

Honduras

18th-31st May 2019

Ann and Andrew Duff with Stuart Keenan, Sonia Jupp and Stuart White

Report by Ann Duff

GENERAL INFORMATION

Our tour to Honduras was booked with Alexander Alvarado who had been recommended by Michael Carmody of Legacy Tours with whom Stuart Keenan, Ann and Andrew had travelled previously. Consequently their target lists were shorter than Sonia's and Stuart White's lists. At the British BirdFair in 2018 four of us met with Alex to discuss our target species and based our tour on his standard itinerary with some extra time added at La Tigra and Pico Bonito. We can recommend Alex who did most of the driving as well as guiding; his knowledge of the birds and sites was excellent. His e-mail address is: birdinghonduras@gmail.com.

Included in our itinerary were: 12 nights of good quality accommodation, breakfasts, lunches and dinners, airport transfers, a comfortable air-conditioned vehicle with driver and the services of an excellent guide, Alexander Alvarado. Our focus was on seeing all of the regional endemics available on our itinerary as well as other birds on our target lists. The group's total number of bird species was 227 seen plus 16 heard only.

Flights We booked flights through www.traveltrolley.co.uk and www.budgetair.co.uk. We had a complicated routing as we were combining Honduras with the Yucatan in Mexico. Consequently we flew to Cancun with British Airways then on to Honduras via El Salvador with Avianca. Amazingly all flights were on time.

Visas & taxes No visas were required. There was no departure tax.

Transport in Honduras Alex (and Daniel, our second driver) drove a comfortable 10-seater mini-bus. Road conditions were variable.

Accommodation We stayed: two nights at PANACAM Lodge; two nights at La Casona Hotel Campestre, Marcala; three nights at Hotel Los Gloriales close to La Tigra NP; two nights at La Muralla Hotel, La Union; two nights at Pico Bonito Lodge; and one night at Metrotel Express, San Pedro Sula.

Food and drink Food was standard Central American fare with lots of rice and refried beans.

Currency Lempira; approx. 31 = £1.

Health The usual inoculations are advisable but not compulsory. We encountered some biting insects including a few nasty horse flies.

Timezone UK is 7 hours ahead of Honduras.

Weather Variable: sunshine and showers initially, but cloudy and wet at La Tigra and Pico Bonito; the rainy season had arrived early. There had been a lot of rain and this had an impact on our chances of finding some of the rails and crakes as water levels were high.

Books For birds: *Birds of Central America* by Andrew C. Valley & Dale Dyer (Princeton University Press, 2018). For mammals: *A Field Guide to the Mammals of Central America and Southeast Mexico*

by Fiona A. Reid (Oxford University Press, 1997). For butterflies: *A Swift Guide to Butterflies of Mexico and Central America* (2nd edn.) by Jeffery Glassberg (Princeton University Press, 2017)

SUMMARY OF ITINERARY

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| May 18th | Flight from London Heathrow and arrival in Cancun, Mexico. Overnight at La Hacienda El Ramon, Cancun. |
| May 19th | Flight from Cancun to San Pedro Sula, Honduras via San Salvador. Overnight at PANACAM Lodge. |
| May 20th | Cerro Azul Meambar NP, PANACAM Lodge; El Colijo; Lake Yojoa; La Natureleza Hotel Bird Trail. Overnight at PANACAM Lodge. |
| May 21st | Cerro Azul Meambar NP, PANACAM Lodge; E I Rancho Restaurant & El Cajon hydro-electric dam; Lake Yojoa ; drive to Marcala. Overnight La Casona Hotel. |
| May 22nd | La Casona entrance road; Opatoro-Guajiquiro Highlands. Overnight at La Casona. |
| May 23rd | La Casona complex; Las Moras Mts; drive to La Tigra NP. Overnight at Los Gloriales Inn. |
| May 24th | Drive to Choluteca; Guanacaure; Finca Santa Alejandra; return to Los Gloriales. |
| May 25th | La Tigra NP; Uyuca. Overnight at Los Gloriales Inn. |
| May 26th | Travel day: La Tigra NP to Muralla NP. Overnight at Hotel La Muralla, La Union. |
| May 27th | La Muralla NP; Vallecitos. Overnight at La Muralla Hotel, La Union. |
| May 28th | Vallecitos; La Ceiba; Pico Bonito NP. Overnight at Pico Bonito Lodge. |
| May 29th | Loop trail at Pico Bonito. Overnight at Pico Bonito Lodge. |
| May 30th | Pico Bonito to Cuero y Salado mangroves; drive to San Pedro Sula. Overnight at Metrotel Express. |
| May 31st | Flight to Cancun via San Salvador. |

DAILY DIARY

May 18th Travel day. Overnight in Cancun.

May 19th Transfer to Cancun Airport for 12:50 flight to San Salvador (capital of El Salvador), and onward 14:40 flight to San Pedro Sula, Honduras, arriving at 15:25. Alex and his co-driver, Daniel, met us at the airport and the transfer to PANACAM Lodge (www.panacamlodge.com) took approx. 1hr 30mins. Light rain during the journey had ceased by the time we checked in to our spacious rooms, with a colony of noisy **Chestnut-headed Oropendolas** nesting right outside. Before dinner we had time to watch the hummingbird feeders outside the dining room where **Rufous-tailed Hummingbirds** and **White-bellied Emeralds** predominated and a tree frog was an interesting find.



May 20th Lightning and heavy rain during the night meant we had a wet start looking for two of our target species - **Grey-headed** and **Grey-chested Doves** - however we succeeded in seeing both. Alex pointed out the nest hole of **Keel-billed Motmot** from which we could hear the chicks calling. Soon an adult flew in to feed them and after good views of it we began walking/driving down the road towards the main highway with several stops along the way. Some of the birds seen were: **White-collared Manakin**, **Rufous-and-white Wren**, **Dusky Antbird**, **Scarlet-rumped (Passerini's) Tanager**, **Green-backed Sparrow** and **Prevost's Ground-sparrow**. We continued to Lake Yojoa by which time it was hot so we were pleased that our boat had a canopy. With water levels high we only heard **Spotted Rail**, **Ruddy** and **Yellow-breasted Crakes**, however **Pinnated Bittern** and **Bare-throated Tiger-heron** were good finds.

