-throated Trogon (*Trogon rufus*)  
SR a male on the Tuka Pakova Trail 18/8. Ssp *chrysochloros*
124. Surucua Trogon (*Trogon surrucura*)  
Pleasingly common at M and SR. Nominate ssp
125. Ringed Kingfisher (*Megaceryle torquata*)  
Occasional encounters. Ssp *stellata*
126. Amazon Kingfisher (*Chloroceryle amazona*)  
As for 125
127. Green Kingfisher (*Chloroceryle americana*)  
CP 1 21/8. Ssp *matthewsii*
128. Amazonian Motmot (*Momotus momota*)  
E 1 8/8. One of a several ways split from Blue-crowned. Spp *pilcomnajensis*
129. Rufous-capped Motmot (*Baryphthengus ruficapillus*)  
M heard 13 and 14/8. 1 seen 16/8
130. Buff-bellied Puffbird (*Ntharchus swainsoni*)  
M 1 16/8. Another dead on the road later
131. Chaco Puffbird (*Nystatus striapectus*)  
FT, E heard 13 and 14/8. (H)
132. White-eared Puffbird (*Nystatus chacuru*)  
M 1 17/8. Nominate ssp
133. Chestnut-eared Aracari (*Pteroglossus castanotis*)  
M and SR pairs 16 and 19/8. Ssp *australis*
134. Saffron Toucanet (*Pteroglossus bailloni*)  
M 6 15/8 and 2 16/8. Endemic to the Atlantic Forest
135. Spot-billed Toucanet (*Selenidera maculirostris*)  
M a pair 15/8. Nominate ssp
136. Green-billed Toucan (*Ramphastos dicolorus*)  
M pairs 15/8 and 16/8. Also endemic to the Atlantic Forest
137. Toco Toucan (*Ramphastos toco*)  
LB 12/8 and M 16/8. Only flight views of the largest of them all but a nice wipe out of the Toucans in this part of the world. Ssp *albogularis*
138. Ochre-collared Piculet (*Picumnus temminckii*)  
SR a male 19/8

- 139. White-barred Piculet (*Picumnus cirratus*)  
DC singles 5 and 7/8. *Ssp pilcomayensis*
- 140. White Woodpecker (*Melanerpes candidus*)  
M 3 15/8
- 141. White-fronted Woodpecker (*Melanerpes cactorum*)  
LP, FT encountered a few times in the chaco
- 142. Yellow-fronted Woodpecker (*Melanerpes flavifrons*)  
M especially that trio at the pole outside the restaurant 14 – 16/8
- 143. Checkered Woodpecker (*Veniliornis mixtus*)  
Several times in the chaco. *Ssp malleator*
- 144. White-spotted Woodpecker (*Veniliornis spilogaster*)  
SR a male at Nueva Gamba 19/8
- 145. Campo Flicker (*Colaptes campestris*)  
Common in the grasslands of the east. *Ssp campestroides*
- 146. Green-barred Woodpecker (*Colaptes melanochloros*)  
A few in the chaco (nominate) but commoner around CP (*leucofrenatus*)



- 147. Black-bodied Woodpecker (*Dryocopus schultzi*)  
Perhaps the miss of the trip. At LM near Laguna Ganza 4/8 the trick of blasting its call at full volume from the lead vehicle with us walking behind may have had a pair coming in. But by the time we had caught up they had gone and could not be induced back. The same technique at their once favoured area at FT produced not a squeak. Those that took the Argentine extension would have to wait until the last evening of the last day to claim this one
- 148. Helmeted Woodpecker (*Dryocopus galeatus*)  
Sadly only a distant heard at Langunita 16/8. (H)
- 149. Cream-backed Woodpecker (*Campephilus leucopogon*)  
DC this big boy was seen well 5 and 8/8
- 150. Olive-crowned Crescent-chest (*Melanopareia maximiliani*)  
FT 1 eventually succumbed for good views 9/8. This *ssp pallida* is confined to the chaco and differs both in plumage and voice from Andean forms
- 151. Bolivian Slaty Antshrike (*Thamnophilus sticturus*)  
DC a vocal bird 5/8
- 152. Barred Antshrike (*Thamnophilus doliatus*)  
This wide ranging species was seen DC 7/8 and heard elsewhere. *Spp radiatus*
- 153. Variable Antshrike (*Thamnophilus caerulescens*)  
Individuals seen E 11/8 and SR 19/8. Heard elsewhere. Nominate *ssp*

