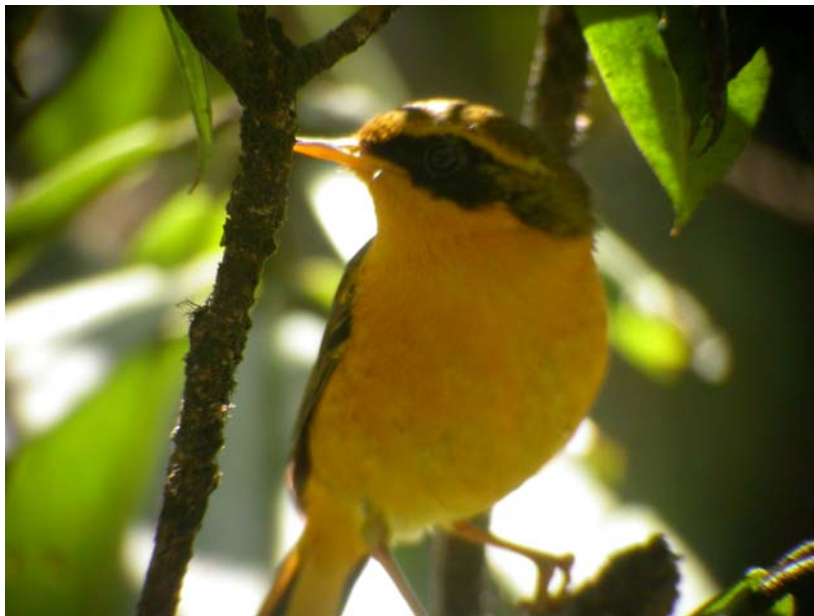


# **Mabian Dafengding & Wawu Shan, Sichuan, China**

**April 30 – May 9, 2004**

**Björn Anderson**



*Golden Bush-Robin at Wawu Shan*

## General

This trip was organized by 3BC (Beijing Bird & Beer Club) in China, with the purpose to see a good selection of south Sichuan specialities. Much of the forest in this part of the world has been logged since long and we therefore selected two nature reserves that still are covered with extensive forests. Most of the birding took place at altitudes between 1600-2800 meters.

The team consisted of five 3BC birders: Brian Elder (Canada and ex-Beijinger), Nick Moran (nowadays ex-Shanghaier), Joakim Hammar (Hong Kong), Jorgen Eriksson (nowadays ex-Beijinger) and myself (Beijing).

As it turned out we saw a number of good birds like seven species of parrotbills including Great, Grey-hooded, Fulvous, Golden, Three-toed, Brown and Grey-headed, 8 species of Cettia & Bradypterus Bush-Warblers, 11 species of Phyllsocopus including Emei Leaf Warbler, Omei Shan Liocichla, Lady Amherst's Pheasant, Temminck's Tragopan, the recently described Sichuan Treecreeper, Gold-fronted Fulvetta and many more.

Travelling in this region could sometimes be extremely tedious, so we chose to visit only two sites and thus trying to minimize the time on the roads. Nevertheless, the conditions of the roads still eat a lot of your expected birding time.

All in all we returned not only with a bag full of good birds, but also some "local experiences" ranging between everything from partying with the local guides at Dafengding, dancing with the staff at Wawu Shan, camping and birding in sleet and snow at Dafengding and some truly fantastic vistas of the snow-covered eastern Tibetan rim.



*The 3BC team at Dafengding: Joakim Hammar, Brian Elder, Jorgen Eriksson, Bjorn Anderson and Nick Moran.*

## **Itinerary**

### 30/4

A long travelling day starting at 7.00 in Beijing. Arrived Chengdu around lunchtime and waited for, a) Jocke to arrive from Hong Kong and b) some of our delayed luggage from Beijing. At 14.30 we set off from the airport for a long, long journey southwards to Mabian in the southern part of Sichuan province. First to Leshan (2 hours), then to Mabian (7 hours) and then finally to Dafengding guesthouse (2.5 hours), where we arrived at 02.30 in the morning!

