

Trip Report — Amazonian Ecuador: Sacha Lodge I 2026

January 7-16, 2026 with Willy Perez & Oscar Tapuy and Wilson



Chestnut-eared Aracari was one of the species that we saw nicely from the tower, and Gordon Wood took this great photo.

Spending a whole week at Sacha is a really enjoyable and easy experience in the Amazon rainforest. To get there, we took the usual flight from Quito for half an hour to Coca, and some people enjoyed the views of the snowcapped mountains like Antisana and Cayambe. We landed in the hot steamy town of Coca, where our Amazon adventure began. Once there, I teamed up with Oscar and Wilson, our wonderful local guides, who accompanied us the whole way through, and we of course made up the newly named WOW team... Willy, Oscar, Wilson!



The group enjoying the welcome drink at Sacha Lodge, by Willy Perez.

Every place was very birdy, from the dock in Coca, along the Napo River, the creeks and canals, all the way to the Lodge. The array of birds was magnificent. We managed to visit the canopy towers, and for some people the Kapok tower was a truly unbelievable experience, coming literally face to face with a lot of colorful birds. Other people enjoyed the hikes a lot, exploring the very lush and huge rainforest.



These lovely Yellow-tufted Woodpeckers were captured by Gordon Wood.

Along the lake, we enjoyed the Anhinga fishing, clumsy Hoatzins flying, and even some lucky people saw some Giant Otters. For others, the Zigzag Heron experience was one like no other, when Wilson got out of the dugout canoe with a paddle, he bent a leaf down and found two of them sitting when it was already dark, and we saw them with a flashlight; amazing!



Fantastic views of these fabulous Scarlet Macaws at the parrot clay lick, by Gordon Wood.

The display of the Umbrellabird after the rain was a real show through the scope, and luckily it stayed for a while so everyone got to enjoy it. The Wire-tailed Manakin was worth the effort to find it, especially when the male showed up so nicely for some great photos. For some of us, the great diversity of parrots was very special, several species at the clay lick on the Napo River, and the Scarlet Macaws drinking mineral water were just superb. Of course, the very wet Sloth was a highlight and the many species of monkeys that ventured across our path. I have to say that being part of making the chocolate brought back memories of my childhood and I think everyone else enjoyed it, too.



The colourful Paradise Tanager was seen at the metal tower on a few occasions. Photo by Willy Perez.

The whole week in a very comfortable lodge with super delicious food and a brilliant group of people and the WOW team, made this trip very memorable. Thank you to all of you for coming with us; it was a pleasure to spend time with you. Thank you to Oscar and Wilson for all their hard work, and I hope that you all found it “just serious fun birding” and I look forward to seeing you again soon.



Another beautiful Woodpecker – Cream-coloured this time, by Willy Perez.

Other animals seen along the tour:

White-bellied Slender Opossum (*Marmosops noctivagus*)

Northern Black-eared Opossum or Common (*Didelphis marsupialis*)

Proboscis Bat (*Rhynchonycteris naso*)

Black-mantled Tamarin (*Saguinus nigricollis*)

Guianan Squirrel Monkey (*Saimiri sciureus*)

Spix's Night Monkey (*Aotus vociferans*)

Red-bellied Titi (*Plecturocebus moloch*)

Colombian Red Howler (*Alouatta seniculus*)

White-fronted Capuchin (*Cebus albifrons*)

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

Black Agouti (*Dasyprocta fuliginosa*)

Giant Otter (*Pteronura brasiliensis*)

Spectacled Caiman (*Caiman crocodilus*)

Black Caiman (*Melanosuchus niger*)

Yellow spotted amazon river turtle (*Podocnemis unifilis*)

Caiman Lizard (*Dracaena guianensis*)

Smoky jungle frog (*Leptodactylus pentadactylus*)

Tree frog sp.