154. Spot-backed Antshrike (*Hypoedaleus guttatus*)  
This Atlantic Forest endemic was heard at M and one seen at SR 19/8. Nominate ssp
155. Tufted Antshrike (*Mackenziaena severa*)  
Heard only at SR 19/8. (H)
156. Great Antshrike (*Taraba major*)  
A pair seen at Buffalo Bill 3/6. Heard elsewhere. Nominate ssp
157. Plain Antwreos (*Dysithamnus mentalis*)  
M 1 15/8. Nominate ssp
158. Stripe-backed Antbird (*Mermochilus strigilatus*)  
DC pair induced into view by the airstrip 7/8
159. Rufous-winged Antwren (*Herpsilochmus rufimarginatus*)  
M 1 15/8. Heard elsewhere. Nominate ssp
160. Dusky-tailed Antbird (*Drymophila malura*)  
SR 1 18/8 but pretty shonk views
161. Streak-capped Antwren (*Terenura maculata*)  
SR 1 19/8
162. White-shouldered Fire-eye (*Pyrigiena leucoptera*)  
Heard only SR 20/8. (H)
163. Short-tailed Antthrush (*Chamaeza campisona*)  
SR common by voice. We worked on it but no joy. Nominate ssp. (H)
164. Variegated Antpitta (*Grallaria varia*)  
SR only a distant heard 18/8. Ssp *imperator*. (H)
165. Crested Hornero (*Furnarius cristatus*)  
This chaco endemic was encountered LP (4/8) and E (9-11/8)
166. Rufous Hornero (*Furnarius rufus*)  
The national bird of Argentina and encountered throughout. Ssp *paraguayae*
167. Chotoy Spinetail (*Schoeniophylax phryganophilus*)  
Individuals seen at FT, E and CP. Nominate ssp
168. Grey-bellied Spinetail (*Synallaxis cinerascens*)  
SR 1 18/8. Endemic to the Atlantic Forest
169. Pale-breasted Spinetail (*Synallaxis albescens*)  
Common by voice throughout and seen on several occasions. Nominate ssp
170. Rufous-capped Spinetail (*Synallaxis ruficapilla*)  
SR 1 18/8. Another Atlantic Forest endemic
171. Sooty-fronted Spinetail (*Synallaxis frontalis*)  
DC 2 5/8. Heard elsewhere. Nominate ssp
172. Spix's Spinetail (*Synallaxis spixi*)  
SR 1 18/8. SR 1 18/8
173. Olive Spinetail (*Cranioleuca obsoleta*)  
SR 1 20/8. Also endemic to the Atlantic Forest
174. Stripe-crowned Spinetail (*Cranioleuca pyrrhophia*)  
Dc 1 5/8. Nominate ssp
175. Yellow-chinned Spinetail (*Certhioaxis cinnamomeus*)  
Common in marshy areas. Sp *russeolus*
176. Short-billed Canastero (*Asthenes baFT 1 9/8*). No minate ssp  
FT 1 9/8. Nominate ssp



177. Little Thornbird (*Phacellodomus sibilatrix*)  
FT 1 by its nest 9/8. A chaco endemic
178. Greater Thornbird (*Phacellodomus ruber*)  
Ditto CP 1 20/8
179. Lark-like Brushrunner (*Coryphistera alaudina*)  
This little endemic was common throughout the chaco. Nominated ssp



