

PANAMA EXPEDITION TRIP SUMMARY - 2004

PANAMA SUMMARY – 2004 (04/26/04)

TRIP SUMMARY

A. INTRODUCTION:

Thank you for participating on our Panama expedition. I feel that the trip was very successful. I very much appreciate all of your help and great senses of humor. You were all wonderful!

We saw a tremendous number of bird species (310) and a good variety of mammals. We also saw some of the most beautiful scenery in the world.

Included in this report are the Top Ten Birds, Trip Highlights, Location Summaries, and Bird and Mammal Checklists

I look forward to traveling with you again in the near future!

Best Regards,

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B. TOP “TEN” BIRDS:

At the end of our program, I asked participants to provide a listing of their favorite birds for the trip. Birds could be included on the list for any number of reasons including rarity, beauty, behavior, or just because participants liked them.

The following is the consensus list.

1. Rufous-crested Coquette
2. Blue-crowned Motmot
3. Rosy Thrush-Tanager
4. Tody Motmot
5. Swallow-tailed Kite
6. Southern Lapwing
7. Ocellated Antbird
8. Crimson-backed Tanager
9. Black-headed Antthrush
10. Yellow-faced Grassquit

TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

Participants also shared their trip highlights. I hope that these highlights will bring back happy memories of our trip—they certainly did for me!

1. being amazed by the army ant swarm and seeing all of the attendant antbirds (e.g., Bicolored Antbird, Ocellated Antbird, etc.) along Pipeline Road;
2. watching the flocks of Mississippi Kites flying by Canopy Tower (400+ birds);
3. having the Swallow-tailed Kites soaring overhead (El Valle);
4. seeing the female Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth with her baby in the cecropia tree immediately off the Canopy Tower observation deck;
5. enjoying the Harpy Eagle exhibit (Summit Gardens);
6. enjoying all of the excellent food; fresh juices;
7. sharing many good laughs with the group;
8. discovering the Capped Heron at the Summit Ponds at night;
9. finding the Common Pauragues in the leaves along Old Gamboa Road;
10. watching the Kinkajou in the forest canopy (night ride at Canopy Tower);
11. having an “ice cream party” (Summit Gardens);
12. actually seeing the orange on the Orange-chinned Parakeets;
13. being “bombarded” by hummingbirds at the Canopy Tower;
14. driving along Pipeline Road with a surprise around almost every corner;
15. experiencing rainforests—the sights, sounds, and smells;
16. being with a group that helped each other have a great time; sharing highlights each evening;
17. hearing the Mantled Howler Monkeys each morning at Canopy Tower;
18. having a complete field guide (You had to know that I would put this one on the list!);
19. seeing the Black-headed Antbird singing, shaking all over (El Valle);
20. getting great looks of many of the birds that I had hoped to see;
21. sitting in the dark listening to the night sounds along the road up Semaphore Hill;
22. reviewing my photos each evening – hoping for the “perfect shot;”
23. meeting and having the expert services of Carlos Bethancourt (Canopy Tower);
24. watching the ships go through Miraflores locks; visiting the canal museum;
25. being able to look down into the forest canopy from the roof of Canopy Tower;
26. seeing some incredible orchids;
27. experience birding in a mixed flock; having everyone calling off different bird names;
28. being rewarded with an excellent look of the Green Shrike-Vireo (finally);
29. enjoying lunch and birding from the home of Denise and Raul;
30. having the “popcorn” at the manakin leks;
31. enjoying the Easter morning sunrise; listening to the rainforest awaken;
32. stargazing from the roof of Canopy Tower;
33. birding Achioté Road—so many birds in such a small area (trogons, orioles, tanagers, woodpeckers, etc.); and
34. being part of a great team!

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PANAMA SUMMARY – 2004 (04/20/04)

LOCATION SUMMARIES FOR THE BIRD AND MAMMAL CHECKLISTS

04/05

This column includes all species seen at the Canopy Tower starting prior to dawn, during our walk along the Canopy Tower (Semaphore Hill) access road for approximately one mile (8:30 a.m. - noon), and during our visit to the Ammo Dump Ponds area (3 p.m. - 5 p.m.).

04/06

Includes two site references:

The first number represents all species seen en route to and during our visit to the Tocumen Marsh rice fields (6 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.) and during our drive to the Cerro Azul area (10:30 a.m. - noon).

The second number represents all species seen during our visit to the Cerro Azul area (noon - 3:45 p.m.).

04/07

Includes all species seen during our all-day field trip to the Achioté Road area on the Caribbean coast, at the fortress San Lorenzo, and during our train ride from Colon to Panama City (4:30 a.m. - 5:45 p.m.).