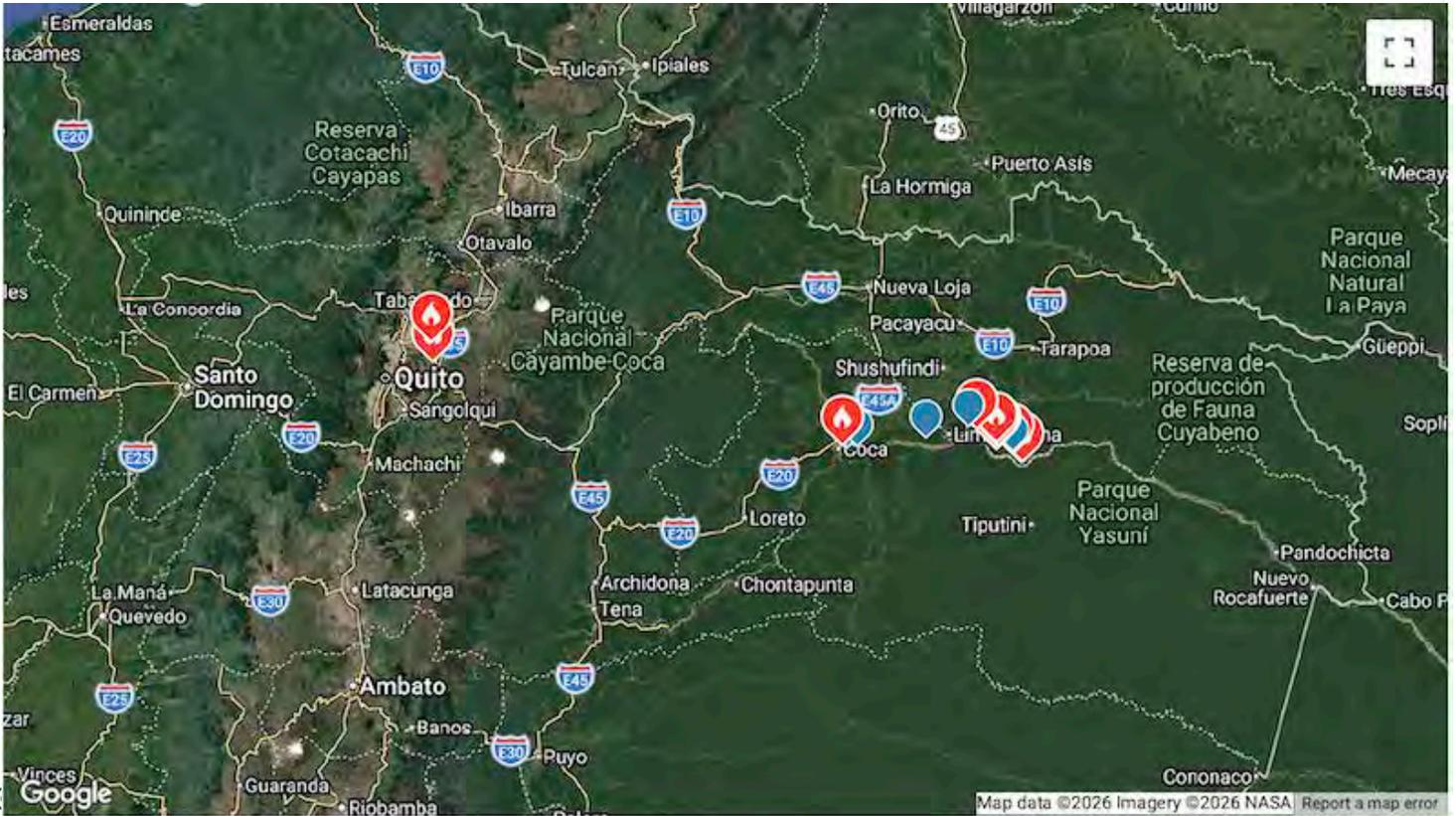
Tarantula sp.