180. Firewood Gatherer (*Anumbius annumbi*)  
Annoyingly, despite several nests, we never did connect with this one
181. Brown Cacholote (*Pseudoseisura lophotes*)  
This noisy endemic was common throughout the chaco
182. White-eyed Foliage-gleaner (*Automolus leucophthalmus*)  
M pairs 14 and 16/8
183. Buff-browed Foliage-gleaner (*Syndactyla rufosuperciliosus*)  
SR 1 18/8. Ssp *acrita*
184. Buff-fronted Foliage-gleaner (*Philydor rufus*)  
SR 1 18/8. Ssp *rufum*
185. Ochre-breasted Foliage-gleaner (*Philydor lichstensteini*)  
M 2 15/8. Heard at SR. Again confined to Atlantic Forest
186. Olivaceous Woodcreeper (*Sittasomus grieicapillus*)  
Several seen M and SR. Ssp *sylviellus*. Multiple splits are talked about for this species but they never seem to materialize
187. Planalto Woodcreeper (*Dendrocolaptes platyrostris*)  
M 1 15/8. Nominated ssp
188. Narrow-billed Woodcreeper (*Lepidocolaptes angustirostris*)  
The most frequently encountered Woodcreeper. Ssp *certhiolus*
189. Scimitar-billed Woodcreeper (*Drymornis bridgesii*)  
Several sightings of this handsome endemic
190. Great Rufous Woodcreeper (*Xiphocolaptes major*)  
Perhaps most dramatic of its tribe and several seen DC and E. Nominated ssp
191. Red-billed Scythebill (*Campylorhamphus trochilorostris*)  
Another striking one, seen at DC, FT and E. Ssp *lafresnayanus*
192. Rufous Gnateater (*Canopophaga lineata*)  
SR 1 18/8. Ssp *vulgaris*

193. Crested Gallito (*Rhinocrypta lanceolata*)  
E common by voice. All eventually got views of this chaco endemic. *Ssp saturata*
194. Mouse-colored Tyrannulet (*Phaeomyias murina*)  
DC 1 9/8. *Ssp ignobilis*
195. Southern Beardless Tyrannulet (*Camptostoma obsoletum*)  
E 1 10/8. Nominate ssp
196. Yellow Tyrannulet (*Campsiempis flaveola*)  
SR 2 18/8. Nominate ssp
197. Suiriri Flycatcher (*Suiriri suiriri*)  
LP and E. Nominate ssp
198. Grey Elaenia (*Myiopagis caniceps*)  
SR 1 19/8. Nominate ssp
199. Highland Elaenia (*Elaenia obscura*)  
M 1 15/8. *Ssp sordida*, a possible future split as Spectacled Elaenia
200. Yellow-bellied Elaenia (*Elaenia flavogaster*)  
LB 2 12/8. Nominate ssp
201. Straneck's Tyrannulet (*Serpophaga griseicapilla*)  
Occasional encounters in the campo and at CP. A relatively newly described species
202. Plain Inezia (*Inezia inornata*)  
DC singles 6 and 7/8 were apparently early arrivals from the north
203. Greater Wagtail Tyrant (*Stigmatura budytoides*)  
Common in the chaco. *Ssp inzonata*
204. Sharp-tailed Grass-Tyrant (*Culicivora caudacuta*)  
LB 2 13/8. An elusive cerrado speciality
205. Bearded Tachuri (*Polystictus pectoralis*)  
Arroyos e Esteros 2 12/8. A difficult little marshland Flycatcher. Nominate ssp
206. Southern Antpipit (*Corythopis delalandi*)  
M a nice responsive bird 15 and 16/8. Heard again at SR. Again endemic to the Atlantic Forest
207. Eared Pygmy-Tyrant (*Myiornis auricularis*)  
And another. SR 2 19/8. Nominate ssp
208. Drab-breasted Pygmy-Tyrant (*Hemitriccus diops*)  
And again. SR heard only 19 and 20/8. (H)
209. Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrant (*Hemitriccus margaritaceiventer*)  
FT and E a few seen. Nominate ssp
210. Ochre-faced Tody-Flycatcher (*Poeciliotriccus plumbeiceps*)  
SR 1 19/8. Nominate ssp
211. Yellow-olive Flatbill (*Tolmomyias sulphurescens*)  
SR 1 18/8. Nominate ssp
212. Bran-colored Flycatcher (*Myiophobus fasciatus*)  
DC 1 8/8. *Ssp auriceps*
213. Euler's Flycatcher (*Lathrotriccus auleri*)  
SR 1 18/8. *Ssp argentinus*
214. Fuscous Flycatcher (*Cnemotriccus fuscatus*)  
CP 1 20/8. *Ssp bimaculatus*
215. Vermilion Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*)  
This little gem was, as ever, common. Nominate ssp