04/08

Includes all species seen at the Canopy Tower starting prior to dawn, during our walk along Old Gamboa Road (7:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.), at the Summit Gardens (2:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.), and at the Plantation Road (5 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.).

04/09

Includes all species seen during our all-day field trip along Pipeline Road and during a brief visit to the Chagres River area (6 a.m. - 6 p.m.), and during a night ride to the Summit Pond area (8:30 p.m. - 10 p.m.).

04/10

Includes all species seen during our visit to the Metropolitan Park (6:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.), at the Panama City Waterfront (10:30 - 11:30 a.m.), and at Miraflores Visitors Center (2:15 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.).

04/11

Includes two site references:

The first number represents all species seen on the grounds of the Canopy Tower (6 a.m. - 9 a.m.).

The second number represents all species seen in the El Valle area including the Cariguana Trail (1 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.)

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LOCATION SUMMARIES FOR THE BIRD AND MAMMAL CHECKLISTS

04/12

Includes all species seen along La Mesa Road (6 a.m. - noon), at the home of Raul and Denise de Arias (noon - 3:30 p.m.), and along the Canopy Adventure Trail (3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.).

04/13

Includes all species seen in the El Valle area including along the Cerro Gaytal Trail (6 a.m. - noon) and along the Saima Trail (3 p.m. - 6 p.m.).

NOTES ON CHECKLISTS

H = The species indicated was heard, not seen.

C = The species indicated was easily seen in the location noted.

Commonly Seen Throughout Trip = The species was easily seen in every, or almost every, location we visited.

PANAMA EXPEDITION TRIP SUMMARY - 2004

BIRD AND MAMMAL CHECKLISTS

Dates:	4/05	4/06	4/07	4/08	4/09	4/10	4/11	4/12	4/13
Tinamou, Great	H								
Tinamou, Little		0/H							
Grebe, Pied-billed			3						
Pelican, Brown	12	C/0	C		6	C			
Cormorant, Neotropic		1/0				C	3/0		
Anhinga		1/0	2		1	1			
Frigatebird, Magnificent	C	C/0	C		10	C			
Tiger-Heron, Rufescent		1/0			1				
Heron, Great Blue			1			1			
Heron, Cocoi		2/0							
Egret, Great		C/01	10			20			
Egret, Snowy		4/0	2			4			
Heron, Little Blue	1		1		2	6			
Heron, Tricolored					1				
Egret, Cattle		12/0	10	2	3			20	1
Heron, Green (-backed)	1	8/0		2	12				
Heron, Striated		2/0			2				
Heron, Capped					1				
Night-Heron, Black-crowned		4/0							
Night-Heron, Yellow-crowned		20/0				1			
Heron, Boat-billed		12/0		1					
Ibis, White		2/0							
Vulture, Black			Commonly Seen Throughout Trip						
Vulture, Turkey			Commonly Seen Throughout Trip						
Vulture, King					1				
Osprey	2	2/2	3	1	1				
Kite, Gray-headed				1					3
Kite, Swallow-tailed			2						10
Kite, White-tailed		1/0							
Kite, Snail		1/0	26						
Kite, Mississippi							400/0		
Kite, Plumbeous		4/0	1						
Hawk, Crane						1			
Hawk, Barred								1	
Black-Hawk, Common			2						
Hawk, Savanna		1/0							
Hawk, Gray			1						
Hawk, Roadside		1/0							
Hawk, Broad-winged		2/0	2						
Hawk, Short-tailed				2					

