



Remote Amazon Wildlife Systematic List

27th August – 10th September 2016

By Tour Leader Chris Collins with assistance from Regina Ribeiro

Photos by Chris Collins

Mammals

Bare-tailed Woolly Opossum *Caluromys philander*

A lone individual was found during our spotlighting session on 3 September.

Grey Four-eyed Opossum *Philander opossum*

We had some fantastic views of one of these opossums whilst spotlighting on 30 August.



Grey Four-eyed Opossum

Three-toed (Brown-throated) Sloth *Bradypus variegatus*

At least nine sloths were recorded over four days with the vast majority of these seen during the early stages of the trip.

Pied Tamarin *Saguinus bicolor*

This extremely localised monkey is classified as ‘endangered’ on the IUCN Red List and we saw small troops at both the MUSA Canopy Tower and in the gardens of the Tropical Hotel in Manaus on 28 August with a total of about 16 individuals recorded.

Smaller numbers were also seen shortly after we disembarked from *Iracema* (10 September), again in the grounds of the Tropical Hotel.



Humboldt’s White-fronted Capuchin *Cebus albifrons*

Pied Tamarin

A troop of about six individuals was seen on 11 September during our excursion on the east bank of the Rio Negro.

It is worth noting that volume 3 of Handbook of Mammals of the World suggests that there is “the strong possibility” that there is more than one taxa of White-faced Capuchin north of the Amazon. As Humboldt’s White-fronted Capuchin is one of the few species that seemingly occurs on both sides of the Negro, ie the river is not deemed to be a natural divide between species, there would certainly seem logic in this proposition.

Guianan Brown Capuchin *Sapajus paella*

Seen on four dates (and heard on a further occasion) with the largest troop being on 6 September when at least 21 individuals were recorded.



Guianan Squirrel Monkey *Saimiri sciureus*

Logged on four occasions during the first five days of our expedition on *Iracema*, although all counts were in single figures.

Humboldt’s Squirrel Monkey *Saimiri cassiquiarensis*

This species occurs on the west side of the Rio Negro and thus on both banks of the Jaú River and we found it on two occasions whilst in the Jaú National Park. Approximately six individuals were found travelling with similar numbers of Spix’s Black-headed Uacaris on 2 September and a lone individual was spotted three days later. (Photo to the left).

Spix’s Night Monkey *Aotus vociferans*

Three of these monkeys were seen at a ‘stake out’ near the village of Novo Airão on 31 August.

Spix’s Black-headed Uacari *Cacajao ouakary*

This handsome monkey is relatively range-restricted and was one of our major targets in the Jaú National Park. We were fortunate to encounter it on two occasions, with a troop of about six animals seen well from the top deck of *Iracema* on 2 September as we cruised up the Jaú River.

The following day four more monkeys were seen, although these were considerably more distant than the excellent views we had enjoyed the previous day.

Guianan Bearded Saki *Chiropotes sagulatus*

A lone individual was seen on 1 September which was in a mixed troop which also included Humboldt's White-faced Capuchin and Guianan Brown Capuchin.

White-faced Saki *Pithecia pithecia*

Six of these monkeys were seen in the grounds of the Tropical Hotel on 28 August.

Like the Pied Tamarins noted above, the ancestors of these monkeys became marooned in the grounds of the Tropical Hotel when Manaus expanded around them so despite the somewhat unlikely location, they are regarded as tickable. (Photo to the right).



Guianan Red Howler *Alouatta macconnelli*

This species was heard on a couple of days but only seen when we visited the Musa Canopy Tower near Manaus on 28 August.

Black Spider Monkey *Ateles chamek*

This species was heard but not seen close to the Capuchinbird lek on 6 September.

Northern Amazon Red Squirrel *Sciurus igniventris*

A lone individual was seen near Cachoeira village in the Jaú National Park on 5 September.

Brazilian Porcupine *Coendou prehensilis*

This species can be tricky to find but we had some fantastic views of one during our night excursion on 30 August.

Red-rumped Agouti *Dasyprocta leporina*

Single individuals were seen on 28 and 30 September.

Green Acouchy *Myoprocta pratti*

A smallish rodent seen whilst spotlighting on 3 September appears to have probably been this species. The animal had almost no tail and was whitish on the underside with 'white buttocks'. When it disappeared, Junior scrambled out the canoes to attempt to relocate it, as he had never seen anything similar on all his previous trips, so it was certainly something unusual.....

According to volume six of Handbook of Mammals of the World, it is now believed that Green Acouchy is a "complex of closely related taxa" as there is "considerable variation in colour and measurable characteristics across the distribution of *M. pratti*".

Rio Negro Brush-tailed Rat *Isothrix negrensis*

This comparatively localised animal was seen on two occasions with the first being found on 2 September with another the following day.

This species used to be regarded as a subspecies of the more widespread Yellow-crowned Brush-tailed Rat *Isothrix bistrriata* but it is now considered a full species. It is only found in the north-western part of the Amazon basin with the distribution primarily following the Rio Negro southeast from extreme eastern Colombia to near the Rio Madeira.

Lowland Paca *Cuniculus paca*

We were fortunate to encounter four of these large rodents on our night excursions with two seen on 2 September with another duo encountered the following night.

According to Junior, these animals are regarded as the best ‘bush meat’ in Amazonia.....