- 216. Black-and-white Monjita (*Xolmis dominicana*)  
CP several 20 and 21/8
- 217. Grey Monjita (*Xolmis cinereus*)  
CP couples 20 and 21/8. *Ssp pepoaza*
- 218. White Monjita (*Xolmis irupera*)  
Conspicuous in the chaco. Nominate ssp
- 219. White-rumped Monjita (*Xolmis velatus*)  
LG several of this cerrado speciality 13/8
- 220. Cinereous Tyrant (*Knipolegus striaticeps*)  
DC a female of this chaco endemic gave rather fleeting views to most
- 221. Spectacled Tyrant (*Hymenops perspicillatus*)  
LP a female 3/8 but commoner in the east where several males seen. Nominate ssp
- 222. Black-backed Water-Tyrant (*Fluvicola albiventer*)  
LP 1 4/8
- 223. White-headed Marsh-Tyrant (*Aundinicola leucocephala*)  
LB and SR
- 224. Long-tailed Tyrant (*Colonia colonus*)  
SR a male 19/8. Nominate ssp
- 225. Cock-tailed Tyrant (*Alectrurus tricolor*)  
LB a male of this little cerrado Flycatcher was almost into full plumage 13/8



- 226. Strange-tailed Tyrant (*Alectrurus risora*)  
Arroyos y Estera around 6 12/8 and another 4 or so at Kanguery 21/8 including full tailed males
- 227. Streamer-tailed Tyrant (*Gubernetes yetapa*)  
This handsome species was relatively common in the grasslands of the east
- 228. Cattle Tyrant (*Mechetornis rixosa*)  
Common even in Asuncion. Nominate ssp
- 229. Yellow-browed Tyrant (*Satrapa icterophrys*)  
LB, SR and CP. Several birds
- 230. Rufous Casiornis (*Casiornis rufus*)  
This chaco speciality was regularly encountered
- 231. Eastern Sirystes (*Sirystes sibilator*)  
M and SR. Several. Nominate ssp
- 232. Brown-crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus tyrannulus*)  
Common. Nominate ssp
- 233. Great Kiskadee (*Pitangus sulphuratus*)  
Common and noisy. *Ssp argentinus*

234. Boat-billed Flycatcher (*Megarhynchus pitangua*)  
M several. Nominate ssp
235. Social Flycatcher (*Myiozetetes similis*)  
M singles 15 and 16/8. Ssp *pallidiventris*
236. Fork-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus savanna*)  
Arroyos y Esteros 2 12/8, Kanguery 1 17/8. Nominate ssp
237. Black-crowned Tityra (*Tityra inquisitor*)  
M 5 15/8. Nominate ssp
238. Masked Tityra (*Tityra semifasciata*)  
M a pair 14 and 15/8
239. Greenish Schiffornis (*Schiffornis virescens*)  
SR 1 briefly 18/8. Easily heard. Part of a multiple split of the former Thrush-like Schiffornis
240. Wing-barred Piprites (*Piprites chloris*)  
SR 1 18/8. Nominate ssp
241. Blue Manakin (*Chiroxiphis caudata*)  
M 1 14/8, SR 1 18/8
242. Band-tailed Manakin (*Pipra fasciata*)  
M 1 15/8. Ssp *scarlatina*
243. Bare-throated Bellbird (*Procnias nudicollis*)  
M a noisy presence 14- 17/8 with several seen, mostly males but one female. The national bird of Paraguay
244. Curl-crested Jay (*Cyanocorax cristatellus*)  
LB this cerrado speciality was conspicuous 13/8 with up to a dozen seen
245. Plush-crested Jay (*Cyanocorax chrysops*)  
Conspicuous throughout. Nominate ssp
246. Purplish Jay (*Cyanocorax cyanomelas*)  
Regularly encountered
247. Chilean Swallow (*Tachycineta meyeri*)  
LP only really examined at Laguna Capitan 4/8. Others seen elsewhere were probably this species
248. White-rumped Swallow (*Tachycineta leucorrhoa*)  
LP only 1 identified amongst the Chilean 4/8
249. Grey-breasted Martin (*Progne chalybea*)  
Regularly encountered in the east. Ssp *macrorhamphus*
250. Tawny-headed Swallow (*Alopochelidon fucata*)  
LB 13 and 14/8
251. Southern Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelidopteryx ruficollis*)  
14/8 a few en route LB to M. Nominate ssp
252. Thrush-like Wren (*Camphylorhynchus turdinus*)  
LB 13 and 14/8, a noisy individual at the HQ
253. House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*)  
Common in the east. Ssp *musculus*
254. Creamy-bellied Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila lactea*)  
SR 18/8 a pair of this much wanted and elusive Atlantic Forest endemic
255. Masked Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila dumicola*)  
Much more widespread and several encountered. Nominate ssp

