

***Birds of the Isthmus of Panama 10 Days  
Trip Report, February 11 – 20, 2009***



***Leaders:*** Mahelis Rodriguez, with the assistance of local guides: Nariño Aizpurua and Igua

***Participants:*** Philip Plenckers, Louis & Albert Bingley, Clide Carter, Tzung-Su DING

## ***Places:***

### **CP = Central Panama**

Metropolitan Nature Park  
Pipeline Road  
Ammo Dumps  
Old Gamboa Road  
Plantation Road  
Summit Gardens  
Birders' View  
Maipo



### **CH = Chiriqui**

David Airport  
Querevalo Road  
Cielito Sur  
Volcan Lakes  
Los Quetzales Trail  
La Amistad I.P  
Finca Hartmman  
Finca Dracula  
Cerro Punta

Endemic birds = \*

## ***Bird list***

### **Tinamous (1)**

Great Tinamou - CP (h)  
Little Tinamou – CP (h)

### **Ducks, Swans, and Geese (3)**

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck - CP  
Muscovy Duck - CP  
Masked Duck – CH; *fantastic views of this scarce and vulnerable species at Volcan Lakes*

### **Guan and Chachalacas (2)**

Gray-headed Chachalaca - CP  
Black Guan – CH; *found in the mountain forest of Chiriqui; this is a globally threatened species*

### **New World Quail (1)**

Spotted Wood-Quail – CH; *a convoy of five went across the trail near Volcan lakes*

### **Grebes (2)**

Least Grebe – CH;  
Pied-billed Grebe – CH; *seen at Volcan lakes*

**Pelicans (1)**

Brown Pelican – CP; *regularly recorded throughout*

**Cormorants (1)**

Neotropic Cormorant - CP

**Darters (1)**

Anhinga – CP; *seen at the summit ponds devouring a fish*

**Frigatebirds (1)**

Magnificent Frigatebird - CP

**Hérons (8)**

Rufescent Tiger-Heron – CP; *seen and scoped at the ammo-dumps near Gamboa*

Great Blue Heron - CP

Great Egret - CP

Snowy Egret - CP

Little Blue Heron - CP

Cattle Egret - CP

Green Heron - CP

Boat-billed Heron – CP; *nesting at the Summit Ponds*

**Storks (1)**

Wood Stork – CH; *one was seen flying at Querevalo Road in Chiriqui*

**Vultures (2)**

Black Vulture - CP

Turkey Vulture - CP

**Hawks, Eagles, and Kites (17)**

Osprey - CP

Gray-headed Kite - CP

Swallow-tailed Kite - CP

White-tailed Kite – CH; *one of this elegant kites was seen hovering over the open country*

Snail Kite - CP

Double-toothed Kite - CP

Mississippi Kite - CP

Semiplumbeous Hawk - CP

White Hawk - CP

Gray Hawk - CP

Common Black-Hawk - CP

Savanna Hawk – CP; *seen well on the grassy areas of the Gatun spillway near Colon*

Roadside Hawk - CP

Broad-winged Hawk - CP

Short-tailed Hawk - CP

Red-tailed Hawk - CH

Black Hawk-Eagle – CP; *good views of one adult flying over the Pipeline Road*

**Falcons and Caracaras (4)**

Crested Caracara – CH; *very common on Querevalo Road, Chiriqui Lowlands*

Yellow-headed Caracara - CP

American Kestrel - CP  
Bat Falcon – CP; *seen on a nest near Gamboa Town*

**Rails and Gallinules (3)**

White-throated Crake - CP (h)  
Purple Gallinule - CP  
Common Moorhen - CP

**Plovers and Lapwings (1)**

Southern Lapwing - CP

**Jacanas (2)**

Northern Jacana - CH  
Wattled Jacana - CP

**Sandpipers and Allies (1)**

Spotted Sandpiper - CP

**Gulls, Terns, and Allies (1)**

Laughing Gull - CP

**Pigeons and Doves (11)**

Rock Pigeon - CP  
Pale-vented Pigeon - CP  
Scaled Pigeon – CP; *seen from the Canopy Tower at the Discovery Center*  
Short-billed Pigeon - CP (h)  
Mourning Dove - CH  
Plain-breasted Ground-Dove- CH; *found at the Chiriqui lowlands*  
Ruddy Ground-Dove - CP  
White-tipped Dove - CP  
Gray-chested Dove - CP  
\*Purplish-backed Quail-Dove - CP (h)  
\*Buff-fronted Quail-Dove - CH