Lowland Paca

Northern Ghost Bat *Diclidurus albus*

Seen during two of our night excursions (2 and 5 September).

Sharp-nosed Bat *Rhynchonycteris naso*

These small bats were regularly seen at roost during our daytime excursions with records on eight dates.

Giant Otter *Pteronura brasiliensis*

Three of these were seen not far from the Amerindian village of Cachoeira in the Jaú National Park.

Despite some initial scepticism, there was no doubt that the loud whooping noises that Junior made from the top deck did attract the otters and, on a couple of occasions, they turned round to look at the boat.

Tucuxi *Sotalia fluviatilis*

This species was seen on a more or less daily basis with only two dates when we did not record it. Although the numbers varied, on most occasions our daily count was in double figures.

Amazon River Dolphin *Inia geoffrensis*

Like the previous species, the Amazon River Dolphin was seen almost daily.



Amazon River Dolphin receiving the attention of various admirers

One of the undoubted highlights of the entire expedition was getting in the water with several of these amazing creatures on 30 August. Although the dolphins are given some fish, the quantity is little more than a light snack for such a substantial mammal (with the maximum permitted feed being 1kg). It truly felt like these wild animals were genuinely happy to interact with us as they stayed long after all the fish had been eaten. An incredible experience.

Birds

Great Tinamou *Tinamus major*

This species was only heard on one occasion (4 September).

Undulated Tinamou *Crypturellus undulatus*

Regularly heard (11 dates) but not seen.

Horned Screamer *Anhima cornuta*

Four individuals were found on 29 August.

Black-bellied Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna autumnalis*

Muscovy Duck *Cairina moschata*

Seen on eleven dates, although on more than half of these occasions, only one individual was logged.

Brazilian Teal *Amazonetta brasiliensis*

Only recorded on 30 August with a reasonable number (ie 10+) logged.

Little Chachalaca *Ortalis motmot*

Only seen on two occasions with the first being a lone bird in the gardens of the Tropical Hotel, Manaus on 28 August.

Marail Guan *Penelope marail*

A lone bird was glimpsed by some of the group on the excursion on 9 September.

Spix's Guan *Penelope jacquacu*

Four birds were found on 2 August.

Nocturnal Curassow *Nothocrax urumutum*

One of these rarely observed birds was seen very briefly by some of the group on 4 September whilst hiking near the village of Cachoeira.

Crestless Curassow *Mitu tomentosum*

This species was seen by a few of the group whilst out in the canoes on 1 September.

Black Curassow *Crax alector*

One canoe had some reasonable but brief views of four birds during the excursion on 1 September.

Wood Stork *Mycteria americana*

Two individuals were seen on 30 August.

Buff-necked Ibis *Theristicus caudatus*

A lone bird on 29 August whilst cruising along the Amazon was the only record.

Green Ibis *Mesembrinibis cayennensis*

A reasonably numerous species which was seen on a more or less daily basis although our day counts were only ever in low single figures.

Rufescent Tiger Heron *Tigrisoma lineatum*

A total of seventeen birds were logged across seven dates.

Agami Heron *Agamia agami*

Seen on two dates with four birds logged on both 6 and 7 September.

Boat-billed Heron *Cochlearius cochlearius*

Lone birds were logged on three days

Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*

A total of six birds were logged across four dates.

Striated Heron *Butorides striata*

This species was recorded on almost every day whilst we were on *Iracema*.

Western Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*

Cocoi Heron *Ardea cocoi*

Great Egret *Ardea alba*

Capped Heron *Pilherodius pileatus*

A handsome heron which was recorded on eight dates with a total of 20 birds logged.

Snowy Egret *Egretta thula*

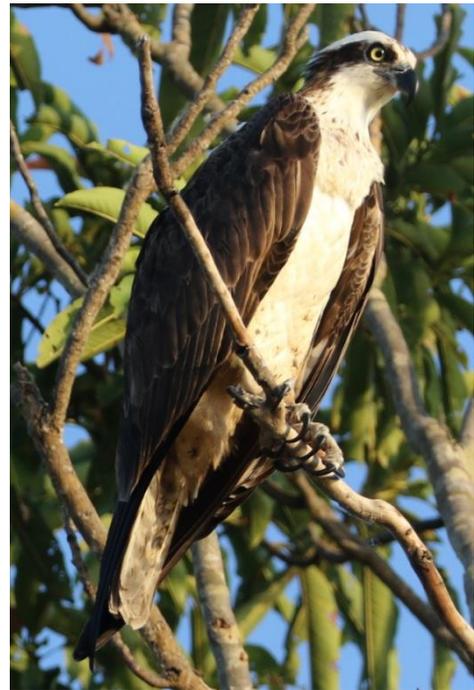
Neotropic Cormorant *Phalacrocorax brasilianus*

Anhinga *Anhinga anhinga*

Turkey Vulture *Cathartes aura*

Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture *Cathartes burrovianus*

Greater Yellow-headed Vulture *Cathartes melambrotus*



Black Vulture *Coragyps atratus*

King Vulture *Sarcoramphus papa*

A somewhat uncommon vulture in this part of Amazonia, with the only record being two birds on 5 September.

Western Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*

Seen on a regular basis throughout our time on *Iracema*. (Photo above).

Grey-headed Kite *Leptodon cayanensis*

Seen on four dates during the expedition, but only a single individual on each occasion.

