

Thailand

9th of February-1st of March—2005

The five-stork trip

(According to the Avifauna tempo-scale)



A view from the road up to Doi Chiang Dao, northern Thailand.

Photo: Johannes Rydström

Compiled by: Johannes Rydström

Participants of the trip: Johannes Rydström, Tomas Lundqvist, Thomas Hultqvist and Sebastian Rydström.

In general about the trip: Myself (Johannes), Tomas Lundqvist and Thomas Hultqvist are all truly devoted birders that had our minds set only on birding, while my younger brother Sebastian has a more modest interest in nature and not especially in birds.

The plan from the beginning was that I and my brother would go travel by our selves, mostly backpacking and going to the islands for snorkeling and meeting other backpackers.

Eventually we did so as well but the first three weeks all four of us dedicated solely to birdwatching. This shows in the number of birds we registered, 471 species in eighteen birding days! All but 9 of them were seen as well! About 20 species were seen only by one or two of us, the remaining 450 were recorded by all of us (excluding Sebastian in many cases of course). The highest number of species I've seen reported from a Thai birding trip prior to this was 431 species recorded on a three-week Birdquest trip to just about the same areas as we visited.

Even though my brother is not a keen birder he didn't complain about eating once a day (sometimes twice), walking 12 hours a day, sleeping in tents as well as sleeping few hours. Quite strong I have to say. Once in a while when he got a little bit bored with the little "green jobs" or something like that, he sat down on the dust roads to read or to listen to his MP3 player.

So if you do go on a truly hard core trip with family members that are not as spellbound by the feathered creatures as you are, just check so that they've brought some extra entertainment along, then everything will work out just fine.

Though I think Sebastian was a little bit more adaptable than most people would have been.

Well, well, we planned everything in detail back home before leaving, checking loads of reports and books.

I also made contact with Sukanya Thanombuddha (End), a friend of mine since my last visit to Thailand in 2002.

She arranged for us to be picked up at the Bangkok International Airport right after arrival on the afternoon of the 10th of February. Then she took us to some nice birding spots on the 11th and the 12th before dropping us off in Kaeng Krachan on the 13th.

Her good friend and driver, Prapon Naiwan (Pon) came to pick us up in Kaeng Krachan on the 16th and stayed with us for the rest of the trip.

Highly reccomendable, more about this later on in the report.



A pale group of Swedes meets up with our Thai guide (for the first three days) Sukanya and with our driver (for the whole trip) Pon.

Photo: University staff

Travelpath:

9/2 Växjö - Copenhagen – Heathrow - flight to Bangkok

10/2 Arrival Bangkok - Mahidol University

11/2 Khok Kham - Wat Chong Lom - km 79-80 Rama Road - Khao Yoi - Wat Khao Takhrao - Thung Feau - Chumporn

12/2 Chumporn river mouth (Tha Yang) - Chumporn Sports Center - Khao Sam Roi Yot - Kaeng Krachan

13/2 Kaeng Krachan

14/2 Kaeng Krachan

15/2 Kaeng Krachan

16/2 Kaeng Krachan - Leam Pak Biae-Ban Pak Thale -Wat Khao Chong Pran, Rajchaburi Province - Khao Yai

17/2 Khao Yai

18/2 Khao Yai

19/2 Khao Yai - Wat Thumphaphothisat -Beung Boraphet -Doi Inthanon

20/2 Doi Inthanon
21/2 Doi Inthanon
22/2 Doi Inthanon -Mae Hia Aggricultural Center -Chiang Mai
23/2 Hua Hong Krai Royal Project - Chiang Dao Temple
24/2 Doi Chiang Dao -Doi Ang Khang
25/2 Doi Ang Khang
26/2 Doi Ang Khang
27/2 Doi Ang Khang -Thaton -Chiang Saen
28/2 Chiang Saen- Mekong River -Chiang Saen
1/3 Chiang Saen -Bangkok

Accomodation:

The first night was spent in Bangkok in a simple, but by our standards, more than ok, guest house. Can't remeber the name but accomodation of any kind is quite easy to get in Bangkok. The price for most of the simple guesthouses in Bangkok (that I've been to) has been around 200-400 baht for a double room.

The second night we stayed at Hotel Mercy in Chumporn, really good with nice, fresh rooms and soft beds. Price about 500 baht for a double room.

Third night was spent just outside Kaeng Krachan in a not so good accomodation, with only partial electricity and rock-hard beds, all four of us in one room. Not to expensive though.

Nights four, five and six were spend in tents at Ban Krang Camp Site (km 15), Kaeng Krachan. The Campsite lies 15 km in to the park and that's about halfway in on the one-way road that goes in to the heart of the park.

There's also another Camp Ground called Phanoen Thung at higher elevations in the park.

It was an incredible experience to stay in the middle of such a vast area of pristine forest.

Facts to consider are the following: You will have to bring your own food and drinking-water with you for your whole stay because when you go inside there will be none to get around the Campsite. Fortunately we managed to get some water from the park rangers the last day when ours was finished, but that's nothing to count on.

