

WESTERN BRAZIL - 6 - 22 MAY 2025

My constant on and off internet research on how to see all the Neotropical primates made me come across a company called Latin Wild Expeditions. The company is run by Rafael Guadeluppe who hails from Sao Paulo. Interested in primates, Rafael had posted a trip to the state of Acre searching for primates concentrating around the cities of Rio Branco, Feijo, Cruzeiro do Sul and the Serra do Divisor National Park. Considering I had never been to this part of Brazil, I knew this was a “must” destination. So I contacted the ever so fabulous Regina Ribeiro (guiaregis@yahoo.com) who had traveled with Rafael before to put together a trip for myself and my primate watching buddy Judy Parrish. Since I failed at seeing the Doubtful Titi Monkey on a previous trip to Brazil, I also set up a pre-extension back to the city of Porto Velho in the state of Rondonia to try a second time. Regina had Marluce Boute from Boute Expeditions put together the trip pre extension as well as organize payment with Rafael for the Acre portion.

On thing about Brazil before I dive into the report. On April 10, 2025 US , Canadian and Australian citizens traveling to Brazil once again were required to apply for visas. This time however an e-visa can be applied for at <https://brazil.vfsevisa.com>. I thought to myself this would be easy enough as I have applied for and never had a problem getting e-visas to other countries before. Little did I know however that they had very strict requirements for the photo they wanted uploaded. It took me until my 8th attempt at a photo upload to get visa approval despite having what should have been Brazil specific passport photos. Things like not seeing both my ears well, not enough shoulders, too much shoulders, too much hair on my shoulders, too fuzzy were all some of the fun rejection notices I got. Finally I just used an online company called visafoto.com that took a random picture of me I took at work and made the photo fit every requirement requested. I can highly recommend just doing this from the start....

Now to the trip itself.

Judy decided to go into Porto Velho a day early then would have all of May 6 to search for primates. Regina, herself and local guide Kenny Ueslei went to the University grounds in Porto Velho where I went last time and

saw Rondon's marmosets and Weddell's Saddleback Tamarins in the morning. In the afternoon Kenny took them to a dirt road north of the city where they saw Brown Capuchin, and brief glimpses of Doubtful titi monkeys and Weddell's Saddle-back Tamarin.

While Judy was enjoying all the primate action a large storm system covered a portion of the mideastern part of the United States. This meant that the 5 hour connection I had given myself to get to Atlanta to make my flight to Brazil, would instead have me waiting at a terminal gate in Washington, dc and missing my connection. I ended up just flying to Atlanta and spending the night at an airport hotel.

May 7 - Regina, Judy, and Kenny then went to the dirt road about an hour north of Porto Velho, along Highway 319 in the state of Amazonas, that I had tried two years before to search for Doubtful Titi Monkey. They told me later that it was quickly after they got out of the car that a very obliging pair came out of the marshy forest to give great views. Kenny then took them back to a power plant I will talk about later near the University in the afternoon and saw what looked like a Doubtful Titi monkey (this should not be there with the distribution of the species and it may have been a released animal), Brown Titi Monkeys and Mittermeier's Tapajos Saki Monkeys. Then they went to the University proper and saw Bare-eared Squirrel monkey, more Weddell's and a single Rondon's marmoset. I managed to finally meet up with Regina and Judy in the lobby of the Slaviero Hotel located close to the airport that evening.

May 8 - In the morning I met Kenny. Kenny is mainly a bird watching guide, but does have an interest in mammals, especially primates. He has seen many primates in and around Rondônia, and it was he who had given Regina the tip about the Doubtful Titi Monkey in the past. We ended up driving back to the dirt road that everyone had seen the titis before. After getting out of the car Judy and Kenny walked off a bit and had brief views of Weddell's Saddleback Tamarins. I decided to hang back with Regina and it did not take long for Regina to call out "they are here". A fruiting tree in the area was a good temptation for a pair of the titis. We watched them eat, relax, take a brief nap, eat some more, then finally we left them when they were still out in the open. Definitely one of my most relaxed non habituated titi sightings I have had.





Kenny then drove us to a second area with dirt roads that Judy and Regina had been to the day before. Kenny quickly heard Common (Gray) Woolly Monkeys and off and on we had brief views of several individuals. He also quickly saw a saki monkey the the rest of us missed. We then saw a lone individual Doubtful titi monkey. This was followed by finding a group of three. Initially they start to depart when they saw us, but they then changed their mind and positioned themselves on an overhanging branch to stare at us. At one point the juvenile started nursing in front of us. These were once again very relaxed non habituated animals on dirt roads. I would imagine that people are not stopping and getting out of their cars to look at these individuals, besides birders off an on.



After watching the titi monkeys, we had brief views of a single White - Lipped Tamarin. We then watched as a large number of Woolly monkeys



used a second of the trees above us to cross the road. Everything from large males to females with infants.

After a great morning we went back to Porto Velho for lunch then headed to the Eletrobras Santo Antonio Hydroelectric Station which is next to the Federal University of Rondonia. The station had set aside several wooded areas where Kenny had seen primates in the past. There were signs alerting people to the presence of wildlife and close to the sign below I spotted three Brown Titi Monkeys next to the road.



We then went onto the grounds of the University. Unfortunately for me I did not get to see the numerous number of species as I had before due to a rainstorm. We did however see a large troop of Bare-Eared Squirrel Monkeys along the back roads of the University.

We had a 12:30 am flight to get to Rio Branco the next day so after a quick nap (on my part) and dinner we headed to the airport for the hour long flight.

May 9 - Rafael was waiting for us at the airport around 1:30 am. Rafael always was willing to try anything and seemed SO excited every time we saw primates. He had put together a book of all the possible species we could see on the trip which ended up being useful to show locals in areas we were looking. Portions of the trip, especially around Feijo, would be exploratory. He worked very hard to help us find primates and all in all was a lot of fun to be around. I can highly recommend him.

Rafael had booked rooms at the Hotel Diff in town. We ended up sleeping for a few hours, then after breakfast we went to the Parque Ambiental Chico Mendes. The park has several walking trails, a playground area and a small zoo that has several of the species of animals that inhabit the area. It was my first ever look at a Pacarana. On the grounds of the park inhabit Bolivian Squirrel Monkeys, Toppin's Titi Monkeys, Gray's Bald faced Saki Monkeys and Weddell's Saddleback Tamarins. We spent the morning at the park and quickly found a large troop of squirrel monkeys. A few Weddell's SB were traveling with them. We also saw three Lesser Sac-Winged bats in a palm tree as well as several Black Agoutis. I included my record shot of sleeping captive Pacarana through a bunch of wires.

