

TIPUTINI BIODIVERSITY STATION

Birding visit 12 August to 19 August

A heaven for critters and predators

I walked along with my local guide Senior Mayer. Suddenly a very large troop of squirrel monkeys moved rapidly through the foliage at middle level story. It was very late in the afternoon so most birds were roosting and had stopped feeding. However it should not last long for some antshrikes. A double tooth kite *Harpagus bidentatus* were watching carefully for any moments around the intruding monkeys. The kite moved its head in all directions like an owl and made a few short movements just to escape up and close personal contact with the monkeys. Without any warning the kite took off and caught an unwary antshrike which woke up to the reality of the law of jungle.

This observation reminds me of the way army ants and professional antfollowing antbirds interact. During my stay I had the opportunity to look into a tree trunk full of ants lying in a concentrated mass. Fortunately they left the bivouac during my visit to make short raids into the forest. It was a large antswarm which formed a 20 meter wide front and every critter ranging from grasshoppers to small snakes moved out of its way. Antbirds came to the party from all directions. The activity was frantic and we were surrounded by strange sounds. I would assume that more than 200 birds of 7-8 species were present. Of course there was a great opportunity to catch something for a meal. I suppose a lot of birds have been waiting for a long time, as I was told that the ants stayed in a bivouac in 3 weeks. The antbirds sat about 30 cm above the area near the front to be ready to dive down to catch anything that move. Woodcreepers sat on every tree trunk along the approaching front to catch anything which moved up the tree trunks, but even the Plain-brown Woodcreeper *Dendrocincla fuliginosa* flew down to the ground to catch a large grasshopper. During my stay at Tiputini I saw 3 major antswarms followed by some great professional antfollowing antbirds such as the Red-winged Bareeye *Phlegopsis erythroptera*, White-plumed Antbird *Pithys albifrons*, Sooty Antbird *Myrmeciza fortis* and White-cheeked Antbird *Gymnopithys leucaspis* and Black-banded Woodcreeper *Dendrocolaptes picumnus*.

I noticed that the antbirds were very wary and nervous and it took time before they got to know me. I suppose that they are nervous because the forest falcons are constantly watching the scene with interest. To illustrate the importance of forest falcon predation we had a grand experience watching this opportunistic predator. One day birding we flushed two Marbled Woodquails *Odontophorus gujanensis* which ran to "security" near a buttressed rooted tree. Without any warning a Collared Forest Falcon *Micrastur semitorquatus* flew silently through the dense foliage with high speed toward the new target which jumped 1 meter above the ground before it landed in the claws of the falcon. The now heavy falcon flew very low through lower story away out of sight.

It appears everything is watching out in order to avoid to be a prey. Much literature have discussed why birds in tropical forests prefer to feed in mixed species flocks. Steeve Hilty the author of the "Birds of Tropical America" suggested that birds in flocks are more protected from predation than if they were feeding alone, especially as some antshrikes and shrike vireos have specialised in warning other birds from potential predators. Other birds use camouflage to hide. I shall never forget how long it took for me to spot a Rufous Potoo *Nyctibius bracteatus* which was sitting on a small branch like a dead leaf moving in the wind in the understory. The bird was found earlier by Mr Mayer and he lead me to the spot.

This is the wilds of Tiputini in August 1999. It is located next to Yasuni Indian reservation and adjacent to a National Park under the same name which covers 2 million hectares of virgin forest. I realised when I approached the station that it is a special place. It is so remote that it takes 7 hours of travel to get here. First you fly to Coca, then go by boat 2 hours downstream on Rio Napo, change over in a truck which takes you 2 hour

down to Tiputini river on gravel road which is about 50 km long. Finally it is 2 hours boat ride down river on Rio Tiputini. The station has been developed by the Universidad San Francisco de Quito in collaboration with Boston University. As the station is located away from any human settlements, it is a heaven for birds and mammals normally not encountered in other Amazonian forest areas along Rio Napo, species which disappears first when hunters move into a new area. During my stay I saw an average 7 species of monkey every day. The most common species are Brown Howler Monkey *Alouatta fusca*, Brown Capuchin Monkey *Cebus apella*, Monk Saki *Pithecia monachus*, Common Squirrel Monkey *Saimiri sciureus*, Golden-mantled Tamarin *Saguinus tripartitus*, Common Woolly and Squirrel Monkey *Lagothrix lagothricha*. Brazilian Tapir *Tapirus terrestris* and Grey River Dolphins *Sotalia fluviatilis* and Forest Caymens *Paleosuchus sp.* were seen along the river in the early morning. Jaguar *Panthera onca* are regularly encountered by tourists and scientists visiting the river areas. It is a heaven for photographers and obviously BBC is using Tiputini as one of the bases to make a 7 series TV documentary on South American wildlife- why not Tiputini! By the fact they were filming antfollowing antbirds, not an easy task as they still use 16 mm film and not video. However, as it is a 1 million dollar film project, special lenses which can collect enough light in the dark forest floor were flown in from London during my visit.

