Puerto Rico

16th January – 21st January 2017

Ann and Andrew Duff

Report by Ann Duff

GENERAL INFORMATION

Our tour to Puerto Rico was booked with Julio Salgado Velez, a very enthusiastic young man who was recommended by Ian Merrill in his excellent January 2016 report. We e-mailed Julio a wish-list which included several tricky species as well as all the endemics. We did not visit the Fajardo/El Yunque area in the north-east as there were no new birds for us there. Julio worked out a six day itinerary taking our requests into account; five days would probably have been sufficient but we were linking this tour with Jamaica and Dominican Republic and had to accommodate flights etc. We can thoroughly recommend Julio who did all the driving as well as guiding; his knowledge of the birds and sites was excellent. His e-mail address is: juliosalgado@puertoricobirdingtrips.com

Included in our itinerary were: 5 night's good quality accommodation, breakfasts, lunches and dinners, airport transfers, a comfortable air-conditioned vehicle and the services of an excellent guide, Julio Salgado. Our focus was on seeing all the endemics so the overall total number of birds seen was 117 species plus 2 heard only. Of the species seen 20 were new for us.

Flights We booked our flight with JetBlue from Kingston to San Juan via Fort Lauderdale - there being no direct flights from Kingston, Jamaica. We allowed five hours between flights in Fort Lauderdale in anticipation of lengthy queues at immigration - a wise precaution as there was heightened security after the recent shooting incident at the airport. Immigration took over an hour and then we had to transfer to Terminal 3, a short walk away. (Norwegian Air fly direct from London to Santo Domingo and are reasonably priced).

Visas & taxes An ESTA is currently required. There was no departure tax.

Transport in Puerto Rico Julio drove a comfortable Nissan SUV. Road conditions were good.

Accommodation We stayed two nights at TJ Ranch H C 4, Box14926, Arecibo; e-mail: tonyandjuanita@tjranch.com.

Three nights at La Villa Parguera, La Parguera; e-mail: hotel@villaparguerapr.com.

Food and drink Food was good with many local dishes such as tostadas, conch, maui-maui and mofongo.

Currency US dollar.

Health The usual inoculations are advisable but not compulsory. We encountered few biting insects; just a few mosquitoes.

Daylight hours UK is 4 hours ahead of Puerto Rico.

Weather Cloudy but mostly dry. As in Jamaica there had been a lot of rain and this had an impact on our chances of finding Yellow-breasted Crake as we were unable to access some of the sites.

Books For birds we used *Birds of the West Indies* by Raffaele, Wiley, Garrido, Keith & Raffaele (Helm Field Guides: 2003). For butterflies: *A Field Guide to the Butterflies of the West Indies* by Norman D. Riley (Collins: 1975).

SUMMARY OF ITINERARY

Jan.15th	Flight from Fort Lauderdale, USA and arrival in San Juan. Overnight at Coral by the Sea, San Juan
Jan. 16th	Cambalache State Forest; Pepe's Hummingbird Garden, Arecibo; Rio Abajo State Forest; TJ Ranch, Arecibo
Jan. 17th	Rio Abajo State Forest; TJ Ranch; Lago dos Bocas; TJ Ranch
Jan. 18th	Bosque Guilarte; lake near Ponce; Cabo Rojo salt pans & mangroves; rice fields near La Parguera; Villa la Parguera; Guanica State Forest; Villa la Parguera
Jan. 19th	Maricao State Forest; Villa la Parguera; Laguna Cartagena; Villa la Parguera
Jan. 20th	Cabo Rojo NWR; Laguna Cartagena; La Parguera salt pans; Hay farm; mangroves around La Parguera; Villa la Parguera
Jan. 21st	Birding a.m. en route to the airport; p.m. flight to Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

DAILY DIARY

Jan. 15th Travel day Left Kingston, Jamaica on 09:02 JetBlue flight for approx. two hour flight to Fort Lauderdale, USA. On arrival, queued for receipt from passport scanner; Andrew's was OK, Ann's had a cross which meant we had to join the long queue for an immigration officer, over an hour in total. Collected bag and walked short distance to Terminal 3; checked bag (no charge) to Santo Domingo. Joined another queue for the most promising of the eateries, a Tex-Mex restaurant. Flight left punctually at 16:00 arriving two hours later in Santo Domingo. No immigration thankfully! Taxi to nearby Coral by the Sea for overnight stay. N.B I had not padlocked our suitcase having had experience of cases being opened by the TSA; last time they wrecked the TSA approved padlock so I made it easy for them this time - and yes, it was opened with the usual disclaimer inside the case.

