

## Trip Report: Honduras (Pico Bonito and Roatán)

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Although Honduras appears to be one of the less-frequently birded Central American countries, the largely intact forests that cloak its mountains are home to a rich avifauna including many Central American regional specialties and North American winter migrants. The potential to combine a few days of forest birding in the foothills of the Nombre de Dios range with a few days of diving on the Mesoamerican Reef made it a perfect destination for us.

Our trip started with four nights on the mainland at The Lodge at Pico Bonito, adjacent to the Pico Bonito National Park, where we hiked the forest trails from dawn to dusk and enjoyed the lodge's excellent amenities. Then, after a mere 15 minute flight across the bay to Roatán Island in the Caribbean, we spent a further four nights at the equally well appointed Barefoot Cay dive resort where we focused on diving, supplemented by casual birding in nearby habitats. In total we identified some 117 bird species, of which 41 were lifers – this high proportion of lifers being indicative of the only moderate species overlap with our previous birding to the north in Belize (briefly) and Texas and to the south in Colombia. More details on the individual bird and mammal sightings are included in the list that follows at the end of this report.



*Blue-crowned Motmot; Keel-billed Motmot [both at Pico Bonito]*

Birding at The Lodge at Pico Bonito encompasses a variety of habitats, including gardens with hummingbird feeders and fruit tables, abandoned plantations of shade cacao and plantain, some partially intervened lowlands forest and an expanse of primary forest that extends from the lodge boundary up the slopes of the 2,400m high Pico Bonito. Several well maintained trails provide access to the lowland forest between the Coloradito and Corinto Rivers, with a more challenging trail leading up into the national park itself. Along the trails a series of towers and viewing platforms provide strategic lookouts over the canopy. The bulk of our time was spent walking the trails, whilst the lodge grounds and entrance road made for good birding during the rainy periods when we were forced to retreat from the forest.

Two of the key target birds at the lodge are the Keel-billed Motmot, which we heard and saw on several occasions, and the Lovely Cotinga, the males of which failed to show in their usual canopy perches during our frequent searches at all times of day and in all weather conditions. We did eventually see two female cotingas perched in the distance, but the males remained elusive for the whole trip.

Our persistence along the trails resulted in sightings of many other exciting species such as Great Curassow (a striking male walking along the lower reaches of the Loop Trail), Yellow-eared Toucanets (a male near the top of the Loop Trail and a pair feeding in trees at the start of the Loop Trail), White-faced Quail-Dove (perched alongside the Loop Trail), Little Tinamou and Singing Quail (both creeping through the understorey next to the Loop Trail) and Purple-crowned Fairy (seen feeding from canopy flowers at the first observation tower). Charismatic male White-throated Manakins were always popular, however our searches for Red-capped Manakins revealed only females. A multitude of migrant warblers were seen in mixed flocks, whilst several large birds that we flushed from thick vegetation in the forest went unidentified (possibly guans?).



*Yellow-eared Toucanet (male and female) [both at Pico Bonito]*

Hummingbirds were active around the lodge's feeders from dawn to dusk and between rain showers the lodge's grounds afforded excellent views of many parrots/parakeets, trogons, araçarís, toucans, woodpeckers, flycatchers, thrushes, tanagers, oropendolas, euphonias and several Blue-crowned Motmots that positively insisted on being photographed *ad nauseum*.



*Blue-crowned Motmot [Pico Bonito]*



*Rufous-tailed Hummingbird; Violet-crowned Woodnymph [both at Pico Bonito]*



*White-throated Manakin; Long-billed Hermit [both at Pico Bonito]*



*The Lodge at Pico Bonito: Main entrance (with Christmas tree) and restaurant balcony*



*View over the Coloradito River and Pico Bonito National Park from the first observation tower*



*Wood Thrush; Black-cheeked Woodpecker [both at Pico Bonito]*

Mammals were also well represented in the area, including squirrels (especially the large and beautifully patterned Variegated Squirrel), Central American Agoutis (that were very partial to the oil palm fruit laid out on the lodge's lawns) and a couple of parties of Tayra heading through the forest. A large troop of White-throated Capuchin Monkeys appeared once (to our mutual surprise) directly below the top of the observation tower whilst we were scanning the canopy for cotingas and on another occasion as they foraged in the cacao plantation. Common Opossum were seen in trees around the lodge's grounds during a night walk that also revealed a Great Potoo perched quietly next to the observation tower.