### 1/5

After a not so long sleep at the guesthouse, i.e. 2 hours, we made an early start and drove up the mountain on a very muddy and narrow mountain road. A handful of trucks blocked the road once, so some negotiating was done in order to move them so that we could get past. Arrived at the reserve gate at 1800 meters altitude after 2 hours driving from the guesthouse and eventually our birding could begin. We walked uphill along the old jeep-trail, which was not negotiable with a car due to boulders, logs and landslides, until 15.00. The porters carried all our equipment and camping gear up to the base-camp at an altitude of about 2200 m. There we had lunch before setting out again. Walked in dense fog up to 2400 in the early evening and returned to the camp when the rain got too heavy. Woke up in the middle of the night by some monstrous thunderstorm and rain. Luckily the tents withstood the water, although at least one tent was placed across the wheel-track, which not surprisingly turned into an interesting flow of water.

### 2/5

We started at dawn by walking from the base camp up to 2500 m to a pass. There we were shown a very narrow trail down through lots of good bamboo, so we birded this trail until mid afternoon when the rain started again. Returned to the camp and had a nice dinner with lots of beer that thankfully had been brought by the porters.

### 3/5

Woke up in very cold weather with snow on the mountain ridges. It was still raining and snowing around the camp, so rather miserable weather for birding to say the least. Most of us were pretty soaked and with the low temperature it was not really pleasant. Walked down a bit, but then decided to close camp and move it to lower altitudes and hope for better weather. Luck was with us and the weather greatly improved and the afternoon became very good. Spent the afternoon birding in the valley near the gate. Set new camp by the gate in the evening and had a nice dinner.

### 4/5

Birded the valley from yesterday until 10.00 and then broke camp and started the long journey to Leshan. Took from 11.00 to 23.30.

### 5/5

Early morning start from Leshan in order to reach Wawu Shan as early as possible. Terrible road conditions made the journey much longer then expected and it was not until midday before we arrived Wawu Shan. After checking in at the hotel we took the cable car to the top of the mountain and birded until early evening.

6/5

Some birding around the hotel before the cable car opened. Then spent the good part of the day on top of the mountain. I descended at about 15.00 (the others stayed until the evening) and birded along a trail that contours clock-wise around the mountain from the hotel. I spent several hours on this trail and saw a good number of birds.

7/5

Dawn departure with the cars downhill from the hotel. Spent the whole morning birding along the road all the way down to the gate, where we had lunch at the Wawu Grand Hotel. The afternoon was spent in the reverse order and we returned to the hotel at about 19.00.

8/5

Birding around the hotel in the early morning and then took the cable car to the top. Spent the whole morning looking for Gould's Shortwing, without any success. Came down in the early afternoon and birded along the hotel trail for the rest of the day.

9/5

Predawn departure from the hotel. Jocke went almost straight to Chengdu to catch a midday flight and the rest of us did some roadside birding around 1600-1700 m altitude. Then a four hours drive (excluding lunchstop) to Chengdu and the flights home to Beijing and Shanghai respectively.

## **Weather**

Much can be said about the weather in Sichuan, but one thing is for sure: expect rain. In Chengdu there is even a saying that the dogs bark at the sun. As we had expected rain at least every day, I believe that we were actually fairly fortunate. At Dafengding it did rain occasionally and even snowed one morning, but in fact it did not affect the birding too much except for that one morning. At Wawu Shan we were treated to exceptionally good weather with clear skies and brilliant visibility all the way to Emei Shan and eastern Tibet.

## **Site descriptions**

### Mabian Dafengding

This is a remote place on earth and it takes almost a full day to get to the area. Near to the mountains, the roads are pretty bad, especially when it rains. There is basically no intact forest at lower altitudes and between 1700 and 2400 m, the forest has been selectively logged to a large extent during the last ten years. We managed to find patches of reasonable intact forest beyond the ridge. Most of the birding was conducted in the selectively logged forest between the gate and the ridge.

### Wawu Shan

This site has recently been visited and described by other birders. It is a plateau mountain with lots of bamboo and tall fir forest on the top. Between 1100 and 2000 m, the slopes are covered with selectively logged forest. Species composition seems to be reasonably similar to Emei Shan.

## Birds

This list refers mostly to my own personal sightings. Species that were not seen by myself have been included with the observers' names. Subspecies have mostly been assigned according to available literature, rather than subspecific field identification.