You can see my complete trip report on eBird at this link: <https://ebird.org/tripreport/478935>

Keep on birding! Willy

Field Guides Birding Tours, Sacha Lodge 2026 with Willy Perez

8 – 15 Jan 2026 (8 days) Link-only



Ecuador

Orellana | Pichincha | Sucumbíos

Willian Perez



For a narrative summary of this tour, including a Field Guides photo gallery and additional media for this trip...

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Species Observed

Checklists

LIFERS  4 

Species Observed

[Show all details](#)

4	Cinereous Tinamou <i>Crypturellus cinereus</i>	  3
1	Horned Screamer <i>Anhima cornuta</i>	  1
2	Muscovy Duck <i>Cairina moschata</i>	  2
2	Blue-throated Piping-Guan <i>Pipile cumanensis</i>	  1
7	Spix's Guan <i>Penelope jacquacu</i>	  4
6	Speckled Chachalaca <i>Ortalis guttata</i>	  3
15	Pale-vented Pigeon <i>Patagioenas cayennensis</i>	  7
3	Ruddy Pigeon <i>Patagioenas subvinacea</i>	  2
1	Common Ground Dove <i>Columbina passerina</i> 	  1
4	Eared Dove <i>Zenaida auriculata</i>	  1
38	Greater Ani <i>Crotophaga major</i>	  8
19	Smooth-billed Ani <i>Crotophaga ani</i>	  4
12	Common Squirrel-Cuckoo <i>Piaya cayana</i>	  5
1	Ladder-tailed Nightjar <i>Hydropsalis climacocerca</i>	  1
4	Great Potoo <i>Nyctibius grandis</i>	  3
4	Common Potoo <i>Nyctibius griseus</i>	  4
4	White-collared Swift <i>Streptoprocne zonaris</i>	  1
11	Short-tailed Swift <i>Chaetura brachyura</i>	  3
14	Fork-tailed Palm Swift <i>Tachornis squamata</i>	  3
1	Rufous-breasted Hermit <i>Glaucis hirsutus</i>	  1
1	White-bearded Hermit <i>Phaethornis hispidus</i>	  1

3	Great-billed Hermit <i>Phaethornis malaris</i>	▶  1
2	Sparkling Violetear <i>Colibri coruscans</i>	▶  1
3	Black-throated Mango <i>Anthracothorax nigricollis</i>	▶  3
1	Long-billed Starthroat <i>Heliomaster longirostris</i>	▶  1
2	Fork-tailed Woodnymph <i>Thalurania furcata</i>	▶  2
8	Pied Plover <i>Hoploxypterus cayanus</i>	▶  2
5	Southern Lapwing <i>Vanellus chilensis</i>	▶  2
9	Collared Plover <i>Anarhynchus collaris</i>	▶  2
4	Spotted Sandpiper <i>Actitis macularius</i>	▶  3
1	Greater Yellowlegs <i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>	▶  1
9	Least Sandpiper <i>Calidris minutilla</i>	▶  1
1	Large-billed Tern <i>Phaetusa simplex</i>	▶  1
59	Hoatzin <i>Opisthocomus hoazin</i>	▶  8
17	Anhinga <i>Anhinga anhinga</i>	▶  6
4	Bare-faced Ibis <i>Phimosus infuscatus</i>	▶  3
1	Rufescent Tiger-Heron <i>Tigrisoma lineatum</i>	▶  1
5	Boat-billed Heron <i>Cochlearius cochlearius</i>	▶  2
3	Zigzag Heron <i>Zebrilus undulatus</i>	▶  2
5	Black-crowned Night Heron <i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	▶  2
5	Capped Heron <i>Pilherodius pileatus</i>	▶  4
15	Snowy Egret <i>Egretta thula</i>	▶  4
5	Striated Heron <i>Butorides striata</i>	▶  4
29	Great Egret <i>Ardea alba</i>	▶  6
11	Cocoi Heron <i>Ardea cocoi</i>	▶  4

