



## A biotic inventory of the vertebrates of the Surama Forest, Guyana

Jake Bicknell, Andrew Snyder, James Kemp

Nov 2011

**Note:** This report should be considered in conjunction with the main report from the Operation Wallacea Guyana season 2011.

## **1. Introduction**

### **Stakeholders**

Operation Wallacea is a network of academics from European and North American universities, who design and implement biodiversity and conservation management research programmes. Research is supported by students who join the programme, to strengthen their CV or resume, gain course credit, or collect data for a dissertation or thesis. Academics benefit from funding for high quality fieldwork enabling them to publish papers in peer reviewed journals. This model enables the collection of large temporal and spatial datasets used for assessing the effectiveness of conservation management interventions.

Surama Village in the North Rupununi, Region 9, is a primarily Makushi Amerindian community that is part of the villages encompassed under the administration of Annai Village. Surama's vision is: *'We will develop, own and manage a community-based eco-tourism business by constructively using the natural resources and our traditional culture in a socially appropriate manner. We will provide opportunities for our people through research, training and employment. We will work with our partners for mutual respect and benefits.'*

### **Goals of this monitoring**

The purpose of this monitoring is to provide long-term datasets on key biodiversity taxa (see main 2011 report), however as this area has not been properly surveyed before one of the aims was also to provide a baseline dataset of the vertebrate species present.

## **2. Survey sites**

### **Sites**

During the period 2<sup>nd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> August 2011, Surama Forest around Rock Landing camp was surveyed, as well as the Burro-Burro River adjacent to the Surama Forest. This area is mostly characterised by high forest on undulating hills and flat plains, however one day of sampling was also conducted in secondary palm regrowth forest where a farm had been located approximately 20 years prior.

## **3. Methods**

Bats were sampled using mist nets placed in the forest understory and on the banks of the Burro-Burro River. Birds were sampled using mist nets placed in the forest understory, point counts, forest and river transects, as well as opportunistic sightings. Large mammals were sampled using line transects through the forest, river transects and opportunistic sightings. Reptiles and amphibians were sampled through standardised searches along transect lines, river transects and opportunistic sightings (see main report for further details).

## **4. Results**

The surveys yielded exceedingly high vertebrate diversity, particularly given the low sampling effort, and short survey period.

Surveys confirmed the presence of 140 species of bird, 45 species of mammal (of which 32 were bats), 12 species of amphibian and 17 species of reptile (Table 1).

Table 1. Species list of vertebrates found in the Surama Forest.

**TAXON**

Family/Order

Species

---

**BIRDS (140 sp.)**

Antbirds

Ferruginous-backed Antbird  
Grey Antbird  
Rufous-throated Antbird  
Scale-backed Antbird  
Spot-winged Antbird  
White-browed Antbird  
White-plumed Antbird  
Wing-banded Antbird

Antpittas

Buff-throated Antpitta  
Spotted Antpitta

Antshrikes

Amazonian Antshrike  
Black-throated Antshrike  
Cinereous Antshrike  
Dusky-throated Antshrike  
Eastern slaty Antshrike  
Mouse-colored Antshrike

Antthrushes

Rufous-capped Antthrush

Antwrens

Grey Antwren  
Long-winged Antwren  
Rufous-bellied Antwren  
Spot-tailed Antwren  
Todd's Antwren  
White-flanked Antwren