Showering facilities and toilets are available at the Campsite but bring your own toilet paper, as you should where ever you go in Thailand.

You have to make arrangements with tents and entrance fees at the HQ area that lies about 10 km before the park entrance right next to the Kaeng Krachan Dam.

If you stay inside the park you won't have to pay entrance fee everyday like you would have to do if you spend the nights on the outside, and it's much easier to get an early start.

Can't remember the price for camping exactly but one tent for two persons cost around 250 baht per night and the camping spot was 100 baht per night.

Night seven was spend by the Red-breasted Parakeet colony between Pak Chong and Khao Yai. Very simple accomodation but good enough, price lies around 350 baht for a double room.

Nights eight and nine were spend inside Khao Yai in the dormitory, very cheap and very Spartan as well, we were able to rent some sheets at the HQ, to put on the wooden floor but we brought our own sleeping bags along on the whole trip. Even so, here as well we slept like princes after all the intense birding. A sleeping spot in the dormitory and a sheet costs about 80 baht together.

Night ten was spent in tents in the campground on Doi Inthanon. Little bit cold but cheap.

Nights eleven and twelve was spent in a really nice cottage just behind the HQ area, we payed 650 baht per night for all five of us (including Pon, the driver).The cottage had two hot water showers and three rooms with two beds each. The beds were quite hard though.

Night thirteen was spend in a cheap guest house in Chiang Mai, the name was Chiang Mai Guest House, but you'll probably find many of those so it's quite difficult to find this exact one I can imagine.

But then again, there's a load of guest houses around in central Chiang Mai so just find your own price class and stay there.

Night fourteen was spend at Chiang Dao Nest 2, an incredible gathering of bungalows just in front of the mighty Doi Chiang Dao, the highest limestone mountain in Thailand with its 2300 metres. Both Chiang Dao Nest and Chiang Dao Nest 2, lies close to the Chiang Dao Temple where you can find some excellent birdwatching and the scenery is just breathtaking!

Nice fresh bungalows with lovely gardens around and they also serve first class food, both western and Thai food.

<http://nest.chiangdao.com/>

At the address above you can find all information about your stay at Chiang Dao Nest you need. We were on a really tight schedule, since we didn't include Doi Chiang Dao in our preliminary plans we only had the time to stay one night but all of us would have loved to stay for some more days, both for the excellent birding and also for the accommodation and the scenery itself!

If you aren't travelling with a 4WD, we weren't, you can arrange with the staff at Chiang Dao Nest to take you up to Den Ya Kad substation on the mountain since you will need a 4WD to get there.

Night fifteen, sixteen and seventeen was spent in Ban Koom Village on Doi Ang Khang where we stayed at a nice place close to the Royal Gardens.

For the one with lots of money there's a really exclusive place called the Ang Khang Villa Resort.

But our place was cheap and good birding just outdoors. It was only a couple of kilometres to the really good spots at km 21.5 and km 21.3 and along the trails connecting. Interesting birds can be seen anywhere here.

Night eighteen was spent in Chiang Saen Guest House in Chiang Saen just by the Mekong River, also beautiful scenery in the morning and evening with many Small Pratincoles flying over the Mekong against the silhouette of Laos on the other side.

This place was cheap and ok, about 300 baht for a double room.

Night nineteen was spent on Khao Sarn Road in Bangkok with its seething night life!

Here one can find many cheap alternatives of accommodation if you don't have a problem with a little bit of noise. Most lies around 300-600 baht for a double room.

More quiet places to stay can be found nearby on the streets connecting with Khao Sarn Rd.



One of many spartan accommodations.

Photo: Johannes Rydström

Birding Spots, Internet sites and E-mail addresses

I won't write down any detailed descriptions or attach any maps of the birding spots since there are several good reports that cover most of the areas already viewable on the internet.

Some of those are the following but more can be found:

<http://www.club300.se/Files/TravelReports/Thailandsrapport.pdf>

<http://www.travellingbirder.com/tripreports/>

<http://www.birdtours.co.uk/tripreports/thailand/index.htm>

If you find places we visited in the report that you're not able to find a description of you're free to contact me on zaranoff82@hotmail.com.

More than useful addresses are the ones to Sukanya Thanombuddha and Prapon Naiwan.

Sukanya "End" is one of the most active birdwatchers in Thailand and is a very good guide, she can make arrangements for anything. I'm not sure how much she charge normally because we were guided for free the three days we spend with her cause we're friends since my last trip.

If you feel that you can handle the birding part on your own but just want help with driving and finding your way to all the good spots Prapon "Pon" is an excellent, and cheaper alternative if you're on a more restricted budget. He finds his way to all major sites in Thailand and also knows where to look for most of the birds and is also well-read about Thailand's culture, history and nature and has contacts in many of the places you would like to visit.

Pon has his own minivan with AC and he charged us 1500 baht a day for four persons + gasoline. I think that's quite reasonable!

End and Pon work a lot together but it's definitely worth it to contact both if you're going to Thailand. For example if you want a guide but End is booked and has another driver, Pon would be an outstanding alternative.

