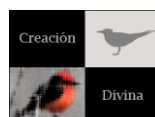


Yucatan 2013

November 24th - November 30th 2013



Bird trip arranged by
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The following report covers the bird observations we made on a trip around the Yucatan peninsula in Mexico, visiting Río Lagartos, Cozumel, Vigía Chico road and Calakmul.

Participants

Lori and Mark Conrad, Jesper Bay Jacobsen (leader).

Itinerary

November 24th:

Arrival afternoon in Cancún. 3 hours drive to Rio Lagartos. Night in Rio Lagartos, Hotel Rio Tabasco.

November 25th:

Birding Rio Lagartos until 11 am. 3 and half hours drive from Rio Lagartos to Playa del Carmen to catch the ferry to Cozumel Island. Night at Hotel Casa Mexicana, Cozumel. Birding the abandoned house grid in the evening.

November 26th:

Birding Cozumel until midday. Ferry back to mainland and 2 hours drive to Felipe Carrillo Puerto. Night at hotel El Faisán y el Venado. Birding afternoon and evening along Vigía Chico road.

November 27th:

Birding all day along Vigía Chico road. Night at hotel El Faisán y el Venado.

November 28th:

Birding the morning along Vigía Chico road. 3-4 hours drive to Calakmul. Night at hotel Puerta Calakmul. Afternoon visit to bat cave close to hotel.

November 29th:

Birding all day along the Calakmul entrance road and the ruin complex. Night at hotel Puerta Calakmul.

November 30th:

Birding the hotel ground in the morning. 5-6 hours drive to Cancún. Birding Puerto Morelos and the city park Parque Kabah before ending trip at hotel Comfort Inn near the airport.

With only 6 days available for birding and a wish list that required visiting both the north coast and Calakmul at the bottom of the peninsula the schedule was tight.

It is recommended to add at least 3 days to the trip if you want to make a general bird trip visiting the same places; adding more time at Río Lagartos, Calakmul and perhaps also Cozumel Island.

The birding result

The trip was arranged as a target mission, aiming to get most of the Mexican endemic and near-endemic species of the region that were lifers for Lori and Mark plus a handful of hope-for-only species that they had still not seen elsewhere.

Wish list:

Great Curassow, Black-throated Bobwhite, Ocellated Turkey, Caribbean Dove, Yucatan Poorwill, Yucatan Nightjar, Mexican Sheartail, Cozumel Emerald, Yucatan Woodpecker, Yellow-lored Parrot, Ruddy Woodcreeper, Yucatan Flycatcher, Cozumel Vireo, Cozumel Wren (ssp beani of House Wren), Yucatan Wren, Black Catbird, Rose-throated Tanager, Gray-throated Chat.

Dream list:

Harpy Eagle, Crested Eagle, Ornate Hawk-Eagle, Orange-breasted Falcon, Black-throated Shrike-Tanager.

We saw a total of 177 species.

Of the wish list species we got all except the Caribbean Dove, though we had one suspected bird that flew off before we could id it. We got none of the dream species.

Photos

Use the following links to see photos from the trip

Birds:

<http://www.jesperbayjacobsen.com/header.php?file=bview&special=1>

Other:

<http://www.jesperbayjacobsen.com/header.php?file=oview&special=1>

The practicalities

At this time of year it gets dark at around 5:30 pm and the sun gets up around 5:30 am, which actually turned out to be nice: You can return early to the hotel without feeling that you are wasting valuable daylight not looking for birds.

Preparing the logistics for a Yucatán trip is straight forward with a lot of options to choose from. About the car rentals it is worth mentioning that I used a third party rental portal which probably gave me a better price but also gave some extra trouble at pickup since the provider, Hertz, could not find the reservation in their system. Not a big problem though since they, after a lot of checking, just created a new one with the same price and conditions.

Remember that when you pick up the car you have to decide if you want to buy the zero risk insurance or not. It is normally not included when you make an online reservation in Yucatán / Cancún,. For reference, our full size car had a deductible fee of 24000 pesos in case of damages. The zero risk insurance was about 2200 pesos.

You can bring your mainland car with you to Cozumel if you want to, but it is normally a better idea to rent another one on the island. With the car ferry you will have to make reservations and it is probably expensive. Taking the passenger ferry is pretty cheap, and it gives you more flexibility about when to go and return.

I rented the island car through the same portal as the other one. The provider was again Hertz, and that was a problem. When arriving with the ferry you'll be received by a load of car rental vendors. They all have booths along the arrival exit - except for Hertz.

Not at big problem at first though. I had the address of the downtown office just opposite the ferry landing. Just that the office didn't exist anymore.

The information I received with the reservation was obsolete (even the Hertz hotline didn't know). The only office and pickup site is now at the airport.

If you experience the same, and have to go to the airport, be sure not to pay more than 50 pesos for the taxi, and not the 80 pesos I was fooled to pay.

Based on this experience I recommend that you do not make reservations beforehand for the island car. Hook up with one of the vendors at the arrival area. They will take you to the pickup site, and you don't have to carry your luggage around (walking to the hotel as we did). And their prices are all more or less similar.

Remember that the driving will always be limited on the island, so you don't have to invest in a fancy car; you just need four wheels and a roof above your head.

The weather

The weather was unexpected. Being at the very end of the rainy season we had expected a clear, warm and dry weather, but it was nothing like it. A cold front from the north was on passage during these days and it was pretty chilly with scattered showers during the day. Mostly along the coasts. Birding all day at Calakmul, in the middle of a supposedly humid rain forest, without starting to sweat, was a new experience in tropical Mexico!

Fees

Parking lot in Playa del Carmen: Per hour 10 pesos, or 24 hours 150 pesos.

The Cozumel ferry: One way per person: 163 pesos.

Calakmul, triple entrance fees:

1 Community fee at beginning of entrance road (56 pesos for the car, 28(14) per person).

2 Biosphere reserve after 20 km (ca. 100 pesos per person).

3 Ruin site (46 pesos per person).

The trip

Sunday November 24.

We got together in the early evening at Cancún airport, and in the darkness we headed toward Río Lagartos on the north coast. Only delayed half an hour because the guide, driver and yours truly had memorized the access road to the east-west highway badly. Being in doubt, we then returned to the airport and started all over. This time asking a police officer, who confirmed that we had been doing well. The road was longer than I had imagined, and we just needed a few extra miles to reach the highway.

Better safe than sorry. But sorry we did feel anyway, or perhaps more precisely a slight touch of sadness, because the first time we headed out, we had experienced what looked like a White-nosed Coati crossing the road right in front of us. Unfortunately another car was coming from the other direction at the same time, and it didn't make it.

That made me think about the two nightjars I had run down in a short stretch when driving back from Cobá a few years ago. It bloody hurts, and it is recommended not to drive in the night if you can avoid it.

But thankfully nothing else happened, and after a 3 hours drive we arrived at the hotel around 10 pm and went straight to bed.

Monday November 25.

The tight schedule forced us to use the daylight hours effectively, therefore we decided to have breakfast in the field while we were looking for the three north coast target species: The Mexican Sheartail, the Yucatan Wren and the Black-throated Bobwhite.

The Sheartail started the party, and already while packing the car we had several on the wires just outside the hotel. Male and females. A Yellow-throated Warbler foraging on a lamp post few meters away was a welcomed starter too. All of us being 'West Coast' birders it is always exciting to see eastern warblers.

Seen from outside the hotel there was a good activity on the water that morning, and Flamingos, Wood Stork, Pelicans, Frigatebirds and Skimmers were all flying by while Melodious Blackbirds were calling around us. But we were on a mission, and decided to stay focused, and therefore soon headed inland toward the San Felipe crossroad, where I earlier have had both the wren and the bobwhite.

There seemed to be too much water along the road though, Not suited for our wished for, but very much so for species with an aquatic preference, such as the Gray-necked Wood-rails which we had 3 of along the road.

We continued a while and finally decided to pull over to scan the area for a short while, though the terrain was still looking bad for our targets.

We birded loosely while waiting for some response to the playback. Both Yellowthroats, a Least Flycatcher, a Plain Chachalaca, GT Grackles, Altamira Orioles, BG Gnatcatchers, a nice female Mexican Sheartail on nest, a single Yellow-rumped Warbler (Myrtle) and a bunch of Tropical Mockingbirds. The latter being THE character species of the Río Lagartos day.

But the target species would not show at all.

Not until when we were about to board the car, and a raspy sound caught our attention. Must be the wren we thought, and soon we found it at the top of an agave stem. Nice.

Doing well, but we still needed the bobwhite, so we decided to drive in the other direction and visit the dirt track at Rancho San Salvador east of Río Lagartos. The drier savannah habitat at that locality would be better suited.

But still difficult it soon turned out: After the rainy season the vegetation was abundant and overgrowing everything. The bobwhites would hide easily everywhere. But we continued slowly hoping for a flock to cross the track. At least we were only looking for one species, and we still had a few hours before we had to return to catch the afternoon ferry to Cozumel.

We saw ground-doves, Mangrove Cuckoos, a Lesser Roadrunner, Spot-breasted Wren, a Canivet's Hummer, a very photogenic male Mexican Sheartail, more Yucatan Wrens and mockingbirds and what later turned out to be a second year Great Black-Hawk beside an adult sp. Black-Hawk. But no Bobwhites.