After lunch and a short siesta while we waited for Stuart White to arrive, we drove to La Natureleza Hotel & Restaurant where we walked the 'aviturismo' track. Our target was **Uniform Crake**

and we heard several but they refused to be coaxed out. On the way back to PANACAM Lodge we stopped again at Lake Yojoa for an evening walk along a boardwalk for **Common Barn-owl** (split by some authorities as American Barn-owl *Tyto furcata*).

May 21st An early start to see if the **Northern Royal Flycatcher** had returned to its nest near the PANACAM Lodge entrance; after the heavy rain on 19th it hadn't been seen there. In spite of the lovely morning it was still absent and a **Central American Agouti** and **White-nosed Coati** were small



compensation. We left PANACAM at 06:00 for El Cajon and the hydro-electric dam area, stopping at El Rancho restaurant for breakfast while enjoying **Azure-crowned** and **Berylline Hummingbirds**, **Green-breasted Mango** and flyby **White-fronted Amazons**. From there we were accompanied by a local guide who took us to his site for the country's only endemic **Honduran Emerald** where we watched two males sparring. Around the dam area we found **Elegant Trogon**, **Fan-tailed Warbler** and heard **Little Tinamou**. Leaving El Cajon we were fortunate to avoid a local protest where villagers had just removed a blockade of branches from across the road. A last stop at

Lake Yojoa for an early lunch produced **Rufous-backed Wren**, **Spotted Sandpiper** and **Red-winged Blackbird**, with **Ruddy** and **Yellow-breasted Crakes** again only heard.

En route to Marcala we encountered heavy rain with thunder and lightning and in La Esperanza the roads were flooded due to the torrential downpour. By the time we reached La Casona Hotel Campestre the sun was out and we were lucky to find a small covey of **Spot-bellied Bobwhites** drying out on the entrance road.

May 22nd Picnic breakfast at La Casona with **Common Nighthawks** hawking and several **Bushy-crested Jays** for company. Left at 05:30 for the Opatoro-Guajiquiro highlands where we birded until 17:00. We spent quite a lot of time seeking good views of one of our main targets, **Buffy-crowned Wood-partridge**, and it wasn't until late in the day that we all achieved good scope views. Solitaires were much in evidence with their distinctive metallic calls (**Brown-backed**) and the more musical notes of **Slate-colored**. A female **Resplendent Quetzal** put in an appearance as well as **Blue-throated Motmot**, **Barred Forest-falcon**, **Mountain Trogon**, **Emerald Toucanet** and eventually good views of the regional endemic **Black-capped Swallow** - another main target.



Over dinner in Marcala we all agreed that we did not need to return to the mountains the next morning as there were no further targets.

May 23rd Mainly a travel day so a relaxed 06:00 start to walk the extensive grounds of the complex of La Casona Hotel Campestre which had been established as a religious community - hence the no-alcohol policy! Sadly it all looked rather rundown but there was lots of good habitat in the network of ponds, lakes and streams with many woodpeckers: **Golden-fronted**, **Lineated**, **Golden-olive** and **Acorn**. **Black-headed Saltator**, **Lesson's Motmot** and **Red-billed Pigeon** were some of the other birds seen there.

We left at 09:15 and drove towards Tegucigalpa, the capital of Honduras, en route to La Tigra NP, a slow journey due to roadworks for a dual carriageway. We turned off the main road and headed into Los Moras mountains before an uphill slog to a bean field to look for **Ocellated Quail**. After heavy rain the track was flooded in places and rather slippery and our only reward was a 5-second flight view of four quail which dropped into the brambles and bracken, not to be seen again! Somewhat frustrated we returned to the vehicle and continued to Los Gloriales Inn for a two-night stay. Heavy rain led to dinner being delayed as we couldn't get from our rooms to the dining room

without getting drenched. Over dinner we all agreed we did not want to try the arduous La Tigra route for Ocellated Quail and Alex proposed a slight change of itinerary for the 25th as more rain was forecast. We would instead drive to Choluteca for **Blue-tailed Hummingbird** - a good result, as this was a bird I'd hoped to see but it wasn't on our itinerary.



May 24th A bad night with rain hammering down - and some of it into our room! The change to the itinerary had been brought forward as it was still raining and we would drive to Choluteca today where better weather was forecast. Traffic was heavy around Tegucigalpa and we didn't arrive at Guanacore until 10:20. We followed the water pipeline into the forest, negotiating a tricky huge boulder and a stream before reaching the best site for the **Blue-tailed Hummingbird**. Alex soon heard and saw one which flew in and out too quickly for the rest of us. Fortunately it quickly returned and was coaxed down to eye-level for great views. We took a different route back, following the lads who were humping bulging sacks of mangoes back to the village. It took us to someone's back garden although no-one was about and there were no barking dogs to give us away.

As there were mangroves nearby some of the group asked if we could try for **Mangrove Rail**. Alex had a good private site and we set off towards Choluteca only to be thwarted by a huge queue of traffic caused by a blockade of teachers and doctors who were protesting about the government's proposed changes to their terms of employment, and there was no way round it as all other routes had also been blockaded. Lunch at a nearby petrol/service station seemed a good idea and by the time we'd eaten the traffic was moving (somewhat cynically it could be said that as it was Friday afternoon the protesters wanted to get home!) At the Finca Santa Alejandro salt pans we had to wait while the gatekeeper confirmed that Alex could be allowed access but we were soon inside and Alex quickly called in a **Mangrove Rail**. We added a few more water birds: **Willet**, **Spotted Sandpiper**, **White Ibis**, **Roseate Spoonbill** and **Snowy Egret** before the long drive back to Los Gloriales in time for dinner. More overnight rain.

May 25th Due to the change in itinerary we would spend an extra night at Los Gloriales so this morning was spent in La Tigra NP where it was cool and misty to start. Alex drove us to a small settlement where there were plants and flowers for sale. It was a very good site for birds too. We saw **Ruddy Crake** just a few feet away, **Orange-billed Nightingale-thrush**, **Green-breasted Mountain-gem**, **Plain Wren** and **Rufous-browed Wren** before driving to the National Park car park. We set off on the Granadillas then the Jucuara Trails, seeing **Singing Quail**, great views of a male **Wine-throated Hummingbird**, **Black-throated Jay**, **Northern Spot-crowned Woodcreeper** and **Chestnut-capped Brush-finch**. Stuart White and Sonja were keen to try for Fulvous Owl (seen by the others at El Triunfo) so Alex took them off on La Esperanza Trail to try for a roosting bird, but without success.