To sum it up both of them are extremely helpful and friendly and if you go birding with either of them you will end up with a huge trip list.

Sukanya Thanombuddha "End" bigbirdclub@hotmail.com

Prapon Naiwan "Pon" nancanoe@yahoo.com

Other pages that are really interesting if you're going to Thailand are:

http://www.worldtwitch.com/2004_thailand_bird_reports.htm

<http://www.dnp.go.th/parkreserve/nationalpark.asp?lg=2>

<http://www.orientalbirdimages.org/>

http://www.bsc-eoc.org/links/links.jsp?page=1_asia_th#endemics

<http://www.wunderground.com/global/stations/48327.html>

<http://www.camacdonald.com/birding/asiathailand.htm>

For one who wishes to take a lot of photos with a digital camera, it's possible in almost every city to write your memory card on to a CD, and this always worked out well without anything being ruined. So you don't have to carry along your own expensive portable computer.

Some good literature to have is: Birds of South-east Asia (Craig Robson)

Birds of Thailand (Craig Robson)

Birds of Thailand (Round & Lekagul)

Birds of Kaeng Krachan (Uthai Treesucon)

Field Check-list of Thai Birds (Philip D. Round)

The Trip—Story Day by Day

9/2

Everything began with some misunderstandings at the train station in Alvesta, Sweden.

Luckily everything turned out just fine and we got to go with an even faster train than we had tickets for, on the other hand that resulted in a five and a half hour wait in Kastrup, Copenhagen before flying to Heathrow where we hung out for another few hours.

Well, there's nothing bad that doesn't have any good in it, we got to try free samples of raspberry vodka in the airport and also checked out the stores in Heathrow that sell whiskey that cost more than you earn in a lifetime.

Took our seats on the Bangkok plane late evening with our minds set on sleeping, but there really wouldn't be much of that.

Both I and Sebastian were ill on the 8/2 but that seemed to be going away now, fortunately.

10/2

After a little bit of chaos with a woman collapsing on the airplane due to lack of oxygen and a meal with a white sausage that looked like it had self-died we sat our feet on Thai ground at around 16pm. The four of us walked past hundreds of Mongolian Muslims that sat on the floor all over the terminal and met End in the Arrival Hall shortly after.

First introduction of the Swedish gang, then we jumped in to her van and went to a little green area around Mahidol University in Bangkok.

The target species for the one-hour and a half birding in Bangkok this evening was Java Sparrow, didn't see any of those but still many nice introductory birds for Thomas and Sebastian who had never been to Asia before. Almost in the heart of Bangkok we found amongst others, Coppersmith barbet, Black-capped Kingfisher, Indian Roller, Peaceful Dove, Yellow-vented Bulbul, Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker and Scaly-breasted Munia.

Before driving to our guest house we went for some shopping, shoes, shorts and other stuff were bought before End took us to a Japanese restaurant called MK where we had an interesting but mostly strange meal, which amongst other stuff included jellyfish.

This day we saw 28 species.



First birding of the trip, at Mahidol University, Bangkok. Photo: Sebastian Rydström

11/2

The day began with a wake up call from a Koel just outside the guesthouse.

Everyone was anxious to get out and start some serious birding.

End came to pick us up before dawn and we headed for Khok Kham and the huge amount of waterbirds found in the area. At the same time we started to see some wet areas the light was getting good enough to spot birds, egrets, cormorants and mynas were all over.

After fifteen minutes more driving lots of Whiskered Terns joined in as did some Maqacues sitting on the telephone wires in the mangrove.

The first place we went to was the outer part of Khok Kham, closer to the open sea than the Spoon-billed spot.

Lots of waders here of many interesting species. For starters a flock of 20 Nordmann's Greenshank together with a few of its more regular cousin.

Also running the mud were Great Knots, Terek Sandpipers, one Asian Dowitcher, loads of Lesser Sand Plovers and Pacific Golden Plovers as well as Red-necked Stints.

Next stop was of course the place for Spoon-billed Sandpiper, after some nervous searching Tomas spotted it in one of the ponds, minding its own buisness, shovelling back and forth.

What a cute little bird, such a weird design. Truly one of the dream species for those of us who hadn't seen it before. Accompanying the Spoon-billed were some Long-toed Stints, Black-winged Stilts and Marsh Sandpipers.

The air was constantly ruled by terns of five different species.

After a morning with everything we could have wished for we drove west on Rama Road making a stop at km 79-80 at a small marshy area that held Yellow Bittern, both Jacanas, several Plaintive Cuckoos and more.

We also took a break for dinner along the road, sharing a huge plate of rice, shrimps and vegetables while still being accompanied by lots of Egrets and Stilts in front of the restaurant. The afternoon was spend in an area called Khao Yoi, a good area with dry open and wooded land and lots of birds, some of the new birds here included Steppe Eagle, Indochinese Bush Lark, Thick-billed Warbler and Plain-backed Sparrow.

After this our van moved on towards Wat Khao Takhrao, not as many birds present as we'd hoped for but still three species of Cormorant standing together is not bad for Thailand.

