

VENEZUELA

MARIA ALLEN GROUP

26 May - 14 June 1999

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Compiled by R. Ridgely

Northern Venezuela

26 May - 3 June 1999

26th - PM arrival in Caracas, transfer to Hotel Tamanaco; dinner at the posh Caracas Country Club

27th - early departure for Cerro La Misión in e. Falcón, working side road there from about 0830 onward to noontime (doesn't really get into forest, but skirts several nice areas); transfer to small, pleasant pension "Sola de la Luna" above Sanare; lunch there, a brief break, then out to the Cuare Wildlife Refuge along road in to Chichiriviche; basically warm and sunny

28th - AM at Cerro Chichiriviche in Morocoy Nat. Park; at midday, back to Solar de la Luna for lunch and siesta; late PM searching for and finding Plain-flanked Rail in mangroves across from Tucacas, then go out to savannas below Cerro La Misión; warm and sunny

29th - early AM back to the Tucacas mangroves, then continue on to Cerro La Misión; lunch back at Solar de la Luna, then pack up and depart for Casa Maria (a private house run as a lovely nature reserve by a pleasant German couple) up in the coastal mountains of nw. Carabobo between Canoabo and Bejuma, with a long detour to the San Pablo marshes and a long stop in the Canoabo dam area; some extended showers in PM, but at least they held off until we had had an hour at San Pablo

30th - all day walking down through forest along the Palmichal road (ca. 900 down to 600 m), late PM at Canoabo dam, but that not terribly exciting; partly to mostly cloudy, but no significant rain

31st - AM at Palmichal, which again is good; return to Casa Maria for lunch, then drive to Barquisemeto (with a long re-provisioning stop) and on into mountains to the southwest and the pleasant town of Sanaré (Posada El Cerrito)

1st - all day at Yacambú Nat. Park (1700 down to 900 m), working along a lovely paved road with only a modest amount of traffic, lunch at an attractive small pond (1200 m); the forest very dry, and sunny and windy with little song after early AM, but still productive though there were many slow periods (and relatively little singing, especially after early AM); on the whole, many birds that I'd have expected to be numerous seemed notably scarce here, but perhaps this was mainly due to our less than optimal weather conditions

2nd - another full day at Yacambú, covering basically the same areas (lunch at same spot) though spending more time at higher elevations; again sunny and windy with no rain

3rd - very early departure for the "Curvas de San Pablo," a productive desert scrub locality (700-800 m) along the road W of Barquisemeto toward Carora; noontime flight from Barquisemeto to Caracas

Bird	Note
Gray Tinamou	heard at Cerro La Misión and Palmichal
Highland Tinamou	heard at Yacambú
Little Tinamou	heard at Palmichal and Yacambú
Red-legged Tinamou	heard at Cerro Chichiriviche, Cerro La Misión, and Canoabo Dam
Least Grebe	especially numerous at the small Yacambú pond, there very tame and nesting
Pied-billed Grebe	a couple at Canoabo Dam were the only ones
Magnificent Frigatebird	
Brown Booby	flock of ca. 15 at Tucacas, all of them juvs
Neotropic Cormorant	
Anhinga	1 near Cerro La Misión
Brown Pelican	
Horned Screamer	group of 6-7 at pond along road in to Cerro La Misión, also a few others scattered
Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	small flocks in open, marshy areas (most numerous in savannas below Cerro La Misión)
White-cheeked Pintail	2 singletons on the salt lagoons at Chichiriviche
American Flamingo, <u>Phoenicopterus ruber</u>	(a split from Greater Flamingo, <u>P. roseus</u> , of the Old World) impressively common on the Chichiriviche lagoons, 1000s of birds being present, many of them distant but also lots feeding and flying around at close range; great variety of plumages, but seemingly few young (gray) birds
Reddish Egret	ca. 15 at Chichiriviche (all but a couple being white morphs), then ca. 8 in the Tucacas mangroves (where more, including a couple beautiful adults, were "rufous" morph)
Tricolored Heron	fairly common near coast, especially in Tucacas area
Little Blue Heron	rather uncommon (I thought surprisingly so)
Snowy Egret	
Great Egret	
Cattle Egret	
Striated Heron	only a few, in mangroves and at Canoabo Dam

Bird	Note
Scarlet Ibis	common in salt lagoons at Chichiriviche, Morocoy, and Tucacas; the vast majority of birds were in full adult plumage, only a tiny minority (well under 5 %) juvs; a large majority (90 % +) of the adults had red bills, but black in the remainder (what is the explanation for this?); a couple birds were "pink" (hybrid Scarlet X White ?)
Bare-faced Ibis	common in e. Falcón, feeding in small groups around ponds and in open savannas (but avoiding salt lagoons)
Glossy Ibis	4 flying birds near Valencia
Roseate Spoonbill	fairly common in salt lagoons at Chichiriviche, Morocoy, and Tucacas (but greatly outnumbered by the Scarlet Ibises)
Wood Stork	rather small nos. at coastal lagoons and in flight
Black Vulture	
Turkey Vulture	common, all adults with conspicuous pale yellowish hindneck
King Vulture	scattered flying birds, most frequent/regular at Cerro la Misión
Hook-billed Kite	1 beautiful gray morph _ seen in flight at close range at Cerro Chichiriviche
Pearl Kite	one perched on wire near Sanare
Snail Kite	only a few scattered birds
Plumbeous Kite	several seen near Canoabo Dam
Bicolored Hawk	a fine perched white morph _ seen at Cerro Chichiriviche
Crane Hawk	1 seen in low flight over the Tucacas mangroves
Common Black-Hawk	fairly common in mangroves, especially around Tucacas (also seen soaring at Cerro Chichiriviche)
Great Black-Hawk	1 at Cerro La Misión, first soaring and then perched
Harris's Hawk	2 nice adults near Curvas de San Pablo
Roadside Hawk	actually not all that many
White-rumped Hawk	1 seen in flight at Yacambú
Short-tailed Hawk	light morph bird basking in early AM along the highway near Valencia (looked like garbage), then several more flying birds, all light morph as usual, including a courting pair at Cerro Chichiriviche
Zone-tailed Hawk	1 soaring past Solar de la Luna
Gray Hawk	small nos., best at Solar de la Luna
Black Hawk-Eagle	heard at Palmichal
Crested Caracara	
Yellow-headed Caracara	
American Kestrel	
Aplomado Falcon	pair in savannas below Cerro La Misión

Bird	Note
Rufous-vented Chachalaca	common and vocal soon after dawn at Cerro Chichiriviche, also numerous at Yacambú (especially at the pond, where members of one group were coming down for a drink)
Band-tailed Guan	fairly common but inconspicuous (seen mainly just after dawn) in forest at Yacambú, not displaying or calling
Crested Guan	heard at Cerro La Misión, then a singleton and a pair seen in Palmichal forest (evidently rare in n. Venezuela, Davidsaid he had hardly ever seen it)
Venezuelan Wood-Quail	one flew across road in Palmichal forest, actually seen quite well (though briefly, of course); none heard
Rusty-flanked Crake	this Venezuelan endemic was quite common at San Pablo marsh, with 6-8 pairs being heard (sounding identical to Rufous-sided and White-throated Crakes) and 3-4 individuals being seen, one of them exceedingly well; we searched for it around smaller ranch ponds in the Cerro La Misión area to no avail (though at other times David says he finds pairs at some of these)
Plain-flanked Rail	perhaps the prize bird of the entire trip, this second Venezuelan endemic was found to be not uncommon in the mangroves across the bridge at Tucacas (one of the sites where a number of specimens were taken some 50 years ago), first during late PM of 28th when one bird was seen (initially responding to a tape of Clapper Rail!), then again early the next AM (when 6-7 pairs were found in the same area, some of them calling spontaneously); all birds seen were in very worn plumage, looking quite dusky (some individuals showing a scattering of white feathers on hindneck and especially back); voluminous notes on tape
Gray-necked Wood-Rail	pair at Canoabo Dam, far from any water
Purple Gallinule	one at San Pablo marsh
Common Gallinule (Moorhen)	common at Canoabo Dam, a few elsewhere
Caribbean Coot	perhaps 6 tame pairs were resident and nesting on the small pond at Yacambú, a weird and isolated place for this very scarce, local species; refer to tape for detailed notes
Limpkin	most numerous at San Pablo marsh
Wattled Jacana	
Greater Yellowlegs	small nos. in salt lagoons at Chichiriviche and Tucacas
Semipalmated Sandpiper	1 breeding-plumage adult at Chichiriviche
White-rumped Sandpiper	2 breeding-plumage adults nicely seen at Chichiriviche, one of them with a hurt leg
Double-striped Thick-knee	3 on the barren halophytic flats at Chichiriviche
Black-necked Stilt	common around salt lagoons at Chichiriviche and (especially) Morocoy and Tucacas, numerous youngsters seen
Semipalmated Plover	2 at Chichiriviche
Wilson's Plover	1 at Chichiriviche
Southern Lapwing	
Laughing Gull	2 breeding-plumage adults at Tucacas

Bird	Note
Large-billed Tern	ca. 10 birds feeding over the salt lagoons at Chichiriviche, an odd place for them we thought
Gull-billed Tern	1 breeding-plumage bird at Tucacas
Cayenne Tern	3 breeding-plumage birds at Tucacas
Least Tern	about 10 birds seen at Chichiriviche, calling and obviously breeding locally (I was not aware that they did so here)
Black Skimmer	small nos. at Chichiriviche and Tucacas
Bare-eyed Pigeon	only at Chichiriviche (for some reason it seemed to be absent at other mangrove areas), but there not uncommon, seen mainly in flight but also perched, once close and for a protracted period on a wire
Pale-vented Pigeon	widespread in e. Falcón, mangroves and semiopen areas
Ruddy Pigeon	fairly common by voice in montane forest at Palmichal and Yacambú, seen best at the latter
Eared Dove	common in open areas, especially in e. Falcón and at Curvas de San Pablo
Scaled Dove	fairly common in open terrain and around houses in e. Falcón and at Curvas de San Pablo
Common Ground-Dove	a few in e. Falcón (mainly near coast) and at Curvas de San Pablo
Ruddy Ground-Dove	
Blue Ground-Dove	heard at Cerro La Misión, then several also at Palmichal
White-tipped Dove	
Lined Quail-Dove	not infrequently heard inside montane forest at Palmichal and Yacambú, but never seen
Red-and-green Macaw	a surprising raucous pair at Cerro La Misión
Chestnut-fronted Macaw	quite common in semiopen country below Cerro La Misión, also a few others in this region
Scarlet-fronted Parakeet	common at Palmichal, but mainly in flying flocks and never seen well perched
Brown-throated Parakeet	several flocks near coast in e. Falcón, then common at Curvas de San Pablo
Venezuelan Parakeet, <u>Pyrrhura emma</u>	small groups seen mainly in flight in montane forest at Palmichal; this form (with <u>auricularis</u> of the northeast) is now generally considered to be a separate species, endemic to n. Venezuela, from <u>P. leucotis</u> (White-eared Parakeet) of se. Brazil (there are also 2 other now-split species occurring only in Brazil)
Blood-eared Parakeet	several small groups, also seen primarily in flight, at Yacambú
Green-rumped Parrotlet	common and widespread in open and semiopen terrain; one pair was nesting in an old hornero "oven" at base of Cerro La Misión
Orange-chinned Parakeet	small nos. at Cerro La Misión
Lilac-tailed Parrotlet	flocks of 8-10 birds seen only in flight over the forest at Palmichal
Blue-headed Parrot	small nos. at Cerro La Misión and Palmichal

