

# GUYANA - 2012

10<sup>th</sup> Nov – 25<sup>th</sup> Nov 2012

## HIGHLIGHTS

Either for rarity value, excellent views or simply a group favourite.

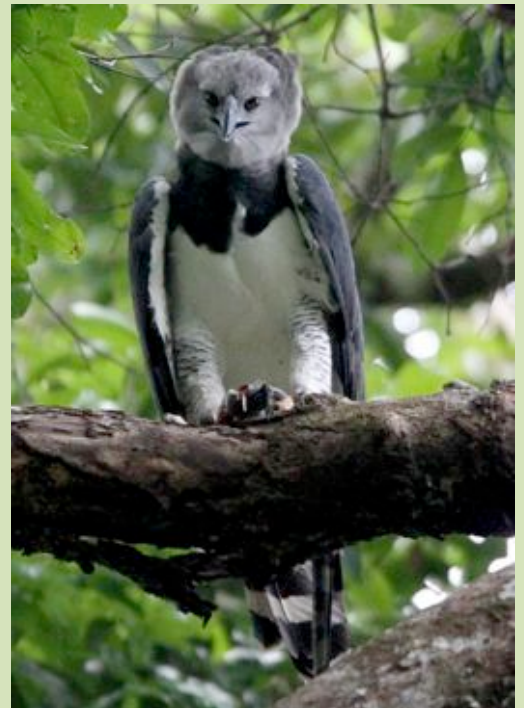
- Guianan Cock-of-the Rock
- Crested Doradito
- Rufous Crab Hawk
- Capuchinbird
- Hoary-throated Spinetail
- Finsch's Euphonia
- Grey-winged Trumpeter
- Chapman's Swift
- Giant Snipe
- Rufous-throated Antbird
- Painted Tody-Flycatcher
- Giant Anteater with Baby
- Harpy Eagle
- Hoatzin
- Bearded Tachuri
- Agami Heron
- Red Siskin
- Sungrebe
- Guianan Puffbird
- Black-spotted Barbet
- Azure Gallinule
- Todd's Antwren
- Cayenne Jay
- Giant River Otter
- Sun Parakeet
- Blood-coloured Woodpecker
- Orange-breasted Falcon
- Long-tailed Potoo
- Rio Branco Antbird
- N. Tawny-bellied Screech Owl
- Guianan Toucanet
- Ocellated Crake!
- Green Aracari
- Rufous-bellied Antwren
- Red-and-black Grosbeak
- Golden Frog

Leaders: Steve Bird, Gina Nichol and Ron Allicock

## SUMMARY:

To say Guyana is a true wilderness is a huge understatement. Its endless untouched forests hold a wealth of sought after birds and our tour connected with many of its specialities and shield endemics. Guyana is set to be one of the great new Neotropic birding destinations and there is no way to see it better than with Zoothera! It is vitally important to use local guides and not outside agents so that your money gets to the right people who can make a difference. With the best Guianan Bird Guide and lots of local guides at our service we feel our trip really puts your money in the right pockets, and helps to promote eco-tourism in this outstanding country. Our tour ran amazingly smoothly and turned out to be a huge success in every way. There were many highlights including our own male Harpy Eagle found at Turtle Mountain, displaying Guianan Cock-of-the Rock, a day roosting Long-tailed Potoo, superb views of the rarely seen Crested Doradito and nearby three Bearded Tachuri's. Blood-coloured Woodpeckers and Rufous Crab Hawks performed wonderfully on the coast, as did dozens of strange looking Hoatzins from our special boat trip. Two very focused excursions were successful in finding the hugely rare Sun Parakeet and Red Siskin, and other highlights included displaying Capuchinbirds, a wonderful Agami Heron, Azure Gallinule and a real bonus was finding a Giant Snipe in the endless savanna. Of the mammal highlights it wasn't the Giant Anteater carrying a baby that stole the show, it was a little orphaned baby Sloth named Ted that we all fell in love with. Do the right thing and book Guyana with Zoothera.

Harpy Eagle – Turtle Mountain



It's even nicer when you find your own Harpy instead of going to a well known nest site. This stunning male was found by us as we returned back from the top of Turtle Mountain. This was the first time it had been seen in this area and possibly the last unless the local guides find a new nest site nearby!

10<sup>th</sup> Nov 2012

Nearly all of us arrived a day early and made our way to the hotel in Georgetown for the night, the last two arriving in the early hours of the next morning. After lunch and an orientation from our guide Ron, we started with a visit to the Georgetown Botanical Gardens in the heart of the city. This oasis of parkland was once a sugar plantation and offers open grass, scattered trees, bushes and several ponds and wet areas. Here we had our first introduction to Guyana's wonderful bird life. We made our way to a quieter part of the park and began birding from the road. The canal along the roadway held several **Wattled Jacanas** and there were **Smooth-billed Anis**, **Rusty-margined Flycatcher**, and **Pale-breasted Thrushes** along the edges. A **Grey Kingbird** sat perched on the branch of an overhanging tree and just as we got wind of a **Cinereous Becard** in the same area, Mick spotted our number one target bird a **Blood-coloured Woodpecker** foraging on a larger tree not far away. For the next few minutes we enjoyed great views of a male bird as it moved up and down the trunk with the sun illuminating the red back and head. It was an adult male which was later joined by a juvenile male and during the course of the afternoon a female was also seen making an unprecedented three birds! Our initial views were interrupted by a pair of handsome **Black-crested Antshrikes** engaged in what might have been courtship behavior with the male feeding the female. A **Blue-tailed Emerald** hummingbird was spotted as it perched in the middle of a row of taller grasses and scope views revealed its metallic blue back. A **Common Tody-flycatcher** was seen preening in the woodpecker tree as a **Silver-beaked Tanager** flew into the tree right behind us. Both **Blue-grey** and **Turquoise Tanagers** followed suit and then our driver called our attention to a **Lineated Woodpecker** perched at the top of another nearby tree. Ron pointed out a **Peregrine Falcon** perched on a cell tower and a flock of **Red-shouldered Macaws** flew passed lit up nicely by the afternoon sun. A **Straight-billed Woodcreeper** appeared in the tree beside us and showed well and **Grey-breasted Martins** were seen flying overhead. The sounds of **Great Kiskadees** calling their own names filled the air as several of these and **Rusty-margined Flycatchers** had us studying the differences. A mixed flock of **Orange-winged Amazons** and a few **Yellow-crowned Amazons** flew over and Steve spotted some of each perched in the trees allowing good scope views. A **Green Kingfisher** could not hold our attention, nor could the confiding **Yellow Orioles** as the **Blood-coloured Woodpeckers** kept appearing and showing well. A **Yellow-headed Caracara** was being harassed by a **Tropical Mockingbird** as we tried to get on a **Mouse-coloured Tyrannulet** in the trees above us. The Mouse-colored eventually flew across to a lower perch allowing better views as several **Short-tailed Swifts** flew over. Further on, a **Yellow Warbler** was seen in a large tree and some noisy **Mealy Amazons** were scoped on top of



One of the most sought after birds in the Georgetown area is the Blood-coloured Woodpecker and we enjoyed superb views of three birds in the Botanical Gardens.



Lesser Kiskadees were very photogenic sat on the flowers along the water channel

a distant tree. Another view of **Yellow-crowned Amazons** had us watching one move along a branch doing a moon dance display. Ron made sure we saw a **Greyish Saltator** in some tall reeds just before two **Red-shouldered Macaws** were spotted in another tree. Two **Yellow Orioles** kept appearing and got less than full attention despite their bright colour. Ron scoped a couple of **Festive Amazons** in a distant tree and despite the fact that these could be naturalized birds, we enjoyed the views of this highly endangered bird. We continued on and found a pair of **Bat Falcons** perched and calling in a half dead tree. A **West Indian Manatee** caught our attention as it fed in the nearby canal, and just beyond were two **Lesser Kiskadees** perched on a stick just above the water. In the same area, a **Yellow-chinned Spinetail** posed nicely allowing us to see its yellow chin. Ron had difficulty getting us interested in a pair of **Wattled Jacanas** copulating, but a Limpkin feeding in the grass got more attention, while nearby two **Violaceous Euphonias** showed well in a large shrub on the bank. Suddenly' a **Black-collared Hawk** flew over and perched on the open branches of a distant tree for good scope views. A **Snail Kite** also flew over just as the sun was setting ending a fabulous first birding session in Guyana.

## 11<sup>th</sup> Nov 2012

This morning we were out early heading east from Georgetown along the coast to the Mahaica River. Our first roadside stop overlooked a scrubby area and a tree full of **Cattle Egrets**. As daylight increased, a small flock of **Scarlet Ibis** flew over. A larger group of **Magnificent Frigatebirds** drifted overhead heading toward the Atlantic. A **Snail Kite** was seen behind and a few **Yellow-headed Cararas** were around. We walked out toward some mudflats passing a couple of **Spotted Sandpipers**. An open expanse of mud held several **Yellow-crowned Night-herons**, **Tricolored Herons**, **Little Blue Herons**, **Snowy Egrets**, and more brightly coloured **Scarlet Ibis**. A few **Cocoi Herons** were seen further out in the shallow water, and waders included **Lesser and Greater Yellowlegs**, **White-rumped Sandpiper**, a **Baird's Sandpiper**, **Hudsonian Whimbrel**, **Least Sandpiper**, **Semipalmated Sandpiper** and **Semipalmated Plovers**. A **Great Black Hawk** flew across low among the trees at the edge of the mudflat but it was the **Rufous Crab Hawk** that flew toward us and landed in the mangrove trees just ahead of us that got us really excited. The bird was a lovely adult and we were pleased to see this Guianan Shield endemic so well and so close. As we were watching it, a second bird appeared behind it. Fantastic! Heading back a few people got on to a **Bicolored Conebill** just before it started to rain. We then drove on toward the river with a double rainbow behind us and made another stop for two more **Rufous Crab Hawks** by the road - one perched on a power line and one on top of a dead palm tree. We arrived at the river and immediately found a **Little**



This Mealy Amazon shows a little yellow on the fore-crown making it a good candidate for confusion with the Yellow-crowned Amazons also in the park



Scarlet Ibis are always nice to see



Rufous Crab Hawks were another big target of the coast near Georgetown. We had great views of several birds

**Cuckoo** perched in the grass near the car park. The bird flew off and as we tried to relocate it, we found **Blue-black Grassquit** and a few **Wing-banded Seedeaters**. As we got ready to board the boat, a **Striped Cuckoo** came in and showed well in a close tree. We boarded the boat and traveled a short distance to find our first group of **Hoatzin** perched in the vegetation along the river. We enjoyed good views of these enigmatic birds as they called and stretched and posed for photographs on top of the bushes. After we had our fill, we continued on to a local home along the river for our field breakfast during which a couple of **Yellow-chinned Spinetails** and a **Straight-billed Woodcreeper** came in allowing close views. A **White-winged Swallow** kept watch from a post in the river and nearby a **Silvered Antbird** called in the distance but could not be persuaded to show itself. A flock of **Red-shouldered Macaws** flying over gave quick but very good views. After breakfast we cruised up the river again and enjoyed more **Hoatzins** including a pair copulating. There were lots of **Black-crowned Night Herons**, **Spotted Tody Flycatcher** and two **Green-tailed Jacamars** in a large stand of bamboo on the river bank. We moved over toward the opposite shore where we could hear a **Pale-breasted Spinetail** and with Steve's expert fieldcraft he was able to coax this shy bird into the open allowing the best ever views! As the rain clouds approached, we moved upriver to find a couple of **Laughing Falcons** perched in a tree and juvenile **Grey-lined Hawk** in another tree. Two **Fork-tailed Flycatchers** flew over the river and an **Amazon Kingfisher** was seen perched. The rain began as we disembarked the boats and before we departed the area we added **Yellow-bellied Elaenia** and **Barred Antshrike** to our day list. On the way out, we saw several species from the road including **Yellow-hooded Blackbird**, **Red-capped Cardinal**, **Red-breasted Blackbird**, **Green Kingfisher** and **Shiny Cowbird**. Two **Long-winged Harriers** were spotted at almost the same time from each vehicle but vanished before we could get out and get better views of them. A **Savanna Hawk** perched on a distant tree got us looking carefully but there were no harriers in view. We stopped again at the mudflats where the tide had come in pushing the birds closer to shore. The rest of us got on a nice **Bicolored Conebill** and there were **Royal Terns** and **Black Skimmers** to add to our list. In the afternoon we returned to the Botanical Garden which was busy with weekend visitors. That didn't deter the bird life though and we had nice views of **Black-collared Hawk**, **Giant Cowbird**, **Orange-winged Amazon** and an **Osprey** on a dead tree branch eating a Tilapia. On the other side of the park were four **Toco Toucans** showing nicely and then we realized that they were chasing off a pair of **Red-billed Toucans**. One of the Red-billeds perched on top of a tree calling anxiously for several minutes before being chased off. Further on a soaring **Zone-tailed Hawk** was doing a fine impression of a Turkey Vulture. There were several **Violaceous Euphonias** around, **Yellow Warbler**, **Grey Kingbird**, **Pale-vented Pigeons** and



This Striped Cuckoo came close and allowed us excellent views from a tangle of dead leaves.