Canopy observation

The station has much to offer a naturalist. A tower provide excellent viewing platforms to observe the forest from above. The tower is found in a 38 meter high kapok tree *Ceiba pentandra* which rise 15 meters above the rest of the forest. Other big trees can be seen standing randomly in a sea of smaller trees. Maximum one big tree grows per hectare in this part of the world, which is one of the reasons that the forest is still here. Most places especially in Asia big forests have been clearcut by Asian timber companies, because it is rich in commercial timber species. The complete destruction of the Bornian rainforest is a reminder what commercial timber interests can do when they get started. Hopefully, Tiputini and Western Amazon will not end in the same way, as logging companies are more interested in selectively hunting rare mahogany trees which can sell for 20000 dollars in the US. A less serious threat to the region comes from oil exploration. For example the oil company YPF which is now owned by Repsol in Spain received concession permit to an area inside the national park which is the main reason it is now possible to access the station. However the company is doing a good job in keep outsiders out of the area and people are employed to patrol the roads and check visitors.

Watching birds from the canopy tower is very rewarding, because it is possible to get very close to the canopy species, which is normally a neck breaking experience to see. We were fortunate to watch a nesting Blue-crowned Trogon *Trogon curucui* on 2 meters distance as it flew into a hole next to the platform. Higher up in the canopy of the kapok tree a Yellow-margined Flycatcher *Tolmomyias assimilis* and Yellow-browed Tody-Flycatcher *Todirostrum chrysocrotaphum* were nesting. Further away a yellow-phase of the Collared Forest Falcon *Micrastur semitorquatus* and Burkley's Forest Falcon *Micrastur buckleyi* were calling. You may be rewarded with a view of a Dugand's Antwren *Herpsilochmus dugandi*, but be aware of the biting flies up there. However my stay in the tower came to an abrupt end, when we heard Grey-winged Trumpeters calling below. I quickly rushed down, got the tape ready for playback and within 3 minutes I had great views of a family of trumpeters figuring out why I am not an intruding trumpeter.

Seasonally in the forest

I learned from previous bird reports and my observations that the seasonality of tropical forests is a critical factor which decides which birds are seen in a given time. For example Antpittas did not call in August, but I got splendid views of the Ochre-striped *Grallaria dignissima* and Thrush like Antpittas *Myrmothera campanisona* anyway, because we were only 2 people on the trail. Additionally, a group of Salvins Curassows *Mitu salvini* came across the trail in the late afternoon just before the flew up to roost for the night. As it was cooler and more overcast than normal, afternoon birding proved to be very productive while some mornings were a bit slow. In August trees were fruiting so this may explain why it was possible to see 7 species of monkey a day. On the other hand the canopy trees next to the tower did not in flower, so I did not encounter any mixed species flocks at the tower. Consequently, I missed several canopy species such as the Gould's Jewelfront *Polyplancta aurescens* and the Orange-crowned Pluscrown *Metopothrix aurantiacus*. According Rose Ann Rowlett from the Field Guides Inc., these species can easily be seen in January. On the other hand I saw several nests including one of Ash-breasted Gnateater *Conopophaga peruviana*. It was build about 65 cm above the ground in a small tree sapling and it had 2 chicks in it. The adult bird flew off the nest as we approached it. Some birds were calling in August, which made it possible to see Banded Antbird *Dichrozona cincta*, Black-white Tody-Flycatchers *Poecilatriccus capitalis*, Brown Nunlet *Nonnula brunnea*, Cocoya Wren *Thryothorus coraya*, several antbirds and the Black-tailed Leaf Tosser *Sclerurus caudacutus*.

I noticed that the birds are responsive to tape playback especially on the remote trails as they have not been confronted with a people. Bird tapes are available through ABA sales and are useful for playback.

