

# Costa Rica: Monteverde & More! | Species List

March 8 – 17, 2023 w/ Sarapiquí/La Selva Ext. March 17 – 19



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## Summary:

This spring, we enjoyed an awesome 10 days in central Costa Rica, birding from San Jose to the Pacific Coast, back up into the central cordillera, and down into the Caribbean lowlands near the border of Nicaragua. We experienced a bit of exciting weather, boating in a storm on the Pacific side and spending one Atlantic-side afternoon under shelter while the thunder cracked all around us. Despite a couple days of storms, the trip was filled with thrilling birding, especially in the Monteverde region, where, on one day, we watched a fruiting aquacatillo tree that was full of gorging quetzels and guans!

Our most species-rich outing was our boat trip across the Cano Negro wetlands, where we found 62 species in under three hours; this was followed in abundance with 54 species tallied during our other aquatic outing on the Tarcoles River. On one day, near Cano Negro, we found an amazing migrating ‘kettle’ of over 700 raptors. Our most productive feeding station came during an unplanned stop at Arenal Mountain Observatory. The morning here gave us our trip high of 10 Montezuma Oropendolas, plus our only Black-crested Coquettes, Violet-headed Hummingbirds, and Bronze-tailed Plumeleeter of the trip. On the day described above, at Monteverde’s Curi-Cancha Refuge, we watched a single tree with six Resplendent Quetzals, five Crested Guans, and three Black Guans.

A dozen bird families were represented by at least 10 species, led by the world’s largest family, the flycatchers (Tyrannidae), with an even 30. Also coming in at over 20 species were the tanagers (Thraupidae, 23) and the hummingbirds (Trochilidae, 21). We saw or heard 16 species on at least nine days, including daily Blue-gray Tanager, Brown Jay, and—the national bird of Costa Rica—the Clay-colored Thrush. The most abundant species of the trip—by far—was the Black-bellied Whistling Duck, with 845 recorded but likely more than 1,000 present between the Cano Negro and Medio Queso wetlands, both on the penultimate day of the main tour.

In all, we tallied an amazing 341 species on the main tour (a summary of the extension follows), a testament to the expertise of our local guide, Johan Fernandez. Johan’s perceptive ear gave us 36 species that we tallied as “Guide Only”, with only two species heard and identified by the group as “Heard Only”.

Our tour extension added three days, primarily in the northwestern Caribbean lowlands, though not as far as the coast. We birded at Selva Verde Lodge, La Selva Biological Station, and the Sarapiquí River, with a few stops in the foothills on the way back to San Jose. The full tally for these three days came to 137 species, including 25 species that were not seen on the main tour. Though that second number seems low, it included five new hummingbirds, such as Purple-crowned Fairy and Volcano Hummingbird; the sought-after Sungrebe; Rufous and Broad-billed Motmots; Cinnamon and Rufous-winged Woodpeckers; Flame-colored Tanager; and 11 Great Green Macaws. The most abundant species included 26 Great Kiskadees and 23 Scarlet-rumped Tanagers. The group found 17 different flycatchers and 15 tanagers.

The complete tour tallied 366 species over 12 days. At the end of this list, you will find our daily destinations, with links to some of the representative eBird lists and the master eBird trip report. Join us next year in Costa Rica for “Monteverde & More”!

**FAMILY COMMON NAME: Family scientific name**

**Species Common Name *Species scientific name***

GO—Identified by sight or sound by guide(s) only

HO—Heard only and identified by guide(s) and at least one client

XO—Tallied only on the tour extension (see destination list at the bottom)

Family (##)—Number of birds found in a respective family, only listed if 10 or more species were found

Species (##)—Number of days tallied over the 10-day tour

AOL—Arenal Observatory Lodge

BBSG—Bijagua Bird Songs Gardens

BNBR—Bosque Nuboso Biological Reserve at Monteverde

CENP—Carara-Entrada National Park

CCR—Curi-Cancha Refuge at Monteverde

LSBS—La Selva Biological Station

TVNP— Tenorino Volcano National Park



Crested Guan

### **TINAMOUS: Tinamidae**

**Great Tinamou** *Tinamus major*—(3) As is typical with tinamou, HO on three different days, including twice at Celeste Mountain Lodge.

### **DUCKS, GEESE AND SWANS: Anatidae**

**Black-bellied Whistling-Duck** *Dendrocygna autumnalis*—(1) As a gregarious flocking species, it was not surprising to find 845 total birds at two different wetlands: Cano Negro and Medio Queso, both on day 9 of the tour.

**Muscovy Duck** *Cairina moschata*—(1) We counted 13 on the Tarcoles River boat trip; also seen on the extension on the Sarapiquí River at Selva Verde Lodge.

**Blue-winged Teal** *Spatula discors*—(1) Over 20 seen at Cano Negro wetlands.

### **GUANS AND CURASSOWS: Cracidae**

**Gray-headed Chachalaca** *Ortalis cinereiceps*—(4) Several birds seen on the hotel grounds at Monteverde.

**Crested Guan** *Penelope purpurascens*—(4) Best counts of 6 at CCR and 4 on the extension at LSBS; also at TVNP and Celeste Lodge.

**Black Guan** *Chamaepetes unicolor*—(2) Three birds feeding among the quetzals at CCR and another at BNBR.

**Great Curassow** *Crax rubra*—(3) HO at TVNP, then 3 seen well at AOL; also, one male seen during the extension at LSBS.

### **PIGEONS AND DOVES: Columbidae (13)**

**Rock Pigeon** *Columba livia*—(1) A dozen seen at the Puntarenas cruise ship dock.

**Pale-vented Pigeon** *Patagioenas cayennensis*—(1) Four seen as flyovers at Medio Queso wetland.

**Red-billed Pigeon** *Patagioenas flavirostris*—(8) Our most abundant (32 total) and most widespread pigeon, seen almost daily during the main tour; one bird seen during the extension at Virgen del Socorro.

**Band-tailed Pigeon** *Patagioenas fasciata*—(2) Heard once by GO, then a flock of 21 seen from the Monteverde hotel flying over the hills.

**Ruddy Pigeon** *Patagioenas subvinacea*—(3) Heard thrice by GO.

**Short-billed Pigeon** *Patagioenas nigrirostris*—(3) Heard by GO twice, then photographed during the extension at LSBS.

**Common Ground-Dove** *Columbina passerine*—(1) A few seen on the roadside the first full day, and then one on the Tarcoles boat tour.

**Inca Dove** *Columbina inca*—(1) Three seen at one stop on Calle Loros, including one leucistic bird.

**Ruddy Ground Dove** *Columbina talpacoti*—(1) Seen at two different stops on Calle Loros, then one flyover later on the Tarcoles boat tour.

**White-tipped Dove** *Leptotila verreauxi*—(4) Singles seen at Guacimo Rd., Cerro Lodge, and Cano Negro; one also seen during the extension at LSBS.

**Gray-chested Dove** *Leptotila cassinii*—One heard by GO at VTNP.

**Gray-headed Dove** *Leptotila plumbeiceps*—One bird seen at Cano Negro.

**White-winged Dove** *Zenaida asiatica*—Seen almost daily, with 16 tallied while departing San Jose on the first full day.

### **CUCKOOS AND ALLIES: Cuculidae**

**Groove-billed Ani** *Crotophaga sulcirostris*—(5) Fairly common, with highest numbers at lower elevations, finding 7 at Calle Loros and 8 at Cano Negro.

**Striped Cuckoo** *Tapera naevia*—(3) One bird calling and seen fairly well on the Tarcoles boat tour, then individuals HO at Cerro Lodge and Cano Negro.

**Lesser Ground Cuckoo** *Morococcyx erythropygus*—Heard by GO at Calle Loros.

**Squirrel Cuckoo** *Piaya cayana*—(6) HO on three days, but seen twice at Celeste Lodge; also seen during the extension at LSBS and on the Sarapiquí boat tour.

**Mangrove Cuckoo** *Coccyzus minor*—(1) HO at Cano Negro and then seen later in the day at Medio Queso.

### **NIGHTJARS: Caprimulgidae**

**Lesser Nighthawk** *Chordeiles acutipennis*—(1) Seen by one client at Tilajari Hotel.

**Common Pauraque** *Nyctidromus albicollis*—(9) HO most nights of the tour, but seen once at Celeste Lodge.

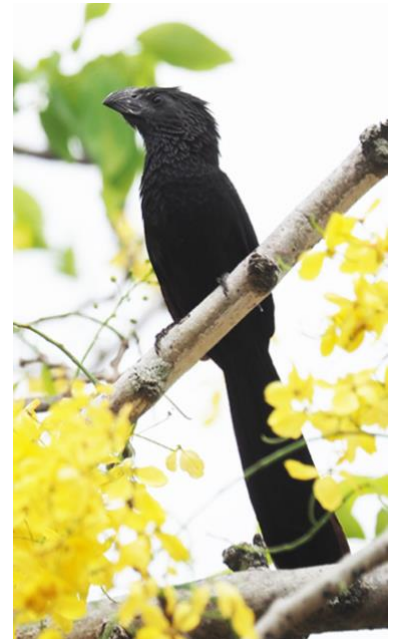
### **SWIFTS: Apodidae**

**Chestnut-collared Swift** *Streptoprocne rutila*—(1) Flock of 23 seen once at the Monteverde Hotel.

**White-collared Swift** *Streptoprocne zonaris*—(4) Pairs seen overhead twice during the main tour and once during the extension, then flocks of 20 and 25 seen during the extension at Virgen del Socorro and Mirador San Fernando.