Bird	Note
Red-billed Parrot	a few flocks at Yacambú
Yellow-crowned Amazon	fairly common in semiopen terrain below Cerro La Misión
Orange-winged Amazon	fairly common in deciduous woodland at Cerro Chichiriviche but, oddly, not elsewhere
Dwarf Cuckoo	one seen in scrub at Curvas de San Pablo (which seemed an unlikely place for it)
Squirrel Cuckoo	
Little Cuckoo	one heard below Yacambú
Smooth-billed Ani	widespread
Groove-billed Ani	several flocks in more arid parts of e. Falcón
Striped Cuckoo	heard repeatedly in open terrain below Cerro La Misión
Tropical Screech-Owl	heard at Casa Maria
Mottled Owl	heard at Casa Maria
Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl	heard at Cerro La Misión; several seen at Curvas de San Pablo
Great Potoo	a wonderful bird seen at Casa Maria as it perched adjacent to the insect night-light (evidently it comes in almost nightly!)
Rufous-bellied Nighthawk, <u>Lurocalis rufiventris</u>	(an Andean form now split from Short-tailed Nighthawk, <u>L. semitorquatus</u> , of lowlands) single birds seen briefly and heard just before dawn on both mornings at Yacambú
Lesser Nighthawk	singletons seen near Sanaré and at dawn at Curvas de San Pablo
White-tailed Nightjar	heard distantly just before dawn at Curvas de San Pablo (nightjars were remarkably quiet on this trip)
Chestnut-collared Swift	several small flocks at Yacambú
White-collared Swift	one flock above Palmichal, more numerous at Yacambú
Vaux's Swift	<u>Chaetura</u> swifts seen at Yacambú (mainly pairs) were presumed to be this species
Neotropical (Fork-tailed) Palm-Swift	a few seen in e. Falcón
Rufous-breasted Hermit	several seen at Cerro La Misión
Sooty-capped Hermit	quite common in undergrowth and borders of deciduous woodland at Cerro Chichiriviche, also a couple at Cerro La Misión (but I still suspect that some of these birds may have been Pale-bellied Hermits)
Stripe-throated Hermit, <u>P. striigularis</u>	(this is split from <u>P. longuemareus</u> , Little Hermit; <u>P. striigularis</u> ranges from Mexico to nw. Venezuela and w. Ecuador, with <u>P. longuemareus</u> only from e. Venezuela to French Guiana) several seen at Cerro La Misión and Palmichal
White-necked Jacobin	several at Palmichal
Green Violetear	a few heard and seen at Yacambú; the only birds we saw well were this species, though there may have been some Sparkling Violetears around too

Bird	Note
Black-throated Mango	a few in e. Falcón
Ruby-topaz Hummingbird	quite common in deciduous woods at Cerro Chichiriviche, seen beautifully though ___ proved hard to observe in "perfect" light
Violet-headed Hummingbird	common at forest edge at Palmichal, with one extended lek of singing ___
Blue-chinned Sapphire	several seen at Cerro La Misión
Blue-tailed Emerald	common and widespread in e. Falcón, where the most numerous hummer
Violet-crowned Woodnymph	a few at Palmichal and low elevations in Yacambú
Golden-tailed Sapphire	single ___ seen at Palmichal and Yacambú
Buffy Hummingbird	common in scrub at Curvas de San Pablo
Glittering-throated Emerald	a few seen in e. Falcón and in Casa Maria's garden
Steely-vented Hummingbird	several seen at Yacambú
Copper-rumped Hummingbird	one seen in Casa Maria garden
White-vented Plumeleteer	a couple seen at low elevations in Yacambú
Speckled Hummingbird	uncommon at Yacambú
Violet-fronted Brilliant	several seen at Palmichal (seemed curiously absent at Yacambú, but then hummingbirds in general were scarce here)
Violet-chested Hummingbird	common in forest understory and borders at Palmichal, feeding at <u>Heliconia</u>
Booted Racket-tail	a few (both sexes) seen at Yacambú, but ___ (buff-booted) not very co-operative
Long-tailed Sylph	small nos. at Palmichal, then more numerous at Yacambú
Long-billed Starthroat	one seen at Palmichal
Amethyst Woodstar	one _ seen nicely in deciduous woods at Cerro Chichiriviche, seemingly an improbable place for it
Collared Trogon	a couple pairs seen nicely at Palmichal, then several more (mostly just heard) at lower elevations at Yacambú
Masked Trogon	several seen at Yacambú, including one superb _ (but little singing)
Ringed Kingfisher	widespread, including one at the Yacambú pond
Pale-headed Jacamar	at least 2 trios were present in the <u>Acacia</u> -dominated woodland along dry watercourses at Curvas de San Pablo, where they behaved much like other <u>Brachygalba</u> though perching lower than others typically do (doubtless mostly because trees themselves are lower), peering about alertly and making long and intricate aerial sallies
Rufous-tailed Jacamar	widespread in forest/woodland borders in e. Falcón and Palmichal, with several nest burrows seen
Russet-throated Puffbird	fairly common in e. Falcón, the 2-banded race
Moustached Puffbird	one solitary beauty spotted inside the forest at Palmichal

Bird	Note
Red-headed Barbet	several pairs seen at Yacambú, including one of them watched for a long time as they industriously excavated a nest hole only a few feet above the ground in a rotted out stump
Emerald Toucanet	2 pairs seen at high elevations (above 1500 m) at Yacambú; vocalizing a little
Groove-billed Toucanet	a few seen at Palmichal
Yellow-billed Toucanet	a few seen at Yacambú, ranging at elevations lower than Emerald's
Collared Araçari	a couple birds seen at Cerro La Misión
Scaled Piculet	especially common at Cerro Chichiriviche, but also seen elsewhere in e. Falcón; a few at Palmichal and lower elevations at Yacambú
Red-crowned Woodpecker	widespread (but not at Yacambú)
Red-rumped Woodpecker	several nicely seen and heard at Cerro la Misión; also heard at lower elevations in Yacambú
Golden-olive Woodpecker	surprisingly scarce, with only a couple birds seen at Yacambú
Crimson-crested Woodpecker	nice pair at Cerro La Misión
Plain-brown Woodcreeper	several seen at Palmichal, others heard
Olivaceous Woodcreeper	a few seen and heard at Palmichal
Wedge-billed Woodcreeper	one at Palmichal
Strong-billed Woodcreeper	a couple heard at high elevations at Yacambú
Black-banded Woodcreeper	one at an antswarm at Yacambú
Straight-billed Woodcreeper	fairly common in e. Falcón, then common at Curvas de San Pablo
Cocoa Woodcreeper, <u>X. susurrans</u>	(split from Buff-throated Woodcreeper, <u>X. guttatus</u> ; ranges from Middle America to w. Venezuela) fairly common (especially by voice) at Palmichal
Olive-backed Woodcreeper	heard once at Palmichal, then one seen at Yacambú (but on the whole scarcer than I expected)
Streak-headed Woodcreeper	fairly common
Red-billed Scythebill	several seen and heard at Palmichal and at lower elevations in Yacambú
Caribbean Hornero, <u>Furnarius longirostris</u>	(split from Pale-legged Hornero, <u>F. leucopus</u> , of Amazonia; and from Pacific Hornero, <u>F. cinnamomeus</u> , of w. Ecuador and nw. Peru) several pairs seen (though they were shy and elusive) in semiopen terrain of e. Falcón; Guy's picture not particularly good (crown not really gray), but voice does differ from Pale-legged and Pacific
Pale-breasted Spinetail	widespread by voice in brushy/grassy areas
Stripe-breasted Spinetail	uncommon in forest undergrowth and borders at Palmichal
White-whiskered Spinetail	this handsome bird was quite common in desert scrub at Curvas de San Juan
Crested Spinetail	a few at Cerro La Misión, then quite numerous at Palmichal; a few also at Yacambú, even one out-of-place (dispersing?) bird at Curvas de San Juan
Common Thornbird	common in scrub and semiopen areas in e. Falcón, also at San Pablo and Canoabo Dam; nesting

Bird	Note
Guttulated Foliage-gleaner	heard once in forest at Palmichal
Montane Foliage-gleaner	fairly common at both Palmichal and Yacambú
Buff-fronted Foliage-gleaner	fairly common at Palmichal, often foraging in the same flocks as the previous species
Gray-throated Leaf-tosser	one heard and then seen exceptionally well at Palmichal as it foraged on ground inside forest, flicking leaves wildly; taped
Streaked Xenops	a couple birds seen at lower levels in Yacambú
Black-crested Antshrike	several pairs at Cerro Chichiriviche, then heard near base of Cerro La Misión
Black-backed Antshrike	wonderful pair of this scarce antshrike seen and taped at Cerro Chichiriviche (in a relatively lushly vegetated area along a perennial stream, near beginning of trail)
Barred Antshrike	
Plain Antvireo	a few (only) at Palmichal, then a few more at lower levels in Yacambú; very little singing
White-streaked Antvireo	only one, a _ seen and heard as she carried food in forest undergrowth at Palmichal (others may have seen her mate too?)
Slaty Antwren	pair at Palmichal, also a couple seen and heard at Yacambú
Rufous-winged Antwren	one heard at Cerro La Misión
White-fringed Antwren	common in deciduous woodland at Cerro Chichiriviche; also heard at Curvas de San Pablo
Long-tailed Antbird	several heard at Yacambú, where they seemed not to be especially associated with bamboo, and were stunningly non-responsive to tape playback (actually, many birds failed to respond much, presumably being at the end of the breeding cycle)
White-browed Antbird	1 _ heard and then seen in secondary woodland at lower levels in Yacambú, also another heard there; this represents a small northward range extension (David got very excited about it!)
White-bellied Antbird	common in woodland undergrowth at Cerro Chichiriviche, and a few heard at Canoabo Dam
Immaculate Antbird	several seen and heard at Yacambú, here at the n. limit of their range in the Andes
Black-faced Antthrush	heard quite commonly at both Palmichal and Yacambú (sounding much like Panama birds), at the latter ranging up as high as 1600 m or more (presumably doing this in the absence of potential competitors)
Short-tailed Antthrush	heard fairly commonly at Palmichal, but the one bird I attempted to tape in evidently saw us and snuck away after affording only a glimpse; to my surprise, none were even heard at Yacambú (but then very little was singing here, probably because of the dry windy conditions)
Plain-backed Antpitta	heard distantly at Palmichal
Chestnut-crowned Antpitta	a couple heard briefly and distantly at Yacambú (I inadvertently forgot to bring tape of Giant Antpitta from Ecuador, which might have elicited a response from Great Antpitta, which seems possible here though elevations may be too low?)