With half an hour left we decided to drive back toward the highway, again slowly and hoping.

We stopped at a minor ant swarm crossing the road. But being of no good in the sunny open, no birds were attending. We continued, sorrily squashing who knows how many ants, and then a bit further ahead Mark suddenly says: "What is that in front of us?"

A dog I thought. But no. With the binos I too could see that it was a big animal of some kind.

Grison or Tayra Mark and Lori started to argue forth and back. Luckily we managed to get photographic evidence, and later we were all very pleased when it turned out to be a beautiful male Tayra. A mammal lifer for all of us.

Calling it a one hundred percent satisfactory compensation for a missed life bird, would probably be taking the mouth too full, but in that moment there was a feeling of excitement in the car, knowing we had seen something unusual, and it wouldn't have been the least out of place if Mark with his sexy radio voice had covered the meat loafer singing: "2 out of 3 ain't bad!"

Because, while driving back toward the road crossing from where we would leave the Río Lagartos area, and give up on our last chance of finding the bobwhite, both Lori and Mark had accepted the dip as a fact. It was 15 minutes to 11 am, and we had to leave for Playa del Carmen at 11 am the latest to be sure to catch the ferry we were aiming for.

We got to just before the crossroad, but instead of continuing toward the gasoline station, a hunch feeling made me suggest that we stopped 5 minutes at the old quarry that lies exactly at the corner of the road junction. It looked pretty good for a Bobwhite with grassed down open vegetation. We stood at the fence for a while playing back the Bobwhite, but no reaction.

Then I suggested that I hopped the fence to trawl the area quickly. Mark and Lori reacted a bit hesitantly, not knowing if I would be trespassing, and we would be in trouble if someone showed up.

Of course you should not enter a property that is signed "No trespassing" nor properties that look like private land. But normally these properties are well signed, and the community land is not. The quarry was not signed off, and it was obvious that it was only used for grassing, so I concluded that it would be OK to do it.

I started doing a circle counterclockwise trying to stay within viewing distance of Mark and Lori for them to see any birds flying up - the exact behavior of bobwhites.

I kept moving forward, but there was nothing. My in-view circle was just about to end, and with nothing but bare ground, it was obvious that there would be no Bobwhites between me and M&L. Another gut-feeling came up and made me decide to deviate out of their view toward the very last corner of the area to check that. The vegetation was taller and I was close to the wall of shrub that had grown up along the fence, and I was very much aware that if any bird would fly out of there, Mark and Lori would not have a chance of finding them again since they would probably fly over the shrub wall to get away from me. But hell I thought. I continue just for my own sake then. Absolutely last 20 meters, and then suddenly I hear the sound of movement through dry vegetation, and then they fly up! 3 of them. 2 and 1. I freeze, and to my great satisfaction they decide to drop down just a few meters ahead. Wow and cool I think, and start backing out of the area instantly to get back to tell Mark and Lori.

Now without any hesitation they both joined me, and we moved slowly closer until Lori had the pair birds flying up right in front of her, and Mark got to see one of them from farther away. Mission accomplished in the very last minute and corner.

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The 3 and half hours drive to Playa del Carmen was uneventful, and after having been confused slightly by the new bridge constructed along the highway in Playa del Carmen, we found the parking lot where to leave the car. We prepared our gear, and walked to the ferry.

Birding wise the ferry crossing is very boring. You never see anything. Period! In Playa del Carmen we only saw Laughing Gulls.

Arriving at Cozumel 45 minutes later we walked to the hotel 300 meters from the ferry. We had Sandwich and Royal Tern, Ruddy Turnstone and Laughing Gull along the water.

There wasn't really time enough for daylight birding, even less so because I had to go to the airport to get the car. So we decided to take it easy.

After dinner which we had in one of the seafront restaurants, we decided to try some night birding. The nightjar and the poorwill wouldn't be easy to get, so all opportunities should be used.

We headed for the abandoned housing project a few kilometers south of San Miguel, the main town on Cozumel, which could be a good spot for the nightjar.

Soon we saw something flying around way ahead in the headlights, but by the way it moved, it was clear that it was a large bat, and not a bird.

We advanced further down the road, and came to a cross road where I shortly saw something fly up and away. It looked different from the bat we just saw, so we stopped. At the same time we saw some glowing eyes from the other side of the road, reflected by the headlights. We thought about getting out of the car to check it, but in the same moment it started to rain, and we stayed put.

There were several eyes glowing at us now, but they didn't really give the impression as belonging to a bird, and when a pair of green eyes suddenly showed up, we understood that they had to be insects - spiders perhaps.

Mark then exclaimed that rain and nightjars didn't match at all, and that we therefore as well might go back. Lori and I could hardly disagree with that, and we started looping back toward the entrance road.

We hadn't seen or heard a single bird, but we knew it had to be a lucky shot anyway, so we weren't that disappointed. But 1 minute later we were even less disappointed, or to express it correctly: We were absolutely thrilled! From the road around the corner from where we had stopped, and I had seen something fly up, a nightjar suddenly took flight in the headlights. We only saw it briefly but well enough to exclude both the poorwill and the Pauraque. What a difference a single bird can make. Needless to say that we slept like happy babies that night, and also needless to say that it was the only Yucatan Nightjar we got on the trip!

Tuesday November 26.

We were up early, and returned to the abandoned housing site again. This time to look for the Black Catbird, Caribbean Dove and the 3 island endemics in particular: Cozumel Emerald, Cozumel Vireo and the Yucatan Wren. Depending on which taxonomy you use, the latter is only a subspecies of House Wren, but probably the subspecies of all Cozumel subspecies in general that will first receive full species status - if ever. The Cozumel Thrasher was never an issue we discussed!

Yucatan Flycatcher, - Parrot and Woodpecker could be seen here or later on the trip. But since earlier is always better than never, we had an eye out for those too.

The mosquitoes were vicious this morning, and we had our trouble focusing on the birds while still in the shady parts. Out in the sun it got a little better.

The birding never got numerous, but soon the Black Catbird got on the list as the first target species, and quickly followed by 4 Cozumel Vireos. Some Peppershrikes blended in, and a few noisy parrots, that stayed hidden high above, were id' to Yellow-lored [Yucatan] Parrots by voice.

We drove on, passing the nightjar spot of last night, and in a more open area we stopped and tried to playback the wren. And it responded! With a little patience we all got to see it, while at the same time a small woodpecker had flown over and landed in a nearby tree. The voice, the small size and a dirty look indicated Yucatan Woodpecker, and checking the photos we could confirm the id by the yellow nasal tufts. A male it was with red crown and nape.

We were well on our way with only about an hour of birding, but we still needed the Emerald. Driving around, it was obvious that we didn't see any flowering trees nor plants around here, so the chances of finding it at this place, looked minimal.

Therefore we decided to leave for the golf club north of town. On my previous Yucatán trip I was told that it was a reliable spot to try for the Emerald. It sounded worth giving it a try.

We found the entrance road, mangrove fringed seemingly with many birds as we drove by, and ended at the parking lot in front of the club house.

Stepping out of the car the first bird we saw was a beautiful male Cozumel Emerald. How easy can it be!

It had its territory there, and flew forth and back constantly. And perched a few times allowing for modestly decent photos.

Hooded Oriole, Yellow [Golden] Warbler, Ovenbird, Vaux's Swift, Yucatan Wren, Bananaquit and Northern Parula were some of the other birds we saw there during our short stay.

While straying a bit, checking a large bird I had seen, Lori and Mark spotted a Bay-breasted Warbler that would have been a new lifer for me. Sigh!

After that they called me back because the manager had come out, and he told us that it was OK to bird on the parking lot, but not along the entrance road (very winding).

He told us they arranged a 50 usd bird trip around the property, breakfast included. The trip was only about two hours though, so unless you know something very special is in there, it probably isn't worth it (we didn't know at that time that a Snow Goose was present).

He also offered us to come inside the golf area to look for the female Emerald which had a preferred spot where it was easy to see, but we decided to call it mission-accomplished again, and return the car to prepare for an early departure back to the mainland.

We had been birding approximately 3 hours in all, so if you only want to find the 3 main targets, it is possible to do so without spending the night on the island, saving the trouble of caring with you all your luggage. It is still recommended to spend the 40 usd to rent a car to get around though, and not use taxi.

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We returned to Playa del Carmen at 1 pm, and were soon on our way toward Felipe Carillo Puerto where we would stay two nights to explore the Vigía Chico road, leading to the magnificent Sian Ka'an biosphere reserve.

It was another uneventful drive, 2 hours, and after having arrived and being installed at the hotel, we soon took off to bird the last hours of daylight.

We only birded the first few kilometers. It was very quiet that afternoon and 10 species were all we managed to find. New ones were: Thicket Tinamous calling, a Slaty-breasted Tinamou only seen by Lori and probably heard by Mark, Squirrel Cuckoo, Wedge-tailed Sabrewing, Green Jay, Olive-throated Parakeet and Rose-throated Becard. It was cloudy and chilly.

We decided to drive back before it got dark. To rest and eat. And then we would return in the evening to try for the nightjars - the poorwill mostly.

In the restaurant we met Rich Hoyer and his Wings group. They had birded the road this day and their conclusion was that the cold weather had had a negative effect on the birds. They did have several of our target species though, so we were still confident about next day. And cloudy weather would make it more comfortable to bird the whole day.