After a lunch in town, we then went to the the Federal University of Acre. On the grounds of the university there is section called Federal University Zoobotanical Park where students study some of the wild primates on the University grounds for behavioral research. Several raised feeding platforms are on the grounds as well as some with hides. Rafael was able to get permission for us to go to this section of the university to watch



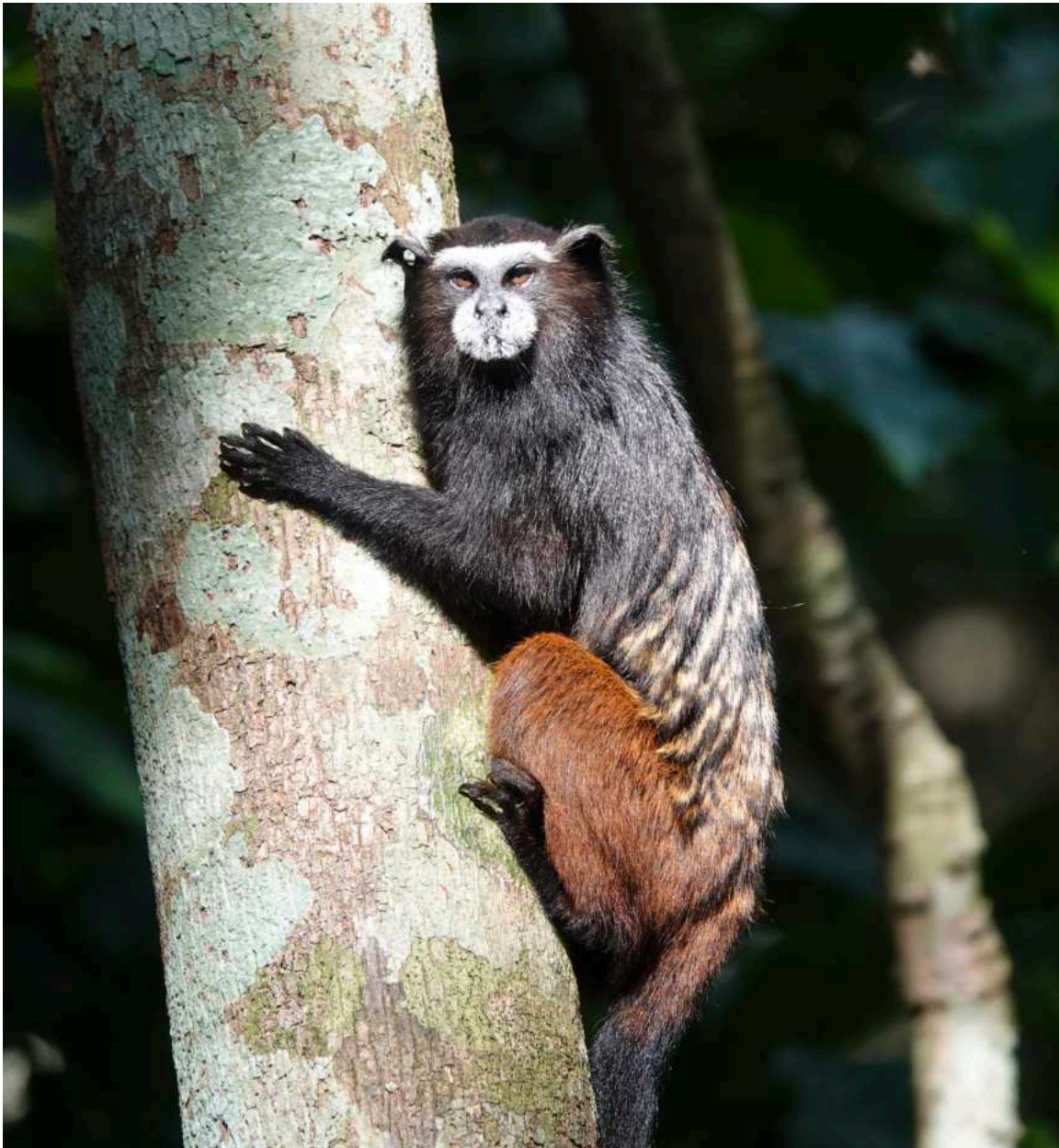
primates. Especially my main target of the trip, the newly split Black-chinned Emperor Tamarin.

The University has several ponds at the entrance and in the grounds and each one seemed to have a resident family of Capybara. To get to the research area you walk through a well maintained trail system for about 10 minutes. Along the path there are several signs showing you what you can see.

Regina spotted a Southern Red Amazon Squirrel on the way in. After walking the trails you come to an area with several buildings and the feeding stations. Judy briefly talked to one of the researchers and we were told if any of the tamarins were close to the students that we would have to avoid those areas. That afternoon we concentrated our efforts to one of the platforms next to a guard station. When we got there a large troop of Weddell's Saddle-back tamarins were present.



Half of the individuals were wearing color coded necklaces that I have seen other heavily studied small primates wear making identification easy for the researchers. I have always been amazed that they tolerate the necklaces. I did not see a single individual trying to pull or bite on the ones they were wearing or others. About half of the troop did not have the necklaces.



After hanging out with the tamarins we started to walk along a small forest patch at the back of the parking lot. I quickly spotted a group of three Toppin's Titi Monkey. They were very curious about us and the two adults took turns being out in the open staring at us.

We then watched as they went to a fruiting tree close to the feeding station to feed.



The guard at the station gave us a tip that the nursery on the University grounds was also a good place to see primates. So we then went back onto the main trail system in the opposite direction that we came in. There were also guards there and they told us that we had just missed a family of Weddell's. They also told us the back forest fragments of the nursery were a good place to look for Southern Pygmy Marmoset. Close to the nursery there is another large pond again inhabited by Capybara.

We went back to the hotel after this.



May 10 - We woke up early and headed back to the University grounds. Along the trail system to the Zoobotanica we heard and saw several Toppin's Titi Monkeys. We went back to the feeding station and it was vacant. Rafael then walked to an area in the back of the Zoobotanica where he had seen Southern Pygmy Marmosets. He quickly saw two close

to what we were told was a roost tree for them. Judy and Regina decided to stay back with Rafael to see if the marmosets showed back up, then I proceeded to walk back towards the guard station. A few Weddell's were already there and within 5 minutes the emperors showed up. Some with the necklaces



And some without.



I called the rest of the group over and we had fabulous views of what I consider to be one of the most beautiful tamarins I have ever seen. After watching them we walked back to the nursery, saw more Capybara, then headed to lunch.

After lunch we went back again to the University. At the station by the guard post Weddell's, the Black-Chinned emperors and the Toppin's Titi Monkeys were all present.



After spending time with the tamarins, Judy and Regina walked back to the place where the Pygmy Marmosets had been seen in the morning. As this was a species I had seen well in Peru before, I spent more time with the tamarins, then slowly made my way over to the rest of the group. When I got there everyone was standing next to the roost tree and Rafael was doing his best Southern Pygmy Marmoset noises. I happened to be back



far enough away that I had a clear view of a large branch above them. Obviously intrigued by Rafael's communication skills, a single marmoset was sitting in the middle of the branch staring at them. I did my best to get their attention by making low whistling noises, but by the time I caught Regina's attention and I pointed upwards, the marmoset was no longer impressed and scurried off into some foliage. Despite waiting again for additional time, no additional marmosets showed up. So we walked back to the nursery and saw a single Toppin's Titi Monkey along the forest edge and more Capybara. We waited until dusk and did some spotlighting along the trails but saw no mammals.

May 11 - We decided to wake up early and go back to the University for the others to try one last shot at the marmosets. But despite all of us looking we had no luck. We had final views of both tamarins and the titi monkeys then got into the car for our 8 hour drive to the town of Feijó.

Now if you look at the actual distance between there and Rio Branco along the BR-364 highway it is about 276 km. But 275.9 of those km are along some of the most pot-holed and in disrepair roads I have ever seen in Brazil. It almost, almostgave Madagascar a run for its money in winning crappiest worldwide road system. So what maybe should have taken 4.5 hours took 8.

The original hotel (I use that word loosely) that we were supposed to stay in decided after bad experiences with non-Brazilians that Judy and I were not welcome. So Rafael was able to book us into the Pousada Açai which ended up being in our benefit. The Pousada is run by a friendly (non foreigner hating) family and sits along a fragmented forest patch close to a small waterway. After talking to the family Rafael was told that a tamarin species in the mornings were on or around the Pousada grounds. At this point the White Saddle-back tamarin was a main target, but when we showed the owner a picture she did not seem convinced. So I ended up showing her a variety of tamarins that it could be (including the one that it ended up being) but each time you could see her look of doubt.