Tiputini is a scientific station which has been set up to provide access to students and scientists. However, it is possible for birdwatchers interested in learning about the ecology of the rainforest and bird identification to join an educational workshop. I strongly recommend that you contact Carol Walton to find out how you join an educational workshop. Alternatively, some birding tour companies offer educational workshops at Tiputini. Most workshops would include about five to six days stay which will enable you to do all the trails which in total penetrate through 30 km. of virgin forest, 2 boat trips on the river, two canopy tower visits, and check out the critters and chat with the scientists working at the station.

References

Hilty, S. 1994. *The Curious Naturalist, Birds of Tropical America*, Chapters, Vermont.

Facts about Tiputini

Location:

The station with its 650 hectares is situated about 300km east south east of Quito on the north bank of the Tiputini River adjacent to Parque Nacional Yasuni

Transport

Return flight to Coca, 2 times 2 hours by boat, 2 hours by road. Expect travel time of 7 hours.

Requirements

Yellow fever vaccination card and passport given to YPF upon arrival to Pompeya on the south bank of Rio Napo which is the entrance to the oil concession.

Facilities

Library, computer room, laboratory, open dining room but no bar and alcohol, accommodation to groups, scientists and students, cold water showers. At this stage you cannot email directly to/from the station.

Expect

Muddy trails especially along the river, but rubber boots are available to size 9 (45). Bring a jumper in the case it get cold at night, umbrella, rain gear, shorts and teeshirts and mosquito net. Spotlighting gear, tape recorder will assist greatly, camera for canopy photography and from the boat. Flash is essential for photography of forest birds. Mosquito can be bad at times.

Timing:

August is the fruiting season, January is the flowering season at the tower. Rain is common in April to July, and October to December, but this varies according to whether it is a El Nio or a La Nina year.

Contacts

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on www search under Yahoo under Tiputini. The homepage is on the sever.

Bird List

Great Tinamou *Tinamus major*

1 Harpy Trail

White-throated Tinamou *Tinamus guttatus*

2 seen

Cinereous Tinamou *Crypturellus cinereus*

heard near the tiver

Little Tinamou *Crypturellus soui*

1 near the station

Variegated Tinamou *Crypturellus variegatus*

heard near the river

Anhinga *Anhinga anhinga*

+5 along the river

Greater Yellow-headed Vulture *Cathartes melambrotus*

seen several times

Hook-billed Kite *Chondrohierax uncinatus*

1 from the canopy the tower

Double-toothed Kite *Harpagus bidentatus*

1 near a monkey flock

Plumbeous Kite *Ictinia plumbea*

2 at the river

Tiny Hawk *Accipiter superciliosus*

1 at the station the first day

Great Black-Hawk *Buteogallus urubitinga*

2 at the river

Roadside Hawk *Buteo magnirostris*

+5 at the river

Ornate Hawk-Eagle *Spizaetus ornatus*

1 pair over the canopy Maquisapa trail

Black Caracara *Daptrius ater*

3 along the river

Red-throated Caracara *Daptrius americanus*

6 along the river

Laughing Falcon Falco *Herpetotheres cachinnans*

1 seen Maquisapa trail

Collared Forest-Falcon *Micrastur semitorquatus*

1 pair white phase, 1 buffy phase seen from the tower

Buckley's Forest Falcon *Micrastur buckleyi*

1 heard and taped from the tower

Salvin's Curassow *Mitu salvini*

1 seen along the river, +4 flying to roost in the evening between the tower and the station

Blue-throated Piping-Guan *Pipile cumanensis*

3 not far from the tower

Marbled Wood-Quail *Odontophorus gujanensis*

4 at the station, 1 caught by a Collared Forest-Falcon

Hoatzin *Opisthocomus hoazin*

3 from the boat near the river

Gray-winged Trumpeter *Psophia crepitans*

3 called in by tape

Sungrebe *Heliornis fulica*

2 seen from the boat on the river (downstream)