**Parrots (6)**

\*Sulphur-winged Parakeet - CH  
Brown-throated Parakeet – CH  
Orange-chinned Parakeet - CP  
Blue-headed Parrot - CP  
Red-lored Amazon - CP  
Mealy Amazon - CP

**Cuckoos (4)**

Mangrove Cuckoo – CH; *found near Querevalo road, Chiriqui lowlands*  
Squirrel Cuckoo - CP  
Greater Ani - CP  
Smooth-billed Ani - CP

**Typical Owls (1)**

Spectacled Owl – CP; *localized at Old Gamboa Road*

## **Swifts (2)**

Short-tailed Swift - CP  
Band-rumped Swift - CP

## **Hummingbirds (24)**

Green Hermit - CH  
Long-billed Hermit – CP; *quite common at the feeders of the Discovery Center near Pipeline*  
Stripe-throated Hermit - CP  
Violet Sabrewing – CH; *spectacular males and females were observed several times on the Highlands*  
White-necked Jacobin - CP  
Green Violet-ear - CH  
Black-throated Mango - CP  
\*Veraguan Mango – CH; *great found of this National Endemic near la Barqueta*  
Violet-headed Hummingbird - CP  
Rufous-crested Coquette – CP; *one of the highlights of the trip, close views at Birders' View*  
Violet-crowned Woodnymph - CP  
\*Violet-capped Hummingbird - CP  
Blue-chested Hummingbird - CP  
Snowy-bellied Hummingbird - CP  
Rufous-tailed Hummingbird – CP; *the more widespread hummingbird in Panama*  
Stripe-tailed Hummingbird – CH; *fairly common at the feeders of Cielito Sur (Chiriqui Highlands)*  
\*White-tailed Emerald - CH  
White-vented Plumeleteer - CP  
Bronze-tailed Plumeleteer - CP  
\*White-throated Mountain-gem - CH  
Magnificent Hummingbird - CH  
Long-billed Starthroat – CH; *great views of this very long billed hummer*  
\*Volcano Hummingbird - CH  
\*Scintillant Hummingbird - CH

## **Trogon (5)**

Violaceous Trogon – CP; *found and scoped several times on Pipeline Road*  
Black-throated Trogon - CP  
Black-tailed Trogon - CP  
Slaty-tailed Trogon – CP; *a common trogon of the lowlands forest of the Panama Canal*  
Resplendent Quetzal – CH; *stunning views of several males and females. Good photographs were taken near Cerro Punta. This was one of the target birds of the tour.*

## **Motmots (3)**

Blue-crowned Motmot – CP; *scoped at the Metropolitan Nature Park*  
Rufous Motmot - CP  
Broad-billed Motmot – CP

## **Kingfishers (2)**

Ringed Kingfisher - CP  
Green Kingfisher - CP

## **Puffbirds (1)**

White-necked Puffbird – CP; *lethargic bird found on the canopy borders of Pipeline Road*

### **Barbets and Toucans (6)**

\*Blue-throated Toucanet – CH; *Splited in several forms. Blue-throated Toucanet is found from Costa Rica to Western and Central Panama. Violet-throated Toucanet from Eastern Panama to Colombia*

Collared Aracari - CP

\*Fiery-billed Aracari – CH; *fantastic views of this regional endemic at Finca Hartmman*

Yellow-eared Toucanet – CA; *nice views at Cerro Azul*

Keel-billed Toucan – CP; *quite common in the lowlands forest*

Chestnut-mandibled Toucan – CP; *fairly common in the humid and wet forest of the Canal Corridor*

### **Woodpeckers (10)**

Olivaceous Piculet – CP; *found in the lighter woodland near Gamboa, this is the smallest woodpecker in Panama.*

Acorn Woodpecker - CH

Black-cheeked Woodpecker - CP

Red-crowned Woodpecker – CP; *a common woodpecker of open areas*

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker – CP; *this was a lifebird for the resident guide, this is a very rare migrant for Panama*

Hairy Woodpecker - CH

\*Stripe-cheeked Woodpecker – CP; *one of the key birds of the trip. One of the twelve national endemics in Panama*

Cinnamon Woodpecker - CP

Lineated Woodpecker – CP; *this large woodpecker is always impressive in the field*

Crimson-crested Woodpecker - CP

### **Ovenbirds and Allies (4)**

Red-faced Spinetail - CH (Volcan Lake)