Bird	Note
Rufous-rumped Tapaculo, <u>Scytalopus griseicollis</u>	(this species, now separated by Krabbe & Schulenberg, apparently was formerly associated with "Andean Tapaculo" and despite being a small <u>Scytalopus</u> , by voice, habitat, elevation, etc., that's clearly wrong) uncommon by voice at higher elevations (above 1500 m) at Yacambú, also seen a couple times; taped
Golden-breasted Fruiteater	one heard at 1600 m at Yacambú (ID by David: it could have been Green-and-black as far as was concerned)
Handsome Fruiteater	one beautiful _ seen well at Palmichal, also taped (seemed somewhat responsive)
Golden-headed Manakin	lek of __ seen at Palmichal
Lance-tailed Manakin	common by voice in forest undergrowth at Cerro La Misión
Golden-winged Manakin	not uncommon in forest undergrowth at Yacambú, where seen best (including 2 fine __) at fruiting trees along the "nature trail"
Olive-striped Flycatcher	a few at Palmichal and Yacambú
Slaty-capped Flycatcher	quite common at Palmichal and Yacambú, often with small understory flocks
Slate-headed Tody-Flycatcher	heard and seen in dense undergrowth at forest borders at Cerro La Misión and Palmichal, again at lower elevations in Yacambú (on the whole more numerous than I'd have expected)
Common Tody-Flycatcher	
Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrant	not uncommon in lower growth of deciduous woodland at Cerro Chichiriviche, also several at Canoabo Dam
Sooty-headed Tyrannulet	widespread by voice at forest borders up to 1200 m
Black-capped Tyrannulet	one seen at Yacambú (1500 m)
Golden-faced Tyrannulet	common at lower elevations at Yacambú
Brown-capped Tyrannulet	one pair seen at Palmichal, a few others heard there
Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet	
Mouse-colored Tyrannulet	common in drier, more disturbed situations in e. Falcón, vocalizing a lot
Northern Scrub-Flycatcher	fairly common in deciduous woodland at Cerro Chichiriviche and Canoabo Dam; common at Curvas de San Pablo (where elaenias seemed strangely absent)
Forest Elaenia	fairly common at Cerro La Misión, a few at Palmichal
Yellow-bellied Elaenia	
Small-billed Elaenia	several seen at forest borders at Palmichal
Mountain Elaenia	a few pairs at higher elevations (above 1500 m) at Yacambú
White-throated Tyrannulet	one pair at higher elevations (1600 m) at Yacambú
Slender-billed Tyrannulet	common in desert scrub at Curvas de San Pablo
Pale-tipped Tyrannulet	common in deciduous woodland at Cerro Chichiriviche, a few also elsewhere (mostly heard) in e. Falcón and at Canoabo Dam (but seems to avoid humid areas here)

Bird	Note
Tawny-crowned Pygmy-Tyrant	most numerous in scrub at Canoabo Dam (though hard to see even there, and not very responsive), a few heard elsewhere
Yellow Tyrannulet	a few heard at Palmichal and Canoabo Dam, mainly forest edge
Venezuelan Bristle-Tyrant	small nos. seen with understory flocks at Palmichal (but there didn't seem to be any Marble-faced here)
Variiegated Bristle-Tyrant	one pair nicely seen with a small understory flock at Yacambú (1500 m)
Scale-crested Pygmy-Tyrant	common at Palmichal and lower elevations in Yacambú
Olivaceous Flatbill	one seen at antswarm at Yacambú
Yellow-olive Flatbill	(Flycatcher; members of the genus <i>Tolmomyias</i> are going to be called "flatbills" once again, there simply being too many of them for them to be "flycatchers") quite common at Palmichal
Yellow-breasted Flatbill (Flycatcher)	especially numerous at Cerro La Misión, where several pendulous nests were found
White-throated Spadebill	2 seen and heard in forest understory at Palmichal
Flavescent Flycatcher	one solitary bird at higher elevations (1600 m) at Yacambú
Bran-colored Flycatcher	
Cinnamon Flycatcher	a few pairs at higher elevations (above 1500 m) at Yacambú
Fuscous Flycatcher	several pairs in deciduous woodland at Cerro Chichiriviche
Euler's Flycatcher	small nos. (at least there was little vocalizing) in forest lower growth at Palmichal
Smoke-colored Pewee	one pair at Palmichal, a few more at higher elevations at Yacambú
Tropical Pewee	several closely observed pairs at Cerro La Misión
Black Phoebe	one seen at Yacambú
Vermilion Flycatcher	widespread in open areas, especially numerous in the dry Barquisemeto/Curvas de San Pablo region; no displaying
Pied Water-Tyrant	numerous near water (locally even in mangroves) in e. Falcón, including the San Pablo marsh
Cattle Tyrant	numerous and widespread in open and built-up terrain
Dusky-capped Flycatcher	several nicely seen and heard at Cerro La Misión, Palmichal, and Yacambú
Venezuelan Flycatcher	only a few, but believed seen at Canoabo Dam and Curvas de San Pablo
Pale-edged Flycatcher	a couple silent birds were carefully studied at Yacambú
Brown-crested Flycatcher	the most numerous <u>Myiarchus</u> in most areas, especially so in e. Falcón and at Curvas de San Pablo; considerably vocalizing (unlike the other <u>Myiarchus</u>)
Boat-billed Flycatcher	
Golden-crowned Flycatcher	several pairs at Yacambú
Streaked Flycatcher	
Piratic Flycatcher	

Bird	Note
Rusty-margined Flycatcher	much outnumbered by the next species
Social Flycatcher	
Great Kiskadee	
Lesser Kiskadee	a few in e. Falcón
Tropical Kingbird	common, including sizeable flocks (of austral migrants? just postbreeding dispersing birds??) in e. Falcón especially; these latter did not seem especially to be associating with the Fork-taileds
Fork-tailed Flycatcher	astonishing nos. of still-migrating Fork-taileds were much in evidence near the coast of e. Falcón, virtually all of them in very worn plumage; many seemed to be streaming generally northward, low over trees in loose flocks of dozens of birds but where were they going???
Chestnut-crowned Becard	fairly common at Palmichal and lower elevations in Yacambú
White-winged Becard	nice pair at Cerro La Misión
Black-and-white Becard	small nos. at Palmichal and Yacambú, seen well
Cinereous Becard	nice pair seen (and nest-constructing) at forest edge at Cerro La Misión, a few others heard
Masked Tityra	a few seen at Cerro La Misión and Palmichal
Inca Jay, <u>Cyanocorax yncas</u> (Middle American birds are now Green Jay, <u>C. luxuosa</u>)	only at Yacambú, where local and seen mainly around the former military camp (1300 m)
Rufous-browed Peppershrike	
Red-eyed Vireo	rather few overall, especially in Falcón where some areas that looked good for it had none or virtually none
Brown-capped Vireo	a few at Palmichal, then common and singing at Yacambú
Golden-fronted Greenlet	widespread and generally numerous, even at Palmichal (mainly borders) and lower levels at Yacambú
Scrub Greenlet	especially common at Cerro Chichiriviche, but widdespread in e. Falcón and up to Canoabo Dam
Andean Solitaire	uncommon at higher elevations (above 1500 m) at Yacambú; little singing
Orange-billed Nightingale-Thrush	heard in scrubby woodland near Sanaré, and then a good number in forest borders and secondary growth at lower elevations at Yacambú (but they remained strangely resistant to tape playback, though I finally saw one well)
Slaty-backed Nightingale-Thrush	uncommon at higher elevations (above 1500 m) at Yacambú; considerable song in early AM, though as with Orange-billed they seemed strangely unresponsive to tape playback
Yellow-legged Thrush	fairly common below 1400 m at Yacambú; this species seemed shyer than the other thrushes here
Pale-eyed Thrush	scarce, but at least one singing _ was seen at the former military camp (1300 m) at Yacambú
Glossy-black Thrush	several singing ___ were seen and heard at the former military camp at Yacambú

Bird	Note
Black-hooded Thrush	common with considerable singing (especially around the former military camp, where the number and abundance of thrushes was amazing; Black-hooded was the most numerous) below 1400 m at Yacambú
Pale-breasted Thrush	common and widespread in semiopen areas (<u>not</u> forest) at Palmichal and Yacambú
Bare-eyed Thrush	numerous in e. Falcón and the Casa Maria gardens
White-necked Thrush	a few heard at Palmichal
Tropical Mockingbird	common in e. Falcón and (especially) at Curvas de San Pablo
Black-capped Donacobius	only at San Pablo marsh (strangely enough), though there numerous
Bicolored Wren	1 seen in semiopen land below below Cerro La Misión, then common at Curvas del San Pablo
Stripe-backed Wren	pair seen at San Pablo marsh, then a few more around around Canoabo Dam
Whiskered Wren	heard at Palmichal and Yacambú
Rufous-breasted Wren	common in e. Falcón (especially at Cerro Chichiriviche), then a few at lower levels in Yacambú
Rufous-and-white Wren	heard at Cerro Chichiriviche, then moderately numerous in forest undergrowth at Yacambú
Buff-breasted Wren	common in woodland undergrowth at Cerro Chichiriviche (despite being far from water), smaller nos. elsewhere in Falcón and at San Pablo and Canoabo Dam
House Wren	widespread and common, with very strange song at Canoabo Dam
Gray-breasted Wood-Wren	a few at Palmichal, then common at Yacambú
Southern Nightingale-Wren	quite a few heard at Palmichal
Long-billed Gnatwren	heard at Cerro Chichiriviche, then a few heard and seen at Palmichal
Tropical Gnatcatcher	common in e. Falcón and at Curvas de San Pablo; ___ have completely black crowns, and sing differently from either form of the species found in Ecuador, so I guess Coopmans is right and there are more than 2 species in the "Tropical Gnatcatcher" complex
Brown-chested Martin	migratory flocks in e. Falcón (some of them looking tired, and perhaps recently arrived?)
Gray-breasted Martin	rather few overall
Blue-and-white Swallow	common at Sanaré, nesting at the hotel
Southern Rough-winged Swallow	widespread and common
Tropical Parula	a few at Cerro La Misión, then fairly common at Palmichal and
Mangrove Warbler, <u>Dendroica petechia</u> (leaving the migratory birds as Yellow Warbler, <u>D. aestiva</u>)	small nos. in the Tucacas mangroves, but outnumbered here by the Bicolored Conebill
Slate-throated Whitestart (Redstart)	fairly common at Palmichal and Yacambú