Solitary Sandpiper *Tringa solitaria*

1 along the river

Spotted Sandpiper *Tringa macularia*

+5 along the river

Yellow-billed Tern *Sterna superciliaris*

2 on Rio Napo

Plumbeous Pigeon *Columba plumbea*

5-6 in the forest

Gray-fronted Dove *Leptoptila rufaxilla*

2 in the forest

Blue-and-yellow Macaw *Ara ararauna*

6 from the tower, 2 by the river

Scarlet Macaw *Ara macao*

2 passed the tower, great view, heard often in the forest

Chestnut-fronted Macaw *Ara severa*

+20 near the river

Dusky-headed Parakeet *Aratinga weddellii*

+40 seen from the tower

Maroon-tailed Parakeet *Pyrrhura melanura*

seen in the forest, along the river and from the tower, quite common

Cobalt-winged Parakeet *Brotogeris cyanopectus*

+50 from the tower

Black-headed Parrot *Pionites melanocephala*

2 feeding in a palm next to the tower

Orange-cheeked Parrot *Pionopsitta barrabandi*

8 at the tower, great views

Blue-headed Parrot *Pionus menstruus*

+20 from the tower

Yellow-crowned Parrot *Amazona ochrocephala*

2 from the tower

Orange-winged Parrot *Amazona amazonica*

quite common around

Mealy Parrot *Amazona farinosa*

several heard and seen at the tower and a few flew across the river

Dark-billed Cuckoo *Coccyzus melacoryphus*

1 seen at the tower

Squirrel Cuckoo *Piaya cayana*

2 seen along the lagoon trail

Tawny-bellied Screech-Owl *Otus watsonii*

heard at the station

Common Potoo *Nyctibius griseus*

1 seen from the boat perched on a Cecropia tree at the river

Rufous Potoo *Nyctibius bracteatus*

1 hanging at 3 meters level in the forest Chorong trail

Pauraque *Nyctidromus albicollis*

heard at the station

White-collared Swift *Streptoprocne zonaris*

seen from the tower, common

Short-tailed Swift *Chaetura brachyura*

seen from the tower

Fork-tailed Woodnymph *Thalurania furcata*

1 in the forest, very few hummingbirds seen, but a lot heard. It is so hard to spot in a lowland rainforest.

Long-billed Starthroat *Helimaster longirostris*

1 in mid story singing Harpy trail

Black-tailed Trogon *Trogon melanurus*

1 seen

White-tailed Trogon *Trogon viridis*

1 pair seen

Black-throated Trogon *Trogon rufus*

2 seen

Blue-crowned Trogon *Trogon curucui*

1 pair seen nesting at the tower and photographed

Ringed Kingfisher *Megaceryle torquata*

1 nesting pair along the river

Amazon Kingfisher *Chloroceryle amazona*

several along the river, but also inside the forest near streams

Green Kingfisher *Chloroceryle americana*

a few around

Rufous Motmot *Baryphthengus martii*

4 in the forest mid story

Blue-crowned Motmot *Momotus momota*

1 seen in the forest low story

White-eared Jacamar *Galbalcyrhynchus leucotis*

1 seen from the river high up in a dead tree

Purplish Jacamar *Galbula chalcothorax*

1 seen from the river

White-necked Puffbird *Notharcus macrorhynchos*

1 from canopy walk

White-chested Puffbird *Malacoptila fusca*

1 sitting at low level about 3 meters above ground quietly before it went hunting for an insect, Maquisapa trail

Brown Nunlet *Nonnula brunnea*

2 calling and taped, call back into a view, one spotted in a thich vine thicket together with a Black-white Tody-Flycatcher

Black-fronted Nunbird *Monasa nigrifrons*

+10 seen along the river

White-fronted Nunbird *Monasa morphoeus*

4 seen in the forest

Yellow-billed Nunbird *Monasa flavirostris*

3 seen from the boat along the river

Swallow-wing *Chelidoptera tenebrosa*

common along the river but a few seen elsewhere

Lemon-throated Barbet *Eubucco richardsoni*

2 pairs in mixed species flocks

Many-banded Aracari *Pteroglossus pluricinctus*

+8 seen at the river

Lettered Aracari *Pteroglossus inscriptus*

3 seen from the boat

Ivory-billed Aracari *Pteroglossus azara*

6 seen from the boat

Channel-billed Toucan *Ramphastos vitellinus*

very common around

Red-billed Toucan *Ramphastos tucanus*
common

Yellow-throated Woodpecker *Piculus flavigula*
1 in the forest

Chestnut Woodpecker *Celeus elegans*
1 in the forest

Ringed Woodpecker *Celeus torquatus*
2 next to Lago trail

Crimson-crested Woodpecker *Campephilus melanoleucos*
2 seen from the tower

Red-necked Woodpecker *Campephilus rubricollis*
2 seen from the canopy walkway

Olivaceous Woodcreeper *Sittasomus griseicapillus*
+5 seen

Plain-brown Woodcreeper *Dendrexetastes fuliginosa*
Several attending an antswarm near the station.