\*Ruddy Treerunner - CH

\*Streak-breasted Treehunter - CH

Plain Xenops – CP; *a tiny “minutus” overbird found most of the time hanging upside-down.*

### **Woodcreepers (7)**

Plain-brown Woodcreeper - CP

Olivaceous Woodcreeper - CP

Wedge-billed Woodcreeper - CP

Straight-billed Woodcreeper – CP; *found near Panama City, Diablo Mangroves area*

Cocoa Woodcreeper - CP

Streak-headed Woodcreeper - CP

Spot-crowned Woodcreeper - CH

### **Antbirds (11)**

Fasciated Antshrike - CP

Barred Antshrike - CP

\*Black-hooded Antshrike – CH; *nice views of this regional endemic*

Western Slaty-Antshrike - CP

Checker-throated Antwren - CP

White-flanked Antwren - CP

Dot-winged Antwren - CP

Dusky Antbird - CP

White-bellied Antbird - CP

Chestnut-backed Antbird - CP

Spotted Antbird – CP; *good views of this very responsive antbird of the lowland forest*

**Antthrushes and Antpittas (2)**

Black-faced Antthrush - CP (h)

Streak-chested Antpitta – CP; *superb views at Pipeline Road, the bird came just few meters away from our small group*

**Tapaculos (1)**

\*Silvery-fronted Tapaculo – CH; *responsive but hard to see well at La Amistad International Park*

**Tyrant Flycatchers and Allies (40)**

Yellow-bellied Tyrannulet - CH

Brown-capped Tyrannulet - CP (h)

Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet - CP

Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet - CP

Forest Elaenia – CP

Greenish Elaenia - CP

Yellow-bellied Elaenia – CP

Lesser Elaenia - CP

Mountain Elaenia - CH

Torrent Tyrannulet - CH

Paltry Tyrannulet - CP

Scale-crested Pygmy-Tyrant - CP

Pale-eyed Pygmy-Tyrant - CP

Black-capped Pygmy-Tyrant (h)

Common Tody-Flycatcher - CP

Olivaceous Flatbill - CP

Yellow-margined Flycatcher - CP

Ruddy-tailed Flycatcher - CP

Black-tailed Flycatcher - CP

\*Dark Pewee - CH

Tropical Pewee - CP

Yellowish Flycatcher - CH

Black Phoebe - CP

Bright-rumped Attila - CP (h)

Dusky-capped Flycatcher - CP

Panama Flycatcher - CP

Great Crested Flycatcher - CP

Lesser Kiskadee - CP

Great Kiskadee - CP

Rusty-margined Flycatcher - CP

Social Flycatcher - CP

Streaked Flycatcher - CP

Piratic Flycatcher - CP

Tropical Kingbird - CP

Fork-tailed Flycatcher - CP

Bright-rumped Attila (h) -CP

Cinnamon Becard - CP

White-winged Becard - CP

Rose-throated Becard – CH; *nice views of this uncommon bird at Volcan Lakes*

Masked Tityra - CP

**Cotingas (2)**

Blue Cotinga – CP; *seen from the Canopy Tower at the Discovery Center*

Purple-throated Fruitcrow – CP; *several of these birds were seen at Pipeline Road*

**Manakins (6)**

Golden-collared Manakin - CP

White-ruffed Manakin - CH

Lance-tailed Manakin - CP

Blue-crowned Manakin - CP

Red-capped Manakin - CP

Lance-tailed Manakin (h) - CP

**Vireos (8)**

Yellow-throated Vireo - CH

Brown-capped Vireo - CH

Philadelphia Vireo - CH

Lesser Greenlet – CP

Golden-fronted Greenlet - CP

Scrub Greenlet- CP

Rufous-browed Peppershrike - CH

Green Shrike-Vireo (h) - CP

**Jays and Crows (1)**

Black-chested Jay - CP

**Swallows (6)**

Gray-breasted Martin - CP

Mangrove Swallow - CP

Blue-and-white Swallow - CH

Northern Rough-winged Swallow - CP

Southern Rough-winged Swallow - CP

Barn Swallow - CP

**Wrens (11)**

White-headed Wren - CP

Black-bellied Wren - CP

Bay Wren - CP

Rufous-breasted Wren - CP

Buff-breasted Wren - CP

Plain Wren - CP

House Wren - CP

\*Ochraceous Wren - CH

Gray-breasted Wood-Wren – CH

White-breasted Wood-Wren - CP

Song Wren - CP



**Old World Warblers (2)**

Long-billed Gnatwren - CP

Tropical Gnatcatcher - CP

**Thrushes (6)**

\*Black-faced Solitaire - CH (h); *this regional endemic was found at La Amistad International Park*