Bird	Note
Golden-crowned Warbler	one singing bird seen at lower levels (1000 m) at Yacambú
Three-striped Warbler	fairly common in forest undergrowth at Yacambú
Flavescent Warbler	heard around Canoabo Dam, then one singing bird taped in at lower levels (1000 m) at Yacambú
Bananaquit	widespread and generally common, the "ubiquiquit"
Green Honeycreeper	one _ at Palmichal, others?
Purple Honeycreeper	one _ at Palmichal, others?
Rusty Flowerpiercer	one _ seen at Yacambú (1300 m)
White-eared Conebill	small nos. of this dapper small tanager were seen at and below Cerro La Misión, then another pair at Canoabo Dam
Bicolored Conebill	common in mangroves at Tucacas; notably responsive to pishing
Fulvous-headed Tanager	fairly common at lower levels at Yacambú
Guira Tanager	widespread in more humid woodland and forest borders
Hooded Tanager	several groups at Cerro La Misión, foraging independently of other birds
Black-headed Tanager	a few at lower levels in Yacambú (below 1400 m)
Black-capped Tanager	common at Yacambú
Beryl-spangled Tanager	common at Yacambú
Blue-necked Tanager	fairly common at Yacambú
Rufous-cheeked Tanager	a few seen at Palmichal
Burnished-buff Tanager	a few at lower levels at Yacambú
Bay-headed Tanager	fairly common at Palmichal and Yacambú
Speckled Tanager	fairly common at Palmichal and common at Yacambú
Saffron-crowned Tanager	small nos. at upper levels of Yacambú
Golden Tanager	common at Palmichal and Yacambú
Blue-naped Chlorophonia	several at lower levels in Yacambú
Orange-bellied Euphonia	Palmichal and Yacambú
Thick-billed Euphonia	
Trinidad Euphonia	common in e. Falcón, especially at Cerro La Misión; heard ("beem-beem") at Curvas de San Pablo
Fawn-breasted Tanager	one _ at former military camp at Yacambú
Swallow Tanager	common at low levels (900 m) at Yacambú, but (to my surprise) only there
Blue-gray Tanager	
Glaucous Tanager	only in e. Falcón, where most numerous and seen best at Cerro La Misión
Palm Tanager	remarkably few, I thought (relatively scarce in these parts?)

Bird	Note
Silver-beaked Tanager	
White-winged Tanager	a few at Palmichal and lower parts of Yacambú
White-lined Tanager	common and widespread, much more numerous than I'm used to
Gray-headed Tanager	pair at Cerro Chichiriviche, then another pair at the Yacambú antswarm
Common Bush-Tanager	common at Yacambú, a handsome black-headed race
Magpie Tanager	one pair at Yacambú (1100 m)
Vermilion Cardinal	lovely pair feeding a single fledgling at Curvas de San Pablo
Buff-throated Saltator	small nos. at Palmichal and lower levels in Yacambú
Grayish Saltator	common in e. Falcón (where very vocal, unlike many other birds; voice differs dramatically from that of Amaz. birds), smaller nos. thereafter
Orinocan Saltator	2 or more pairs at Curvas de San Pablo
Streaked Saltator	fairly common in e. Falcón and around Palmichal (not in actual forest)
Ultramarine Grosbeak	one _ seen at Canoabo Dam
Blue-black Grassquit	
Black-faced Grassquit	fairly common in arid scrub at Curvas de San Pablo; unfortunately, they were not singing
Sooty Grassquit	several seen in scrub at Canoabo Dam
Gray Seedeater	fairly common and widespread
Lesson's Seedeater	small nos., including several highly territorial singing __, at Cerro La Misión; then several more __ at Canoabo Dam; both sites are a bit outside the species' published breeding range
Yellow-bellied Seedeater	fairly common and widespread, singing
Ruddy-breasted Seedeater	uncommon in more open grassy areas, singing
Ochre-breasted Brush-Finch	a couple pairs at Yacambú, but (to my surprise) really not much in evidence here
Chestnut-capped Brush-Finch	one pair seen at Yacambú (1600 m)
Black-striped Sparrow	common in scrub around Canoabo Dam, where singing (song utterly unlike that of Panama birds - what gives?)
Tocuyo Sparrow	one ID'd as this (by me, though I now am a bit uncertain) in scrub at Canoabo Dam, a regular site for the species; we failed to find it in the extensive scrub between Barquisemeto and Sanaré (close to the town of Tocuyo, in fact), mainly because David failed to stop earlier at lower elevations where conditions were calm (we persevered on to Goodwin's recommended spot - which looked no different - by which time it was very windy and much later in the afternoon - oh, well...)
Rufous-collared Sparrow	small nos in Sanaré/Yacambú area
Gray Pileated-Finch	fairly common in arid scrub at Curvas de San Pablo, but <u>only</u> there! (silent, presumably post-breeding)
Saffron Finch	widespread and generally common in open areas

Bird	Note
Crested Oropendola	a few at Cerro La Misión and at lower elevations at Yacambú
Russet-backed Oropendola	fairly common at forest borders at Palmichal and Yacambú
Venezuelan Troupial, <u>Icterus</u> <u>icterus</u>	small nos. in the desert scrub at Curvas de San Pablo, mainly in areas where there was an abundance of prickly pear; seemingly quite shy here, and apparently still heavily trapped
Yellow Oriole	common in open areas of e. Falcón and at Curvas de San Pablo
Orange-crowned Oriole	one fleetingly at Cerro La Misión, then a nice family party of 3 well seen in small patch of woodland below there
Oriole Blackbird	widespread in semiopen areas through e. Falcón, then a family party of 3 was resident at the Yacambú pond (at 1200 m, an unusually high elevation for it)
Yellow-hooded Blackbird	a few noted in passing
Red-breasted Blackbird	widespread in open grassy areas
Eastern Meadowlark	a few seen in passing
Carib Grackle	abundant in semiopen areas, especially near the coast and in built-up areas
Shiny Cowbird	rather few, actually, until we got to Curvas de San Pablo where it was very common (hard to see how other passerines were bringing off any young!)
Yellow-bellied Siskin	several small groups at lower levels at Yacambú (below 1300 m)
Lesser Goldfinch	nifty flock at the Sanaré hotel, some coming to a birdbath and the ___ singing

Southeastern Venezuela and Roraima, Brazil

3 -13 June 1999

3rd - evening arrival at Puerto Ordaz, then drive from there to El Palmar (Parador Taguapire)

4th - all day in the Río Grande area, AM at an occupied Harpy Eagle nest (with spectacular performance by an adult), then PM along logging roads past the Río Grande bridge (latter area now criss-crossed by a multitude of roads, and obviously therefore much more disturbed than in the "old" days); a few sprinkles, but day mainly sunny and hot (though there's been a lot of recent rain)

5th - early AM in interesting deciduous forest along the El Palmar side road (I opted not to return to Río Grande for the morning, a tough decision to make - we needed more time in this rich area - a decision facilitated by the dreadful, deteriorated condition of the road between there and the Taguapire); remainder of day along road south to Las Claritas (Barquilla de Fresa, a.k.a. "Henry's"), with beautiful savanna and deciduous woodland S to El Dorado, and still mainly forested (though it's going, a situation made worse by the big new powerline cut) S of the Río Cuyuní; several extended and heavy showers in PM

6th - all day in the Escalera area, first at km 108 in an area (500 m) known for its cocks-of-the-rock (where we have breakfast), then up to around the former "asphalt plant" (1200 m) at km 122-123 (now locked off and - of all things - a potential hotel site); on the whole, very little singing, to my disappointment, and some birds prove to be very hard to find as a result; several heavy showers, but with intervening sunny and very hot periods (there's been a huge amount of rain recently)

7th - all day in the Escalera area again, working mainly along the main road from the asphalt plant (where we have breakfast) southward, with lunch at the Soldier's Monument (1300 m); late PM walking up to a lovely granitic dome just S of (above) the Piedra del Virgen, with a spectacular view out over forest (and a spectacular, orange and black poison-arrow frog)

8th - AM in lowland forest along side road W from Las Claritas ("Brisas del Cuyuní road"), then back to Henry's for lunch and a brief quiet period; in late PM back to the asphalt plant area

9th - AM back in the asphalt plant area, where my tape recorder finally fails for good (having been temperamental for the past several days), with lunch in the last forest before breaking out into savanna; then commence the spectacular, even exhilarating drive S across the Gran Sabana, with multiple stops in scrub, to view waterfalls and tepuis, etc. (the highlight being an immense flock of swirling, low-flying White-collared and Tepui Swifts); reach Santa Elena de Uairén (Yakoo Camp) just after dusk

10th - early AM around Yakoo Camp (nice savanna and forest edge), then head S toward Brazil border, only to be held up for 2 hours by a brake problem; border formalities aren't too bad, and we head S into Roraima, dropping down off the Gran Sabana and into savanna on the "Boa Vista road"; a sour taste is implanted by the refusal of the local indians to even consider helping us (they were downright hostile, in fact); road excellent, and traffic minimal, with hardly any sign of settlements, not even many cattle, and we make several productive stops; eventually reach Boa Vista and manage to find the (adequate) Hotel Aipana Plaza; countryside is flooded, and rivers full and overflowing their banks

11th - early AM departure, in steady but not too heavy rain, for boat trip up the Rio Branco to the traditional Rio Branco Antbird island, and despite the weather I manage to find it thanks to pre-recorded tapes, but at least it remains relatively cool; engine failure mars the return to hotel for lunch; rain ends in early PM, and we head out the "Guyana road" (paved most of the way, but then in pretty bad shape), and reach side road to Conceição do Maü, but recent rains have transformed it into a quagmire, and I dare proceed no further (so the Hoary-throated Spinetail remains a tantalizing will-of-the-wisp)

12th - early AM departure along the road back to Venezuela (it's 238 km to Santa Elena), with many protracted and worthwhile stops and an eventual intended emphasis on the Sun Parakeet search, but this gets thwarted by more local hostility, and the day ends on a decidedly negative note (and in fact some considerable relief to be back in Venezuela!); no rain today (for once!)

