

Western Yunnan, China

12-22 November 2004



Stig-Uno Svensson, Brian Elder and Jesper Hornskov in Gaoligongshan

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General

Western Yunnan is a part of China that surprisingly seldom is visited by birders. Yet, it yields a large number of difficult to see species and shares the avifauna with Myanmar (Burma) and the easternmost Himalayas. Under the experienced leadership of Jesper Hornskov, we were three birders who enjoyed a wealth of unusual babblers and other gems in this tucked away corner of the world. Myself and Stig-Uno Svensson only had the time to stay for the first 1.5 weeks, but Brian Elder and Jesper carried on for another few days. This is a brief report of the first part of the trip, which was highly successful.

The highlights may be too many to mention, but there are a few things that sticks out like Slender-billed Scimitar-Babbler, Coral-billed Scimitar-Babbler, Rusty-fronted Barwing, Black-headed Shrike-Babbler, Nepal Fulvetta, 12 species of laughingthrushes, Black-browed Parrotbill, Black-backed Forktail, Nepal Martin, Sapphire Flycatcher, White-tailed Nuthatch, Gold-billed Magpie, Collared Treepie, Collared Myna, Vinous-breasted Starling and many many more.

Itinerary

12/11

Arrived Dehong at 20.00 and boarded the two micro-buses for a drive north to Gaoligongshan range, where we checked in at a surprisingly comfortable hotel.

13/11

Left the hotel at 7.00 and drove 2 km up the jeep-trail to the first land-slide and from there we walked uphill through mostly steep primary forest. Spent all day in the forest and came back to the cars by 19.00. Excellent day with several species of Laughingthrushes and other babblers.

14/11

Left the hotel at 6.00 and walked the same trail as yesterday in the dark for about an hour in order to get to a new habitat for the morning hours. Spent the whole day at the upper parts of the trail and only came back down at 19.30, well after dusk.

15/11

Birded the waterfall trail between 7.00 and 12.00 before returning for quick lunch and some brief birding at the hotel yard. Then drove south to another area in the Gaoligongshan range. Birded along a ridge trail between 16.00-19.00 and then drove down on the west side of the range to a simple hotel.

16/11

Left the hotel at 6.30 and drove back up the same mountain as yesterday. Walked the ridge trail until mid afternoon. Altitudes between 2300-2500 m. In the afternoon we drove via Tenchong to Yingjiang where we arrived around 22.00.

17/11

Left the hotel in Yingjiang at 6.30 and had a long drive to the birding in the Nabang area, which we arrived somewhat after 9.00. Birded at the upper end of the mountain for a couple of hours before descending to about 1300 m for most of the day until mid afternoon. Had noodle lunch at "Bamboo Bar" around 15.00. The afternoon was spent at an excellent small river and the last hour before dusk at some ricefields with a small pond near Nabang. Night at a good hotel in the border town of Nabang.



Vinous-breasted Starlings and Collared Myna, two very rare species in China

18/11

Left the hotel at 5.45 and drove for one hour to the forest near Nabang, where we walked along the road for 40 minutes in the dark without hearing any nightbirds. Spent the whole day along the road through the forest, but very slow moving and few flocks. Back at the hotel in Nabang in the evening.

19/11

Left the hotel at Nabang at 6.30 and arrived at the same forest as yesterday by 7.30. Birded in the bamboo forest until about noon. Then long drive via Yingjiang to Husa with one quick stop at a small wetland and also did some “sniping” at some ricefields near Husa in the evening.

20/11

Left the hotel at 6.15 and arrived at the pass at Husa ridge at 6.45. Birded the whole day along the ridge trail.

21/11

Left the hotel at 6.30 and drove up the same mountain ridge as yesterday, but this time continued to the south side in order to find lower elevation forest. Walked in on a dirt road through hacked forest and small plantations. Altitude was about 1300-1400 m. Back to the cars by noon and drove south to Ruili for lunch and then an hour birding at the reservoir north of town. At 17.15 we split up and SUS and I went to Dehong airport and Jesper and Brian stayed around Ruili for some more days of birding. Arrived the airport just in time at 19.30 after half an hour delay due to a road accident. Stayed at the airport hotel in Kunming next to the airport.

22/11

First morning flight from Kunming to Beijing.

Weather

All the time it was brilliant weather with sunny clear days, either with no or little wind. In the mornings a jacket was appreciated and sometimes even gloves at higher altitudes.

Logistics

The trip was organized by Jesper Hornskov, who had visited the sites either several times before or only once on exploratory visits less than a year ago. Jesper can be contacted at: goodbird@vip.sina.com.



View from Gaoligongshan towards Burma with morning mist in the valleys

Site descriptions

Gaoligongshan

We visited a couple of areas in the Gaoligongshan mountain range. Altitudes varied from 1600-2400 m. Mostly excellent undisturbed forests, especially at higher altitudes.

Nabang

A mountain range close to the border with Burma. Slightly lower elevation than Gaoligongshan. The border town of Nabang is only at about 300 m altitude and has some interesting birds in the nearby countryside. The forest where we birded was at about 1300-1500 m.

Husa ridge

A mountain range north of Ruili where we birded along a ridge at 1700-2000 m, as well as in secondary valley forest at about 1300-1400 m.

Ruili reservoir

A large water catchment north of town with secondary scrub along the edges.