After dinner we returned to the road, and after only 500 meters we had a pair of flaming orange eyes looking at us ahead on the road. The very stump-tailed dark looking bird was of course a Yucatan Poorwill. Very pleased, we continued further ahead listening for owls and other nightly creatures, but all stayed quiet, and we soon decided to go back, to prepare ourselves for the next day with a good night's sleep.

Wednesday November 27.

We woke up to the calls of the only Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl of the trip, and at 6 am we started birding along the road.

It was still clouded, but it stayed dry all day, so it was pretty nice. And that was probably why we stayed out there the whole day until 5 pm.

We took it slow, moving forward little by little as the bird activity or lack of so dictated.

The road continues for 30 kilometers until the border of the Sian Ka'an reserve, but we only covered the first 12 kilometers until reaching a large opening with grassing cattle on the east side of the road

and a swarm of Leaf Cutter Ants crossing the very same.

When birding a forest habitat it can seem pretty quiet, and you often go on with the impression that you're not really seeing much. We felt it even more so on this cold and clouded day, but still we ended up with a total of 76 species for the day, which wasn't too bad taking the circumstances into consideration.

Of the target species we had already had the Poorwill last night, and today we added reasonable sightings of Orange Oriole, Rose-throated Tanagers, Gray-throated Chats and the Yucatan Flycatcher. Lori and Mark had a Ruddy Woodcreeper which left only the Yellow-lored Parrot and Caribbean Dove as pending. Though we ticked the parrot on Cozumel island, it doesn't feel well only to hear a new species, so it was still a target.

But none of them would it our way this day, and besides a small flock of Red-billed Pigeons we only got White-tipped Dove, leaving this bird group as the big disappointment of the day.

On the general upside we got the three trogons: Black-headed, Gartered and Collared. And we got Yellow-bellied Elaenia, Yellow-olive Flycatcher, 5 hummingbirds, the Aracari and the Toucan, a Smoky-brown Flycatcher and 2 Laughing Falcon to name a few of the not so difficult species.

But we felt specifically pleased to also have both Montezuma Oropendula, Plain Xenops, Gray-collared Becard, Tropical Gnatcatcher, Black-crowned Tityra and Long-billed Gnatwren.

So when we drove back in the afternoon we were pretty content all in all, knowing that the next morning we would have another chance to get the parrot and the dove.

Thursday November 28.

Back on the road at 6:30 am we decided not to go too far in. Better stay at the beginning where it is more open, and easier to see any flying parrots or doves.

While waiting we got an Olive Sparrow as a new trip species, and we had some nice Yellow-faced Grassquits while Black-headed Saltators were calling and a T/C Kingbird kept silent.

Then out of the blue two parrots came darting low past us. I reacted instinctively with the camera and got a few shots before they were gone. Don't think Mark nor Lori got to see them well. They sounded like Yellow-lored, which the photos also confirmed later.

Shame. Still not acceptable.

But then a while later we started to hear a parrot calling from the edge of the forest. Again it sounded like the Yellow-lored - and at the exact same spot where I had had the species some years ago. Probably a good one, and very promising we drove closer and approached along a trail leading in direction of the sound.

We got closer but though the sound indicated that we were very close to it, it kept being hidden behind tall trees. And then it flew off! But lucky it only took a short flight and landed in another tree further down. This time it couldn't go wrong. Closer and closer. It kept calling but we still couldn't see it. Damn! Then I leaned over to the side to look behind an obstructing tree, and voila! there it was, sitting much lower and closer than we had expected.

I got to see the brown ear-patch, but then before Mark and Lori could reach to move over for a clear view the bird took off...! Uuhhh. So close. The bird heard and physically seen but not a tick to be proud of.

But compensation was soon on its way. Not in form of another parrot, but a much smaller bird that Mark and Lori had forgotten would be a lifer, and which we were practically surrounded by while chasing the parrot. The visually discrete Stub-tailed Spadebill. They were calling around us while

we were looking upward. But giving them our full attentions and with a good amount of patience we all managed to get good looks of this funny little guy.

On the way out Mark and Lori got occupied by butterflies and I continued out on the road to wait. Mostly to be safe from what must be the absolutely most annoying bug in Mexico. Much worse than the notorious Jejenes in San Blas: The chiggers! A microscopic mite that invades animals and humans in the larvae state, injecting enzymes into the skin that cause the most horrible itching ever. The night before both Mark and I had found out that we had been attacked. Severely. They crawl up from the low vegetation and attacks almost all parts of your body. And if you start scratching, which is very difficult not to, you will be suffering several weeks, or perhaps a month, before it goes away.

As a bird guide leading a bird trip of course I feel obliged to suffer to some degree in the pursuit of the birds that my clients want to see, but since butterflies were not part of the trip deal, I considered myself free of such responsibility in the moment, and hasted out to safe ground.

And there while waiting, the sound of a Barred Antshrike suddenly reached my ear. At first distantly but slowly it came closer and closer, until two males and a female revealed themselves when reaching the road just in front of me. They hesitated for a while, long enough to take a few photos, and then they crossed the road and disappeared in the foliage again leaving no traces behind.

Then it was time to leave, but we did a last short stop at the mini quarry outside the forest, because a dove flew by and landed on a rock. A perfect candidate for a Caribbean Dove it looked, and we got out of the car, but of course the bird disappeared before we could id it. And that was the closest we got to that species on the whole trip.

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After breakfast we were on the road again, now moving toward the most distant destination of the trip: Calakmul. One of the last true wilderness area in Mexico with endless miles of undisturbed forest. We looked forward to it all of us!

The drive was mostly uneventful, again, but at the border crossing between Quintana Roo and Campeche we first got checked at the police checkpoint, and since we had nothing to 'declare' we moved ahead, but only to be stopped at the next checkpoint which now was the PROFEPA people, law enforcement regarding natural reserves and resources. They wanted to inspect the car too. Apparently they didn't have enough confidence in their police colleagues 10 meters away. I mean: If we had had a box full of living Yellow-headed Parrots they would probably have mentioned it. But they insisted.

And then I don't remember if they asked directly, or if I somehow got to mention that we were just birdwatchers heading for Calakmul. One or the other, that was definitely not a good thing. Ping number 1 then started a long explanation saying that we needed to have a permit from SEMARNAT (the very corrupt top organ dis-managing natural resources in Mexico) to do such activities in Mexico. I explained to him that I had been traveling throughout Mexico for several years, and had never heard of such a permit, and since we were basically simple tourists with no intention to enter where access was restricted, it had absolutely no relevance to us.

But that was like pushing the repeat button on the record player: He started all over again.

Lori was in the bath room while this went on, and since there were no other cars than ours, it was difficult to retire from this repeated nonsense. So I pushed my repeat button too, and so it went on for a while until Lori finally came back and we could intent to get out of there.

PROFEPA are normally the good guys in the fight for nature. They are the ones you call if you see someone selling illegal birds for example. So it was difficult for me to really think that they had bad

intentions with us, talking about this permit. But being in the middle of nowhere and SEMARNAT being mentioned, anything could be.

With Lori in the car, I then asked if we could continue: "Yes you can continue, but you do need a permit from SEMARNAT...If you want to go to the coral reef off the coast for example, then you need a permit....!!!!" Hallelujah! It was like black meeting white for the first time. Absolutely no idea what all this talking was good for. Perhaps they really had tried to squeeze us for some money, or perhaps they just felt a great need to demonstrate their knowledge and good intentions with the job they are doing.

Baffled beyond any good explanation we then continued, but at least with a slight feeling of relief that nothing really had happened.

And so, happily on our way again we continued to Xpujil to buy gasoline and some snacks. It's the last town before Calakmul, distance 50 km, and since there is nothing to buy around Calakmul, you need to bring all your extra supplies. Normally people stay in the hotels in Xpujil because they are cheaper. But we would be staying in hotel Puerta Calakmul, situated close to the highway at the beginning of the entrance road toward Calakmul, and we would therefore not be able to make any spontaneous shopping if we wanted to. We would have our meals at the hotel, but everything else we should bring with us.

The remoteness of the Calakmul site can at first seem a bit inconvenient. But the lack of any facilities is what keeps the hoards of mainstream tourists, and all the commercial and environmental misery they bring with them, away from here. And that is a wonderful thing, worth preserving. Forever!

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The hotel lies in the middle of the forest though close to the highway.

The concept is eco-style with separate cabins decorated in a rustic style and windows without glass allowing the guest to feel closer to the 'wild' nature outside. The windows do have bug-screens. In the dry season, March-April, the pool outside the restaurant apparently attracts a lot of birds, and it should be worthwhile a visit then.

They were about to construct walking or biking trails too in the surrounding forest which, if done well, is a good idea. The forest throughout the area is jungle, meaning that it has a very dense understory, and therefore makes it difficult to explore.

I stayed in a simpler room away from the main cabin area. They have a few of these to a cheaper price for independent guides and tour leaders.

The restaurant has a modern western menu card, and the quality is excellent.

In all, the hotel is very much worth it, though I strongly recommend that you do not buy their lunch boxes. Though the prices in general were higher than average for a hotel in the region, the price for the lunch box was way too high. 140 pesos for a simple sandwich, a piece of fruit, a grain bar and a soda. If you bring an ice box, you can bring your own lunch much cheaper.