PANAMA EXPEDITION TRIP SUMMARY - 2004

BIRD AND MAMMAL CHECKLISTS

Dates:	4/05	4/06	4/07	4/08	4/09	4/10	4/11	4/12	4/13
Hawk, Swainson's	1	C/0							
Hawk, Zone-tailed			1						
Caracara, Crested		2/0	4	1					
Caracara, Yellow-headed		1/0	1						
Forest-Falcon, Barred									2
Forest-Falcon, Collared	H			H	H		H/0		
Kestrel, American		0/1							
Falcon, Bat							0/2		1
Chachalaca, Gray-headed					8				
Crake, White-throated	1	1/0	1						
Wood-Rail, Gray-necked				2	1			H	3
Gallinule, Purple		1/0	2		3				
Moorhen, Common			4		12				
Lapwing, Southern		2/0	2			2	1/0		
Plover, Black-bellied						2			
Plover, Semipalmated						2			
Jacana, Wattled	6	4/0	8	2	20				
Yellowlegs, Greater						1			
Sandpiper, Solitary		1/0		1					
Willet						20			
Sandpiper, Spotted		1/0			1	2			
Whimbrel						6			
Godwit, Marbled						4			
Turnstone, Ruddy						1			
Sandpiper, Western						12			
Sandpiper, Least						1			
Gull, Laughing	2	C/0			12	C	1/0		
Tern, Royal						1			
Tern, Sandwich					3	20			
Pigeon (Dove), Rock		C/0	20			C	C/C		3
Pigeon, Pale-vented	6	0/2	10	10	12	2	4/2	2	4
Pigeon, Scaled	12	0/2		4		1	3/0		
Ground-Dove, Plain-breasted		2/0							
Ground-Dove, Ruddy			Commonly Seen Throughout Trip						
Dove, White-tipped	6	2/2	6	6	2		0/2	6	2
Dove, Gray-chested					2				
Parakeet, Orange-chinned	C	C/0	C	C	C	C		10	3
Parrot, Blue-headed			12	5	2	2	2/0	2	
Parrot (Amazon), Red-lored	6		4		2		2/0		
Parrot (Amazon), Mealy	8	2/0	C	C	C	2			

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Dates:	4/05	4/06	4/07	4/08	4/09	4/10	4/11	4/12	4/13
Cuckoo, Squirrel		2/0	2	2	4	4	0/1		1
Cuckoo, Pheasant					3		H/0		
Ani, Greater				3					
Ani, Smooth-billed		C/0	C	6				10	2
Owl, Crested					H				
Owl, Spectacled				1					
Nighthawk, Common							0/H		H
Pauraque, Common				2					
Potoo, Great					1	1			
Swift, White-collared			20						
Swift, Chimney	6								
Swift, Short-tailed	12			2					
Swift, Band-rumped				20		2			
Hermit, Rufous-breasted								1	
Hermit, Green		0/2							
Hermit, Long-tailed	1			1	2	1	1/1		
Hermit, Little				1			0/1	1	1
Jacobin, White-necked	C	1/0	2	C	C	C			
Mango, Black-throated		2/0		1				2	
Coquette, Rufous-crested								1	
Emerald, Garden							0/4	C	2
Woodnymph, Crowned								1	
Hummingbird, Sapphire-thr'd.		2/0	1						
Hummingbird, Violet-bellied	6	0/1	1	6		10	4/0	2	
Hummingbird, Blue-chested	3		2	2		2	2/0		
Hummingbird, Snowy-bellied	2			2	2	2	2/2	4	3
Hummingbird, Rufous-tailed		0/1		1	1	1		C	12
Plumeleteer, White-vented	1			1	1	1	1/1		
Plumeleteer, Bronze-tailed		0/2							
Brilliant, Green-crowned								2	
Fairy, Purple-crowned			2					1	
Starthroat, Long-billed							0/1		
Trogon, White-tailed			1						
Trogon, Violaceous	2		3	H	4				
Trogon, Orange-bellied									3
Trogon, Black-tailed			1						1
Trogon, Black-throated					2				1
Trogon, Slaty-tailed	3		2	4	2			2	
Motmot, Tody								1	
Motmot, Blue-crowned				H	1	2	0/2	2	1

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Dates:	4/05	4/06	4/07	4/08	4/09	4/10	4/11	4/12	4/13
Motmot, Rufous				1	4	1	1/0	4	
Motmot, Broad-billed	4				6				
Kingfisher, Ringed		6/0	3		2				
Kingfisher, Green			2	1					
Kingfisher, Amazon		1/0		2					
Kingfisher, American Pygmy		1/0							
Puffbird, White-necked				2					
Puffbird, Black-breasted			1		1		1/0		
Puffbird, Pied			2						
Puffbird, White-whiskered	1								
Barbet, Spot-crowned			1						
Toucanet, Emerald									1
Aracari, Collared			8						
Toucan, Keel-billed	15	0/2	C	C	C	3	10/2	C	4
Toucan, Chestnut-mandibled	8		C	C	C	2	2/0		
Woodpecker, Black-cheeked		0/1	6	2					
Woodpecker, Red-crowned	4	8/4	C	C		2	0/4	6	6
Woodpecker, Cinnamon			1		1				
Woodpecker, Lineated			2						
Woodpecker, Crimson-crested			1	1		1			
Xenops, Plain				2	1				
Woodcreeper, Plain-brown				2					1
Woodcreeper, Olivaceous						1			
Woodcreeper, Wedge-billed					1				
Barred-Woodcreeper, Northern (Woodcreeper, Barred)					2				
Woodcreeper, Cocoa (Woodcreeper, Buff-thr.)	4		2	4	6	2	2/2	4	6
Woodcreeper, Black-striped					1				
Woodcreeper, Spotted								1	
Antshrike, Fasciated	2			2				2	
Antshrike, Great				1					
Antshrike, Barred	1						0/4	1	
Slaty-Antshrike, Western (Antshrike, Slaty)	6	0/1			6	2			
Antvireo, Plain									2
Antvireo, Spot-crowned					H				
Antwren, Slaty									1
Antwren, White-flanked					1				
Antwren, Dot-winged	6			1	5			1	
Antbird, Dusky				4	1	2			