*Central American Agouti; Variegated Squirrel [both at Pico Bonito]*

Given the one-and-a-half days of sunshine and two days of intermittent to heavy rain showers that we experienced during our stay, four nights at the lodge was the perfect duration for enjoying the lovely setting and birding the immediate vicinity. We did not take any of the available offsite trips, preferring instead to focus on exploring the forest environment on the lodge's doorstep. As much as I would have loved to have seen the Honduran Emerald (the country's only endemic), it was hard to justify the high cost or time required for the full day trip to and from its' dry habitat on the inland side of the mountain range (without any other birders looking to share the guide and transport).

Having been 'self-guided' on the trails for our first two days we did, however, splurge on a guide for our penultimate morning. José proved to be a knowledgeable guide whose Swarovski scope helped us add some quality views of a few new species such as Stripe-tailed Hummingbird (seen calling along the Loop Trail) before we were driven back to the lodge by heavy rain.



*White-throated Capuchin Monkeys [Pico Bonito]*



*Great Potoo; Black-headed Trogon [both at Pico Bonito]*



*Collared Araçaris [Pico Bonito]*



*Yellow-bellied Flycatcher [Pico Bonito]; Mangrove Vireo [Roatán Island]*

The reef and mangroves around the Barefoot Cay resort on sunny Roatán Island harboured several coastal species, including an Osprey that dramatically caught a fish whilst we were snorkelling nearby. With our energy focused on some excellent boat diving on the Mesoamerican Reef, plus swimming and snorkelling, there was not much time left over for other birding. A couple of dawn and dusk walks across to a patch of mangrove and forest on an adjacent property did, however, add lifers such as Canivet's Emerald, Mangrove Vireo and Palm Warbler amongst several migrant flocks, whilst endemic Ruatan Island Agoutis scurried around in the vegetation near to the water's edge.



*Coffee break at Barefoot Cay; Magnificent Frigatebird [both on Roatán Island]*

## 1. Bird Trip List<sup>1</sup>

Confirmed personal sightings only for DJS – excludes birds heard only unless otherwise indicated. For field guides we used ‘Birds of Belize’ by H. Lee Jones and Dana Gardner, 2004 - which contained most of the species that we saw - supplemented by ‘A Guide to the Birds of Mexico and Northern Central America’ by Steve N.G. Howell and Sophie Webb, 1995. Some names have been updated since these guides were published, so birds in the trip list are identified and listed as per ‘The Clements Checklist of Birds of the World’, Cornell, 2007 with updates through December 2010 (online version 6.5).

Locations where species seen in sequence of travel:

**PB** = Pico Bonito National Park in the Nombre de Dios mountain range near to La Ceiba, including the grounds of ‘The Lodge and Pico Bonito’ at ca 90m altitude and trails leading up to ca. 500m altitude (evening of December 11<sup>th</sup> through morning of December 15<sup>th</sup>).

**R** = Roatán Island, principally around the grounds and ocean/reef/mangroves of the Barefoot Cay resort, plus a small pocket of remnant forest and mangrove on an adjacent property at sea level (evening of December 15<sup>th</sup> through morning of December 19<sup>th</sup>).

**Little Tinamou** (*Crypturellus soui*) [PB]: Heard calling in the forest near to the lodge on several occasions. One individual was well seen mid-afternoon at very close quarters as it walked slowly through the leaf litter near to the top of the stone steps on the Loop Trail above the first observation tower.

**Singing Quail** (*Dactylortyx thoracicus*) [PB]: A small group (3 or 4 individuals?) seen late-morning scurrying through the leaf litter near to the top of the Loop Trail.