Jan. 16th We were waiting to be served breakfast when Julio arrived earlier than expected. Quickly checked out and headed west towards Arecibo, stopping briefly at the coast near Barceloneta for our first Magnificent Frigatebirds. Driving through Barceloneta towards Cambalache State Forest we saw a couple of Venezuelan Troupials, introduced from South America. The car park at the forest was very muddy but also very productive; PR Flycatcher, PR Woodpecker, PR Lizard-Cuckoo, PR Oriole, PR Vireo and the recently split Eastern Red-legged Thrush in just over an hour! We continued to a site near Arecibo airport where Julio hoped to find Yellow-breasted Crake, one of the three very difficult birds we'd asked him to add to the wish-list. Sadly there was no response so we carried on along the coast before stopping for lunch at Gustitos near Arecibo, highly recommended. Continuing on Interstate 10 we made a slight detour onto the scenic route for Utuado where Julio knew there were Adelaide's Warblers and we were able to watch a pair at length. Next Julio had a real treat in store for us as we wound uphill through the back roads to his friend's hummingbird garden. It was a joy to sit in the shade of the balcony and watch three species of hummingbird vie for position on the many feeders. PR Emerald, Green Mango and PR Mango provided much entertainment as we listened to our host, Pepe, telling us about his work on Puerto Rican Tody before showing us several of their nest holes dug in the roadside bank opposite his home. However, we had one more specific target this afternoon so we headed to Rio Abajo State Forest where we waited and waited. Although we added PR Tody, PR Pewee and PR Bullfinch to our life lists we only heard PR Parrots calling distantly. We were not so pleased to see a Small Indian Mongoose here; introduced to control rats in the sugar plantations they are now a menace to bird populations. We drove to the delightful TJ Ranch and settled into our lovely casita, before a huge dinner cooked by Tony. PR Screech-Owls could be heard around the property but the dense cover made them difficult to see. Julio had a different strategy so we drove slowly along the lane, looking and listening until we found one perched out in the open brilliant! Eventually to bed to the sound of many tree frogs chirruping away.

Jan. 17th Heavy rain overnight meant a change of plan - no early morning birding around the ranch but off to Rio Abajo straight after breakfast where we waited for the light rain to stop before walking as far as the gates to the aviary where the PR Parrot re-introduction breeding programme is based (Ian Merrill's report gives a detailed account of this). Again we could hear the birds calling, only much closer. We decided to try the side track to the pylons described in lan's report but all we saw was a perched Broad-winged Hawk close to the track. The vegetation had grown so lush as to make it impossible to see very far into the forest so we returned to the main track. Andrew and Julio continued towards the gates while Ann lingered at the intersection. A flash of blue amongst the green caught her eye - feeding quietly in the canopy were two PR Parrots! Two more parrots flew in and as we watched them for the next 15-20 minutes we saw that one of them was ringed. Jubilant we returned to the car and began our return journey to the ranch with a short stop where there should have been a large El Capitan tree, a big draw for PR Euphonias. Unfortunately the house had been renovated and the tree cut down but we stopped anyway and immediately heard euphonias calling. They were feeding in the run-down orchard on the opposite side of the road! Now we could return and enjoy a delicious lunch of pork tenderloin in a bun. With time to spare we had a welcome siesta before driving to the Lago dos Bocas for a few list padders and for Julio to catch up on his phone messages - reception is very poor at the ranch. There were several Ospreys, a Belted Kingfisher, Scalynaped Pigeon and, on the way back, three Baltimore Orioles along with a couple of Venezuelan Troupials. Following an excellent meal of lamb chops followed by home-made passion fruit ice-cream we said good-bye to Tony, Juanita and their daughter as we would be leaving early next morning.