The strange looking Hoatzin was the target for our boat trip and we weren't disappointed as we had excellent close views of up to 25 birds



While we had breakfast beside the river a couple of showy Yellow-chinned Spinetails posed nicely for us

the **Peregrine Falcon** was perched on the cell tower again. A **Black-capped Donacobius** high up on top of a tree looked a bit out of place. Over in the small canal, we saw two **West Indian Manatees** feeding actively and then a **White-chested Emerald** caught our attention as it perched at eye level in the adjacent scrub. We moved on past a small tree where Mick found a **White-bellied Piculet**, one of the other targets for the park. It was a female and worked feverishly on some small holes in the twigs seemingly unfazed by the paparazzi below. A **Turquoise Tanager** was also seen in the same tree. As the sunset, four **Yellow-crowned Amazons** came in and perched on top of a nearby tree ending another spectacular day.

## 12<sup>th</sup> Nov 2012

After breakfast at our hotel, we went to the domestic airport for our charter flight over unspoilt pristine forest to the Kaieteur Falls, the world's highest single free-falling waterfall. With Margaret's assistance we navigated through the weight restrictions and sent our luggage by van to the next lodge. Once all the formalities were resolved and the weather cleared we boarded our 14-seat Cessna Caravan and were off to the wild interior. There was no room for a beverage cart but resourceful Margaret produced snacks and drinks including rum punch making for a festive and exciting flight. On arrival we enjoyed a nice picnic lunch at the national park headquarters and then set off on a short walk. A flyover **Turkey Vulture** got little attention as we strained to see the **Red-and-green Macaws** that were calling as they flew below. We walked around to view the falls which were at low flow due to lack of rain. Still the single massive, 100 meter wide waterfall was spectacular with its sheer drop of 228 meters, nearly five times the height of Niagara Falls. We scanned the area and found a few distant **White-tipped Swifts** flying low over the river and a **Short-tailed Hawk** circling overhead. Once again the calls of macaws drew our attention to a pair of **Red-and-green Macaws** that flew into the gorge showing well from above and then eventually perching in a tree allowing good scope views. Some dark specks on the rocks at the bottom of the gorge proved to be unsatisfying views of **White-banded Swallows**. We moved to another area searching the tank bromeliads for **Golden Rocket Frogs** finding a few as we went along. We enjoyed the falls from a few vantage points and eventually made our way back to the headquarters. As we boarded the plane, a **Greater Yellow-headed Vulture** flew by and before we knew it we were on our way to Fairview Village and Iwokrama Lodge. It was a lovely afternoon to arrive at this fabulous lodge overlooking the Essequibo River. We settled into our rooms and reassembled on the verandah for our welcome orientation and got our first views of **Red-rumped Agouti** on the lawn. A **Large-billed Tern** flew up the river distracting a few of us from the orientation. There were also several **Silver-beaked**



Another good bird in the Georgetown Botanical Gardens was this White-bellied Piculet. It gave good close views.



Our visit to the fantastic Kaieteur Falls was a great way to start our Real Birding



This Red-rumped Agouti seemed out of place on the lawn at Iwokrama Lodge

Tanagers around, **Red-capped Cardinal** and **Chestnut-bellied Seedeater** around the cabins. We then headed into the forest for an afternoon walk as some **Blue-headed Parrots** flew over. Along the trail we had **Wedge-billed Woodcreeper**, **Chestnut-rumped Woodcreeper** and a **Dusky-throated Antshrike**. We heard the mythical **Rufous-winged Ground-Cuckoo** calling but not surprisingly it was not seen. In the evening after dinner, we went on a boat ride on the Essequibo River under a very dark star-filled sky. Using spotlights we found **Spectacled** and **Black Caiman**, **Ladder-tailed Nightjars**, a roosting **Ringed Kingfisher**, **Cocoi Heron**, and a couple of **Amazon Tree Boas**.

### 13<sup>th</sup> Nov 2012

This morning we were up before dawn for coffee on the veranda. We heard **Common Parakeet** in the darkness and a quick scan of the lawn found one perched and jumping to catch insects. As the day dawned we headed out toward the forest trails. Ron heard a **Barred Forest Falcon** calling just inside the forest and we carefully searched each and every tree to try and see the bird. To our surprise, the bird moved undetected across the road to another area where Steve eventually picked it out, perched at eye level calling in a thick tangle. We enjoyed good views of this stealth bird and then continued on toward the trails. As we walked into the forest we heard the eerie sounds of **Capuchinbirds** in the distance. Ron tracked the birds down and soon we were watching these unique birds performing on their lek. They perched on the branches just under the canopy usually two birds together, throwing back their heads and rising up on their feet as they called. It was a most unusual performance and we were very pleased to be the audience! We watched the show for several minutes and then made our way back to board the boats that were taking us up to the camp at the base of Turtle Mountain. Two **Black Caracaras** perched on a dead tree saw us off and as we headed up river we soon encountering a flock of **White-winged Swallows** including a couple of juvenile birds. A **Great Black Hawk** flew over the river in front of us and we saw the first of several **Swallow-wing Puffbirds** perched on a distinct tree. There was a **Bat Falcon** sat on a dead tree top, and a quick flyover flock of **Caica Parrots**, while a superb **Nacunda Nighthawk** was a pleasant surprise perched on a stick overhanging the water. Several **Black-collared Swallows** were well watched as they sat on the rocks in the middle of the river, and nearby an **Anhinga** flew across, while gorgeous **Capped Herons** sat around at the edge of the river. A **Roadside Hawk** watched us cruise by from its treetop perch and soon we were pulling into a small riverlet that led to our landing spot where a pair of **Black-chinned Antbirds** performed admirably. We continued along the trail and found a single **Boat-billed Heron** perched high in a tree. **Screaming Pihas** provided constant background noise as we arrived at the camp and had our picnic breakfast. Ron found us a colony of fruit eating



The strange Cow-like calls of the Capuchinbird led to a group of these special birds displaying in a tree top



A little out of place this Nacunda Nighthawk gave fantastic views perched on a branch overhanging the river



One of our boats on the Essequibo river



The Ringed Kingfisher was easy to see perched along the river banks

bats roosting under the tree canopy (*Artibeus* sp.). After breakfast, we began our hike up Turtle Mountain passing a group of agitated **Black Spider Monkeys**, one adult with a baby clinging for dear life. A lesson was learnt here, in that we could see the monkeys were really mad and upset by something and we should have gone to check! You will read why later. The hike up was relatively birdless except for **Golden-headed Manakin** and a few **Spix's Guans** and as we climbed higher and higher we wondered why we were doing this, but when we arrived at the top, the view of the endless pristine forest was simply incredible. From the overlook at 984 feet, we saw **Black Vulture**, **Greater Yellow-headed Vulture**, **White-collared Swift** and **Tiny Hawk**. Ron was hoping for a glimpse of the resident and rare **Orange-breasted Falcons** so we waited for what seemed like hours. Finally, we had to start our descent and we reluctantly gave up just as the rain started. The wet conditions made for a slippery descent. Not far down, Ron heard the call of the falcons coming in and we scrambled to get views of the birds bathing in the rain shower on a bare tree. There was both male and female and in the end we got fairly decent views. It was a victory after all that waiting and we continued down the mountain. The trail seemed endless and eventually the rain stopped. When we got to the area where the **Spider Monkeys** had been earlier, the reason for the morning's commotion, and note to us that we should have checked it better soon became clear as Ron motioned vigorously for us to come forward to see the magnificent sight of an adult male **Harpy Eagle** perched in the open. This amazing bird was our reward for the strenuous hike and we marveled at its size and majesty. Further inspection revealed that it was feeding on a rather large iguana which it was still clutching in its talons. A **Red-throated Caracara** came in to mob the Eagle but it was virtually ignored by the massive bird. We watched the bird for some time taking it in, in all of its glory before continuing on toward the river. From the camp, we saw a **Dusky Purple-tuft** perched in a tall tree with a couple of **Swallow-winged Puffbirds**, a **Turquoise Tanager** and a **Red-legged Honeycreeper**. We then walked back towards the river, boarded our boats and headed straight to the lodge for a very late lunch. Afterwards we were introduced to our sturdy, converted Bedford truck and the drivers, and soon departed on our journey to Atta Lodge. We watched the road ahead and saw **Black Curassow** crossing as well as a few **Red-rumped Agoutis**. We stopped along the road and found a pair of **Yellow-tufted Woodpeckers** as well as a couple of much larger **Lineated Woodpeckers**. Continuing on, there was a **Wedge-capped Capuchin Monkey** in the road and soon after we arrived at our very welcoming accommodation for the next two nights - Atta Lodge.