**Great Curassow** (*Crax rubra*) [PB]: As we descended mid-afternoon from a hike on the Loop Trail, we were surprised to encounter an imposing male standing on the main trail between the lodge and the first observation tower. We enjoyed excellent views of his pronounced crest and yellow bill-knob as he slowly walked along the trail and then disappeared down the steep valley side towards the Coloradito River.

**Magnificent Frigatebird** (*Fregata magnificens*) \* [R]: Small groups seen daily along the Roatán coastline, with three seen especially well as they swooped and circled low over the water inside the reef at Barefoot Cay.

**Brown Pelican** (*Pelecanus occidentalis*) [R]: One seen flying low across the water inside the reef at Barefoot Cay.

**Great Blue Heron** (*Ardea herodias*) [R]: Individuals seen on several occasions as they perched in the mangroves and fished in the sea-grass beds around Barefoot Cay.

**Great Egret** (*Ardea alba*) [R]: Individuals seen on several occasions as they perched in the mangroves and fished in the sea-grass beds around Barefoot Cay.

**Snowy Egret** (*Egretta thula*) [R]: One seen perched in the mangroves at Barefoot Cay.

**Little Blue Heron** (*Egretta caerulea*) \* [R]: One seen perched in mangroves adjacent to Barefoot Cay.

**Cattle Egret** (*Bubulcus ibis*) [R]: Small numbers seen regularly in the fields adjacent to Barefoot Cay.

**Green Heron** (*Butorides virescens*) [R]: One seen perched in the mangroves at Barefoot Cay.

**Black-crowned Night-Heron** (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) [R]: One juvenile bird seen perched in mangroves adjacent to Barefoot Cay.

**Turkey Vulture** (*Cathartes aura*) [R]: Small numbers seen regularly soaring over Roatán.

**Osprey** (*Pandion haliaetus*) [R]: Whilst we were snorkelling inside the reef at Barefoot Cay, one bird swooped down and caught a large fish that it just managed to lift out of the water and carry slowly back to the shore (not without several moments where it appeared to be looking for a shallow spot on the reef where it could safely land).

**White Hawk** (*Leucopternis albicollis*) [PB]: Mid-morning, seen twice flying over the Coloradito River valley; once heading along the river at low altitude and once soaring in the apparent company of a large (10-20 individuals?) flock of White-collared Swifts.

**Roadside Hawk** (*Buteo magnirostris*) \* [PB]: Late-morning along the Loop Trail, one individual seen perched overlooking the Coloradito River. Several warblers were highly agitated by its presence.

**Gray Hawk** (*Buteo nitidus*) [PB; R]: One seen from the first observation tower mid-morning as it flew across the Coloradito River and another seen soaring over Roatán as we waited at the airport.

**Royal Tern** (*Thalasseus maximus*) [R]: Small groups (5-10 individuals) seen daily as they perched on coastal infrastructure such as channel markers and jetties.

**Common Ground-Dove** (*Columbina passerina*) [R]: Small groups (2 or 3 individuals) seen on several occasions in the early-morning as they walked around the grounds at Barefoot Cay.

**White-faced Quail-Dove** (*Geotrygon albifacies*) [PB]: During all of our walks at Pico Bonito we were regularly flushing unidentified doves/pigeons that disappeared far from the trail. Mid-morning along the Loop Trail one individual fortunately remained perched low to the ground adjacent to the trail. As it bobbed its tail, we were afforded excellent views.

**Olive-throated Parakeet** (*Aratinga nana*) [PB]: A pair well seen as they fed mid-morning in trees at the lodge’s entrance, plus

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<sup>1</sup> **First sighting ever for DJS**; \*= photo available

distant views of perched pairs from the first observation tower. Small flocks were seen or heard flying over the Loop Trail each day.

**Brown-hooded Parrot** (*Pyrrhula haematotis*) [PB]: Only seen flying, with good views each day from the first observation tower of early- and mid-morning pairs flying up and down the Coloradito River valley.

**White-crowned Parrot** (*Pionus senilis*) \* [PB]: Late-afternoon a pair was well seen feeding in trees at the lodge's entrance, whilst several other pairs were seen from the first observation tower.