Great Egret, *Ardea alba modesta*

One between Leshan and Wawushan.

Little Egret, *Egretta garzetta garzetta*

15 at dusk south of Leshan 30/4.

Oriental Honey-buzzard, *Pernis ptilorhynchus* ssp

One at Wawushan.

Crested Serpent-Eagle, *Spilornis cheela ricketti*

One at Dafengding.

Chinese Goshawk, *Accipiter soloensis*

One from the car near Wawushan.

Besra, *Accipiter virgatus affinis*

One male seen two days running in the valley at Dafengding and two together at 1700 m at Wawushan.

Also two unidentified accipiters at Dafengding.

Black Eagle, *Ictinaetus malayensis malayensis*

One seen by Brian when it cruised along the cliff-side on top of Wawushan. Out of range according to the literature.

Chinese Bamboo-Partridge, *Bambusicola thoracica thoracica*

Several pairs heard at Dafengding, mostly at lower altitudes. Two pairs heard at Wawushan.

Temminck's Tragopan, *Tragopan temminckii*

Up to ten heard and one female seen in flight at Dafengding, between 1600 – 2300 m. At Wawushan one female was seen in a tree from the cable car and one female flew in and landed briefly in a tree on the plateau.

Lady Amherst's Pheasant, *Chrysolophus amherstiae*

10-20 heard and one female flushed from an evening roost at Dafengding. One heard from the hotel at Wawushan and two more heard at lower altitudes. Jocke was fortunate to see a male on the roadside when leaving Wawushan in the early morning.

Speckled Wood-Pigeon, *Columba hodgsonii*

Three were scoped and seen well in flight over the forest at 2400 m at Dafengding.

Wedge-tailed Pigeon, *Treron sphenura sphenura*

Three were seen in flight at 1700 m at Wawushan. Probably also one heard calling at the same place.

Large Hawk-Cuckoo, *Cuculus sparverioides sparverioides*

Ten at Dafengding and ten at Wawushan. Mostly heard only.

Hodgson's Hawk-Cuckoo, *Cuculus nasicolor*

One at 1700 m and three at the hotel at Wawushan.

Indian Cuckoo, *Cuculus micropterus micropterus*

One heard between Mabian and Leshan 4/5. One female photographed at 1800 m at Dafengding.

Common Cuckoo, *Cuculus canorus bakeri*

One heard at 2100 m at Dafengding.

Oriental Cuckoo, *Cuculus saturatus saturatus*

10+ at Dafengding every day and ten at Wawushan.

Lesser Cuckoo, *Cuculus poliocephalus*

Two heard in the valley below the hotel at Wawushan 9/5.

Oriental Scops-Owl, *Otus sunia malayanus*

Several around the gate and the valley at Dafengding, day and night. At least three heard from the hotel at Wawushan.

Chinese Tawny Owl, *Strix [aluco] nivicola*

One calling and tape-recorded at the hotel at Wawushan predawn during two mornings and seen briefly by Jocke. The subspecies *nivicola* together with *ma*, have a clearly different morphology and call strikingly different from those in Western Palearctic and therefore most likely represent a different species.

Collared Owlet, *Glaucidium brodiei brodiei*

One heard at Dafengding and one heard from the hotel at Wawushan on most days.

Himalayan Swiftlet, *Aerodramus brevirostris innominatus*  
 About five at 2300 m at Dafengding 2/5 and a few at 1600 m at 4/5. 100+ at Wawushan.

White-throated Needletail, *Hirundapus caudacutus nudipes*  
 Five on top of Wawushan on two days.

Red-headed Trogon, *Harpactes erythrocephalus rosa*  
 One heard at 1400 m at Wawushan.

Grey-capped Woodpecker, *Dendrocopos canicapillus scintilliceps*  
 One at Dafengding at 2000 m.

Darjeeling Woodpecker, *Dendrocopos darjellensis*  
 One female at a nest at 2200 m at Dafengding. Good views of a male at the hotel trail at Wawushan.

Crimson-breasted Woodpecker, *Dendrocopos cathpharius pernyi*  
 One at 1700 m at Wawushan.