\*Black-billed Nightingale-Thrush - CH

Orange-billed Nightingale-Thrush - CH

Ruddy-capped Nightingale-Thrush - CH

Mountain Thrush - CH

Clay-colored Thrush - CP

**Mockingbirds and Allies (1)**

Tropical Mockingbird - CP

**Silky-Flycatchers (2)**

\*Black-and-yellow Silky-flycatcher - CH

\*Long-tailed Silky-flycatcher - CH

**Wood-Warblers (22)**

Golden-winged Warbler - CP

Tennessee Warbler - CH

\*Flame-throated Warbler - CH

Tropical Parula - CH ; *Hartman Farm; good place to see it*

Yellow Warbler - CP

Chestnut-sided Warbler - CP

Black-throated Green Warbler - CH

Blackburnian Warbler - CH

Bay-breasted Warbler - CP

Black-and-white Warbler - CP

American Redstart - CH

Prothonotary Warbler - CP

Northern Waterthrush - CP

Kentucky Warbler - CH

Mourning Warbler - CH

Wilson's Warbler - CH

Slate-throated Redstart - CH

\*Collared Redstart - CH

Rufous-capped Warbler - CP

\*Black-cheeked Warbler - CH

Buff-rumped Warbler - CH

\*Wrenthrush - CH ; *Found at La Amistad National Park; early morning, it was drizzling. This Highland endemic is rare in dense undergrowth but it came right close to the group after playing the song.*

**Bananaquit (1)**

Bananaquit - CP

**Tanagers (24)**

Common Bush-Tanager - CH

Sooty-capped Bush-Tanager - CH

White-shouldered Tanager - CP  
White-lined Tanager - CP  
Red-throated Ant-Tanager - CP  
Hepatic Tanager - CP  
Summer Tanager - CP  
Flame-colored Tanager - CH  
White-winged Tanager - CH  
Crimson-backed Tanager - CP  
Cherrie's Tanager - CH  
Blue-gray Tanager - CP  
Palm Tanager - CP  
Blue-and-gold Tanager - CH  
Plain-colored Tanager - CP  
Emerald Tanager - CP  
Silver-throated Tanager - CH  
Speckled Tanager - CP  
Bay-headed Tanager – CP; *spectacular bird to watch!*  
Rufous-winged Tanager - CP  
Golden-hooded Tanager - CP  
Blue Dacnis - CP  
Green Honeycreeper - CP  
Red-legged Honeycreeper - CP

#### **Buntings and Allies (11)**

Variable Seedeater - CP  
Yellow-bellied Seedeater - CP  
Lesser Seed-Finch - CP  
Yellow-faced Grassquit - CP  
Slaty Finch - CH  
\*Slaty Flowerpiercer - CH  
\*Yellow-thighed Finch - CH  
\*Large-footed Finch - CH  
Chestnut-capped Brush-Finch - CH  
Black-striped Sparrow - CP  
Rufous-collared Sparrow - CH

#### **Cardinals and Allies (5)**

Streaked Saltator - CP  
Buff-throated Saltator - CP  
Rose-breasted Grosbeak - CP,  
Blue-black Grosbeak - CP  
Indigo Bunting - CH; *nice migrant*

#### **American Blackbirds (11)**

Red-breasted Blackbird - CP  
Eastern Meadowlark - CH  
Great-tailed Grackle - CP  
Orchard Oriole - CH  
Yellow-backed Oriole - CP  
Yellow-tailed Oriole - CP  
Baltimore Oriole - CP

Scarlet-rumped Cacique - CP  
Yellow-rumped Cacique - CP  
Crested Oropendola - CP  
Chestnut-headed Oropendola - CP

**Goldfinches and Allies (5)**

Yellow-crowned Euphonia - CP  
Thick-billed Euphonia - CP  
Fulvous-vented Euphonia - CP  
White-vented Euphonia - CP  
Yellow-bellied Siskin - CH

## ***Mammals***

Geoffroy's Tamarin  
Mantled Howler Monkey  
White-faced Capuchin  
Three-toed Sloth  
Red-tailed Squirrel  
Variegated Squirrel  
Central American Agouti  
White-nosed Coati  
Nine-banded Armadillo