So.

We arrived around 4 pm, and then rested a short while after having received our keys. But then we were off again. There is a bat cave nearby that we all thought would be interesting to visit. Besides the bats themselves, there was a chance that birds would come in to hunt them when they came out. Bat Falcon and Barn Owl had been reported doing just so.

We found the pullout easily at km 106, and then walked the few hundred meters to the cenote where the cave entrance is.

The cenote is lying within the forest on a slope with the trees surrounding the opening completely

which limited the overview a bit. It is dry at the bottom, about 50 meters deep and some 30 meters wide. The entrance to the cave is a modest opening of a few meters wide. But don't let that fool you! Inside, the cave goes on for at least some 700 meters, and it has been estimated that it is housing more than 2 million bats, perhaps even as many as 6-7 millions. That is one of the largest congregations of bats in the world. 9 different species have been identified, and you also find permanent water pools with fish and other animals in there.

When we arrived it was all quiet. We were the first visitors though a Belgian tourist couple hooked up with us from the hotel, after we had told them about the site.

There was no activity to spot inside the cave opening, so meanwhile we focused on the few birds we could hear or see. Nothing much and the light was getting poor: A Roadside Hawk, Ivory-billed Woodcreepers, Red-throated Ant-Tanager, Wedge-tailed Sabrewing a few warblers, Hooded and Magnolia and a heard Thicket Tinamou.

After 15 minutes the bats finally started to show some action. With the binos we could see some of them flying around inside the cave, but still none of them came out.

The Belgians, who probably had expected a super close-up BBC full-speed action HD experience right from the beginning, then decided to leave the site.

We stayed, and soon another group of tourists joined us.

The bats slowly started to come out of the cave. At first they flew around just outside the entrance, but little by little more and more came out and soon the cenote was filled with silently moving black silhouettes. And then they took it one step further: They came out of the cenote and started flying around between the trees and us! They are of course masterly fliers so the risk of being torpedoed by one didn't really occur as a possibility, even though they now should be counted in their hundreds if not thousands. Absolutely phenomenal experience!

None of us spoke for a while, just enjoying the fascinating spectacle. But having noticed that the other persons who had arrived all protected their faces with scarfs or their t-shirts, we had to ask what that was for, and their answer was that the bats were potential carriers of diseases that could spread to humans. Nice to know.

We then decided to go back. Not so much because of this risk, but to try to see if we could spot anything from the road while there was still some light. While going to pick up my backpack, I apparently did a too fast movement, because one of the bats collided with my leg and fell to the ground. It took off instantly though, so no harm done.

But they are not all this fortunate. Especially not since the highway was build. When you pass by in your car, you see signs with bats on them. That is not a service to tourists, but a warning that you should slow down your vehicle. While foraging in the area surrounding the cave many bats get killed when they are not fast enough to escape the cars. Nice to know too.

We didn't see anything from the road, and since it was practically dark by then, we decided to call it a day. But a very good one!

Forgot to mention that when the bats started to come out, two Blue-crowned Motmots came in and sat in an overhanging tree for a while, perhaps waiting for a hunting opportunity. They took off soon though, but they were definitely the best birds of that visit.

Friday November 29.

The big Calakmul day!

This was the day where we expected to find the last two of the target species, Great Curassow and

Ocellated Turkey, and all of the dream species.

The Calakmul biosphere reserve is huge with its 7231 km² or 2792 mi².

The Escárcega - Chetumal highway runs right through it, but otherwise most parts of it are still untouched and even unexplored.

The Calakmul ruins are found 60 kilometers south of the highway, and the birding is done along the access road and at the ruin complex itself.

But how do you start birding such a large area, you might ask. To cover 60 kilometers of road plus a large ruin complex doesn't sound realistic to do in just one day. The true answer is that it is not possible. To really do the area justice you need more days. You could probably stay for a week or longer, and still find new species every day.

So when you have a limited time the best strategy is to take it as an experience. Enjoy the atmosphere and whatever species you may come across.

The good thing for those with a limited time is that the forest, the vegetation, in general is very dense, and you can not just walk off the road as you please without great difficulties. So it is not like you have 60 kilometers of free choice to where you want to bird. Yes, you can bird on the road all along the 60 kilometers if you want to, but since forest birding normally isn't like that, you will only stop if you hear or see something, limiting the time use considerably.

And besides this, there are only very few side roads or tracks to choose from along the road, so you will not be inclined to stop continuously before getting to the ruins, and thus wasting precious time before reaching that area which should have top priority.

So while it can be frustrating to think about all the great birds you potentially could have seen while driving through the forest, it is also comforting to know, that it physically simply isn't possible to get to them. So: Relax and enjoy!

We knew that our target species were best found around the ruins, so our plan was to get there rather early: Around mid-morning to also allow for some raptor watching from the top of the pyramids. And then we would decide if we would stay there or bird along the road when going back.

I started the day out with a short walk in the dark at 5 am around the hotel ground. It didn't give much other than 3 night roosting Boat-billed Flycatchers.

Reaching the entrance road to the ruins there was nobody attending the bar across the road, but when we left half an hour later, a young man had shown up to charge us the first entrance fee.

This is the entrance fee to pay to the community people of the area.

We paid a fee for the car and for each person. It was 56 pesos for the car and 14 per person. The young man at first gave us one price per person, 28 pesos, but then he asked if we wanted a discount, because that would be possible. I asked why and what it implied. He then explained something that I didn't understand. He asked again, and I just said yes, thinking why not. And then we got the discount, and we continued. Just like that, with no implications whatsoever. Funny world.

We didn't see or hear anything the first kilometers, and reached the first, and practically only, side road at km 4.7. It is the one leading to the camp ground Yaax'Che. We walked the road to the camp, a few hundred meters, but didn't find anything new or interesting. There were people staying there and one Mexican guy, also a birder though not a top gun like us(!), told us that we could bird the camp if we wanted to, and that there was a watch tower further ahead too. That sounded interesting, and we decided to give it a try.

The tower was there alright and of good quality too, so no problem climbing it. At least for the taller ones of us. Because the spaces between some of the steps were in places too wide and Lori, with her limited altitude range, couldn't get passed them. I made a quick climb just to check if it was useful

for anything. The view was clear of the tree tops alright, so with patience you could probably spot raptors or close-by top-perchers.

We retreated hasty not to waste more time there. Also because the Mexican had said that he had seen many Curassows at the ruins. Perhaps 25! And that was a very motivating statement, though Lori was sure he had been talking about the Turkeys. But having gotten to know the Mexicans better during the years, I had a feeling that this guy was straight and reliable. So at least I was very hopeful when we continued.

As we drove on we could see that in places there was a lot of water. And speaking with the locals later, they could also confirm that there was more water than usual for the time of year. That would affect on the birds of course, making them spread out when water was not limited. That was also why the hotel people recommended returning in March, during the dry season, when the scarcity of water would force the birds to seek the fewer resources like the pool outside the restaurant.

After 20 kilometers we reached the point where to pay the second entrance fee. This one was to contribute to the conservation of the reserve. About 100 pesos per person.

There is a museum here you can visit. Mark and Lori wanted to buy souvenirs from Calakmul, so they went to see if they would have a gift shop.

Meanwhile I stayed outside having a bite to eat, and enjoying our first Ocellated Turkeys of the trip. Easy tick - as they are famous for.

Being far away from any human settlements one can be sure they are wild, but it still feels a bit strange to have big wild birds walking around few meters from you, not worrying the least.

Mark and Lori returned with a: Zip nada! Nothing, or at least very little and the clothes of course not the right size for a grown up man like Mark. Tourism has not yet come to Calakmul - and that is a good thing, remember!

Content with the Turkey we moved on again, but time was moving too, so we agreed that the ruins should be our only focus now.

The road is paved all the way to the ruins, so theoretically you should be able to do at least 60 kilometers per hour, meaning that you should be able to reach the ruins in one hour starting from the highway. But in practice it was not possible because of the many potholes all along the road.

40 kilometers is a long way then, when you have Curassow and raptors that prefer soaring in the mid-morning on your agenda.

On and on we went getting closer, and then suddenly Lori cries that there is a big thing/bird on the road ahead of us. I hit the breaks, and without a 20/20 vision I say that it probably is a Turkey. Nooo she cries, it's a Curassow...! Binos up, and bingo: A magnificent male standing in the middle of the road. Wow and lifer! A few photo hip-shots before moving closer. A few better photos and then he decides to move into cover. But we didn't complain. Even not me, when Lori slapped my shoulder for the, admittedly, very pessimistic Turkey suggestion. But you know: It's better getting beaten up once in a while than expect too much of live, or...?!

Apart from the Caribbean Dove we now had the complete wish list covered.

A very satisfactory moment and as we continued we even added several female Curassows to the list.

Finally we reached the parking lot at the ruins. It was later than we had hoped for, and mid-morning raptor searching was no longer an option. But since everything new from now on would be extra, we prepared our gear without hurrying, and then went to pay the third entrance fee to visit the ruins.

We headed slowly toward the biggest pyramid following the signs and whatever was moving around us.