**Gray-rumped Swift** *Chaetura cinereiventris*—(3) Flock of 10 seen at Celeste Lodge, a pair seen at AOL, and then 5 seen at LSBS during the extension.

**Vaux's Swift** *Chaetura vauxi*—(2) Large flocks seen twice: 63 at Celeste Lodge and 187 at Camino viejo al Pilón.



Groove-billed Ani

## **HUMMINGBIRDS: Trochilidae (26)**

**White-necked Jacobin** *Florisuga mellivora*—(3) Seen only once during the main tour, on the Camino viejo al Pilón; then seen during the extension at LSBS and Selva Verde Lodge.

**White-tipped Sicklebill** *Eutoxeres aquila*—(1) One bird seen by few at Celeste Lodge.

**Green Hermit** *Phaethornis guy*—(2) A nest was seen and photographed at Reserva Santa Elena, and 3 were seen two days later in the Celeste region.

**Long-billed Hermit** *Phaethornis longirostris*—(3) One seen at CENO and one at BBSG, then one GO during the extension at LSBS.

**Stripe-throated Hermit** *Phaethornis striigularis*—(3) Seen twice during the main tour, at CENP and Santa Elena Reserve, then once during the extension at LSBS.

**Lesser Violetear** *Colibri cyanotus*—(2) Our second most abundant hummer, with an amazing 23 birds throughout our visit at BNBR and 8 more at CCR.

**Purple-crowned Fairy** *Heliostyris barroti*—(1) One bird seen only once, during the extension at LSBS.

**Green-breasted Mango** *Anthracothorax prevostii*—(1) Three birds seen at Medio Queso wetland.

**Black-crested Coquette** *Lophornis helenae*—(1) Great looks at 2 birds at AOL, a big bonus for the main tour.

**Green-crowned Brilliant** *Heliodoxa jacula*—(2) The third most abundant hummingbird of the trip, though only seen at 2 locations: 9 birds at BNBR and 9 during the extension at Mirador San Fernando.

**Purple-throated Mountain-gem** *Lampornis calolaemus*—(3) Fourth most abundant hummingbird, seen three days in a row at BNBR, Santa Elena Reserve, and CCR.

**Magenta-throated Woodstar** *Philodice bryantae*—(3) Seen twice in the Monteverde region, at BNBR and CCR; also seen during the extension at Corso Lecheria.

**Volcano Hummingbird** *Selasphorus flammula*—(1) XO, with 4 birds at Corso Lecheria.

**Scintillant Hummingbird** *Selasphorus scintilla*—(1) XO, with a single bird at Corso Lecheria.

**Violet-headed Hummingbird** *Klais guimeti*—(1) Two birds seen well at AOL.

**Violet Sabrewing** *Campylopterus hemileucurus*—(2) Seen by both groups, with 2 birds at BNBR and one at Mirador San Fernando.

**Bronze-tailed Plumeleteer** *Chalybura urochrysis*—(1) One bird seen at AOL.

**Coppery-headed Emerald** *Microchera cupreiceps*—(1) We found 3 individuals of this Costa Rican endemic at CCR.

**Stripe-tailed Hummingbird** *Eupherusa eximia*—(1) Just one bird seen at Monteverde's BNBR.

**Scaly-breasted Hummingbird** *Phaeochroa cuvierii*—(2) Seen twice on the last day, both at Tilajari Hotel and AOL, then again on the extension at Selva Verde Lodge.

**Blue-vented Hummingbird** *Saucerottia hoffmanni*—(3) Single birds seen at 4 different locations, twice the first full day at Hotel Bougainvillea and Guacimo Road, once at Cerro Lodge, and then twice at Monteverde Hotel.

**Cinnamon Hummingbird** *Amazilia rutila*—(2) Only seen early in the trip and at low elevation, including one at Calle Loros, 2 at Cerro Lodge, and one at Espiritu Santo.

**Rufous-tailed Hummingbird** *Amazilia tzacatl*—(7) The most abundant hummer of the trip, seen almost everywhere except Monteverde, with the highest numbers of 4 at BBSG, 3 at Hotel Bougainvillea, and 3 at AOL; also seen on the extension at Selva Verde and LSBS.

**Blue-chested Hummingbird** *Polyerata amabilis*—(1) XO, with 3 at LSBS.

**Blue-throated Goldentail** *Chlorestes eliciae*—(2) Seen two days in a row at BBSG.



**RAILS, COOTS, AND ALLIES: Rallidae**

**Gray-cowled Wood-Rail** *Aramides cajaneus*—(2) Seen twice on the same day below the Monteverde Hotel, the HO at CCR.

**Purple Gallinule** *Porphyrio martinica*—(1) Four birds seen from the roadside near Cano Negro.

**Common Gallinule** *Gallinula galeata*—(1) Seen twice in one day, with a single bird on the Cano Negro boat ride and 2 at Medio Queso wetlands.

**White-throated Crake** *Laterallus albigularis*—(1) HO on the Camino Viejo at Pilon.

**SUNGREBE: Heliornithidae**

**Sungrebe** *Heliornis fulica*—XO, seen on the river at LSBS.

**LIMPKIN: Aramidae**

**Limpkin**—*Aramus guarauna*—(1) One bird seen at the boat ride at Cano Negro.

**STILTS AND AVOCETS: Recurvirostridae**

**Black-necked Stilt** *Himantopus mexicanus*—(2) A total of 30 birds seen at the lowest elevations, including 9 at Bajamar and 14 at Cano Negro.

**LAPWINGS AND PLOVERS: Charadriidae**

**Southern Lapwing** *Vanellus chilensis*—(3) Only a handful, with singles at Calle Loros, GO at Tilajari Hotel, and Cano Negro, and 2 from the road near Cano Negro.

**Collared Plover** *Charadrius collaris*—(2) One adult seen at very close range—with a juvenile—on the Tarcoles boat ride, and another at the Medio Queso wetland.

**JACANAS: Jacanidae**

**Northern Jacana** *Jacana spinosa*—(3) One bird seen on the Tarcoles River and 3 at the Tilajari hotel; then, we hit the jackpot at Cano Negro, with nearly 50 tallied, and another 17 at Medio Queso.

**SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES: Scolopacidae**

**Whimbrel** *Numenius phaeopus*—(1) Nine birds seen weathering a rain shower on downed snags during the Tarcoles boat ride.

**Spotted Sandpiper** *Actitis macularius*—(5) Seen walking the shorelines along nearly every river, with a high count of 11 during the Tarcoles boat ride, plus a few during the extension on the Sarapiquí.

**Solitary Sandpiper** *Tringa solitaria*—(1) A handful seen in the Cano Negro area.

**Greater Yellowlegs** *Tringa melanoleuca*—(1) A handful seen in the Cano Negro area.

**Willet** *Tringa semipalmata*—(2) A few seen at Bajamar, then singles at the Tarcoles and Cano Negro.

**Lesser Yellowlegs** *Tringa flavipes*—(1) Three seen from the roadside near Cano Negro.

**GULLS & TERNS: Laridae**

**Laughing Gull** *Leucophaeus atricilla*—(1) Just 2 seen at the Puntarenas cruiseship dock.

**Royal Tern** *Thalasseus maximus*—(1) Many seen—we counted 46—near the mouth of the Tarcoles River.

**Sandwich Tern** *Thalasseus sandvicensis*(1) Like the gull, just 2 at Puntarenas.



### **SUNBITTERN: Eurypygidae**

**Sunbittern** *Eurypyga Helias*—(1) We had a great Sunbittern experience. As we walked up to the river at Bijagua de Upala, one bird was loafing on the bank. It then showed off its gorgeous wing pattern as it flew to a rock in the river. A second was seen in the same area.

### **STORKS: Ciconiidae**

**Wood Stork** *Mycteria americana*—(4) A few seen on rivers and marshes, and then a whopping 54 flying overhead in a large raptor kettle.

### **FRIGATEBIRDS:**

**Magnificent Frigatebird** *Anhinga*—(1) A handful seen overhead on the Pacific coast.

### **ANHINGAS: Anhingidae**

**Anhinga** *Anhinga anhinga*—(4) A couple here and there, and then 19 at Cano Negro; a few seen on the Sarapiqui during the extension.

