

Marc Holderied and I attended a 'jamming session' on bat echolocation organised by Brock Fenton at Lamanai Outpost Lodge, Belize between 16-23 April 2007. The meeting was one of the best attended by echolocation specialists from around the world in recent years. I travelled light with my Canon 1D Mark IIN camera, a 100-400mm IS zoom lens, 100mm macro lens, 17-40mm zoom and my lightweight Leitz 8x32 binoculars. Although there are many excellent bird guides available for Central America, H. Lee Jones' 'Birds of Belize' proved excellent, and did not include lots of Central American species not found in Belize. We stayed in the Embassy Suites Near Miami Airport on 15 April. A powerful storm was hitting the NE US, and its tail brought heavy rain and strong winds to Miami. The area around the hotel was not great for birding, and we managed the following species:

1. Double-crested cormorant
2. Cattle egret – about 15 in a tree roost
3. Great egret
4. White ibis
5. Moorhen
6. Black-necked stilt
7. Laughing gull
8. Ring-billed gull
9. American herring gull
10. Caspian tern
11. Mourning dove
12. Collared dove
13. Common ground dove
14. Common nighthawk – 1 flew over the city.
15. Great crested flycatcher
16. Blue jay
17. American crow
18. Northern mockingbird
19. Starling
20. Palm warbler
21. House sparrow
22. Boat-tailed grackle

We flew to Belize City on 16<sup>th</sup>, and set off to Lamanai Outpost Lodge, travelling up the New River by boat. We spent the next week at Lamanai, catching bats in the evening and having time for birding and visiting the Mayan ruins in the day. We saw the following birds:

1. Anhinga – several on the New River
2. Neotropic cormorant – common
3. Least bittern - 1 opposite Lamanai
4. Green heron – common
5. Boat-billed heron = 1 at dawn opposite Lamanai
6. Black-crowned night heron – 1-2 over river from Lamanai
7. Yellow crowned night heron – juvenile opposite Lamanai
8. Limpkin – fairly common
9. Great blue heron – fairly common. One white morph.
10. Jabiru – 1 breeding pair and 3 others seen

11. Wood stork – several
12. Great egret – common
13. Tricolored heron – several
14. Little blue heron – several
15. Snowy egret = common
16. Cattle egret – often flying over
17. White ibis – some flocks
18. Turkey vulture
19. Lesser yellow-headed vulture – at least 2, Lamaani
20. Osprey – 2
21. Roadside hawk – common
22. Black-collared hawk – 1 ver river from Lamaani
23. Bat falcon – 1 around lodge
24. Aplomado falcon – pair around lodge
25. Snail kite – several along New River
26. Laughing falcon – 1 opposite Lamaani
27. Plain chachalaca – groups heard around lodge – one tame bird
28. Gray-necked wood rail – several, Lamaani
29. Sungrebe, 1 New River
30. Northern Jacana – common. New River
31. Black-necked stilt – in flight over Lamaani
32. Spotted sandpiper – common, New River
33. Solitary sandpiper – one near ruins landing
34. Laughing gull – seen on trip up river
35. Pale-vented pigeon – camera
36. Short-billed pigeon – seen on trip up river
37. Ruddy ground dove - common
38. Blue ground dove – one, opposite Lamaani
39. White crowned parrot – common
40. Red-lored parrot – around lodge
41. Olive-throated parakeet – near ruins
42. Yellow-billed cuckoo – one near lodge
43. Groove-billed ani – several arpund ;odge
44. Northern potoo – one at ruins car park
45. Rufous-tailed hummingbird – common
46. Stripe-throated hermit – near museum
47. Violaceous trogon
48. Black-headed trogon
49. Rufous-tailed jacamar – one, forest near Sugar Mill
50. Collared aracari – group around ruins
51. Keel-billed toucans – 1 lodge, 2 Sugar Mill
52. Belted kingfisher - one near airport
53. Ringed kingfisher - common on river. Shy.
54. Green kingfisher – several on river.
55. American pigmy kingfisher – 2 opposite Lamaani.
56. Golden-fronted woodpecker– several.
57. Golden-olive woodpecker – one around lodge
58. Pale-billed woodpecker – 1, Sugar Mill
59. Olivaceous woodcreeper – near ruins
60. Ivory-billed woodcreeper – 1, forest near Sugar Mill