4	King Vulture <i>Sarcoramphus papa</i>	▶  3
59	Black Vulture <i>Coragyps atratus</i>	▶  10
9	Greater Yellow-headed Vulture <i>Cathartes melambrotus</i>	▶  6
5	Osprey <i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	▶  2
1	Gray-headed Kite <i>Leptodon cayanensis</i>	▶  1
6	Swallow-tailed Kite <i>Elanoides forficatus</i>	▶  1
2	Double-toothed Kite <i>Harpagus bidentatus</i>	▶  1
6	Plumbeous Kite <i>Ictinia plumbea</i>	▶  4
1	Crane Hawk <i>Geranospiza caerulescens</i>	▶  1
4	Slender-billed Kite <i>Helicolestes hamatus</i>	▶  4
3	Roadside Hawk <i>Rupornis magnirostris</i>	▶  3
1	Harris's Hawk <i>Parabuteo unicinctus</i>	▶  1
2	Tropical Screech-Owl <i>Megascops choliba</i>	▶  2
2	Tawny-bellied Screech-Owl <i>Megascops watsonii</i>	▶  2
2	Spectacled Owl <i>Pulsatrix perspicillata</i>	▶  1
5	Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl <i>Glaucidium brasilianum</i>	▶  3
3	Green-backed Trogon <i>Trogon viridis</i>	▶  2
1	Amazonian Violaceous Trogon <i>Trogon ramonianus</i>	▶  1
1	Amazonian Motmot <i>Momotus momota</i>	▶  1
1	Broad-billed Motmot <i>Electron platyrhynchum</i>	▶  1
5	Ringed Kingfisher <i>Megaceryle torquata</i>	▶  3
3	American Pygmy Kingfisher <i>Chloroceryle aenea</i>	▶  2
1	Green-and-rufous Kingfisher <i>Chloroceryle inda</i>	▶  1

- 1 **White-necked Puffbird** *Notharchus hyperrhynchus* ▶ 🗄️ 1
- 1 **Pied Puffbird** *Notharchus tectus* ▶ 🗄️ 1
- 1 **Lanceolated Monklet** *Micromonacha lanceolata* ▶ 🗄️ 1
- 2 **Black-fronted Nunbird** *Monasa nigrifrons* ▶ 🗄️ 2
- 1 **White-fronted Nunbird** *Monasa morphoeus* ▶ 🗄️ 1
- 7 **Swallow-winged Puffbird** *Chelidoptera tenebrosa* ▶ 🗄️ 4
- 1 **White-eared Jacamar** *Galbalcyrhynchus leucotis* ▶ 🗄️ 1
- 1 **White-chinned Jacamar** *Galbula tombacea* ▶ 🗄️ 1
- 2 **Purplish Jacamar** *Galbula chalcothorax* ▶ 🗄️ 1
- 2 **Great Jacamar** *Jacamerops aureus* ▶ 🗄️ 1
- 2 **Scarlet-crowned Barbet** *Capito aurovirens* ▶ 🗄️ 2
- 6 **Gilded Barbet** *Capito auratus* ▶ 🗄️ 2
- 1 **Lemon-throated Barbet** *Eubucco richardsoni* ▶ 🗄️ 1
- 12 **Chestnut-eared Aracari** *Pteroglossus castanotis* ▶ 🗄️ 4
- 8 **Many-banded Aracari** *Pteroglossus pluricinctus* ▶ 🗄️ 4
- 1 **Golden-collared Toucanet** *Selenidera reinwardtii* ▶ 🗄️ 1
- 6 **White-throated Toucan** *Ramphastos tucanus* ▶ 🗄️ 3
- 2 **Channel-billed Toucan** *Ramphastos vitellinus* ▶ 🗄️ 1
- 13 **Yellow-tufted Woodpecker** *Melanerpes cruentatus* ▶ 🗄️ 6
- 3 **Little Woodpecker** *Veniliornis passerinus* ▶ 🗄️ 2
- 9 **Crimson-crested Woodpecker** *Campephilus melanoleucos* ▶ 🗄️ 6
- 3 **Lineated Woodpecker** *Dryocopus lineatus* ▶ 🗄️ 2
- 1 **Waved Woodpecker** *Celeus undatus* 🗄️ 1