### **CORMORANTS: Phalacrocoracidae**

**Neotropic Cormorant** *Nannopterum brasilianum*—(2) One seen by GO, and then nearly a hundred counted at Cano Negro, with a single bird later at Medio Queso.



### **PELICANS: Pelecanidae**

**Brown Pelican** *Pelecanus occidentalis*—(2) Seen both days early in the trip on the Pacific Coast.

### **HERONS AND EGRETS: Ardeidae (11)**

**Pinnated Bittern** *Botaurus pinnatus*—(1) One bird seen at Medio Queso wetland.

**Bare-throated Tiger-Heron** *Tigrisoma mexicanum*—(5) An exciting bird to have been seen several times on the trip; found twice on the Tarcoles River and twice at Cano Negro; also seen during the extension on the Sarapiqui from Selva Verde Lodge.

**Great Blue Heron** *Ardea Herodias*—(4) All the herons and egrets were seen in good numbers on our two boat rides—at the Tarcoles and Cano Negro, with our high count of 10 Great Blues at the latter; also seen at the pond below the Monteverde Hotel and the river at Tilajari Hotel.

**Great Egret** *Ardea alba*—(3) Tarcoles and Cano Negro, with high counts of 17 at Cano Negro and 23 at Medio Queso; also seen during the extension from Selva Verde Lodge.

**Snowy Egret** *Egretta thula*—(3) Tarcoles and Cano Negro, with a high count of 83 at the latter; also seen on the Sarapiqui during the extension.

**Little Blue Heron** *Egretta caerulea*—(3) Tarcoles, Cano Negro, and Medio Queso, with a couple on the Sarapiqui during the extension.

**Tricolored Heron** *Egretta tricolor*—(3) Tarcoles, Cano Negro, and Medio Queso, with one on the Sarapiqui during the extension.

**Cattle Egret** *Bubulcus ibis*—(5) A few scattered on the roadsides, but good numbers on the marshes: 32 on the Tarcoles and 27 at Cano Negro; also seen during the extension, with one at Selva Verde and 9 at Corso Lecheria.

**Green Heron** *Butorides virescens*—(4) A few scattered individuals, but then they seemed like they were hiding under every tree at Cano Negro, where we counted 16; also on the Sarapiqui during the extension.

**Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** *Nyctanassa violacea*—(1) Five birds seen perched in the rain during the Tarcoles trip.

**Boat-billed Heron** *Cochlearius cochlearius*—(1) A great experience with this big-eyed, big-billed heron, when we watched a pair right next to the boat at Cano Negro.



#### **IBIS AND SPOONBILLS: Theskiornithidae**

**White Ibis** *Eudocimus albus*—(2) Nine each from the boats at the Tarcoles and Cano Negro.

**Glossy Ibis** *Plegadis falcinellus*—(1) Just 2 seen at Cano Negro.

**Green Ibis** *Mesembrinibis cayennensis*—(2) Three seen at Cano Negro during the main tour, and then 4 at LSBS and 8 on the Sarapiqui during the extension.

**Roseate Spoonbill** *Platalea ajaja*—(3) A few each at the Tarcoles, Cano Negro, and Medio Queso.

#### **NEW WORLD VULTURES: Cathartidae**

**King Vulture** *Sarcoramphus papa*—(1) Always a big highlight, we saw birds twice overhead in the Bijagua area; first, one bird from the BBSG, and then 2 birds from farther down the road at Casitas Tenorino, one of which could have been the first bird.

**Black Vulture** *Coragyps atratus*—(9) Both vultures were widespread and common, and sometimes abundant; our highest number of Black Vultures were in the Bijagua area, with a high of 47 seen from BBSG; we also had 35 between rain showers at Tilajari Hotel; the high count during the extension was 10 birds at Virgen del Socorro.

**Turkey Vulture** *Cathartes aura*—(8) We saw Turkey Vultures in generally lower numbers throughout, with no more than 5 in one location, with one key exception: in the huge raptor kettle, we counted 159; small numbers also seen at most extension stops.

#### **OSPREY: Pandionidae**

**Osprey** *Pandion haliaetus*—(3) Two birds each on the Tarcoles and Cano Negro tours, and then one during the extension on the Sarapiqui boat tour.

#### **HAWKS, KITES, AND EAGLES: Accipitridae (16)**

**White-tailed Kite** *Elanus leucurus*—(1) One bird seen on the road the Cano Negro.

**Gray-headed Kite** *Leptodon cayanensis*—(1) XO, with one bird found at LSBS.

**Swallow-tailed Kite** *Elanoides forficatus*—(4) Good numbers seen of this handsome raptor, with 2 seen at TVNP and five at Camino Viejo al Pílon, plus 6 during the extension, including 4 at Virgen del Socorro.

**Black Hawk-Eagle** *Spizaetus tyrannus*—(1) One bird seen overhead at AOL.

**Ornate Hawk-Eagle** *Spizaetus ornatus*—(1) Heard twice by GO at Santa Elena Reserve.

**Black-collared Hawk** *Busarellus nigricollis*—(1) One bird seen well on the edge of the Cano Negro wetland.

**Double-toothed Kite** *Harpagus bidentatus*—(1) XO, with 3 birds seen and photographed at LSBS.

**Plumbeous Kite** *Ictinea plumbea*—(1) Two birds seen on the Tarcoles River.

**Crane Hawk** *Geranoospiza caerulescens*—(1) One bird seen overhead at Carera National Park.

**Common Black Hawk** *Buteogallus anthracinus*(1) Two birds seen on the Tarcoles boat tour.

**Barred Hawk** *Morphnarchus princeps*—(2) Heard twice by GO, at TVNP and during the extension at Virgen del Socorro; then seen and photographed during the extension off hwy. 162, with 2 more birds seen later at Mirador San Fernando.

**Roadside Hawk** *Rupornis magnirostris*—(2) Two seen at Cerro Lodge and one at Cano Negro.

**Semiplumbeous Hawk** *Leucopternis semiplumbeus*—(1) Heard by GO at Celeste Lodge.

**Gray Hawk** *Buteo plagiatus*—(2) Single birds seen at TVNP and Bijagua de Upala.

**Broad-winged Hawk** *Buteo platypterus*—(5) This common migrant made its biggest impression when we found a kettle of raptors near Cano Negro and counted 268 Broad-wings among the Swainson's Hawks, vultures, and Wood Storks; single birds seen elsewhere and then 5 seen during the extension at Virgen del Socorro.

**Short-tailed Hawk** *Buteo brachyurus*—(1) A single bird seen by GO at Santa Elena Reserve.

**Swainson's Hawk** *Buteo swainsoni*—(1) The only Swainson's of the tour were 311 birds counted in the kettle near Cano Negro.

#### OWLS: Strigidae

**Crested Owl** *Lophostrix cristata*—(1) HO one night at Celeste Lodge.

**Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl** *Glaucidium brasilianum*—(3) A pair seen well by all on successive mornings at Hotel Bougainvillea, then Heard only; 2 seen later on the exit road at Cerro Lodge, with one entering a cavity.

**Mottled Owl** *Ciccaba virgata*—(2) Two staked-out birds seen in the large bamboo stand at Hotel Bougainvillea.

#### TROGONS: Trogonidae

**Resplendent Quetzal** *Pharomachrus mocinno*—(3) We had some amazing experiences in Monteverde with the highly sought-after quetzal. Most of the birds were easy to find, due to the crowds of other birders gawking at the scenes. We saw 2 birds near the entrance to BNBR and 2 more on the trail, followed the next day by one bird at Santa Elena Reserve. The *piece de resistance*, however, was a group of 4 quetzals feeding with guans at an aguacatillo tree at CCR, and 3 more on the trails of the reserve. Obviously, a major highlight for the whole group.

**Slaty-tailed Trogon** *Trogon massena*—(2) Two seen at Celeste Lodge and then one photographed during the extension at LSBS.

**Black-headed Trogon** *Trogon melanocephalus*—(1) We had great looks at two Black-headed during a casual stop on the Guacimo Road, the same stop where we saw the Long-tailed manakins and a motmot!

**Gartered Trogon** *Trogon caligatus*—One bird heard by GO at CENP.





**Black-throated Trogon** *Trogon rufus*—(2) One seen by the main tour group at CENP, and then another photographed during the extension at LSBS.

**Collared Trogon** *Trogon collaris*—One heard by GO at BNBR.

### MOTMOTS: Momotidae

**Tody Motmot** *Hylomanes momotula*—(1) One seen on a hike across from Celeste Lodge, a bonus for many folks.

**Lesson's Motmot** *Momotus lessonii*—(3) HO twice, at Hotel Bougainvillea and CENP, and then finally seen well at the Monteverde Hotel.

**Rufous Motmot** *Baryphthengus martii*—(1) XO, with three seen one day at Selva Verde Lodge.

**Broad-billed Motmot** *Electron platyrhynchum*—(2) Heard by GO during the main tour, but three were seen and at least one photographed at LSBS during the extension.