Swallow-tailed Kite *Elanoides forficatus*

This handsome raptor was seen on four days with eighteen individuals logged. (Photo to the left).

Black Hawk-eagle *Spizaetus tyrannus*

The most frequently encountered of the Hawk-eagles with sightings on three dates.

Black-and-white Hawk-eagle *Spizaetus melanoleucus*

Only one sighting – a lone bird on 6 September.

Ornate Hawk-eagle *Spizaetus ornatus*

One on the Capuchinbird trail on 6 September.

Plumbeous Kite *Ictinia plumbea*

Amongst the commonest raptors in this region, with sightings on eleven dates. (Photo to the right).

Black-collared Hawk *Busarellus nigricollis*

Seen on seven widely spaced dates although on the majority of occasions only a single individual was recorded.

Crane Hawk *Geranospiza caerulescens*

A total of six birds were logged across four dates.

Slate-coloured Hawk *Buteogallus schistaceus*

Two birds were seen (2 and 6 September).

Savannah Hawk *Buteogallus meridionalis*

The only sighting was a singleton on 29 September.

Great Black Hawk *Buteogallus urubitinga*

Recorded on nine dates although there was only one occasion when more than two individuals were logged in a day.

Roadside Hawk *Rupornis magnirostris*

The commonest large raptor with almost daily sightings. It should, however, probably be renamed the 'Riverside Hawk' as that was where most of our sightings were!!

White-tailed Hawk *Geranoaetus albicaudatus*

The only record was a lone bird on 31 August.

Grey-lined Hawk *Buteo nitidus*

A single individual on 27 August was the only sighting.

Sunbittern *Eurypyga helias*

A lone individual was well seen during our canoe excursion on 7 September.

Sungrebe *Heliornis fulica*

This species was recorded on an almost daily basis during the second half of the expedition, although the maximum day count was four individuals.

Southern Lapwing *Vanellus chilensis*

Only recorded on each of the first three days on *Iracema*.



American Golden Plover *Pluvialis dominica*

Only seen on one date (30 September) with five individuals logged.

Collared Plover *Charadrius collaris*

Good numbers of this species were seen on 30 August, the only day it was recorded.

Wattled Jacana *Jacana jacana*

Greater Yellowlegs *Tringa melanoleuca*

A single individual on 30 August was the only record.



Solitary Sandpiper

Solitary Sandpiper *Tringa solitaria*

A total of five individuals were seen across three dates. The most noteworthy was the two birds on 4 September which were so tame it was incredible !!

Spotted Sandpiper *Actitis macularius*

Seen on eight dates and, somewhat unexpectedly, some of the individuals we encountered still had spots.

Least Sandpiper *Calidris minutilla*

Three birds on 30 August.

White-rumped Sandpiper *Calidris fuscicollis*

Seen on two dates with three individuals on 30 August and five on 8 September.

Baird's Sandpiper *Calidris bairdi*

One individual on 30 August.

Pectoral Sandpiper *Calidris melanotos*

A lone bird on the beach at Novo Airão was the only record (8 September).

Black Skimmer *Rynchops niger*

Yellow-billed Tern *Sternula superciliaris*

Large-billed Tern *Phaetusa simplex*

This species was seen on a more or less daily basis.



Large-billed Tern

Pale-vented Pigeon *Patagioenas cayennensis*

Ruddy Pigeon *Patagioenas subvinacea*

Definitely recorded on two dates although reasonable numbers of Plumbeous/Ruddy Pigeons were also seen.

Common Ground Dove *Columbina passerina*

Ruddy Ground Dove *Columbina talpacoti*

White-tipped Dove *Leptotila verreauxi*

Ruddy Quail-dove *Geotrygon montana*

A lone bird was seen by some of the group on 9 September with another found dead outside our hotel in Manaus on 28 August. Sadly this individual had seemingly flown into the windows and broken its neck.

Hoatzin *Opisthocomus hoazin*

This bizarre looking bird was seen on four dates.



Hoatzin

Greater Ani *Crotophaga major*

Common and recorded on a more or less daily basis.

Smooth-billed Ani *Crotophaga ani*

A lot less numerous than the previous species.

Striped Cuckoo *Tapera naevia*

This species is generally found in more open habitats and was heard on 29 August and seen the following day.

Little Cuckoo *Coccyzua minuta*

Two individuals were seen (28 and 31 August).

Squirrel Cuckoo *Piaya cayana*

The commonest of the Neotropical cuckoos seen on the trip with daily sightings between 1-7 September although only one or two individuals were logged on each day.

Dark-billed Cuckoo *Coccyzus melacoryphus*

A lone bird was seen by some of the group on 6 September.

Pearly-breasted Cuckoo *Coccyzus euleri*

Somewhat unexpectedly, this species was found on three dates during the middle section of our expedition with a total of four individuals being recorded.

Tropical Screech Owl *Megascops choliba*

A lone bird was seen briefly on 28 August.

Mottled Owl *Strix virgata*

Heard on 1 September.

Crested Owl *Lophotrix cristata*

This species was heard on a couple of occasions during the expedition but not seen (30 August and 3 September).

Ferruginous Pygmy Owl *Glaucidium brasilianum*

Three birds were found during the afternoon canoe ride on 3 September with one of the birds showing extremely well.

Great Potoo *Nyctibius grandis*

Only seen in the early days of the expedition, with at least ten individuals recorded on our first night-time excursion on 28 August.