14<sup>th</sup> Nov 2012

This morning we were again up before dawn for coffee



Always high on everyone's list to the Neotropics is the magnificent Harpy Eagle, and this male we found on turtle mountain was very impressive. What a great bird! – photo Gina Nichol



The long walk to the top of Turtle Mountain was worth it for the views



A group of Black Curassows regularly wandered through the lodge grounds at Atta

before our morning birding session. As daylight lit up the grounds, a group of **Black Curassow** tracked across the lawn for their morning forage. As soon as there was enough light, we walked into the forest and soon found ourselves in position to try and see a **Spotted Antpitta** that was calling nearby. Another skulking bird, it moved around us and showed in very short intervals before disappearing again allowing varied and frustrating views. We had much better luck up on the canopy walkway which offered open views of the forest from above and nice looks at many birds including **Purple-throated Fruitcrow**, **Green Aracari**, **Green Oropendola**, **Guianan Toucanet**, **Black-headed Parrot**, **Painted Parakeets** and a pair of **Great Jacamars** close to platform 3. From the walkway we headed back along the trail as a pair of noisy **Scarlet Macaws** flew over. When we stopped at the base of a large dead tree along the trail, we saw one of the Macaws sticking its head out of a hole about half way up, a short time later another Macaw flew in and perched near the hole right above us showing its spectacular colors. A **Long-billed Gnatwren** called nearby but did not cooperate for views, but a little further on a **Tiny Tyrant-Manakin**, although very small as its name suggests, was much more confiding. After breakfast we met up with little Ted a newly orphaned baby Southern Two-toed Sloth that was being reared at the lodge, he was just about the cutest thing you could ever imagine. We were soon of again and birding the nearby trails and lodge surroundings. A **Guianan Puffbird** showed well on its perch overlooking the grounds, while nearby a noisy **Painted Tody-Flycatcher** eventually showed to all of us. Anne then spotted a **King Vulture** soaring up with the clouds, before we got distracted by a female **Spangled Cotinga** moving through high in the trees bordering the lodge. Moving on we diverted down a side trail and soon found an **Guianan Trogon**, but then Ron heard the call of something and told us to get down and keep quiet. The sound of birds moving through the leaf litter and strange calls soon had us getting frustrating views of a group of **Grey-winged Trumpeters**. With a little patience the birds moved out onto the track we were stood on jumping out one by one and moving along in a gang ahead of us. Further on we found a small flock that contained a **Plain Xenops**, a couple of **Waved Woodpeckers**, **Plain-brown Woodcreeper**, **White-flanked Antwren**, a perched **Paradise Jacamar**, **White-vented Euphonia**, **Buff-throated Woodcreeper**, **Dusky-throated Antwren**, **Red-rumped Cacique** and **Cayenne Jay**. Once again, the calls of **Screaming Piha** filled the air and after a bit of searching, we had nice views of a calling bird in the scope. After lunch we had some free time and while rested, others chose to compare the **Band-rumped**, **Grey-rumped** and **Lesser Swallow-tailed Swifts** flying over the lodge. A couple of **Red-necked Woodpeckers** worked their way through the forest, but it has to be said that little Ted stole everyone's hearts and got a lot of attention. In the afternoon, we boarded our Bedford truck and went out on the main



A pair of Scarlet Macaws showed well



And here he is "Little Ted"



Band-tailed Swift over the Lodge



This gang of Grey-winged Trumpeters gave a great show as they came out of the forest onto the track at Atta Lodge



Iwokrama road. We stopped by one of the bridges where we were greeted by a perched **Black Nunbird**, while every other tree top seemed to have a **Swallow-winged Puffbird** on lookout. Ron then heard a **Red-fan Parrot** calling, where after a scan of the tree tops the bird was revealed perched near the canopy but unfortunately in poor light. A pair of **Red-and-green Macaws** were much more colourful in nice light above our heads and a **Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet** even looked bright in the afternoon light. There were a several **Greater Yellow-headed Vultures** drifting around as well as an adult **King Vulture**. Back by the bridge, a group of **Coraya Wrens** called and did their very best to avoid detection. A pair of **Dusky Antbirds** were also skulking in the roadside bushes but most of us managed glimpses. From the bridge we found more **Black Nunbirds**, a **Lemon-chested Greenlet** and a **Black-eared Fairy** zipping around a Cecropia tree. A **Crimson Topaz** flew in and perched in the under growth while a **Fork-tailed Woodnymph** perched in the open creating a slight confusion on the bridge as a male **Guianan Red Cotinga** shot through. Nearby a **Rufous-breasted Hermit** made a quick visit to a red flower on the other side of the stream just as we started walking back toward the lodge. Next up was a **Spix's Guan** which showed well feeding on the fruits of a palm tree and then on another fruiting tree a **Marail Guan** gave us an identification challenge before jumping up and over to reveal its light belly. A pair of **Blue-cheeked Amazons** flew over as did **Mealy Amazons** and very noisy **Red-and-green Macaws** perhaps heading toward their night roosts as the sun began to set. We boarded our trusted Bedford truck and went back to the lodge where after a quick refreshment and just after nightfall we went out in search of **White-winged Potoo**. A bird was soon heard calling in the distance but despite willing it in, it never came close. We returned for a very nice dinner, where after a few of us went out again and were rewarded with fabulous close views of a **Northern Tawny-bellied Screech Owl**.

**15<sup>th</sup> Nov 2012**

This morning some of us made a pre-dawn try for the **White-winged Potoo** at 5 AM. As we approached the area, a male bird was calling nearby. Ron saw it fly into the canopy above us but an exhaustive search came up empty and although very close to seeing it, we had to content ourselves with this bird as a heard only. At first light, we made our way back toward the lodge and found a very nice **White-crested Spadebill** sat in the open and singing. A troupe of **Black-necked Aracaris** flew in and perched in a tree top for a few minutes, while back at the lodge grounds, there was a pair of **Guianan Warbling Antbirds** showing well at the edge of the forest. A **Reddish Hermit** buzzed through the grounds and an **Eastern Long-tailed Hermit** gleaned insects from the side of the building. A **Cayenne Jay** flew through the tree tops and a **Pygmy Antwren** was



One of many Black Nunbirds seen during our time amongst the forest



Not far from the Lodge at Atta we got great views of this Northern Tawny-bellied Screech-Owl



A pair of Guianan Warbling Antbirds showed well in the grounds of Atta

seen well. A **Black-bellied Cuckoo** sailed over the buildings and was tracked down at the edge of the forest and a single flyover **Caica Parrot** came through. There were several raptors seen soaring over the forest including a distant **White Hawk**, **King Vulture**, **Black Hawk Eagle**, **Double-toothed Kite** and several **Greater Yellow-headed Vultures**. A female **Blue Dacnis** visited the Cecropia in the garden and there were again **Lesser Swallow-tailed Swifts**, **Grey-rumped**, **Band-rumped** and **White-collared Swifts** seen overhead. A **Cream-coloured Woodpecker** flew slowly over and landed high in a tree where most of us saw it. By mid-morning, we had packed up and departed Atta Lodge for Surama. A stop along the road to look at some new **Oropendola** nests yielded **Black-tailed Tityra**, **Red-and-green Macaws**, **Yellow-rumped Cacique**, **Yellow-tufted Woodpecker**, **Swallow-winged Puffbird**, **Green Oropendola** and a flock of **Painted Parakeets**. The next stop had us walking into the forest to find a very obliging **Long-tailed Potoo** on a day roost. A little further on we quietly positioned ourselves in the forest at the lekking site of **Guianan Cock-of-the-Rock**. A stunningly gorgeous male was immediately seen well and was joined by another male on a low branch. These birds were nothing short of stunning and for the next twenty minutes one of the males posed wonderfully on various branches for us. This was surely one of the highlights of the trip to see such an amazing bird at such close range. Moving on we made our way out of the forest and continued on to Ron 's home, Surama Village and the Surama Ecolodge. We settled into our rooms and enjoyed a nice lunch and siesta before heading out in the afternoon for our first foray into the bird life of the area. A tree just outside the dining room was visited by **Pale-breasted Thrush**, **Tropical Mockingbird** and several **Silver-beaked Tanagers**. Ron swore the tree was natural and not planted there but it was well placed for views from the dining room. We walked out onto a track across an open field where a **White-tipped Dove** was seen well perched in a small tree. A **Lesser Nighthawk** was perched on a low branch of another tree, and there were several **White-winged Swallows** around, and we got good views of four **Green Aracaris** in a Cecropia. We soon had our closest views of **Swallow-winged Puffbird** in these fields and there were several **Yellow-rumped Caciques** around. **Red-and-green Macaws** were flying in pairs seemingly from every direction and we scoped four perched **Blue-headed Parrots** that looked nice in the evening light. As we entered the forest, there were a few **Black Spider Monkeys** on our left and a little further on, there was a **Buff-throated Woodcreeper** and a **Greyish Mourner** in the trees on our right. The forest was getting dark and quiet when we found a **Rufous-capped Antthrush** that skulked through the undergrowth, and most people found it difficult to see. Returning to the lodge at nightfall under starlit skies and a new moon we enjoyed a nice dinner of local cuisine.



Great views of this Long-tailed Potoo



One of the birds of the trip and the brightest! Guianan Cock-of-the Rock



One of our thatched huts at Surama

16<sup>th</sup> Nov 2012

This morning the sky was pink with the sun rising as we got ready for our morning walk to the Burro-Burro River.

**Yellow-headed Caracaras** were calling from the trees near the lodge and **Red-throated Caracaras** were seen flying over the forest. As we began walking, a **Lesser Elaenia** flew from tree to tree trying to avoid being seen. From the vast grassland beside the track we could hear the call of the almost mythical and impossible to see **Ocellated Crane!** Of course we had to try and see it and careful coaxing had the bird calling back to us, but not unexpectedly this mega skulking bird failed to show itself. Steve saw what looked like a mouse run across a gap twice. Was it the bird or was it really a mouse we will never know! Moving on an **Ochre-bellied Flycatcher** was much more confiding and a **Dusky Parrot** showed well perched on the top of the canopy. A **Yellow-crowned Amazon** then replaced the **Dusky** and looked quite colorful in the morning sun. As we entered the forest, a **Plumbeous Pigeon** was seen perched and a pair of **Green-backed Trogons** showed above us. Further on, a **Blackpoll Warbler** and a **Grey-crowned Flycatcher** foraged in the canopy of a tree that was too tall to allow satisfying views. A **Bright-rumped Attila** called from the forest but defied us to find it. A small flock in a tall tree directly above our heads offered **Todd's Antwren** and **Slender-footed Tyrannulet** if your neck could stand the strain of the vertical views. A **Blue-chinned Sapphire** gave us relief by sitting out in the open and then Steve spotted a raptor perched in the understory which turned out to be another **Barred Forest Falcon**. Nearby there were several birds calling from the forest floor and we were lured off the trail for a closer look at **White-chinned Woodcreeper**, **Plain-brown Woodcreeper**, **Rufous-throated Antbird**, and **Black-banded Woodcreeper**. A nice male **White-browed Antbird** showed at eye level on the other side of the track and a couple of **Helmeted Pygmy-Tyrants** were seen and a **Cinereous Tinamou**. We reached the Burra-Burra River and tried to get to grips with the **Band-rumped** and **Grey-rumped Swifts** flying over which was useful when we got to another portion of the river where a couple of **Chapman's Swifts** were seen amongst them allowing good comparisons. A nice **White-banded Swallow** was perched on some sticks along the river edge offering yet more good views. On the way back, we enjoyed the excellent sighting of a rather large looking **Great Potoo** sleeping in a tree top. While trying to get on a **Golden-spangled Piculet** to no avail we found a **White-flanked Antwren** and a female **White-lined Tanager**. Another couple of **Black Nunbirds** were seen well and there was a **Chestnut Woodpecker** that gave a good show. Further on a small flock produced **Buff-cheeked Greenlets** and another **White-flanked Antwren** and further on, a **White-fringed Antwren** presented itself to us at close range and eye level. After a seven hour walk, we arrived back at the lodge for lunch and a well-deserved rest!



We got pretty good views of this Barred Forest Falcon on our way through the forest to the Burro-Burro River



A nice find this Great Potoo was the first for the Burra Burra river area – Photo Dave Curtis



This Chapman's Swift gave good views amongst Band-rumped, Grey-rumped and Short-tailed Swifts at the Burra Burra river.

In the afternoon, we walked to another area of forest. Along the way there were five **White-tailed Nightjars** that flushed from a grassy field. We enjoyed good views of several birds in the late afternoon sun starting with **Tropical Gnatcatcher**, **Yellow-bellied Elaenia**, **Pale-vented Pigeon**, **Grassland Sparrow** and **Wedge-tailed Grass Finch**. A **Gray Hawk** was perched on one foot in a dead tree, and in an area of Moriche Palms we got to see **Moriche Oriole**, **Violaceous Euphonia**, **Green Aracari**, **Blue-chinned Sapphire**, **Long-billed Starthroat** and **Black-throated Mango**. A couple of **Sulphury Flycatchers** showed well and we had both male and female **Blue Dacnis**, **Lineated Woodpecker**, **Rusty-margined Flycatcher** and **Giant Cowbird**. A nice looking **Scaled Pigeon** on a treetop was scoped and a pair of **Red-bellied Macaws** flew over and disappeared quickly. A distant dead tree hosted a **Crimson-crested Woodpecker** and a **Brown-throated Parakeet** was also seen. A **Buff-bellied Wren** made a lot of noise but remained out of view but a **White-fringed Antwren** showed well. As the sun set, we walked slowly back to the lodge for the night.