The final birding for the day took place at Thung Feau just outside Petchaburi town.

A beautiful area with marshy fields and canals and also plenty of birds.

Here we enjoyed another Yellow Bittern, stunning male Pied Harrier (number 1000 for me on the life-list), Pink-necked Green Pigeon and eight Racket-tailed Treepies amongst others.

Evening meal was eaten in a night market in Petchaburi town before a several-hour-drive to Chumporn and the south.

We arrived at Chumporn after midnight and then made notes for the day before passing out in the soft beds of Hotel Mercy.

This day we saw 108 species.

12/2

To rise and shine at 5am after three hours sleep is only possible if you have a great day of birding ahead of you. So we stood up and went by boat to the river mouth at Chumporn (Tha Yang) hoping to see pigeons all over.

We saw Pale-capped Pigeon flying past briefly, but not much else except a nice breakfast in the boat on a beautiful morning.

The next few hours were spend in and just outside Chumporn, mostly at the Chumporn Sports Center where it was possible to see twelve species of Starlings this winter.

We didn't see all of them but we managed to pick out a few such as, Purple-backed Starling, White-shouldered Starling, Jungle Myna, Asian Glossy Starling, Vinous-breasted Starling and a few more.

After a lunch which, if you would have called it “unbearably hot” you would have made a severe understatement, we drove north again to Khao Sam Roi Yot.

Incredible landscape with the steep limestone cliffs dropping right into the extensive lowland marshes. Birds were everywhere here, Herons, Egrets, Cormorants, Lesser Whistling Ducks, Purple Swamphens, thousands and thousands of Swallows, Yellow Bitterns, Black Bittern, Steppe Eagle, Western Marsh Harrier, Oriental Reed Warblers, Bright-headed Cisticola, Brown Hawk Owl, Spotted Owl, Racket-tailed Treepie and many more.

When darkness arrived we quit birding and drove for Kaeng Krachan where we spend the night close to the HQ with Large-tailed Nightjars saluting us upon arrival.

This day we saw 93 species.



The sun is setting over the marshes at Khao Sam Roi Yot. Photo Johannes Rydström

13/2

We woke up early as usual after only a few hours sleep, aching all over due to the rock-hard beds. No electricity in the bathroom resulted in bumping into stuff and getting a little round of extra beating. Well, after a steady breakfast we took off to the HQ for arranging with entrance fee and camping ground. Some birds hung around already out here, Rufous Woodpecker, Spangled Drongo and racket-tailed Treepie were all seen.

On our way in to the park I took place on the roof of the van to get a better view.

Before we came to the campground at km 15 we could count in Oriental Pied Hornbill, Blue-bearded Bee-eater, Orange-breasted Trogon, Dollarbird, Greater Yellownappe and a few Giant Squirrels.

While fighting with our tents to get them properly set up a Wreathed Hornbill had the politeness to show up, as had a Ferruginous Partridge.

The rest of the day we birded between km 16-19 picking up more good birds such as, Grey Peacock Pheasant, incredible view of a Buffy Fish Owl, huge and noisy Great Slaty Woodpeckers, a big flock of Silver-breasted Broadbills, Sultan Tits, and more small game birds such as Bar-backed- and Scaly-breasted Partridges as well as the cute and cool Spot-necked Babblers. The huge Sultan Tits that we saw several of was another true highlight.

Back at the campground we ate our best meal for the next few days to come, existing of noodles, banana and sandwiches with peanut butter. Listening from our sleeping bags in the tents gave away that elephants were crushing bamboo just by the stream, really close to the tents, a little bit frightening but still a rush!

Other sounds of the rainforest that night were Collared Scops Owl, Mountain Scops Owl, Asian Barred Owlet, Collared Owlet, Brown Hawk Owl, Large-tailed Nightjar and Great Eared Nightjar. Plus of course, many “machine-like noisy” insects always present.

One of my fellow travellers said the following phrase about the sound of the insects, “it sounds like a kid that got a hold of a violin, while on ecstasy”.

This day we saw 89 species.



Forest in Kaeng Krachan.

Photo: Johannes Rydström



Sign at the entrance to Kaeng Krachan. Photo: Johannes Rydström



If one wants to see many interesting bird one has to be alert all the time, Kaeng Krachan

Photo: Sebastian Rydström

14/2

After the usual cup of coffee and a peanutbutter-sandwich each, all rounded up with tasty mini-bananas, we were picked up by a member of the park staff at 5.30am. This was arranged for us the day before since now we were alone with no vehicle of our own to take us to the Phanoen Thung Camp, the viewpoint, and the more mountainous birds of the park.

At around km 28 on the way up to the viewpoint a flock of impressive Great Hornbills took to the wings from their roosting tree just in front of us, flying out over the rainforest and in to the light of a new day breaking. As we were sitting on the back of the truck we could hear their loud wingbeats when they took off.

Up at the viewpoint we experienced a breathtaking morning with the white mist clouds remaining until late morning, covering the lower parts of the emerald green slopes that stretch for miles in all directions, all this while the sun was rising to an increasing chorus of barbets and pigeons. Birds were all over, both in the distant and right in front of us.