White-backed Woodpecker, *Dendrocopos leucotos tangi*  
 One at 2000 m at Dafengding.

Gray-faced Woodpecker, *Picus canus guerini*  
 One at 2000 m at Dafengding and one heard at 1700 m. One heard at Wawushan.

Bank Swallow, *Riparia riparia ssp*  
 One between Leshan and Wawushan.

Eurasian Crag-Martin, *Hirundo rupestris rupestris*  
 Seen near Wawushan by Nick and Jocke.

Barn Swallow, *Hirundo rustica ssp*  
 Several seen in the villages along the road.

Red-rumped Swallow, *Hirundo daurica japonica*  
 Several seen in the villages in the Sichuan basin.

Asian Martin, *Delichon dasypus cashmiriensis*  
 Three at 1800 m at Wawushan.

White Wagtail, *Motacilla alba alboides*  
 One between Leshan and Mabian. Many in the Sichaun basin.

Grey Wagtail, *Motacilla cinerea melanope*  
 Two between Dafengding and Mabian 4/5. Two near Wawushan and a few at lower altitudes at Wawushan.

Olive-backed Pipit, *Anthus hodgsoni hodgsoni*  
 Total of five at 2000-2400 m at Dafengding.

Rosy Pipit, *Anthus roseatus*  
 Total of ten at 1800-2200 m at Dafengding.

Long-tailed Minivet, *Pericrocotus ethologus ethologus*  
 One at 2100 m at Dafengding and two at 2200 m at Dafengding. Fairly common at Wawushan.  
 Several unid *Pericrocotus* were probably mostly this species.

Light-vented Bulbul, *Pycnonotus sinensis hoyi*  
 Common along the roads.

Black Bulbul, *Hypsipetes leucocephalus leucothorax*  
 About five of the white-headed form at 1600 m at Wawushan.

Goldcrest, *Regulus regulus yunnanensis*  
 A few on top of Wawushan.

Brown Dipper, *Cinclus pallasii pallasii*  
 One on the way to Wawushan.

Winter Wren, *Troglodytes troglodytes szeschuanus*  
 One on top of Wawushan.

Rufous-breasted Accentor, *Prunella strophinata strophinata*  
 One by the others on top of Wawushan.

Chestnut-bellied Rock-Thrush, *Monticola rufiventris*  
 One male singing at the gate at Dafengding at 1800 m and one male seen nicely at 1600 m at Wawushan.

Blue Rock-Thrush, *Monticola solitarius philippensis*  
 One male near Wawushan.

Blue Whistling-Thrush, *Myophonus caeruleus caeruleus*  
 Three in the river between Mabian and Leshan 4/5. Five at Wawushan.

Grey-winged Blackbird, *Turdus boulboul*  
 One male scoped nicely at 2000 m at Dafengding.

Eurasian Blackbird, *Turdus merula sowerbyi*  
 Five in the basin on the way to Wawushan.

Lesser Shortwing, *Brachypteryx leucophrys carolinae*  
 One heard at 1800 m at Dafengding.

White-browed Shortwing, *Brachypteryx montana cruralis*  
 One male seen well from the cable car (!) at Wawushan.

Chestnut-headed Tesia, *Tesia castaneocoronata ripleyi*  
 One seen well at the bamboo trail at 2200 m at Dafengding.

Brownish-flanked Bush-Warbler, *Cettia fortipes davidiana*  
 Common at Dafengding 1800-2100 m. A few below Wawushan and common at lower altitudes at Wawushan.

Chestnut-crowned Bush-Warbler, *Cettia major major*  
 Two on top of Wawushan. Also one by Brian at 2500 m at Dafengding.

Aberrent Bush-Warbler, *Cettia flavolivacea dulcivox*  
 Common at Dafengding 2200-2400 and common on top of Wawushan.

Yellowish-bellied Bush-Warbler, *Cettia acanthizoides acanthizoides*  
 Two at Dafengding at 2000-2100 m and five more heard at higher altitudes. One at the cable car at Wawushan and two at the hotel trail at Wawushan.

Gray-sided Bush-Warbler, *Cettia brunnifrons muroides*  
 One on top of Wawushan.