Birds

Unless explicitly mentioned, these are all my personal sightings. Others in the group obviously recorded more individuals and also a few more species, most of which are mentioned below. The subspecies are mostly assigned based on literature, rather than actual field characters.

Great Crested Grebe, *Podiceps cristatus cristatus*

Two at Ruili reservoir.

Great Cormorant, *Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis*

About five in Salween river. Six plus five near Nabang. 20+ at Ruili reservoir.

Little Cormorant, *Phalacrocorax niger*

One at Ruili reservoir.

Little Egret, *Egretta garzetta garzetta*

Three between Yingjiang and Husa.

Chinese Pond-Heron, *Ardeola bacchus*

One at Ruili reservoir.

Cattle Egret, *Bubulcus ibis coromandus*

Several near Husa.

Striated Heron, *Butorides striatus actophilus*

One between Yingjiang and Husa.

Eurasian Wigeon, *Anas penelope*

One between Yingjiang and Husa.

Eurasian Teal, *Anas crecca crecca*

50+ at Ruili reservoir.

Spot-billed Duck, *Anas poecilorhyncha haringtoni*

One landed briefly at the pond near Nabang. One between Yingjiang and Husa. Note that this is not the subspecies/species normally encountered in the rest of China.



Spot-billed Duck

- Ferruginous Pochard, *Aythya nyroca*
Eight at Ruili reservoir.
- Oriental Honey-buzzard, *Pernis ptilorhynchus ruficollis*
Three in the Nabang area. Four at the valley trail below Husa ridge.
- Black-shouldered Kite, *Elanus caeruleus vociferus*
Three seen by the others near Yingjiang. One north of Ruili.
- Himalayan Griffon, *Gyps himalayensis*
One immature in the Nabang area. One unidentified vulture at Husa ridge.
- Crested Goshawk, *Accipiter trivirgatus indicus*
Two in display-flight at Gaoligongshan. Two in the Nabang area. One at the valley trail below Husa ridge.
- Shikra, *Accipiter badius poliopsis*
Two in the Nabang area.
- Besra, *Accipiter virgatus affinis*
One at Gaoligongshan.
- Eurasian Buzzard, *Buteo buteo refectus*
Three at Gaoligongshan. One between Yingjiang and Nabang. One near Yingjiang. One east of Ruili.
- Black Eagle, *Ictinaetus malayensis malayensis*
One pair displaying and another cruising the ridges at Gaoligongshan. One pair in the Nabang area. Two at Husa ridge. One at the valley trail below Husa ridge. Many crippling views.
- Steppe Eagle, *Aquila nipalensis nipalensis*
One probably 2nd year bird migrating south over Gaoligongshan.
- Bonelli's Eagle, *Aquila fasciatus fasciatus*
Two soaring above Gaoligongshan.
- Mountain Hawk-Eagle, *Spizaetus nipalensis nipalensis*
One immature at Gaoligongshan.
- Eurasian Kestrel, *Falco tinnunculus interstinctus*
About five between Yingjiang and Husa.
- Hill Partridge, *Arborophila torqueola batemani*
10-20 heard at Gaoligongshan, mostly in the morning and evening. Also a couple of birds flushed and one seen on the ground. Three heard at Husa ridge.
- Mountain Bamboo-Partridge, *Bambusicola fytchii fytchii*
Two groups heard and one of them flushed at Gaoligongshan. One at the valley trail below Husa ridge.
- [Silver Pheasant, *Lophura nycthemera* ssp]
One male and probably a female seen by Brian at Gaoligongshan. Two heard at Gaoligongshan could have been this species and a small group was seen by the others at the very same spot the day after.
- White-breasted Waterhen, *Amaurornis phoenicurus phoenicurus*
One or two at the pond near Nabang. One at Ruili reservoir.
- [Ruddy-breasted Crane, *Porzana fusca erythrothorax*]
One small crane at the pond near Nabang was possibly this species.
- Common Moorhen, *Gallinula chloropus chloropus*
Three at the pond near Nabang.
- Greater Painted-snipe, *Rostratula benghalensis benghalensis*
5-7 at the rice-fields near Husa. Flushed at much closer range than the gallinagos.
- Gray-headed Lapwing, *Vanellus cinereus*
Three between Yingjiang and five at the rice-fields near Husa.

Solitary Snipe, *Gallinago solitaria solitaria*
One flushed twice at the rice-fields near Husa. Id based on virtually absent white wing-lining, dark-banded underwings and darker brownish breast as well as being a heavier bird than Common Snipe.

Common Snipe, *Gallinago gallinago gallinago*
About five at the rice-fields near Husa.

Green Sandpiper, *Tringa ochropus*
One at the rice-fields near Husa.

Common Sandpiper, *Actitis hypoleucos*
Two at the rice-fields near Husa. One at Ruili reservoir.

[Speckled Wood-Pigeon, *Columba hodgsonii*]
Two possible disappearing over a ridge at the top of the trail at Gaoligongshan.

Oriental Turtle-Dove, *Streptopelia orientalis agricola*
One between Yingjiang and Nabang

Spotted Dove, *Streptopelia chinensis chinensis*
Three at the river near Nabang. One near Yingjiang. Two at Ruili reservoir.

Barred Cuckoo-Dove, *Macropygia unchall tusalia*
One seen by Jesper at Gaoligongshan. One in the Nabang area. Eight at Husa ridge.