**Groove-billed Ani** (*Crotophaga sulcirostris*) [PB]: Small, noisy flock seen twice along the lodge's entrance road.

**Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl** (*Glaucidium brasilianum*) [PB]: **Heard only** both on the Loop Trail and along the lodge's entrance road.

**Black-and-white Owl** (*Ciccaba nigrolineata*) [PB]: **Heard only** giving its 'hu WhoOOo' call from a perch somewhere in the lodge grounds near to our room at 5 am.

**Great Potoo** (*Nyctibius grandis*) \* [PB]: Although not present during the day time at a known day roost site in the lodge grounds, during a spot-lighting hike on our final evening we found one individual perched at eye-level next to the top of the first observation tower. An apparently matching pair of eyes was seen in a tree on the far side of the Coloradito River valley, but our torch's range was insufficient to illuminate the body and thereby confirm the second ID.

**White-collared Swift** (*Streptoprocne zonaris*) [PB]: Mid-morning, a large flock (10 to 20 individuals?) seen once in the same 'airspace' over the Coloradito River valley as a soaring White Hawk.

**Long-billed Hermit** (*Phaethornis longirostris*) \* [PB]: Regular visitor to the lodge's feeders. Also encountered along the Loop Trail.

**Stripe-throated Hermit** (*Phaethornis striularis*) [PB]: Regular visitor to the lodge's feeders. Regular visitor also to vine flowers next to the first observation tower.

**Purple-crowned Fairy** (*Heliothryx barroti*) \* [PB]: A very attractive hummingbird with flashing, white tail feathers and a purple cap (male only) that shone beautifully in the sunlight. Seen only at the first observation tower, where several males and females were regular early-morning visitors to the nearby vine flowers.

**Canivet's Emerald** (*Chlorostilbon caniveti*) \* [R]: In a small patch of forest and mangrove adjacent to the Barefoot Cay property, both males and females of the *osberti* ssp. of Salvin's Group were quite common, feeding from red flowers along the trail and overhanging the water. Although others were seen, this was the only hummingbirds species whose ID I confirmed on Roatán Island.

**Violet-crowned Woodnymph** (*Tbalurania colombica*) \* [PB]: Another very attractive hummingbird, varying from an almost black coloration in poor light to iridescent violet, green and blue when caught by the light. Several males were regular visitor to the lodge's feeders, where territories were vigorously defended from competing hermits and other hummingbirds.

**Stripe-tailed Hummingbird** (*Eupherusa eximia*) [PB]: Along the Loop Trail close to the first observation tower one individual was heard calling by José on the wet morning that he guided us on the trails and we saw its perched in the mid-storey with its buffy wing patches clearly visible.

**White-bellied Emerald** (*Amazilia candida*) \* [PB]: Infrequent visitor to the lodge's feeders.

**Rufous-tailed Hummingbird** (*Amazilia tzacatl*) \* [PB]: Regular visitor to the lodge's feeders. Infrequent visitor also to vine flowers next to the first observation tower.

**Black-headed Trogon** (*Trogon melanocephalus*) \* [PB]: The only trogon species encountered on the trip, we saw males and females each day, variously in the lodge grounds, along the lodge entrance road and along the Loop Trail.

**Blue-crowned Motmot** (*Momotus coeruliceps*) \* [PB]: Seemingly common and tame around the lodge, several individuals were seen each day in the lodge grounds, sometimes perching within feet of boardwalks and balconies. On one occasion a cooperative individual decided to pose for over 20 minutes below eye-level in a small bush next to the lodge's reception. Despite its high visibility, we never heard any vocalisations by this species.

**Keel-billed Motmot** (*Electron carinatum*) \* [PB]: One of the key birds at Pico Bonito and promisingly we heard its calls on our first morning hike along the Loop Trail. Despite playback we got no response until at the top of the Loop Trail a pair responded and we had lovely views on an individual that flew in and perched in the mid-storey. During the following rainy days we did not hear any further calls on any of the trails, and having seen them so well on the first day, we did not attempt to attract them with playback.