Jan. 18th 05:30 start in order to reach the Bosque Guilarte at first light; Julio had previously encountered another of our tricky species, Bicknell's Thrush, at this high elevation damp forest. It was a dismal morning; cold, drizzly and misty. We slipped and slithered up the mossy, rock-strewn track only to be disappointed when there was no response; we had known it was a long-shot not that that helps very much! However, we did see Pearly-eyed Thrasher, PR Spindalis, Green Mango and Louisiana Waterthrush. We drove south towards Ponce stopping at Lago Numero Cinco, off Camino Cerrillo Hoyo, a large lake where we spent some time scoping the ducks, mainly Lesser Scaup with one possible Greater Scaup which caused a lot of discussion and led to Julio contacting friends in San Juan to come and take a look at it, the general consensus being that it was probably a hybrid. We added a few new species to the trip list including Ring-necked and Ruddy Ducks, Pied-billed Grebe, Tricoloured Heron and Yellow-rumped Warbler. After a brief spell of photographing the main sites in Ponce we continued to Combate and Cabo Rojo for lunch followed by a short exploration of the salt pans and mangrove on the road to the lighthouse adding Least Sandpiper, Semi-palmated Plover, Lesser Yellow-legs, Semi-palmated Sandpiper and Yellow Warbler. We were surprised at the low number of waders, having read of a wider variety and good numbers in other reports. A friend of Julio's had suggested we try the nearby rice fields for Yellow-breasted Crake but once past the factory the ground became deeply rutted and then flooded so we had to turn back. Foiled again!

We checked in to our pleasant room overlooking the garden and mangroves at Villa La Parguera before a quick dinner and off out again to the edge of the Bosque Estatal de Guanica. It started to rain quite heavily causing concern that we might miss the PR Nightjar. Luck was on our side and as soon as the rain eased off we could hear the nightjar calling; it responded immediately and flew across the road before landing close by where we were able to see it clearly in the spotlight. Just as we were about to leave several other shapes flew by - a couple of night-herons with a Short-eared Owl following (chasing?) them.

Jan. 19th A relatively late start and certainly a leisurely one; as far as the hotel jetty where we watched critically-endangered Yellow-shouldered Blackbirds fly from their roosting site to land in the mangroves next to the hotel. They were out-numbered by Shiny Cowbirds which are causing a big problem as they parasitise the blackbirds nests. After breakfast we headed for the hills and Maricao State Forest for one of my most-wanted birds, Elfin-woods Warbler. However we had reason to stop when Julio spotted an early arriving Caribbean Martin, a female, sitting on the telephone wires and preening. (On the way back she had been joined by a male). Once in the forest it was quite chilly in the shade at this higher elevation and we were glad of our fleeces; poor Julio felt it much more than

we did! We watched a range of Puerto Rican endemics, adding PR Tanager to our list and then after a short wait the warbler appeared and I was not disappointed. What is it about black and white birds that makes them so attractive? This dinky little warbler was incredibly hyper-active and a poor record shot was all that we achieved. So, all the endemics in the bag; time for some general birding and maybe even a bit of sightseeing. A quick climb to the top of the look-out tower built in the 1930s under a scheme set up by Franklin D Roosevelt to provide work for youngsters during the Depression provided the most amazing panoramic view. To the north was the Atlantic Ocean and to the south the Caribbean, taking in much of the western half of the island. After lunch and a siesta we drove to Laguna Cartegena for another attempt at Yellow-breasted Crake. The road down to the entrance of the Refuge was badly flooded and we could only just make it, driving slowly and carefully. The lagoon is becoming rather overgrown with encroaching vegetation and we spent a couple of hours searching without any luck. Ann had a fleeting glimpse of what might have been a crake but on such a poor view could not rule out Sora in spite of the size difference. However our time there was not wasted as we found several birds new for the trip list, the best being Blue-winged Teal, West Indian Whistling-Duck, Glossy Ibis, Killdeer, Wilson's Snipe, Spotted Sandpiper, Caribbean Coot, Common Yellowthroat and a party of 10+ Indigo Buntings, including one very nice blue male. On the way back to La Parguera we tried the Hay farm where we found a Peregrine.