Emerald Dove, *Chalcophaps indica indica*
One in the Nabang area.

Pin-tailed Pigeon, *Treron apicauda apicauda*
One perched in a tree in the Nabang area.

[Wedge-tailed Pigeon, *Treron sphenura*]
Four probably this species at Husa ridge, although the rare White-bellied Pigeon cannot be excluded.

Mountain Imperial-Pigeon, *Ducula badia griseicapilla*
5-10 at the river near Nabang. One heard at Husa ridge

[Parakeet sp, *Psittacula* sp]
Five unidentified in a flock in the Nabang area.

Large Hawk-Cuckoo, *Cuculus sparveroides sparveroides*
One heard at Husa ridge.

Green-billed Malkoha, *Phaenicophaeus tristis saliens*
One in the Nabang area.

Mountain Scops-Owl, *Otus spilocephalus latouchi*
Three heard at Gaoligongshan.

Collared Scops-Owl, *Otus lettia lettia*
Four heard at Gaoligongshan and also seen briefly flying over.

Chinese Tawny Owl, *Strix nivicola*
One heard at Gaoligongshan.

Collared Owlet, *Glaucidium brodiei brodiei*
Three heard at Gaoligongshan. Two heard at Husa ridge.

[Hodgson's Frogmouth, *Batrachostomus hodgsoni*]
One probable just before dusk in the Nabang area. Large body/head, short wings, long tail.

[Grey/Large-tailed Nightjar, *Caprimulgus indicus/macrurus*]
One at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Himalayan Swiftlet, *Aerodramus brevirostris innominatus*
Six at Gaoligongshan.

Asian Palm-Swift, *Cypsiurus balasienis infumatus*
5+ at the river near Nabang. Two at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

House Swift, *Apus nipalensis nipalensis*
Two at Gaoligongshan.

Red-headed Trogon, *Harpactes erythrocephalus helenae*
One male in the Nabang area.

Common Kingfisher, *Alcedo atthis bengalensis*
One at the pond near Nabang. One at the marsh between Yingjiang and Husa. One at the rice-fields near Husa. One at Ruili reservoir.

White-throated Kingfisher, *Halcyon smyrnensis fokiensis*
One near the pond near Nabang. One at the rice-fields near Husa.

Crested Kingfisher, *Megaceryle lugubris guttulata*
One at the river near Nabang.

Pied Kingfisher, *Ceryle rudis leucomelanura*
Three at Ruili reservoir.

Blue-bearded Bee-eater, *Nyctyornis athertoni athertoni*

3-4 in the Nabang area. One at the valley trail below Husa ridge. Several mega-views.



Blue-bearded Bee-eater

Eurasian Hoopoe, *Upupa epops saturata*

One at the river near Nabang.

Great Hornbill, *Buceros bicornis*

One heard in the Nabang area and seen (two birds) by the others. Heard and glimpsed by SUS the day after at the same spot. One unidentified hornbill heard at Husa ridge was probably this species.

Good indicator species proving the presence of good forests, a rare thing in China nowadays

Great Barbet, *Megalaima virens virens*

Several heard and one seen at Gaoligongshan. Four in the Nabang area. 5+ at Husa ridge. One at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Golden-throated Barbet, *Megalaima franklinii franklinii*

About five at Gaoligongshan. 5+ at Husa ridge.

Blue-throated Barbet, *Megalaima asiatica davisoni*

One seen and one heard at Gaoligongshan. About five in the Nabang area. One at Husa ridge.

Speckled Piculet, *Picumnus innominatus malayorum*

Three in the Nabang area. One at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Gray-capped Woodpecker, *Dendrocopos canicapillus kaleensis*

One or two in the Nabang area.

Stripe-breasted Woodpecker, *Dendrocopos atratus*

One in the Nabang area. One at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Darjeeling Woodpecker, *Dendrocopos darjellensis*

One pair at Gaoligongshan.

Crimson-breasted Woodpecker, *Dendrocopos cathpharius tenebrosus*

One heard and seen by the others at Gaoligongshan.

Lesser Yellownape, *Picus chlorolophus chlorolophus*

One in the Nabang area.

Bay Woodpecker, *Blythipicus pyrrhotis pyrrhotis*

At least five at Gaoligongshan. Two heard in the Nabang area. One heard at Husa ridge.

Long-tailed Broadbill, *Psarisomus dalhousiae dalhousiae*

One heard, and seen by Jesper, in the Nabang area.

Plain Martin, *Riparia paludicola chinensis*

20+ at the Salween river. 15+ at the marsh between Yingjiang and Husa.

Eurasian Crag-Martin, *Hirundo rupestris rupestris*

Four at Gaoligongshan.

Barn Swallow, *Hirundo rustica ssp*

10-20 at Gaoligongshan. A few in the Nabang area. Five at Husa ridge. 20+ at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Red-rumped Swallow, *Hirundo daurica nipalensis*

About five at the hotel at Gaoligongshan.

Striated Swallow, *Hirundo striolata stanfordi*

About five at the river near Nabang. 10+ at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Asian Martin, *Delichon dasypus cashmirensis*

About 20 at Gaoligongshan. Eight in the Nabang area. 50+ at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Nepal Martin, *Delichon nipalensis cuttingi*
 About 15 at Gaoligongshan. A surprise find this far south. Id based on “black-dipped” heads and tails, seen in direct comparison with Asian Martins.