That night a local cab driver from the area that would take us looking for primates the next day cooked dinner for us at his house. Rafael showed him several photos of the primates in the area to help decide where to take us the next morning.

May 12 - While getting ready the next morning, I was almost ready when I heard someone outside my door shouting in excitement. In between all the

Portuguese shouting I made out “Cheryl” several times. So I exited my room and Rafael (disclaimer shouting excited Rafael’s voice did not sound like the non shouting excited voice so I do not initially recognize it) was waiting and told me to hurry. I half got my shoes on (cue several chigger bites later) and followed Rafael to the back of the Pousada where a family of





Bearded Emperor Tamarins were sitting in the trees watching and vocalizing at us!!

While they were listed as a possibility to see on the trip, I did not imagine they would be so easy and right on the grounds of where we were staying. After spending some time with them after Rafael got Regina, we then met up with the taxi driver from the night before. Besides the White SB tamarin two other species, the Vanzolini's Bald-faced Saki Monkey and the Kanamari Bald Uakari are listed for the area. Most people in Feijo had never seen them or if they did told us they were very hard to see. The driver knew some individuals on a nearby indigenous land and we drove

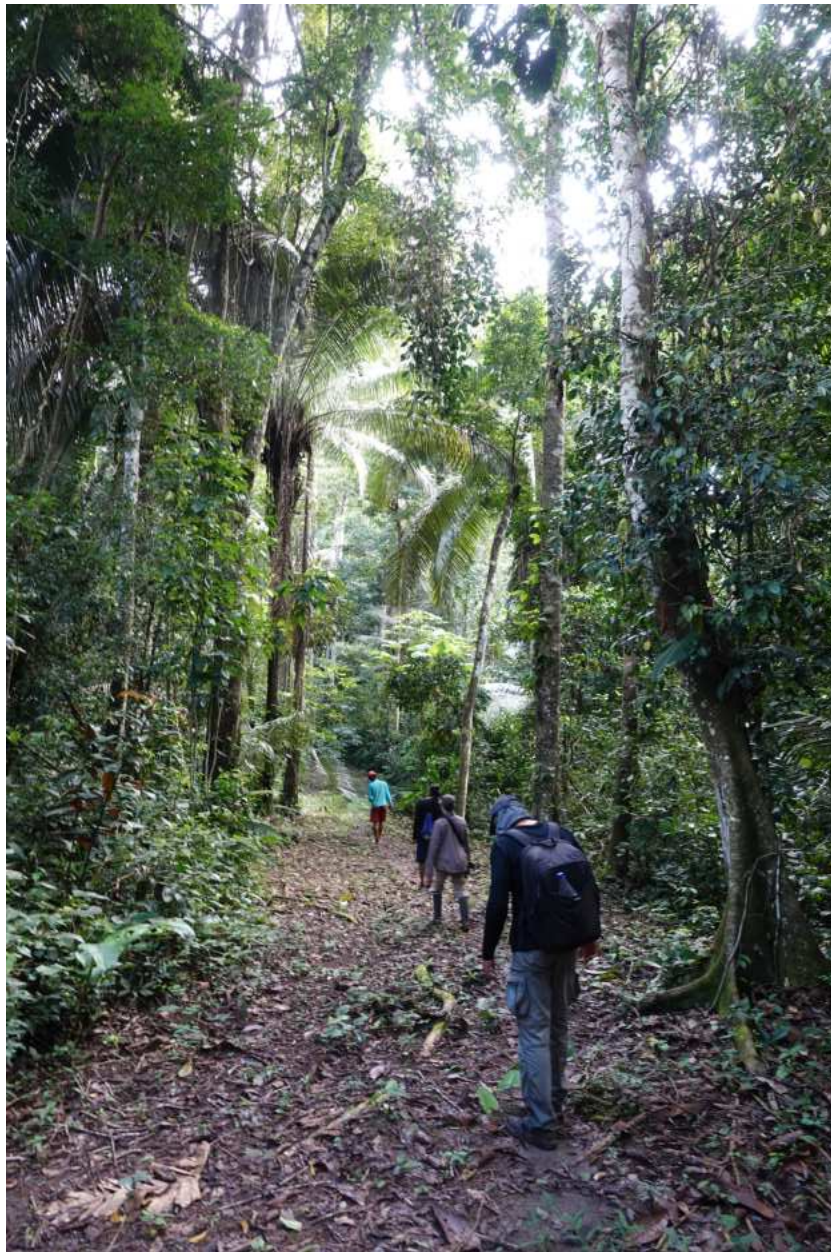
there to see if we could get permission to look for primates. Regina told me this was the first time she had ever primate watched on indigenous land. The community is named Shanenawa which means people of the blue bird. Everyone there was very welcoming and the chief had no problems letting us walk around. We were given tips were to look for the White SB tamarins around some of the forest fragments as well as some of the banana plantation areas. So Rafael and the rest of the group split up to try to find one. Many of the community members seemed curious about us being there looking for primates and one even asked Regina and I if we were there to take them. After coming up empty handed, we ended up regrouping and walking to another area of the community. We were then met by one of the community members Henrique (local name Teka). Henrique seemed to have a keen interest in nature and when he found out we had come to see primates, he offered to guide us on some of the forest trails around the community. He told us he knew of some areas the White SB tamarins liked to frequent. So we followed him onto a well maintained trail and it did not take long to hear the shrill cries of tamarins. Henrique and our group did some bush wacking into an open area and saw a small troop of Bearded Emperor Tamarins traveling with Weddell's SB tamarins. When it got close to mid day we asked Henrique if he was still willing to guide us after lunch, so made plans to meet again in the afternoon. We went back to the Pousda Açaí for lunch and I showed one of the owners a picture I had taken of the emperor tamarins that morning. I also told her how special they were and she should advertise that they were there. After looking at one of the pictures and seeing the large white mustache she told our group that it most likely was an old tamarin.

We went back to the indigenous community and Henrique took us on another also well maintained trail. After hiking for awhile we heard more tamarins and Henrique was able to get us on several very fast moving White Saddle-back tamarins. We ended up seeing three troops that afternoon. One of the trees with the tamarins a single Southern Pygmy Marmoset was briefly out in the open. The primates there were very shy so I only was able to fire off a quick record shot of one of the tamarins.



At the end of the day, after looking at the book that Rafael had made, Henrique told us that on another further away trail he sometimes sees Vanzolini's Bald-faced Saki. They are attracted to a certain palm tree and at this time of year the palms are at the end of fruiting so there was a chance to see them. So we made plans that night to meet back up with Henrique to try for the saki monkeys.

May 13 - We left early and met Henrique who was joined by another one of the locals to hike to try to find the saki monkeys. This hike took us through some plantation areas, area after area of secondary forest, then finally along a large dirt road that led to more parts of the community.



Along the road were beautiful trees, including large palm trees with some fruit.

But despite all of us looking (and both locals were great spotters) we were unable to find the sakis. We did end seeing more White SB tamarins and I briefly saw another Southern Pygmy Marmoset. I think this area does have a lot of potential and Rafael got all of Henrique's contact information for him to notify him when he is seeing the sakis more often to hopefully guide in the future.

In the afternoon we drove out to a forest fragment close to the local airport but saw no primates.

On the first night in Feijo when we drove to the taxi drivers house, I noticed the forest fragment next to the Pousada we were staying in had one patch



that extended to another road. So Regina, Judy and I decided to check it out. Next to the roadway there were a female and male Brown-throated three-toed sloth resting.