Suddenly Lori finds a Ruddy Woodcreeper ahead of us. Cool. We all gather to get a good look of it. Very nice. I then look down, and to my surprise I see that the ground is covered with black ants. Oh, this is an army ant swarm isn't it? And yes it was, and we were standing right in the middle of it! Too late to escape. They were already invading our shoes and pants, and then they started biting. We rushed passed the swarm to brush them off as quickly as we could. Luckily it was a small and not too aggressive species, and the bites were only of moderate intensity, so we could soon concentrate on any birds that would be following the ants. That was why the Ruddy Woodcreeper was there in the first place of course.

Lori then found a Bright-rumped Attila, a Wood Thrush popped out on the trail, we heard an Olivaceous Woodcreeper, and I see another woodcreeper that turns out to be a Northern Barred-Woodcreeper, and then suddenly there are two of them. The ants passed by quickly and it soon looks like the birds have gone too. Probably also disturbed by the people that kept passing by on the trail. Lori was filming the scenery with her video camera, and then suddenly she cries: Tinamou! and both Mark and I turn around and get to see the small compact bird crossing the trail before it disappeared in the understory again. The video showed that it was a Thicket Tinamou. Definitely a bonus experience to get to see a tinamou rather than just hearing it. Happy birders!

With the ants gone it was time for a quick lunch. We found a quiet spot, but were soon puzzled by strange unexpected sounds coming from behind us. We finished eating, and then went to see if we could find what it was that made this sound. I had mentioned ducks just for fun, though it didn't really sound like ducks. I wouldn't have expected ducks at Calakmul anyway since I wasn't aware of a lake inside the ruin area. But certainly! Right behind us there was a small overgrown lake, and the sound came from several Common Gallinules. At least I got the water element right! A Jacana and a Least Grebe called too, but otherwise there wasn't much of interest in the water.

Around the next corner we went, and there we finally were at the large ruin complex, the palace area. And here we found good numbers of Ocellated Turkeys foraging quietly in the open shady area between the ruins. We stayed a while taking photos but didn't see much else, and then continued forward out behind the palace area toward the greatest of the pyramids at Calakmul: Structure II.

It is 45 meters tall, but, being a larger and broader based structure, it is much easier to climb than the famous ruins at Tikal in Guatemala, and we could therefore all of us soon enjoy the spectacular view from the top overlooking the endless greenery.

The raptors stayed well out of sight while we were up there, but in the trees close by 3 Howler Monkeys moved slowly through the foliage.

And a large tree in front of the pyramid attracted several birds, though no new species for the trip. Yucatan and Golden-fronted Woodpeckers, Social and Boat-billed Flycatchers and a very photogenic Keel-billed Toucan stayed a while too.

It was now our plan to bird along the road back, especially at a minor lake that we had heard about and passed by on the way in. So after getting down from the pyramid we walked slowly the same way back to the parking lot that we had come in. On the way back we had Spider Monkeys swinging overhead, then a Royal Flycatcher perched shortly in front of us and a Long-billed Gnatwren puzzled through the bushes to mention the most interesting species. But more remarkably it was how small groups of Curassows started to show up.

We started counting them compared to the Turkeys that we saw, and it was a constantly close race, and much more than we had hoped for.

When we left the parking lot we had counted about 15 of both species. Driving back along the first

kilometers the numbers kept increasing, and when the darkness had finally put an end to the game, the Curassows had won a surprising victory with 22 to 20. (The Mexican was right!)

But we'll call it a tie, since the Turkey deserves two more points for the one individual that took flight right in front of the car, heading toward a branch 10-15 meters above the ground. That was truly impressive!

Nothing else impressive on the rest of the way back. We had a little problem identifying a raptor perched in between some trees, but it finally turned out to be a young Roadside Hawk.

When we got back to where the trail toward the lake was, we could see that something wasn't quiet right. The water was way too close to the road. The large amount of water the area had received lately had of course inundated the area around the original lake too. That in itself didn't mean it was bad for birding, but apparently there was no bird activity around us, and as the light was fading rapidly, we decided to go straight back from there.

We were absolutely satisfied with the visit and the result of the day, and it had been interesting to finally see this mythical place.

But having said that, it is also necessary to mention that if it hadn't been a first time visit, and if the Turkey and Curassow had not been on the wish list, then the total of 37 species that we saw this entire day would probably have left us with a feeling of disappointment. Of course the woodcreepers, the seen tinamou and the Royal Flycatcher were great birds to see, but knowing what this magnificent place really houses of exotic species, we could have hoped for more without being too ungrateful.

The cold weather undoubtedly had a lot to do with it. The fact that we were birding a whole day in a supposedly tropical rain forest without starting to sweat at all, says a lot. The high number of Curassows that we saw compared to what others have seen could also be an indication of a different behavior caused by the dramatic weather change. As could be the fact that we didn't see one single pigeon or dove the whole day.

But all good lessons to learn from, and when the day ends with a well-prepared Grouper in tequila sauce there really isn't more to say than thank you for a great experience!

Saturday November 30.

Last day, and time to head back toward Cancún and the realities of life.

It would be a 6 hours drive, more or less, giving us a little daylight time to do birding. We could have stayed a little longer in Calakmul birding the access road for example, or one of the other smaller ruin sites close by. But instead we decided to give the Caribbean Dove a last chance, and head back early toward the botanical garden in Puerto Morelos close to Cancún.

But while waiting for Mark and Lori outside the hotel in the morning I had found a trail behind the main building that looked interesting with a White-tipped Dove walking calmly in the open. So we decided to give it a try. It turned out to be a trail around the hotel ground, the initiation of the the walking and biking trails to come.

We had a nice variety of species already seen such as Red-throated Ant-Tanagers, Sepia-capped Flycatcher, Bright-rumped Attila, Yucatan and Brown Jays, Clay-colored Thrush, different warblers, Lesser Greenlets and Least Flycatcher to name some. New for the trip was a Worm-eating Warbler.

All very promising for a future stay at the hotel. While ending the round trip we found out there was a pool too, and it was ready to use. Just that the cold weather and the mosquitoes didn't do anything good to encourage us to have a quick swim. But perhaps next time.

-

The drive back gave some roadside birds, but nothing new for the trip. The border crossing went smoothly with no checkpoints in eastward direction. We had lunch at the hotel in Felipe Carrillo Puerto, and around half past three we were at the botanical garden, but the gate was closed. We then decided to drift around the area. If the dove could be seen inside the garden it could probably also be seen outside.

We ended up on the coast in the village Puerto Morelos. Mark and I strolled down to the water while Lori emptied the nearest souvenir shop. I saw a flyby Herring Gull, but otherwise nothing new on the water.

Afterward we did a circle around the village only to find out that several streets were flooded. At an unofficial peeing spot we added Northern Waterthrush to the list, but no Caribbean Doves in sight.

As a final try, we headed for the city park Kabah that I had visited while waiting for Mark and Lori on the first day. Not very promising when looking for a specialty like this dove, but you never know. And better spend the daylight birding than staring into the wall of a hotel room.

The park was open, and we took the round tour I knew from last time. Lots of screaming children and adults - their scout team leaders - but no birds. Or more precisely 4 birds: A Chachalaca, 2 Great Kiskadees and an American Redstart.

Well, we gave it a try. Kept the spirit high till the last minute.

And then in that very same last minute a circle closed in the most beautiful manner:

A White-nosed Coati all of a sudden appeared in front of us sniffing its way closer and closer.

Unaffected it got withing a few meters of us before it wandered calmly off again following its own path.

From the sad experience of the first Coati getting killed in the dark night on the first day, to a living and confident Coati approaching us like this on the last day. Could be be other than a message from beyond?

A message of gratefulness from a dead soul with whom we shared its last living moment. A message telling us to keep going forward with positive and compassionate minds, delivered by a fellow spirit. I believe it!

-

While heading toward the hotel we were accompanied by the loud chorus of hundreds or thousands of grackles saluting us farewell from a night roost along the road, and with that a great birding week with happy people was over.

FIN

Species list

The list follows the ebird/Clements taxonomy, version 6.8 2013.

Tinamous (Tinamidae)

Slaty-breasted Tinamou (*Crypturellus boucardi*)

November 26, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1 boucardi Lori saw this bird briefly, and Mark probably heard it later on.).

Thicket Tinamou (*Crypturellus cinnamomeus*)

November 26, 2013: Vigía Chico road(3 goldmani).

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(4 goldmani).

November 28, 2013: Calakmul(1 goldmani).

November 29, 2013: Calakmul(1 goldmani Seen).

Chachalacas, Guans and Curassows (Cracidae)

Plain Chachalaca (*Ortalis vetula*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(1 pallidiventris).

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(4 pallidiventris).

November 30, 2013: Parque Kabah - Cancún(1 pallidiventris).

Great Curassow (*Crax rubra*)

November 29, 2013: Calakmul(22 rubra. Both sexes. Seen in small groups, most at ruins and part of access road closest to ruins. Perhaps more active because of cool weather?).

New World Quail (Odontophoridae)

Black-throated Bobwhite (*Colinus nigrogularis*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(3 caboti).

Pheasants, Grouse and Allies (Phasianidae)

Ocellated Turkey (*Meleagris ocellata*)

November 29, 2013: Calakmul(20 Most at ruins).

Grebes (Podicipedidae)

Least Grebe (*Tachybaptus dominicus*)

November 29, 2013: Calakmul(1 brachypterus In lake at ruins).

Flamingos (Phoenicopteridae)

American Flamingo (*Phoenicopterus ruber*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(3).