## 17<sup>th</sup> Nov 2012

This morning we were up at sunrise and heading out to the main Iwokrama road. It was another clear, dry day and as we drove along we saw **Black Curassows** on the road, and a **Grey-necked Wood Rail** disappeared quickly up a small stream as we drove over the bridge. Walking along we found a couple of **Black Nunbirds** and an **Eastern Slaty Antshrike**, and further along the main road we had **Black-necked Aracari**, **Ruddy Pigeon**, **Red-billed Toucan**, **Black-tailed Tityra**, **Lesser Swallow-tailed Swift** and two **Greyish Mourners** that flew by quickly. A **Paradise Jacamar** looked nice perched out on an open branch as did a posing **Green Aracari** and a **Blue Dacnis**. A small flock in the roadside trees included **Spot-tailed Antwren** and **Spotted Tanager** but they were rather difficult to get good views of. We then took a side trail into the forest where a **Grey Antbird** played cat and mouse in a thick tangle. A **Little Tinamou** was heard calling and a **Great Tinamou** flew noisily off. A superb Guianan shield endemic the **Rufous-bellied Antwren** was seen by the first few people in the group and later seen again with great views by the rest. We could hear several birds in the forest beyond view and the only ones that came in close enough to see where a female **Golden-headed Manakin** and a **Dusky-throated Antbird**. Further on a **Ferruginous-backed Antbird** came in close near a large fallen tree and showed well for most and again those that missed it caught up with it latter. We made our way around to an open area where we could view a fruiting tree in the forest canopy. It was alive with birds and seemed to hold more birds than we could take in including **Pink-throated Becard**, **Golden-bellied Euphonia**, **Yellow-throated Woodpecker**, **Todd's Antwren**, **Green-backed**



We saw plenty of Green Aracarais but this one sat around for a photo shoot



Several Red-bellied Macaws gave great views as they flew overhead – Photo Dave Curtis



We had great looks at several Crimson-crested Woodpeckers – Photo Dave Curtis

**Trogon, 3 Paradise Jacamars, Yellow-green Grosbeaks, Blackburnian Warbler, Guira Tanager, Bay-headed Tanager, Flame-crested Tanager and Black-spotted Barbet.** This Guianan "Tree of Life" kept us entertained for quite a while as our necks strained to take in all the activity. The birds were well worth a little neck strain! In the afternoon, we walked out from the lodge to a small patch of forest. On the way we picked up **Lesser and Yellow-bellied Elaenia, Grassland Sparrow, Short-crested Flycatcher,** lots of **Common Ground Doves** and **Swallow-winged Puffbirds.** At the edge of the forest, we had **Glittering-throated Emerald** and **Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet,** and out on the other side of the forest, there was a large grassy field where we could hear several dreaded **Ocellated Crakes** calling. So for the next hour we tried several strategies to try and see this elusive species. This included surrounding a grassy mound and closing in, approaching from one side, and stomping through the grasses. The best that we could manage was a quick view by Kevin and grass moving by Gina. Other than that, we had been well and truly outsmarted, so we made our way back to the lodge as the sun set for our last night at Surama.

### 18<sup>th</sup> Nov 2012

This morning we loaded our luggage and departed for Karasabai near the Brazilian border. Crossing the massive expanse of savanna we headed toward the base of the mountains. Along the way, we saw huge **Jabirus, Cocoi Heron, Buff-necked Ibis, Fork-tailed Flycatchers** everywhere, and **Vermilion Flycatchers** glowing brightly in the morning sun. A pair of **Apomado Falcons** were perched together on a fallen tree and were being mobbed by **Fork-tailed Flycatchers.** Further on there was a noisy flock of **Red-shouldered Macaws** and on the other side of the road a small wetland area held **Great Egret, Cocoi Heron,** a couple of close **Savanna Hawks, White-headed Marsh Tyrant** and **Grey Seedeater.** Walking back toward the truck, we had our first **Bananaquit** of the trip, along with **White-fringed Antwren** and a **Red-eyed Vireo.** Higher up in the trees was a **Little Chachalaca** that disappeared into the foliage and a male and female **Highland Hepatic Tanager** that caught our attention with the male showing particularly well for several minutes. Continuing on, there were several **Lesser Yellow-headed Vultures** coursing over the open grasslands, lots of **Savanna Hawks** and a few juvenile **Great Black Hawks** were seen. A small pond near the road held a **Solitary Sandpiper** and a young looking **Pied Water Tyrant** and nearby there were several **Southern Lapwings.** A lone **Azure Gallinule** remained motionless in a reedy pool until we backed up for better views and it flew off. **Eastern Meadowlarks** and **Wattled Jacanas** were abundant as were **Northern Caracaras** and there were quite a few **White-tailed Hawks** to be seen. As we crossed more savanna, the roadside ditches held water and offered



There were good numbers of Buff-necked Ibis to see in the Savanna



This tiny White-headed Marsh-Tyrant gave superb views on a tiny pond that we stopped to check. This Savanna Hawk was also there and almost tame!



close views of several birds, including one roadside pond that held some nice looking **Jabirus** and a **Maguari Storks**. Eventually we turned off the main highway and headed toward the mountains and Karasabai. Arriving at our government guest house, Marissa furnished our rooms and we had a quick lunch. It was then time to board our truck and head for the hills. Arriving in a wooded valley we noted both **Crimson-crested** and **Lineated Woodpeckers** and an **Orange-backed Troupial** flew past. Our main mission was to find the very rare at at one point almost extinct **Sun Parakeet**. We waited a while before deciding to go and check another area close to where several birds are known to come in to roost. We waited and waited, and then our driver who was parked at our original stake out called us on our two-way radio to say he could hear the birds. We made a hasty walk in the right direction and nearing the area a group of 9 **Sun Parakeets** were heard and seen by a few of us flying against the distant hills. Very frustrating, we took the advice of our local guide and quickly returned to where we had been waiting. No sooner than we got there four **Sun Parakeets** flew in and landed in a dead tree. Fantastic scope views were enjoyed by all, although a little distant to get any good photos. Our local guide had been monitoring the species and estimated there to be only around 25 individual birds in this valley comprising of three small groups. He said there were possibly several hundred more in the distant mountains but the area was very hard to access. We were indeed very privileged to see this beautiful and exceeding rare bird. Elated by our sighting we returned to our guest house and polished off a couple of bottles of Rum Punch in celebration.

**19<sup>th</sup> Nov 2012**

Today our journey took us eastward across the Northern Rupununi savanna to the very characterful Karanambu Lodge. As the sun rose, we were birding from the truck adding **American Kestrel** and **Bicolored Wren** to our trip list. A young **Zone-tailed Hawk** puzzled us for a few minutes as it sat perched on a low branch but when it flew and showed its underwing and characteristic flight pattern, we had it sorted! A large pond filled with water lilies and reeds held **Snail Kite**, **Cocoi Heron**, **Purple Gallinule**, **Wattled Jacana**, **White-winged Swallow**, **Anhinga**, **Limpkin** and in the roadside flowering bushes a **White-tailed Goldenthrout**. As we moved on, we found a couple of **Crested Bobwhite** not too far from the road and some **White-tailed Hawks** were flying around. A very close **Pearl Kite** was very posey on a branch at eye level right next to the road. We then stopped at one point to investigate an area of swampland and found more **White-tailed Goldenthrouts**, **Red-breasted Blackbird** along with the usual jacanas and water tyrants in the roadside ditches. Some stayed on the truck to survey the landscape from above and had a distant view of a skulking **Bearded Tachuri**, while



Not always around we were lucky to see quite a few Maguari Storks



Our quest for the rarely seen Sun Parakeet was a success and we enjoyed wonderful scope views! A bit too far for the cameras though.



It's not often you the chance to watch a Pearl Kite at such quarters but this individual posed for us very nicely

Ron and Steve set off walking out into the marsh on either side of the road. Ron managed to flush a group of **White-faced Whistling Ducks** that promptly flew away, and Steve on the other side of the road flushed a very surprised **Giant Snipe**. When Ron came back they both relocated the bird which proceeded to take off and fly right past us in the truck offering amazing views and garnering applause for our fantastic guides. To celebrate, Marissa once again appeared with a cooler full of drinks and snacks and then we continued on through the savanna. On another area of open water we got great looks at a **Pinnated Bittern** stood in the open for all to see. As we neared the lodge, Kev drew our attention to a pair of **Double-striped Thick-knees** sat in the shade at very close range next to the road. We arrived at Karanambu Lodge and were greeted by lodge owner Dianne McTurk who invited us in for rum punch, while we listened enthralled by her stories of her amazing adventures. **Red-capped Cardinals** were coming into the feeders but we weren't allowed to tick them until we later saw them "in the wild" along the river. Remember this was "Real Birding" and no bird table birds. After lunch and a short siesta, we boarded the small boats and went for an idyllic evening cruise in the Rupununi River. Just off the dock was a **Yellow-headed Caracara**, and a **Green Kingfisher**, **Black-crested Antshrike** and **Red-capped Cardinal** got us underway. It was still quite hot and the water level was low but that didn't deter us. A **Pale-legged Hornero** flitted in the undergrowth along the river edge and was seen by two of the boats. Next up was a **Long-billed Starthroat** hawking insects over the river and several **Green Ibis** skulking under the river side vegetation. A **Spotted Sandpiper** was nearby and there were **Southern Lapwings** as well. A **Snowy Egret** stood elegantly up ahead and an **Osprey** sat high on a Cecropia tree surveying the river. A sandbar on the right held two **Pied Lapwings** and a couple of **Lesser Kiskadees** and just beyond that in a little inlet were more **Green Ibis**. Further on, two **Large-billed Terns** flew ahead of us up the river and a family group of four **Black Skimmers** including two adults and two juveniles were perched on another sand bar. As we got close, they all took flight and skimmed along the shore, circled out and came back by us giving great flight views. Continuing on we had **Great Egret**, **Little Blue Heron** and one boat had both **Agami Heron** and **Sunbittern** that both disappeared up the bank before the other boats could see them. A **Green-tailed Jacamar** was more obliging perched under a tangle on top of the bank. We entered a narrow tributary of the river where a **Green-and-rufous Kingfisher** whizzed by and then Ron called the first two boats back for a superb **Sungrebe** that was skulking along the shoreline before climbing up on to some tree branches overhanging the river. We positioned ourselves for good views and then continued into a large open area where we saw **Little Blue** and **Cocoi Heron** and a **Lineated Woodpecker** on a dead tree. As we quietly floated out into the open, Ron called us back to see an fantastic **Agami**



A real surprise in the wet Savanna was this Giant Snipe that we flushed while checking out some grassy areas. We were lucky enough that it flew straight towards the truck and gave fantastic views  
photo by Dave Curtis



A pair of Double-striped Thickknees were a good spot beside our truck on the way to Karanambu Ranch



A family group of four Black Skimmers gave stunning views perched on a sand bank and also in flight while on our wonderful boat trip on the Rupununi River

**Heron** that was moving slow along the shore. We pulled the boats up and kept quiet while the bird worked its way along the edge allowing stunning views! One of the most beautiful herons in the world, this was a highlight of the trip for some especially as it stayed on show for a good ten minutes. We moved on as a **Grey-necked Wood Rail** walked along the shore, its pink legs glowing in the afternoon light. Across the water on the other shore, there were three more **Grey-necked Wood Rails** foraging at the water's edge. Drifting on into another narrow channel a bright male **American Pygmy Kingfisher** showed well at close range and another **Green-and-rufous Kingfisher** flew past for some. The sun was now setting with a beautiful pink sky and **Band-tailed Nighthawks** were starting to appear in good numbers over the water with still enough light to even see the bands on their tails. We enjoyed more rum punch and biscuits while watching the nighthawks against the backdrop of a gorgeous sunset. It was an idyllic evening with great birds and for some the best birding boat trip they had experienced. We headed back in the dark with our torches lighting up the orange eyes of many **Black Caimans**, plus **Nacunda Nighthawk**, **Pauraque** and some even had a **Common Potoo**.