When we were having lunch in the park cafe two birders arrived who knew Alex. They told him about a **Guatemalan Pygmy-owl** they had just seen - a new bird for all of us. It wasn't at La Tigra but about a 90-minute drive away at Uyuaca - not far for a twitch, especially as three of us had run out of new birds to see. The owl was exactly where they had left it, much to our delight and we added **Crescent-chested Warbler** and another **Green-breasted Mountain-gem**. Back to Los Gloriales via a supermarket to buy fresh fruit and vegetables to take with us tomorrow to La Union where it can be difficult to obtain them.

May 26th A final walk around the Los Gloriales garden seeing **Northern Flickers**, **White-fronted Amazons**, **Band-backed Wrens** and **Blue-and-white Mockingbird**. It was still overcast and misty when we left at 06:30; being early on Sunday the traffic was light and we had time to stop for hot chocolate en route to La Muralla NP, Olancho, and the small town of La Union. After checking in to our hotel we had lunch in the small cafe



across the road where we became the focus of interest for the Sunday-morning worshippers as they left the church next to the hotel. We were joined by Nain, the son of Don Pedro who runs the centre at La Muralla and set off at 13:30 to the reserve where we quickly added **Guatemalan Screech-Owl**, **Red-Capped Manakin** and **Red-throated Parakeet** to our list. Then it began to rain so we enjoyed some of Don Pedro's excellent coffee until it eased off and we continued our search for **Northern Nightingale-wren**, only hearing one. We did see **Sparkling-tailed** and **Stripe-tailed Hummingbirds**, **Crested Guan**, **White-crowned Amazon**, **Collared Forest-falcon** and **Keel-billed Toucan** before returning to town.

May 27th An 05:30 start as we needed to be at the right place in good time. We stopped a short distance from the reserve entrance where there was a good view over the valley towards a fruiting tree. We were in luck: a distant **Lovely Cotinga** perched up feeding amongst the leaves where it was amazingly well-camouflaged. After a good picnic breakfast washed down with Don Pedro's coffee we set off to walk the Pizote Loop Trail which was rather hard work due to slippery leaves and tree roots. Not a hint of Spotted Wood-Quail (Don Pedro said he sees them every day without trying!!) however we had good views of **Northern Nightingale-wren**, **Mayan Antthrush**, several **Resplendant Quetzals** (male and female), **Northern Spotted Woodcreeper** and **Laughing Falcon**.



Late afternoon we drove out of La Union to Vallecitos where swifts gather over the ridges. **Spot-breasted** and **Yellow-backed Orioles** along with **Lesser Roadrunner** kept us occupied until the swifts came in to view and we were able to pick out **White-chinned** and **Greater Swallow-tailed Swifts** from amongst the abundant **White-collared Swifts**. We finished the day with seven **Spot-bellied Bobwhites**.

May 28th The itinerary change meant we only had two nights at La Muralla Hotel before moving on to Pico Bonito Lodge. We stopped again at Vallecitos about 17kms from La Union for another look at the swifts. They were flying lower and closer this morning and we had better views of two **Greater Swallow-tailed Swifts**. A wonderful surprise as we drove on was a pair of **Ocellated Quails** feeding by the roadside. They scurried up the bank under some pine trees where they fed unperturbed by our presence and we were able to watch and photograph them until it was time to move on. Also present was a **Canivet's Emerald**, split by some authorities as Salvin's Emerald.

Our next stop (apart from one to photograph some beautiful orchids) was in the coastal town of La Ceiba, at a small private park owned by the Fundacion CREDIA renowned for its **Black-and white Owls**. We had excellent views of two although Alex said there were probably more. Heading out of La Ceiba there was quite a tail-back of heavy lorries as there had been another blockade, however we still got to Pico Bonito Lodge in time to see a roosting **Great Potoo** and the feeders were buzzing with hummingbirds. After checking in to our lovely spacious rooms (they even had a coffee machine!) we set out for a walk at 15:30 only for heavy rain at 15:50 which curtailed our birding. **Mistletoe Tyrannulet** was only heard but **Wedge-billed** and **Olivaceous Woodcreepers**, **Spot-breasted Wren** and **Red-capped Manakin** were seen.



May 29th At 06:30 we started up the Loop Trail - a series of up-hill steps with some flat stretches in between and the return part with moss-covered stones and tree roots. It was a hard five-hour slog in the increasing humidity with some potential new birds heard only and **Central American Pygmy-Owl**, **Tawny-crowned Greenlet** and **Northern Royal Flycatcher** seen. The Central American Spider Monkeys we encountered were most upset by our presence and their non-stop raucous screams made birding difficult.

In the afternoon only Stuart Keenan and Sonia braved the rain and did part of the Loop Trail again, seeing **Black-eared Quail**, **Great Curassow** and **Black-throated Trogon**.

May 30th From Pico Bonito Lodge we travelled to a small 'railway station' for the journey to Cuero y Salado. The train resembles a miniature railway with just two open carriages, one with hard wooden seats and the other with armchair-style seats. We made for the latter and left the others to the armed guards and a contingent of police men and women who were travelling to the reserve for training in conservation issues. The train stopped a couple of times to pick up groups of young school girls as it's the only way they can get to school - there's no road.



We spent a pleasant three hours out on the lake finding **White-necked Puffbird**, **Common Black Hawk**, **Bat Falcon**, **Red-lored Parakeet** and three species of kingfisher though only hearing **American Pygmy-kingfisher** and **Northern Mourner**. **Proboscis Bats** roosting below the reserve notice board were a good find also a **West Indian Manatee** seen lurking in the murky waters.



On the journey back to Sula San Pedro (ready for our early morning flight tomorrow) we encountered three more blockades as the unrest was escalating. The first was cleared quite quickly but the next ones delayed us by several hours. The general public seemed to have a lot of sympathy with the protesters and accepted the situation in a good-natured way. Much of the delay occurs when the blockade is lifted as the police have to sort out six lanes of traffic where there should be two! It was dark when we reached our hotel and we discovered that the airport had been blockaded throughout the day.

May 31st We arrived at the airport at 04:20 long before any of the protesters. Poor Alex was expecting another birding group from America at midday and was concerned about where he would be able to take them.