13th - early AM, in yet more light rain, around Yakoo Camp; then the flight to Caracas, with very efficient stops and transfers at Canaima and Puerto Ordaz, arriving in Caracas in late PM

14th - early AM departure for USA

Bird	Note
Great Tinamou	small nos. heard at Río Grande, Las Claritas, Escalera, and forest patches on the Gran Sabana
Little Tinamou	small nos. heard at Río Grande, Las Claritas, Escalera, and Gran Sabana; on the Escalera one was heard singing in forest at the highest elevation attained (1300 m), leading David and I to severely question the supposed sightings of Tepui Tinamou from here
Red-legged Tinamou	a few heard in deciduous forest near El Palmar
Variegated Tinamou	a few heard at Río Grande, Las Claritas, and lower part of Escalera
Neotropic Cormorant	
Anhinga	several near El Palmar
Horned Screamer	one at a ranch pond near El Palmar (where, <u>fide</u> David, not at all to be expected)
White-faced Whistling-Duck	a few near El Palmar, then common through Roraima with flocks of many hundred at certain ricefields (and even overflying Boa Vista itself), greatly outnumbering the next species
Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	a few near El Palmar, then fairly common through Roraima
Muscovy Duck	fairly common through Roraima
Brazilian Teal	one pair at pond well N of Boa Vista
Snowy Egret	few
Great Egret	
Cocoi Heron	fairly common
Cattle Egret	abundant locally through Roraima, with several big roosts of non-breeding birds seen
Striated Heron	
Capped Heron	pair at Río Grande, a couple more on the Rio Branco
Agami Heron	one adult seen briefly at Río Grande
Rufescent Tiger-Heron	surprisingly few: singletons at Río Grande, near El Palmar, and along Guyana road
Buff-necked Ibis	a few small groups along the Boa Vista road, but fewer than I'd have thought (and the absence of Bare-faced Ibis and relatively low numbers of most wading birds was notable)
Green Ibis	heard at Río Grande, then a nice pair near El Palmar; common locally along Rio Branco
Maguari Stork	a very few seen along the Boa Vista and Guyana roads
Jabiru	small nos. seen along the Boa Vista and Guyana roads
Black Vulture	
Turkey Vulture	

Bird	Note
Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture	fairly common in savannas along the Boa Vista and Guyana roads
Greater Yellow-headed Vulture	small nos. at Río Grande, Las Claritas, and lower Escalera
King Vulture	scattered small nos., including a fine perched adult with other vultures at a roadkill along the Boa Vista road
Gray-headed Kite	one perched adult on upper Escalera (1200 m, an unusually high elev. for it)
Swallow-tailed Kite	widespread and generally common, seen daily and obviously nesting at various places
Pearl Kite	unusually numerous along the Boa Vista road (a dozen or more counted on the way back), a few elsewhere
White-tailed Kite	one on the Gran Sabana, then a few more along the Boa Vista and Guyana roads
Snail Kite	small nos. along the Boa Vista road and Río Branco (but there must not be very many snails here)
Double-toothed Kite	two perched adults on the Escalera
Plumbeous Kite	fairly common and widespread (though outnumbered by Swallow-taileds here), including one perched juvenile that really confused me (its wings were much shorter than an adult's, also differently and more "normally" shaped)
Crane Hawk	1 feeding bird at the Río Grande bridge
Great Black-Hawk	a few at Río Grande, then small nos. through Roraima
Savanna Hawk	several at Río Grande ranches, then common through Roraima
Black-collared Hawk	one S of El Palmar, then a few more in Roraima (but not numerous here)
Roadside Hawk	
Short-tailed Hawk	one light-morph bird seen on upper Escalera
White-tailed Hawk	widespread in open areas, with nos. greatest through Roraima; most birds seen were fine light-morph adults, some showing rufous lesser wing-coverts (David had led me to believe that a majority of birds were going to be dark morphs?)
Zone-tailed Hawk	one S of El Palmar, another along the Guyana road
Gray Hawk	a few in the Río Grande/El Palmar region, but none thereafter

Bird	Note
Harpy Eagle	splendid juv. _ and her father seen at nest near Rio Grande; the local eagle-watcher showed up at the Taguapire at 0700 to guide us to a nest situated at the edge of a large, recently cleared ranch well N of the Rio Grande road; it's a long way in, and we have to do the last part in two shifts in his jeep; by the time I arrive the juvenile has appeared and is perched at reasonably close range, a very impressive bird indeed; she moves restlessly from tree to tree as it gets warmer and eventually the first group returns to the bus, leaving us to stand watch; after about 20 minutes I notice a shape hurtling into the canopy way off to the right, and a large branch reels from the impact; presuming that it must have been one of the adults, I strive to locate it, and eventually do, but it remains surprisingly well hidden by foliage, moving very little but its position revealed by wary mobbing Plumbeous and Swallow-tailed Kites, etc.; meanwhile the juv. is screaming excitedly, and returns to the nest; after another 10 minutes, suddenly the adult eagle launches into the air, flying straight toward the nest with what I believe was a Kinkajou in its talons (certainly something rufous with a long furry tail presumed not a Red Howler monkey in part because of color, in part because I presume the troop would have screamed if one of its members had been captured), passing majestically right in front of us, at eye level, a most impressive sight indeed!; it alights briefly on the nest, drops the prey, and hops to a nearby branch while the juv. mantles and screams; 30 seconds later the adult slipped off the branch and disappears, leaving the juv. to mantle for nearly half an hour, calling occasionally; it still had not begun to rip into the carcass by the time we had to leave, some half-hour later; there are several other eagle nests being followed in the area, and for the most part they are not directly persecuted, but there is continuing loss of forest habitat outside the actual Imataca Forest Reserve (where forest is being only selectively logged, and presumably remains suitable for the eagles)
Black Hawk-Eagle	heard and distantly seen on upper Escalera
Black Caracara	very few, and only at Rio Grande
Red-throated Caracara	small nos., with one pair noted as high as 1300 m near the Soldier's Monument
Crested Caracara	
Yellow-headed Caracara	
Laughing Falcon	very few (why?): heard distantly at Rio Grande, one seen along Guyana road
American Kestrel	<u>not</u> on the Gran Sabana, but widespread in grasslands elsewhere
Aplomado Falcon	numerous through Roraima (including one watched as it unsuccessfully chased doves at a large ricefield near the Rio Branco); also singletons at Rio Grande and the Soldier's Monument
Bat Falcon	remarkably few
Little Chachalaca	heard at Rio Grande and in more deciduous woodland near El Palmar
Crested Bobwhite	fairly common in open grassy areas (mainly artificial) of the Rio Grande and El Palmar areas, but seen best when a covey of about 5 birds lingered for a long time on the Boa Vista road (otherwise not recorded there, so presumably less numerous); quite a bit of vocalizing in Venezuela
Marbled Wood-Quail	one pair heard at Rio Grande

Bird	Note
Russet-crowned Crake	several heard in shrubby areas at the Soldier's Monument, but only glimpsed (I never could get a tape, and the pre-recorded cut sounded a bit different and didn't elicit a response); this immediate area is much brushier now than it was 20 years ago when I first visited it having evidently not burned and it's no longer suitable for the Ash-throated Crakes we found here then (and that walked on my shoes!)
Purple Gallinule	small nos. in the Río Grande/El Palmar area
Common Gallinule	one seen S of El Palmar
Sunbittern	one seen on road near El Palmar, unfortunately flushing away (I was surprised we didn't encounter any elsewhere, perhaps because of the excess of standing water?)
Limpkin	scattered small nos.
Wattled Jacana	
South American Snipe	one flushed on the Gran Sabana, a few others along the Boa Vista road
Double-striped Thick-knee	2 seen on Río Grande ranchland, then several more in savannas along the Boa Vista road
Collared Plover	pair at a river along the Boa Vista road
Pied Lapwing	one seen along the Río Branco
Southern Lapwing	widespread and numerous in open areas (but not on Gran Sabana)
Large-billed Tern	1 lonely bird along the Boa Vista road
Black Skimmer	2 along the Río Branco
Scaled Pigeon	fairly common in flight near and S of El Palmar
Pale-vented Pigeon	
Plumbeous Pigeon	heard at Río Grande and low on Escalera
Ruddy Pigeon	heard at Río Grande and Escalera
Eared Dove	abundant locally in Roraima, especially where there were ricefields; a race with rufous tail corners (unlike n. Venezuela)
Common Ground-Dove	common in Río Grande/El Palmar region, and again through Roraima (where the most numerous <u>Columbina</u>)
Plain-breasted Ground-Dove	widespread in savannas through Roraima
Ruddy Ground-Dove	
White-tipped Dove	
Gray-fronted Dove	a few at Río Grande
Ruddy Quail-Dove	one flying bird seen at Río Grande
Red-and-green Macaw	widespread and seen virtually daily, sometimes at close range but always only in flight
Red-bellied Macaw	fairly common along s. part of Boa Vista road, especially its s. half