**Turquoise-browed Motmot** *Eumomota superciliosa*—(2) The most abundant motmot of the tour, with our best looks of a pair perched at a nest burrow on the Tarcoles boat ride; also at the Guacimo Road and Cerro Lodge.



Turquoise-browed Motmot

### KINGFISHERS: Alcedinidae

**Ringed Kingfisher** *Megaceryle torquata*—(3) Kingfishers were quite common on all our boat rides, especially along rivers, as expected; we had 12 total Ringed Kingfishers, with 7 at Cano Negro and one at Selva Verde during the extension.

**Amazon Kingfisher** *Chloroceryle amazona*—(4) Our most abundant kingfisher with an amazing 16 seen at Cano Negro and 3 on the Sarapiquí during the extension.

**Green Kingfisher** *Chloroceryle americana*—(4) Cano Negro again came through with the high count of 8 individuals, with singles seen elsewhere, including those on the Sarapiquí during the extension.

### PUFFBIRDS: Bucconidae

**White-whiskered Puffbird** *Malacoptila panamensis*—(1) One bird seen at CENP.

**White-fronted Nunbird** *Monasa morphoeus*—(2) Great looks at a single very vocal bird on successive days at the Celeste Lodge trail.

### JACAMARS: Galbulidae

**Rufous-tailed Jacamar** *Galbula ruficauda*—(3) One during the main tour at Celeste, and two during the extension, at LSBS and Selva Verde.

### TOUCAN-BARBETS: Semnornithidae

**Prong-billed Barbet** *Semnornis frantzii*—We saw several of this bird that is a near-endemic to Costa Rica, with 4 each at BNBR and Santa Elena, then 2 at Mirador San Fernando during the extension.



Northern Emerald Toucanet

### TOUCANS: Ramphastidae

**Northern Emerald-Toucanet** *Aulacorhynchus prasinus*—This toucanet was heard by GO twice, but we all enjoyed excellent looks at a pair up-close-and-personal next to the driveway at the Monteverde Hotel; also seen and photographed at the mirador San Fernando.

**Collared Aracari** *Pteroglossus torquatus*—Five birds seen well, one at TVNP, 2 near Cano Negro, and 2 more at LSBS during the extension.

**Yellow-eared Toucanet** *Selenidera spectabilis*—Two birds seen fairly well at TVNP

**Yellow-throated Toucan** *Ramphastos ambiguus*—Our most abundant toucan, though most were HO; 2 birds were seen at TVNP (obviously a toucan kind of place!), 3 at Camino viejo al Pílon, and several during the extension.

**Keel-billed Toucan** *Ramphastos sulfuratus*—(6) Several of these gorgeous birds were seen on the main tour and a couple HO on the extension; our high count was 4 at CCR.

### **WOODPECKERS: Picidae**

**Black-cheeked Woodpecker** *Melanerpes pucherani*—(4) This species was second in abundance to the Hoffman's, with 10 total birds seen; common in and around the grounds at Celeste and then 2 at AOL; one HO and one seen on the Sarapiquí.

**Hoffmann's Woodpecker** *Melanerpes hoffmannii*—(9) By far the most common woodpecker, with many birds seen on the first full day between Hotel Bougainvillea and the Tarcoles boat ride; several also between Cerro Lodge and MPnteverde; a few also seen between Camino viejo al Pílon and Cano Negro.

**Smoky-brown Woodpecker** *Dryobates fumigatus*—(3) Three birds seen on successive days, with our best looks—much to the pleasure of this woodpecker fanatic—on Camino viejo al Pílon; this bird was right at the road at eye level, giving us great photo opportunities.

**Pale-billed Woodpecker** *Campephilus guatemalensis*—(1) A single bird heard by GO giving its 'double-knock' drum below the hotel at Monteverde.

**Lineated Woodpecker** *Dryocopus lineatus*—(2) Our first 2 birds were HO at Cerro Lodge and Cano Negro, then we saw one bird during the roadside stop for the raptor kettle.

**Cinnamon Woodpecker** *Celeus loricatus*—XO, heard by GO at LSBS.

**Rufous-winged Woodpecker** *Piculus simplex*—XO, seen or heard at three locations, including Selva Verde and LSBS.

**Golden-olive Woodpecker** *Colaptes rubiginosus*—(4) Our first Golden-olive was one of the first birds we found at the Monteverde Hotel, followed by singles at Celeste and TVNP.



### **FALCONS AND CARACARAS: Falconidae**

**Laughing Falcon** *Herpetotheres cachinnans*—(3) Three birds seen on the main tour and one on the extension, including 2 at Camino viejo al Pílon.

**Crested Caracara** *Caracara cheriway*—(3) Seven throughout the tour at scattered locations, mostly seen from the roads.

**Yellow-headed Caracara** *Milvago chimachima*—(3) Five seen at scattered locations, with our best looks at a one bird hopping around on the balcony railing of an apartment adjacent to the Puntarenas cruiseship dock.

**American Kestrel** *Falco sparverius*—(2) Only 2 seen, with one on the Tarcoles boat ride and another at the end of the tour at Hotel Bougainvillea.

**Bat Falcon** *Falco ruficularis*—(3) Three of this charismatic little falcon were seen during the main tour, including 2 at Cano Negro; singles seen during the extension at Virgen del Socorro and Route 162.

**Peregrine Falcon** *Falco peregrinus*—(1) One bird seen on day 9 at an unrecorded location.

## **PARROTS: Psittacidae (10)**

**Orange-chinned Parakeet** *Brotogeris jugularis*—(7) Parrots, parakeets, and macaws were common and widespread during both the main tour and the extension. The Orange-chinned was one of the most abundant, with 23 individuals counted, and the main-tour high count of 4 in the palm trees outside Tilajari Hotel; the high count during the extension came to 6 at Selva Verde Lodge.

**Brown-hooded Parrot** *Pyrilia haematotis*—(1) Just 3 seen poorly at Celeste Lodge.

**White-crowned Parrot** *Pionus senilis*—(3) Out of 10 total, a high count of 7 at CCR, plus one during the extension at Virgen del Socorro.

**Red-lored Parrot** *Amazona autumnalis*—(5) Only seen around lodges, with 2 at Cerro, 3 at Celeste, and 2 at Tilajari; high count of 6 seen at Selva Verde during the extension.

**Yellow-naped Parrot** *Amazona auropalliata*—(2) Five flyovers on the Tarcoles boat tour, and then 3 at Cerro Lodge.

**White-fronted Parrot** *Amazona albifrons*—(3) Seven seen on successive days, with 2 at the Tarcoles and 5 at Monteverde Hotel.

**Mealy Parrot** *Amazona farinose*—(1) XO, with 2 seen at Seva Verde Lodge.

**Olive-throated Parakeet** *Eupsittula nana*—(2) Good numbers but localized, with a total of 18 seen—mostly as flyovers—in the Cano Negro area; 2 also during the extension on the Sarapiquí boat ride.

**Orange-fronted Parakeet** *Eupsittula canicularis*—(2) Small numbers seen on the first couple of days, with a high count of 5 at Calle Loros.

**Great Green Macaw** *Ara ambiguous*—(3) XO, with a total of 11 seen between Frog's Heaven and Selva Verde Lodge.

**Scarlet Macaw** *Ara macao*—(2) Though very localized, the most abundant of the parrot family with 28 tallied, including 18 seen mostly as flyovers during the Tarcoles boat trip.

**Crimson-fronted Parakeet** *Psittacara finschi*—(2) A total of 19 counted as flyovers, seen only from Hotel Bougainvillea.

## **ANTBIRDS: Thamnophilidae**

**Fasciated Antshrike** *Cymbilaimus lineatus*—(1) XO, with one bird photographed at LSBS.

**Barred Antshrike** *Thamnophilus doliatus*—(2) Only 3 found on our two main boat trips, Tarcoles and Cano Negro, two of which were GO.

**Black-crowned Antshrike** *Thamnophilus atrinucha*—(1) XO, with 2 seen and photographed at LSBS.

**Black-hooded Antshrike** *Thamnophilus bridgesi*—(1) Four birds seen on our hike at CENP.

**Russet Antshrike** *Thamnistes anabatinus*—(1) One each seen at TVNP and AOL.

**Plain Antvireo** *Dysithamnus mentalis*—(2) Four seen in Monteverde, with 2 each at BNR and CCR.

**Slaty Antwren** *Myrmotherula schisticolor*—(2) Same as above but 2 and 1, respectively.

**Chestnut-backed Antbird** *Poliocrania exsul*—(1) At least 10 found—mostly HO—at CENP.

**Zeledon's Antbird**— *Hafferia zeledoni*—(1) One seen as part of an amazing army ant swarm at TVNP.



Scarlet Macaw

**Bicolored Antbird** *Gymnopithys bicolor*—(1) Five birds, most of which were at the TVNP ant swarm.

**Ocellated Antbird** *Phaenostictus mcleannani*—(1) Heard by GO at TVNP.

#### **ANTPITTAS: Grallariidae**

**Streak-chested Antpitta** *Hylopezus perspicillatus*—(1) Heard by GO at CENP.

**Thicket Antpitta** *Hylopezus dives*—(1) Also heard by GO, this one at AOL.

#### **TAPACULOS: Rhinocryptidae**

**Silvery-fronted Tapaculo** *Scytalopus argentifrons*—HO twice at Monteverde, once at BNBR and once at Santa Elena.

#### **OVENBIRDS AND WOODCREEPERS: Furnariidae (10)**

**Plain-brown Woodcreeper** *Dendrocincla fuliginosa*—(2) One seen at TVNP, and then one each during the extension at LSBS and Selva Verde.