White Wagtail, *Motacilla alba alboides*
 One along the Salween river. Several seen between Yingjiang and Nabang. Five in the Nabang area.

[Citrine Wagtail, *Motacilla citreola* ssp]
 One seen by Jesper at the marsh between Yingjiang and Husa.

Gray Wagtail, *Motacilla cinerea melanope*
 Three in the Nabang area. One at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Olive-backed Pipit, *Anthus hodgsoni* ssp
 One heard at Gaoligongshan. Three between Yingjiang and Nabang. Two in the Nabang area. One at the lunch-stop en route near Yingjiang. About five at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Red-throated Pipit, *Anthus cervinus*
 One at the marsh between Yingjiang and Husa.

Rosy Pipit, *Anthus roseatus*
 A few at the rice-fields near Husa.

Large Cuckoo-shrike, *Coracina macei siamensis*
 Four in the Nabang area.

Black-winged Cuckoo-shrike, *Coracina melaschistos avensis*
 Three in the Nabang area.

Long-tailed Minivet, *Pericrocotus ethologus* ssp
 One heard at Gaoligongshan.

Short-billed Minivet, *Pericrocotus brevirostris affinis*
 Four in the Nabang area.

Scarlet Minivet, *Pericrocotus flammeus elegans*
 Five in the Nabang area.

Gray-chinned Minivet, *Pericrocotus solaris montpellierii*
 Seven at Gaoligongshan.

Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike, *Hemipus picatus capitalis*
 About 20 at Gaoligongshan. Two plus five in the Nabang area. Five at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Crested Finchbill, *Spizixos canifrons ingrami*
 One seen by Jesper in the Nabang area. One at Husa ridge.

Striated Bulbul, *Pycnonotus striatus striatus*
 About five in the Nabang area.

Black-crested Bulbul, *Pycnonotus melanicterus flaviventris*
 10+ in the Nabang area. Five at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Brown-breasted Bulbul, *Pycnonotus xanthorrhous xanthorrhous*
 A few between Dahaoping and Tenchong. One at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Red-vented Bulbul, *Pycnonotus cafer stanfordi*
 Five along the Salween river. 100+ moving south in the Nabang area. 20+ at the valley trail below Husa ridge. Common around Ruili.

Flavescent Bulbul, *Pycnonotus flavescens vividus*
 20+ in the Nabang area. Two at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

White-throated Bulbul, *Alophoixus flaveolus burmanicus*
 5+ in the Nabang area.

Gray-eyed Bulbul, *Iole propinqua propinqua*
 About five in the Nabang area.

Ashy Bulbul, *Hemixos flavala flavala*
 One in the Nabang area. Two at Husa ridge. One at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Mountain Bulbul, *Ixos mcclllandii similis*
 10-15 at Gaoligongshan. Three in the Nabang area. 15 at Husa ridge. Two at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Black Bulbul, *Hypsipetes leucocephalus* ssp TBC
 Fairly common at Gaoligongshan. A few in the Nabang area. 100+ at Husa ridge. 20 at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Orange-bellied Leafbird, *Chloropsis hardwickii hardwickii*
 Three in the Nabang area. One heard at Husa ridge. Two at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Brown Dipper, *Cinclus pallasii dorjei*
 One at the river near Nabang.

Winter Wren, *Troglodytes troglodytes talifuensis*
One heard at Gaoligongshan.

Maroon-backed Accentor, *Prunella immaculata*
10+ at Gaoligongshan.

Chestnut-bellied Rock-Thrush, *Monticola rufiventris*
One female in the Nabang area. Two males at Husa ridge. One at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Blue Rock-Thrush, *Monticola solitarius pandoo*
One female near the Salween river. One female at the river near Nabang. One male at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Blue Whistling-Thrush, *Myophonus caeruleus eugenei*
Two heard at Gaoligongshan. Two at the river near Nabang. Two in the Nabang area. One en route to Husa. One at Husa ridge.

Plain-backed Thrush, *Zoothera mollissima*
One seen at Gaoligongshan. Id based on complete lack of wingbars and thin scales on rear underparts.

Long-tailed Thrush, *Zoothera dixonii*
Nine at Gaoligongshan. Two at Husa ridge.

Scaly Thrush, *Zoothera dauma* ssp
One at Gaoligongshan.

Black-breasted Thrush, *Turdus dissimilis*
About ten at Gaoligongshan. Two between Yingjiang and Nabang.

Eyebrowed Thrush, *Turdus obscurus*
Two flocks of nine and four going south along the side of the ridge at Gaoligongshan. Two in the Nabang area. 250-300 at Husa ridge.

[Lesser Shortwing, *Brachypteryx leucophrys*]
One heard by Jesper at Gaoligongshan.

Hill Prinia, *Prinia atrogularis superciliaris*
One at Gaoligongshan. One in the Nabang area. One at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Gray-breasted Prinia, *Prinia hodgsonii confusa*
Two at Ruili reservoir.

Chestnut-headed Tesia, *Tesia castaneocoronata ripleyi*
One seen by Brian at Gaoligongshan and one heard at the same place the day after. One seen very well in the Nabang area. Three at Husa ridge.