Bird	Note
Red-shouldered Macaw	widespread and fairly common on the Gran Sabana and through Roraima, mainly in flight; strong association, at least here, with <u>Mauritia</u> groves
White-eyed Parakeet	small nos., seen mainly in flight, at Río Grande and S of El Palmar
(Sun Parakeet	missing this special bird was a real disappointment, especially after having tried as hard for it as we did; it reputedly still occurs in the large Indian reserve just S of the border, but we had no luck whatsoever finding the "jandaya," seeing only "pericos" (= Brown-throated Parakeets) there; habitat here looks ideal, and birds are certainly well enough known to the locals, but the latter all agree that it's rare (having been trapped out?); we stopped at reserve headquarters and politely asked for assistance, but were sternly (even rudely!) rebuffed
Brown-throated Parakeet	widespread in savannas and open areas, most numerous through Roraima; one flock as high as Soldier's Monument (1300 m)
Painted Parakeet	one flock of ca. 8 seen in forest along the Las Claritas road
Fiery-shouldered Parakeet	several flocks seen on the Escalera, but only in flight
Green-rumped Parrotlet	small nos. in more open areas
Dusky-billed Parrotlet	a few at Río Grande and Las Claritas road
Golden-winged Parakeet	uncommon, as this <u>Brotogeris</u> always seems to be
Tepui Parrotlet	small flying flocks seen twice at the Escalera
Black-headed Parrot	small nos. at Río Grande (where seen beautifully), then a few at Las Claritas road; flock of 5 seen at Santa Elena
Caica Parrot	feeding pair seen only poorly inside forest at Las Claritas
Blue-headed Parrot	
Dusky Parrot	a few at Río Grande and N of Las Claritas
Festive Amazon	at least one pair on Rio Branco (o.o.r.?)
Yellow-crowned Amazon	small nos. in Río Grande/El Palmar region; a few on Rio Branco
Orange-winged Amazon	easily the most numerous and widespread amazon, with some even up to around Soldier's Monument
(Blue-cheeked Amazon	one beautiful captive bird at a waterfall on the Gran Sabana)
Mealy Amazon	fairly common at Río Grande and along Las Claritas road
Red-fan Parrot	group of 5 at Río Grande
Dark-billed Cuckoo	single austral migrants seen along Rio Branco and along Boa Vista road
Squirrel Cuckoo	
Greater Ani	very common along Rio Branco
Smooth-billed Ani	
Striped Cuckoo	
Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl	

Bird	Note
Least Nighthawk	quite common at dusk in savannas along the Boa Vista and Guyana roads; flight fluttery and slow (not sweeping or bounding like a Lesser), usually some 50 ft. above ground
Lesser Nighthawk	one seen along Guyana road
Nacunda Nighthawk	2 seen at dusk along Boa Vista road, at same place where there was a loose aggregation of Least
Tepui Swift	flocks seen twice at Soldier's Monument, once at incredibly close range (they passed by so close that you could hear and almost feel them as they swept past), then many more (50+) with a huge flock of maybe a thousand White-collareds feeding low over a sweep of grassland on the Gran Sabana in a light rain, a most impressive sight (actually one of the more indelible memories of this trip, with Roraima itself in the background); compared to Chestnut-collared, Tepui is larger and seems more powerful (more like a White-collared), with very fast flight on longer and narrower, more swept-back wings; further, the "chestnut" color (which really isn't "chestnut" even in the Chestnut-collared) is decidedly paler and so easier to see; I never heard the Tepuis calling
White-collared Swift	flocks over Escalera and Roraima, but by far the most memorable were the great flights seen over the Gran Sabana in late PM of 9th, when several thousand were watched as they silently fed low over grassland in a spitting rain, a marvelous sight indelibly imprinted in our minds
Band-rumped Swift	common at Río Grande
Short-tailed Swift	scattered few; I paid little attention to <u>Chaetura</u>
White-tipped Swift	one at Escalera
Neotropical (Fork-tailed) Palm-Swift	common in association with <u>Mauritia</u> palm groves in s. part of Gran Sabana and (especially) along Boa Vista road
Long-tailed Hermit, <u>Phaethornis superciliosus</u>	quite common in forest undergrowth and borders at Río Grande, along the Las Claritas side road, and in forest on the Escalera; the birds in Panama are now split as <u>P. longirostris</u> , Long-billed Hermit, with a range from s. Mexico to n. Colombia (the range of <u>P. superciliosus</u> extends only from s. Venezuela through the Guianas to e. Amaz. Brazil)
Rupununi Hermit, <u>P. rupurumii</u>	(split from Dusky-throated Hermit, <u>P. squalidus</u> , of geographically distant se. Brazil) at least one bird was identified as this mid-sized hermit in forest just above the Escalera
Reddish Hermit	at least one seen at Río Grande
Blue-fronted Lancebill	1 low on Escalera
Gray-breasted Sabrewing	several seen at Las Claritas, especially at Henry's feeders (he's trying to coax in Crimson Topazes, so far with no success)
Rufous-breasted Sabrewing	several seen in stunted woodland on Escalera (but they were elusive and harder to see than I remember)
Brown Violetear	a few on Escalera (but <u>much</u> less numerous than it is here in Mar.-Apr.)
Blue-tailed Emerald	few, lowlands only
Fork-tailed Woodnymph	quite common at Río Grande, Las Claritas (e.g., at Henry's feeders), and the Escalera up to 1300 m (we kept seeing woodnymphs when we were looking for the brilliant)

Bird	Note
White-chinned Sapphire	quite common in savanna at Yakoo Camp, including several ___ watched at wonderfully close range
Tepui Goldenthrout	one seen near the Soldier's Monument
Versicolored Emerald	one seen at Santa Elena, another along the Boa Vista road
Glittering-throated Emerald	
Green-bellied Hummingbird	quite common in more open parts of Escalera, the Gran Sabana, and (especially) at Santa Elena/Yakoo Camp
Velvet-browed Brilliant	a few seen at forest borders on upper Escalera (but very much scarcer than it was on my previous visits here, all of them at different seasons)
Black-eared Fairy	quite a few (more than usual), including birds coming in repeatedly to Henry's feeders and at Escalera
Long-billed Starthroat	one coming in to Henry's feeders
Amethyst Woodstar	one _ on upper Escalera
Amazonian White-tailed Trogon, <u>T. viridis</u>	(now split from Western White-tailed Trogon, <u>T. chionurus</u> , which occurs from Panama to w. Ecuador) widespread in lowlands
Masked Trogon	small nos. on Escalera, beautifully seen several times but never heard
Amazonian Violaceous Trogon, <u>T. violaceus</u>	(now split from Northern Violaceous Trogon, <u>T. caligatus</u> , which occurs from Mexico to w. Ecuador) heard along Las Claritas road
Ringed Kingfisher	
Amazon Kingfisher	
Green Kingfisher	
Green-and-rufous Kingfisher	one seen at Río Grande, others on Rio Branco
American Pygmy Kingfisher	one seen along Boa Vista road
Brown Jacamar	wonderful pair (maybe there were two) seen at close range near Soldier's Monument
Paradise Kingfisher	small nos. of this conspicuous jacamar seen at Río Grande, lower Escalera, and Las Claritas road
Pied Puffbird	singles at Río Grande and N of Las Claritas
Collared Puffbird	wonderful pair heard and then seen in <u>Cecropia</u> -dominated second-growth along Las Claritas road, perching some 40' up and just in from edge, not associated with a flock and vocalizing at ca. 0900 hours
Russet-throated Puffbird	one seen near El Palmar
Black Nunbird	a few seen at Río Grande and N of Las Claritas
Swallow-wing	in semiopen areas as high as Soldier's Monument, but none that I recall in Roraima
Green Araçari	pairs along Las Claritas road and at Henry's
Black-necked Araçari	pair along Las Claritas road
Channel-billed Toucan	uncommon in lowland forests, seen best along Las Claritas road
White-throated Toucan	fairly common in lowland forests, seen best at Río Grande

Bird	Note
Toco Toucan	a real surprise was the relative abundance of this splendid toucan in savanna forests along the Boa Vista road and the Rio Branco (amazing that it's never wandered up into adjacent Venezuela it certainly gets close, and in substantial numbers)
Golden-spangled Piculet	several seen beautifully along Las Claritas road, also at least one on lower Escalera
White-bellied Piculet	singeltons seen in riparian forest on Rio Branco, and then along Boa Vista road (in repsonse to my pygmy-owling
Yellow-tufted Woodpecker	fairly common in lowland forests, especially nicely seen along Las Claritas road (all seemed to be the form with no yellow)
Red-crowned Woodpecker	only in the Rio Grande/El Palmar area
Little Woodpecker	pair in stunted woodland on upper Escalera, carefully studied
Red-rumped Woodpecker	pair in stunted woodland on upper Escalera, carefully studied (this seemed a real surprise up here)
Golden-collared Woodpecker	several at Yakoo Camp
Golden-olive Woodpecker	one out-of-range _ seen at Rio Grande, then a few more on the Escalera
Spot-breasted Woodpecker	several seen along Rio Branco and the Boa Vista road; to my surprise, not previously recorded anywhere near this area
Waved Woodpecker	heard along Las Claritas road
Chestnut Woodpecker	heard along Las Claritas road
Lineated Woodpecker	
Red-necked Woodpecker	4+ seen and heard along Las Claritas road
Crimson-crested Woodpecker	
Wedge-billed Woodcreeper	very common along Las Claritas road, a few elsewhere
Long-billed Woodcreeper	one beauty seen along Rio Branco; to my surprise, not previously recorded anywhere near this area
Cinnamon-throated Woodcreeper	heard at Río Grande
Straight-billed Woodcreeper	numerous around El Palmar and through Roraima
Striped Woodcreeper	a couple along Rio Branco
Chestnut-rumped Woodcreeper	heard Río Grande and along Las Claritas road
Buff-throated Woodcreeper	numerous (esp. voice) at Río Grande and up to lower Escalera
Streak-headed Woodcreeper	fairly common in deciduous woods near El Palmar
Lineated Woodcreeper	a few seen and heard on Escalera and along Las Claritas road
Curve-billed Scythebill	one seen at Río Grande, then a nifty close pair with understory flock along Las Claritas road
Pale-legged Hornero	a pair along in riparian woodland Rio Branco, also heard and glimpsed along the Boa Vista road
Pale-breasted Spinetail	

Bird	Note
MacConnell's Spinetail	nice pair in undergrowth of forest edge on upper Escalera, taped and well seen (responsive for once)
Plain-crowned Spinetail	heard along Rio Bravo
Tepui Spinetail	astonishingly few, a couple pairs in forest edge of upper Escalera and near Soldier's Monument, independent of mixed flocks
Rusty-backed Spinetail	heard in riparian tangles through Roraima
Yellow-chinned Spinetail	common near water in El Palmar area, and again locally along Boa Vista road
Roraiman Barbtail	one glimpsed by David only, upper Escalera; I still have no tape of this
Olive-backed Foliage-gleaner	one seen very well (perching motionless for 10 minutes!) in forest undergrowth along Las Claritas road
White-throated Foliage-gleaner	one individual seen (and perhaps another heard) in stunted forest of upper Escalera, responding (eventually) to tape playback; the voice (taped) is <u>Syndactyla</u> -like though in plumage it more resembles <u>Automolus</u>
Plain Xenops	a few at Rio Grande and along Las Claritas road (birds originally ID'd by David as Slender-billeds were this species)
Fasciated Antshrike	heard at Rio Grande
Great Antshrike	heard in Roraima
Black-crested Antshrike	fairly common in deciduous woodland around El Palmar, and again in riparian woodland through Roraima
Barred Antshrike	
Mouse-colored Antshrike	heard at Rio Grande and along Las Claritas road
Guianan Slaty-Antshrike, <u>Thamnophilus punctatus</u>	(numerous other slaty-antshrikes in South America have now been split out as full species, all allopatric) heard in Roraima
Streak-backed Antshrike	nice pair in stunted forest of upper Escalera, responding (eventually) to tape playback
Cinereous Antshrike	seen at Rio Grande and along Las Claritas road (pair with understory flock)
Pygmy Antwren	several pairs seen and heard at Rio Grande, also heard along Las Claritas road
Brown-bellied Antwren	pair with understory flock along Las Claritas road
White-flanked Antwren	pair with understory flock along Las Claritas road
Long-winged Antwren	one at Rio Grande, then a pair with understory flock along Las Claritas road
Gray Antwren	pair with understory flock along Las Claritas road
Todd's Antwren	heard along Las Claritas road
Roraiman Antwren	small nos. on Escalera (but fewer than I recall in the past, perhaps not as much singing?)