**Wedge-billed Woodcreeper** *Glyphorhynchus spirurus*—(3) Likely the same bird seen twice at Celeste, another at TVNP, and one during the extension at LSBS.

**Northern Barred-Woodcreeper** *Dendrocolaptes sanctithomae*—(3) One of the easier woodcreepers to identify, we had good looks at 2 on the trail below the Monteverde hotel; also, one at TVNP and one during the extension at Selva Verde Lodge.

**Cocoa Woodcreeper** *Xiphorhynchus susurrans*—(2) One seen at the Monteverde Hotel, then 4 during the extension, including 3 heard by GO on the Sarapiquí boat ride.

**Spotted Woodcreeper** *Xiphorhynchus erythropygius*—XO, one bird heard by GO at LSBS.

**Streak-headed Woodcreeper** *Lepidocolaptes souleyetii*—(3) The first was heard by GO at Cerro Lodge, then we saw one each at Monteverde hotel and AOL.

**Plain Xenops** *Xenops minutus*—(1) A single bird was seen in a mixed flock at CENP.

**Buff-throated Foliage-gleaner** *Automolus ochrolaemus*—(1) One bird seen at TVNP.

**Spotted Barbtail** *Premnoplex brunnescens*—(1) Though only seen here, this species was common at Monteverde's BNBR, where we saw 4 individuals.

**Ruddy Treerunner** *Margarornis rubiginosus*—(2) Another Monteverde highlight, we saw 2 at BNBR and 2 at Santa Elena.

**Red-faced Spinetail** *Cranioleuca erythropus*—(1) Just one bird seen at Santa Elena.

#### **MANAKINS: Pipridae**

**Long-tailed Manakin** *Chiroxiphia linearis*—Remember that quiet road described above where we saw the Black-headed Trogon and Turquoise-browed Motmot? These two were simply distractions from the big highlight of a pair of LT Manakins, which incidentally is Johann's favorite bird! Many photos captured.

**White-collared Manakin** *Manacus candei*—(5) HO at TVNP and Celeste, and then finally seen at AOL; during the extension, we saw 3 on one outing at Selva Verde Lodge and another heard by GO at LSBS.

#### **COTINGAS: Cotingidae**

**Rufous Piha** *Lipaugus unirufus*—This nondescript cotinga was heard by GO at CENP.

**Three-wattled Bellbird** *Procnias tricarunculatus*—(1) Though only recorded once, we saw and heard a very distant bellbird from the Monteverde hotel multiple times during our visit.

**Snowy Cotinga** *Carpodectes nitidus*—(1) XO, a major highlight of the extension, this all-white bird was seen at



Rain on the Tarcoles River

LSBS.

**BECARDS AND TITYRAS: Tityridae**

**Black-crowned Tityra** *Tityra inquisitor*—(2) Seen once each during the main tour and extension, at Camino viejo al Pilón and LSBS, respectively.

**Masked Tityra** *Tityra semifasciata*—(4) Seen in the trees above the Monteverde Hotel and adjacent to the gardens at Celeste, with likely the same individual seen twice during the extension at Selva Verde.

**Northern Schiffornis** *Schiffornis veraepacis*—(1) Seen on the hike at TVNP.

**Barred Becard** *Pachyramphus versicolor*—(1) The least common of our three becards, one bird was GO at Santa Elena.

**Cinnamon Becard** *Pachyramphus cinnamomeus*—(3) Only seen once during the main tour, GO at Celeste, and then pairs seen during the extension at LSBS and Selva Verde.

**Rose-throated Becard** *Pachyramphus aglaiae*—(2) Four birds seen at Cerro Lodge and then one more at CENP.

**SHARPBILL AND ALLIES: Oxyruncidae**

**Royal Flycatcher** *Onychorhynchus coronatus*—(2) One bird was another highlight of the Guacimo Road, with a second at CENP.

**Sulphur-rumped Flycatcher** *Myiobius sulphureipygius*—(1) Two birds seen from the trails at CENP.

**TYRANT FLYCATCHERS: Tyrannidae (33)**

**Golden-crowned Spadebill** *Platyrhinchus coronatus*—(1) We saw one of these cute chunky little flycatchers at CENP.

**Ochre-bellied Flycatcher** *Mionectes oleaginosa*—(1) XO, with one bird seen at LSBS.

**Scale-crested Pygmy-Tyrant** *Lophotriccus pileatus*—(3) Heard by GO 3 times, twice on the main tour, once on the extension.

**Northern Bentbill** *Oncostoma cinereigulare*—(1) One seen on the hike at TVNP.

**Common Tody-Flycatcher** *Todirostrum cinereum* —(8) One of the most common flycatchers of the trip, seen many places, including several times around Celeste Lodge, and then 3 times during the extension.

**Eye-ringed Flatbill** *Rhynchocyclus brevirostris*—(1) XO, with one bird seen well and photographed at Selva Verde.

**Yellow-olive Flycatcher** *Tolmomyias sulphurescens*—(2) Seen twice on the first full day, including one bird on the Guacimo road, then heard by GO during the extension.

**Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet** *Camptosoma imberbe*—(1) One bird heard by GO at Celeste Lodge.

**Yellow-bellied Elaenia** *Elaenia flavogaster*—(4) A half-dozen seen during the main tour, including 2 at Tarcoles and 2 at Bijagua de Upala.

**Torrent Tyrannulet** *Serpophaga cinerea*—(1) XO, with a pair seen and photographed at Virgen del Socorro.

**Mistletoe Tyrannulet** *Zimmerius parvus*—(3) Single birds found at three locations: seen at BNBR and Bijagua de Upala, and heard by GO at CCR.

**Tufted Flycatcher** *Mitrephanes phaeocercus*—(1) One bird seen at Santa Elena.

**Northern Tropical Pewee** *Contopus bogotensis*—(2) Seen once each on the main tour and extension, at Celeste and Virgen del Socorro, respectively.

**Eastern Wood-Pewee** *Contopus virens*—(1) Only seen upon our return to San Jose, with one bird at Hotel Bougainvillea.

**Yellowish Flycatcher** *Empidonax flavescens*—(2) Three birds seen at BNBR and then one at Santa Elena.

**Black Phoebe** *Sayornis nigricans*—Seen once during the main tour and twice during the extension, at Selva Verde Lodge.

**Northern Scrub-Flycatcher** *Sublegatus arenarum*—(1) Seen only once, at Espiritu Santo near Puntarenas.

**Long-tailed Tyrant** *Colonia colonus*—(3) Seen by GO the first day at Celeste Lodge, then by the group the next day; also at LSBS during the extension.

**Bright-rumped Attila** *Attila spadiceus*—(5) As is typical for this species, far more often heard than seen; 5 days heard by GO, though seen by others at Celeste and TVNP, plus once at Selva Verde during the extension.

**Rufous Mourner** *Rhytipterna holerythra*—(2) Seen once at Celeste and twice at AOL.

**Dusky-capped Flycatcher** *Myiarchus tuberculifer*—(4) Seen at low elevation at Calle Loros, then in the mountains at Santa Elena and TVNP; heard by GO once at Celeste.

**Nutting's Flycatcher** *Myiarchus nuttingi*—(1) Seen once on the roadside at Calle Loros.

**Great Crested Flycatcher** *Myiarchus crinitus*—(2) Heard by GO at CENP, then seen during the extension at Selva Verde.

**Brown-crested Flycatcher** *Myiarchus tyrannulus*—(2) Seen near the Nuttall's on Calle Loros then again at Cerro Lodge and CENP.

**Great Kiskadee** *Pitangus sulphuratus*—(10) Bar far the most widespread and most common flycatcher, seen or



Northern Tropical Pewee

heard at most locations, with the high counts of 7 during the main tour on the Tarcoles boat ride and 10 during the extension on the Sarapiquí; a total of 60 counted at 26 locations.

**Boat-billed Flycatcher** *Megarynchus pitangua*—(5) Not common but widespread, from Hotel Bougainvillea to Cerro Lodge and Monteverde, with one at LSBS during the extension.