**Ringed Kingfisher** (*Megaceryle torquata*) [PB]: One individual seen flying low along the Coloradito River at the end of the Waterfall Trail.

**Belted Kingfisher** (*Megaceryle alcyon*) [R]: Several sightings of individuals perched in the mangroves or flying along the coast in the vicinity of Barefoot Cay.

**Collared Araçari** (*Pteroglossus torquatus*) \* [PB]: Small groups of 2 to 5 individuals regularly seen around the lodge grounds, including feeding in the early morning at various palms. Also seen on several occasions from the first observation tower as they crossed the Coloradito River valley.

**Yellow-eared Toucanet** (*Selenidera spectabilis*) \* [PB]: A male was seen at the top of the Loop Trail when we had just found our first Keel-billed Motmot and was initially dismissed as an relatively uninteresting Collared Araçari whilst we focused on the motmot. By the time we realized the error of our ways he was no longer interested in hanging around! Fortunately, late on our final morning, we encountered a pair feeding contentedly in a *Cecropia* species tree where the Loop Trail arrives back at the edge of the lodge gardens and were able to enjoy prolonged close-up views until we really had to leave for own lunch!

**Keel-billed Toucan** (*Ramphastos sulphuratus*) [PB]: Daily sightings of individuals and pairs feeding at trees in and around the

lodge gardens as well as early- and mid-morning views from the first observation tower of these large, predominantly black-and-yellow toucans perched in distant trees and flying up and down the Coloradito River valley.

**Black-cheeked Woodpecker** (*Melanerpes pucherani*) \* [PB]: Common visitor to the lodge gardens, both in the trees and joining the thrushes to feed at the oil palm fruit piles on the lawns.

**Golden-fronted Woodpecker** (*Melanerpes aurifrons*) \* [PB; R]: At Pico Bonito the *pauper* ssp. was a regular visitor around the lodge gardens, whilst on Roatán Island, the *canescens* ssp. (with a red- rather than golden-front) was seen on a couple of occasions in a small patch of forest adjacent to the Barefoot Cay property.

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** (*Sphyrapicus varius*) [PB]: One pair seen in the lodge gardens.

**Chestnut-colored Woodpecker** (*Celex castaneus*) [PB]: One seen briefly in a mixed flock along the Waterfall Trail.

**Buff-throated Foliage-Gleaner** (*Automolus ocbrolaemus*) [PB]: One seen briefly in a mixed flock along the Waterfall Trail.

**Plain Xenops** (*Xenops minutus*) [PB]: Seen on several occasions in mixed flocks along the Loop Trail and Waterfall Trail.

**Wedge-billed Woodcreeper** (*Glyphorhynchus spirurus*) [PB]: The most commonly encountered woodcreeper, being seen daily foraging alone and in mixed flocks along the Loop Trail and Waterfall Trail.

**Strong-billed Woodcreeper** (*Xiphocolaptes promeropirhynchus*) [PB]: One individual seen systematically destroying a bundle of dried leaves in a tree along the Waterfall Trail.

**Ivory-billed Woodcreeper** (*Xipborhynchus flavigaster*) [PB]: One thick-billed individual seen in a mixed flock along the Waterfall Trail.

**Streak-headed Woodcreeper** (*Lepidocolaptes souleyetii*) [PB]: One slender-billed individual seen in a mixed flock along the Waterfall Trail.

**Plain Antvireo** (*Dysithamnus mentalis*) [PB]: Several pairs encountered in under-storey mixed flocks. Highly responsive to playback.

**Stub-tailed Spadebill** (*Platyrinchus cancrominus*) [PB]: One individual seen in a mixed flock along the Waterfall Trail.

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** (*Empidonax flaviventris*) \* [PB]: One individual seen from the first observation tower and another that allowed very close approach as it moved around the fringes of the lodge garden during a rain shower.

**Black Phoebe** (*Sayornis nigricans*) [PB]: One individual flew along the Coloradito River at the end of the Waterfall Trail, alighted briefly on a river-side boulder and then continued upstream.