## 20<sup>th</sup> Nov 2012

We were up and out before dawn this morning to search the savanna of Karanambu Ranch for some very special birds. As the sun rose we bounced along in our 4x4s through the expanse of open grassland. After about an hour we spotted a **Giant Anteater** bounding along a hillside and veered off to get a closer look. To our delight it was an adult **Giant Anteater** with a baby clinging on its back for dear life. We continued along and found two more **Giant Anteaters** making our total four for the day. **Fork-tailed Flycatchers** seemed to be everywhere and some were in pairs or small groups and doing display flights. As we descended a small hill, a **Grisson** was seen briefly but it vanished in the long grasses before the second vehicle caught up. We arrived at a reed and lily filled pond that held **Wattled Jacana**, **White-faced Whistling Ducks**, two **Pinnated Bitterns**, **Purple Gallinule**, **Pied Water Tyrant** and **White-headed Marsh Tyrant**. And so began "Operation Jasper" our quest for the rare **Crested Doradito**. We entered the tall grasses toward the pond and then split into two groups to slowly navigate around the entire shore to try and find this skulky little bird. Several **Grassland Sparrows** were seen as well as numerous **Ruddy-breasted Seedeaters** and a few **Red-breasted Blackbirds**. A flock of **Red-shouldered Macaws** flew over and there were a few **Yellowish Pipits** around. In the meantime, one of the groups had found two **Bearded Tachuris** and were able to stay with them until the second group met up, and everyone enjoyed excellent views. An exhaustive search turned up no Doraditos, so Jasper suggested moving the operation to another site. The heat of



We hoped to see at least one Giant Anteater but in the end we had seen 5 including this one which was carrying a baby on its back



We spent a long morning in the remote Savanna to find two rare and difficult birds. This Bearded Tachuri gave really good views in the low grasses.



The other really difficult bird was this Crested Doradito and we got super close views of a pair after a long struggle



the day was building and we knew our chances were getting slim but we persevered checking another similar wetland for the birds. All at once, Jasper motioned for us to join him and we all gathered around to try and get a glimpse of the bird. We waited and watched but somehow the bird had gone. A short time later it was relocated not far away and it sat perched about halfway up in the reeds allowing fantastic close views. Another bird flew up and joined it and we realized that it was probably a pair so after everyone was satisfied with their views and photographs, we moved away so as not to stress the birds. After a six hour birding session, operation Jasper was a great success producing not one but two **Crested Doraditos!** When we returned to the lodge, we celebrated with rum punch and beer and then enjoyed a nice lunch and siesta. Later on, we gathered for an afternoon walk on the lodge trails. A tree near the dining room held **Ochre-lored Flatbill** formerly (**Yellow-breasted Flycatcher**) and **Burnished Buff Tanager**. As we entered the forest, there was a very close **Tropical Screech Owl** on a day roost and very awake as we passed close by. A **Blue-backed Manakin** called from behind the owl but remained hidden from view. Other than that and a calling **Finch's Euphonia**, the forest was quiet and very dry. We got to a viewpoint over looking an oxbow lake which held a lone **Giant Otter** that swam along the edge and under some tree branches looking our way all the while. Or perhaps it was looking for the **Caiman** that were grunting nearby sounding quite ferocious. Ron scoped a large **Green Iguana** on a distant Cecropia and an **Anhinga** flew by. We continued on hearing more **Blue-backed Manakins** and a **White-bellied Antbird** that moved close to us allowing varying views in the dull dusk light. Finally as we headed back to the lodge a **Short-tailed Hawk** flew into a dead tree where it presumably went to roost.

## 21<sup>st</sup> Nov 2012

We departed Karanambu early this morning and as the sun came up we were once again traversing the savanna to head south to Dadanawa Ranch. Near the tiny Karanambu airstrip we had another **Giant Anteater** loping along through the grasslands. We passed several wet areas which held **Black-bellied Whistling Ducks**, **Limpkin**, **Wattled Jacanas**, **Jabiru** and **Great Egrets**. The usual savanna species were also seen including **Crested Bobwhite**, **Fork-tailed Flycatchers**, **Savanna Hawks** and **White-tailed Hawk**. A few **Fork-tailed Palm Swifts** were seen and finally we made it out to the main road (aka the Transrupununi Highway) toward Lethem. A large falcon flew across in front of us and perched requiring scope views to confirm that it was in fact a huge female **Peregrine Falcon** earning a crate of beer for Ron. The water-filled ditches held 3 more **Pinnated Bitterns**, 2 superb **Azure Gallinules**, **Jabirus** and **Maguari Storks**. A **King Vulture** soared overhead as we continued to travel for hours through the seemingly endless



A surprise during daylight was this Tropical Screech-Owl at Karanambu



Two Azure Gallinules showed well in a roadside pool



Jabirus were common and seen most days in the Savanna

savanna. We passed through Lethem and picked up Marissa and kept heading south. The ride was bumpy and hot but made much more comfortable by the cold cloths and drinks that Marissa brought on board. We eventually arrived at the venerable and storied Dadanawa Ranch, some 50,000 acres of dry scrub, gallery forest and savanna. Here we had a late lunch before heading out for an afternoon walk. There was quite a bit of bird activity near a water hole including **Golden-spangled Piculet, Southern Beardless Tyrannulet, Burnished Buff Tanager, Brown-crested Flycatcher, Rufous-browed Peppershrike, Red-eyed Vireo, Mouse-coloured Tyrannulet, Slate-headed Tody Flycatcher, Tropical Gnatcatcher, Glittering-throated Emerald, Ochre-lore Flatbill, Black-crested Antshrike, Ashy-headed Greenlet, Buff-breasted Wren**, a perched female **Ruby Topaz Hummingbird** and for some a **Blue-backed Manakin**. We had great views of a male and female **Finch's Euphonia** on an open branch. Nearby a **Pale-eyed Pygmy Tyrant** was on show above a **Flavescent Warbler** and a **Pale-legged Hornero** was seen briefly. As we walked back along the airstrip we has nice views of several **Lesser Nighthawks** before reaching the ranch in time for dinner.

## 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov 2012

Another important early start had us heading toward the mountains under starlit skies. As dawn broke, we found three **Savanna Foxes** from the truck and as the sun slowly came up a bright red bird doing a display flight over some trees got our blood pumping. It was a male **Vermilion Flycatcher** and a lovely bird to start the day. A **Black-collared Hawk** flew over and **Highland Hepatic Tanager** was see as we made our way to an area to watch for our target bird the **Red Siskin**. We positioned ourselves near a watering hole and in no time at all two male **Red Siskins** appeared on some fruiting trees, before dropping into a low bush where we all enjoyed wonderful views. We watched them feed for several minutes and then a female came in an one of the males started feeding her. Pleased with our success we also found some other birds in the area including, **Brown-crested Flycatcher, Plumbeous Seedeater** and **Grey Seedeaters, Golden-spangled Piculet**, a Tropical Parula (rare for the area), **Amazonian Scrub Flycatcher** and **Plain-crested Elaenia**. In the afternoon, we traveled from Dadanawa to Lethem. It had been a long day but well worth it to see the rare and very localized **Red Siskin**.

## 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov 2012

This morning would you believe we had another early departure from our lovely ranch outside Lethem town. We traversed the savanna landscape dotted with Cayambe (sandpaper) trees to an area with some tall Moriche Palms near the Iring River. After the sun came up, we saw the expected **Fork-tailed Flycatchers** in number and displaying and several other common species of the savanna. We



One of three Savanna Foxes that we saw early morning on the way to our Red Siskin site



What a great bird. Only discovered in Guyana in 2000 we were privileged to watch several of these endangered birds coming down to a waterhole



This was the remote and rarely visited habitat that supports a small population of the endangered Red Siskin

navigated around the flooded fields and arrived at our birding spot where we had a field breakfast. There were **Red-bellied Macaws** around and a **Tropical Gnatcatcher** and a **Brown-crested Flycatcher** that were flitting in the trees at the edge of the forest. As we entered into the scrub, a **Great Horned Owl** was seen perched in the open. We worked our way through the understory to an area that had a **Rufous-tailed Jacamar** posing on a horizontal branch. An **Orange-backed Troupial** flew over but was difficult to see with all of the branches and leaves. Both **White-fringed** and **White-flanked Antwrens** were also tricky to get on in the thick undergrowth. We stopped at a known area for highly localized **Rio Branco Antbird** and we heard one calling some distance away. While we stood waiting for it, a troupe of at least four **Hoary-throated Spinetails** walked right toward us on the ground offering great views. A **Slate-headed Tody-Flycatcher** kept us entertained for a few more minutes and a **Buff-bellied Wren** called from deep in the forest. A **Greyish Saltator** appeared in a tangle near us but the Antbird was just not cooperating so we decided to try another area. As we walked out toward the edge of the forest a pair of **Barred Antshrikes** were seen very well. Outside of the forest we had a **Lineated Woodpecker** hiding on a dead palm and a **Short-tailed Hawk** soaring overhead. We needed to find the right habitat for our target so we cut a trail into the forest where there was another **Rufous-tailed Jacamar** and good close views of **Pale-legged Hornero**. We tried a couple more spots for our target, the range-restricted **Rio Branco Antbird**, but the forest was quiet and it was difficult to see into the thick tangles of undergrowth. A **Glittering-throated Emerald** came in and perched above us but still no response from the Antbird. We pressed on and found ourselves near the banks of the Iring River looking across to Brazil where perhaps the Antbird was a little easier? We were beginning to think this bird was mythical and with most of the group just about to give up when a bird called from way in the distance. We moved closer, listened and tried to coax it toward us, but when the bird did not respond to our tape, it was decided we would go in after it. Soon we were looking at a nice male **Rio Branco Antbird** which was calling up in a tree and surveying the forest. We had good views of this bird before it disappeared into a tangle and some people even saw the female. It was another deserved victory after nearly four hours of searching and our perseverance had paid off in the end. As Ron would say “That was Real Birding” and I think we would all agree. We then returned to the lodge for lunch and beers and another victory celebration! In the afternoon we took a short walk out from the lodge. Just as we departed an **Aplomado Falcon** flew over low in front of us and disappeared behind some trees. Down by the creek there were several **Smooth-billed Anis** but other than that it was quiet perhaps due to the lurking **Aplomado**. So we walked out along the road and found **Bicolored Wren**, a **Yellow-headed Caracara** being mobbed by two **Boat-billed**



A couple of Rufous-tailed Jacamars showed well on our quest for Rio Branco Antbird – Photo Dave Curtis



One of the targets of the Irang river area was this highly localised Hoary-throated Spinetail – Photo Mick Flude



While trying to find the rare Rio Branco Antbird this Slate-headed Tody-Flycatcher was seen – Photo Mick Flude

**Flycatchers, Orange-backed Troupial, Pale-breasted Thrush and Yellow Oriole.** High in the sky with the **Black and Turkey Vultures** was a **White-tailed Hawk**, while nearby some flocks of **Red-shouldered Macaws** were seen flying around and there were a few **Brown-throated Parakeets** as well. A pair of **Red-bellied Macaws** then flew over with the afternoon light illuminating them from below and showing their red bellies. We noticed some tiny Amazon Sundews growing among the grasses and thought it odd to see them in such a dry habitat. Two palms next to each other held a **Lineated Woodpecker** and a **Crimson-crested Woodpecker**. A **Pale-vented Pigeon** posed on a dead tree and a pair of **Yellow-crowned Amazons** cavorted in the distance. More **Yellow-crowned Amazons** flew by calling and we noted the difference in calls from the birds we had seen in Georgetown. As the sun set, we walked back to the lodge, nearly seeing an Armadillo! After dinner, we were called outside to look at the moon which very strange as it was circled by a large white halo.