Slaty-bellied Tesia, *Tesia olivacea*
About five at Gaoligongshan. Two at Husa ridge.

Gray-bellied Tesia, *Tesia cyaniventer*
One heard and seen and another heard in the Nabang area. Two at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Brownish-flanked Bush-Warbler, *Cettia fortipes fortipes*
One heard calling at Husa ridge.

Yellowish-bellied Bush-Warbler, *Cettia acanthizoides acanthizoides*
One at Gaoligongshan.

Mountain Tailorbird, *Orthotomus cuculatus coronatus*
Two at Gaoligongshan. Four in the Nabang area. One at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Common Tailorbird, *Orthotomus sutorius* ssp
One in the Nabang area.

Buff-throated Warbler, *Phylloscopus subaffinis*
One at the lunch-stop between Nabang and Yingjiang.

Yellow-streaked Warbler, *Phylloscopus armandii* ssp
One at Ruili reservoir.

Buff-barred Warbler, *Phylloscopus pulcher pulcher*
30+ at Gaoligongshan. Ten at Husa ridge. Three at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Ashy-throated Warbler, *Phylloscopus maculipennis maculipennis*
30+ at Gaoligongshan.

Sichuan Leaf-Warbler, *Phylloscopus forresti*
Fairly common at Gaoligongshan. Several in the Nabang area. Five at Husa ridge. One at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Pallas's Leaf-Warbler, *Phylloscopus proregulus proregulus*
About ten at Gaoligongshan. A few in the Nabang area.

Chinese Leaf-Warbler, *Phylloscopus sichuanensis*
Two at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Yellow-browed Warbler, *Phylloscopus inornatus*
 15+ in the Nabang area. Ten at the valley trail below Husa ridge. Several heard en route around Husa and Ruili.

Greenish Warbler, *Phylloscopus trochiloides* ssp
 One heard at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

White-tailed Leaf-Warbler, *Phylloscopus davisoni davisoni*
 Two at Gaoligongshan. Common in the Nabang area. Ten at Husa ridge.

Gray-crowned Warbler, *Seicercus tephrocephalus*
 One heard calling at Ruili reservoir.

Bianchi's Warbler, *Seicercus valentini*
 About five at Gaoligongshan. One in the Nabang area.

Gray-cheeked Warbler, *Seicercus poliogenys*
 Two at Gaoligongshan. Two at Husa ridge at 1850 m.

Chestnut-crowned Warbler, *Seicercus castaniceps* ssp
 About ten at Gaoligongshan.

Rufous-faced Warbler, *Abroscopus albogularis albogularis*
 One in the Nabang area.

Broad-billed Warbler, *Tickellia hodgsoni* ssp
 One seen nicely in bamboo at the top of the trail at Gaoligongshan.

Yellow-bellied Warbler, *Abroscopus superciliaris superciliaris*
 Two in the Nabang area. Two at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Black-faced Warbler, *Abroscopus schisticeps ripponi*
 About 50 at Gaoligongshan. A stunningly beautiful warbler.

Striated Grassbird, *Megalurus palustris tokiao*
 Three at the river near Nabang and two at the pond near Nabang.

Slaty-backed Flycatcher, *Ficedula hodgsonii*
 One pair at Gaoligongshan. Five at Husa ridge.

Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher, *Ficedula strophinata strophinata*
 Eight at Gaoligongshan. Two in the Nabang area. Five at Husa ridge.

Snowy-browed Flycatcher, *Ficedula hyperythra hyperythra*
 One in the Nabang area.

Sapphire Flycatcher, *Ficedula sapphira sapphira*
 One heard calling at dawn at Gaoligongshan. Three females and immature (?) male in the Nabang area.

Verditer Flycatcher, *Eumyias thalassina thalassina*
 Two in the Nabang area.

Large Niltava, *Niltava grandis grandis*
 About ten heard singing at Gaoligongshan. Three in the Nabang area. Five at Husa ridge. Two at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Small Niltava, *Niltava macgrigoriae*
 One male and one female in the Nabang area.

Rufous-bellied Niltava, *Niltava sundara denotata*
 One at Gaoligongshan. One at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

[Pygmy Blue-Flycatcher, *Muscicapella hodgsoni*]
 One possible female in the Nabang area.

Gray-headed Canary-flycatcher, *Culicicapa ceylonensis calochrysea*
 Three at Gaoligongshan. Two in the Nabang area.

Siberian Rubythroat, *Luscinia calliope*
 One at the river near Nabang. One at Ruili reservoir.

Red-flanked Bluetail, *Tarsiger cyanurus rufilatus*
 10-15 at Gaoligongshan. One male in the Nabang area. Two at Husa ridge.

Golden Bush-Robin, *Tarsiger chrysaeus chrysaeus*
 Three skulking at Husa ridge.

Oriental Magpie-Robin, *Copsychus saularis erimelas*
 One at Ruili reservoir.

Daurian Redstart, *Phoenicurus aureus leucopterus*
 One heard at Gaoligongshan. One near the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Blue-fronted Redstart, *Phoenicurus frontalis*
 10-15 at Gaoligongshan.

White-capped Redstart, *Chaimarrornis leucocephalus*
 One between Dahaoping and Tenchong. One in the Nabang area. One at the river near Nabang.