256. Creamy-bellied Thrush (*Turdus amaurochalinus*)  
DC 1 7/8 but commoner in the east
257. Pale-breasted Thrush (*Turdus leucomelas*)  
Common at LB, M and SR. Nominate ssp
258. Rufous-bellied Thrush (*Turdus rufiventris*)  
LP 1 3/8 but again commoner at SR and CP. Nominate ssp
259. Chalk-browed Mockingbird (*Mimus saturninus*)  
Regularly encountered. Ssp *modulator*
260. White-banded Mockingbird (*Mimus triurus*)  
LP and E. Occasional birds.
261. Yellowish Pipit (*Anthus lutescens*)  
SR 1 18/8. Nominate ssp
262. Rufous-browed Peppershrike (*Cychlaris gujanensis*)  
Several encounters. Ssp *viridis* in the chaco and *ochrocephala* in the east
263. Tropical Parula (*Parula pitiayum*)  
Regularly encountered. Nominate ssp
264. Masked Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis aequinoctialis*)  
CP 1 20/8. Ssp *velata*
265. Golden-crowned Warbler (*Basileuterus culicivorus*)  
LB, M and SR several. Ssp *azarae*
266. Flavescent Warbler (*Myiothlypis flaveola*)  
LB 2 13/8. Nominate ssp
267. Riverbank Warbler (*Myiothlypis rivularis*)  
M 1 15/8, SR 2 19/8. Nominate ssp
268. White-rimmed Warbler (*Myiothlypis leucoplephara*)  
SR 4 18/8
269. Chestnut-vented Conebill (*Conirostrum speciosum*)  
M 2 15/8. Nominate ssp
270. Fawn-breasted Tanager (*Pipraeidea melanonota*)  
M 2 16/8. Nominate ssp
271. Blue Dacnis (*Dacnis cayana*)  
M 2 15/8, SR 1 19/8. Ssp *paraguayensis*
272. Sayaca Tanager (*Thruapis sayaca*)  
Common throughout. Nominate ssp
273. Ruby-crowned Tanager (*Tachyphonus coronatus*)  
Sr 1 18/8. Endemic to the Atlantic Forest
274. Black-goggled Tanager (*Trichothraupis melanops*)  
SR 1 19/8
275. White-rumped Tanager (*Cypsnagra hirundinacea*)  
LB 2 13/8. A cerrado endemic
276. Chestnut-headed Tanager (*Pyrrhocomma ruficeps*)  
SR 2 a8/8. Another Atlantic Forest endemic
277. Hooded Tanager (*Nemosia pileata*)  
M 1 16/8. Ssp *caerulea*
278. Guira Tanager (*Hemithraupis guira*)  
M and SR. Ssp *fosteri*