Bird	Note
White-fringed Antwren	several pairs in riparian woodland along Boa Vista road (but, perhaps only by chance, none along the Branco itself); these ___ were uniform rufous-buff below, very different from the north-Venezuela birds
Ash-winged Antwren	heard with a canopy flock on lower Escalera, but I couldn't spot them
Gray Antbird	heard at Río Grande
Dusky Antbird	heard at Río Grande
Rio Branco Antbird	quite common in riparian woodland along Rio Branco (only on the one island we visited, but I never really had the chance to try for it in similar-looking habitat elsewhere, in fact all along the river doesn't really look like you need to go so far upstream!), but only because it responded pretty well to tape-playback (there was virtually no natural singing due to the steady rain); _ looks for all the world like a _ Jet, but _ with its uniform grayish buff underparts, very different
Warbling Antbird	heard at Río Grande, lower Escalera, and along Las Claritas road, but never had the chance to tape it in
Spot-winged Antbird	nice _ seen and heard along lower Escalera
White-bellied Antbird	quite common in deciduous woodland near El Palmar
Rufous-throated Antbird	heard along Las Claritas road (in fact a small antswarm appeared to be developing here)
Black-faced Antthrush	heard along Las Claritas road
Thrush-like Antpitta	heard at Río Grande and along Las Claritas road
Tepui Antpitta	one beautifully seen in stunted forest on upper Escalera, then several others heard (this seemed to be one species that was vocalizing on its own a fair bit)
Guianan Red-Cotinga	heard along Las Claritas road
(Red-banded Fruiteater	we dipped on this scarce endemic; the fruiteater-like song ascribed to this species by Tom Davis, and perhaps others, seems certain to actually be given by the Olive-backed Tanager, improbable though that may seem)
Screaming Piha	a few heard distantly at Río Grande and along the Las Claritas road, but evidently little vocalizing at this time of the year
Rose-collared Piha	2 birds seen in woodland edge near Soldier's Monument, just as we were leaving the Escalera (just barely pulled that one out of the fire!); we have no idea why this species was so much less in evidence than normally
Spangled Cotinga	1 _ seen along Las Claritas road
Pompadour Cotinga	1 distant _ seen on lower Escalera, a _ seen briefly along Las Claritas road (in same tree as the Spangled), and then a superb _ watched for long time as it preened in a dead tree along road in lower Escalera (the wing-tips looked dusky-purple)
Bare-necked Fruitcrow	1 flying bird along Rio Branco
Purple-throated Fruitcrow	heard along Las Claritas road
Red-ruffed Fruitcrow	1 seen, alas only in flight though it was close (we could not re-locate it), in gallery forest S of Tumaremo, in decidedly unexpected habitat!

Bird	Note
Amazonian Umbrellabird	1 fine _ on island in Rio Branco, seen well
Capuchinbird	great show at active lek along Las Claritas road, displaying much higher above ground than I've seen in Guyana (and somehow I seem to have forgotten to mention the two orange-buff round tufts at base of tail, prominent in display); we must have seen ca. 6 birds, and heard others
White Bellbird	lots singing along the Escalera (as usual much commoner than the Bearded) though as usual amazingly hard to see though we did watch one _ for a long period as it sang and displayed; to my astonishment this doesn't seem to have been described before the _'s wattle is clearly extensible, at times being short (not hanging below throat level), at others being very much longer (hanging below the belly, like an umbrellabird's!)
Bearded Bellbird	several heard along upper Escalera, but we never could manage to spot one, to everyone's disappointment and despite much effort
Guianan Cock-of-the-rock	several ___ seen along lower Escalera, including one superb perched bird that I managed to relocate after it had flown past while we were watching the White Bellbird
Golden-headed Manakin	lovely ___ coming out to feed in low trees at Yakoo Camp
White-crowned Manakin	a few ___ along Las Claritas road
Orange-bellied (Tepui) Manakin	1 _ seen on upper Escalera; there was no display at all, and we never located any fruiting trees, and therefore saw no Scarlet-horneds
Olive Manakin	not uncommon in stunted forest of upper Escalera, where David taught me its distinctive voice (now taped), to which it was responsive; solitary, not associating with mixed flocks
MacConnell's Flycatcher	1 seen on lower Escalera
Sepia-capped Flycatcher	heard on lower Escalera
Slate-headed Tody-Flycatcher	a couple heard at Río Grande, then one seen along Boa Vista road
Ruddy Tody-Flycatcher	this cute little flycatcher was surprisingly numerous in undergrowth at edge of forest and woodland on upper Escalera, more numerous than I've ever found them (and more vocal too, one of the few birds that was)
Spotted Tody-Flycatcher	common in riparian growth along Rio Branco
Common Tody-Flycatcher	
Pearly-vented Tody-Tyrant	common in deciduous woodland; the voice of these birds (I'm not even sure what race they belong to) seems to differ markedly from that of north-Venezuela birds
Painted Tody-Flycatcher	heard at Río Grande
Sooty-headed Tyrannulet	heard at Río Grande
White-lored Tyrannulet	heard at Río Grande, then one was nicely seen at Yakoo Camp
Southern Beardless-Tyrannulet	rather few, I thought
Mouse-colored Tyrannulet	especially common around El Palmar and through Roraima (none on Escalera/Gran Sabana, of course)
Forest Elaenia	

Bird	Note
Greenish Elaenia	quite common in deciduous woodland near El Palmar
Yellow-bellied Elaenia	widespread
Large Elaenia	two solitary and silent birds that certainly looked like this species were studied carefully in Roraima, one along the Rio Branco and the other along Boa Vista road; the species seems not to have been recorded from so far north (only up to around Manaus, never from Venezuela)
Small-billed Elaenia	small nos. through Roraima
Plain-crested Elaenia	several seen in shrubbery around the Soldier's Monument (but, curiously, no Rufous-crowneds were seen)
Sierran (Tepui) Elaenia	fairly common at upper Escalera; vocally this certainly seems like a separate species (<u>E. olivina</u> , Tepui Elaenia) from birds of the Andes, "true" Sierran Elaenia)
Great Elaenia	nice family group of 4 birds (nearly grown fledglings being fed by their parents) seen in the low shrubbery at the Soldier's Monument just as were departing for points south; evidently still scarce here, <u>fide</u> David, though the habitat now looks ideal (here at about the species' lower limit)
Pale-tipped Tyrannulet	fairly common through Roraima
Yellow Tyrannulet	one seen near Boa Vista
Black-fronted Tyrannulet	one pair (only!) with small forest flock on upper Escalera (no sign of any Chapman's Bristle-Tyrants)
Short-tailed Pygmy-Tyrant	heard along Las Claritas road
Helmeted Pygmy-Tyrant	quite common (mostly by voice) along Las Claritas road
Yellow-olive Flatbill (Flycatcher)	several pairs in deciduous woodland near El Palmar, then a few more (same race? same species? in forest on tepuis; I think both were taped)
Zimmer's Flatbill (Flycatcher), <u>Tolmomyias assimilis</u>	(this is the "temporary" name for Amazonian members of this species, which will soon be split apart; birds from Costa Rica to w. Ecuador are now considered to be <u>T. flavotectus</u> , Yellow-margined Flatbill) several birds seen and heard (and taped) at Río Grande; these sound <u>very</u> different from birds of w. Amazonia (actually more resembling voice of trans-Andean birds)
Yellow-breasted Flatbill (Flycatcher)	fairly common (mainly by voice) at Río Grande/El Palmar, then again through Roraima
Roraiman Flycatcher	one evidently this seen (though not by me) in stunted woodland on upper Escalera
Cliff Flycatcher	usual pair at the Piedra de Virgen
Fuscous Flycatcher	several seen and heard in riparian growth along Rio Branco
Smoke-colored Pewee	fairly common on the Escalera
Vermillion Flycatcher	common in savannas through Roraima
Rufous-tailed Tyrant	small nos. at forest edge on the Escalera
Pied Water-Tyrant	common near ponds in the Río Grande/El Palmar area, but conspicuously - and inexplicably - absent from comparable habitat in Roraima

Bird	Note
White-headed Marsh-Tyrant	a few near water in the Río Grande/El Palmar area (easily outnumbered by Pied), but then common through Roraima (unlike the Pied)
Long-tailed Tyrant	one seen at Río Grande
Cattle Tyrant	fairly common in Río Grande/El Palmar area, but then strangely absent through Roraima
Cinnamon Attila	heard at Río Grande
Grayish Mourner	heard along Las Claritas road
Short-crested Flycatcher	fairly common in riparian situations in Roraima; no Swainson's, though, at least as far as I could tell (I still haven't figured <u>phaeonotus</u> out, am not even sure what its habitat is)
Brown-crested Flycatcher	several in deciduous woods near El Palmar, then widespread through Roraima
Variegated Flycatcher	widespread and generally numerous (I guess there may have been both residents and austral migrants? didn't really check, but should have; no vocalizing heard)
Boat-billed Flycatcher	
Yellow-throated Flycatcher	a pair nicely seen at Río Grande, then more along Las Claritas road
Streaked Flycatcher	only resident birds, no austral migrants
Rusty-margined Flycatcher	widespread and fairly common
Social Flycatcher	despite my initial doubts, several pairs were definitely this species (and not the more numerous Rusty-margined) in the El Palmar area (including a nest); a few more along the Las Claritas road too
Piratic Flycatcher	common and vocalizing in Río Grande/El Palmar area, but then no more; some were in small groups (so may have been austral migrants?)
Great Kiskadee	
Lesser Kiskadee	few, I think only at Río Grande
Tropical Kingbird	common and widespread, with numerous flocks (some large) of presumed austral migrants
White-throated Kingbird	one seen with the flocks of Tropical Kingbirds at Yakoo Camp, feeding with them at a hatch of winged termites
Fork-tailed Flycatcher	common in El Palmar area, a few resident birds in scrub around Soldier's Monument and scattered southward across Gran Sabana, then much more numerous through Roraima (where there were both residents and presumed austral migrants, at least many were in flocks, sometimes with Tropical Kingbirds)
White-winged Becard	a few in Roraima
Cinereous Becard	one _ at Río Grande
Black-tailed Tityra	decidedly (even inexplicably) scarce, seen only at Río Grande and Las Claritas road
Black-crowned Tityra	one _ in Roraima