Attilas

Bright-rumped Attila

Barbets

Black-spotted Barbet

Caracaras

Crested Caracara  
Red-throated Caracara  
Yellow-headed Caracara

Cotingas

Pompadour Cotinga

Curassows

Black Curassow

Doves

Common ground dove  
Grey-fronted Dove  
Ruddy quail-dove

Euphonias

Golden-bellied euphonia  
Violaceous euphonia

---

---

Falcons

Collared forest falcon

Laughing falcon

Flatbills

Olivaceous flatbill

Rufous-tailed flatbill

Flycatchers

Forest Elaenia

McConnell's Flycatcher

Ochre-bellied Flycatcher

Ruddy-tailed Flycatcher

Yellow-olive Flycatcher

Yellow-margined Flycatcher

Tropical Kingbird

Foliage-gleaners

Chestnut-crowned foliage-gleaner

Rufous-tailed Foliage-gleaner

Fruitcrows

Purple-throated Fruitcrow

Gnatcatchers

Tropical gnatcatcher

Gnatwrens

Long-billed Gnatwren

Greenlets

Buff-cheeked Greenlet

Lemon-chested Greenlet

Tawny-crowned greenlet

Guans

Blue-throated piping Guan

Little chachalaca

Hawks

Black collared hawk

Black-faced Hawk

Common Black Hawk

Crane Hawk

Grey Hawk

Roadside hawk

Savannah hawk

Short-tailed night-hawk

White Hawk

Hummingbirds

Black-eared fairy

Eastern Long-tailed Hermit

Reddish Hermit

Rufous-Breasted Hermit

White-tailed barbthroat

Grey-breasted sabrewing

Hérons

Cocoi Heron

Ibis

Green ibis

Jacamars

Green-tailed Jacamar

Kingfishers

Amazon kingfisher

Green & rufous kingfisher

Green kingfisher

---

---

Ringed kingfisher  
Lapwings  
  Pied Lapwing  
Macaws  
  Red and Green Macaw  
  Scarlet Macaw  
Manakins  
  Blue-backed Manakin  
  Golden-headed Manakin  
  White-crowned Manakin  
  White-throated Manakin  
Mourners  
  Cinereous Mourner  
  Greyish Mourner  
Nunbirds  
  Black Nunbird  
Oropendolas  
  Crested Oropendola  
Owls  
  Spectacled Owl  
Parrots  
  Black-headed Parrot  
  Blue-headed Parrot  
  Caica Parrot  
  Dusky Parrot  
  Mealy Parrot  
  Orange-winged amazon  
  Yellow-headed Parrot  
Parakeets  
  Brown-throated parakeet  
Pigeons  
  Pale-vented pigeon  
  Plumbeous Pigeon  
Potoos  
  Great Potoo  
Puffbirds  
  White necked puffbird  
Pygmy-tyrants  
  Helmeted Pygmy-tyrant  
  Short-tailed Pygmy-tyrant  
Quails  
  Marbled wood quail  
Rails  
  Grey-necked wood rail  
Sandpipers  
  Solitary Sandpiper  
Schiffornis'  
  Thrush-Like Schiffornis  
Spadebills  
  Cinamon-crested Spadebill  
  Golden-crowned Spadebill  
  White-crested Spadebill  
Swallows  
  White-banded swallow  
Swifts  
  Fork-tailed palm swift

---

---

Thrushes

White-necked Thrush

Tinamous

Little Tinamou

Red-legged Tinamou

Variegated Tinamou

Toucans

Channel-billed toucan

Red-billed Toucan

Trogons

Amazonian Violaceous Trogon

Amazonian White-tailed Trogon

Black-tailed Trogon

Black-throated Trogon

Trumpeters

Grey-winged Trumpeter

Tyrannulets

Slender-footed Tyrannulet

Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet

Woodcreepers

Amazonian barred Woodcreeper

Black-banded Woodcreeper

Buff-Throated Woodcreeper

Chestnut-rumped Woodcreeper

Olivaceous Woodcreeper

Plain brown Woodcreeper

Wedge-billed Woodcreeper

Woodpeckers

Chestnut Woodpecker

Crimson-crested Woodpecker

Red-necked Woodpecker

Wrens

Coraya Wren

Xenops'

Plain Xenops

Other

Screaming Piha

Anhinga

Capuchinbird

**MAMMALS (45 sp.)**

Rodents

Red-rumped Agouti

Paca

Capybara

Primates

Black Spider Monkey

Red Howler Monkey

Wedge-capped Capuchin

Ungulates

Grey-brocket deer

Red-brocket Deer

Brazilian Tapir

Xenathrans

Giant Anteater

Carnivores

Giant river otter

---

---

Opossums

Long-furred wooly mouse opossum

Bats

Emballonuridae

*Rhynchonycteris naso*

*Saccopteryx bilineata*

Mormoopidae

*Pteronotus parnellii*

Noctilionidae

*Noctilio albiventris*

*Noctilio leporinus*

Phyllostomidae

Caroliinae

*Carollia perspicillata*

*Rhinophylla pumilio*

Desmodontinae

*Desmodus rotundus*

Glossophaginae

*Glossophaga soricina*

*Lonchophylla thomasi*

Phyllostominae

*Chrotopterus auritus*

*Lophostoma silvicolum*

*Micronycteris megalotis*

*Micronycteris minuta*

*Micronycteris hirsute*

*Mimon bennetti*

*Mimon crenulatum*

*Phylloderma stenops*

*Phyllostomus discolor*

*Phyllostomus elongatus*

*Phyllostomus hastatus*

*Tonatia saurophila*

*Trachops cirrhosus*

Stenodernatinae

*Ametrida centurio*

*Artibeus cinereus*

*Artibeus lituratus*

*Artibeus obscurus*

*Artibeus planirostris*

*Platyrrhinus helleri*

*Sturnira lilium*

*Sturnira tildae*

*Vampyressa bidens*

**AMPHIBIANS (12 sp.)**

*Adenomera andrae*

*Dendrobates leucomelas*

*Hypsiboas boans*

*Leptodactylus bolivianus*

*Leptodactylus knudensi*

*Leptodactylus mystaceus*

*Osteocephalus leprieurii*

*Phyllomedusa bicolor*

*Physalaemus ephippifer*

*Rhaebo guttatus*

*Rhinella typhonius*

---

---

*Rhinella marina*

**REPTILES (17 sp.)**

Alligators

*Melanosuchus niger*

Lizards

*Ameiva ameiva*

*Anolis fuscoauratus*

*Gonatodes humeralis*

*Iguana iguana*

*Pseudogonatodes guianensis*

*Mabuya bistrata*

*Thecadactylus rapicauda*

*Uranoscodon superciliosus*

Snakes

*Bothrops atrox*

*Chironius sp.*

*Corallus hortulanus*

*Clelia clelia*

*Dipsas indica*

*Dipsas variegata*

*Imantodes cenchoa*

*Leptodeira annulata*

Tortoises

*Rhinoclemmys punctularia*

---