Common Potoo *Nyctibius griseus*

Despite its name, this species was less numerous than Great Potoo with the only sighting being a roosting individual on 29 August.

Sand-coloured Nighthawk *Chordeiles rupestris*

Approximately ten individuals were seen during our landing on 30 August.

Lesser Nighthawk *Chordeiles acutipennis*

Two birds flying close to *Iracema* on 4 September were the only sighting.

Band-tailed Nighthawk *Nyctiprogne leucopyga*

This species was by far the commonest nightjar/nighthawk recorded on the expedition with sightings on eleven dates.

It is worth noting that there appear to be two cryptic species within 'Band-tailed Nighthawk' as seemingly identical looking birds have two very different songs in this part of Amazonia. As few of the birds we saw were calling, it was not possible to be certain if we encountered both types but most individuals were almost certainly of the more well-known song type.

Blackish Nightjar *Nyctipolus nigrescens*

A bird sitting on an active nest was seen on 4 and 5 September.

Pauraque *Nyctidromus albicollis*

This nightjar was recorded on six dates although on some occasions we only heard its very distinctive call.

Ladder-tailed Nightjar *Hydropsalis climacocerca*

Seen on five dates with a dozen individuals logged.

Ocellated Poorwill *Nyctiphrynus ocellatus*

Heard by some of the group on 2 September.

Band-rumped Swift *Chaetura spinicaudus*

Grey-rumped Swift *Chaetura cinereiventris*

Short-tailed Swift *Chaetura brachyura*

A very distinctively shaped swift which was seen on nine dates throughout the expedition.

Neotropical Palm Swift *Tachornis squamata*

A total of six individuals were logged across three widely spread dates.

Reddish Hermit *Phaethornis ruber*

A lone individual on 7 September was the only record.

Grey-breasted Sabrewing *Campylopterus largipennis*

A single bird was found during our excursion on 1 September.

Blue-tailed Emerald *Chlorostilbon mellisugus*

One individual was seen on 5 September.

Fork-tailed Woodnymph *Thalurania furcata*

Another hummingbird where only one individual was logged (4 September).

White-chinned Sapphire *Hylocharis cyanus*

A singleton on 1 September.

Olive-spotted Hummingbird *Leucippus chlorocercus*

A total of three individuals were recorded with two on 29 August and a lone bird a couple of days later.

Glittering-throated Emerald *Amazilia fimbriata*

A total of five individuals were recorded across five widely spaced dates.

Black-eared Fairy *Heliothryx auritus*

Lone birds were seen on 6 and 10 September.

Pavonine Quetzal *Pharomachrus pavoninus*

A lone bird showed well whilst walking a trail on 2 September.



Black-tailed Trogon *Trogon melanurus*

Green-backed Trogon *Trogon viridis*

The most frequently encountered of the trogons with birds logged across nine dates.

Amazon Trogon *Trogon ramonianus*

Seen on four dates with most individuals recorded during the latter stages of the expedition.

Blue-crowned Trogon *Trogon curucui*

A total of four birds were seen across three dates. (Photo to left).

American Pygmy Kingfisher *Chloroceryle aenea*

Green-and-rufous Kingfisher *Chloroceryle inda*

Green Kingfisher *Chloroceryle americana*

Amazon Kingfisher *Chloroceryle amazona*

Ringed Kingfisher *Megaceryle torquata*

Green-tailed Jacamar *Galbula galbula*

The commonest of the four species of Jacamar we found but still only recorded on three dates with five individuals logged.

Bronzy Jacamar *Galbula leucogastra*

Two birds were seen on our excursion on 4 September with another logged on 9 September.

Paradise Jacamar *Galbula dea*

Seen from the Canopy Tower at Manaus on 28 August.

Great Jacamar *Jacamerops aureus*

This species was heard whilst birding the trail we explored on 2 September.

Guianan Puffbird *Notharchus macrorhynchos*

A lone individual was seen on 6 September.

It is worth noting that White-necked Puffbird has been split into two species with the major rivers in the region primarily acting as the dividing line.

Pied Puffbird *Notharchus tectus*

This species is in many respects the diminutive cousin of the bird above and we recorded three individuals on 3 September.

Black Nunbird *Monasa atra*

This Guianan Shield speciality was seen on an irregular basis throughout the trip with six individuals logged over four dates. (Photo to the right).

Black-fronted Nunbird *Monasa nigrifrons*

Swallow-winged Puffbird *Chelidoptera tenebrosa*

This distinctive bird was seen on an almost daily basis during the expedition.

Black-spotted Barbet *Capito niger*

Six birds observed from the Musa Canopy Tower were the only sightings (28 August).

Ivory-billed Aracari *Pteroglossus azara*

A small flock of six birds were found on 3 September.

Black-necked Aracari *Pteroglossus aracari*

Two individuals on 29 August was the sole record of the expedition.

Guianan Toucanet *Selenidera piperivora*

This extremely handsome toucan was seen from the Canopy Tower in Manaus on 28 August.

Tawny-tufted Toucanet *Selenidera nattereri*

Another fine member of the toucan family, with one individual seen by some of the group on 3 September.