**Social Flycatcher** *Myiozetetes similis*—(8) Quite common and widespread, with 34 birds seen at 16 locations and a high count of 5 at Cano Negro; also during the extension at Frog's Heaven, LSBS, and the Sarapiquí.

**Gray-capped Flycatcher** *Myiozetetes granadensis*—(2) One at AOL, near the end of the main tour, then during the extension on the Sarapiquí.

**Golden-bellied Flycatcher** *Myiodynastes hemichrysus*—(1) One seen at Monteverde in the Santa Elena Reserve.

**Streaked Flycatcher** *Myiodynastes maculatus*—(3) Pairs seen roadside on Calle Loros and Camino viejo al Pilón, plus 2 at Cerro Lodge.

**Piratic Flycatcher** *Legatus leucophaeus*—(6) Heard by GO at a few locations, then pairs seen at the Tarcoles, TVNP, and Bijagua de Upala; also one during the extension at LSBS.

**Tropical Kingbird** *Tyrannus melancholicus*—(10) Though not as abundant as the kiskadee, equally widespread, with 37 counted at 20 locations and high counts of 4 at the Tarcoles and Cerro Lodge; also during the extension at Selva Verde Lodge and the Sarapiquí.

**Scissor-tailed Flycatcher** *Tyrannus forficatus*—(1) Fun to see this North American breeder on one of our roadside stops, at Calle Loros.



#### VIREOS: Vireonidae

**Rufous-browed Peppershrike** *Cyclarhis gujanensis*—(1) This vireo occurs from Veracruz (MX) to Uruguay, but it is not so common in Costa Rica, and we only found one, at Hotel Bougainvillea.

**Tawny-crowned Greenlet** *Tunchiornis ochraceiceps*—(1) One seen at CENP.

**Lesser Greenlet** *Pachysylvia decurtata*—(4) Seen once each at Guacimo Road and CENP, heard by GO at Celeste, and then GO during the extension at Selva Verde.

**Mangrove Vireo** *Vireo pallens*—(2) We made a roadside stop at Espiritu Santo to look for mangrove specialties; we missed the hummingbird but did see 2 vireos and the “Mangrove” Yellow Warbler.

**Yellow-throated Vireo** *Vireo flavifrons*—(2) Two birds seen alongside the Mangrove Vireo at Espiritu Santo, then one at the Monteverde Hotel.

**Philadelphia Vireo** *Vireo philadelphicus*—(1) One seen early in the trip at Hotel Bougainvillea.

**Yellow-green Vireo** *Vireo flavoviridis*—(2) Our most abundant vireo, with singles at Calle Loros and Guacimo Road and pairs at Cerro Lodge and Espiritu Santo, where we had three vireo species.

#### CROWS AND JAYS: Corvidae

**Azure-hooded Jay** *Cyanolyca cucullate*—(1) We had great looks at this handsome little jay with 4 at Monteverde's BNBR.

**White-throated Magpie-Jay** *Calocitta Formosa*—(2) We found a flock of 6 at Calle Loros, then 2 at Cerro Lodge and 2 at Espiritu Santo.

**Brown Jay** *Psilorhinus morio*—(10) Though only recorded on 6 checklists, this noisy Jay was counted daily during

the main tour, with a high count of 7 at CCR.

### **SWALLOWS AND MARTINS: Hirundinidae**

**Blue-and-white Swallow** *Pygochelidon cyanoleuca*—(4) We saw our highest numbers at the Monteverde Hotel, with a high count of 9.

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow** *Stelgidopteryx serripennis*—(1) Only 3 seen, at AOL.

**Southern Rough-winged Swallow** *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*—(3) Pairs seen at Monteverde and the Bijagua area, and then a few seen during the extension.

**Gray-breasted Martin** *Progne chalybea*—(3) Most common on the Tarcoles boat tour, with a count of 14, and a few seen elsewhere.

**Mangrove Swallow** *Tachycineta albilinea*—(5) Commonly seen along most rivers and marshes; out of 52 counted, high counts of 16 on the Tarcoles tour and 20 on the Sarapiquí, during the extension.

**Barn Swallow** *Hirundo rustica*—(1) One on Calle Loros and 7 on the Tarcoles Boat tour.

### **GNATCATCHERS: Polioptilidae**

**Long-billed Gnatwren** *Ramphocaenus melanurus*—(2) Heard by GO twice, at CENP and AOL.

**White-lored Gnatcatcher** *Polioptila albiloris*—(2) Only early in the trip, with 2 on the Guacimo road and 1 each at Cerro Lodge and CENP.

### **WRENS: Troglodytidae (13)**

**Nightingale Wren** *Microcerculus philomela*—(2) Though this nondescript wren was HO—at Celeste and AOL—hearing its song was a wonderful experience.

**House Wren** *Troglodytes aedon*—(10) One of the most widespread birds of the trip, though only seen or heard in small numbers, with a high count of 4 at Tilahari Lodge.

**Ochraceous Wren** *Troglodytes ochraceous*—(2) Two birds seen at 2 different Monteverde sites: BNBR and Santa Elena.

**Rufous-naped Wren** *Campylorhynchus rufinucha*—(3) More abundant but less widespread than the House Wren, we saw the Rufous-naped 5 times between Hotel Bougainvillea and Puntarenas, with a high count of 6 at Cerro Lodge.

**Black-throated Wren** *Pheugopedius atrogularis*—(2) This distinctive wren with the black bib was seen on the trail at TVNP and then heard by GO at Cano Negro.

**Banded Wren** *Thryophilus pleurostictus*—(1) Seen only once, on the Guacimo road

**Rufous-and-white Wren** *Thryophilus rufalbus*—(3) Seen twice, at CENP and the Monteverde Hotel, then heard twice by GO at CCR.

**Stripe-breasted Wren** *Cantorchilus thoracicus*—(1) Only seen once, at TVNP.

**Cabanis's Wren** *Cantorchilus modestus*—(3) One bird was heard by GO at Hotel Bougainvillea, but then two were seen at the Monteverde Hotel.

**Riverside Wren** *Cantorchilus semibadius*—(1) Though only seen on one day, we found five of this near-endemic



Azure-hooded Jay



wren at CENP.

**Bay Wren** *Cantorchilus nigricapillus*—(6) Always heard more than seen, we did get good looks at Bay Wrens at Celeste Lodge and the Tilajri Hotel; HO during the extension on the Sarapiqui and at Virgen del Socorro.

**White-breasted Wood-Wren** *Henicorhina leucosticta*—(4) Also one of the most vocally conspicuous wrens, HO three times, but seen once at TVNP and once during the extension at Selva Verde Lodge.

**Gray-breasted Wood-Wren** *Henicorhina leucophrys*—(2) More abundant but less widespread than the above, we saw several Gray-breasteds at Monteverde, with 4 at BNBR and 6 at Santa Elena.

#### **DIPPERS: Cinclidae**

**American Dipper** *Cinclus mexicanus*—XO, and like the Torrent Tyrannulet, seen only once at Virgen del Socorro.

#### **MOCKINGBIRDS AND THRASHERS: Mimidae**

**Tropical Mockingbird** *Mimus gilvus*—Single birds seen three times, at Hotel Bougainvillea, Puntarenas, and TVNP.

#### **THRUSHES: Turdidae (10)**

**Black-faced Solitaire** *Myadestes melanops*—Fairly common at Monteverde with 6 at BNBR and 2 at Santa Elena.

**Orange-billed Nightingale-Thrush** *Catharus aurantiirostris*—(2) Two birds seen at Monteverde, at the hotel and CCR.

**Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrush** *Catharus fuscater*—(2) Only at Monteverde, with one each at BNBR and Santa Elena.

**Ruddy-capped Nightingale-Thrush** *Catharus frantzii*—(1) One seen at Monteverde's Santa Elena Reserve.

**Black-headed Nightingale-Thrush** *Catharus mexicanus*—(2)

Our fourth nightingale-thrush was also seen at Monteverde, and then heard by GO at AOL.

**Wood Thrush** *Hylocichla mustelina*—(2) One each seen at Monteverde Hotel and Celeste Lodge.

**Mountain Thrush** *Turdus plebejus*—(2) Only in the Monteverde region, with one at the hotel and one at CCR.

**Pale-vented Thrush** *Turdus obsoletus*—(1) One bird at Monteverde's BNBR.

**White-throated Thrush** *Turdus assimilis*—(1) Just one seen, at the Monteverde hotel.

**Clay-colored Thrush** *Turdus grayi*—Costa Rica's national bird was one of the most widespread and most abundant birds of the trip, with 85 birds seen at 19 different locations and a high count of 10 at Celeste Lodge.