11	Cream-colored Woodpecker <i>Celeus flavus</i>	▶  3
3	Chestnut Woodpecker <i>Celeus elegans</i>	▶  2
3	Spot-breasted Woodpecker <i>Colaptes punctigula</i>	▶  3
3	Laughing Falcon <i>Herpetotheres cachinnans</i>	▶  3
6	Yellow-headed Caracara <i>Daptrius chimachima</i>	▶  3
4	Black Caracara <i>Daptrius ater</i>	▶  2
2	American Kestrel <i>Falco sparverius</i>	▶  1
2	Bat Falcon <i>Falco ruficularis</i>	▶  2
10	Cobalt-winged Parakeet <i>Brotogeris cyanoptera</i>	▶  2
4	Orange-cheeked Parrot <i>Pyrilia barrabandi</i>	▶  1
100	Blue-headed Parrot <i>Pionus menstruus</i>	▶  2
8	Yellow-crowned Amazon <i>Amazona ochrocephala</i>	▶  2
300	Mealy Amazon <i>Amazona farinosa</i>	▶  2
6	Orange-winged Amazon <i>Amazona amazonica</i>	▶  3
2	Riparian Parrotlet <i>Forpus crassirostris</i>	▶  1
5	Black-headed Parrot <i>Pionites melanocephalus</i>	▶  1
5	Dusky-headed Parakeet <i>Aratinga weddellii</i>	▶  2
23	Red-bellied Macaw <i>Orthopsittaca manilatus</i>	▶  6
2	Blue-and-yellow Macaw <i>Ara ararauna</i>	▶  1
30	Chestnut-fronted Macaw <i>Ara severus</i>	▶  7
12	Scarlet Macaw <i>Ara macao</i>	▶  2
1	Dusky-throated Antshrike <i>Thamnomanes ardesiacus</i>	▶  1
2	Plain-throated Antwren <i>Iseria hauxwelli</i>	▶  1

- 3 **Silvered Antbird** *Sclateria naevia* ▶  3
- 1 **Plumbeous Antbird** *Myrmelastes hyperythrus* ▶  1
- 1 **White-shouldered Antbird** *Akletos melanoceps* ▶  1
- 2 **Spot-backed Antbird** *Hylophylax naevius* ▶  2
- 4 **Dot-backed Antbird** *Hylophylax punctulatus* ▶  2
- 1 **Common Scale-backed Antbird** *Willisornis poecilinotus* ▶  1
- 1 **Olivaceous Woodcreeper** *Sittasomus griseicapillus* ▶  1
- 2 **Plain-brown Woodcreeper** *Dendrocincla fuliginosa* ▶  1
- 1 **Wedge-billed Woodcreeper** *Glyphorhynchus spirurus* ▶  1
- 3 **Cinnamon-throated Woodcreeper** *Dendrexetastes rufigula* ▶  3
- 1 **Amazonian Barred-Woodcreeper** *Dendrocolaptes certhia* ▶  1
- 1 **Elegant Woodcreeper** *Xiphorhynchus elegans* ▶  1
- 1 **Buff-throated Woodcreeper** *Xiphorhynchus guttatus* ▶  1
- 1 **Orange-fronted Plushcrown** *Metopothrix aurantiaca* ✓ ▶  1
- 1 **White-bellied Spinetail** *Mazaria propinqua* ▶  1
- 1 **Azara's Spinetail** *Synallaxis azarae* ▶  1
- 1 **Dwarf Tyrant-Manakin** *Tyranneutes stolzmanni* ▶  1
- 2 **Orange-crowned Manakin** *Heterocercus aurantiivertex* ▶  2
- 2 **Wire-tailed Manakin** *Pipra filicauda* ▶  2
- 5 **Purple-throated Fruitcrow** *Querula purpurata* ▶  3
- 5 **Amazonian Umbrellabird** *Cephalopterus ornatus* ▶  4
- 2 **Plum-throated Cotinga** *Cotinga maynana* ▶  1
- 2 **Spangled Cotinga** *Cotinga cayana* ▶  2