Storks (Ciconiidae)

Wood Stork (*Mycteria americana*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(1).

November 28, 2013: Quintana Roo(1).

November 30, 2013: Quintana Roo(2).

Frigatebirds (Fregatidae)

Magnificent Frigatebird (*Fregata magnificens*)

November 25, 2013: Cozumel Island(2) Río Lagartos, re(10).

November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(5).

November 30, 2013: Puerto Morelos(5).

Cormorants and Shags (Phalacrocoracidae)

Double-crested Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*)

November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(1 floridanus [Dark-crested]).

Pelicans (Pelecanidae)

American White Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(10).

Brown Pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(5 *occidentalis* [Caribbean]).

November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(3 *occidentalis* [Caribbean]).

Heron, Egrets and Bitterns (*Ardeidae*)

Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(1 *herodias* [Blue form]).

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(2 *herodias* [Blue form]).

Great Egret (*Ardea alba*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(1 *egretta* [American]).

November 29, 2013: Calakmul(1 *egretta* [American]).

Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*)

November 25, 2013: Cozumel Island(3 *thula*).

Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1 *ibis* [*ibis*]).

Green Heron (*Butorides virescens*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(1 *virescens* [Eastern]).

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(1 *violacea* [Yellow-crowned]).

Ibises and Spoonbills (*Threskiornithidae*)

White Ibis (*Eudocimus albus*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(40).

New World Vultures (*Cathartidae*)

Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(50 *atratus*).

November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(4 *atratus*).

November 28, 2013: Quintana Roo(15 *atratus*).

November 30, 2013: Quintana Roo(1 *atratus*).

Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*)

Seen every day with max 5 ind. *aura/septentrionalis* (Northern).

Lesser Yellow-headed Vulture (*Cathartes burrovianus*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(3 *burrovianus*).

Hawks, Eagles and Kites (*Accipitridae*)

Hawk, Eagle or Kite sp. (*Accipitridae* sp.)

November 28, 2013: Quintana Roo(1 Most likely a Snail Kite overhead).

Crane Hawk (*Geranospiza caerulescens*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(1 Lori Conrad).

Great Black-Hawk (*Buteogallus urubitinga*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(1 imm *ridgwayi*).

Buteogallus Hawk sp. (*Buteogallus* sp.)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(1 ad Great / Common. Perched in low tree but didn't see details before it took off low behind the trees.).

Roadside Hawk (*Rupornis magnirostris*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(1 conspectus [Mainland]).

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(2 conspectus [Mainland]).

November 28, 2013: Calakmul(1 conspectus [Mainland]).

November 29, 2013: Calakmul(1 juv conspectus [Mainland]).

November 30, 2013: Calakmul(1 conspectus [Mainland]) Quintana Roo(3 conspectus [Mainland]).

White-tailed Hawk (*Geranoaetus albicaudatus*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(1 hyospodius Lori Conrad).

Gray Hawk (*Buteo plagiatus*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(1 ad).

November 30, 2013: Quintana Roo(1 Lori Conrad).

Short-tailed Hawk (*Buteo brachyurus*)

November 30, 2013: Quintana Roo(1 ad fuliginosus) Quintana Roo(1 fuliginosus).

Rails, Gallinules and Coots (*Rallidae*)

Gray-necked Wood-Rail (*Aramides cajaneus*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(3 albiventris).

Common Gallinule (*Gallinula galeata*)

November 29, 2013: Calakmul(4 cachinnans [American] In lake at ruins.).

Jacanas (*Jacanidae*)

Northern Jacana (*Jacana spinosa*)

November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(1 ad gymnostoma).

November 29, 2013: Calakmul(1 gymnostoma Lake at ruins).

Sandpipers and Allies (*Scolopacidae*)

Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*)

November 25, 2013: Cozumel Island(10 morinella).

November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(15 morinella).

November 30, 2013: Puerto Morelos(10 morinella).

Gulls, Terns and Skimmers (*Laridae*)

Laughing Gull (*Leucophaeus atricilla*)

November 25, 2013: Cozumel Island(5 megalopterus) Playa del Carmen(40 megalopterus).

November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(5 megalopterus).

November 30, 2013: Puerto Morelos(10 megalopterus).

Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*)

November 30, 2013: Puerto Morelos(1 1CY smithsonianus [American]).

Royal Tern (*Thalasseus maximus*)

November 25, 2013: Cozumel Island(2 maximus [American]).

November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(1 maximus [American]).

Sandwich Tern (*Thalasseus sandvicensis*)

November 25, 2013: Cozumel Island(1 acufavidus [Cabot's]).

November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(2 acufavidus [Cabot's]).

November 30, 2013: Puerto Morelos(2 acufavidus [Cabot's]).

Black Skimmer (*Rynchops niger*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(10 niger [Northern] Harbor seen from Hotel Tabasco.).

Pigeons and Doves (Columbidae)

Pigeon or Dove sp. (Columbidae sp.)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1 1 dove sp. at the small quarry in the open after the last houses. Probably a Caribbean Dove which would have been a lifer for Lori and Mark.).

Rock Pigeon (Feral Pigeon) (*Columba livia* (Domestic type))

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(10).

November 30, 2013: Puerto Morelos(10).

Red-billed Pigeon (*Patagioenas flavirostris*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(10 flavirostris).

November 28, 2013: Vigía Chico road(5 flavirostris).

Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*)

November 24, 2013: Parque Kabah - Cancún(5).

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(6).

November 30, 2013: Puerto Morelos(4).

White-winged Dove (*Zenaida asiatica*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(2 asiatica).

November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(2 asiatica).

Common Ground-Dove (*Columbina passerina*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(10 pallescens).

Ruddy Ground-Dove (*Columbina talpacoti*)

November 24, 2013: Parque Kabah - Cancún(2 rufipennis).

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(6 rufipennis).

November 30, 2013: Puerto Morelos(1 rufipennis).

White-tipped Dove (*Leptotila verreauxi*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(3 fulviventris [White-tipped]).

November 28, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1 fulviventris [White-tipped]).

November 30, 2013: Calakmul(1 fulviventris [White-tipped]).

Cuckoos (Cuculidae)

Squirrel Cuckoo (*Piaya cayana*)

November 26, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1 thermophila [Middle America]).

Mangrove Cuckoo (*Coccyzus minor*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(3).

Lesser Roadrunner (*Geococcyx velox*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(1).

Groove-billed Ani (*Crotophaga sulcirostris*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(40).

November 28, 2013: Vigía Chico road(10).

Owls (Strigidae)

Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl (*Glaucidium brasilianum*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1 heard ridgwayi [Ferruginous] In town at hotel El Faisán y el venado).

Nightjars and Allies (Caprimulgidae)

Lesser Nighthawk (*Chordeiles acutipennis*)
November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(1 micromeris).

Common Pauraque (*Nyctidromus albicollis*)
November 29, 2013: Calakmul(1 yucatanensis).

Yucatan Poorwill (*Nyctiphrynus yucatanicus*)
November 26, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1 on the road at 9 pm after about 500 meters.).

Yucatan Nightjar (*Antrostomus badius*)
November 25, 2013: Cozumel Island(1 Flushed from the road. Seen in headlights through the rain.).

Swifts (*Apodidae*)

Swift sp. (*Apodidae* sp.)
November 28, 2013: Quintana Roo(1).

Vaux's Swift (*Chaetura vauxi*)
November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(1 gaumeri [Yucatan]).

Hummingbirds (*Trochilidae*)

Mexican Sheartail (*Doricha eliza*)
November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(2 males and 4 females incl 1 on nest along road to San Felipe).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird (*Archilochus colubris*)
November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(2).

Cozumel Emerald (*Chlorostilbon forficatus*)
November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(1 male at golf club).

Canivet's Emerald (*Chlorostilbon canivetii*)
November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(1 male canivetii [Canivet's]).
November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1 male canivetii [Canivet's]).

Wedge-tailed Sabrewing (*Campylopterus curvipennis*)
November 26, 2013: Vigía Chico road(2 pampa [Wedge-tailed]).
November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(3 pampa [Wedge-tailed]).
November 28, 2013: Calakmul(1 pampa [Wedge-tailed]) Vigía Chico road(1 pampa [Wedge-tailed]).

White-bellied Emerald (*Amazilia candida*)
November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(2 candida).

Rufous-tailed Hummingbird (*Amazilia tzacatl*)
November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(2 tzacatl [Rufous-tailed]).

Buff-bellied Hummingbird (*Amazilia yucatanensis*)
November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1 yucatanensis [Yucatan]).

Cinnamon Hummingbird (*Amazilia rutila*)
November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(1 Mark Conrad).

Trogons (*Trogonidae*)

Black-headed Trogon (*Trogon melanocephalus*)
November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1 M melanocephalus).
November 29, 2013: Calakmul(1 melanocephalus).

Gartered Trogon (*Trogon caligatus*)
November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1 female braccatus).

Collared Trogon (*Trogon collaris*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(4 puella [Bar-tailed]).

Motmots (*Momotidae*)

Blue-crowned Motmot (*Momotus coeruliceps*)

November 28, 2013: Calakmul(2 exiguus [Lesson's]).

Kingfishers (*Alcedinidae*)

Kingfisher sp. (*Alcedinidae* sp.)