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Dates:	4/05	4/06	4/07	4/08	4/09	4/10	4/11	4/12	4/13
Antbird, Jet				2					
Antbird, White-bellied				1		1	0/2	2	
Antbird, Chestnut-backed								1	1
Antbird, Spotted					2				
Antbird, Bicolored					1				
Antbird, Ocellated					1				
Antthrush, Black-faced			1		1				
Antthrush, Black-headed									1
Antpitta, Streak-chested (Antpitta, Spectacled)					3				
Tyrannulet, Paltry		0/1					1/0		
Beardless-Tyrannulet, Southern						H			
Tyrannulet, Yellow-crowned						1			
Elaenia, Forest	1					2			
Elaenia, Greenish				2					
Elaenia, Yellow-bellied			2			2	0/4	4	1
Elaenia, Lesser								2	2
Flycatcher, Ochre-bellied	1								
Pygmy-Tyrant, Blk.-capped					1				
Pygmy-Tyrant, Scale-crested									1
Bentbill, Southern				1	1				
Tody-Flycatcher, Common	1	4/0		4	1	2	0/2	4	
Flycatcher, Yellow-olive				1					
Flycatcher, Ruddy-tailed					1				
Wood-Pewee, Eastern		1/0							
Phoebe, Black		0/1							
Tyrant, Long-tailed			3						
Attila, Bright-rumped	6			1	1	1			
Mourner, Speckled					1				
Flycatcher, Dusky-capped	2						0/1		
Flycatcher, Panama	3	2/0							
Flycatcher, Great Crested					H			H	
Kiskadee, Lesser	2			2					
Kiskadee, Great	1	1/0	4	4	6	4		2	1
Flycatcher, Boat-billed		1/0				2	0/1		1
Flycatcher, Rusty-margined	1	1/0		3					
Flycatcher, Social	6	C/0	C	C	C	C	0/C	C	C
Flycatcher, Gray-capped			4						
Flycatcher, Streaked	2		2	6				2	1
Flycatcher, Piratic	4		1	2					

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Dates:	4/05	4/06	4/07	4/08	4/09	4/10	4/11	4/12	4/13
Kingbird, Tropical									
Kingbird, Eastern	60			6		2		30/0	
Flycatcher, Fork-tailed		3/0	2		1	1			
Becard, Cinnamon			1						
Becard, White-winged		0/1				2		1	
Tityra, Masked	6	0/1	6		1			2	
Tityra, Black-crowned	2		1		1				
Cotinga, Blue			2	2			1/0		
Fruitcrow, Purple-throated					6				
Manakin, Golden-collared			6	6					6
Manakin, White-ruffed								1	
Manakin, Lance-tailed		0/1				1	0/2		2
Manakin, Blue-crowned	1								
Manakin, Red-capped	1				1				
Martin, Gray-breasted									
Swallow, Mangrove	2		2	2	12				
Swallow, S. Rough-winged									
Swallow, Cliff		3/0	6						
Swallow, Barn	C	C/C	C	C					
Jay, Black-chested			3	2			0/2	1	1
Wren, White-headed			4						
Wren, Black-bellied	1		1		1			1	
Wren, Bay			1	1	3			4	2
Wren, Rufous-breasted						2	0/1	1	
Wren, Rufous-and-white						1			2
Wren, Buff-breasted		1/0		1				1	1
Wren, Plain		4/0	6	4					1
Wren, House	2	0/2				1	0/2	C	C
Wren, White-breasted					1				
Gnatcatcher, Tropical				1			1/0		
Nightingale-Thrush, Or.-billed									1
Thrush, Swainson's				2			0/2		
Robin (Thrush), Clay-colored									
Mockingbird, Tropical	1	2/0	8	2	1	2			
Vireo, Philadelphia							1/0		
Vireo, Red-eyed					1				
Vireo, Yellow-green	2			2		2	0/2		1
Greenlet, Scrub		4/0		2					
Greenlet, Golden-fronted		1/0		1					
Greenlet, Lesser	C		6	1		1	2/0	1	2