61. Vermillion flycatcher – several around airport
62. Alder or Willow flycatcher – farmland around Lamanai, near ruins
63. Dusky-capped flycatcher - farmland around Lamanai and near museum
64. Scissor-tailed flycatcher – road to airport and over river from Lamanai
65. Sulphur-bellied flycatcher – near museum
66. Tropical kingbird - Lamanai
67. Couch's kingbird – airport
68. Social flycatcher – common
69. Great kiskadee – airport
70. Boat-billed flycatcher - farmland around Lamanai
71. Masked tityra – 1-2 around ruins
72. Philadelphia vireo – near ruins
73. Mangrove vireo – heard on boat trip
74. Red-eyed vireo - farmland around Lamanai
75. Lesser greenlet – near ruins
76. Blue-grey gnatcatcher – over river from Lamanai
77. Brown jay – common
78. Tropical mockingbird – airport
79. Gray catbird - farmland around Lamanai
80. Gray-breasted martin – airport
81. Purple martin – 1 above river opposite Lamanai
82. Mangrove swallow – common
83. Barn swallow – over river
84. Spot-breasted wren – forest near Mask Temple
85. Veery – 1-2 around ruins
86. Swainson's thrush – several around ruins
87. Wood thrush – 1-2 in forest around ruins
88. Clay-colored robin – fairly common in forest
89. Bay-breasted warbler – several in forest
90. Yellow-rumped warbler – around ruins
91. Black-throated green warbler – around ruins
92. Magnolia warbler – common
93. Yellow warbler – common
94. Black-and-white warbler – several
95. American redstart – several
96. Northern waterthrush – water edge at Lamanai and around ruins
97. Blue-grey tanager – 1, farmland around Lamanai
98. Yellow-winged tanager - farmland around Lamanai
99. Summer tanager – around museum
100. Scarlet tanager - farmland around Lamanai
101. Red-legged honeycreeper – museum area
102. Olive-backed euphonia – around museum
103. Yellow-throated euphonia – forest
104. Scrub euphonia – near Mask temple
105. White-collared seedeater – airport and around lodge
106. Blue bunting - farmland around Lamanai
107. Indigo bunting - farmland around Lamanai
108. Black-headed saltator - farmland around Lamanai and road to airport
109. Green-backed sparrow – forest near Sugar Mill
110. Botteri's sparrow – savannah over river from Lamanai

111. Dickcissel – 20+, farmland around Lamanai
112. Red-winged blackbird – common in savannah
113. Eastern meadowlark – several, savannah
114. Great-tailed grackle – common
115. Melodious blackbird – common
116. Bronzed cowbird - farmland around Lamanai
117. Hooded oriole - farmland around Lamanai
118. Orchard oriole - farmland around Lamanai
119. Black-cowled oriole

### **Non-bat mammals**

Opossum sp.  
Neotropical river otter  
Central American agouti  
Yucatan squirrel  
Yucatan howler monkey  
Nine-banded armadillo

### **Bats**

1. *Artibeus jamaicensis*
2. *Artibeus lituratus*
3. *Artibeus intermedius*
4. *Artibeus phaeotis*
5. *Desmodus rotundus*
6. *Glossophaga soricina*
7. *Uroderma bilobatum*
8. *Carollia perspicillata*
9. *Vampyressa pusilla*
10. *Sturnira lilium*
11. *Myotis keaysi*
12. *Myotis elegans*
13. *Saccopteryx bilineata*
14. *Mimon crenulatum*
15. *Mimon bennettii*
16. *Rhogeessa anaetus*
17. *Bauerus dubiaquercus*
18. *Pteronotus davyi*
19. *Pteronotus parnellii*

### **Amphibians and reptiles**

Tungara frog  
Striped basilisk