**Cinnamon Becard** (*Pachyramphus cinnamomeus*) [PB]: One individual seen in the lodge garden.

**Brown-crested Flycatcher** (*Myiarchus tyrannulus*) [PB]: One individual seen from the first observation tower.

**Great Kiskadee** (*Pitangus sulphuratus*) [PB]: Several individuals seen along the lodge entrance road. Less common at Pico Bonito than both Boat-billed and Social Flycatchers.

**Boat-billed Flycatcher** (*Megarynchus pitangua*) \* [PB]: Regularly seen and heard calling around the lodge grounds, entrance road and also in the canopy at the first observation tower.

**Social Flycatcher** (*Myiozetetes similis*) [PB]: Regularly seen and heard around the lodge grounds.

**Masked Tityra** (*Tityra semifasciata*) [PB]: Males and females seen on several occasions around the lodge grounds, entrance road and also in the canopy at the first observation tower.

**Lovely Cotinga** (*Cotinga amabilis*) \* [PB]: One of the key target birds at Pico Bonito. Although December is considered by the guides to be a good month for seeing the males, we only managed to see two females, both perched in the canopy visible from the first observation tower – one in the early-morning and one in the late-afternoon. Every time that we passed a tower we would climb up to check the canopy for perched males, but despite spreading this effort across all times of day from dawn to dusk and in a variety of weather conditions from bright sunshine to drizzle and even heavy rain, we did not so much as enjoy a brief fly-past!

**White-collared Manakin** (*Manacus candei*) \* [PB]: Three mature males seen, one in the lodge gardens, one on the Loop Trail near to the first observation tower and one on the Waterfall Trail. Several females were also seen, mainly along the Loop Trail. Apparently there are no regular leks along any of the lodge's trails.

**Red-capped Manakin** (*Pipra mentalis*) [PB]: We saw at least one female, but did not manage to find any males despite searching in 'known' spots. Apparently there are no regular leks along any of the lodge's trails.

**White-eyed Vireo** (*Vireo griseus*) [PB; R]: Seen on a couple of occasions around the Pico Bonito lodge trails and once in a small patch of forest adjacent to the Barefoot Cay property.

**Mangrove Vireo** (*Vireo pallens*) \* [R]: The most commonly seen bird in a small patch of mangrove and forest adjacent to the Barefoot Cay property. Highly inquisitive and responsive to 'pishing'.

**Red-eyed Vireo** (*Vireo olivaceus*) [PB]: Seen on a couple of occasions along the entrance road.

**Lesser Greenlet** (*Hylophilus decurtatus*) [PB]: Probably seen on several occasions along the lodge trails, but only once conclusively identified in a mixed flock along the Waterfall Trail.

**Brown Jay** (*Psilorhynchus morio*) [PB]: Loud and conspicuous groups were regularly seen in all habitats at Pico Bonito.

**Spot-breasted Wren** (*Phengopedius maculipectus*) [PB]: The most commonly identified wren, being seen daily along the trails.

**White-breasted Wood-Wren** (*Henicorbina leucosticta*) [PB]: Seen on several occasions along the trails.

**Long-billed Gnatwren** (*Ramphocaenus melanurus*) [PB]: Seen on several occasions in mixed flocks along the trails.

**Tropical Gnatcatcher** (*Poliophtila plumbea*) [PB]: Seen once in the lodge grounds.

**Slate-colored Solitaire** (*Myactestes unicolor*) [PB]: **Heard only** calling in the lodge garden. An individual subsequently flew into the lodge's reception building where it was caught, photographed and released by the lodge staff!

**Swainson's Thrush** (*Catharus ustulatus*) [PB]: Several seen feeding in the lodge gardens and along the various trails.

**Wood Thrush** (*Hylocichla mustelina*) \* [PB]: Extremely common winter migrant, omnipresent in the lodge gardens and also along the trails. At one point I could see four or more individuals in my binoculars as they fed at an oil palm fruit pile on the lawn. Also often heard calling.