BIRDS

Great Tinamou *Tinamus major* - heard at Pico Bonito on 29th

Little Tinamou *Crypturellus soui* - heard at PANACAM on 20th and at El Cajon on 21st

Highland Guan *Penelopina nigra* - heard in Opatoro Highlands; 1 seen by leader only on 27th at La Muralla NP

Crested Guan *Penelope purpurascens* - 2 on 26th at La Muralla NP

Great Curassow *Crax rubra* - 1 seen on the Loop Trail at Pico Bonito on 29th

Spot-bellied (Crested) Bobwhite *Colinus leucopogon* - 5, flight view only, on 21st at El Cajun; 5 on entrance road to La Casona; heard on 23rd at Las Moras; 7 on 27th at Vallecitos



Buffy-crowned Wood-partridge *Dendrortyx leucophrys* - 2 on 22nd, Opatoro highlands



Black-eared Wood-quail *Odontophorus melanotis* - heard at Pico Bonito and 1 glimpsed by Sonia on the Loop Trail there on 29th

Tawny-faced Quail *Rhynchortyx cinctus* - heard on the Loop Trail at Pico Bonito on 29th

Singing Quail *Dactylortyx thoracicus* - 2 on 25th at La Tigra NP

Ocellated Quail *Cyrtonyx ocellatus* - 4 flushed and briefly in flight on 23rd at Las Moras; 2 by the roadside en route from Vallecitos to La Ceiba on 28th were seen well



Black-bellied Whistling-duck *Dendrocygna autumnalis* - numerous at Lake Yojoa on 20th & 21st

Fulvous Whistling-duck *Dendrocygna bicolor* - a few at Lake Yojoa on 20th & 21st

Muscovy Duck *Cairina moschata* - 2 at Lake Yojoa on 20th & 21st; a pair on 23rd at La Casona

Pied-billed Grebe *Podilymbus podiceps* - 3 at Lake Yojoa on 20th & 1 on 21st

Feral Pigeon (Rock Dove) *Columba livia* - small numbers around towns and villages

Northern Band-tailed Pigeon *Patagioenas fasciata* - 1 on 21st near La Esperanza; c10 on 22nd Opatoro highlands

Red-billed Pigeon *Patagioenas flavirostris* - 1 on 23rd at La Casona hotel grounds

White-tipped Dove *Leptotila verreauxi* - seen most days

Grey-chested Dove *Leptotila cassinii* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM Lodge

Grey-headed Dove *Leptotila plumbeiceps* - 2 on 20th at PANACAM Lodge

White-faced Quail-dove *Zenrygon albifacies* - 1 on 27th at La Muralla NP

White-winged Dove *Zenaida asiatica* - common and seen most days

Inca Dove *Columbina inca* - 2 on 24th at salt pans near Choluteca

Common Ground-dove *Columbina passerina* - 3 on 23rd at Las Moras

Great Potoo *Nyctibius grandis* - 1 on 28th at daytime roost by entrance road to Pico Bonito Lodge



Common Nighthawk *Chordeiles minor* - at least 2 hawking overhead on 22nd-23rd at La Casona

Black Swift *Cypseloides niger* - 3 on 20th La Naturaleza bird trail

White-chinned Swift *Cypseloides cryptus* - 5 on 27th at Vallecitos

White-collared Swift *Streptoprocne zonaris* - c20 on 22nd at La Casona; 100+ on 27th at Vallecitos

Great Swallow-tailed Swift *Panyptila sanctihieronymi* - 1 on 27th & 28th at Vallecitos

White-necked Jacobin *Florisuga mellivora* - at least 1 on 28th at feeders at Pico Bonito Lodge



Long-billed Hermit *Phaethornis longirostris* - 1 on 28th at feeders at Pico Bonito Lodge

Green-breasted Mango *Anthracothorax prevostii* - 1 on 21st at El Cajon

Canivet's (Salvin's) Emerald *Chlorostilbon salvini* - 1 on 28th en route from La Union to Pico Bonito

Violet Sabrewing *Campylopterus hemileucurus* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM Lodge; several on 28th at Pico Bonito Lodge



Stripe-tailed Hummingbird *Eupherusa eximia* - 1 on 26th at La Muralla NP

Crowned Woodnymph *Thalurania colombica* - several on 28th at Pico Bonito Lodge



Rufous-tailed Hummingbird *Amazilia tzacati* - 1 on 19th & 1+ on 20th at PANACAM Lodge; 1 on 21st at El Cajon; 1 on 29th at Pico Bonito Lodge

Cinnamon Hummingbird *Amazilia rutila* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM Lodge; 1 on 24th at Guanacaure

White-bellied Emerald *Amazilia candida* - several on 19th-20th at PANACAM Lodge

Honduran Emerald *Amazilia luciae* - 2 on 21st by the roadside at El Cajon, the only Honduran endemic

Azure-crowned Hummingbird *Amazilia cyanocephala* - 1 on 21st at El Cajon; 2 on 26th at La Muralla NP



Berylline Hummingbird *Amazilia beryllina* - 2 on 21st at El Cajon;

Blue-tailed Hummingbird *Amazilia cyanura* - 1 male on 24th seen very well at Guanacaure

White-eared Hummingbird *Basilinna leucotis* - 1 on 22nd Opatoro highlands; 1 on 25th at La Tigra NP

Green-breasted Mountain-gem *Lampornis sybillae* - 2 on 25th at La Tigra NP; 1 on 25th at Uyuca; 1 on 27th at La Muralla NP

Sparkling-tailed Woodstar (Hummingbird) *Tilmatura duponti* - 1 on 26th at La Muralla NP

Wine-throated Hummingbird *Atthis ellioti* - stunning views of 1 male on 25th at La Tigra NP; the photos below show vividly how the gorget colour in hummingbirds can change according to the light



Groove-billed Ani *Crotophaga sulcirostris* - several on 21st at El Cajon

Striped Cuckoo *Tapera naevia* - heard on 24th at Guanacaure

Pheasant Cuckoo *Dromococcyx phasianellus* - heard on 26th at La Muralla NP

Lesser Roadrunner *Geococcyx velox* - 1 on 26th at La Muralla NP; 1 on 27th at Vallecitos