November 30, 2013: Quintana Roo(2 Looked big like Amazon Kingfishers. Together on wire along road.).

Toucans (*Ramphastidae*)

Collared Aracari (*Pteroglossus torquatus*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(4 erythrozonus [Collared]).

Keel-billed Toucan (*Ramphastos sulfuratus*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(6 sulfuratus).

November 29, 2013: Calakmul(6 sulfuratus).

Woodpeckers (*Picidae*)

Yucatan Woodpecker (*Melanerpes pygmaeus*)

November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(1 male pygmaeus).

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1 rubricornis Lori or Mark Conrad).

November 29, 2013: Calakmul(1 rubricornis).

Golden-fronted Woodpecker (*Melanerpes aurifrons*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(2 dubius [East Mexico]).

November 29, 2013: Calakmul(2 dubius [East Mexico]).

Ladder-backed Woodpecker (*Picoides scalaris*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(1 male parvus).

Smoky-brown Woodpecker (*Picoides fumigatus*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1 female oleagineus).

Pale-billed Woodpecker (*Campephilus guatemalensis*)

November 28, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1 male guatemalensis).

November 29, 2013: Calakmul(1 female guatemalensis) Calakmul(1 guatemalensis).

Falcons and Caracaras (*Falconidae*)

Crested Caracara (*Caracara cheriway*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(4 audubonii).

Laughing Falcon (*Herpetotheres cachinnans*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(2 chapmani).

Diurnal raptor sp. (*Accipitriformes/Falconiformes* sp.)

November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(1 Small raptor flying fast over tree tops. Falcon or Accipiter).

Parrots (*Psittacidae*)

Parrot sp. (*Psittacidae* sp.)

November 24, 2013: Parque Kabah - Cancún(5 parrots).

November 26, 2013: Vigía Chico road(2 parrots).

November 28, 2013: Calakmul(2 Flying over road while driving to bat cave. 2 smaller parrots, not parakeets. Brown-hooded or White-crowned.).

Olive-throated Parakeet (*Aratinga nana*)

November 26, 2013: Vigía Chico road(6 astec [Aztec]).

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(10 astec [Aztec]).

White-fronted Parrot (*Amazona albifrons*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(2 nana).

November 28, 2013: Vigía Chico road(2 nana).

Yellow-lored Parrot (*Amazona xantholora*)

November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(2).

November 28, 2013: Vigía Chico road(3 1 seen bad in trees, other two flying over.).

Typical Antbirds (*Thamnophilidae*)

Barred Antshrike (*Thamnophilus doliatus*)

November 28, 2013: Vigía Chico road(2 males and 1 female intermedius [Barred]).

Ovenbirds and Woodcreepers (*Furnariidae*)

Olivaceous Woodcreeper (*Sittasomus griseicapillus*)

November 29, 2013: Calakmul(1 gracileus [Grayish] Heard at ant swarm).

Ruddy Woodcreeper (*Dendrocincla homochroa*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1 Lori & Mark Conrad).

November 29, 2013: Calakmul(3 homochroa with ant swarm.).

Northern Barred-Woodcreeper (*Dendrocolaptes sanctithomae*)

November 29, 2013: Calakmul(2 sanctithomae At ant swarm).

Ivory-billed Woodcreeper (*Xiphorhynchus flavigaster*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(5 yucatanensis).

November 28, 2013: Calakmul(4 yucatanensis).

Plain Xenops (*Xenops minutus*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(2 mexicanus).

Tyrant Flycatchers (*Tyrannidae*)

Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet (*Camptostoma imberbe*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(2).

Greenish Elaenia (*Myiopagis viridicata*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1 placens [Greenish]).

Yellow-bellied Elaenia (*Elaenia flavogaster*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(2 subpagana).

Sepia-capped Flycatcher (*Leptopogon amaurocephalus*)

November 28, 2013: Calakmul(1 heard pileatus).

November 30, 2013: Calakmul(1 heard pileatus).

Northern Bentbill (*Oncostoma cinereigulare*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(2).

Slate-headed Tody-Flycatcher (*Poecilatriccus sylvia*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(3 schistaceiceps).

Yellow-olive Flycatcher (*Tolmomyias sulphureus*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1 cinereiceps [Gray-headed]).
November 29, 2013: Calakmul(1 cinereiceps [Gray-headed]).

Stub-tailed Spadebill (*Platyrinchus cancrominus*)

November 28, 2013: Vigía Chico road(4).
November 29, 2013: Calakmul(1).

Royal Flycatcher (*Onychorhynchus coronatus*)

November 29, 2013: Calakmul(1 mexicanus [Northern]).

Tropical Pewee (*Contopus cinereus*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(2 brachytarsus [Short-legged]).

Least Flycatcher (*Empidonax minimus*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(1).
November 30, 2013: Calakmul(1).

Vermilion Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(2 blatteus [Vermilion]).

Bright-rumped Attila (*Attila spadiceus*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1 flammulatus [Northern]).
November 29, 2013: Calakmul(1 flammulatus [Northern] ant swarm).
November 30, 2013: Calakmul(1 flammulatus [Northern]).

Yucatan Flycatcher (*Myiarchus yucatanensis*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1 navai).

Dusky-capped Flycatcher (*Myiarchus tuberculifer*)

November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(2 platyrhynchus).
November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(6 manens).

Great Crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus crinitus*)

November 29, 2013: Calakmul(5).
November 30, 2013: Calakmul(3).

Great Kiskadee (*Pitangus sulphuratus*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(2 guatemalensis).
November 30, 2013: Parque Kabah - Cancún(2 guatemalensis).

Boat-billed Flycatcher (*Megarynchus pitangua*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(1 mexicanus [Northern]).
November 29, 2013: Calakmul(6 mexicanus [Northern]).

Social Flycatcher (*Myiozetetes similis*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(2 texensis [Vermilion-crowned]).
November 29, 2013: Calakmul(5 texensis [Vermilion-crowned]).

Tropical Kingbird (*Tyrannus melancholicus*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(10 satrapa).
November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(6 satrapa).
November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(4 satrapa).

Couch's Kingbird (*Tyrannus couchii*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(1).
November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1).

Tropical/Couch's Kingbird (*Tyrannus melancholicus/couchii*)

November 26, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1).

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(4).

November 28, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1).

Surely a number of wire birds while driving should be added.

Tityras and Allies (Tityridae)

Black-crowned Tityra (*Tityra inquisitor*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1 male, 1 female fraserii).

Masked Tityra (*Tityra semifasciata*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1 deses).

Gray-collared Becard (*Pachyramphus major*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1 imm male itzensis).

Rose-throated Becard (*Pachyramphus aglaiae*)

November 26, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1 male, 1 female yucatanensis).

Vireos (Vireonidae)

White-eyed Vireo (*Vireo griseus*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(2 griseus (White-eyed)).

November 29, 2013: Calakmul(5 griseus (White-eyed)).

November 30, 2013: Calakmul(1 griseus (White-eyed)).

Mangrove Vireo (*Vireo pallens*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(2 semiflavus [Northern Central America]).

Cozumel Vireo (*Vireo bairdi*)

November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(4).

Yellow-throated Vireo (*Vireo flavifrons*)

November 29, 2013: Calakmul(2).

November 30, 2013: Calakmul(1).

Yucatan Vireo (*Vireo magister*)

November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(1 magister).

Lesser Greenlet (*Hylophilus decurtatus*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1 decurtatus [Northern]).

November 29, 2013: Calakmul(3 decurtatus [Northern]).

November 30, 2013: Calakmul(4 decurtatus [Northern]).

Rufous-browed Peppershrike (*Cyclarhis gujanensis*)

November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(4 insularis [Cozumel I.]).

Crows, Jays and Magpies (Corvidae)

Brown Jay (*Psilorhinus morio*)

November 24, 2013: Parque Kabah - Cancún(1 vociferus).

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(10 vociferus).

November 28, 2013: Quintana Roo(2 vociferus).

November 29, 2013: Calakmul(15 cyanogenys).

November 30, 2013: Calakmul(4 cyanogenys).

Green Jay (*Cyanocorax yncas*)

November 26, 2013: Vigía Chico road(3 maya [Green]).

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(3 maya [Green]).

Yucatan Jay (*Cyanocorax yucatanicus*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(4 yucatanicus).

November 28, 2013: Quintana Roo(4 yucatanicus).

November 30, 2013: Calakmul(25 yucatanicus).

Swallows (*Hirundinidae*)

Northern Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(2 serripennis (Northern)).

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1 serripennis (Northern)).

Mangrove Swallow (*Tachycineta albilinea*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(3).

Wrens (*Troglodytidae*)

House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*)

November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(1 beani [Cozumel I.]).

Yucatan Wren (*Campylorhynchus yucatanicus*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(10).

Spot-breasted Wren (*Pheugopedius maculipectus*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(1 canobrunneus).

November 26, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1 canobrunneus).

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(5 canobrunneus).

White-bellied Wren (*Uropsila leucogastra*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(3 brachyura [Middle America]).

Gnatcatchers (*Poliophtilidae*)

Long-billed Gnatwren (*Ramphocaenus melanurus*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1 ardeleo [rufiventris] Lori or Mark Conrad.).

November 29, 2013: Calakmul(1 ardeleo [rufiventris]).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (*Poliophtila caerulea*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(2).