Channel-billed Toucan *Ramphastos vitellinus*

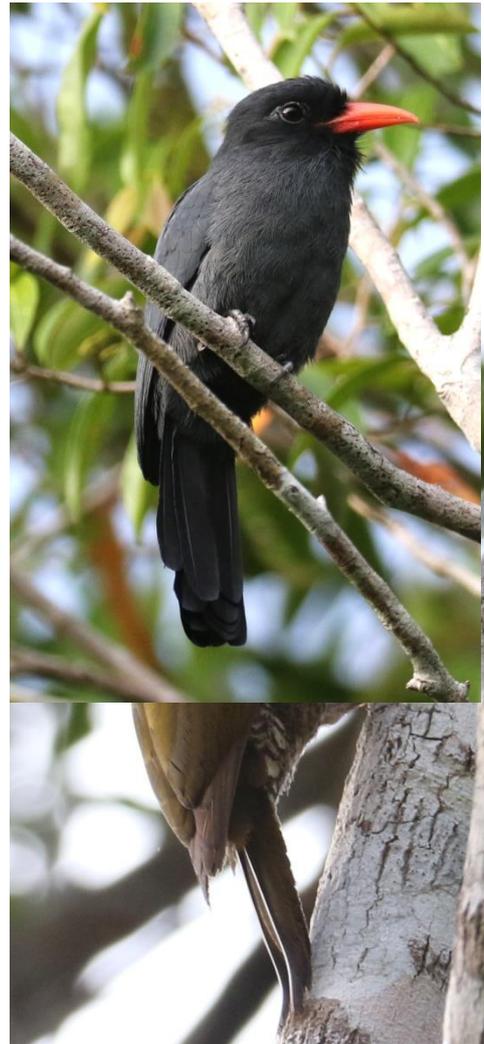
White-throated Toucan *Ramphastos tucanus*

More frequently encountered than the previous species with sightings on nine days.

Golden-spangled Piculet *Picumnus exilis*

Three birds were found on the canoe ride on 9 September.

Varzea Piculet *Picumnus varzeae*



This small woodpecker has a very restricted range along the Amazon and four individuals were seen on 29 August when we visited Buffalo Island on the Madeira River.

Yellow-tufted Woodpecker *Melanerpes cruentatus*

Little Woodpecker *Veniliornis passerinus*

Yellow-throated Woodpecker *Piculus flavigula*

An extremely smart woodpecker which was recorded on four dates during the expedition. (Photo to the right).

Spot-breasted Woodpecker *Colaptes punctigula*

Waved Woodpecker *Celeus undatus*

Only seen on one date with a lone bird on 1 September.

Scaly-breasted Woodpecker *Celeus grammicus*

A single bird on 4 September was the only record.

Chestnut Woodpecker *Celeus elegans*

Cream-coloured Woodpecker *Celeus flavus*

Ringed Woodpecker *Celeus torquatus*

Lineated Woodpecker *Dryocopus lineatus*

Red-necked Woodpecker *Campephilus rubricollis*

The only record was near to the Musa Canopy Tower in Manaus (28 August).

Crimson-crested Woodpecker *Campephilus melanoleucos*

Black Caracara *Daptrius ater*

Red-throated Caracara *Ibycter americanus*

This noisy and very distinctive species was recorded on four dates with the first sightings being from the Canopy Tower in Manaus (28 August).

Southern Caracara *Caracara cheriway*

A total of eight individuals were logged during the early stages of the expedition.

What was previously known as Crested Caracara was split into two species several years ago, however, there remains some confusion about the identity of the birds in the Manaus area as the two 'new' species are not easy to separate in the field. With forest clearance, caracaras have spread through this region and whilst it is generally considered that the birds along the Amazon are Southern Caracaras, more work does need to be done on this species pair. It is worth noting, for example, that at the time of writing, the maps on HBW Alive do not show either species particularly close to Manaus.....

Yellow-headed Caracara *Milvago chimachima*

Bat Falcon *Falco ruficularis*

Five of these small falcons, which somewhat resemble Eurasian Hobbies, were seen during the second half of the expedition.

Orange-breasted Falcon *Falco deiroleucus*

Although it has a reasonably wide distribution, this species is never common and we were fortunate to see a perched individual on 5 September from the top deck of *Iracema*. Having seen a perched Bat Falcon a couple of days before, this was a fantastic opportunity to compare the jizz of these two species (which is quite different), with Bat Falcon being closer to Hobby and Merlin, whereas Orange-breasted Falcon is structurally more akin to a Peregrine.

Blue-and-yellow Macaw *Ara ararauna*

A total of eighteen individuals were logged across three days.

Scarlet Macaw *Ara macao*

Seen in small numbers on three dates with the first being from the Musa Canopy Tower in Manaus (28 August).

Red-and-green Macaw *Ara chloropterus*

Only seen near Manaus on 28 August with two birds logged.

Chestnut-fronted Macaw *Ara severus*

Six individuals were seen during the early stages of the expedition (29 August).

Red-bellied Macaw *Orthopsittaca manilatus*

Somewhat unexpectedly, about twenty of these Moriche Palm specialists were seen flying by when we were at the Musa Canopy Tower in Manaus on 28 August.

Brown-throated Parakeet *Eupsittula pertinax*

Seen on four dates during the middle part of the expedition.

White-eyed Parakeet *Psittacara leucophthalmus*

White-winged Parakeet *Brotogeris versicolurus*

Only seen in the early stages of the trip.

Golden-winged Parakeet *Brotogeris chrysoptera*

As with the above species, only seen in small numbers at the beginning of the expedition.