The Gibbons were calling with their beautiful and loud song from first daylight onwards.

Flavescent Bulbuls were abundant, having their most southernly resort here in Kaeng Krachan, as with several other birds. Plentyful were also Mountain Imperial Pigeons, Blue-winged Leafbirds, Great Barbets, Blue-throated Barbets, Asian Fairy Bluebirds and Black-crested Bulbuls. A few more Great Hornbills showed themselves to everyones delight and other more than welcome ones were Grey Treepies, a Black Baza resting in a tree top, and great observations of a pair of Yellow-vented Green Pigeons.

After two hours of constant euphoria we started walking back on the road for some different birding. We had the whole day at the high elevations before the guy who dropped us off was coming back for us.

After only walking a few hundred metres we had added superb observations of White-hooded Babblers, White-browed Scimitar-Babblers and Radde's Warblers.

We found bird activity to stay high until around 11am then it was further between the pulse-raisers. One of the absolute target species this day was Ratchet-tailed Treepie, which we almost had given up on at around 3pm when suddenly three birds flew in to view but then disappeared as quickly again. Happy and relieved about not having dipped, we still said, that it was a shame we didn't get to see such a cool bird better than that. Just shortly after there was an incredible loud noise and two Ratchet-tailed came out and sat in the open and gave stunning views! One of the highlights of the trip definitely.

The forest along the road between the viewpoint and km 26 was incredibly beautiful all the way and produced many birds not seen before, some of the stars being, Pin-tailed Parrotfinch, Kalij Pheasant, Black-tighed Falconet, Golden Babbler, Black Eagle, Maroon Woodpecker (one of several that has its most northernly range here) and Golden-throated Barbet. From the back of the truck on our way down we had three more Kalij Pheasants crossing the road in front of us as well as seven Emerald Doves walking on the dirt road.

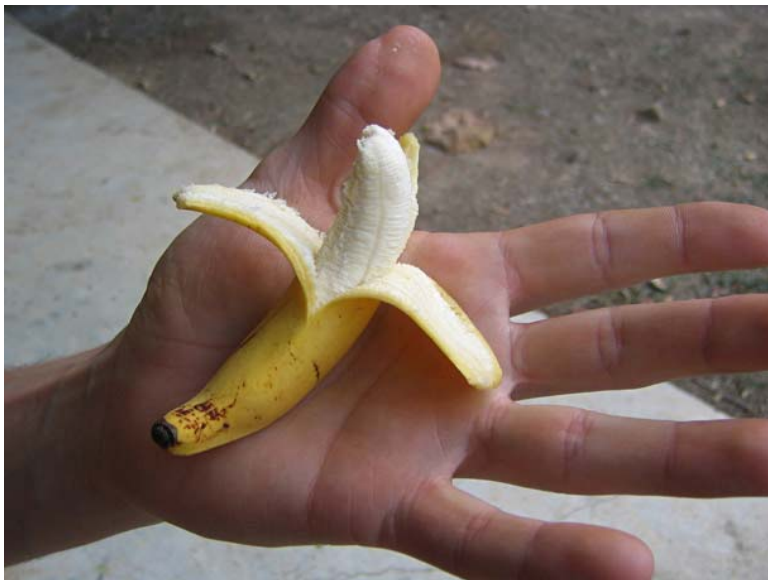
The evening meal consisted of noodles and water, we weren't getting any fatter.

This day we counted in 85 species.



Forest at km 31, Kaeng Krachan.

Photo: Johannes Rydström



The main course in Kaeng Krachan, Mini-bananas. Photo: Sebastian Rydström

15/2

When we woke up 6am after a good night sleep, we got a strange feeling of lying in a waterbed, even though we knew we'd only slept on blankets.

Everything seemed less strange to us as soon as we went out of the tent. A water sprinkler had been running all night just up the slope from us and our sleeping area had literally been transformed into a marshland.

This day was our last full day to be spend in Kaeng Krachan so we planned to make the very most of it. We still had a number of species that we knew we wouldn't be able to pick up any place else. We each took a small piece of bread before taking off into the forest, later on that

day we met End who was now guiding some English birders, our stomachs were the ones most thrilled because she'd brought packed lunch with her for us as well.

We enjoyed the meal standing on the dirt road while getting great views of two female Emerald Cuckoos feeding in small tree and a couple of Whiskered Treeswifts flying overhead.

This day was to become equally fantastic as the prior ones.

The langurs are really common in the lower parts of the park and we also saw a group of Macaques but not many.