Plumbeous Redstart, *Rhyacornis fuliginosus fuliginosus*
 One seen by Jesper at Gaoligongshan. One seen by SUS in the Salween river. Two at the river near Nabang.

Little Forktail, *Enicurus scouleri scouleri*
 One at Gaoligongshan. One at the river near Nabang.

Slaty-backed Forktail, *Enicurus schistaceus*
 Two in the Nabang area.

Black-backed Forktail, *Enicurus immaculatus*
 Good views of one at the river near Nabang.

White-crowned Forktail, *Enicurus leschenaulti sinensis*
 One in the Nabang area.

Spotted Forktail, *Enicurus maculatus guttatus*
 One heard at Gaoligongshan.

Purple Cochoa, *Cochoa purpurea*
 One pair at Gaoligongshan.

Green Cochoa, *Cochoa viridis*
 One in the Nabang area. The others saw two briefly at Husa ridge.

Common Stonechat, *Saxicola rubicola ssp*
 Two between Yingjiang and Nabang. Three at the pond near Nabang. 10+ between Yingjiang and Husa and about five at the rice-fields near Husa.

Pied Bushchat, *Saxicola caprata burmanica*
 One between Yingjiang and Husa.

Gray Bushchat, *Saxicola ferrea*
 One pair at Gaoligongshan. A few between Yingjiang and Nabang. One at Ruili reservoir.

Yellow-bellied Fantail, *Rhipidura hypoxantha*
 Four at Gaoligongshan. Five in the Nabang area. Two at Husa ridge. Two at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

White-throated Fantail, *Rhipidura albicollis*
 About ten at Gaoligongshan. Five in the Nabang area. Two at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

White-throated Laughingthrush, *Garrulax albogularis eous*
 Seven in a group at Gaoligongshan. Strikingly different from the ones I have seen on Taiwan.

White-crested Laughingthrush, *Garrulax leucolophus patkaicus*
 About five in one flock and another flocks of about eight and six in the Nabang area.

Greater Necklaced Laughingthrush, *Garrulax pectoralis ssp*
 About 20 in a flock in the Nabang area.

Black-throated Laughingthrush, *Garrulax chinensis lochmuis*
 One came in nicely in the Nabang area.

Spotted Laughingthrush, *Garrulax ocellatus maculipectus*
 One at Gaoligongshan.

Gray-sided Laughingthrush, *Garrulax caerulatus latifrons*
 Four moved through the forest at Gaoligongshan. Also seen by Brian at Husa ridge.

White-browed Laughingthrush, *Garrulax sannio comis*
 One heard at the valley trail below Husa ridge. Five heard at Ruili reservoir.

Scaly Laughingthrush, *Garrulax subunicolor griseatus*
 A pair and a single at Gaoligongshan, once in full view for a long time.

Blue-winged Laughingthrush, *Garrulax squamatus*
 Two at Gaoligongshan. Three together in the Nabang area and maybe the same birds the day after.
 One at another site in the Nabang area. Two at Husa ridge. Often only very quick views.

Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush, *Garrulax erythrocephalus woodi*
 20+ at Gaoligongshan.

Red-tailed Laughingthrush, *Garrulax milnei sharpei*
 Four and 11 at Gaoligongshan. Two in the Nabang area.

Red-faced Liocichla, *Liocichla phoenicea bakeri*
 Two in the Nabang area. Three at Husa ridge. Three at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Puff-throated Babbler, *Pellorneum ruficeps*
 One heard and seen and another heard in the Nabang area.

Spot-breasted Scimitar-Babbler, *Pomatorhinus erythrocnemis odicus*
 Heard both days at Gaoligongshan. Three at Husa ridge.

Streak-breasted Scimitar-Babbler, *Pomatorhinus ruficollis similis*
 A few heard and a couple seen at Gaoligongshan. Two at Husa ridge. Three at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Red-billed Scimitar-Babbler, *Pomatorhinus ochraceiceps* ssp

Two plus one in the Nabang area.

Coral-billed Scimitar-Babbler, *Pomatorhinus ferruginosus* *albugularis*

One only briefly in the Nabang area. At least, and at last, two performing very well at Husa ridge.

Slender-billed Scimitar-Babbler, *Xiphirhynchus superciliaris* *forresti*

Three pairs seen very well at Gaoligongshan. One of the target birds in this part of the world.

Streaked Wren-Babbler, *Napothera brevicaudata* *venningi*

Two at the waterfall trail at Gaoligongshan.

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

Two singing and one of them glimpsed at Gaoligongshan.

Pygmy Wren-Babbler, *Pnoepyga pusilla* *pusilla*

Three heard at Gaoligongshan. One heard in the Nabang area.

Long-tailed Wren-Babbler, *Spelaeornis chocolatinus* *reptatus*

Two pairs really showing off at Gaoligongshan. Two heard (seen by Jesper) at Husa ridge.



Long-tailed Wren-Babbler

Rufous-capped Babbler, *Stachyris ruficeps* *bhamoensis*

A few at Gaoligongshan. One in the Nabang area. One at Husa ridge.

Golden Babbler, *Stachyris chrysaea* *chrysaea*

One at Gaoligongshan. Six in the Nabang area. Three at Husa ridge. Five at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Gray-throated Babbler, *Stachyris nigriceps* *yunnanensis*/*coltarti*

Three in one flock and a few in another flock in the Nabang area.