Nice views of Orange-backed Troupial around the lodge – Photo Dave Curtis

### 24<sup>th</sup> Nov 2012

Today, we had a leisurely morning either relaxing around the lodge, or seeing a few more birds such as **Spot-breasted Woodpecker**, before departing Lethem via Trans Guyana Airways for Georgetown Ogle International Airport and then on to our hotel. In the evening we enjoyed a very tasty farewell dinner and a review of the fabulous variety of birds seen during our real birding tour of Guyana.



Flavescent Warbler – Photo Mick Flude

### 25<sup>th</sup> Nov 2012

This morning we had breakfast, reflected on many of our wonderful sightings, said our goodbyes, and then made our way to the airport for our international flights home.

Both Myself & Gina thank everyone for making this trip very special and enjoyable for all. Thanks must go to Ron who was outstanding, Marissa for her attention to details that made for a smooth and hassle free tour, and our excellent driver for negotiating his way to the remotest and rarest of birds. We also thank all the local guides that helped to make each and every day a success.



Our Faithful converted Bedford Truck got us to all the sites and was pretty much unstoppable. Reimford the driver was simply excellent

Birdlist on following page -

# BIRDLIST FOR GUYANA 2012

A = Number of species recorded on tour    B = Number of days out of 15 recorded

C = Highest daily count    GSE=Guianan Shield Endemic

A	SPECIES	SCIENTIFIC NAME	B	C
1	Great Tinamou	<i>Tinamou major</i>	2	1
2	Cinereous Tinamou	<i>Crypturellus cinereus</i>	2	1
3	Red-legged Tinamou	<i>Crypturellus erythropus</i>	1	Heard only
4	Undulated Tinamou	<i>Crypturellus undulatus</i>	2	Heard only
5	Variegated Tinamou	<i>Crypturellus variegatus</i>	3	Heard only
6	Little Tinamou	<i>Crypturellus soui</i>	2	Heard only
7	White-faced Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>	3	7
8	Muscovy Duck	<i>Cairina moschata</i>	3	4
9	Crested Bobwhite	<i>Colinus cristatus</i>	4	12
10	Little Chachalaca	<i>Ortalis motmot</i>	3	2
11	Spix's Guan	<i>Penelope jacquacu</i>	3	4
12	<b>Marail Guan</b>	<b>GSE</b> <i>Penelope marail</i>	1	1
13	<b>Black Curassow</b>	<b>GSE</b> <i>Crax alector</i>	4	4
14	Magnificent Frigatebird	<i>Fregata magnificens</i>	1	20
15	Neotropic Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax brasilianus</i>	1	1
16	Anhinga	<i>Anhinga anhinga</i>	4	4
17	Little Blue Heron	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>	4	20
18	Tricoloured Heron	<i>Egretta tricolor</i>	1	15
19	Cocoi Heron	<i>Ardea cocoi</i>	7	10
20	Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	3	50
21	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	8	20
22	Capped Heron	<i>Pilherodius pileatus</i>	1	3
23	Cattle Egret	<i>Bululcus ibis</i>	4	Common
24	Yellow-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>	4	20
25	Agami Heron	<i>Agami agami</i>	1	2
26	Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>	7	5
27	Boat-billed Heron	<i>Cachlearius cochlearius</i>	2	2
28	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	2	25
29	Pinnated Bittern	<i>Botaurus pinnatus</i>	3	3
30	Scarlet Ibis	<i>Eudocimus ruber</i>	1	15
31	Green Ibis	<i>Mesembrinibis cayennensis</i>	2	7
32	Limpkin	<i>Aramus guaranuna</i>	8	4
33	Buff-necked Ibis	<i>Theristicus caudatus</i>	4	6
34	Maguari Stork	<i>Ciconia maguari</i>	3	6
35	Jabiru	<i>Jabiru mycteria</i>	5	6
36	Black Vulture	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>	11	Common
37	Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	9	20+
38	Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture	<i>Cathartes burrovianus</i>	5	15+
39	Greater Yellow-headed Vulture	<i>Cathartes melambrotus</i>	6	10
40	King Vulture	<i>Sarcoromohus papa</i>	4	6
41	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	3	2
42	Pearl Kite	<i>Gampsonyx swainsonii</i>	2	1
43	Snail Kite	<i>Rastrhamus sociabilis</i>	5	12
44	Double-toothed Kite	<i>Harpagus bidentatus</i>	2	3
45	Long-winged Harrier	<i>Circus buffoni</i>	1	2
46	Tiny Hawk	<i>Acciptier superciliosus</i>	1	1
47	Rufous Crab Hawk	<i>Buteogallus aequinoctialis</i>	1	4

48	Great Black Hawk	<i>Buteogallus urubitinga</i>	5	3
49	Savannah Hawk	<i>Buteogallus meridionalis</i>	6	12
50	Black-collared Hawk	<i>Busarellus nigricollis</i>	6	2
51	Roadside Hawk	<i>Buteo magnirostris</i>	5	3
52	White-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo albicaudatus</i>	6	7
53	Grey Hawk (Grey-lined Hawk)	<i>Buteo nitidus nitidus</i>	3	1
54	Short-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo brachyurus</i>	3	1
55	Zone-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo albonotatus</i>	5	2
56	White Hawk	<i>Leucopternis albicollis</i>	1	1
57	Black Hawk-Eagle	<i>Spizaetus tyrannus</i>	1	1
58	Harpy Eagle	<i>Harpia harpyja</i>	1	1
59	Black Caracara	<i>Daptrius ater</i>	1	4
60	Red-throated Caracara	<i>Lbycter americanus</i>	3	3
61	Northern Caracara	<i>Caracara cheriway</i>	9	20+
62	Yellow-headed Caracara	<i>Milvago chimachima</i>	8	6
63	Laughing Falcon	<i>Herpetotheres cachinnans</i>	2	2
64	Barred Forest Falcon	<i>Micrastur ruficollis concentricus</i>	2	1
65	Aplomado Falcon	<i>Falco femoralis</i>	3	2
66	Bat Falcon	<i>Falco ruficularis</i>	1	2
67	Orange-breasted Falcon	<i>Falco deiroleucus</i>	1	2
68	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	3	1
69	American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>	4	7
70	Ocellated Crake	<i>Micropygia schamburgkii</i>	2	Heard only
71	Grey-necked Wood Rail	<i>Aramides cajanea</i>	2	4
72	Purple Gallinule	<i>Porphyryla martinica</i>	2	3
73	Azure Gallinule	<i>Porphyryla flavirostris</i>	2	2
74	Grey-winged Trumpeter	<i>Psophia crepitans</i>	2	10
75	Sungrebe	<i>Heliornis fulica</i>	1	1
76	Sunbittern	<i>Eurypyga helias</i>	1	1
77	Black-bellied Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	1	5
78	Pied Lapwing	<i>Vanellus cayanus</i>	1	2
79	Double-striped Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus bistriatus</i>	1	2
80	Semipalmated Plover	<i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>	1	10
81	Southern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus chilensis</i>	9	20+
82	Wattled Jacana	<i>Jacana jacana</i>	9	60
83	South American Snipe	<i>Gallinago paraguaiiae</i>	2	2
84	Giant Snipe	<i>Gallinago undulata</i>	1	1
85	Hudsonian Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	1	8
86	Greater Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>	1	15
87	Lesser Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa flavipes</i>	1	6
88	Spotted Sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularius</i>	3	10
89	Solitary Sandpiper	<i>Tringa solitaria</i>	4	2
90	Semipalmated Sandpiper	<i>Calidris pusilla</i>	1	4
91	White-rumped Sandpiper	<i>Calidris fuscicollis</i>	1	3
92	Baird's Sandpiper	<i>Calidris bairdii</i>	1	1
93	Least Sandpiper	<i>Calidris minutilla</i>	1	6
94	Laughing Gull	<i>Larus atricilla</i>	1	30
95	Royal Tern	<i>Thalasseus maximus</i>	1	1
96	Large-billed Tern	<i>Phaetusa simplex</i>	2	2
97	Black Skimmer	<i>Rynchops niger</i>	2	20
98	Yellow-billed Tern	<i>Sternula superciliaris</i>	1	2
99	Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	5	No count

100	Scaled Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas speciosa</i>	1	1
101	Pale-vented Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas cayennensis</i>	7	8
102	Ruddy Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas subvinacea</i>	2	1
103	Plumbeous Pigeon	<i>Patagioenas plumbia</i>	3	1
104	Eared Dove	<i>Zenaida auriculata</i>	6	80
105	Plain-breasted Ground Dove	<i>Columbina minuta</i>	6	50
106	Common Ground Dove	<i>Columbina passerina</i>	7	40
107	Ruddy Ground Dove	<i>Columbina talpacoti</i>	4	10
108	White-tipped Dove	<i>Leptotila verreauxi</i>	5	4
109	Grey-fronted Dove	<i>Leptotila rufaxilla</i>	1	Heard only
110	Red-and-green Macaw	<i>Ara chloropterus</i>	7	12
111	Scarlet Macaw	<i>Ara macao</i>	2	4
112	Red-bellied Macaw	<i>Ara manilata</i>	3	4
113	Red-shouldered Macaw	<i>Diopsittaca nobilis</i>	5	20
114	<b>Sun Parakeet</b>	<b>GSE</b> <i>Aratinga solstitialis</i>	1	9
115	Brown-throated Parakeet	<i>Aratinga pertinax</i>	7	30
116	Painted Parakeet	<i>Pyrrhura picta</i>	3	8
117	<b>Caica Parrot</b>	<b>GSE</b> <i>Pionopsitta caica</i>	3	6
118	<b>Black-headed Parrot</b>	<b>GSE</b> <i>Pionites melanocephalus</i>	1	1
119	Blue-headed Parrot	<i>Pionus menstruus</i>	6	6
120	Dusky Parrot	<i>Pionus fuscus</i>	3	2
121	Festive Amazon	<i>Amazona festiva</i>	2	2
122	Yellow-crowned Amazon	<i>Amazona ochrocephala</i>	6	8
123	Orange-winged Amazon	<i>Amazona amazonica</i>	7	60
124	Mealy Amazon	<i>Amazona farinosa</i>	5	4
125	Red-fan Parrot	<i>Deroptryus accipitrinus</i>	1	1
126	Blue-cheeked Amazon	<i>Amazona dufresniana</i>	1	2
127	Hoatzin	<i>Opisthocomus hoazin</i>	1	25
128	Little Cuckoo	<i>Piaya minuta</i>	1	1
129	Squirrel Cuckoo	<i>Piaya cayana</i>	1	1
130	Black-bellied Cuckoo	<i>Piaya melanogaster</i>	1	1
131	Striped Cuckoo	<i>Tapera naevia</i>	2	1
132	Smooth-billed Ani	<i>Crotophaga ani</i>	12	Common
133	<b>Rufous-winged Ground Cuckoo</b>	<b>GSE</b> <i>Neomorphus rufipennis</i>	1	Heard only
134	Tropical Screech Owl	<i>Megascops choliba</i>	1	1
135	Northern Tawny-bellied Screech Owl	<i>Megascops watsonii</i>	1	1
136	Mottled Owl	<i>Ciccaba virgata</i>	1	Heard only
137	Great Horned Owl	<i>Bugo virginianus</i>	1	1
138	Least Nighthawk	<i>Chordeiles pusillus</i>	3	2
139	Lesser Nighthawk	<i>Chordeiles acutpennis</i>	7	6
140	Band-tailed Nighthawk	<i>Nyctiprogne leucopyga</i>	1	20
141	Nacunda Nighthawk	<i>Podager nacunda</i>	2	1
142	Great Potoo	<i>Nyctibius grandis</i>	1	1
143	Long-tailed Potoo	<i>Nyctibius aethereus</i>	1	1
144	White-winged Potoo	<i>Nyctibius leucopterus</i>	2	Heard only
145	Common Potoo	<i>Nyctibius griseus</i>	1	1
146	Ladder-tailed Nightjar	<i>Hydropsalis climacocerca</i>	1	4
147	Pauraque	<i>Nyctidromus albicollis</i>	4	2
148	White-tailed Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus cayennensis</i>	1	5
149	White-collared Swift	<i>Streptoprocne zonaris</i>	2	20
150	Chapman's Swift	<i>Chaetura chapmani</i>	1	2
151	Short-tailed Swift	<i>Chaetura brachyura</i>	2	12