#### **OLD WORLD SPARROWS: Passeridae**

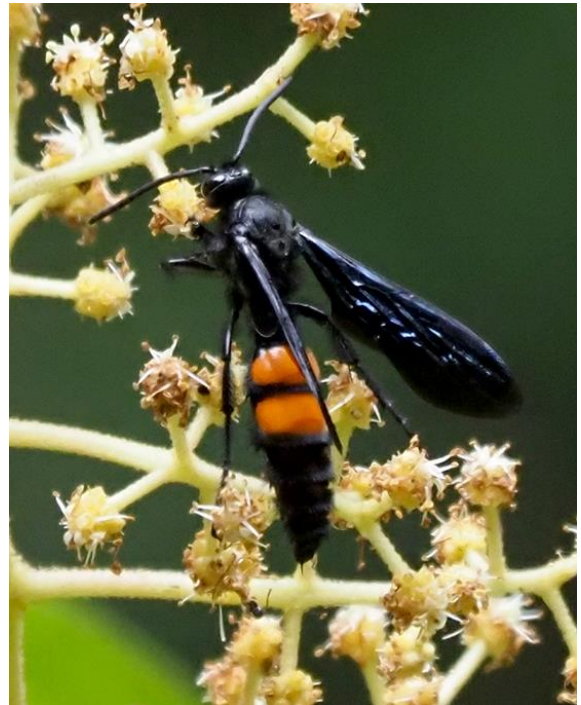
**House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus*—(3) Two seen in urban San Jose, and then one each during the extension at Frog's Heaven and the Sarapiqui boat tour.

#### **FINCHES AND EUPHONIAS: Fringillidae**

**Elegant Euphonia** *Chlorophonia elegantissima*—(1) A single bird seen at Monteverde's CCR.

**Golden-browed Chlorophonia** *Chlorophonia callophrys*—(3) Though not for lack of trying to get visuals, this bird was HO at 3 locations in the Monteverde region.

**Yellow-crowned Euphonia** *Euphonia luteicapilla*—(4) Common but localized, with 2 and 3 at Cerro Lodge and



Saddlebacked Scoliid Wasp

Monteverde hotel, respectively, with one at Celeste and 4 down the road in Bijagua.

**Yellow-throated Euphonia** *Euphonia hirundinacea*—(4) Equally as common as the above and seen in generally the same locations, plus 2 birds at AOL and 2 during the extension at LSBS.

**Spot-crowned Euphonia** *Euphonia imitans*—(1) This near-endemic was heard by GO at CENP.

**Olive-backed Euphonia** *Euphonia gouldi*—(3) Seen twice on the main tour in the Celeste area, and then one bird during the extension at LSBS.

**Tawny-capped Euphonia** *Euphonia annea*—(2) Near-endemic to Costa Rica and Panama, this last euphonia was seen only at BNBR and AOL.

#### **NEW WORLD SPARROWS: Passerellidae**

**Common Chlorospingus** *Chlorospingus flavopectus*—(3) Seen three times in small groups in Monteverde, with 5 at BNBR, 8 at Santa Elena, and 2 at CCR.

**Stripe-headed Sparrow** *Peucaea ruficauda*—(1) Just 2 seen on Calle Loros.

**Olive Sparrow** *Arremonops rufivirgatus*—(1) Three seen on the Guacimo back road.

**Black-striped Sparrow** *Arremonops conirostris*—(3) Seen twice at Celeste and once at AOL.

**Orange-billed Sparrow** *Arremon aurantiostris*—(5) Seen twice on the main tour, at CENP and Celeste, and then thrice during the extension at Selva Verde.

**Rufous-collared Sparrow** *Zonotrichia capensis*—(4) This widespread Neotropical sparrow was seen at Hotel Bougainvillea and Monteverde, with one during the extension at Corso Lecheria.

**White-eared Ground-Sparrow** *Melospiza leucotis*—(2) Seen twice at the Monteverde hotel grounds.

**White-naped Brushfinch** *Atlapetes albinucha*—(2) Seen once at the Monteverde hotel and once at CCR.

#### **WRENTHRUSH: Zeledoniidae**

**Wrenthrush** *Zeledonia coronata*—(1) Heard by GO at CCR.

#### **NEW WORLD BLACKBIRDS: Icteridae (13)**

**Eastern Meadowlark** *Sturnella magna*—(1) Seen by one client at Hotel Bougainvillea.

**Montezuma Oropendola** *Psarocolius montezuma*—(7) We counted 32 of these animated Icterids at 11 sites, with a high count of 10 at AOL, then several seen during the extension at Selva Verde and LSBS.

**Scarlet-rumped Cacique** *Cacicus uropygialis*—XO, heard by GO at LSBS.

**Black-cowled Oriole** *Icterus prothemelas*—(1) One bird seen at Camino viejo al Pilón.

**Orchard Oriole** *Icterus spurius*—(2) One seen near Cano Negro and one at Tilajari resort.

**Streak-backed Oriole** *Icterus pustulatus*—(1) Just one of these Pacific-slope endemics seen on the Tarcoles bo at tour.

**Baltimore Oriole** *Icterus galbula*—(8) 28 birds counted on 12 lists, including 5 seen on the extension.

**Red-winged Blackbird** *Agelaius phoeniceus*—(2) All seen on the Tarcoles and at Cano Negro, with 55 and 12 respectively.

**Bronzed Cowbird** *Molothrus aeneus*—(3) Just a handful seen at 3 different lodges: one at Hotel Bougainvillea, one at Monteverde hotel, and 3 at Celeste Lodge.

**Giant Cowbird** *Molothrus oryzivorus*—(1) One Giant Cowbird was seen at Monteverde Hotel.



**Melodious Blackbird** *Dives dives*—(3) Seen at Hotel Bougainvillea, Cerro Lodge, and Cano Negro.

**Great-tailed Grackle** *Quiscalus mexicanus*—Widespread and common, with 64 seen at 15 locations, and high counts of 11 in urban San Jose and at the Puntarenas cruiseship dock; also seen during the extension at the Sarapiqui and Selva Verde Lodge.

**Nicaraguan Grackle** *Quiscalus nicaraguensis*—(1) A highlight for several folks, we saw 8 on the Cano Negro boat tour.

### **NEW WORLD WARBLERS: Parulidae (19)**

**Northern Waterthrush** *Parkesia noveboracensis*—(3) Five seen on the Tarcoles boat tour and one on the river at Tilajari Lodge, plus another single bird HO on the Sarapiqui tour during the extension.

**Golden-winged Warbler** *Vermivora chrysoptera*—(3) A favorite warbler for many, we saw 3 at BNR and 2 at AOL, with one more during the extension at Selva Verde Lodge.

**Black-and-white Warbler** *Mniotilta varia*—(5) Single birds seen in several locations, most at lodge sites, including Monteverde Hotel, Celeste Lodge, Tilajari hotel, and AOL; also during the extension at Mirador San Fernando.

**Prothonotary Warbler** *Protonotaria citrea*—(1) One bird seen below the Monteverde hotel.

**Tennessee Warbler** *Leiothlypis peregrina*—(7) Fairly widespread warbler, with pairs seen at Hotel Bougainvillea, the Guacimo road, and Monteverde Hotel, and 2 on the extension at Selva Verde and Mirador San Fernando.

**Gray-crowned Yellowthroat** *Geothlypis poliocephala*—(2) One bird seen repeatedly in the grass below the Monteverde hotel, and then 2 at CCR.

**Common Yellowthroat** *Geothlypis trichas*—(1) A single bird seen on the Cano Negro boat tour.

**Tropical Parula** *Setophaga pitaiyumi*—(2) One on the main tour and 2 on the extension, at Celeste and Virgen del Socorro, respectively.

**Bay-breasted Warbler** *Setophaga castanea*—XO, seen twice at Selva Verde Lodge.

**Yellow Warbler** *Setophaga petechia*—(5) One of our most widespread warblers; high count of 5 at Cerro Lodge.

**Chestnut-sided Warbler** *Setophaga pensylvanica*—(8) Another widespread warbler species, with mostly individuals seen; high counts came during the extension, with 4 each at Selva Verde and LSBS.

**Black-throated Green Warbler** *Setophaga virens*—Seen once during the main tour, at Santa Elena, and again during the extension, at Virgen del Socorro.

**Chestnut-capped Warbler** *Basileuterus delatirii*—(3) Pairs seen at Hotel Bougainvillea and the Monteverde hotel.

**Golden-crowned Warbler** *Basileuterus culicivorus*—(2) Three each seen at CCR and AOL.

**Coats Rican Warbler** *Basileuterus melanotis*—(2) Though only seen on two days, still the most abundant warbler, with an amazing 16 at BNR and 6 more at Santa Elena.

**Buff-rumped Warbler** *Myiothlypis fulvicauda*—(2) Two birds seen at TVNP, and one HO during the extension.



**Wilson's Warbler** *Cardellina pusilla*—(3) Five individuals seen at Monteverde, with 1 at the hotel, 2 at Santa Elena, and 2 at CCR.