Spotted Bush-Warbler, *Bradypterus thoracicus thoracicus*  
 One heard on top of Wawushan.

Russet Bush-Warbler, *Bradypterus seebohmi idoneus*  
 Ten at 1500-1800 m at Dafengding.

Brown Bush-Warbler, *Bradypterus luteoventris luteoventris*  
 20 at 1800-2100 at Dafengding and three on top of Wawushan.

Buff-throated Warbler, *Phylloscopus subaffinis*  
 Two on top of Wawushan.

Buff-barred Warbler, *Phylloscopus pulcher pulcher*  
 One at Dafengding at the bamboo trail and common on top of Wawushan.

Ashy-throated Warbler, *Phylloscopus maculipennis maculipennis*  
 One at 2000 m at Dafengding.

Sichuan Leaf-Warbler, *Phylloscopus forresti*  
 Five at 2300-2400 m at Dafengding and a few on top of Wawushan.

Yellow-browed Warbler, *Phylloscopus inornatus*  
 One between Leshan and Wawushan. One on top of Wawushan.

Greenish Warbler, *Phylloscopus trochiloides obscuratus*  
 One possible at 2000 m at Dafengding. Common on top of Wawushan.

Large-billed Leaf-Warbler, *Phylloscopus magnirostris*  
 Common at Dafengding 1600-2400 m and common at Wawushan.

Blyth's Leaf-Warbler, *Phylloscopus reguloides reguloides*  
 Common at Dafengding 1800-2300 m and common at Wawushan.

Emei Leaf-Warbler, *Phylloscopus emeiensis*  
 Three in the valley at Dafengding at 1600-1700 m. 5-8 at a narrow altitudinal belt at 1600 m at Wawushan.

White-tailed Leaf-Warbler, *Phylloscopus davisoni disturbans*  
 Two at 2400 m at Dafengding.

Bianchi's Warbler, *Seicercus valentini*  
 Common at Dafengding above 2300 m. No trilling song, slight greenish, not so contrasting head pattern. Common on top of Wawushan.

Grey-crowned and Omei Warbler, *Seicercus tephrocephalus* and *omeiensis*

Due to the difficulties in separating some of the species in this genus, the identification of the following observations is just tentative. I made a few tape recordings, so in the future it may be possible to sort out the situation. We never birded at very low altitudes, i.e. in the range of *S. soror* and none of the birds observed called with the deflected "fiu" described for *soror*. The trick seems to be to sort out *omeiensis* and *tephrocephalus*!

Type I (*S. tephrocephalus*?):

Common between 1600-2200 m at Dafengding. Trilling song, chup call-note, very yellow under, prominent grey bilateral streaks, strong contrast on head.

Type II (*S. omeiensis*?):

Common between 1600-2200 m at Dafengding. Less conspicuous eyering, trrrt call, trilling song. Common at Wawushan at 1800-1900 m and even up to 2500 m.

Type III (*S. tephrocephalus*?):

Common around the hotel 1880 m at Wawushan. Called with both chup and trutut. Seemed rather greenish on the headsides. Trilling song.

Chestnut-crowned Warbler, *Seicercus castaniceps sinensis*

A pair in the valley at Dafengding. Others had a few more. Two at the hotel trail at Wawushan and one at 1700 m at Wawushan.

Asian Brown Flycatcher, *Muscicapa dauurica*

One between Mabian and Leshan.

Ferruginous Flycatcher, *Muscicapa ferruginea*

One at 1700 m at Dafengding. One at 1700 m at Wawushan and two at 1200 m at Wawushan.

Slaty-backed Flycatcher, *Ficedula hodgsonii*

One by Brian at 2500 m at Dafengding.

Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher, *Ficedula strophinata strophinata*

One at 2100 m at Dafengding and one at Dafengding in the valley at 1600 m. Fairly common on top of Wawushan.

Snowy-browed Flycatcher, *Ficedula hyperythra hyperythra*

One male at 2000 m Dafengding.

Slaty-blue Flycatcher, *Ficedula tricolor diversa*

One male at 2200 m Dafengding. One pair at 1700 m at Wawushan and one female from the cable car at Wawushan.

Verditer Flycatcher, *Eumyias thalassina thalassina*

Ten at Dafengding and fairly common at Wawushan.