152	Grey-rumped Swift		<i>Chaetura cinereiventris guianensis</i>	3	10
153	Band-rumped Swift		<i>Chaetura spinicaudus spinicaudus</i>	3	20
154	White-tipped Swift		<i>Aeronautes montivagus</i>	1	2
155	Lesser Swallow-tailed Swift		<i>Panyptila cayennensis</i>	3	6
156	Fork-tailed Palm Swift		<i>Tachornis squamata</i>	3	15
157	Rufous-breasted Hermit		<i>Glaucis hirsutus</i>	1	1
158	Eastern Long-tailed Hermit		<i>Phaethnis superciliosus</i>	3	1
159	Reddish Hermit		<i>Phaethronis ruber</i>	1	2
160	Black-throated Mango		<i>Anthracothorax nigricollis</i>	3	4
161	Ruby Topaz		<i>Chrysolampis mosquitus</i>	1	1
162	Blue-tailed Emerald		<i>Chlorostilbon mellisugus</i>	2	1
163	Blue-chinned Sapphire		<i>Chlorestes notata</i>	2	2
164	Fork-tailed Woodnymph		<i>Thalurania furcata</i>	1	1
165	White-tailed Goldenthrout		<i>Polytmus guainumbi</i>	3	4
166	Green-tailed Goldenthrout		<i>Polytmus theresiae</i>	1	1
167	White-chested Emerald		<i>Amazilia chionopectus</i>	2	1
168	Glittering-throated Emerald		<i>Amazilia fimbriata</i>	4	1
169	Crimson Topaz		<i>Topaza pella</i>	1	1
170	Black-eared Fairy		<i>Heliothryx auritus</i>	2	1
171	Long-billed Starthroat		<i>Heliomaster longirostris</i>	2	1
172	Green-backed Trogon (Amazonian White-tailed)		<i>Trogon viridis viridis</i>	1	2
173	Guianan Trogon (Amazonian Violaceous Trogon)		<i>Trogon violaceus</i>	2	2
174	Ringed Kingfisher		<i>Megaceryle torquata</i>	7	2
175	American Pygmy Kingfisher		<i>Chloroceryle aenea</i>	1	1
176	Green Kingfisher		<i>Chloroceryle americana</i>	4	4
177	Green-and-rufous Kingfisher		<i>Chloroceryle inda</i>	1	2
178	Amazon Kingfisher		<i>Chloroceryle amazona</i>	3	2
179	Paradise Jacamar		<i>Galbula dea</i>	2	4
180	Rufous-tailed Jacamar		<i>Galbula ruficauda</i>	1	3
181	Green-tailed Jacamar		<i>Galbula galbula</i>	5	3
182	Great Jacamar		<i>Jacamerops aureus</i>	1	2
183	Guianan Puffbird		<i>Notharchus macrorhynchos</i>	1	1
184	Spotted Puffbird		<i>Bucco tamatia</i>	1	Heard
185	<b>Black Nunbird</b>	<b>GSE</b>	<i>Monasa atra</i>	4	3
186	Swallow-winged Puffbird		<i>Chelidoptera tenebrosa</i>	6	15
187	Black-spotted Barbet		<i>Capito niger</i>	1	1
188	<b>Guianan Toucanet</b>	<b>GSE</b>	<i>Selenidera piperivora</i>	1	4
189	Black-necked Aracari		<i>Pteroglossus aracari</i>	2	4
190	<b>Green Aracari</b>	<b>GSE</b>	<i>Pteroglossus viridis</i>	5	6
191	Channel-billed Toucan		<i>Ramphastos vitellinus</i>	2	1
192	Toco Toucan		<i>Ramphastos toco</i>	1	2
193	Red-billed Toucan		<i>Ramphastos tucanus</i>	5	2
194	Golden-spangled Piculet		<i>Picumnus exilis</i>	2	1
195	White-bellied Piculet		<i>Picumnus spilogaster</i>	1	1
196	Yellow-tufted Woodpecker		<i>Melanerpes cruentatus</i>	2	2
197	<b>Blood-coloured Woodpecker</b>	<b>GSE</b>	<i>Veniliornis sanguineus</i>	1	3
198	Spot-breasted Woodpecker		<i>Colaptes punctigula</i>	2	1
199	Yellow-throated Woodpecker		<i>Piculus flavigula</i>	1	1
200	Waved Woodpecker		<i>Celeus undatus</i>	2	3
201	Chestnut Woodpecker		<i>Celus elegans</i>	1	1
202	Cream-coloured Woodpecker		<i>Celeus flavus</i>	1	2
203	Lineated Woodpecker		<i>Dryocopus lineatus</i>	6	2



204	Crimson-crested Woodpecker		<i>Campephilus melanoleucos</i>	4	3
205	Red-necked Woodpecker		<i>Campephilus rubricollis</i>	1	2
206	Pale-legged Hornero		<i>Furnarius leucopus</i>	4	1
207	Hoary-throated Spinetail		<i>Synallaxis kollari</i>	1	4
208	Pale-breasted Spinetail		<i>Synallaxis albescens</i>	1	1
209	Yellow-chinned Spinetail		<i>Certhiaxis cinnamomeus</i>	5	8
210	Plain Xenops		<i>Xenops minutus</i>	1	1
211	White-chinned Woodcreeper		<i>Dendrocincla merula merula</i>	1	1
212	Plain-brown Woodcreeper		<i>Dendrocincla fuliginosa</i>	4	2
213	Wedge-billed Woodcreeper		<i>Glyphorhynchus spirurus</i>	3	1
214	Black-banded Woodcreeper		<i>Dendrocolaptes picumnus</i>	2	1
215	Straight-billed Woodcreeper		<i>Xiphorhynchus picus</i>	4	4
216	Buff-throated Woodcreeper		<i>Xiphorhynchus guttatus</i>	2	1
217	Chestnut-rumped Woodcreeper		<i>Xiphorhynchus pardalotus</i>	1	2
218	Lineated Woodcreeper		<i>Lepidocolaptes albolineatus</i>	1	1
219	Fasciated Antshrike		<i>Cymbilaimus lineatus</i>	1	Heard only
220	Great Antshrike		<i>Taraba major</i>	1	Heard only
221	Black-crested Antshrike		<i>Sakesphorus canadensis</i>	5	2
222	Barred Antshrike		<i>Thamnophilus doliatus</i>	3	2
223	Mouse-coloured Antshrike		<i>Thamnophilus murinus</i>	1	Heard only
224	Eastern Slaty Antshrike		<i>Thamnophilus punctatus</i>	3	1
225	Dusky-throated Antshrike		<i>Thamnomanes ardesiacus</i>	4	1
226	Pygmy Antwren		<i>Myrmotherula brachyura</i>	1	2
227	<b>Rufous-bellied Antwren</b>	<b>GSE</b>	<i>Myrmotherula guttata</i>	1	2
228	White-flanked Antwren		<i>Myrmotherula axillaris</i>	4	2
229	<b>Spot-tailed Antwren</b>	<b>GSE</b>	<i>Herpsilochmus sticturus</i>	1	1
230	<b>Todd's Antwren</b>	<b>GSE</b>	<i>Herpsilochmus stictocephalus</i>	2	1
231	White-fringed Antwren (Southern)		<i>Formicivora grisea grisea</i>	3	1
232	Grey Antbird		<i>Cercomacra cinerascens</i>	1	1
233	Dusky Antbird		<i>Cercomacra tyrannina</i>	1	2
234	<b>Rio Branco Antbird</b>	<b>GSE</b>	<i>Cercomacra carbonaria</i>	1	1
235	White-browed Antbird		<i>Myrmoborus leucophrys</i>	1	2
236	Black-chinned Antbird		<i>Hypocnemoides melanopogon</i>	2	2
237	Silvered Antbird		<i>Sclateria naevia</i>	2	Heard only
238	Guianan Warbling Antbird		<i>Hypocnemis cantator</i>	2	2
239	White-bellied Antbird		<i>Myrmeciza longipes</i>	1	Heard only
240	Ferruginous-backed Antbird		<i>Myrmeciza ferruginea</i>	3	2
241	<b>Rufous-throated Antbird</b>	<b>GSE</b>	<i>Gymnopythis rufigula</i>	1	1
242	Rufous-capped Antthrush		<i>Formicarius colma</i>	1	1
243	Spotted Antpitta		<i>Hylopezus macularius</i>	1	1
244	Ochre-bellied Flycatcher		<i>Mionectes olegineus</i>	1	1
245	Spotted Tody-Flycatcher		<i>Tordirostrum maculatum</i>	1	1
246	Common Tody-Flycatcher		<i>Todirostrum cinereum</i>	3	2
247	Slate-headed Tody-Flycatcher		<i>Poecilatriccus sylvia</i>	2	1
248	<b>Painted Tody-Flycatcher</b>	<b>GSE</b>	<i>Todirostrum pictum</i>	2	1
249	Slender-footed Tyrannulet		<i>Zimmerius gracilipes</i>	1	1
250	Southern Beardless Tyrannulet		<i>Camptostoma obsoletum</i>	1	1
251	Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet		<i>Tyrannulus elatus</i>	2	1
252	Yellow-bellied Elaenia		<i>Elaenia flavogaster</i>	7	4
253	Plain-crested Elaenia		<i>Elaenia cristata</i>	1	1
254	Lesser Elaenia		<i>Elaenia chiriquensis</i>	3	2
255	Amazonian Scrub-Flycatcher		<i>Sublegatus obscurior</i>	1	2