Common Squirrel-cuckoo *Piaya cayana* - 1 on 21st at El Cajon dam

Ruddy Crake *Laterallus ruber* - heard on 20th & 21st at Lake Yojoa; 1 on 25th at La Tigra NP

Mangrove Rail *Rallus longirostris* - 1 on 24th at salt pans near Choluteca

Uniform Crake *Amaurolimnas concolor* - 3 heard [1 seen briefly by Alex] on 20th La Naturaleza bird trail

Spotted Rail *Pardirallus maculatus* - heard on 20th at Lake Yojoa

Yellow-breasted Crake *Hapalocrex flaviventer* - heard on 20th & 21st at Lake Yojoa

Purple Gallinule *Porphyrio martinicus* - several on 20th & 21st at Lake Yojoa; 1 on 23rd at La Casona

Common Gallinule *Gallinula galeata* - several on 20th & 21st at Lake Yojoa;

Limpkin *Aramus guarauna* - 4 on 20th & 3+ on 21st at Lake Yojoa

Wood Stork *Mycteria americana* - 1 on 30th at Cuero y Salado

Roseate Spoonbill *Platalea ajaja* - 1 on 24th at salt pans near Choluteca

White Ibis *Eudocimus albus* - 1 on 24th at salt pans near Choluteca

Bare-throated Tiger-heron *Tigrisoma mexicanum* - 2 on 20th at Lake Yojoa; 2 on 30th at Cuero y Salado

Pinnated Bittern *Botaurus pinnatus* - 1 on 20th at Lake Yojoa



Black-crowned Night-Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax* - 2 on 20th Lake Yojoa boardwalk

Green-backed (Green) Heron *Butorides virescens* - 3+ on 20th at Lake Yojoa; 1 on 30th at Cuero y Salado



Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis* - numerous on 21st at Lake Yojoa

Great Blue Heron *Ardea herodias* - 1 on 20th at Lake Yojoa

Great White (Great) Egret *Ardea alba* - numerous on 20th & 21st at Lake Yojoa

Tricolored Heron *Egretta tricolor*- 2 on 30th at Cuero y Salado

Little Blue Heron *Egretta caerulea* - 5+ on 20th & 21st at Lake Yojoa

Snowy Egret *Egretta thula* - 4 on 24th at salt pans near Choluteca

Neotropical (Neotropic) Cormorant *Phalacrocorax brasilianus* - 2 on 24th at salt pans near Choluteca;
1 on 30th at Cuero y Salado



Anhinga *Anhinga anhinga* - 1 on 30th at Cuero y Salado

Black-winged (-necked) Stilt *Himantopus himantopus* - 1 on 21st at Lake Yojoa; 2 on 24th at salt pans near Choluteca

Northern Jacana *Jacana spinosa*- numerous on 20th & 21st at Lake Yojoa; 1 on 30th at Cuero y Salado



Spotted Sandpiper *Actitis macularius* - 2 on 21st at Lake Yojoa; 1 on 24th at salt pans near Choluteca

Willet *Catoptrophorus semipalmatus* - 2 on 24th at salt pans near Choluteca

Common (American) Barn-owl *Tyto alba* - 1 on 20th at Lake Yojoa boardwalk

Guatemalan (Northern) Pygmy-owl *Glaucidium cobanense* - 1 on 25th at Uyuca



Central American Pygmy-owl *Glaucidium griseiceps* - 1 on 29th on the Loop Trail at Pico Bonito Lodge



Ferruginous Pygmy-owl *Glaucidium brasilianum* - 1 on 21st at El Cajon dam; 1 on 23rd at La Casona



Guatemalan (Vermiculated) Screech-Owl *Megascops guatemalae* - 2 on 26th at La Muralla NP

Black-and-white Owl *Ciccaba nigrolineata* - 2+ on 28th at daytime roost at Fundacion CREDIA, La Ceiba



Turkey Vulture *Cathartes aura* - seen most days

Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture *Cathartes burrovianus* - 3+ on 20th and 21st at Lake Yojoa

American Black Vulture *Coragyps atratus* - often abundant and seen most days

Osprey *Pandion haliaetus* - 1 on 20th at Lake Yojoa; 1 on 30th at Cuero y Salado

Hook-billed Kite *Chondrohierax uncinatus* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM

Swallow-tailed Kite *Elanoides forficatus* - 1 on 20th at La Naturaleza bird trail; 1 on 22nd Opatoro highlands; 1 on 27th at La Muralla NP; this has to be one of the world's most beautiful birds



Plumbeous Kite *Ictinia plumbea* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM

Snail Kite *Rostrhamus sociabilis* - good close views of 5+ on 20th & 21st at Lake Yojoa



Common Black Hawk *Buteogallus anthracinus* - 1 on 23rd at La Casona

Red-tailed Hawk *Buteo jamaicensis* - 1 on 22nd at Opatoro highlands

Resplendent Quetzal *Pharomachrus mocinno* - 1 female on 22nd at Opatoro highlands; 2 males & 2 females on 27th at La Muralla NP

Violaceous (Gartered) Trogon *Trogon violaceus* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM



Black-throated Trogon *Trogon rufus* - 1 on 29th on the Loop Trail at Pico Bonito Lodge

Elegant Trogon *Trogon elegans* - 1 on 21st at El Cajon dam

Mountain Trogon *Trogon mexicanus* - 1 on 22nd at Opatoro highlands; 1 on 25th at La Tigra NP

Collared Trogon *Trogon collaris* - 2 on 21st at PANACAM Lodge; 1 female on 23rd at Las Moras

Blue-throated Motmot *Aspatha gularis* - 2 on 22nd at Opatoro highlands

Blue-diademed (Lesson's) Motmot *Momotus lessonii* - numerous on 20th & 21st at PANACAM Lodge; 2 on 23rd at La Casona



Keel-billed Motmot *Electron carinatum* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM



Turquoise-browed Motmot *Eumomota superciliosa* - 2+ on 20th & 1 on 21st at PANACAM



Ringed Kingfisher *Megaceryle torquata* - 1 on 30th at Cuero y Salado

Amazon Kingfisher *Chloroceryle amazona* - 1 on 30th at Cuero y Salado

American Pygmy-kingfisher *Chloroceryle aenea* - 2 heard on 30th at Cuero y Salado