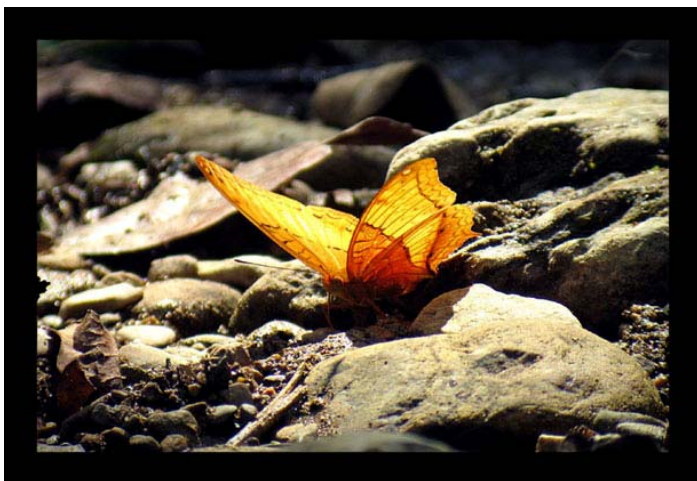
While walking the road I discovered two Chestnut-breasted Malkohas feasting on a thick green lizard, they looked all crazy and very hostile, that's probably why the Green Magpie that sat next to them waited for a while on his turn. In the same tree but eating smaller prey was also a Raffle's Malkoha, all three species amazingly beautiful. The birds had enough manners to linger around until I had gotten the others to see them as well.

Other fantastic observations this day was a couple of beautiful but odd-looking Crested Jays with their long crest bobbing back and forth. Great observations of the following game birds; 8 Bar-backed Partridges, 14 Scaly-breasted Partridges, 5 Ferruginous Partridges, 5 Kalij Pheasants and 2 Grey Peacock Pheasants!

We also enjoyed several Blue-bearded Bee-eaters, Buffy Fish Owl, Great- and Wreathed Hornbills, Asian Stubtail was a true cutie and a flock of twenty Silver-breasted Broadbills coming down to drink was another hard-to-beat memory that we took with us.

We discovered that we had run out of water in the evening but luckily we managed to get some from the park rangers but I don't think that one should count on such luck with that.

This day we got as many as 91 species.



Butterfly at km 16, Kaeng Krachan.

Photo: Johannes Rydström



Another one at the same place

Photo: Johannes Rydström

16/2

We woke up at first light and hit the dust road leading towards the best area between km 16 and km 19 after only a cup of coffee, we ate no breakfast for a mix of reasons, for a starter we didn't have any, and also we only had three hours birding in Kaeng Krachan this morning before Pon, our driver to be the next two weeks should pick us up. We saw some nice birds in the morning hours but only three new to the trip, those being Greater Flameback, Grey-rumped Treeswift and Greenish Warbler. Other beautiful encounters this morning was a Great Hornbill and also a Wreathed Hornbill flying by, several Blue-bearded Bee-eaters and Green Magpies, Spot-necked Babbler and Great Slaty Woodpecker. We also had great views of a Common Flameback in its nest hole.

We came back to the campground at around ten o'clock and stuffed our belongings and tents into our bags just in time to be ready when Pon arrived to pick us up.

After having starved for three days we all had our minds set on food above all.

When we drove into Petchaburi we assaulted the first 7-eleven that came across our road, buying pizza-slices, hot dogs, crackers, soda and lots of snickers and kit kats.

Boy did that do good! Not many meals have had so many heavenly things said about them ever. After being totally satisfied and with the hunger defeated we went on to Leam Pak Biae, where we hired a local boats man to take us out to the huge sandbar in the sea.

Really comfortable birding out here, while standing in the nice sand we could pick out Greater Black-headed Gull, Heuglin's Gull, Malaysian Plover, Lesser Crested Tern, Dunlin (an uncommon bird in Thailand) and Greater Sand Plover among the much more numerous Common Terns, Brown-headed Gulls, Little Terns, Great Crested Terns and Kentish Plovers.

When we were about to leave the sandbar we realized that we were almost totally stuck in the sand with the boat because of the tide changing, luckily we managed to get the boat out to the deeper waters before it was truly too late.

We had one more birding hot spot to visit for the day before taking on some serious driving.

We came to Ban Pak Talay with hopes high of masses of waders and so on, but the truth revealed something else, also this was because of the low tide present. The birds had spread over a much vaster area and only a few were here now, but even so we saw Pied Harrier, Terek Sandpiper, Spotted Redshank, Broad-billed Sandpiper, Long-toed Stint, Ruddy Turnstone, Ruff and lots and lots of Black-winged Stilts and Whiskered Terns.

Our final destination for tonight was a guest house just outside Kao Yai at the Red-breasted Parakeet colony, but first we had business elsewhere.

We had been told by End about a spectacular event that happens every evening at the same time at Wat Khao Chong Pran, a temple between Petchaburi and Bangkok.

German scientists have approximated that about 60 million bats leave the cave every night! 60 million that's a lot! The bat cave outside Kao Yai is like a child's cave in comparison.

We sat down outside the cave with lots of Thai tourists and also a few western people.

Ten Kestrels were circling over the opening in the cave waiting for their evening meal to wake up and appear.

Suddenly it started, a thick cloud of bats started belching out of the cave and it was still going when we left the site almost an hour later! An unforgettable and truly unbelievable sight!

We arrived at our guest house at around 1.30am and had four hours of wonderful sleep to look forward to.