256	Pale-tipped Inezia		<i>Inezia caudata</i>	3	Heard only
257	Pale-eyed Pygmy Tyrant		<i>Atalotriccus pilaris</i>	2	1
258	Helmeted Pygmy Tyrant		<i>Lophotriccus galeatus</i>	2	2
259	Mouse-coloured Tyrannulet		<i>Phaeomyias murina incomta</i>	2	1
260	Bearded Tachuri		<i>Polystictus pectoralis</i>	2	3
261	Crested Doradito		<i>Pseudocolopteryx sclateri</i>	1	2
262	Grey-crowned Flatbill (Flycatcher)		<i>Tolmomyias poliocephalus</i>	1	1
263	Ochre-ored Flatbill (Yellow-breasted Flycatcher)		<i>Tolmomyias flaviventris</i>	4	3
264	White-crested Spadebill		<i>Platyrinchus platyrhynchos</i>	1	1
265	Cliff Flycatcher		<i>Hirundinea ferruginea</i>	1	1
266	Vermilion Flycatcher		<i>Pyrocephalus rubinus</i>	6	4
267	Pied Water Tyrant		<i>Fluvicola pica</i>	5	6
268	White-headed Marsh Tyrant		<i>Arundinicola leucocephala</i>	4	6
269	Greyish Mourner		<i>Rhytipterna simplex</i>	2	2
270	Bright-rumped Attila		<i>Attila spadiceus</i>	1	Heard only
271	Brown-crested Flycatcher		<i>Myiarchus tyrannulus</i>	4	1
272	Short-crested Flycatcher		<i>Myiarchus ferox</i>	3	1
273	Tropical Kingbird		<i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i>	15	Common
274	Grey Kingbird		<i>Tyrannus dominicensis</i>	2	1
275	Fork-tailed Flycatcher		<i>Tyrannus savana</i>	8	50
276	Streaked Flycatcher		<i>Myiodynastes maculatus</i>	2	1
277	Boat-billed Flycatcher		<i>Megarhynchus pitangua</i>	5	2
278	Great Kiskadee		<i>Pitangus sulphuratus</i>	8	6
279	Rusty-margined Flycatcher		<i>Myiozetetes cayanensis</i>	8	10
280	Lesser Kiskadee		<i>Philohydor licotr</i>	2	8
281	Sulphury Flycatcher		<i>Tyrannopsis sulphurea</i>	1	2
282	Guianan Red Cotinga		<i>Phoenicircus carnifex</i>	1	1
283	<b>Dusky Purpleuft</b>	<b>GSE</b>	<i>Lodopleura fusca</i>	2	1
284	Spangled Cotinga		<i>Cotinga cayana</i>	1	1
285	Screaming Piha		<i>Liopugus vociferans</i>	6	1
286	<b>Capuchinbird</b>	<b>GSE</b>	<i>Perissocephalus tricolor</i>	3	10
287	Purple-throated Fruitcrow		<i>Querula purpurata</i>	1	6
288	<b>Guianan Cock-of-the-Rock</b>	<b>GSE</b>	<i>Rupicola rupicola</i>	1	2
289	Golden-headed Manakin		<i>Pipra erythrocephala</i>	2	2
290	Blue-backed Manakin		<i>Chiroxiphia pareola</i>	2	1
291	<b>Tiny Tyrant-Manakin</b>	<b>GSE</b>	<i>Tyranneutes virescens</i>	2	1
292	Pink-throated Becard		<i>Pachyramphus minor</i>	1	1
293	Cinereous Becard		<i>Pachyramphus rufus</i>	2	2
294	Black-tailed Tityra		<i>Tityra cayana</i>	1	2
295	Rufous-browed Peppershrike		<i>Cyclarhis gujanensis</i>	1	1
296	Red-eyed Vireo (Chivi Vireo)		<i>Vireo olivaceus vividior</i>	3	1
297	Lemon-chested Greenlet		<i>Hylophilus thoracicus</i>	2	1
298	Buff-cheeked Greenlet		<i>Hylophilus muscicapinus</i>	2	3
299	Ashy-headed Greenlet		<i>Hylophilus pectoralis</i>	1	1
300	<b>Cayenne Jay</b>	<b>GSE</b>	<i>Cayanocorax cayanus</i>	4	2
301	White-winged Swallow		<i>Tachycineta albiventer</i>	8	10
302	Grey-breasted Martin		<i>Progne chalybea</i>	6	8
303	Brown-chested Martin		<i>Progne tapera</i>	3	3
304	White-banded Swallow		<i>Atticora fasciata</i>	3	8
305	Black-collared Swallow		<i>Atticora melanoleuca</i>	1	6
306	Barn Swallow		<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	2	1
307	Southern Rough-winged Swallow		<i>Stelgidopteryx ruficollis</i>	3	2

308	Bicoloured Wren	<i>Campylorhynchus griseus</i>	5	4
309	House Wren (Southern)	<i>Troglodytes musculus clarus</i>	3	8
310	Buff-breasted Wren	<i>Thryothorus leucotis</i>	3	1
311	Coraya Wren	<i>Thryothorus coraya</i>	2	4
312	Black-capped Donacobius	<i>Donacobius atricapilla</i>	1	1
313	Tropical Gnatcatcher	<i>Polioptila plumbea</i>	5	3
314	Long-billed Gnatwren	<i>Ramphocaenus melanurus</i>	1	1
315	Yellowish Pipit	<i>Anthus lutescens</i>	1	2
316	Pale-breasted Thrush	<i>Turdus leucomelas</i>	8	15
317	Bare-eyed Thrush	<i>Turdus nudigenis</i>	1	Heard only
318	Tropical Mockingbird	<i>Mimus gilvus</i>	12	20
319	Guira Tanager	<i>Hemithraupis guira</i>	1	1
320	Hooded Tanager	<i>Hemosia pileata</i>	1	1
321	Flame-crested Tanager	<i>Tachyphonus cristatus</i>	1	2
322	White-shouldered Tanager	<i>Tachyphonus luctuosus</i>	1	1
323	White-lined Tanager	<i>Tachyphonus rufus</i>	1	1
324	Hepatic Tanager (Lowland)	<i>Piranga lutea macconnelli</i>	3	2
325	Silver-beaked Tanager	<i>Ramphocelus carbo</i>	8	6
326	Blue-grey Tanager	<i>Thraupis episcopus</i>	11	6
327	Palm Tanager	<i>Thraupis palmarum</i>	14	10
328	Turquoise Tanager	<i>Tangara mexicana</i>	3	4
329	Spotted Tanager	<i>Tangara punctata</i>	2	2
330	Bay-headed Tanager	<i>Tangara gyrola</i>	1	2
331	Burnish-buff Tanager	<i>Tangara cayana</i>	3	4
332	Bananaquit	<i>Coereba flaveola</i>	3	6
333	Blue Dacnis	<i>Dacnis cayana</i>	2	3
334	Red-legged Honeycreeper	<i>Cyanerpes cyaneus</i>	1	1
335	Bicoloured Conebill	<i>Conirostrum bicolor</i>	1	3
336	Grassland Sparrow	<i>Ammodramus aurifrons</i>	7	6
337	Grassland Yellow Finch	<i>Sicalis luteola</i>	1	30
338	Wedge-tailed Grass Finch	<i>Emberizoides herbicola</i>	4	2
339	Grey Seedeater	<i>Sporophila intermedia</i>	4	4
340	Plumbeous Seedeater	<i>Sporophila plumbea</i>	2	6
341	Wing-barred Seedeater	<i>Sporophila americana</i>	1	12
342	Yellow-bellied Seedeater	<i>Sporophila nigricollis</i>	1	2
343	Chestnut-bellied Seedeater	<i>Sporophila castaneiventris</i>	2	2
344	Ruddy-breasted Seedeater	<i>Sporophila minuta</i>	2	8
345	Red-capped Cardinal	<i>Paroaria gularis</i>	4	8
346	Yellow-green Grosbeak	<i>Caryothraustes canadensis</i>	1	6
347	Red-and-black Grosbeak	<i>Periporphyrus erythromelas</i>	1	1
348	Greyish Saltator	<i>Saltator coerulescens</i>	3	1
349	Blue-black Grassquit	<i>Volatinia jacarina</i>	2	6
350	Yellow Warbler	<i>Setophaga petechia</i>	2	4
351	Blackpoll Warbler	<i>Setophaga striata</i>	3	1
352	Tropical Parula	<i>Setophaga pitiayumi</i>	1	1
353	Flavescent Warbler	<i>Basileuterus flaveolus</i>	2	1
354	Crested Oropendola	<i>Psarocolius decumanus</i>	2	2
355	Green Oropendola	<i>Psarocolius viridis</i>	2	2
356	Red-rumped Cacique	<i>Cacicus haemorrhous</i>	2	6
357	Yellow-rumped Cacique	<i>Cacicus cela</i>	3	15
358	Moriche Oriole	<i>Icterus chryscephalus</i>	2	2
359	Yellow Oriole	<i>Icterus nigrogularis</i>	6	6

360	Orange-backed Troupial	<i>Icterus croconotus</i>	2	2
361	Carib Grackle	<i>Quiscalus lugubris</i>	1	10
362	Shiny Cowbird	<i>Molothrus bonariensis</i>	2	10
363	Giant Cowbird	<i>Scaphidura oryzivora</i>	5	20
364	Red-breasted Blackbird	<i>Sturnella militaris</i>	5	8
365	Eastern Meadowlark	<i>Sturnella magna</i>	6	12
366	Red Siskin	<i>Carduelis cucullata</i>	1	5
367	Golden-bellied Euphonia	<i>Euphonia chrysopasta</i>	1	1
368	Violaceous Euphonia	<i>Euphonia violacea</i>	3	4
369	<b>Finch's Euphonia</b>	<b>GSE</b> <i>Euphonia finschi</i>	4	2
370	White-vented Euphonia	<i>Euphonia minuta</i>	2	2

## MAMMALS & Others

1.	Red-rumped Agouti	<i>Dasyprocta leporina</i>	2	2
2.	Venezuelan Red Howler	<i>Alouatta seniculus</i>	2	2
3.	Black Spider Monkey	<i>Ateles paniscus</i>	4	4
4.	Wedge-capped Capuchin	<i>Cebus olivaceus</i>	4	3
5.	Giant Anteater	<i>Myrmecophaga tridactyla</i>	2	4
6.	Giant Otter	<i>Pteronura brasiliensis</i>	1	1
7.	Grison	<i>Galictis vittata</i>	1	1
8.	Crab-eating Fox (Savanna Fox)	<i>Cerdocyon thous</i>	1	3
9.	West Indian Manatee (feral in park)	<i>Trichechus manatus</i>	1	2
10.	Southern Two-toed Sloth (Orphened Ted)	<i>Choloepus didactylus</i>	2	1
11.	Bat sp (Turtle Mountain Iwokrama)	<i>Artibeus sp?</i>	1	30
12.	Greater Bulldog (Fishing) Bat	<i>Noctilio leporinus</i>	1	20
13.	Lesser Bulldog (Fishing) Bat	<i>Noctilio albiventris</i>	1	40
14.	Golden Frog	<i>Colostethus beebei</i>	1	4
15.	Green Iguana	<i>Iguana iguana</i>	1	1
16.	Tropical House Gecko	<i>Hemidactylus frenatus</i>	8	?
17.	Amazon Tree Boa	<i>Corallus hortulanus</i>	1	2
18.	Black Caimen	<i>Melanosuchus niger</i>	5	20
19.	Spectacled Caimen	<i>Caimen crocailus</i>	2	6
20.	Blue Morpho	<i>Morpho peleides</i>	5	3
21.	Army Ant	<i>Eciton burchelli</i>	1	Swarm
22.	Bullet Ant	<i>Paraponera clavata</i>	4	20
23.	Leaf-cutter Ant	<i>Atta cephalotes</i>	3	1,000s
24.	Four-eyed Fish	<i>Anableps anableps</i>	1	Lots

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**Gina Nichol** – Savanna Hawk, Green Aracari, Bedford Truck, Red Siskin Scenery, Barred Forest Falcon, Surama, Little Ted, Scarlet Macaw, Turtle Mountain, side view of Harpy Eagle, Black Curassow, boat on Essequibo River, Kaeituer Falls

**Dave Curtis** – Giant Snipe, Orange-backed Troupial, Great Potoo, Red-shouldered Macaw, Rufous-tailed Jacamar, Crimson-crested Woodpecker

**Mick Flude** – Slate-headed Tody-Flycatcher, Hoary-throated Spinetail

**The rest of the photos were taken by Steve Bird.**