Tui Parakeet *Brotogeris sanctithomae*

Recorded in reasonable numbers on the first couple of days of the tour (28 and 29 August).

Orange-cheeked Parrot *Pyrilia barrabandi*

A very handsome parrot which was seen on four dates during the second half of the expedition, with a total of eight individuals logged.

Caica Parrot *Pyrilia caica*

As with the previous species, only seen in the latter stages of our trip.

Short-tailed Parrot *Graydidascalus brachyurus*

Blue-headed Parrot *Pionus menstruus*

Dusky Parrot *Pionus fuscus*

Festive Amazon *Amazona festiva*

The commonest *Amazona* parrot on the expedition with sightings on ten dates.

Orange-winged Amazon *Amazona amazonica*

Mealy Amazon *Amazona farinose*

Red-fan Parrot *Deroyptus accipitrinus*

This much-prized parrot was seen on three occasions with the first sightings being from the tower near Manaus where five individuals were seen. A total of six birds were then found during the latter stages of the expedition, including a pair which appeared to be nesting in a dead tree very close to the riverbank along the Rio Negro.

Band-tailed Hornero *Furnarius figulus*

Dark-breasted Spinetail *Synallaxis albigularis*

Plain-crowned Spinetail *Synallaxis gujanensis*

There were two sightings with both being single individuals (6 and 7 September).

Rusty-backed Spinetail *Cranioleuca vulpine*

Two birds were seen on 31 August.

Parker's Spinetail *Cranioleuca vulpecula*

This relatively recently described species (which was named in honour of the American ornithologist Ted Parker) was seen on a relatively new river island on 30 August.

Red-and-white Spinetail *Certhiaxis mustelinus*

Plain Softtail *Thripophaga fusciceps*

The birds found on the river islands around the Madeira River may be split and three individuals were seen very well during our excursion on 29 August.

Plain Xenops *Xenops minutus*

A singleton was seen by some of the group on 4 September.

Wedge-billed Woodcreeper *Glyphorhynchus spiurus*

Two birds on 5 September were the only sighting.

Long-billed Woodcreeper *Nasica longirostris*

This species is surely the best looking of all the woodcreepers and a total of eleven individuals were recorded across six dates with all of these in the middle section of the trip.

Strong-billed Woodcreeper *Xiphocolaptes promeropirhynchus*

Straight-billed Woodcreeper *Dendroplex picus*

Zimmer's Woodcreeper *Dendroplex kienerii*

This somewhat localised woodcreeper, which is only found along the Amazon and some tributaries, was seen on two dates (31 August and 1 September).

Striped Woodcreeper *Xiphorhynchus obsoletus*

Red-billed Scythebill *Campylorhamphus trochilirostris*

A lone individual was seen reasonably well on 9 September.

Fasciated Antshrike *Cymbilaimus lineatus*

A lone bird on 4 September was the only sighting.

Black-crested Antshrike *Sakesphorus canadensis*

This handsome antshrike was recorded on a daily basis from 5-8 September but only in small numbers.

Glossy Antshrike *Sakesphorus luctuosus*

This species has a moderately limited range and two birds were found whilst looking for the Plain Softtails on 29 August.

Barred Antshrike *Thamnophilus doliatus*

Blackish-grey Antshrike *Thamnophilus nigrocinereus*

This species is primarily found along the Amazon River and some of its tributaries. It was heard on 1 September, with a lone bird then seen a week later.

Castelnau's Antshrike *Thamnophilus cryptoleucus*

A male was seen on 30 August on a well vegetated river island not far from Manaus.

This is another fairly localised antshrike which again is found primarily along the Amazon River and some tributaries (although more to the west than the above species).

Mouse-coloured Antshrike *Thamnophilus murinus*

This species was recorded on six dates although on half of these occasions, the birds were only heard calling.

Amazonian Antshrike *Thamnophilus amazonicus*

As its name suggests this species is primarily found in the Amazon basin and we found a pair on 4 September with the very smart female giving us some great views.

Cinereous Antshrike *Thamnomanes caesius*

Cherrie's Antwren *Myrmotherula cherriei*

This species has a moderately limited range being only found in NW Amazonia. It was well seen on 2 September with three individuals being logged.



Klages's Antwren *Myrmotherula klagesi*

This species (see photo to the left) resembles Cherrie's Antwren, however, its song is quite different and it has a much more restricted range only occurring along a relatively short section of the Amazon River and a few major tributaries.

It seems to favour river islands and river-edge forest and as these are subject to more clearance than some other habitats,

this species is classified as 'near threatened' by Birdlife International.

During our expedition, four individuals were found in the Anavilhanas archipelago (31 August).

White-flanked Antwren *Myrmotherula axillaris*

Leaden Antwren *Myrmotherula assimilis*

Another somewhat range restricted species which was recorded on a couple of occasions (29 and 31 August) with two birds seen on each date.

Grey Antbird *Cercomacra cinerascens*

This species was heard on several dates in the latter half of the expedition but was never seen.



Black-chinned Antbird

Black-chinned Antbird *Hypocnemoides melanopogon*

The most frequently recorded antbird during the expedition with sightings on six dates.

Black-and-white Antbird *Myrmochanes hemileucus*

This handsome river island specialist was seen on our excursion at the Madeira River where we found three individuals (29 August) with another bird seen the following day closer to Manaus.