Green Kingfisher *Chloroceryle americana* - 1 on 30th at Cuero y Salado



White-necked Puffbird *Notharchus hyperrhynchus* - 1 on 30th at Cuero y Salado

Keel-billed Toucan *Ramphastos sulfuratus* - 1 on 21st PANACAM lodge; 1 on 26th & 2 on 27th at La Muralla NP

Emerald Toucanet *Aulacorhynchus prasinus* - 1 on 22nd Opatoro highlands; 2 on 27th at La Muralla NP

Collared Araçari *Pteroglossus torquatus* - 2 on 20th at PANACAM;

Guatemalan (Northern) Flicker *Colaptes mexicanoides* - 2 on 22nd Opatoro highlands; 2 on 23rd at Las Moras; a pair on 26th at Los Gloriales Inn

Golden-olive Woodpecker *Colaptes rubiginosus* - 2 on 23rd at La Casona

Lineated Woodpecker *Dryocopus lineatus* - 1 on 23rd at La Casona

Acorn Woodpecker *Hylotomus formicivorus* - 1 on 22nd Opatoro highlands; 2 on 23rd at La Casona

Black-cheeked Woodpecker *Melanerpes pucherani* - heard on 29th at Pico Bonito Lodge

Golden-fronted Woodpecker *Melanerpes aurifrons* - 1 on 20th La Naturaleza bird trail; 1 on 21st at Lake Yojoa; 2 on 23rd at La Casona

Hairy Woodpecker *Leuconotopicus villosus* - 1 on 27th at La Muralla NP

Laughing Falcon *Herpetotheres cachinnans* - 1 on 27th at La Muralla NP



Barred Forest-falcon *Micrastur ruficollis* - 1 on 22nd Opatoro highlands

Collared Forest-falcon *Micrastur semitorquatus* - 1 heard on 20th La Naturaleza bird trail; 1 on 26th at La Muralla NP

Crested Caracara *Caracara cheriway* - 1 on 30th at Cuero y Salado

American Kestrel *Falco sparverius* - 1 on 23rd at La Casona

Bat Falcon *Falco ruficularis* - 1 on 27th at La Muralla NP; 2 on 30th at Cuero y Salado

White-crowned Parrot *Pionus senilis* - c10 1 on 26th at La Muralla NP

White-fronted Amazon (Parrot) *Amazona albifrons* - 2 on 21st at El Cajon; 2 on 26th at Los Gloriales Inn

Red-lore Amazon (Parrot) *Amazona autumnalis* - 2 on 30th at Cuero y Salado

Aztec (Olive-throated) Parakeet *Eupsittula astec* - 2 on 20th at PANACAM

Red-throated (Green) Parakeet *Psittacara rubritorquis* - 15+ on 26th at La Muralla NP

Dusky Antbird *Cercomacra tyrannina* - 1 male on 20th at PANACAM

Mayan (Black-faced) Antthrush *Formicarius moniliger* - 1 on 27th at La Muralla NP

Western Olivaceous Woodcreeper *Sittasomus griseus* - 1 on 28th at Pico Bonito Lodge

Wedge-billed Woodcreeper *Glyphorhynchus spirurus* - 1 on 28th at Pico Bonito Lodge

Ivory-billed Woodcreeper *Xiphorhynchus flavigaster* - 1 on 24th at Guanacaure

Northern Spotted Woodcreeper *Xiphorhynchus erythropygius* - 1 on 27th at La Muralla NP

Northern Spot-crowned Woodcreeper *Lepidocolaptes affinis* - 1 on 25th at La Tigra NP

Ruddy Foliage-Gleaner *Clibanornis rubiginosus* - 1 on 22nd Opatoro highlands

White-collared Manakin *Manacus candei* - 2 on 20th at PANACAM; 1 on 29th at Pico Bonito Lodge

Red-capped Manakin *Ceratopipra mentalis* - 1 male on 26th at La Muralla NP; 1 on 28th & 29th at Pico Bonito Lodge



Lovely Cotinga *Cotinga amabilis* - 1 on 27th at La Muralla NP

Northern Royal Flycatcher *Onychorhynchus mexicanus* - 1 on 29th at Pico Bonito Lodge

Masked Tityra *Tityra inquisitor* - 2 on 20th & 1 on 21st at PANACAM Lodge; 2 on 30th at the railway station en route to Cuero y Salado



Northern Mourner (Schiffornis) *Schiffornis veraepacis* - heard on 30th at Cuero y Salado

Sepia-capped Flycatcher *Leptopogon amaurocephalus* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM;

Common Tody-flycatcher *Todirostrum cinereum* - 2 on 24th at Guanacaure

Mistletoe (Paltry) Tyrannulet *Zimmerius parvus* - heard on 28th by entrance road to Pico Bonito Lodge

Mountain Elaenia *Elaenia frantzi* - 3 on 22nd Opatoro highlands



Piratic Flycatcher *Legatus leucophaeus* - heard on 20th at PANACAM

Great Kiskadee *Pitangus sulphuratus* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM; 1 on 28th & 29th at Pic Bonito Lodge



Boat-billed Flycatcher *Megarynchus pitangua* - 2 on 20th & 1 on 21st at PANACAM

Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher *Myiodynastes luteiventris* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM Lodge; 1 on 20th at Lake Yojoa; 1 on 24th at Guanacaure

Social Flycatcher *Myiozetetes similis* - 1 on 25th at Los Gloriales Inn

Tropical Kingbird *Tyrannus melancholicus* - 1 on 20th La Naturaleza bird trail and others seen

Fork-tailed Flycatcher *Tyrannus savana* - 1 on 20th & 21st Lake Yojoa

Dusky-capped Flycatcher *Myiarchus tuberculifer* - 1 on 21st at El Cajon dam; 1 on 22nd Opatoro highlands

Brown-crested Flycatcher *Myiarchus tyrannulus* - 1 on 20th La Naturaleza bird trail

Black Phoebe *Sayornis nigricans* - 1 on 21st at Lake Yojoa; 2 on 23rd at La Casona

Yellowish Flycatcher *Empidonax flavescens* - 1 on 25th at La Tigra NP; 1 on 27th at La Muralla NP

Buff-breasted Flycatcher *Empidonax fulvifrons* - 1 on 23rd at Las Moras; 1 on 25th at La Tigra NP

Green Shrike-vireo *Vireolanius pulchellus* - heard on 27th at La Muralla NP

Tawny-crowned Greenlet *Tunchiornis ochraceiceps* - 1 on 28th & 29th on the Loop Trail at Pico Bonito Lodge