**Clay-colored Thrush** (*Turdus grayi*) \* [PB]: Referred to in 'Birds of Belize' as Clay-colored Robin. A regular visitor in small numbers to the oil palm fruit piles on the lawn, especially in the morning and/or wet conditions.

**White-throated Thrush** (*Turdus assimilis*) \* [PB]: Referred to in 'Birds of Belize' as White-throated Robin. A regular visitor, in groups of two or three individuals, to the oil palm fruit piles on the lawn, especially in wet conditions. Also occasionally seen along the lodge trails.

**Gray Catbird** (*Dumetella carolinensis*) [PB; R]: At Pico Bonito, small groups were regular visitors to the lodge gardens, especially the oil palm fruit piles on the lawn, and other open habitats. Several individuals were also seen in a small patch of forest adjacent to the Barefoot Cay property.

**Northern Parula** (*Parula americana*) [R]: Individuals were seen on several occasions in a small patch of forest adjacent to the Barefoot Cay property.

**Yellow Warbler** (*Dendroica petechia*) [R]: One individual seen in small trees near to the beach on the Barefoot Cay property.

**Chestnut-sided Warbler** (*Dendroica pensylvanica*) [PB]: One tail wagging female seen in a mixed flock along the Waterfall Trail.

**Magnolia Warbler** (*Dendroica magnolia*) [PB; B]: The most commonly encountered warbler at Pico Bonito where individuals were seen in all habitats. Individuals were also seen on several occasions in a small patch of forest adjacent to the Barefoot Cay property.

**Black-throated Green Warbler** (*Dendroica virens*) [PB]: One individual seen along the Loop Trail.

**Palm Warbler** (*Dendroica palmarum*) \* [R]: Several seen one morning in a small patch of forest adjacent to the Barefoot Cay property.

**'Lawrence's' (Blue-winged/Golden-winged hybrid) Warbler** (*Vermivora pinus* × *Vermivora chrysoptera*) [PB]: Emma saw one individual of this hybrid along the Loop Trail.

**Nashville Warbler** (*Oreothlypis ruficapilla*) \* [R]: One individual seen in a small patch of forest adjacent to the Barefoot Cay property.

**Black-and-white Warbler** (*Mniotilta varia*) [PB; R]: Second only to Magnolia Warblers, Black-and-white Warblers appeared in many of the mixed flocks encountered in all habitats at Pico Bonito. Also seen in a small patch of forest adjacent to the Barefoot Cay property.

**American Redstart** (*Setophaga ruticilla*) [PB; R]: Regularly seen in all habitats at Pico Bonito. One also seen in small trees near to the beach on the Barefoot Cay property and several seen in a small patch of forest adjacent to the Barefoot Cay property. Females seemed to significantly outnumber males, with only a couple of males seen (both a Pico Bonito). Highly inquisitive and responsive to 'pishing'.

**Worm-eating Warbler** (*Helminthos vermivorum*) [PB]: One seen along the Loop Trail.

**Ovenbird** (*Seiurus aurocapilla*) \* [PB]: Abundant winter migrant, regularly encountered in the lodge gardens and also along the trails. Several were regularly seen feeding at an oil palm fruit pile on the lawn.

**Northern Waterthrush** (*Parkeesia noveboracensis*) [PB; R]: Seen daily in the lodge gardens and also along the trails.

**Kentucky Warbler** (*Oporornis formosus*) [PB]: One seen foraging on the ground in the lodge gardens.

**Common Yellowthroat** (*Geothlypis trichas*) [R]: Regularly seen in a small patch of forest adjacent to the Barefoot Cay property. Inquisitive and responsive to 'pishing'.

**Hooded Warbler** (*Wilsonia citrina*) [PB; R]: Regularly seen low to the ground around the lodge trails and also in a small patch of forest adjacent to the Barefoot Cay property.

**Slate-throated Redstart (Whitestart)** (*Myioborus miniatus*) [PB]: The *connectens* ssp. was seen on a couple of occasions in mixed flocks along the lodge trails. This subspecies has an intense red/orange belly colouration, distinctly different from the yellowish-bellied Slate-throated Redstarts encountered in Venezuela.