Fujian Niltava, *Niltava davidi*

Jorgen saw a female in the valley at Dafengding.

Rufous-bellied Niltava, *Niltava sundara denotata*

One pair displaying nicely at 1700 m at Wawushan.

Chinese Blue (Blue-throated) Flycatcher, *Cyornis [rubeculoides] glaucicomans*

One taped in and seen very well at 1400 m at Wawushan.

Gray-headed Canary-flycatcher, *Culicicapa ceylonensis calochrysea*

One at 1800 at Dafengding and several in the valley at Dafengding. One between Dafengding and Mabian. Three at 1700 m at Wawushan.

Indian Blue Robin, *Luscinia brunnea brunnea*

One male showed off at 1600 m at Dafengding. Two more at same place by the others the day after.

Golden Bush-Robin, *Tarsiger chrysaeus chrysaeus*

One by the others at 2400 m at Dafengding. Five on top of Wawushan, some of which gave super views.

Oriental Magpie-Robin, *Copsychus saularis prosthopellus*

One along the road when leaving Wawushan.

White-capped Redstart, *Chaimarrornis leucocephalus*

One between Mabian and Leshan. Four at Wawushan.

Plumbeous Redstart, *Rhyacornis fuliginosus fuliginosus*

Common along the rivers when leaving Dafengding and also several at lower altitudes at Wawushan.

White-bellied Redstart, *Hodgsonius phaenicuroides phaenicuroides*

Total of ten between 1600 –2200 m at Dafengding. Ten at Wawushan.

White-tailed Robin, *Cinclidium leucurum leucurum*

At least one at 1600 m at the valley at Dafengding. One heard from the cable car at Wawushan and one female seen at the hotel trail at Wawushan. Two heard at 1800 m at Wawushan.



[Blue-fronted Robin, *Cinclidium frontale*

At Dafengding around 2100 m, we heard at least 2-3 birds that we thought were identical to this species. At least two of these clearly responded when playing a pre-recorded tape of Blue-fronted Robin, although they refused to show off so could not be fully confirmed. We also heard another 2-4 birds around 2100 m and 3 birds at 2500 m along the bamboo trail that could have been either this species or White-tailed Robin. The species has been previously recorded by others in this area and should be looked for by future visitors.]

Little Forktail, *Enicurus scouleri scouleri*

One flew up in front of the car at 1800 m at Wawushan.

Slaty-backed Forktail, *Enicurus schistaceus*

One seen at 1300 m at Wawushan. One pair seen by the others at 1300 m at Wawushan.

[Purple Cochoa, *Cochoa purpurea*

One possible heard at 1600 m at Wawushan.]

White-throated Laughingthrush, *Garrulax albogularis eous*

Brian had four in the valley at Dafengding.

Spotted Laughingthrush, *Garrulax ocellatus artemisiae*

One at 2200 m at Dafengding. One at 2000 m at Wawushan and two at the hotel trail at Wawushan.

Barred Laughingthrush, *Garrulax lunulatus*

One heard by Jocke at Dafengding.

Giant Laughingthrush, *Garrulax maximus*

One heard near Wawushan.

Rusty Laughingthrush, *Garrulax poecilorhynchus ricinus*

Two separate at the hotel trail at Wawushan. Three at 1700 m at Wawushan.

Elliot's Laughingthrush, *Garrulax elliotii elliotii*

Brian had two at Dafengding. Fairly common on top of Wawushan and a few seen lower down.

Black-faced Laughingthrush, *Garrulax affinis*

Four seen by the others on top of Wawushan.

Red-winged Laughingthrush, *Garrulax formosus*

Two around the lower cable car station at Wawushan on both days. Also one seen at the hotel trail at Wawushan. Several heard around the hotel at Wawushan.

Omei Shan (Grey-faced) Liocichla, *Liocichla omeiensis*

One seen from the cable car at 2000 m at Wawushan. Three around the hotel at Wawushan and two at the hotel trail at Wawushan. About ten more were heard and seen between 1800 and 1600 m at Wawushan.

Streak-breasted Scimitar-Babbler, *Pomatorhinus ruficollis eidos*

Three heard at lower altitudes at Dafengding.

