

COLOMBIA February-March 2015

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These are some notes on the mammals seen during a 3-week botanical collecting trip to Colombia in early 2015. Most of the time I was out in the field with a team of botanists who were making a lot of noise and thrashing through the vegetation, which of course is not very conducive for mammal watching, so much more was certainly out there...

Some sites visited:

- Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta: we stayed 2 nights in Minca and 2 at El Dorado Lodge.
- Colibri del Sol reserve, Páramo Frontino, Antioquia: 2 nights, we only saw an Andean Squirrel here, but the camera traps have recorded Little Red Brocket Deer, Oncilla and Spectacled Bear.
- Río Claro reserve: 1 night, well known.
- Bosque Yotoco near Cali: 1 night, very nice reserve with good and cheap accomodation right next to the forest. Possibly the best site for mammals on this trip, with three monkey species, an opossum and plenty of unidentified bats seen in one afternnonn/evening.
- La Planada: 2 nights, after years of closure due to security reasons, this famous reserve is now open again. We did not see much in the way of mammals, but the manager said that Brown-headed Spider-Monkeys are not hard to see.

Species recorded

Andean White-eared Opossum: 1 at night around the research station at La Planada.

Didelphis sp.: DOR near Minca, Santa Marta mountains.

Cotton-top Tamarin: a small group along the entrance road to Tayrona NP.

White-footed Tamarin: a small group at Río Claro.

Lemurine Night Monkey: a group at night right next to the station at Bosque Yotoco.

Red Howler Monkey: several groups at Bosque Yotoco.

White-faced Capouchin: 1 troupe at Bosque Yotoco.

Red-bellied Squirrel: Common in Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta.

Andean Squirrel: some near Anorí, at Río Claro, and one destroying the hummingbird feeders at Colibrí del Sol reserve.

Crab-eating Fox: DOR at El Dorado in the Santa Marta mountains.