Lesser Greenlet *Pachysylvia decurtata* - 4+ on 24th at Guanacaure; 1 on 29th on the Loop Trail at Pico Bonito Lodge

Black-throated Jay *Cyanolyca pumilo* - 2 on 25th at La Tigra NP

Unicolored Jay *Aphelocoma unicolor* - heard on 27th at La Muralla NP

Steller's Jay *Cyanocitta stelleri* - 2 on 23rd at Las Moras

Brown Jay *Cyanocorax morio* - 1 on 20th La Naturaleza bird trail; several on 28th at Pico Bonito Lodge; 1 on 30th at Cuero y Salado



Bushy-crested Jay *Cyanocorax melanocyaneus* - c10 on 22nd & 23rd at La Casona Hotel; 3 on 22nd Opatoro highlands; 2 on 25th at Los Gloriales Inn



Grey-breasted Martin *Progne chalybea* - 2 on 21st Lake Yojoa

Northern Rough-winged Swallow *Stelgidopteryx serripennis* - 1 on 20th & 2 on 21st at Lake Yojoa



Black-capped Swallow *Atticora pileata* - c20 on 22nd Opatoro highlands

Tropical Gnatcatcher *Polioptila plumbea* - 1 on 29th at Pico Bonito Lodge

Northern Nightingale-wren *Microcerculus philomela* - heard on 26th then 2 seen on 27th at La Muralla NP

House Wren *Troglodytes aedon* - 1 on 21st at Lake Yojoa; 1 on 23rd at Las Moras

Rufous-browed Wren *Troglodytes rufociliatus* - 1 on 25th at La Tigra NP

Band-backed Wren *Campylorhynchus zonatus* - 3+ on 25th at Los Gloriales Inn

Rufous-backed (-naped) Wren *Campylorhynchus capistratus* - 2 on 21st at Lake Yojoa



Spot-breasted Wren *Pheugopedius maculipectus* - 1 on 28th at Pico Bonito Lodge

Rufous-and-white Wren *Thryophilus rufalbus* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM

Plain (Cabanis's) Wren *Cantorchilus modestus* - 1 on 25th at La Tigra NP

White-breasted Wood-wren *Henicorhina leucosticta* - heard on 20th at PANACAM; heard on 27th at La Muralla NP

Grey-breasted Wood-wren *Henicorhina leucophrys* - heard on 22nd at Opatoro highlands

Blue-and-white Mockingbird *Melanotis hypoleucus* - 1 on 21st en route to Marcala; 2 on 22nd Opatoro highlands; 2 on 26th at Los Gloriales Inn

Eastern Bluebird *Sialia sialis* - 1 on 22nd Opatoro highlands; 5+ on 23rd at Las Moras

Brown-backed Solitaire *Myadestes occidentalis* - 5 on 22nd Opatoro highlands

Slate-colored Solitaire *Myadestes unicolor* - 1+3 heard on 22nd Opatoro highlands

Ruddy-capped Nightingale-thrush *Catharus frantzii* - 1 on 22nd Opatoro highlands

Orange-billed Nightingale-thrush *Catharus aurantiirostris* - 1 on 25th at La Tigra NP

Mountain Thrush *Turdus plebejus* - 1 on 25th at La Tigra NP

Clay-colored Thrush *Turdus grayi* - common and seen or heard most days

Rufous-collared Thrush *Turdus rufitorques* - 3+ on 23rd at Las Moras

Olive Warbler *Peucedramus taeniatus* - 1 on 22nd Opatoro highlands

Scrub Euphonia *Euphonia affinis* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM

Yellow-throated Euphonia *Euphonia hirundinacea* - 1 on 21st at El Cajon dam

Olive-backed Euphonia *Euphonia gouldi* - 1 on 29th at Pico Bonito Lodge

Lesser Goldfinch *Spinus psaltria* - 4 on 20th at PANACAM

Black-headed Siskin *Spinus notatus* - a pair on 22nd Opatoro highlands

Green-backed Sparrow *Arremonops chloronotus* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM

Common Bush-tanager (Chlorospingus) *Chlorospingus flavopectus* - 1 on 22nd Opatoro highlands; 2 on 25th at La Tigra NP

Chestnut-capped Brush-finch *Arremon brunneinucha* - 1 on 25th at La Tigra NP

White-naped Brush-finch *Atlapetes albinucha* - 1 on 23rd at Las Moras

Prevost's (White-faced) Ground-sparrow *Melospiza biarcuata* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM

Rusty Sparrow *Aimophila rufescens* - 1 on 20th La Naturaleza bird trail; 2 on 22nd Opatoro highlands; 2 on 23rd at La Casona; 1 on 27th at La Muralla NP



Rufous-collared Sparrow *Zonotrichia capensis* - 2 on 22nd Opatoro highlands

Eastern Meadowlark *Sturnella magna* - 1 on 23rd at La Casona

Chestnut-headed Oropendola *Psarocolius wagleri* - nesting colony on 19th-21st at PANACAM Lodge

Montezuma Oropendola *Psarocolius montezuma* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM; 3 on 20th at La Naturaleza bird trail; several on 28th & 29th at Pico Bonito Lodge

Yellow-backed Oriole *Icterus chrysater* - 1 on 23rd at La Casona; 1 on 27th at Vallecitos

Altamira Oriole *Icterus gularis* - 1 on 21st at El Cajon dam; 1 on 23rd at La Casona

Spot-breasted Oriole *Icterus pectoralis* - 1 on 20th at Lake Yojoa; 1 on 23rd at La Casona; 1 on 27th at Vallecitos

Black-vented Oriole *Icterus wagleri* - 2 on 23rd at Las Moras

Black-cowled Oriole *Icterus prothemelas* - 1 on 29th at Pico Bonito Lodge

Red-winged Blackbird *Agelaius phoeniceus* - 1 on 21st at Lake Yojoa

Giant Cowbird *Molothrus oryzivorus* - 1 briefly on 21st at El Cajon

Bronzed Cowbird *Molothrus aeneus* - 1 on 23rd at La Casona

Melodious Blackbird *Dives dives* - common and seen most days

Great-tailed Grackle *Quiscalus mexicanus* - very common and seen in good numbers most days