279. White-banded Tanager (*Neothraupis fasciata*)  
LB around 10 of these shrike-like endemics 13/8.
280. Magpie Tanager (*Cisspos leverianus*)  
M several 14 – 16/8. *Ssp major*
281. Lowland Hepatic Tanager (*Piranga flava*)  
E 1 10/8
282. Black-throated Saltator (*Saltator atricollis*)  
LB 13/8 several of these cerrado endemics
283. Golden-billed Saltator (*Saltator aurantirostris*)  
Regularly encountered. Nominate ssp
284. Black-backed Grosbeak (*Pheucticus aureoventris*)  
E 1 for some 10/8. Nominate ssp
285. Ultramarine Grosbeak (*Cyanocompsa brissoni*)  
FT and E singles 8 and 9/8. *Ssp argentina*
286. Yellow Cardinal (*Gubernatrix cristata*)  
CP a nice female 21/8 took some searching for. This attractive Argentine/Uruguay endemic is severely threatened from habitat loss and trapping for the cage bird trade
287. Red-crested Cardinal (*Paroaria coronata*)  
Happily this one remains common
288. Yellow-billed Cardinal (*Proaria capitata*)  
Arroyos y Esteros 2 12/8. Nominate ssp
289. Red Crested Finch (*Coryphospingus cucullatus*)  
Common. Probably *fargoii* in the chaco and *rubescens* in the east
290. Many-colored Chaco-Finch (*Saltatricula multicolor*)  
FT and E. Several but rather difficult to pin down. As its name implies a chaco endemic
291. Blackish-blue Seedeater (*Amaurospiza moesta*)  
SR 1 male 18/8. A seldom encountered Atlantic Forest endemic
292. Plumbeous Seedeater (*Sporophila plumbea*)  
LB a large flock 13/8. Nominate ssp  
(Tropeiro Seedeater (*Sporophila beltoni*)  
This newly described species from SE Brazil resembles *S. plumbea* but the male has a bright yellow bill. One in the flock at LB had this and was observed closely through the scope and photographed. Photos have been sent to the discoverer for comments and reply is awaited! Not too hopeful mind!)



293. Rusty-collared Seedeater (*Sporophila collaris*)  
Arroyos y Esteros around 6 12/8. *Ssp melanocephala*. We were a little early for the main Seedeater invasion
294. Blue-black Grassquit (*Volatinia jacarina*)  
Occasional birds. Nominate ssp
295. Great Pampa Finch (*Embernagra platensis*)  
Arroyos y Esteros 2 12/8. Nominate ssp
296. Lesser Grass-Finch (*Emberizoides ypiranganus*)  
Arroyas y Esteros 4 12/8
297. Wedge-tailed Grass-Finch (*Emberizoides herbicola*)  
LB 2 13/8, Kanguery 1 18/8. Nominate ssp
298. Saffron Finch (*Sicalis flaveola*)  
Common. *Ssp pelzelni*
299. Grassland Yellow-Finch (*Sicalis luteola*)  
LB a few 13/8. *Ssp luteiventris*
300. Black-capped Warbling-Finch (*Poospiza melanoleuca*)  
Common in the chaco and at CP
301. Ringed Warbling-Finch (*Poospiza torquata*)  
E 1 10/8. *Ssp pectoralis* a possible split from Bolivian birds
302. Long-tailed Reed-Finch (*Donacospiza albifrons*)  
LB 1 13/8
303. Black-crested Finch (*Lophospingus pusillus*)  
E 2 10/8. A chaco endemic
304. Grassland Sparrow (*Ammodramus humeralis*)  
Several encounters. *Ssp xanthornus*
305. Rufous-collared Sparrow (*Zonotrichia capensis*)  
E and everywhere in the east. *Ssp subtorquata*
306. Dull-colored Grassquit (*Tianis obscurus*)  
DC 1 8/8 but not sure how many got onto it. Nominate ssp
307. Screaming Cowbird (*Molothrus rufoaxillaris*)  
Common
308. Shiny Cowbird (*Molothrus bonariensis*)  
Ditto especially in the east. Nominate ssp
309. Red-rumped Cacique (*Cacicus heamorrhous*)  
M 2 15/8 and a nice colony at Hotel Tirol 19/8, *Ssp affinis*
310. Golden-winged Cacique (*Archiplanus chrysotera*)  
Also at Hotel Tirol 19/8
311. Solitary Cacique (*Cacicus solitarius*)  
Occasional sightings throughout
312. Chopi Blackbird (*Gnorimopsar chopi*)  
Common. Nominate ssp
313. Bay-wing (*Agelaioides badius*)  
Common. Nominate spp
314. Chestnut-capped Blackbird (*Chrysomus ruficapillus*)  
LP several 4/8. Nominate ssp
315. Unicolored Blackbird (*Agelasticus cyanopus*)  
LP and LB. Nominate ssp

