

### **Binoculars**

Fiona: Cheaper-range Vortex.

Charles Hood: Zeiss 10 x 42 binoculars (though I may drop down to 8 x 32 to save weight)

Jon Hall: Swarovski EL 8.5x42

Charles Foley: Swarovski EL 8.5x42

### **Telescope**

Charles Hood: Swarovski ATX 25-60 power x 65mm objective

Charles Foley: Swarovski 20-60x S

### **Laser pointer**

Charles Foley: Pinty brand – cheap and cheerful

### **Headlamp**

Fiona: The headlamp with the v bright light (that fell apart and almost set my hair on fire) is a Min Chen LED light MC21160 (teeny tiny print on the box). Not recommended. I also have a couple of LED Lenser headlamps. I like the older model better than the current model. The small, lightweight headlamp that has a pretty good red light (not for finding mammals but for studying a close up colony/individual) is a Nitecore NU25. A nice backup if you have a light that dies suddenly when you are alone in the forest, as well as good for the red light.

Charles Hood: “Fenix HP25R (recommended by Jose Gabriel Martinez Fonseca)”

Jon Hall: I don’t really use headlamps except as a backup but a LED Lenser HR14.2 is my favourite when I do use one

Charles Foley: Fenix HL60R

### **Hand-held torch & spotlights**

Fiona: I had issues with the heavy duty Fenix TK75 and with a Tiablo light. I liked the old Q-Beams but the batteries were really heavy. I have a Mastercraft spotlight that is OK but not terrific. I also have a Craftsman 500 lumen flashlight - v cheap and a very focused beam so not too bad when one needs to travel light.

Charles Hood: “Acebeam L18 (recommended by Paul Carter)”

Jon Hall: I’ve been using the same Tiablo A9 for 12 years which is generally fine and conveniently small. I also like my FENIX TK35 which is a bit heavier but brighter. I’ve used Lightforce spotlights for the past 20 years. Their plastic models – which attach to a car battery with crocodile clips – are super reliable and very light.

Charles Foley: Fenix TK75 – very powerful but heavy.

### **Camera and lenses**

Fiona: Canon Rebel T4i body, with a 100-400 Canon EF lens.

Charles Hood: Nikon Z9 mirrorless camera, with three lenses: 100-400, 28 pancake, 50 /1.8

Jon Hall: Canon R6 mirrorless with two canon lenses: 100-500 RF (mirrorless) & 100mm macro f2.8 USM

Charles Foley: Canon 70D with 100-400 Canon EF lens.

### **Thermal scope**

Fiona: I had a Flir thermal scope that I found quite useless.

Charles Hood: Pulsar

Jon Hall: Pulsar XQ50 (2017 model)

Charles Foley: Pulsar Quantum Lite XQ30V - no longer in stock

### **Bat detector**

Fiona: Echo meter touch Pro

### **Other gear**

Fiona: I missed one item that I really love - football socks! You can then wear wellies and shorts without rubbing your calves raw. This is very useful in CR where I do a lot of shallow wading and it is not very buggy so you don't need long pants (and inevitably they get soaked in the river). I live in hope that the fer-de-lance can't bite through my socks... time will tell.

Charles Hood: Hard copy journal! All my gear goes in a climbing rucksack that fits in the overhead bin even of small prop planes. For my "personal item" on planes, I use a sling bag for reading glasses, iPad, little stuff. It swivels out of view if anybody is questioning my carry-on.

Jon Hall: a power bar with multiple USB and regular power sockets; short rubber boots (calf height) for the rainforest (I hate wearing long rubber boots); keep and update a packing list in your Gmail drafts folder. I have a very small groundsheet in my camera bag to make long nocturnal waits next to bat nets a bit more comfortable. An AC/ car cigarette lighter adapter is useful for long drives when charging options are limited.

Charles Foley: Packing cubes – 5 set Shackle Pak. Inflatable seat cushion – Thermarest.