Wing-barred Piprites *Piprites chloris*

Forest Elaenia *Myiopagis gaimardii*

Guianan Tyrannulet *Zimmerius acer*

McConnell's Flycatcher *Mionectes macconnelli*

Snethlage's Tody-tyrant *Hemitriccus minor*

Spotted Tody-flycatcher *Todirostrum maculatum*

One of the better looking flycatchers we found and seen on six dates during the trip.

Fuscous Flycatcher *Cnemotriccus fuscatus*

Amazonian Black Tyrant *Knipolegus poecilocercus*

Although not considered globally threatened, this species seems to be generally uncommon to rare. A single bird on 30 August on a relatively new river island was, therefore, well received and a new bird for almost the entire group.

Black-backed Water Tyrant *Fluvicola albiventer*

Piratic Flycatcher *Legatus leucophaeus*

Social Flycatcher *Myiozetetes similis*

Great Kiskadee *Pitangus sulphuratus*

Lesser Kiskadee *Philohydor lictor*

Streaked Flycatcher *Myiodynastes maculatus*

The birds found on some of the river islands we visited are a potential split.

Variiegated Flycatcher *Empidonomus varius*

Crowned Slaty Flycatcher *Griseotyrannus aurantioatrocristatus*

Tropical Kingbird *Tyrannus melancholicus*

One of the few species to be seen on every day of the expedition.

Fork-tailed Flycatcher *Tyrannus savana*

Short-crested Flycatcher *Myiarchus ferox*

Cinnamon Attila *Attila cinnamomeus*

Seen on two days.

Spangled Cotinga *Cotinga cayana*

This fantastic looking bird was seen on six dates although there was only one occasion when more than one individual was noted.

Screaming Piha *Lipaugus vociferans*

This species is unquestionably one of the classic songsters of the lowland Amazon and we heard it on six days with sightings on four additional dates.

Pompadour Cotinga *Xipholena punicea*

One of the most colourful birds encountered on the expedition, with a minimum of fourteen birds observed over four days.

Bare-necked Fruitcrow *Gymnoderus foetidus*

Capuchinbird *Perissocephalus tricolor*

We visited a lek of this bizarre looking species on 6 September where two individuals were seen.

Amazonian Umbrellabird *Cephalopterus ornatus*

A male was seen by most of the group whilst exploring the Anavilhanas archipelago on 8 September.

Blue-crowned Manakin *Lepidothrix coronata*

Wire-tailed Manakin *Pipra filicauda*

This was surely amongst the most colourful birds recorded on the expedition, with sightings on three dates and a total of seven individuals logged. For some of the group, the males we watched displaying on 8 September in the Anavilhanas archipelago were amongst the highlights of the entire trip.

White-crowned Manakin *Dixiphia pipra*

Golden-headed Manakin *Dixiphia erythrocephala*

Masked Tityra *Tityra semifasciata*

Varzea Schiffornis *Schiffornis major*

Cinereous Becard *Pachyramphus rufus*

Dusky-capped Greenlet *Hylophilus hypoxanthus*

White-winged Swallow *Tachycineta albiventer*

Purple Martin *Progne subis*

This species 'winters' in good numbers in the part of Amazonian Brazil we visited and was logged on five dates.

Grey-breasted Martin *Progne chalybea*

Brown-chested Martin *Progne tapera*

White-banded Swallow *Atticora fasciata*

Unlike all the other hirundines we encountered, this species was only found on one date (3 September) with two individuals logged.

Southern Rough-winged Swallow *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*

Black-capped Donacobius *Donacobius atricapilla*

This species was only seen on 29 August when two individuals were found. Although it is often included within the Wrens, there is a growing consensus that this treatment is not correct and there are suggestions it may actually be closer related to the Old World warblers !!

House Wren *Troglodytes aedon*

Tropical Gnatcatcher *Polioptila plumbea*

Pale-breasted Thrush *Turdus leucomelas*

Black-billed Thrush *Turdus ignobilis*

Common Waxbill *Estrilda astrild*

An introduction which was only seen in Manaus (28 August).

White-lored Euphonia *Euphonia chrysopasta*

Golden-sided Euphonia *Euphonia cayennensis*

A lone bird on 1 September was the only record.

Red-breasted Blackbird *Sturnella militaris*

This species is associated with more disturbed habitats so consequently we only saw it at the beginning and ends of our time on *Iracema*.

Crested Oropendola *Psarocolius decumanus*

The commonest oropendola in this region and logged on ten dates during the trip.

Olive Oropendola *Psarocolius bifasciatus*

Seen on seven days.

Yellow-rumped Cacique *Cacicus cela*

One of the classic birds of lowland Amazonia and seen on a daily basis during our time on *Iracema*. (Photo to the right).

Giant Cowbird *Molothrus oryzivorus*

Shiny Cowbird *Molothrus bonariensis*

Oriole Blackbird *Gymnomystax mexicanus*

Only seen on the first three days of our time on *Iracema*.

Yellow-hooded Blackbird *Chrysomus icterocephalus*

Bananaquit *Coereba flaveola*

Yellow-browed Sparrow *Ammodramus aurifrons*

Red-capped Cardinal *Paroaria gularis*

A reasonably conspicuous species which was seen on ten dates, although on most occasions it was only recorded in low single figures.

Orange-headed Tanager *Thlypopsis sordida*

Four birds on 30 August were the only sightings on the expedition.