- 5 **Bare-necked Fruitcrow** *Gymnoderus foetidus* ▶ 🗄 3
- 5 **Black-tailed Tityra** *Tityra cayana* ▶ 🗄 3
- 5 **Black-crowned Tityra** *Tityra inquisitor* ▶ 🗄 3
- 2 **White-browed Purpletuft** *Iodopleura isabellae* ▶ 🗄 1
- 1 **White-winged Becard** *Pachyramphus polychopterus* ▶ 🗄 1
- 1 **Pink-throated Becard** *Pachyramphus minor* ▶ 🗄 1
- 1 **Ochre-bellied Flycatcher** *Mionectes oleagineus* ▶ 🗄 1
- 1 **Spotted Tody-Flycatcher** *Todirostrum maculatum* ✓ ▶ 🗄 1
- 1 **Yellow-browed Tody-Flycatcher** *Todirostrum chrysocrotaphum* ▶ 🗄 1
- 3 **Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet** *Camptostoma obsoletum* ▶ 🗄 1
- 1 **Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet** *Tyrannulus elatus* ▶ 🗄 1
- 2 **Slender-footed Tyrannulet** *Zimmerius gracilipes* ▶ 🗄 2
- 1 **Eastern Wood-Pewee** *Contopus virens* ▶ 🗄 1
- 1 **Vermilion Flycatcher** *Pyrocephalus rubinus* ▶ 🗄 1
- 4 **Drab Water Tyrant** *Ochthornis littoralis* ▶ 🗄 2
- 1 **Cinnamon Attila** *Attila cinnamomeus* ▶ 🗄 1
- 1 **Citron-bellied Attila** *Attila citriniventris* ▶ 🗄 1
- 1 **Bright-rumped Attila** *Attila spadiceus* ▶ 🗄 1
- 1 **White-rumped Sirystes** *Sirystes albocinereus* ▶ 🗄 1
- 1 **Dusky-capped Flycatcher** *Myiarchus tuberculifer* ▶ 🗄 1
- 2 **Short-crested Flycatcher** *Myiarchus ferox* ▶ 🗄 2
- 8 **Lesser Kiskadee** *Philohydor lictor* ▶ 🗄 4
- 17 **Great Kiskadee** *Pitangus sulphuratus* ▶ 🗄 9

9	Boat-billed Flycatcher <i>Megarynchus pitangua</i>	▶  5
6	Social Flycatcher <i>Myiozetetes similis</i>	▶  4
2	Gray-capped Flycatcher <i>Myiozetetes granadensis</i>	▶  2
1	Streaked Flycatcher <i>Myiodynastes maculatus</i>	▶  1
1	Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher <i>Myiodynastes luteiventris</i>	▶  1
1	Piratic Flycatcher <i>Legatus leucophaeus</i>	▶  1
3	Sulphury Flycatcher <i>Tyrannopsis sulphurea</i>	▶  2
25	Tropical Kingbird <i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i>	▶  11
17	Eastern Kingbird <i>Tyrannus tyrannus</i>	▶  3
1	Fork-tailed Flycatcher <i>Tyrannus savana</i>	▶  1
1	Red-eyed Vireo <i>Vireo olivaceus</i>	▶  1
1	Yellow-green Vireo <i>Vireo flavoviridis</i>	▶  1
12	Violaceous Jay <i>Cyanocorax violaceus</i>	▶  4
2	Black-capped Donacobius <i>Donacobius atricapilla</i>	▶  1
30	White-winged Swallow <i>Tachycineta albiventer</i>	▶  11
23	Gray-breasted Martin <i>Progne chalybea</i>	▶  8
2	Southern Rough-winged Swallow <i>Stelgidopteryx ruficollis</i>	▶  1
7	White-banded Swallow <i>Atticora fasciata</i>	▶  3
10	Blue-and-white Swallow <i>Pygochelidon cyanoleuca</i>	▶  3
1	Long-billed Gnatwren <i>Ramphocaenus melanurus</i>	▶  1
2	Southern House Wren <i>Troglodytes musculus</i>	▶  2
2	Thrush-like Wren <i>Campylorhynchus turdinus</i>	▶  1
1	Tropical Mockingbird <i>Mimus gilvus</i>	▶  1