Jan. 20th After watching the Yellow-shouldered Blackbirds fly past again at our hotel we spent an enjoyable couple of hours birding at Cabo Rojo NWR along the Green Trail. It was a lovely sunny morning and we noticed lots of large Tree Iguanas perched out high in the tree canopy where they were warming up, starting off pale green and eventually becoming bright orangy-red by the time we left. Some were a metre or so long and with their large claws and spiky crests they looked quite fearsome. We did have one last difficult target with no expectation of seeing it - a Connecticut Warbler had been present here in December so why not try our luck. No warbler so we concentrated on photographing Adelaide's Warbler, Venezuelan Troupial, Caribbean Elaenia, PR Woodpecker etc. We spent a bit of time in the very nice Visitor Centre where there were trail maps and bird lists useful if you don't have a guide. We returned to Laguna Cartegena for one last attempt for Yellowbreasted Crake but there was much less activity than yesterday with the only new species being Masked Duck. After lunch we tried to find some waders at the La Parguera salt-pan reserve - there was one Grey (Black-bellied) Plover! The Hay farm had one Killdeer and the same Peregrine as yesterday and the mangroves west of town produced a Yellow Warbler and a Clapper Rail. During a short excursion in to the heart of La Parguera and, in spite of the noise and crowds (it being Friday night with some sort of festival), we found a Northern Waterthrush on the edge of the mangrove close to the boat jetty.

Jan. 21st Our last day so after checking out of the hotel we began the drive west to Mayaguez, stopping briefly on the outskirts of La Parguera for a small flock of Indian Silverbills (a year tick for Julio!). The only new birds at Mayaguez were a Common Tern and a couple of Cabot's Terns amongst the Royal Terns. Onward to Rincon where we watched a surfing competition while scanning for Brown and Red-footed Booby which were rather distant. North now and our final birding stop at Parc el Merendoro, Quebradilos, for White-tailed Tropicbird but no sign of the PR Harlequin butterfly Andrew had hoped to find there. On to the airport to check-in for our 16:40 JetBlue flight to Santo Domingo to join the Rockjumper tour of that part of Hispaniola. (And our bag was opened yet again by the TSA and a second disclaimer joined the first!)

BIRDS

E = Puerto Rican endemic; I = introduced; NE = near endemic; EN = endangered; V = vulnerable

West Indian Whistling-Duck Dendrocygna arborea - 1 on 19th at Laguna Cartegena Blue-winged Teal Anas discors - c20 on 19th & 5 on 20th at Laguna Cartegena Ring-necked Duck Aythya collaris - 5 on 18th at Lago Numero Cinco, nr Ponce Lesser Scaup Aythya affinis - c100 on 18th at Lago Numero Cinco, nr Ponce Masked Duck Nomonyx dominicus - 1 on 20th at Laguna Cartegena Ruddy Duck Oxyura jamaicensis - 10 on 19th & 3 on 20th at Laguna Cartegena

Least Grebe Tachybaptus dominicus - 2 on 20th at Cabo Rojo NWR

Pied-billed Grebe *Podilymbus podiceps* - 6 on 18th at Lago Numero Cinco, nr Ponce; 1 on 19th at Lago Cartegena

White-tailed Tropicbird Phaethon lepturus - 1 on 21st at Parc el Merendoro

Magnificent Frigatebird Fregata magnificens - 3 on 16th near Barceloneta; 1 on 18th Cabo Rojo; on 21st 2 at Mayaguez, 1 at Rincon, 1 at Parc el Merendoro

Brown Booby Sula leucogaster - 4 on 21st at Rincon

Red-footed Booby Sula sula - 1 on 21st at Rincon

Brown Pelican Pelecanus occidentalis - seen most days

Great Blue Heron Ardea herodias - seen most days

Great Egret Ardea alba - daily

Snowy Egret Egretta thula - 1 on 18th Lago Numero Cinco, nr Ponce -

Little Blue Heron Egretta caerulea1 on 18th enroute to Ponce; 1 on 19th Villa la Parguera

Tricolored Heron Egretta tricolor - 1 on 18th Lago Numero Cinco, nr Ponce

Cattle Egret Bubulcus ibis - daily

Green Heron *Butorides virescens* - 1 on 17th Lago dos Bocas; 1 on 19th Laguna Cartegena; 3 on 20th Laguna Cartegena

Black-crowned Night-Heron Nycticorax nycticorax - 3 on 19th & 2 on 20th Laguna Cartegena

Glossy Ibis Plegadis falcinellus - 1 on 19th & 4 on 20th Laguna Cartegena

Turkey Vulture Cathartes aura - seen most days

Osprey *Pandion haliaetus* - 1on 16th en route to Barceloneta; 3 on 17th Lago dos Bocas; 1 on 18th at Lago Numero Cinco, nr Ponce; 2 on 19th Laguna Cartegena