Tropical Gnatcatcher (*Poliophtila plumbea*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1 superciliaris [White-browed]).

Thrushes and Allies (*Turdidae*)

Swainson's Thrush (*Catharus ustulatus*)

November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(1).

Wood Thrush (*Hylocichla mustelina*)

November 29, 2013: Calakmul(1).

Clay-colored Thrush (*Turdus grayi*)

November 29, 2013: Calakmul(1 tamaulipensis).

November 30, 2013: Calakmul(1 tamaulipensis).

Mockingbirds and Thrashers (*Mimidae*)

Black Catbird (*Melanoptila glabrirostris*)

November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(15) Cozumel Island(10) Vigía Chico road(2).

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(5).

Gray Catbird (*Dumetella carolinensis*)

November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(1).
November 28, 2013: Quintana Roo(1) Vigía Chico road(1).

Tropical Mockingbird (*Mimus gilvus*)

November 25, 2013: Cozumel Island(1 leucophaeus [Tropical]) Río Lagartos, re(30 leucophaeus [Tropical]).
November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(1 leucophaeus [Tropical]).
November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1 leucophaeus [Tropical]).

New World Warblers (*Parulidae*)

Ovenbird (*Seiurus aurocapilla*)

November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(1 aurocapilla).

Worm-eating Warbler (*Helmitheros vermivorum*)

November 30, 2013: Calakmul(1).

Northern Waterthrush (*Parkesia noveboracensis*)

November 30, 2013: Puerto Morelos(1).

Blue-winged Warbler (*Vermivora cyanoptera*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1 Mark Conrad).

Black-and-white Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(2).
November 28, 2013: Calakmul(1).
November 29, 2013: Calakmul(5).
November 30, 2013: Calakmul(1).

Gray-crowned Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis poliocephala*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(2 palpebralis).

Common Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(2 trichas (Eastern)).

Hooded Warbler (*Setophaga citrina*)

November 24, 2013: Parque Kabah - Cancún(1 male).
November 28, 2013: Calakmul(1 male).
November 29, 2013: Calakmul(1).

American Redstart (*Setophaga ruticilla*)

November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(4).
November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(10).
November 29, 2013: Calakmul(6).
November 30, 2013: Calakmul(1) Parque Kabah - Cancún(1).

Northern Parula (*Setophaga americana*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(1).
November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(1).
November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1).

Magnolia Warbler (*Setophaga magnolia*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(1).
November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(1 Lori & Mark Conrad).
November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(10).
November 28, 2013: Calakmul(1).
November 29, 2013: Calakmul(5).
November 30, 2013: Calakmul(1).

Bay-breasted Warbler (*Setophaga castanea*)
November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(1 Lori & Mark Conrad).

Yellow Warbler (*Setophaga petechia*)
November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(1).
November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(1 male rufivertex [Golden]).

Palm Warbler (*Setophaga palmarum*)
November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(1 HY palmarum [Western]).
November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(1 HY palmarum [Western]).

Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Setophaga coronata*)
November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(2 coronata [Myrtle]).

Yellow-throated Warbler (*Setophaga dominica*)
November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(1).

Black-throated Green Warbler (*Setophaga virens*)
November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(1).
November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(5).

Tanagers and Allies (Thraupidae)

White-collared Seedeater (*Sporophila torqueola*)
November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(5 morelleti [White-collared]).
November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(10 morelleti [White-collared]).

Bananaquit (*Coereba flaveola*)
November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(1 adult caboti [Cozumel I.]).

Yellow-faced Grassquit (*Tiaris olivaceus*)
November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(1 intermedius).
November 28, 2013: Vigía Chico road(5 pusillus).

Western Spindalis (*Spindalis zena*)
November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(1 benedicti [Cozumel I.] Lori Conrad).

Grayish Saltator (*Saltator coerulescens*)
November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(3 yucatanensis [Middle American]).

Black-headed Saltator (*Saltator atriceps*)
November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(10 raptor).
November 28, 2013: Vigía Chico road(4 raptor).

Buntings and New World Sparrows (Emberizidae)

Olive Sparrow (*Arremonops rufivirgatus*)
November 28, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1 verticalis [Olive]).

Cardinals and Allies (Cardinalidae)

Rose-throated Tanager (*Piranga roseogularis*)
November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(4 tinca).

Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*)
November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(2 rubra [Eastern]).

Red-throated Ant-Tanager (*Habia fuscicauda*)
November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(10 insularis [Salvin's]).
November 28, 2013: Calakmul(1 female insularis [Salvin's]) Vigía Chico road(5 insularis [Salvin's]).

November 30, 2013: Calakmul(4 insularis [Salvin's] Males and females).

Gray-throated Chat (*Granatellus sallaei*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1 HY male, 2 females boucardi).

Blue Bunting (*Cyanocompsa parellina*)

November 29, 2013: Calakmul(1 adult male, 1 HY male parellina [Middle America]).

Painted Bunting (*Passerina ciris*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(2 females ciris).

Troupials and Allies (*Icteridae*)

Melodious Blackbird (*Dives dives*)

November 24, 2013: Parque Kabah - Cancún(3).

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(4).

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(5).

November 28, 2013: Vigía Chico road(5).

Great-tailed Grackle (*Quiscalus mexicanus*)

November 24, 2013: Parque Kabah - Cancún(10 loweryi).

November 25, 2013: Cozumel Island(10 loweryi) Río Lagartos, re(60 loweryi).

November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(10 loweryi) Vigía Chico road(5 loweryi).

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(10 loweryi).

November 28, 2013: Vigía Chico road(10 loweryi).

November 30, 2013: Cancún(1000 loweryi Number merely to indicate that it was a major night roost we passed by according to the noiselevel.).

Bronzed Cowbird (*Molothrus aeneus*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(12 aeneus [Bronzed]).

Hooded Oriole (*Icterus cucullatus*)

November 26, 2013: Cozumel Island(1 male igneus [Yucatan]).

Yellow-backed Oriole (*Icterus chrysater*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(2 mayensis).

Orange Oriole (*Icterus auratus*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(4).

Altamira Oriole (*Icterus gularis*)

November 25, 2013: Río Lagartos, re(4 yucatanensis).

Montezuma Oropendola (*Psarocolius montezuma*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(2).

Siskins, Crossbills and Allies (*Fringillidae*)

Scrub Euphonia (*Euphonia affinis*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(10 affinis [Scrub]).

Yellow-throated Euphonia (*Euphonia hirundinacea*)

November 27, 2013: Vigía Chico road(1 hirundinacea).

Butterflies (in random order)

Cattleheart sp. (*Parides* sp.)
Great Southern White (*Ascia monuste*)
Southern Dogface (*Colias cesonia*)
White-angled Sulphur (*Anteos clorinde*)
Cloudless Sulphur (*Phoebis sennae*)
Large Orange Sulphur (*Phoebis agarithe*)
Mexican Cycadian (*Eumaeus toxea*)
Red-bordered Pixie (*Melanis pixe*)
Julia Heliconian (*Dryas iulia*)
Zebra Heliconian (*Heliconius charitonius*)
Gulf Fritillary (*Agraulis vanillae*)
Malachite (*Siproeta stelenes*)
White Peacock (*Anartia jatrophae*)
Banded Peacock (*Anartia fatima*)
Dingy Purplewing (*Eunica monima*)
Ruddy Daggerwing (*Marpesia petreus*)
Dirce Beauty (*Colobura dirce*)
Common Mestra (*Mestra amymone*)
Yucatan Cracker (*Hamadryas julitta*)
Common Morpho (*Morpho helenor montezuma*)
Queen (*Danaus gilippus*)
White-striped Longtail (*Chioides catillus*)
Texas Powdered-Skipper (*Systasea pulverulenta*)
Tropical Checkered Skipper (*Pyrgus oileus*)
Monarch (*Danaus plexippus*)
Yellow-angled Sulphur (*Anteos maerula*)
Red-bordered Metalmark (*Caria ino*)
Many-banded Daggerwing (*Marpesia chiron*)
Marina Checkerspot / Marina Crescent (*Chlosyne marina*)
Pale-banded Crescent (*Anthanassa tulcis*)
Clearwing (sp.) (*Hemaris* sp.)
Erato Heliconian (*Heliconius erato*)
Carolina Satyr (*Hermeuptychia sosybius*)
Brown Longtail (*Urbanus procne*)
Northern White Skipper (*Heliopetes ericetorum*)
Mercurial Skipper (*Proteides mercurius*)
Variegated Skipper (*Gorgythion begga*)
Blue-studded Skipper (*Sostrata nordica*)
Clouded Skipper (*Lerema accius*)
Monarch (*Danaus plexippus*)

Other wildlife:

Yucatan/Guatemalan Black Howler (*Alouatta pigra*)
Geoffrey's Spider Monkey (Yucatan) (*Ateles geoffroyi yucatanensis*)
Tayra (*Eira barbara senex*)
White-nosed Coati (*Nasua narica*)
Eastern Cottontail (*Sylvilagus floridanus*)
Squirrels sp. (*Sciuridae* sp.)
Bats sp. (*Chiroptera* sp.)
Gulf Coast Toad (*Incilius valliceps*)
Black Spiny-tailed Iguana (*Ctenosaura similis*)
Common House Gecko (*Hemidactylus frenatus*)
Brown Basilisk (*Basiliscus vittatus*)