316. Saffron-cowled Blackbird (*Xanthopsar flavus*)  
They refused to oblige at Kanguery and only MB scored at CP on 20/8. A threatened grassland icterid
317. Orange-backed Troupial (*Icterus croconotus*)  
DC 2 6/8. *Ssp strictifrons*
318. Variable Oriole (*Icterus pyrrhopterus*)  
Regularly encountered. Nominate ssp
319. Scarlet-headed Blackbird (*Amblyramphus holosericeus*)  
Kanguery only a distant bird 18/8, CP a few 21/8
320. Brown-and-yellow Marshbird (*Pseudoleistes virescens*)  
Common around CP
321. Yellow-rumped Marshbird (*Pseudoleistes guirahuro*)  
Common in suitable habitat in the east and around CP
322. White-browed Blackbird (*Sturnella superciliaris*)  
Occasional in the chaco and at LB
323. Purple-throated Euphonia (*Euphonia chlorotica*)  
E 1 10/8 and a few at SR 18 and 19/8. *Ssp serrirostris*
324. Violaceous Euphonia (*Euphonia violacea*)  
M 2 15/8, SR 1 19/8. *Ssp auranticollis*
325. House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*)  
Even here cannot be avoided

### Mammals

(Names follow Duff and Lawson 2004)

- (White-eared Opossum (*Didelphis albiventris*)  
SR sadly only a dead individual by the road 17/8)
1. Agile Gracile Mouse-Opossum (*Gracilianus agilis*)  
LB 1 of these cute little beasts caught overnight and examined in the hand 12/8  
(Giant Anteater (*Myrmecophaga tridactyla*)  
A victim of the Trans Chaco with a dead adult 3/8. We strained our eyes for a live one but it was not to be)  
(Southern Tamandua (*Tamandua tetradactyla*)  
And another with a couple of dead ones 3/8)
2. Six-banded Armadillo (*Euphractus sexcinctus*)  
FT 1 by the Trans Chaco ran alongside the first vehicle during the day 9/8 but was not seen by the others
3. Larger Hairy Armadillo (*Chaetophractus villiosus*)  
E one caught by Frankie from the road evening of 9/8 and examined in the hand. The sparse hairs on the carapace and short ears helped to distinguish it



4. Southern Three-banded Armadillo (*Tolypeutes matacus*)  
FT 9/8 I in daylight crossing the Trans Chaco. Later another crossing the road was caught by Paul and examined in the hand. Characteristically runs on tiptoe
5. European Hare (*Lepus europaeus*)  
E 1 after dark 9/8 (HB)
6. Forest Rabbit (Brazilian Cottontail) (*Sylvilagus brasiliensis*)  
Several in the chaco and M. Only seen at night
7. Black-footed Pygmy Rice Rat (*Oligorhynchus nigripes*)  
M a trapped individual 16/8
8. Hairy-tailed Bolo Mouse (*Necromys lasiurus*)  
M ditto 15/8
9. Common Yellow-toothed Cavy (*Galea musteloides*)  
DC and E several brief encounters at night
10. Brazilian Guinea-Pig (*Cavia aperea*)  
Regularly encountered in the east particularly on the marsh cutting exercise SR 19/8
11. Chacoan Mara (*Dolichotis salinicola*)  
DC, E several encounters on the roads both day and night
12. Plains Viscacha (*Lagostomus maximus*)  
E two small colonies of this chaco loving Chinchilla relative 9 and 10/8. Active after dark
12. Capybara (*Hydrochoerus hydrochaeris*)  
CP several around the Ibera Marshes 21/8