4	Great Thrush <i>Turdus fuscater</i>	▶  1
1	Golden-rumped Euphonia <i>Chlorophonia cyanocephala</i>	▶  1
1	Golden-bellied Euphonia <i>Euphonia chrysopasta</i>	▶  1
2	Orange-bellied Euphonia <i>Euphonia xanthogaster</i>	▶  2
4	Rufous-bellied Euphonia <i>Euphonia rufiventris</i>	▶  2
1	Yellow-browed Sparrow <i>Ammodramus aurifrons</i>	▶  1
11	Rufous-collared Sparrow <i>Zonotrichia capensis</i>	▶  1
77	Russet-backed Oropendola <i>Psarocolius angustifrons</i>	▶  8
5	Crested Oropendola <i>Psarocolius decumanus</i>	▶  2
1	Solitary Black Cacique <i>Cacicus solitarius</i>	▶  1
15	Yellow-rumped Cacique <i>Cacicus cela</i>	▶  4
3	Orange-backed Troupial <i>Icterus croconotus</i>	▶  2
1	Giant Cowbird <i>Molothrus oryzivorus</i>	▶  1
9	Oriole Blackbird <i>Gymnomystax mexicanus</i>	▶  2
1	Summer Tanager <i>Piranga rubra</i>	▶  1
3	Golden Grosbeak <i>Pheucticus chrysogaster</i>	▶  1
2	Red-capped Cardinal <i>Paroaria gularis</i>	▶  1
5	Magpie Tanager <i>Cissopis leverianus</i>	▶  2
1	Silver-beaked Tanager <i>Ramphocelus carbo</i>	▶  1
1	Blue-and-yellow Tanager <i>Rauenia bonariensis</i>	▶  1
15	Blue-gray Tanager <i>Thraupis episcopus</i>	▶  4
8	Palm Tanager <i>Thraupis palmarum</i>	▶  4
1	Scrub Tanager <i>Stilpnia vitriolina</i>	▶  1

- 2 **Turquoise Tanager** *Tangara mexicana* ▶  1
- 4 **Paradise Tanager** *Tangara chilensis* ▶  1
- 1 **Opal-rumped Tanager** *Tangara velia* ▶  1
- 2 **Opal-crowned Tanager** *Tangara callophrys* ▶  1
- 4 **Green-and-gold Tanager** *Tangara schrankii* ▶  2
- 3 **Black-faced Dacnis** *Dacnis lineata* ▶  2
- 7 **Yellow-bellied Dacnis** *Dacnis flaviventer* ▶  3
- 4 **Blue Dacnis** *Dacnis cayana* ▶  2
- 3 **Purple Honeycreeper** *Cyanerpes caeruleus* ▶  1
- 1 **Green Honeycreeper** *Chlorophanes spiza* ▶  1
- 2 **Cinereous Conebill** *Conirostrum cinereum* ▶  1
- 1 **Rusty Flowerpiercer** *Diglossa sittoides* ▶  1
- 1 **Saffron Finch** *Sicalis flaveola* ▶  1
- 3 **Blue-black Grassquit** *Volatinia jacarina* ▶  2
- 2 **Chestnut-bellied Seedeater** *Sporophila castaneiventris* ▶  2
- 1 **Buff-throated Saltator** *Saltator maximus* ▶  1