**Slate-throated Redstart** *Myioborus miniatus*—(2) Four birds seen at BNBR and one at CCR.

#### **CARDINALS, GROSBEAKS AND ALLIES: Cardinalidae**

**Summer Tanager** *Piranga rubra*—(9) This widespread North American breeder was seen at several locations, with a high count of 5 at Hotel Bougainvillea; seen during the extension at Selva Verde and Mirador San Fernando.

**Flame-colored Tanager** *Piranga bidentata*—(1) XO, with just one seen on the Corso Lecheria tour.

**Red-throated Ant-Tanager** *Habia fuscicauda*—(2) XO, with a high of 3 at Selva Verde and 2 at LSBS.

**Carmioli's Tanager** *Chlorothraupis carmioli*—(2) HO once and seen once at Celeste Lodge.

**Black-faced Grosbeak** *Caryothraustes poliogaster*—(2) Three during the main tour at Celeste, and one during the extension at LSBS.

**Black-thighed Grosbeak** *Pheucticus tibialis*—(2) Two individuals seen at Monteverde, with one each at Santa Elena and CCR.

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak** *Pheucticus ludovicianus*—(1) One seen on the first afternoon at Hotel Bougainvillea.

**Blue-black Grosbeak** *Cyanoloxia cyanooides*—(1) One seen by GO at TVNP.

**Blue Grosbeak** *Passerina caerulea*—(1) One bird seen at Calle Loros.

#### **TANAGERS AND ALLIES: Thraupidae**

**White-throated Shrike-Tanager** *Lanio leucothorax*—(1) Heard by GO at AOL.

**Crimson-collared Tanager** *Ramphocelus sanguinolentus*—XO, with 2 at Mirador San Fernando.

**Scarlet-rumped Tanager** *Ramphocelus passerinii*—(9) By far, the most abundant and most widespread tanager, with 55 birds seen at 21 locations; high counts of 8 at Celeste during the main tour, and 9 at LSBS during the extension.

**Blue-gray Tanager** *Thraupis episcopus*—(8) Always one of the most common Neotropical tanagers, we had 26 individuals at 15 locations, with high counts of 3 at Cerro Lodge and 4 at LSBS.

**Yellow-winged Tanager** *Thraupis abbas*—(1) Just a single bird, at BBSG.

**Palm Tanager** *Thraupis palmarum*—Fairly common, seen at 10 locations, with pairs during the main tour at Hotel Bougainvillea and the BBSG, plus extension pairs at LSBS and Mirador San Fernando.

**Golden-hooded Tanager** *Stilpnia larvata*—(4) 12 total birds seen, with a high count of 4 at AOL; one seen during the extension at LSBS.

**Rufous-winged Tanager** *Tangara Lavinia*—(2) A few decent looks at this gorgeous tanager, all at Celeste Lodge and BBSG.

**Bay-headed Tanager** *Tangara gyrola*—(1) Another spectacular tanager, seen only once, at AOL.

**Emerald Tanager** *Tangara florida*—(1) Two birds seen at the feeders at AOL.

**Silver-throated Tanager** *Tangara icterocephala*—(3) A few seen at BNBR and AOL, then 3 during the extension at Mirador San Fernando.

**Scarlet-thighed Dacnis** *Dacnis venusta*—(3) Two each at CCR and BBSG, one at Camino viejo al Pilón, and then 4 during the extension at Mirador San Fernando.

**Shining Honeycreeper** *Cyanerpes lucidus*—(3) A few seen in the Bijagua region and one during the extension at LSBS.

**Red-legged Honeycreeper** *Cyanerpes cyaneus*—(6) Second most abundant tanager, with 28 at 8 locations and high counts of 8 at BBSG and 6 at Mirador San Fernando.

**Green Honeycreeper** *Chlorophanes spiza*—(4) One seen at Celeste, 3 at BBSG, and 4 at AOL, then 2 at Selva Verde Lodge during the extension.

**Slaty Flowerpiercer** *Diglossa plumbea*—(2) One during the main tour at Santa Elena, and 2 during the extension at Corso Lecheria.

**Blue-black Grassquit** *Volatinia jacarina*—(3) Pairs at Calle Loros, Tarcoles, and TVNP, then one during the extension at LSBS.

**Thick-billed Seed-Finch** *Sporophila funerea*—(1) One heard by GO at Camino viejo al Pilón.

**Variable Seedeater** *Sporophila corvina*—(7) Singles and pairs seen at several locations, plus extension birds at LSBS and Selva Verde.

**Morelet's Seedeater** *Sporophila moreletti*—(2) Two roadside sightings, with one at Calle Loros and 2 at Camino viejo al Pilón.

**Bananaquit** *Coereba flaveola*—(3) we found 14 birds over only 3 days, with a high count of 4 at AOL and 2 at Frog's Heaven, during the extension.

**Yellow-faced Grassquit** *Tiaris olivaceus*—(4) We saw lots of grassquits in the grasses below the Monteverde lodge, with a high count of 12, then singles at CCR and Celeste.

**Buff-throated Saltator** *Saltator maximus*—(6) The most common and most widespread of the 3 saltators, with 11 birds at 9 locations, including extension birds at LSBS and Mirador San Fernando.

**Black-headed Saltator** *Saltator atriceps*—(1) Heard by GO at AOL.

**Cinnamon-bellied Saltator** *Saltator grandis*—(3) One at Hotel Bougainvillea, 2 at the Monteverde hotel, and 2 HO at Cano Negro.



## **MAMMALS**

**Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth** *Bradypus variegatus*—(1)  
**Central American Agouti** *Dasyprocta punctata*—(1)  
**Variagated Squirrel** *Sciurus variegatoides*—(6)  
**Red-tailed Squirrel** *Sciurus granatensis*—(1)  
**White-throated Capuchin** *Cebus capucinus*—(2)  
**Mantled Howler Monkey** *Alouatta palliata*—(5)  
**White-nosed Coati** *Nasua narica*—(6)  
**Collared Peccary** *Pecari tajacu*—(1)  
**Greater Sac-winged Bat** *Saccopteryx bilineata*—(1)

### **REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS**

**Spectacled Caiman** *Caiman crocodilus*—(1)  
**American Crocodile** *Caiman crocodilus*—(2)  
**Emerald Swift** *Sceloporus malachiticus*—(1)  
**Black Spiny-tailed Iguana** *Ctenosaura similis*—(2)  
**Green Iguana** *Iguana iguana*—(2)  
**Common Basilisk** *Basiliscus basiliscus*—(1)  
**Green-and-black Poison Dart Frog** *Dendrobates auratus*— (1)  
**Cane (Giant) Toad** *Rhinella marina*—(1)  
**Common House Gecko** *Hemidactylus frenatus*—(x)  
**Red-/Yellow-eared Slider** *Trachemys scripta scripta/elegans*—(1)

### **OTHER NOTABLE FAUNA**

**Mexican Orange-kneed Tarantula** *Brachypelma smithi*—(1)  
**Python Millipede** *Nyssodesmus python*—(2)

### **DESTINATIONS VISITED**

We completed 39 total eBird checklists on the main tour, and 11 on the extension. A sampling of the eBird lists is linked below (in blue), and all of them can be found at [this link to the trip report](#) for the main tour and at this link for the extension. Note that the site names below came from our manual checklist and may not correspond to those in eBird.

Day 1—March 8: Hotel Bougainvillea

Day 2—March 9: [Hotel Bougainvillea](#), San Jose area, [Calle Loros](#), [Guacimo Rd.](#), Bajamar, Pt. Tarcoles, [Tarcoles Boat Tour](#)

Day 3—March 10: [Cerro Lodge](#), [Carara-Entrada Nat'l Park](#), [Espiritu Santo](#), Puntarenas, [Monteverde Hotel](#)

Day 4—March 11: [Bosque Nuboso Biological Reserve](#), [Monteverde Hotel](#)

Day 5—March 12: [Santa Elena](#), Monteverde Hotel

Day 6—March 13: [Curi-Cancha](#), Celeste Mountain Lodge

Day 7—March 14: [Celeste Lodge](#), [Tenorio Volcano Nat'l Park](#), Bijagua [Bird Song Gardens](#), [Pilon Rd.](#)

Day 8—March 15: [Celeste Lodge](#), Bijagua Bird Song Gardens, [Bijagua de Upala](#), Casitas Tenorino, [Tilajari Hotel](#)

Day 9—March 16: [Cano Negro Refuge](#), [roadside raptor kettle](#), Route 138, [Medio Queso Wetland](#)

Day 10—March 17: Tilajari Hotel, [Arenal Observatory Lodge](#), Hotel Bougainvillea (incidentals)

Extension



Day 1—March 18: [Frog's Heaven](#), Selva Verde Lodge

Day 2—March 19: [Selva Verde Lodge](#), [La Selva Biological Station](#), [Sarapiquí boat tour](#)

Day 3—March 20: Selva Verde Lodge, [Virgen del Socorro](#), Hwy 162, [Mirador San Fernando](#), [Curso Lecheria](#)