Sharp-shinned Hawk Accipiter striatus - pair on 19th maricao State Forest

Broad-winged Hawk Buteo platypterus - 2 seen & 2 heard on 17th Rio Abajo State Forest

Red-tailed Hawk Buteo jamaicensis - daily

Clapper Rail Rallus crepitans - 1 on 20th mangroves west of La Parguera

Sora Porzana carolina - 4+ on 19th & heard on 20th Laguna Cartagena

Purple Gallinule Porphyrio martinicus - 4 on 19th & 3 on 20th Laguna Cartegena

Common Gallinule Gallinula galeata - 2 on 18th Lago Numero Cinco, nr Ponce; 5+ 19th & 20th Laguna Cartegena

American Coot Fulica americana - 15+ on 18th Lago Numero Cinco, nr Ponce; 2 on 19th & 20th Laguna Cartegena

Black-bellied Plover Pluvialis squatarola - 1 on 20th La Parguera Salt-pans Reserve

Semipalmated Plover Charadrius semipalmatus - 3 Arecibo beach

Killdeer Charadrius vociferus - 2 on 19th Laguna Cartegena; on 20th 1 Cabo Rojo NWR; 1 Hay farm, Cabo Rojo

Least Sandpiper Calidris minutilla - c30 18th Cabo rojo saltpans

Semipalmated Sandpiper Calidris pusilla - 2 on 18th Cabo Rojo saltpans

Wilson's Snipe Gallinago delicata - 1 on 19th Laguna Cartegena; 1 on 20th Cabo Rojo NWR

Spotted Sandpiper Actitis macularius - 1 on 19th Laguna Cartegena

Solitary Sandpiper Tringa solitaria - 1 on 20th Cabo Rojo NWR

Lesser Yellowlegs Tringa flavipes - 2 on 18th Cabo Rojo saltpans

Common Tern Sterna hirundo - 2 on 21st Mayaguez

Royal Tern Thalasseus maximus - c20 on 16th en route to TJ Ranch; 2 on 18th Cabo Rojo saltpans; 5 on 21st en route to San Juan

Sandwich(Cabot's) Tern *Thalasseus sandvicensis ssp acuflavidus* - 4 on 16th Puerto Arecibo; 20+ on 21st Mayaguez

Rock Pigeon Columba livia- -common

Scaly-naped Pigeon Patagioenas squamosa - 1 on 16th & 17th Rio Abajo State Forest

White-crowned Pigeon Patagioenas leucocephala - 1 on 16th Rio Abajo State Forest

Eurasian Collared-Dove Streptopelia decaocto - 1 on 20th near La Parguera

African Collared-Dove Streptopelia roseogrisea - common in the south-west

Common Ground-Dove Columbina passerina -seen most days

Ruddy Quail-Dove *Geotrygon montana* - 1 on 16th & heard on 17th Rio Abajo State Forest; on 17th 2 Lago dos Bocas

White-winged Dove Zenaida asiatica - seen daily

Zenaida Dove Zenaida aurita - 1 on 16th nr Barceloneta

Mourning Dove Zenaida macroura - 5 on 18th & 3 on 20th rice fields near La Parquera

Smooth-billed Ani Crotophaga ani - seen daily

Mangrove Cuckoo Coccyzus minor - heard on 20th Cabo Rojo NWR

Puerto Rican Lizard-Cuckoo *Coccyzus vieilloti* **E** - 1 on 16th Cambalache State Forest; 2 on 17th Rio Abajo State Forest

Puerto Rican Screech-Owl Megascops nudipes E - 1 on 16th & several heard TJ Ranch

Short-eared Owl Asio flammeus - 1 at dusk on 18th road near Bosque Estatal de Guanica

Puerto Rican Nightjar Antrostomus noctitherus E EN - 1 on 18th Bosque Estatal de Guanica

Black Swift Cypseloides niger - 1 on 18th en route to La Parguera

Puerto Rican Mango *Anthracothorax aurulentus* **E** - 1 on 16th Pepe's hummingbird garden, Arecibo; 1 on 19th Villa la Parquera

Green Mango Anthracothorax viridis E - c10 on 16th Pepe's hummingbird garden, Arecibo; 2 on 18th Bosque Guilarte