Chestnut-capped Babbler, *Timalia pileata* *smithi*

Two heard and glimpsed at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Chinese Babax, *Babax lanceolatus* *lanceolatus*

Two at Dahaoping.

Silver-eared Mesia, *Leiothrix argenteauris* ssp

10 at Gaoligongshan. Common in the Nabang area. Ten at Husa ridge. Five at the valley trail below Husa ridge.



Silver-eared Mesia

Red-billed Leiothrix, *Leiothrix lutea* *yunnanensis*

Three at Gaoligongshan.

Black-headed Shrike-Babbler, *Pteruthius rufiventer rufiventer*

One female seen three times over a day, eventually very well, at Gaoligongshan. A specialty for western Yunnan!

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

One female at Gaoligongshan. One male in the Nabang area. Two at Husa ridge. Two at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Black-eared Shrike-Babbler, *Pteruthius melanotis melanotis*

Four at Gaoligongshan.

Chestnut-fronted Shrike-Babbler, *Pteruthius aenobarbus intermedius*

One at Gaoligongshan.

White-hooded Babbler, *Gampsorhynchus rufulus rufulus*

About five in one flock performing nicely in the Nabang area.

Rusty-fronted Barwing, *Actinodura egertoni ripponi*

20+ at Gaoligongshan. Five in the Nabang area. Five at Husa ridge. Not really rusty-fronted, but rather drab gery. Shaggy-crested would be a better name.

Blue-winged Minla, *Minla cyanouroptera wingatei*

One at Gaoligongshan. About ten in the Nabang area. Ten at Husa ridge. Five at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Chestnut-tailed Minla, *Minla strigula yunnanensis*

Fairly common at Gaoligongshan.

Red-tailed Minla, *Minla ignotincta ignotincta*

10+ at Gaoligongshan. Five at Husa ridge.

Golden-breasted Fulvetta, *Alcippe chrysotis forresti*

Five at Gaoligongshan.

Rufous-winged Fulvetta, *Alcippe castaneiceps castaneiceps*

Fairly common at Gaoligongshan.



Rufous-winged Fulvetta

White-browed Fulvetta, *Alcippe vinipectus perstriata*

About five at the waterfall trail at Gaoligongshan. Two at Husa ridge.

Streak-throated Fulvetta, *Alcippe cinereiceps manipurensis*

Four at Gaoligongshan.

Gray-cheeked Fulvetta, *Alcippe morrisonia yunnanensis*

Common at Gaoligongshan. Ten at Husa ridge. Two at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Nepal Fulvetta, *Alcippe nipalensis*

10-20 in the Nabang area. Id based on clearcut, prominent white eye-ring, whitish throat and center of underparts and different song and calls. This species has not previously been recorded in China.

Rufous-backed Sibia, *Heterophasia annectens annectens*

One in the Nabang area.

Gray Sibia, *Heterophasia gracilis*

About ten in the Nabang area. Ten at Husa ridge. Two at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

[Black-headed Sibia, *Heterophasia desgodinsi*]

One seen by SUS at Gaoligongshan.

Beautiful Sibia, *Heterophasia pulchella*

10-15 at Gaoligongshan.

Long-tailed Sibia, *Heterophasia picaoides picaoides*

One plus five in the Nabang area.

Striated Yuhina, *Yuhina castaneiceps plumbeiceps*

A couple of flocks at Gaoligongshan. Ten in the Nabang area.

Whiskered Yuhina, *Yuhina flavicollis rouxi*

Several small flocks at Gaoligongshan. About ten in the Nabang area. Five at Husa ridge.

Rufous-vented Yuhina, *Yuhina occipitalis obscurior*

About seven at Gaoligongshan.

White-bellied Yuhina, *Yuhina zantholeuca zantholeuca*

5-10 in the Nabang area. One at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Gray-headed Parrotbill, *Paradoxornis gularis ssp*

About 15 in one flock and 26 in another flock in the Nabang area.

Black-throated Parrotbill, *Paradoxornis nipalensis poliotis*

30-40 in one flock and about 20 in another flock at Gaoligongshan. Crippling views of this fast-moving species.



Black-throated Parrotbill

Black-browed (Lesser Rufous-headed) Parrotbill, *Paradoxornis atrosuperciliaris atrosuperciliaris*

Two together showed very well, even showing the black brows, in the Nabang area.

Black-throated Tit, *Aegithalos concinnus talifuensis*

About 15 at Gaoligongshan. Two at Husa ridge.

Great Tit, *Parus major subtibetanus*

Four at Gaoligongshan.

Green-backed Tit, *Parus monticolus yunnanensis*

Four at Gaoligongshan.

Yellow-cheeked Tit, *Parus spilonotus spilonotus*

10-15 at Gaoligongshan. Five in the Nabang area. Two at Husa ridge.

Yellow-browed Tit, *Sylviparus modestus modestus*

15-20 at Gaoligongshan.

Chestnut-vented Nuthatch, *Sitta nagaensis nagaensis*

One at Gaoligongshan. Three in the Nabang area. One at Husa ridge. One heard at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

White-tailed Nuthatch, *Sitta himalayensis*

At least one each in two separate flocks at Gaoligongshan. Easy to identify with bright blue-grey upperparts, vivid orange underparts and broadening black head-stripe

Velvet-fronted Nuthatch, *Sitta frontalis frontalis*

5+ in the Nabang area.