Scaly-breasted Wren-Babbler, *Pnoepyga albiventer albiventer*

At least one heard at 2100 m at Dafengding.

Bar-winged Wren-Babbler, *Spelaeornis troglodytoides troglodytoides*

One seen well at 2100 m at Dafengding.

Rufous-capped Babbler, *Stachyris ruficeps davidi*

Common below 2000 m at Dafengding. Common in the Sichuan basin. Fairly common at Wawushan.

Chinese Babax, *Babax lanceolatus lanceolatus*

Three at Dafengding and three at 1600 m at Wawushan.

Silver-eared Mesia, *Leiothrix argenteauris ssp*

Jocke saw one in the valley at Dafengding at 1600 m.

Red-billed Leiothrix, *Leiothrix lutea lutea*

A few heard and seen in the valley at Dafengding. Fairly common at Wawushan.

White-browed Shrike-Babbler, *Pteruthius flaviscapis ricketti*

One female on top of Wawushan and two heard at the hotel trail.

Blue-winged Minla, *Minla cyanouroptera wingatei*

Total of ten at Dafengding between 1600-2000 m. One at the hotel trail at Wawushan.

Red-tailed Minla, *Minla ignotincta jerdoni*

One pair at 2000 m at Dafengding. Total of ten between 1600-2000 m at Dafengding.

Golden-breasted Fulvetta, *Alcippe chrysotis swinhoii*

Total of five in the valley and two at the bamboo trail. Two at the hotel trail at Wawushan and two at 1700 m at Wawushan.

Gold-fronted Fulvetta, *Alcippe variegaticeps*

One or possibly even two at 1600 m at Dafengding 3/5. First found by Jocke and then briefly seen by some of us.

Streak-throated Fulvetta, *Alcippe cinereiceps cinereiceps*

Four at Dafengding at 2100 m and common on top of Wawushan.

Black-headed Sibia, *Heterophasia desgodinsi*

One seen singing at 1600 m at Wawushan on the last morning.

Stripe-throated Yuhina, *Yuhina gularis omiensis*

Five at the bamboo trail at Dafengding and three at the hotel trail at Wawushan.

White-collared Yuhina, *Yuhina diademata*

Common at Dafengding 1800-2200 m. Fairly common on top of Wawushan and at the hotel trail at Wawushan.

Great Parrotbill, *Conostoma oemodium*

Two at 2300 m and 2-3 at 2400 m at Dafengding.

Brown Parrotbill, *Paradoxornis unicolor*

Two at 2500m at the start of the bamboo trail at Dafengding. One heard (and seen by the others) near the nest on top of Wawushan.

Gray-headed Parrotbill, *Paradoxornis gularis fokiensis*

One pair at the hotel trail at Wawushan on two occasions.

Three-toed Parrotbill, *Paradoxornis paradoxus paradoxus*

Two at the bamboo trail at Dafengding at 2450 m.

Gray-hooded Parrotbill, *Paradoxornis zappeyi*

One on top of Wawushan and at least five in two flocks the day after. A fantastic little bird with lots of charisma.

Fulvous Parrotbill, *Paradoxornis fulvifrons cyanophrys*

Three on top of Wawushan. Two plus two there the day after. Good looks at this often very difficult parrotbill.

Golden Parrotbill, *Paradoxornis verreauxi verreauxi*

One at 2000 m at Dafengding 1/5. Also one at 1700 m by the others.

Black-throated Tit, *Aegithalos concinnus concinnus*

A family party between Dafengding and Mabian.

Coal Tit, *Periparus ater aemodius*

Fairly common on top of Wawushan.

Rufous-vented Tit, *Periparus rubidiventris beavani*

One on top of Wawushan.

Yellow-bellied Tit, *Pardaliparus venustulus*

One seen by Nick at 1700 m at Wawushan.

Gray-crested Tit, *Lophophanes dichrous wellsii*

One on top of Wawushan.

Great Tit, *Parus major minor*

One along the road when leaving Wawushan.

Green-backed Tit, *Parus monticolus yunnanensis*

Fairly common at Dafengding 1800-2200 m and common at Wawushan.