Flame-crested Tanager *Tachyphonus cristatus*

A lone bird seen from the Musa Canopy Tower trip on 28 August was the only record.

White-shouldered Tanager *Tachyphonus luctuosus*

Silver-beaked Tanager *Ramphocelus carbo*

Seen on six dates, although all counts were in single figures.

Blue-grey Tanager *Thraupis episcopus*

This species is reasonably widespread from Central America to Amazonia and we saw it on ten dates.

Palm Tanager *Thraupis palmarum*

Turquoise Tanager *Tangara mexicana*



This species was logged on two dates (27 and 29 August) with two individuals seen on both occasions.

Yellow-bellied Dacnis *Dacnis flaviventer*

Recorded on two dates (31 August and 5 September) with single birds on each day.

Blue Dacnis *Dacnis cayana*

Purple Honeycreeper *Cyanerpes caeruleus*

Red-legged Honeycreeper *Cyanerpes cyaneus*

Green Honeycreeper *Chlorophanes spiza*

Chestnut-vented Conebill *Conirostrum speciosum*

A single individual was recorded on 30 August.

Bicolored Conebill *Conirostrum bicolor*

A total of ten individuals were recorded across 29-30 August.

Orange-fronted Yellow Finch *Sicalis columbiana*

A reasonably common bird in more disturbed habitats and seen on six dates.

Blue-black Grassquit *Volatinia jacarina*

Chestnut-bellied Seedeater *Sporophila castaneiventris*

Buff-throated Saltator *Saltator maximus*

Greyish Saltator *Saltator coerulescens*

Reptiles

Spectacled Caiman *Caiman crocodilus*

Spectacled Caiman was seen on our first night excursion on 28 August. Undoubtedly some of the other caimans whose eyes were illuminated on subsequent spotlighting sessions were also this species, although we were generally concentrating on looking for other creatures.....

Black Caiman *Caiman niger*

Identified on at least five of our nighttime excursions, although as noted above, caimans were seen more frequently but not always identified to species.

Schneider's Smooth-fronted Caiman *Paleosuchus trigonatus*

This species is the second smallest in the family *Alligatoridae* and was seen on two of our nighttime excursions with the first found on 2 September and another six days later.

Amazon Whiptail *Ameiva ameiva*

The only record was on 1 September.

Caiman Lizard *Dracaena guianensis*

Single individuals were seen on two occasions (2 and 9 September).



Tropical House Gecko *Hemidactylus mabouia*

One was seen on 31 August.

This species is a native of sub-Saharan Africa but has been inadvertently introduced to many tropical countries.

Green Iguana *Iguana iguana*

Seen on a couple of occasions with the first being in the small park close to our hotel on 27 August.

Amazon Tree Boa *Corallus hortulanus*

The most frequently encountered snake species on our expedition with sightings on at least two of our night-time canoe rides. (Photo to the left).

South American Lancehead *Bothrops atrox*

This highly venomous snake is often known as the Fer-de-lance and we saw one near Cacheoira village on 4 September.

Arachnids and related species

Pink-toed Tarantula *Avicularia avicularia*

Seen on two days with the best views being at Novo Airão (31 August) where we saw at least five individuals. Somewhat bizarrely, the first of these was found inside a property owned by Junior's parents !!!

Pink-toed Tarantula



Amphibians

Cane Toad *Rhinella marina*

We found these large toads on a couple of our night excursions. As noted in the daily log, this species has been introduced into Australia where, unfortunately, it is causing real problems as it secretes chemicals which are toxic to the native amphibians.

Smoky Jungle Frog *Leptodactylus pentadactylus*

Seen on three of our night excursions.

Gladiator Tree Frog *Hypsiboas boans*

Tropical Bullfrog sp. *Adenomera sp.*

Moths, Butterflies etc (selected only)

Sphinx Moth Family *Sphingidae*

On 31 August we saw the caterpillar of a Sphinx Moth during the landing at Novo Airão.



Sphinx Moth caterpillar

Sulphur Butterflies Family *Pieridae*

Morpho Butterflies Family *Morphidae*

Dragonflies Order *Odonata*

Damselflies Order *Odonata*

True bug Order *Hemiptera*

Fish

Electric Eel *Electrophorus electricus*

We had some amazing views of about twenty of these extraordinary creatures during our canoe excursion on 9 September. According to our local guide, Junior, they are capable of generating a pulse of 500 volts to stun or kill their prey.

Electric Eel



Chocolate Catfish *Platydoras armatulus*

This nocturnal species, which is also known as the Striped Rafael Catfish, is a popular aquarium fish and one was seen during our night excursion on 9 September.

Arapiama sp.

Arrowana/Monkey fish sp. *Osteoglossum sp.*

Three of these strange looking fish were seen swimming close to *Iracema* on 30 August.

Peacock Bass sp *Cichla sp.*

Some of the group joined our 'boat boys' on a fishing excursion during a rain storm on 3 September and all the fish which were caught (and subsequently served up in the restaurant) were one of the species of Peacock Bass, a family that contains at least fifteen species.

Orchids and other plants (selected only)

Devon's Galeandra *Galeandra devoniana*

Superba of the Orinoco *Cattleya violacea*

Orchid sp. *Encyclia sp.*

Sundew sp. *Drosera sp.*



Cacti

Moon Cactus *Selenicereus wittii*

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