Crescent-chested Warbler *Oreothlypis superciliosa* - 1 on 25th at Uyuca

American Yellow Warbler *Dendroica petechia* - 1 on 24th at salt pans near Choluteca

Grace's Warbler *Setophaga graciae* - 1 on 27th at La Muralla NP

Fan-tailed Warbler *Basileuterus lachrymosus* - 1 on 21st at El Cajon dam

Rufous-capped Warbler *Basileuterus rufifrons* - 1 on 24th at Guanacaure

Painted Whitestart (Redstart) *Myioborus pictus* - 1 on 23rd at Las Moras

Slate-throated Whitestart (Redstart) *Myioborus miniatus* - 1 on 22nd Opatoro highlands; 1 on 23rd at Las Moras; 1 on 25th at La Tigra NP

Red-throated Ant-tanager *Habia fuscicauda* - 5+ on 24th at Guanacaure

Flame-colored Tanager *Piranga bidentata* - 1 on 22nd Opatoro highlands

Hepatic Tanager *Piranga flava* - 1 on 23rd at La Casona

Black-faced Grosbeak *Caryothraustes poliogaster* - 1 on 29th at Pico Bonito Lodge

Northern Grey (Greyish) Saltator *Saltator grandis* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM

Buff-throated Saltator *Saltator maximus* - 1 on 20th La Naturaleza bird trail

Black-headed Saltator *Saltator atriceps* - 1 on 23rd at La Casona

Yellow-faced Grassquit *Tiaris olivaceus* - several on 20th at PANACAM

Blue-black Grassquit *Volatinia jacarina* - several on 20th at PANACAM

Crimson-collared Tanager *Ramphocelus sanguinolentus* - 2 on 20th at PANACAM

Scarlet-rumped (Passerini's) Tanager *Ramphocelus passerinii* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM; 3 on 20th La Naturaleza bird trail

White-collared Seedeater *Sporophila moreletii* - several on 20th at PANACAM

Black (Variable) Seedeater *Sporophila corvina* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM

Blue-grey Tanager *Tangara episcopus* - 2 on 20th La Naturaleza bird trail

Yellow-winged Tanager *Tangara abbas*- 1 on 20th at PANACAM; 2 on 20th at La Naturaleza bird trail
House Sparrow *Passer domesticus* - small numbers around towns

MAMMALS

Forest Rabbit (Tapeti) *Sylvilagus brasiliensis* -1 on 22nd at La Casona

Variiegated Squirrel *Sciurus variegatoides* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM Lodge

Deppe's Squirrel *Sciurus deppei* - 1 on 20th & 21st at PANACAM Lodge; 1 on 23rd at El Cajon; 2 on 25th at La Tigra NP

Central American Agouti *Dasyprocta punctata* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM Lodge; 4 on 25th at La Tigra NP; 2+ on 28th & 29th at Pico Bonito Lodge



White-nosed Coati *Nasua narica* - 1 on 20th & 2 on 21st at PANACAM Lodge

Proboscis Bat *Rhynchonycteris naso* - 20+ on 30th roosting on a signboard at Cuero y Salado



Central American (Geoffroy's) Spider Monkey *Ateles geoffroyi* - 4+ on 29th at Pico Bonito Lodge

West Indian Manatee *Trichechus manatus*-1 on 30th at Cuero y Salado

BUTTERFLIES

Thoas Swallowtail *Papilio thoas* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM Lodge



Cloudless Sulphur *Phoebis sennae* - 1 on 23rd at La Casona



Mimosa Yellow *Eurema nise* - 1 on 21st at Lake Yojoa; few on 27th El Pizote trail, La Moralla NP



Mexican Cycadian *Eumaeus toxea* - 1 on 21st El Cajon dam



Dusky-blue Groundstreak *Calycopis isobeon* - 1 on 21st El Cajon dam



Ceraunus Blue *Hemiargus ceraunus* - 1 on 23rd La Casona Hotel; 1 on 27th El Pizote trail, La Moralla NP



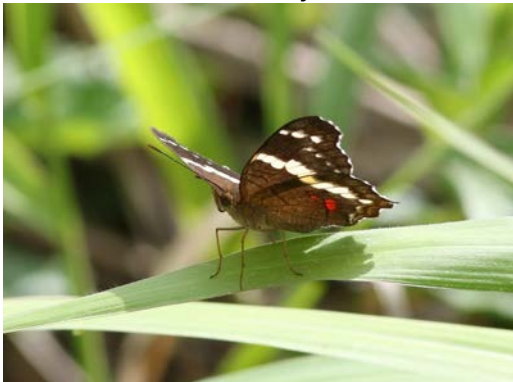
Ardent Crescent *Phyciodes ardys* - 1 on 30th perched briefly on boat at Cuero y Salado



Tropical Buckeye *Junonia evarete* - 1 on 27th El Pizote trail, La Moralla NP



Banded Peacock *Anartia fatima* - 1 on 23rd at La Casona Hotel



Malachite *Siproeta stelenes* - 1 on 21st El Cajon dam

Four-spotted Sailor *Dynamine postverta* - 1 on 20th at PANACAM Lodge



One-spotted Prepona *Archaeoprepona demophon* - 1 on 30th in mangroves at Cuero y Salado



Yellow-fronted Owl-butterfly *Caligo telamonius* - 1 on 28th at Pico Bonito Lodge



Split-spotted Owl-butterfly *Eryphanis lycomedon* - 1 on 28th at Pico Bonito Lodge



Starred Oxeo *Oxeoschistus tauropolis* - 1 on 23rd at La Casona



Carolina Satyr *Hermeuptychia sosybius* - several on 27th by visitor centre at La Moralla NP



Disturbed Tigerwing *Mechanitis polymnia* - a mating pair on 29th at Pico Bonito Lodge



Chisos Banded-skipper *Autochton cincta* - 1 on 23rd at Los Moras



Dusted Spurwing *Antigonus erosus* - 1 on 21st at El Cajon dam



Sappho Bentwing *Ebrietas sappho* - 1 on 28th between Vallecitos and La Ceiba



Tropical Checkered-skipper *Pyrgus oileus*- 1 on 21st at El Cajon dam; 1 on 28th between Vallecitos and La Ceiba



Guatemalan Checkered-skipper *Pyrgus adepta* - 1 on 27th at El Pizote trail, La Moralla NP