The highest day count of the whole trip was this day with as much as 132 species!



A tiny fraction of the 60 million bats flying out of the cave at Wat Khao Chong Pran. Photo: Johannes Rydström

17/2

The first bird that hit the binoculars this morning was a couple of Red-breasted Parakeets just outside our guest house close to the colony.

We went in to Kao Yai right after and walked around at the HQ area while Pon was making arrangements for accommodation and sleeping sheets with the staff.

This turned out to be very good, it didn't take long before we could add great things such as Brown Hornbill, Golden-crested Myna and Red-headed Trogon.

After checking out our dormitory by the stream close to the HQ (to say that it was Spartan would definitely be a severe understatement) we decided to try our luck on the famous trail 6 (old trail 6 that is).

We had a couple of hours extraordinary birding with breathtaking observations of Eared Pitta at two different locations along the trail, both revealed themselves by throwing leaves around, while jumping on the forest floor in the search for food. Pittas are always almost magical to see, like a forest spirit. We also had the superb Banded Broadbill as well as White-crowned Forktail and at one point when I went back for my backpack there were three Silver Pheasants walking the slope right next to the trail and they had the manners to stick around until everyone had had great views and were satisfied. As usual when the day goes on bird activity

drops rapidly, not so many birds were seen the last hour or so on our way to the Watchtower at the Elephant Lick.

During the midday hours we relaxed a while and even had the opportunity to take a swim in the famous Heaw Suwat Waterfall, starring in the movie “The Beach”, really nice and recommendable for those planning a visit. Some brilliant and relaxing birdwatching at Pha Kluey Mai Campground in the evening hours produced close up views of both male and female Siberian Blue Robin and many warblers as well as obtrusive White-rumped Shamas, Puff-throated Babblers and a rare Pale-footed Bush Warbler.

We still had some really good species to pick up here so next morning we would be back.

We crawled down our sleeping bags that night at the dormitory right next to a working party of Thais that had brought their whole families and huge iron chains and other tools with them and they were bound to go to work even earlier than us.

This day ended with 72 species.



Me and Sebastian posing beside a huge trunk along trail 6, Khao Yai.

Photo: Thomas Hultquist

18/2

We woke up on our wooden floor, feeling better than you might have guessed. Thomas also said “-The man who invented the yellow earplugs should have all glory”. First thing we

headed for Pha Kluey Mai once more where we arrived before sunrise. We sat down in the slope behind the restrooms, waiting for the target species of the morning; Coral-billed Ground Cuckoo and Rufous-tailed Robin.

The latter one gave great views after only a short wait, as did Puff-throated Babblers, Orange-headed Thrushes, Siberian Blue Robin and several Pale-legged Leaf Warblers.

After a while Sebastian got bored and said that he'd take a little walk around on the road instead. About ten minutes later he came back obviously really excited about something and whispered "-Ey guys, I think I saw it over there! Is it big and mostly grey with a black hood and tail and a thick red bill and red legs?"

This was all we needed to hear, even if Sebastian is not an experienced birder his description was not to be mistaken. We followed him and after a short while we got nice views of two Coral-billed Ground Cuckoos walking out in the open close to each other just hundred metres away from where we were sitting earlier!

After breakfast we decided to go up Mo-Singto Trail and down on trail 6, since it was almost midday bird activity wasn't very high, but still we had Laced Woodpecker, Orange-breasted Trogon, a flock of Silver-breasted Broadbill and three Slaty-backed Forktails when we came back down to the stream at the dormitory. After this we thought that maybe the old golf course would be worthy of a visit, it didn't produce much except for Black-shouldered Kite, Paddyfield Pipits, Red-wattled Lapwings, Dollarbird and Indian Rollers.

The evening hours were spend at Radar Road with a last short stop back at Pha Kluey Mai Campground just before sunset. Radar Road provided good birding with Wreathed Hornbill, Drongo Cuckoo, Chestnut-headed Bee-eater, Black-winged Cuckoo-Shrike, Eye-browed Thrush, Vernal Hanging Parrot and more. While driving back down Radar Road we spotted the target bird for the evening, a pair of Siamese Fireback, walking slowly along the road and then crossing it just a few metres away from us!

Back at the HQ area we tried looking around the food stalls for dishes that might be eatable as an alternative to the rice and omelette that we'd had for both breakfast and dinner the last two days but nothing was to be found, except for the "sixty percent bone and forty percent marrow chicken dishes". For those reading who've been to Khao Yai before and remembers the old food stalls, it's not them I'm talking about, they were better.

A Eurasian Woodcock would come to be the last bird of this day that summed up at 85 species.

19/2

Our last few hours in Kao Yai were spent walking the trail between Heaw Suwat Waterfall and Pha Kluey Mai Campground, a really nice trail with good potential, unfortunately we were a little bit rushed because this day we had an incredibly tight schedule.

During a two hour walk we had amongst others, superb Green Magpie, White-browed Scimitar-Babbler, Red-headed Trogon, Blue-bearded Bee-eater, Slaty-backed Forktail, Asian Stubtail, Swinhoe's Minivet, Siberian Blue Robin and Sulphur-breasted Warbler.