Yellow-browed Tit, *Sylviparus modestus modestus*

About ten at Dafengding and two at 1700 m at Wawushan.



*Yellow-browed Tit at Wawu Shan*

Chestnut-vented Nuthatch, *Sitta nagaensis nagaensis*  
One performed well at 1700 m at Wawushan.



*Chestnut-vented Nuthatch*

Eurasian Treecreeper, *Certhia familiaris khamensis*

One heard and two seen on top of Wawushan. Once seen fighting with a Sichuan Treecreeper making some really good comparisons of these not-at-all similar treecreepers.

Sichuan Treecreeper, *Certhia tianchuanensis*

Up to ten heard daily on top of Wawushan. Several seen very well and also tape-recorded. A recently described species with a range from Wawu Shan north to southern Shaanxi. I have previously recorded this species at Wolong in the winter. The song is a thin, but loud, descending trill lasting for 1-2 sec, with no resemblance of Eurasian Treecreeper. The only other vaguely similar call on top of this mountain is the Buff-barred Warbler, but there is absolutely no risk of confusion. The key field characters are the long plain brown tail, the very short bill and the brownish-grey underparts becoming off-white on the throat.

Fire-capped Tit, *Cephalopyrus flammiceps olivaceus*

Three separate sightings of pairs of this lovely little creature at Dafengding at 1800-2000 m.

Gould's Sunbird, *Aethopyga gouldiae dabryi*

Fairly common at Dafengding and common at Wawushan.

Chestnut-flanked White-eye, *Zosterops erythropleurus*

Two at 2000 m at Dafengding and two near the hotel at Wawushan.

Japanese White-eye, *Zosterops japonicus simplex*

At least one identified at 1400 m at Wawushan. Several unidentified *Zosterops* were probably this species.

Long-tailed Shrike, *Lanius schach schach*

One at Dafengding and common in basin.

Hair-crested Drongo, *Dicrurus hottentottus brevirostris*

One at Wawushan.

Eurasian Jay, *Garrulus glandarius sinensis*

One at 1800 m at Dafengding and three at 1700 m at Wawushan.

Blue Magpie, *Urocissa erythrorhyncha erythrorhyncha*

One by Jocke at Dafengding. One at 1300 m at Wawushan. One at the hotel trail at Wawushan and 10 at lower altitudes at Wawushan.

Eurasian Magpie, *Pica pica sericea*

One seen by Jocke when leaving Dafengding.

Eurasian Nutcracker, *Nucifraga caryocatactes macella*

Two at Dafengding and one at Wawushan.

Large-billed Crow, *Corvus macrorhynchos tibetosinensis*

Two at Dafengding and one at Wawushan.

Eurasian Tree Sparrow, *Passer montanus obscuratus*

Common in the Sichuan basin villages.

White-rumped Munia, *Lonchura striata swinhoi*

Two between Leshan and Wawushan.

Plain Mountain-Finch, *Leucosticte nemoricola nemoricola*

Two at 2500 m at Dafengding.

Dark-breasted Rosefinch, *Carpodacus nipalensis intencicolor*  
Three males and one female between 2000-2200 m at Dafengding. One pair at 1800 m at Wawushan.

Common Rosefinch, *Carpodacus erythrinus roseatus*  
One at the hotel at Wawushan.

Vinaceous Rosefinch, *Carpodacus vinaceus vinaceus*  
15-20 at Dafengding.

Dark-rumped Rosefinch, *Carpodacus edwardsii rubicunda*  
One female at 2200 m at Dafengding.

Oriental Greenfinch, *Carduelis sinica sinica*  
One between Leshan and Wawushan and one along the road when leaving Wawushan.

Gray-headed Bullfinch, *Pyrrhula erythaca erythaca*  
Two at the bamboo trail at Dafengding. Three on top of Wawushan.

Yellow-billed Grosbeak, *Eophona migratoria sowerbyi*  
Two between Leshan and Wawushan.

Collared Grosbeak, *Mycerobas affinis*  
One female seen on top of Wawushan. Three, with at least one adult male, in flight over the hotel at Wawushan.

Yellow-throated Bunting, *Emberiza elegans elegantula*  
One male at 2000 m and one male at 1600 m at Dafengding.