The three of us definitely created some primate watching by the locals as many stopped to see what we were doing.

May 14 - Rafael had organized with the Pousada to have a boat take us on a ride along the Envira River to a small property owned by them that had a forest fragment. The boat was VERY loud and if we had seen anything along the river banks I feel confident we would have scared it away. However this was not a tourist boat and it was the first time anyone had ever asked to primate watch via boat there. The boat captain Fabio had his wife come along which in the end was a good idea as her job was to

scoop out the water that was leaking into the bottom of the boat. It took about 4.5 hours to reach the property and along the way we had several sightings of both Pink and Grey River dolphins. The majority of the forest along the riverbanks was cut down. When we got to the property we had to scramble up a large dirt hill then walk through a small path by a banana plantation. At the top of a hill was a small comfortable house that we based ourselves in. In front of the house was a small forest fragment that we went for a short walk in. Fabio had “sort of” made a trail in the forest fragment, but the majority of it was bush wacking. We were told that the White SB tamarins were seen frequently in this fragment as well as the banana plantation by the river. After awhile I spotted a very fast moving juvenile Coppery Titi Monkey. We followed in its general direction to another edge of the fragment and saw that it was traveling by itself with several Bearded Emperor tamarins.



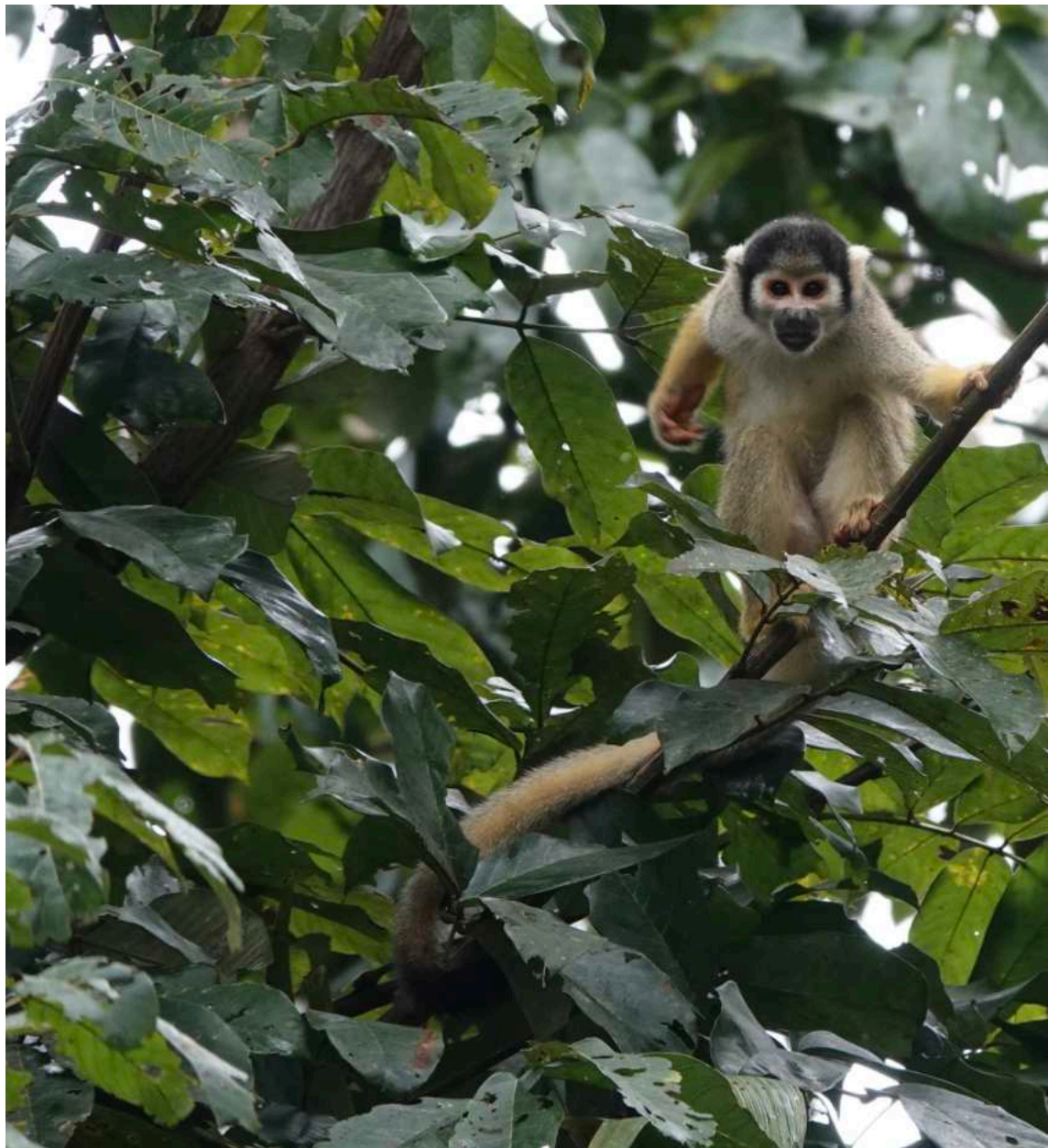
Regina and Rafael also got brief views of a Southern Pygmy Marmoset. We ended up staying in the area until around 4 pm and saw more titi monkeys and emperor tamarins. It took us a little under three hours to get back to Feijo. At this point it was dark and low tide. The area where we had got into the boat was basically a slick straight up mud trap. Growing up movies always gave the idea that quicksand was everywhere in South America and it was something to be afraid of. I am pretty sure this mud slick would have given any movie producer the idea for quick sand. Rafael got out first and it didn't take long for him to be up above his knees in mud. When I got out I started rapidly sinking and I think I snorted/laughed out "I AM GOING DOWN" only to the amusement of the rest of the group (minus the non amused looks from Fabio and his wife). Finally after being doubled over in laughter we all were able to haul out of the mud and make it back to the car.