Gould's Sunbird, *Aethopyga gouldiae dabryi*

A few at Gaoligongshan.

Green-tailed Sunbird, *Aethopyga nipalensis koelzi*

10-15 at Gaoligongshan.

Black-throated Sunbird, *Aethopyga saturata assamensis*

Three in the Nabang area. One at Husa ridge.

Fire-tailed Sunbird, *Aethopyga ignicauda ignicauda*

At least four at Gaoligongshan. Three at Husa ridge. No long-tailed birds at this time of the year.

Streaked Spiderhunter, *Arachnothera magna magna*

Two heard at Gaoligongshan. 15+ in the Nabang area. One at Husa ridge.

Fire-breasted Flowerpecker, *Dicaeum ignipectus ignipectus*

Several at Gaoligongshan. Two in the Nabang area. Five at Husa ridge. Three at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Chestnut-flanked White-eye, *Zosterops erythropleurus*

10+ at Gaoligongshan. Ten at Husa ridge.

[Oriental White-eye, *Zosterops palpebrosus*]

Seen by Jesper in the Nabang area and Husa ridge.

- Japanese White-eye, *Zosterops japonicus simplex*
30+ at Gaoligongshan. Ten in the Nabang area. Five at the valley trail below Husa ridge.
- Maroon Oriole, *Oriolus traillii traillii*
A pair at Gaoligongshan. Four in the Nabang area. One at Husa ridge. Two at the valley trail below Husa ridge.
- Long-tailed Shrike, *Lanius schach tricolor*
One near the Salween river. A few between Yingjiang and Nabang. 10 between Yingjiang and Husa. Two at the valley trail below Husa ridge. A few east of Ruili.
- Gray-backed Shrike, *Lanius tephronotus tephronotus*
One at the marsh between Yingjiang and Husa. One at the valley trail below Husa ridge.
- Large Woodshrike, *Tephrodornis gularis pelvica*
Two in the Nabang area.
- Ashy Drongo, *Dicrurus leucophaeus hopwoodi*
About five at Gaoligongshan. One in the Nabang area. Two at Husa ridge. One at the valley trail below Husa ridge.
- Bronzed Drongo, *Dicrurus aeneus aeneus*
Three at Gaoligongshan. 15+ in the Nabang area. Three at Husa ridge. Five at the valley trail below Husa ridge.
- Hair-crested Drongo, *Dicrurus hottentottus brevirostris*
Three at Gaoligongshan.
- Greater Racket-tailed Drongo, *Dicrurus paradiseus grandis*
Two in the Nabang area.
- Ashy Woodswallow, *Artamus fuscus*
Two at the pond near Nabang.
- Gold-billed Magpie, *Urocissa flavirostris flavirostris*
One seen together with a small loose party of Red-billed Blue Magpies at Gaoligongshan and later in the morning two were seen flying across further away on the ridge at Gaoligongshan. Key species in the Gaoligongshan.
- Red-billed Blue Magpie, *Urocissa erythrorhyncha erythrorhyncha*
Seven at Gaoligongshan.
- Green Magpie, *Cissa chinensis chinensis*
One in the Nabang area.
- Gray Treepie, *Dendrocitta formosae himalayensis*
At least five at Gaoligongshan. Four at the valley trail below Husa ridge.
- Collared Treepie, *Dendrocitta frontalis*
One plus two plus one in the Nabang area. One at Husa ridge. The best-looking treepie I've seen so far.



Collared Treepie

- [Eurasian Nutcracker, *Nucifraga caryocatactes*]
Five seen by Jesper at Gaoligongshan.
- Large-billed Crow, *Corvus macrorhynchos tibetosinensis*
Two between Yingjiang and Nabang. Five between Nabang and Yingjiang. Two at Husa ridge. Two at the valley trail below Husa ridge.
- Common Hill Myna, *Gracula religiosa intermedia*
Two flying past in the Nabang area.
- White-vented Myna, *Acridotheres grandis*
15+ at the pond near Nabang.
- Collared Myna, *Acridotheres albocinctus*
About ten at the pond near Nabang. Perfect performance of this very restricted range species.

Vinous-breasted Starling, *Acridotheres burmannicus burmannicus*
14 together with the Collared Mynas at the pond near Nabang. Very seldomly seen species in China.

Asian Pied Starling, *Gracupica contra superciliaris*
Four at the pond near Nabang.

Baya Weaver, *Ploceus philippinus myanmarnicus*
Six at the pond near Nabang. Also two nests seen at the same site.

Nutmeg Mannikin, *Lonchura punctulata yunnanensis*
One at the pond near Nabang.

Common Rosefinch, *Carpodacus erythrinus roseatus*
Four at the valley trail below Husa ridge.

Spot-winged Grosbeak, *Mycerobas melanozanthos*
20 plus six flying high over the forest in the Nabang area.

Scarlet Finch, *Haematospiza sipahi*
One female at Husa ridge.

Little Bunting, *Emberiza pusilla*
Two plus one at Gaoligongshan. A few flying over at Husa ridge.

Yellow-throated Bunting, *Emberiza elegans elegantula*
Two at Gaoligongshan.

Black-faced Bunting, *Emberiza spodocephala ssp*
One at Gaoligongshan.