Bird	Note
Cayenne Jay	pair in deciduous woodland near El Palmar, then a good flock (6+?) at Henry's, and heard at Yakoo Camp
Rufous-browed Peppershrike	
Slaty-capped Shrike-Vireo	heard along lower Escalera
Red-eyed Vireo	common in deciduous woodland and borders around El Palmar and southward in gallery forest, then widespread through Roraima
Lemon-chested Greenlet	one heard from bridge over Río Cuyuní
Ashy-headed Greenlet	ca. 5-6 seen and heard in riparian growth along Rio Branco
Tepui Greenlet	heard and poorly seen along lower Escalera (this species was notably scarcer, or less vocal, than is normally the case)
Buff-cheeked Greenlet	heard and seen at Río Grande and along lower Escalera
Scrub Greenlet	a pair seen in gallery woodland S of Tumaremo (dark-eyed, with pink bill)
Tawny-crowned Greenlet	pair with understory flock along Las Claritas road
Yellow-legged Thrush	a few seen along upper Escalera
Black-hooded Thrush	small nos. along Escalera (but little or no singing)
Pale-breasted Thrush	a few seen in the Río Grande/El Palmar area, then more through Roraima (where the most numerous thrush, though none was especially common)
Black-billed Thrush	a few in more open areas of Escalera
Bare-eyed Thrush	several seen in the El Palmar area
Tropical Mockingbird	widespread in open areas, both natural and artificial, especially numerous in the extensive Roraima savannas; considerable singing (unlike so many other birds)
Bicolored Wren	fairly common through the Roraima savannas
Coraya Wren	one nice pair seen and heard in forest undergrowth of upper Escalera, others heard (this the very different-looking race <u>ridgwayi</u> - which "looks" like a separate species though it sounds much like lowland Corayas; situation needs examination)
Buff-breasted Wren	common near El Palmar, and then widespread through Roraima in riparian woodland undergrowth
House Wren	
Flutist Wren	several heard along lower Escalera (one taped-in bird was glimpsed by some)
Musician Wren	one group seen and heard at Río Grande
Tropical Gnatcatcher	fairly common around El Palmar and through Roraima
Brown-chested Martin	very common in open areas through Roraima (easily outnumbering Gray-breasted here), apparently a mixture of austral migrants and residents
Gray-breasted Martin	

Bird	Note
White-winged Swallow	
Blue-and-white Swallow	small nos. along the Escalera and on Gran Sabana
White-banded Swallow	about 10 seen at bridge over Río Cuyuní
Black-collared Swallow	common (25+?) at bridge over Río Uraricoera (a major affluent of the Río Branco), some 100 km N of Boa Vista; these birds were in beautiful fresh plumage, and they may even nest under the bridge (several were perching on guard rails)
Tawny-headed Swallow	fairly common on n. part of Gran Sabana (including the Soldier's Monument, where several pairs were nesting in the outhouses), but we did not see any southward, and there were none in Roraima
Southern Rough-winged Swallow	only in Río Grande/El Palmar area, and again through Roraima (where numerous); none on the Gran Sabana
Tropical Parula	small nos. in deciduous woods near El Palmar, then more numerous along the Escalera (but even there, little/no singing)
Slate-throated Whitestart (Redstart)	small nos. along Escalera
Tepui Whitestart	small nos. along Escalera (many fewer than I've noted in the past)
Two-banded Warbler	several pairs seen and heard along the lower Escalera (also taped; I need to compare their song to <u>B. bivittatus</u> on Andean slopes)
Golden-crowned Warbler	one seen in deciduous woodland near El Palmar
Flavescent Warbler	heard along n. part of Boa Vista Road
Streamside (Neotropical River) Warbler	several at Río Grande
Bananaquit	widespread and common (appropriately dubbed the "ubiquiquit"!)
Blue Dacnis	rather few
Green Honeycreeper	very few
Short-billed Honeycreeper	several studied carefully at Río Grande, a bit out of range (as best I can tell, though we recently found it in Guyana for the first time)
Red-legged Honeycreeper	fairly common (but not in Roraima)
Purple Honeycreeper	fairly common (but not in Roraima)
Greater Flowerpiercer	one seen in stunted woodland at upper Escalera (one of the first birds we saw there, then nary another)
Yellow-backed Tanager	several seen at Río Grande
Opal-rumped Tanager	about 3 seen along the Las Claritas road
Black-headed Tanager	small nos. at forest borders along the Escalera (<u>whitelyi</u> , a strong candidate for full species status - but then so are various other disjunct <u>Tangara</u> populations)
Burnished-buff Tanager	fairly common in scrub on the Gran Sabana, and in savannas and gallery woodland through Roraima
Bay-headed Tanager	widespread and fairly common at Río Grande, around Las Claritas, and on the Escalera; none Roraima

Bird	Note
Speckled Tanager	a few on the Escalera
Spotted Tanager	several seen at Yakoo Camp
Yellow-bellied Tanager	fairly common along the Escalera
Paradise Tanager	common (several flocks) along Las Claritas road, then a trio was seen even better at Yakoo Camp
Turquoise Tanager	fairly common at Rio Grande
Blue-naped Chlorophonia	heard along upper Escalera
Orange-bellied Euphonia	small nos. along Escalera
Violaceous Euphonia	lovely pair seen at Rio Grande
Finsch's Euphonia	1 nice _ along Boa Vista road (we were getting hassled by the Indian authorities at the time)
Purple-throated Euphonia	either this or Trinidad Euphonia heard near El Palmar; then others definitely this species in Roraima
Blue-gray Tanager	
Palm Tanager	widespread, with amazing early-morning passage seen at Yakoo Camp (dozens of birds, flying with Tropical Kingbirds - what on earth was going on?)
Silver-beaked Tanager	
White-winged Tanager	one trio seen along Escalera
White-lined Tanager	common in the Rio Grande/El Palmar area, but then no more
Flame-crested Tanager	several seen at Rio Grande
Fulvous-crested Tanager	at least one _ seen at Rio Grande
Red-shouldered Tanager	a few seen in scrub along Escalera and at Soldier's Monument (not as many as usual)
Fulvous Shrike-Tanager	at least one pair at Rio Grande
Olive-backed Tanager	fairly common along Escalera, usually in monospecific groups of 4-8 birds (sometimes a few other species joining in)
Black-faced Tanager	fairly common in shrubby areas on Gran Sabana, including a close family group at Soldier's Monument (feeding 2 young)
Magpie Tanager	one seen at Rio Grande
Red-capped Cardinal	common along Rio Branco, also several seen along rivers crossed by the Boa Vista road
Yellow-green Grosbeak	large flocks seen along the lower Escalera and Las Claritas road
Buff-throated Saltator	
Grayish Saltator	fairly common through Roraima
Slate-colored Grosbeak	several at Rio Grande, heard Las Claritas road
Blue-black Grosbeak	several at Rio Grande
Blue-black Grassquit	

Bird	Note
Gray Seedeater	a few in Roraima
Lesson's Seedeater	small nos. seen near El Palmar (not singing; most of these were ____, and there did not appear to be any Lineds with them)
Yellow-bellied Seedeater	several near El Palmar, then multiple singing ___ at Yakoo Camp
Ruddy-breasted Seedeater	a few near El Palmar, then widespread in Gran Sabana and Roraima savannas, the ___ singing
Lesser Seed-Finch	widespread, with a few ___ singing even along Escalera clearings
Rufous-collared Sparrow	fairly common in shrubby areas on the Gran Sabana, a few on the Escalera
Grassland Sparrow	a few seen in Roraima savannas; no singing
Tepui Brush-Finch	common at forest edge along the Escalera, many family groups with juveniles being seen; though David kept going on about how numerous the species seemed to be, I thought nos. were about on a par with my previous visits
Stripe-tailed Yellow-Finch	one nice singing _ in a shrubby area on the Gran Sabana
Grassland Yellow-Finch	a few small flocks in Roraima savannas and ricefields
Wedge-tailed Grass-Finch	a few on the Gran Sabana, but very little singing so much less conspicuous than the species can be
Crested Oropendola	common at Río Grande; not nesting
Green Oropendola	fairly common at Río Grande, lower Escalera, and along Las Claritas road
Yellow-rumped Cacique	small nos. seen in Río Grande/El Palmar area, and again through Roraima; not nesting
Red-rumped Cacique	fairly common along Las Claritas road
Orange-backed Troupial, <u>L. croconotus</u>	(now usually treated as a separate species from <u>L. icterus</u>) quite common in open country through Roraima; note that at the time I did not fully comprehend that this, the Amazonian form, was the species involved here
Yellow Oriole	common and widespread through Roraima (where seemingly not recorded previously)
Moriche Oriole	a few pairs in Roraima, seen best at the Santa Elena airport where a bird was singing in the rain; several were actually associated with <u>Mauritia</u> palms, something - despite its name - I have not often noted
Yellow-hooded Blackbird	scattered pairs around small ponds in Río Grande area; however, strikingly absent from Roraima
Red-breasted Blackbird	common in Roraima grasslands, also some in Río Grande pastures
Eastern Meadowlark	fairly common in Roraima grasslands, also some in Río Grande pastures
Tepui Mountain-Grackle (Golden-tufted Grackle)	common at forest edge along Escalera, usually in monospecific flocks of up to 15-20 birds
Shiny Cowbird	common in Río Grande/El Palmar area, and again through Roraima
Giant Cowbird	a few in Roraima were, remarkably, the only ones

Bird	Note
Hooded Siskin	a couple pretty pairs in the savanna at Yakoo Camp