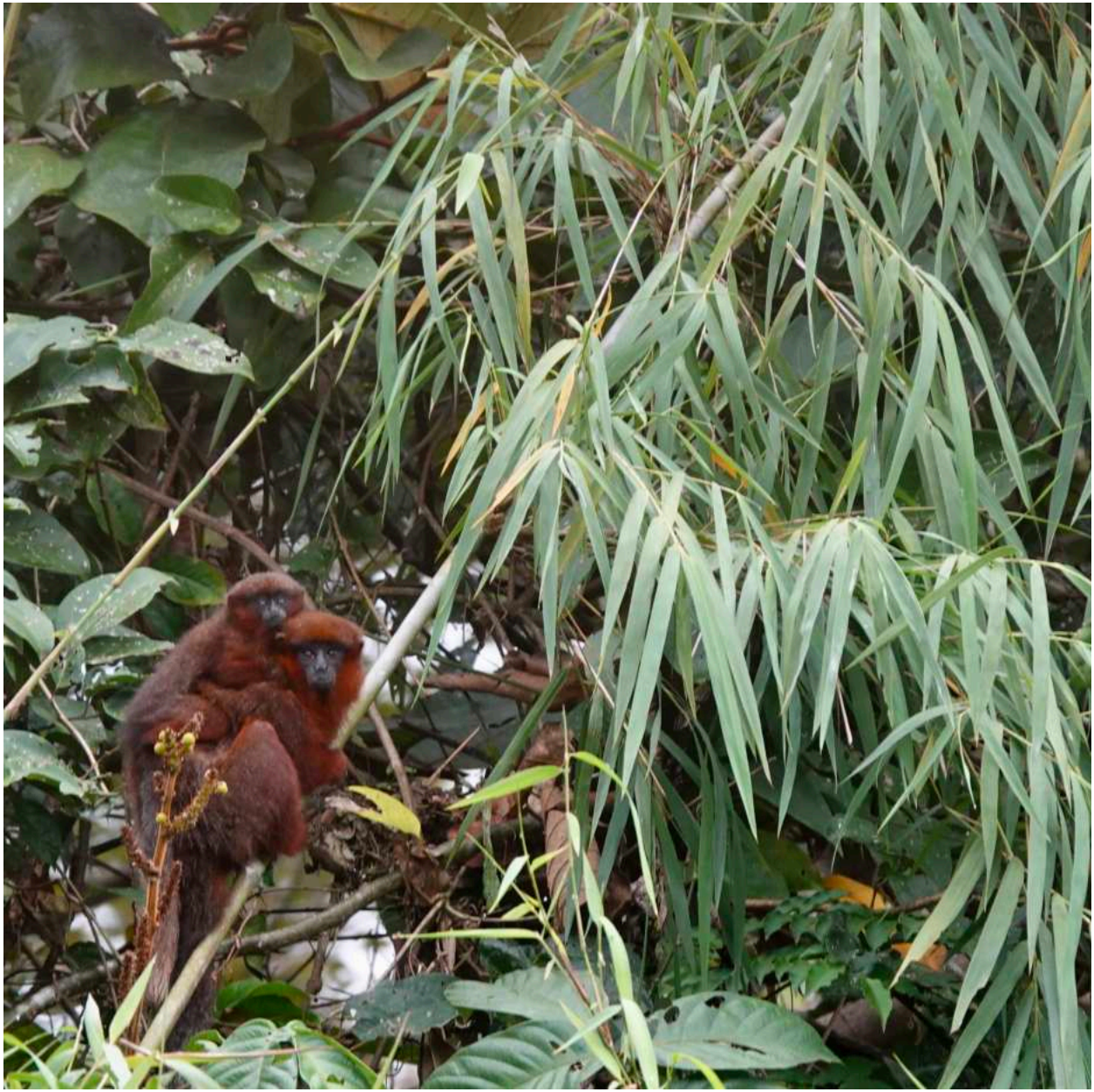
May 15 - We woke up early to get final looks at the Bearded Emperor tamarins. At this point it was pouring rain, but this did not stop them. As soon as the family behind the hotel started calling, multiple other families around the hotel and across the street started calling as well. We then drove about six hours to the city of Cruzeiro do Sul. Rafael had arranged for a local research biologist, Marllus Rafael Almeida who also went by Rafael, to take us to some forest fragments close to the Rio Croa Bridge outside town where he often saw White Saddle-back Tamarins. Rafael works at the University in Cruzeiro do Sul and was an avid photographer for all species. He told us later he has seen the Vanzolini and Burnished Saki Monkeys in areas by the city so he is defiantly someone I would want to go back and primate watch with. After not seeing anything at the first spot, we had planned to walk into a forest fragment when our Rafael quickly spotted the tamarins. They were traveling with Bearded Emperor Tamarins and although they were slightly distant across a swampy bit they stopped and seemed as interested in us as we were with them. After watching the tamarins we drove to the lovely Pousada Mae Dita in Mancio Lima where we spent the night.





May 16 - We drove to a dock area on the River Moa which took about five minutes from the Pousada. From there we were met by Marceo in a speed boat of sorts (complete with wifi) that would take us 8 hours up river to the Pousada do Miro in the Serra do Divisor National Park. Large portions of the river were either well kept secondary forest, small settlements or as we got closer to the national park itself beautiful tall trees in primary forest. Along the way we saw five large troops of Ecuadorian Squirrel Monkeys, one troop of Spix's White-fronted Capuchin, and best of all a family of four Coppery Titi monkeys with the male carrying the smallest family member.





When we got the lodge we met the owner Miro who briefed Regina and Rafael on which trails he thought would be best for seeing primates. Our main target here was the Ucayali Bald Uakari, a species I had tried hard for in Peru but epically failed to see. Miro recommended that we first try the Igarape Ramon trail that was used by researchers in the park. About an hour and a half from the lodge itself, there is a small raised wooded platform that you can camp on overnight if you wanted. We decided instead to just wake up early and head to the trail in the dark to be there by dawn.

The lodge itself with its remote location was comfortable. The rooms look like what locals live in, raised wooden buildings on small walkways. Each

room had a bed, mosquito net and small shelf area. You do have electricity during the day to charge batteries. Each room out the back shares a small bathroom building that has a flushing toilet and cold shower. The majority of tourists from what I could tell are Brazilians that come to relax and see one of the many waterfalls and small bodies of water that you can swim in. However I think ecotourism is slowly starting to take off.



We also met Cao a young local guide who lived in a settlement area across from the lodge. Along with Marceo, they would both help us with our primate watching.

That night Judy and I decided to have some of Miro's caipirinha's as an appetizer before dinner. I will not go into any details here, but lets just say they were the most potent ones I have ever had and be warned to maybe skip what I consider to be my favorite Brazilian treat while there.....

May 17 - We woke up early (with a headache on my part....) and traveled 1.5 hours to the trail head. We went through some beautiful forest fragments along the way. When we got there, Cao and Marceo parked the boat at the entrance of a small waterway that you have to walk through along a stream bed. There is then a vertical mud hill that you climb straight up to make it the trail head. Besides being muddy at this time of year, the majority of the trail is flat. There are however several spots where you have to walk over fallen logs to keep going. It did not take long for us to find a large troop of Spix's Mustached Tamarin.



This was followed by Regina spotting a Poeppig's Woolly Monkey high in a tree. We ended up seeing Black Spider Monkeys, more Woolley monkeys traveling with Brown capuchins and also came across a large family group of White-Lipped Peccary that snorted and stampeded off when they finally heard us. Regina also had a brief glimpse of a Saki monkey tail. Both Vanzolini's and Burnished are in the park and the tail alone is not an