Puerto Rican Emerald Chlorostilbon maugaeus E - 2 on 16th Pepe's hummingbird garden, Arecibo:

Puerto Rican Tody Todus mexicanus E - seen most days

Belted Kingfisher Megaceryle alcyon - 1 on 16th Puerto Arecibo; 1 on 17th Lago dos Bocas

Puerto Rican Woodpecker Melanerpes portoricensis E - seen or heard most days

American Kestrel Falco sparverius - 1 on 17th near TJ Ranch; c6 on 18th en route to La Parguera **Peregrine Falco** peregrinus - 1 on 19th & 1 on 20th rice fields near La Parguera

Monk Parakeet Myiopsitta monachus Int - 2 on 16th en route to Arecibo

White-winged Parakeet Brotogeris versicolurus Int - 2 on 16th en route to TJ Ranch

Puerto Rican Parrot Amazona vittata E - heard on 16th & 4 seen on 17th Rio Abajo State Forest Caribbean Elaenia Elaenia martinica NE - 3 on 20th Cabo Rojo NWR

Lesser Antillean Pewee Contopus latirostris NE - 1 on 16th Cambalache State Forest; 1 on 17th Rio Abajo State Forest; 2 on 17th TJ Ranch

Puerto Rican Flycatcher Myiarchus antillarum E - 2 on 16th Cambalache State Forest; 1 on 20th Cabo Roio NWR

Gray Kingbird *Tyrannus dominicensis* - common

Loggerhead Kingbird Tyrannus caudifasciatus NE - 1 on 17th between TJ Ranch & Lago dos

Puerto Rican Vireo Vireo latimeri E - 2 on 16th on Cambalache State Forest

Black-whiskered Vireo Vireo altiloquus - heard on 17th Rio Abajo

Caribbean Martin Progne dominicensis NE - 2 on 19th en route to Maricao State Forest

Bank Swallow Riparia riparia - 1 on 18th Cabo Rojo; 1 on 20th Laguna Cartegena

Barn Swallow Hirundo rustica - c20 on 18th over the rice fields near La Parguera; 100+Laguna Cartegena

Cave Swallow Petrochelidon fulva - 3 on 16th La Rosera, nr Arecibo; 10 on 20th Laguna Cartegena; 5+ on 21st Parc el Merendoro, Quebradillos

Eastern Red-legged Thrush Turdus ardosiaceus NE - seen daily

Pearly-eyed Thrasher Margarops fuscatus - 1 on 16th Cambalache State Forest; 1 on 18th

Bosque Guilarte; 1 on 19th Maricao State Forest

Northern Mockingbird Mimus polyglottos - common

Louisiana Waterthrush Parkesia motacilla - 1 on 18th Bosque Guilarte

Northern Waterthrush Parkesia noveboracensis - 1 on 20th La Parguera

Common Yellowthroat Geothlypis trichos - 2 on 19th Laguna Cartegena

Elfin-woods Warbler Setophaga angelae E V - 3 on 19th Maricao State Forest

American Redstart Setophaga ruticilla - 1 on 16th Rio Abajo State Forest

Northern Parula Setophaga americana - 1 on 17th Rio Abajo State Forest; 1 on 20th Cabo Rojo **NWR**

Yellow Warbler Setophaga petechia - 1 on 18th & 1 on 20th La Parguera mangroves

Black-throated Blue Warbler Setophaga caerulescens - 1 on 16th Cambalache State Forest; 1 on 18th Camino Foreman nr. Adjuntas; 1 on 19th Maricao State Forest

Palm Warbler Setophaga palmarum - 1 on 18th rice fields near La Parguera

Yellow-rumped Warbler Setophaga coronata - 1 on 18th Lago Numero Cinco, nr Ponce

Prairie Warbler Setophaga discolor - 3 on 20th Cabo Rojo NWR; 1 on 21st Parc el Merendoro

Adelaide's Warbler Setophaga adelaidae E - 2 on 16th road to Utuado; 4+ on 20th Cabo Rojo **NWR**

Bananaquit Coereba flaveola - common

Yellow-faced Grassquit Tiaris olivaceus - 1 on 20th Cabo Rojo NWR

Black-faced Grassquit Tiaris bicolor - 2 on 17th TJ Ranch; 2 on 18th rice fields nr. La Parquera; 2 on 20th Cabo Rojo NWR