**Bananaquit** (*Coereba flaveola*) [PB]: Seen and heard on a couple of occasions along the lodge trails.

**Crimson-collared Tanager** (*Ramphocelus sanguinolentus*) [PB]: One seen briefly along the Loop Trail.

**Yellow-winged Tanager** (*Thraupis abbas*) [PB]: A large tanager, seen daily as they feed high in trees in the lodge gardens and along the entrance road.

**Golden-hooded Tanager** (*Tangara larvata*) [PB]: A small tanager, seen on a couple of occasions seen feeding high in trees in the lodge gardens and in the canopy near to the first observation tower.

**Green Honeycreeper** (*Chlorophanes spiza*) [PB]: Seen (males only) on several occasions from the first observation tower.

**Summer Tanager** (*Piranga rubra*) [PB]: Females (predominantly) and males were regulars in the lodge gardens and seen occasionally along the lodge trails.

**Western Tanager** (*Piranga ludoviciana*) [PB]: Emma only saw one individual near to the lodge entrance.

**Red-throated Ant-Tanager** (*Habia fuscicauda*) \* [PB]: Noisy groups regularly encountered along the various lodge trails.

**Black-faced Grosbeak** (*Carythaustes poliogaster*) [PB]: Small, noisy groups seen once along the entrance road and once along the Loop Trail.

**Indigo Bunting** (*Passerina cyanea*) \* [R]: Small flock seen twice in tall grass and a small patch of forest adjacent to the Barefoot Cay property.

**Melodious Blackbird** (*Dives dives*) [PB]: Seen and heard on several occasions in the lodge gardens.

**Great-tailed Grackle** (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) [PB; R]: Seen and heard on several occasions in the lodge gardens at Pico Bonito. Extremely common and noisy in open areas and mangrove around Barefoot Cay.

**Black-cowled Oriole** (*Icterus prosthemelas*) \* [PB]: Pairs seen daily in the lodge gardens, including feeding at an oil palm fruit pile on the lawn.

**Baltimore Oriole** (*Icterus galbula*) [PB]: Seen on a couple of occasions in the lodge grounds.

**Chestnut-headed Oropendola** (*Psarocolius wagleri*) [PB]: Seen on a couple of occasions in the lodge grounds.

**Montezuma Oropendola** (*Psarocolius Montezuma*) [PB]: Seen regularly in all habitats and flying with noisy wing beats over the canopy.

**Scrub Euphonia** (*Euphonia affinis*) [PB]: One pair seen near to the entrance road in the lodge grounds.

**Olive-backed Euphonia** (*Euphonia gouldi*) \* [PB]: Attractive pairs were seen on a couple of occasions near to the lodge.

Combined total: 117 (114 seen, 3 heard only), with 41 of these confirmed as “first time ever” species for DJS ...

## **2. Mammal Trip List**

**White-throated Capuchin Monkey** (*Cebus capucinus*) \* [PB]: Large groups of 10 to 20 individuals were seen on two occasions, once when they appeared in the canopy next to the observation tower (to our mutual surprise) and once when they were feeding in an abandoned cacao plantation by the lodge entrance road.

**Tayra** (*Eira barbara*) [PB]: We disturbed a group of about five individuals near to the top of the Loop Trail and saw one individual on the Waterfall Trail.

**Variiegated Squirrel** (*Sciurus variegatoides*) \* [PB]: Several of these large and beautifully patterned squirrels seen around the lodge grounds and various trails.

**Common Opossum** (*Didelphis marsupialis*) \* [PB]: One individual seen in a tree in the lodge grounds during our spotlighting night walk.

**Central American Agouti** (*Dasyprocta punctata*) \* [PB]: Regular visitors in twos and threes to the oil palm fruit piles on the lodge lawns, especially at dawn and dusk.

**Ruatan Island Agouti** (*Dasyprocta ruatanica*) [R]: Several individuals seen in the small patch of mangrove and forest adjacent to the Barefoot Cay property.