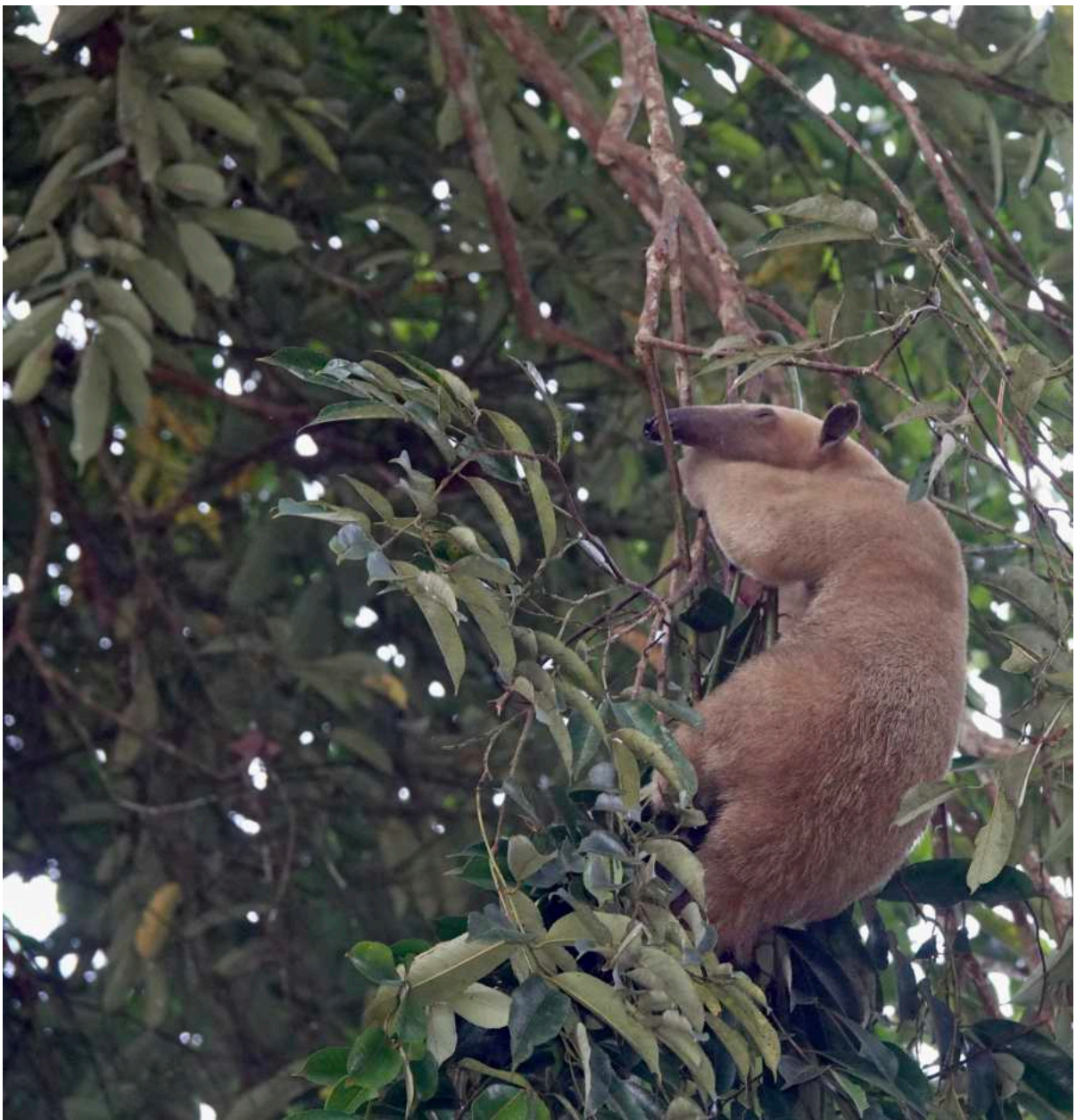
identifier unfortunately. By this time it was mid day so we went back to the trail head then across the river to the camping area. After seeing the area I was glad we decided to stay at the lodge as there were many flies and bees attracted to food waste material in the cooking area. On the way back to the lodge we saw Long-nosed Proboscis bats hanging from trees along the river edge.

Caeo told us that he often sees the Uakari along the Formosa Trail behind his house that tourists use to get to a large waterfall. We decided to hike the trail in the afternoon. Prior to leaving we heard Coppery Titi Monkeys calling from behind the lodge.

After a boat ride to the opposite side of the river and crossing through a small settlement where Caeo lives, we entered the trail head. After about 1 minute of walking after going down then up a small incline there are several trees on your left hand side that are home to a family of Southern Pygmy Marmosets. Too fast for me to photograph, it did not take long for Caeo to point them out. In all we saw three separate marmosets. We then walked along the trail for about an hour and were rewarded with more Mustached tamarins who were traveling with some very shy and fast moving Spix's Saddle-back Tamarins.

That night at dinner Miro recommended that we go to an unnamed research trail that workers had recently been clearing. They had reported seeing the Uakari's frequently while there. This trail was also in the same direction as the previous day but in split off area along the river.

May 18 - again we woke up early to make it to the trail head at dawn. Along the way we saw a single Brown Capuchin along the river edge. Then right before we got the trail head a breeding pair of Southern Tamandua were hanging on a tree branch on the river. The blonde female was at the edge of the tree obviously not interested. The black morph male (complete with scratch wound on the nose) slowly walked off after it saw us. This was the first time anyone in our group have seen a black morph. Caeo told us the black morph was the common one in the park and he had never seen a blonde one!



This trail was easier than the day before, but also had muddy areas as well and once again several down trees to walk across. Despite spending the morning there we saw no primates along the trail itself. We headed back on the river and along the way Regina spotted Black Spider monkeys. After this the rain started and pummeled us the entire way back to the lodge.

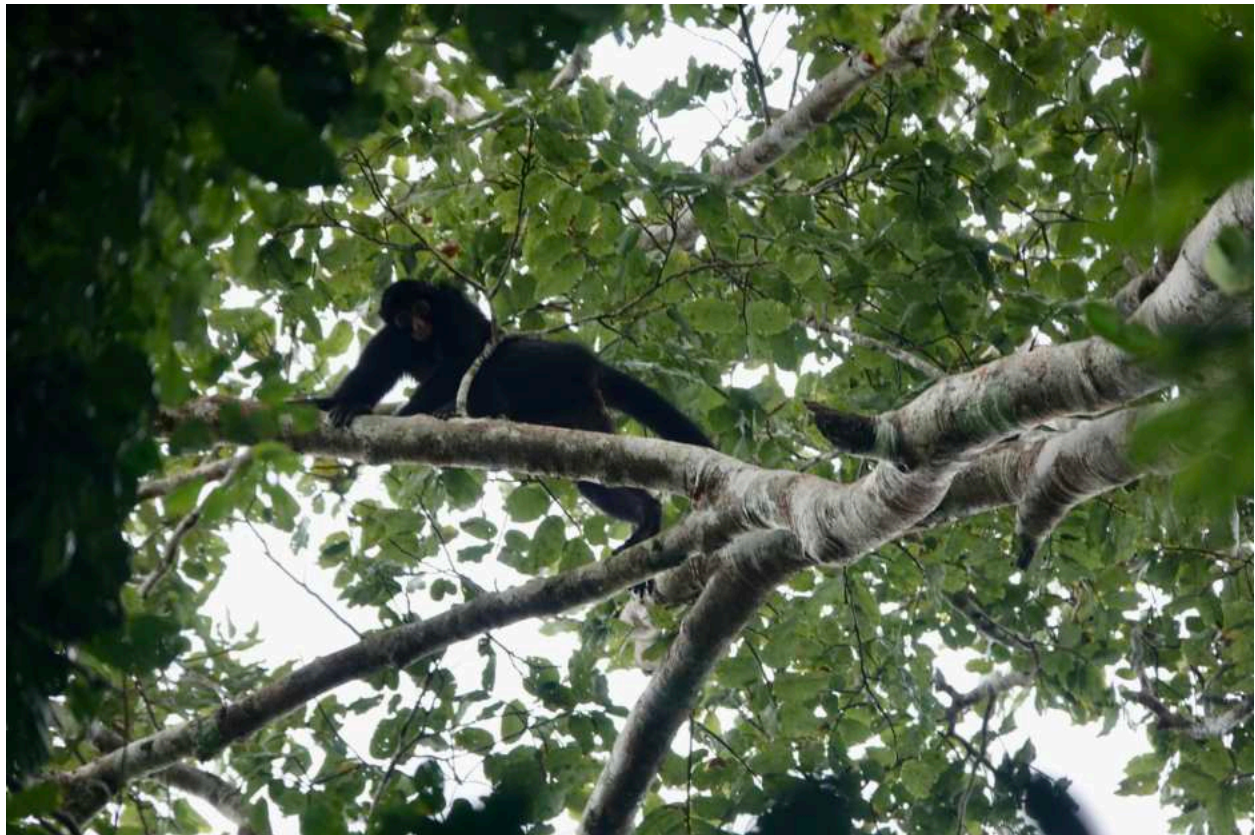
In the afternoon we went back to the Formosa trail, saw the Pygmy Marmosets again briefly, then another shy troop of Spix's SB and Mustached Tamarins. Cao also took us to a tree where he often saw Amazon Dwarf Squirrels. We were rewarded with a not so shy individual that called at us and repeatedly looked at us in the open.