Puerto Rican Bullfinch Loxigilla portoricensis E - 3 on 16th Rio Abajo State Forest; 2 on 19th Maricao State Forest

Puerto Rican Tanager Nesospingus speculiferus E - 2 on 19th Maricao State Forest

Puerto Rican Spindalis Spindalis portoricensis E - heard on 17th Rio Abajo State Forest; 4 on 18th Camino Foreman, nr Adjuntas: 1 on 19th Maricao State Forest

Indigo Bunting Passerina cyanea - 10+ on 19th Laguna Cartegena

Yellow-shouldered Blackbird Agelaius xanthomus E EN - c30 on 19th; 6 on 20th; c15 on 21st all at Villa La Parguera hotel

Greater Antillean Grackle Quiscalus niger - daily

Shiny Cowbird Molothrus bonariensis - 1 on 16th Cambalache State Forest; 19th; 20th; 21st all at Villa La Parguera hotel

Puerto Rican Oriole Icterus portoricensis E - on 16th Cambalache State Forest

Venezuelan Troupial Icterus icterus Int - 2 on 16th nr. Barceloneta; 2 on 17th nr. TJ Ranch; 4 on 20th Cabo Roio NWR

Baltimore Oriole Icterus galbula - 3 on 17th nr. TJ Ranch

Antillean Euphonia Euphonia musica - 3+ en route from Rio Abajo State Forest to TJ Ranch House Sparrow Passer domesticus - most days

Northern Red Bishop Euplectes franciscanus Int 2 on 20th Cabo Rojo NWR

Orange-cheeked Waxbill Estrilda melpoda Int 4 on 17th nr. TJ Ranch; c10 on 18th 19th rice fields nr. La Parguera; 6 on 20th 19th rice fields nr. La Parguera

Bronze Mannikin *Spermestes cucullata* Int 6+ nr. Arecibo; 4+ TJ Ranch; 8 on 19th rice fields nr. La Parquera

Indian Silverbill Euodice malabarica Int 5 on 21st nr. La Parguera

Scaly-breasted Munia Lonchura punctulata Int c30 on 18th rice fields nr. La Parguera

MAMMALS

Small Asian Mongoose Herpestes javanicus - 1 on 16th Rio Abajo State Fprest

BUTTERFLIES

Nomenclature and sequence follow www.butterfliesofamerica.com.

Lyside Sulphur Kricogonia lyside - Cabo Rojo gas station, several around one tree

Barred Yellow Eurema daira palmira - Cabo Rojo NWR

Little Yellow Pyrisitia lisa euterpe - Cabo Rojo NWR

Great Southern White Ascia monuste - Cabo Rojo NWR

Queen Danaus gilippus cleothera - Cabo Rojo NWR. Apparently a rare species in Puerto Rico.

Julia Dryas iulia iulia

Zebra Longwing Heliconius charithonia

Antillean Sister Adelpha gelania arecosa - TJ Ranch

Caribbean Cracker Hamadryas amphichloe diasia - Cabo Rojo mangroves

White Peacock Anartia jatrophae - TJ Ranch

Malachite Siproeta stelenes

Tropical Buckeye Junonia evarete michaelisi - Cabo Rojo NWR

Puerto Rican Calisto Calisto nubila - Camino Foreman

Long-tailed Skipper Urbanus proteus domingo - Cabo Rojo NWR

Tropical Checkered-skipper Pyrgus oileus - TJ Ranch

Three-spotted Skipper Cymaenes tripunctus - Cabo Rojo NWR

Vitellius Skipper Choranthius vitellius - Lago Numero Cinco, nr Ponce



Little Blue Heron



Royal Tern



Purple Gallinule



Sandwich (Cabot's) Tern







Puerto Rican Screech-Owl



Zenaida Dove





Puerto Rican Tody



Puerto Rican Woodpecker



Puerto Rican Parrot



Gray Kingbird



Caribbean Martin male



Adelaide's Warbler



Lesser Antillean Pewee



Loggerhead Kingbird



Caribbean Martin female



Yellow Warbler





Caribbean Cracker



Puerto Rican Calisto



Vitellius Skipper



Greater Antillean Grackle



Tropical Buckeye



Tropical Checkered-skipper