Cinnamon-throated Woodcreeper *Dendrexetastes rufigula*
heard from canopy the tower, taped

Black-banded Woodcreeper *Dendrocolaptes picumnus*
2 at an antswarm

Spix's Woodcreeper *Xiphorhynchus spixii*
3 seen

Buff-throated Woodcreeper *Xiphorhynchus guttatus*
3 seen and taped

Red-billed Scythebill *Campylorhamphus trochilirostris*
2 seen and taped

Ruddy Spinetail *Synallaxis rutilans*
4 near and on the ground

Striped Woodhaunter *Hyloctistes subulatus*
2 seen and taped

Cinnamon-rumped Foliage-gleaner *Philydor pyrrhodes*
1 seen and taped

Rufous-tailed Foliage-gleaner *Philydor ruficaudatus*
4 seen in mixed species flocks

Olive-backed Foliage-gleaner *Automolus infuscatus*
2 seen in mixed species flocks

Buff-throated Foliage-gleaner *Automolus ochrolaemus*
1 seen

Chestnut-crowned Foliage-gleaner *Automolus rufipileatus*

2 seen

Rufous-tailed Xenops *Xenops milleri*

1 in a mixed species flock

Plain Xenops *Xenops minutus*

1 seen

Black-tailed Leaf-tosser *Sclerurus caudacutus*

2 seen well on the ground

Fasciated Antshrike *Cymbilaimus lineatus*

6 seen in the forest, taped

Great Antshrike *Taraba major*

1 heard and taped

White-shouldered Antshrike *Thamnophilus aethiops*

2 in an antbird flock

Mouse-colored Antshrike *Thamnophilus murinus*

2 seen near the station

Cinereous Antshrike *Thamnomanes caesius*

2 seen in the forest, several heard and taped

Plain-throated Antwren *Myrmotherula hauxwelli*

3 seen

Ornate Antwren *Myrmotherula ornata*

+5 seen

White-flanked Antwren *Myrmotherula axillaris*

+10 seen

Long-winged Antwren *Myrmotherula longipennis*

+10 seen, heard a lot of times

Banded Antbird *Dichrozona cincta*

1 pair taped in , singing and running near the ground along the Maquisapa trail

Dugand's Antwren *Herpsilochmus dugandi*

heard and taped from the canopy walkway and the tower

Gray Antbird *Cercomacra cinerascens*

several seen higher up

Black Antbird *Cercomacra serva*

2 near the river

Black-faced Antbird *Myrmoborus myotherinus*

common heard seen near the station and elsewhere

Warbling Antbird *Hypocnemis cantator*

1 pair at the station, heard around many places

White-shouldered Antbird *Myrmeciza melanocephala*

1 pair at the river

Sooty Antbird *Myrmeciza fortis*

2 pairs attending an antswarm, 1 pair called in by tape

White-plumed Antbird *Pithys albifrons*

3 attending an antswarm near the tower

White-cheeked Antbird *Gymnopithys leucaspis*

1 near an antswarm

Scale-backed Antbird *Hylophylax poecilonota*

+10 seen near antswarms

Reddish-winged Bare-eye *Phlegopsis erythroptera*

2 seen near an antswarm, very retiring and shy along the Maquisapa trail.

Thrush-like Antpitta *Myrmothera campanisona*

4 seen near the trail, 1 pair called in with play back

Ochre-striped Antpitta *Grallaria dignissima*

1 seen well near the lago trail into the Maquisapa trail

Ash-throated Gnateater *Conopophaga peruviana*

1 nest with 2 chicks, a male seen hopping around into at the start of the Maquisapa trail

Ringed Antpipit *Corythopsis torquata*

1 pair at the junction of harpy trail and the Maquisapa trail

Rusty-belted Tapaculo *Liosceles thoracicus*

2 seen on the ground along the Maquisapa trail

Forest Elaenia *Myiopagis gaimardii*

2 at the tower

Double-banded Pygmy-Tyrant *Lophotriccus vitiensis*

+5 in the forest

Black-and-white Tody-Tyrant *Poecilatriccus capitalis*

2 seen well after tape playback in thick stuff near a stream near the junction of the Harpy and the Maquisapa trail