After watching the squirrel the rains started again so we ended up cutting our afternoon short and going back to the lodge. At this point we had one

full day left. Regina and I had talked about trying the Formosa trail in the morning, but Miro again suggested trying the Igarape Ramon Trail as it was usually more successful for the Uakari.

May 19 - we again got up early and headed the 1.5 hours to the IR trail. We saw more Mustached tamarins and probably the largest Black Spider monkeys I have ever seen. This blurry photo does not do justice to how massive the monkey was. It was built like a very muscular Woolly monkey.



After hiking a long distance along the trail and coming up empty handed for the Uakari we decided to head back and go earlier along the Formosa trail. Along the way back we saw a shy troop of Spix's White-fronted capuchins along the river. When we got back to the lodge we found out that the Uakaris had been seen close to a lookout area not far from the lodge.

After lunch we had about 45 minutes to rest so I decided to lay down. It was not long after this that I heard Regina shouting for me to get up as the Uakaris had been spotted near the Formosa Trail. One of the people in

Caeo's settlement named Raimundo (who goes by the local name Gringo) had seen the Uakaris when he was walking back from the waterfall. He had told Caeo about this and the general area he saw them in.

Unfortunately Gringo does not have a phone so we could not contact him for more details. We got to the Formosa trail and Rafael told us to "move fast". So move fast we did along the trail, then a small extension of the trail on the right hand side. Unfortunately however in the end we found out we took a wrong turn and could not find the Uakaris. Even after Caeo and Rafael split up in opposite directions they were a no show.

We did see more Spix's SB tamarins and one briefly stopped to look at me than ran. I was able to get a quick record shot.

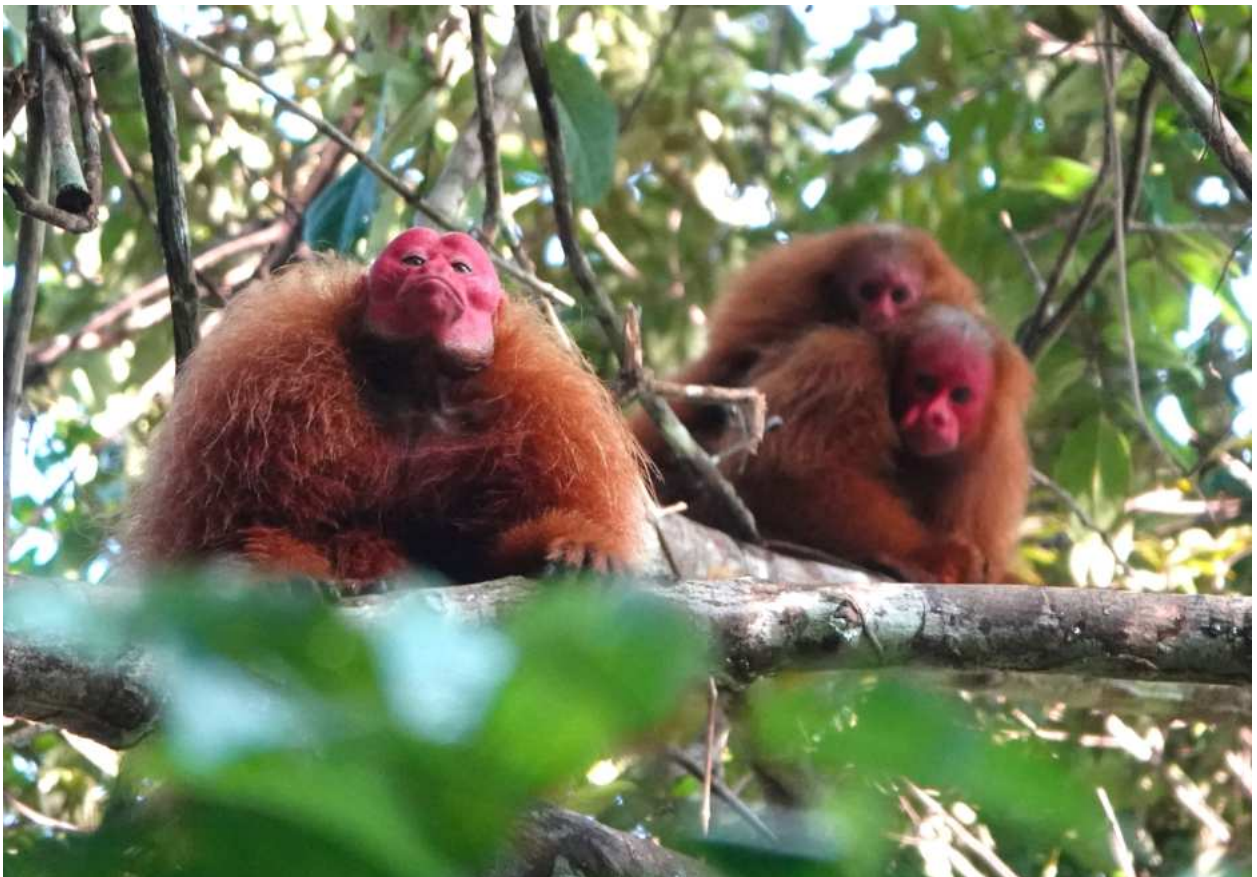
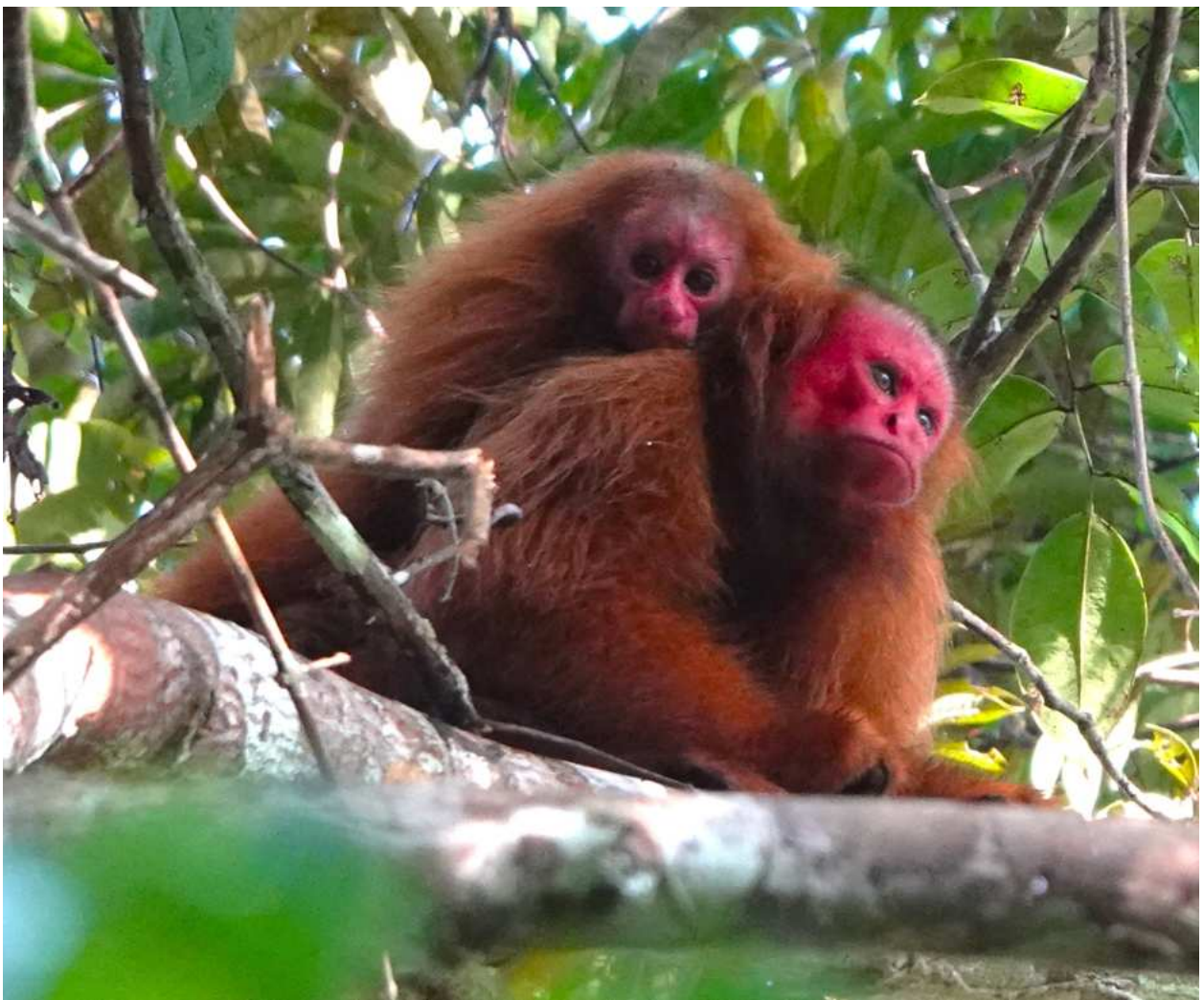