13. Coypu (*Myocaster coypus*)  
LP 5/8 1 crossing the road
14. Domestic (Feral) Cat (*Felis catus*)  
Not normally worth a mention but the individual that crossed the road in deep forest on the way back from Kanguery 18/8 gave brief hopes of something far better. Sadly the tabby fur and white face quickly dispersed our hopes!
15. Geoffroy's Cat (*Felis geoffroyi*)  
But the dark "domestic" cat seen briefly by the lead vehicle at FT 9/8 could have been the real thing
16. Puma (*Felis concolor*)  
E 10/8. No doubt about this one with that superb adult on the evening road for several minutes. Sickenly the only other vehicle we came across all afternoon chose this time to appear and pushed it off before we could edge really close. But the undoubted mammalian highlight of the trip  
(Jaguar (*Panthera onca*)  
The pantanal miss probably robbed us of our best chance for this mega wanted species and only roadside prints at DC on two consecutive days were there to frustrate us)
17. Pampas Fox (*Pseudalopex gymnocercus*)  
E frequently seen both by day and night. Also a couple of times in the east
18. Crab-eating Fox (*Cerdocyon thous*)  
DC, FT common and frequently encountered
19. Neotropical River Otter (*Lutra longicauda*)  
Arroyos y Esteros 1 dead on road 12/8, CP 1 seen by PB / GS on their Ibera Marshes cruise 21/8
20. Lesser Grison (*Galictis cuja*)  
DC 1 shot across the road after dark 7/8 but was only glimpsed by a few
21. White-lined Broad-nosed Bat (*Platyrrhinus linetaus*)  
Hotel Tirol a nice daylight colony 19/8



22. Great Fruit-eating Bat (*Artibeus lituratus*)  
SR a caught individual 11/8 and another M 14/8
23. Greater Round-eared Bat (*Tonatia bidens*)  
DC park HQ a nice little colony of about 10 individuals 5 and 8/8
24. Seba's Short-tailed Bat (*Carollia perspicillata*)  
M 1 caught and examined 5/8
25. Little Yellow-shouldered Bat (*Sturnira lilium*)  
M ditto 6/8
26. Riparian Myotis (*Myotis riparius*)  
SR several hunting over the dam 17/8
27. Brown Tufted Capuchin (*Cebus apella*)  
M 3 16/8. Shy and wary
28. Collared Peccary (*Dicotyles tajacu*)  
LP 4 crossing the road 4/8
29. Chacoan Peccary (*Catagonus wagneri*)  
DC a well grown female appeared briefly on the road 8/8 but sadly for one vehicle only. We thought her impressive until we saw the full grown males at the FT breeding centre the next day. Feared extinct and only re-discovered in 1976 this chaco endemic can be considered as severely threatened
30. Grey Brocket (*Mazama gouazoubira*)  
FT, E several sightings. Also at SR
31. Marsh Deer (*Blastocerus dichotomus*)  
CP several around the Ibera Marshes 21/8
32. Brazilian Tapir (*Tapirus terrestris*)  
E 3 adults crossing the road by the Park HQ 11/8 but only a few of us were there to see them

### **Selected other creatures**

1. Oven Frog (*Leptodactylus bufonius*)  
DC 1 6/8
2. Chaco Frog (*Leptodactylus chaquensis*)  
DC 1 6/8



3. Pepper Frog (*Leptodactylus labyrinthicus*)  
LB one of these big colourful creatures by the sand track 13/8. A much appreciated lifer for Paul no less



4. Rococo Toad (*Rhinella schneideri*)  
LB we were shown one of these dark monsters 12/8



5. Stripe-snouted Tree-Frog (*Scinax squalirostris*)
6. Yellow-spectacled Caiman (*Caiman yacare*)  
Including in empanadas in Argentina!
7. Broad-nosed Caiman (*Caiman latirostris*)  
CP several (PB / GS) at the Ibera Marshes 21/8
8. Scorpion Mud Turtle (*Kinosternon scorpoides*)
9. Mato Grosso Lancehead (*Bothrops matgorossensis*)  
FT 1 9/8
10. Bat Moth (*Ascolopha odoratum*)  
DC 1 6/8 (*Heraclides astygonus*)
12. Locust sp (*Tropidacris collaris*)  
These large flyers were common in the chaco

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