White-eyed Tody-Tyrant *Hemitriccus zosterops*

2 seen well

Yellow-browed Tody-Flycatcher *Todirostrum chrysocrotaphum*

1 pair building nest above the canopy the tower

Brownish Flycatcher *Cnipodectes subbrunneus*

Its distinct call brought my attention, 4 birds seen

Yellow-margined Flycatcher *Tolmomyias assimilis*

1 nesting above the tower

Golden-crowned Spadebill *Platyrinchus coronatus*

1 at the station

Black-tailed Flycatcher *Myiobius atricaudus*
4 in a mixed species flock

Drab Water-Tyrant *Ochthornis littoralis*
common along the lagoon trail

Long-tailed Tyrant *Colonia colonus*
1 seen from the river

Bright-rumped Attila *Attila spadiceus*
heard in the forest and taped

Sirystes *Sirystes sibilato*
1 seen from the boat at the river

Lesser Kiskadee *Philohydor lictor*
several along the river

Great Kiskadee *Pitangus sulphuratus*
common along the river

Boat-billed Flycatcher *Megarhynchus pitangua*
several seen along the river

Social Flycatcher *Myiozetetes similis*
several seen on the way in

Tropical Kingbird *Tyrannus melancholicus*
common on the way in

White-winged Becard *Pachyramphus polychopterus*
1 from the tower

Black-capped Becard *Pachyramphus marginatus*
1 in a mixed species flock

Greater Schiffornis *Schiffornis major*
1 seen along the lagoon trail

Thrush-like Schiffornis *Schiffornis turdinus*
1 responsive pair near the station

Wing-barred Piprites *Piprites chloris*
1 seen and taped, not that high up

Striped Manakin *Machaeropterus regulus*
heard but failed to tape it in, did not respond, as it was a bit high up. It is a hard bird to see!

Blue-backed Manakin *Chiroxiphia pareola*
1 seen near the station

White-crowned Manakin *Pipra pipra*
1 seen in deep the forest, solitary

Blue-crowned Manakin *Pipra coronata*
2 at the station, seems to hang around, seen all five days

Golden-headed Manakin *Pipra erythrocephala*
2 males and 1 female

Screaming Piha *Lipaugus vociferans*
1 seen, 2 heard, not that frequently calling

Purple-throated Cotinga *Porphyrolaema porphyrolaema*
2 seen at the end of the lagoon trail

Black-necked Red-cotinga *Phoenicircus nigricollis*
heard along the Maquisapa trail

Spangled Cotinga *Cotinga cayana*
1 seen from the tower in the scope

Bare-necked Fruitcrow *Gymnoderus foetidus*
1 from the boat a fly-over

White-winged Swallow *Tachycineta albiventer*
common along the river

Brown-chested Martin *Phaeoprogne tapera*
1 seen along the river

White-banded Swallow *Atticora melanoleuca*
along the river

Coraya Wren *Thryothorus coraya*
1 taped in in thick tangle

White-breasted Wood-Wren *Henicorhina leucosticta*
3 seen

Southern Nightingale-Wren *Microcerculus marginatus*
1 nice view of one

Lawrence's Thrush *Turdus lawrencii*
1 seen

White-necked Thrush *Turdus albicollis*
5 seen

Long-billed Gnatwren *Ramphocaenus melanurus*
common

Slate-colored Grosbeak *Saltator grossus*
1 seen in the forest

Magpie Tanager *Cissopis leveriana*
several along the river

Flame-crested Tanager *Tachyphonus cristatus*
2 seen in the forest

Fulvous-crested Tanager *Tachyphonus surinamus*
1 seen in the forest

- Red-crowned Ant-Tanager *Habia rubica*
6 seen in a flock with other birds in the forest
- Masked Crimson Tanager *Ramphocelus nigrogularis*
common along the river
- Orange-bellied Euphonia *Euphonia xanthogaster*
Common in mixed species flocks
- Turquoise Tanager *Tangara mexicana*
2 seen from the tower
- Paradise Tanager *Tangara chilensis*
seen well from the tower
- Green-and-gold Tanager *Tangara schrankii*
several seen from the tower
- Opal-crowned Tanager *Tangara callophrys*
several seen from the tower
- Black-faced Dacnis *Dacnis lineata*
2 in canopy the tower
- Green Honeycreeper *Chlorophanes spiza*
common in flocks
- Purple Honeycreeper *Cyanerpes caeruleus*
common in flocks
- Slaty-capped Shrike-Vireo *Vireolanius leucotis*
heard and taped
- Tawny-crowned Greenlet *Hylophilus ochraceiceps*
1 in the canopy above the tower
- Green Oropendola *Psarocolius viridis*
2 from the tower
- Russet-backed Oropendola *Psarocolius angustifrons*
several flocks fly over the river
- Amazonian Oropendola *Gymnostinops bifasciatus*
4 seen from the tower
- Yellow-rumped Cacique *Cacicus cela*
several along the river
- Moriche Oriole *Icterus chrysocephalus*
2 seen from the canopy walkway
- Violaceous Jay *Cyanocorax violaceus*
5 at the tower