After leaving the trail, we went to the trailhead for the lookout point. Rafael climbed up the very steep trail but saw nothing. At this point we all felt a little defeated and we knew the boat to get back to Mancio Lima would

need to leave around 9:30 am the next day. We decided we could try one more walk on the Formosa trail before we left. When we got back to the lodge I noticed that Miro and Cao were in a back area having what looked like a serious talk. We then found out that Miro asked Gringo to go find where the Uakari were nesting for the night. The plan was the next morning to get up early and walk to the nesting spot before dawn to try to see them.

May 20 - We woke up around 4:30 am then to made our way across the river to the settlement to pick up Gringo. He then took us along the Formosa trail, then a smaller trail where he had last seen the Uakari. But when we got to the spot in the early dawn they were gone. But determined to find them, Gringo set off with a walkie talkie and we waited and we waited. After about 25 minutes I listened to him talk to Regina and Rafael and by the sound of his voice, I knew he had found them. But he had found them completely off trail, through a very swampy area. He came back about half way, then we trudged through more muck and water than I think I ever have. Some waterways were over the tops of my boots which made for not the most pleasant feeling. Finally we came across a small clearing. Rafael was in front of me and he turned around with a huge smile to tell me that he could see them. See them we did, in almost perfect light about 40 Uakaris were in the trees above us. This included many large males, females with infants and subadult members. They were in constant chatter with each other and they sounded like “happy” capuchin noises to me. It ranked as one of my all-time favorite primate watching experiences in my life.

While I was taking videos of a female with a baby, Judy got the following two shots.



The Uakaris were also very curious about us and larger males and some of



the juveniles would position themselves above us just to stare, usually looking not impressed.

We had to leave the troop and on the way back to the main trail we saw a splinter portion of the group of about 15 Uakaris that were fast moving.

Gringo seemed so excited to have found the troop for us and could tell how excited we were in return. He is not a guide and as I said does not have a phone but lives close to Cao. I think going there it would be an option to have Gringo or any of the people in the settlement by the Formnasa trail watch out for the Uakaris to help you find them. On the way out we saw another Amazon Dwarf Squirrel in one of the marmoset trees.

After a quick clean up in the lodge, we boarded back into a speed boat and traveled about 4.5 hours to Mancio Lima. Along the way we saw more Ecuadorian Squirrel Monkeys. We then drove to Cruzeiro do Sul and spent the night at the Swamy Hotel.

May 21 - we met up with the researcher Rafael again at the University where he works. He quickly found us two distant Coppery Titi Monkeys and we heard many more. We walked into a small forest fragment to look for Spix's Saddle-back tamarins but were unable to locate any. We then drove to the airport and said good-bye to our Rafael, and flew back to Rio Branco. Since we still had plenty of daylight we walked around Parque Ambiental Chico Mendes again. Regina quickly found us a pair of Toppin's titi monkeys in some bamboo, followed by some Bolivian Squirrel Monkeys. We did try several areas for the Gray's Bald-faced saki, even with one zoo worker helping us, but were unable to locate them.



That night Regina, Judy and I went into Rio Branco for our farewell dinner.

May 22 - we all flew home.

Overall, an excellent primate based trip. Thanks again to Regina and Rafael for their top notch guiding skills and overall being great fun to be around! I wish I was in Brazil as I type this!

Trip List

1. Rondon's Marmoset - *Mico rondoni*
2. Weddell's Saddle-back Tamarin - *Leontocebus weddelli*
3. Doubtful Titi Monkey - *Plecturocebus dubius*
4. Brown Capuchin - *Sapajus apella*
5. Mittermeier's Tapajos Saki Monkey - *Pithecia mittermeieri*
6. Bare - eared Squirrel Monkey - *Saimiri ustus*
7. Gray Woolly Monkey - *Lagothrix lagothricha cana*
Poepig's Woolly Monkey - *Lagothrix lagothricha poeppigii*
8. Red-bellied Tamarin - *Tamarinus labiatus*
9. Brown Titi Monkey - *Plecturocebus brunneus*
10. Bolivian (Black- capped) Squirrel Monkey - *Saimiri bolivienses*
11. Black aqouti - *Dasyprocta fuliginosa*
12. Lesser Sac-winged Bat - *Saccopteryx leptura*
13. Capybara - *Hydrochoerus hydrochaeris*
14. Southern Amazon Red Squirrel - *Sciurus spadiceus*
15. Toppin's Titi Monkey - *Plecturocebus toppini*
16. Black - chinned Emperor Tamarin - *Tamarinus imperator*
17. Southern Pygmy Marmoset - *Cebuella niveiventris*
18. Bearded Emperor Tamarin - *Tamarinus subgriseus*
19. White Saddle-back Tamarin - *Leontocebus melanoleucus*
20. Brown throated three-toed sloth - *Bradypus variegatus*
21. Coppery Titi Monkey - *Plecturocebus cupreus*
22. Grey River Dolphin (Tucuxi) - *Sotalia fluviatilis*
23. Pink River Dolphin (Boto) - *Inia geoffrensis*
24. Ecuadorian Squirrel Monkey - *Saimiri cassiquiarensis*
25. Spix's White-fronted Capuchin - *Cebus unicolor*
26. Spix's Mustached Tamarin - *Tamarinus mystic*
27. White-lipped peccary - *Tayassu pecari*
28. Long-nosed Proboscis Bat - *Rhynchonycteris naso*
29. Spix's Saddle-back Tamarin - *Leontocebus fuscicollis*

- 30. Southern Tamandua - *Tamandua tetradactyla*
- 31. Black Spider Monkey - *Ateles chalcus*
- 32. Amazon Dwarf Squirrel - *Microsciurus flaviventer*
- 33. Ucayali Bald Uakari - *Cacajao ucayalii*