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Dates:	4/05	4/06	4/07	4/08	4/09	4/10	4/11	4/12	4/13
Shrike-Vireo, Green				1		1	3/0		
Warbler, Golden-winged	1								
Warbler, Tennessee								2	
Warbler, Yellow	1	1/0		1					
Warbler, Chestnut-sided	6	0/2		3				2	4
Warbler, Blackburnian							1/0	2	
Warbler, Bay-breasted	4	0/2				1	3/0	2	2
Waterthrush, Northern		1/0		2					
Warbler, Mourning									1
Yellowthroat, Common		1/0							
Warbler, Wilson's			1						
Warbler, Canada									1
Warbler, Rufous-capped							0/3	2	4
Bananaquit		0/1	2	1				6	C
Tanager, Plain-colored	2		2	2		6		4	
Tanager, Silver-throated								6	6
Tanager, Bay-headed		0/1						3	
Tanager, Rufous-winged		0/2							
Tanager, Golden-hooded		0/2		2				4	
Dacnis, Scarlet-thighed		0/2							1
Dacnis, Blue	8		2						
Honeycreeper, Green		0/4	2	4		2		2	
Honeycreeper, Red-legged	2	0/2		1	2	2	0/1	2	
Euphonia, Yellow-crowned		0/1	2	4			0/2	1	
Euphonia, Thick-billed	6			2		2	0/4	6	12
Euphonia, Fulvous-vented	1		1						
Euphonia, Tawny-capped								2	4
Tanager, Blue-gray			Commonly Seen Throughout Trip						
Tanager, Palm			Commonly Seen Throughout Trip						
Tanager, Gray-headed				4	2				
Tanager, White-shouldered	8	0/1		6	10	6	0/2	4	2
Tanager, Tawny-crested								6	4
Tanager, White-lined								2	2
Ant-Tanager, Red-crowned								3	1
Ant-Tanager, Red-throated	2			2					
Tanager, Hepatic		0/2						1	1
Tanager, Summer			2			1			
Tanager, Scarlet			1			3			
Tanager, Crimson-backed	2	4/1	12	C		6	0/6	C	10
Tanager, Flame-rumped			4					C	6

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Dates:	4/05	4/06	4/07	4/08	4/09	4/10	4/11	4/12	4/13
Thrush-Tanager, Rosy						2			
Tanager, Dusky-faced								2	
Saltator, Streaked		2/0		2			0/1	2	
Saltator, Buff-throated		1/0	2	1			0/1	2	2
Saltator, Black-headed			2					1	
Grosbeak, Slate-colored	1				1				
Grosbeak, Black-faced								2	2
Grosbeak, Rose-breasted	2		1	1		1			
Grosbeak, Blue-black						1			
Sparrow, Orange-billed				1				3	
Sparrow, Black-striped		4/2					0/2	8	
Grassquit, Blue-black	1	C/0	2	10	10		0/3	6	
Seedeater, Variable	6	C/0	1	10	10	6	0/3	6	
Seedeater, Yellow-bellied	2	8/0							
Seedeater, Ruddy-breasted	2	2/0							
Seed-Finch, Lesser			1			1			1
Grassquit, Yellow-faced		0/C						4	6
Blackbird, Red-breasted		12/0	1						
Meadowlark, Eastern		H/0							
Grackle, Great-tailed			Commonly Seen Throughout Trip						
Cowbird, Shiny			3				0/1	1	
Cowbird, Giant				2				2	
Oriole, Orchard		1/0							
Oriole, Yellow-backed			3	2	2	1	0/2		
Oriole, Yellow-tailed			2						
Oriole, Baltimore (Northern)				2	1	1			1
Cacique, Yellow-billed			6					2	
Cacique, Scarlet-rumped				1	12	3			
Cacique, Yellow-rumped			6						
Oropendola, Crested			4						
Oropendola, Chestnut-headed			6	C	C	2	0/C	C	C
Sparrow, House			1					1	

TOTAL SPECIES SEEN: 310

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Dates:	4/05	4/06	4/07	4/08	4/09	4/10	4/11	4/12	4/13
Sloth, Br.-throated Three-toed				3	4	2	0/1	1	
Sloth, Hoffmann's Two-toed	1				1	1			
Armadillo, Nine-banded									
Long-nosed	1								
Capuchin, White-thr. (faced)					3				
Monkey, Mantled Howler	C	C/0	C	C	C	C	C/0		
Kinkajou		0/2			1				
Coati, White-nosed	1		1		1	1			
Squirrel, Red-tailed		0/1	1	1	1			1	2
Squirrel, Variegated		1/0	1						
Capybara				1					
Agouti, Central American			2		2				

TOTAL SPECIES SEEN: 11