After exiting the park we headed for KFC for breakfast which was heavenly enjoyed at around midday just before, but in a different way, we equally much enjoyed the cool Limestone Wren-Babblers at Wat Thumphaphothisat, really charismatic birds and bigger than we had in mind.

We arrived at Beung Boraphet at 3pm where we hired a boatman to take us out into the huge lake. He wasn't the most experienced of the boatmen Pon told us but he proved to be quite good anyway.

We experienced an absolute inferno with birds! Wow! Thousands of Lesser Whistling Ducks and Cotton Pygmy Geese as well as flying flocks of over a hundred Little Grebes flushed by our boat.

Thousands of Purple Swampheens were walking the vegetation together with Moorhens and Jacanas.

There were constantly several hundred Asian Openbills in the air and all together there must have been well above two thousand flying around. We went ashore on a peninsula reaching far into the lake, from where we birded for an hour or so.

We were shown to a nest of Savannah Nightjar by our boat driver, and then we accidentally flushed another two Savannahs while walking the paddyfields. Birds were everywhere, both in the bushes, in the water, in the air and on the ground! In addition to the ones above we had several hundred Black-winged Stilts, Ferruginous Pochard, Oriental Pratincole, Pacific Golden Plover, Eastern Marsh Harrier, Purple Heron, Cinnamon Bittern, Bluethroat, Siberian Rubythroat, many Striated Grassbirds and even more Oriental Reed Warblers and also Red-throated Pipits and Black-headed Munia. All this in less than three hours all together, almost every place that we visited during our trip felt like it would have been worth at least one or two extra days and this was not an exception.

We had a long journey ahead of us. We set aim on Doi Inthanon and arrived there at the campground (where Pon had arranged for his friend to set tents for us) at 2.30am.

This spectacular day gave 114 species.



River Martin statues at Beung Boraphet, too bad we didn't find any. Photo: Johannes Rydström

20/2

After much too little sleep we stepped out into the breaking dawn at around 5.30am.

Quite a cold morning compared to most others during our visit so far, even though Kao Yai wasn't very warm at first either. Thomas H didn't have the proper clothes with him so he shivered like a leaf but fortunately he got to borrow a jacket from Pon. The first bird we had our minds set on was the Black-tailed Crake that is a resident at the small marshy area close to the campground. We sat down in the blind, close to each other to keep the warmth up, for about half an hour before the cold became too much and we felt like giving up, for that time at least. The morning went on with a few hours birding from the beginning of "Jeep Track" at km 37,5 and along the trail itself. Extraordinary birding by all means, many good birds, many individuals and also many close-ups (even though of course there were many that didn't show very good as well). Already before entering the trail we enjoyed Dark-backed Sibias, Spectacled Barwings, Short-billed Minivets, Verditer Flycatchers and Golden-throated Barbets. Thomas H also had a glimpse of a Rusty-naped Pitta on the forest floor behind the toilets while standing with a few Thai birdwatchers. Once we entered the trail it didn't take long before we got the scope on a male Purple Cochoa! At the same time Sebastian struck again with the words "something really small is moving amongst the leaves". This turned out to be a very confiding Eye-browed Wren Babbler, fantastic bird! As we ventured further away

we got Golden Babblers, Chestnut-crowned Warblers and one each of Chestnut-fronted Shrike Babbler, Maroon Oriole and Mrs Gould's Sunbird. We met an English birder that told us that bird activity was still high up at the summit, even though it was almost midday, so we went for it.

A good decision, it turned out to be, the place was teeming with birds we hadn't seen earlier. No one could ask for more pleasant birding than you get up here! Just by walking the Ang Ka Boardwalk we could add specialities such as, Pygmy Wren Babbler, Yellow-bellied Fantail, Chestnut-tailed Minla, Rufous-winged Fulvetta, Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush, Green-tailed Sunbird (endemic race *angkanensis*), White-browed Shortwing, Ashy-throated Warbler and Snowy-browed Flycatcher. Right in between from the "Jeep Track" to the summit there was a parking lot and a few small places where you could buy food, we tried this out and had our best meal up to date in Thailand with delicious grilled chicken and sticky rice, highly recommendable.

In the afternoon we tried out the trail at km 34.5 which didn't produce very much except for a Changeable Hawk Eagle and a Hill Prinia. Our time for a visit wasn't the most beneficial I guess, because other groups have seen many hard-to-get-birds here. We rounded up the day back where we began, at the Crake Pond. This time a few Thai birders had put out maggots and bread in the short grass at the edge of the marsh. Our hopes were down about the Crake but luckily we were proved wrong almost instantly. The Black-tailed came, walking slowly, looking in all directions, constantly flicking it's tail, until it got a hold of the "yummy" that had been put out there, then it turned around and ran back to cover. A cute little thing.

Other birds around the Crake Pond were an obliging Common Green Magpie and a few Striated Swallows.

For the night we had booked a nice cabin by a small stream, close to the HQ, so this night was about to bring some well-earned sleep.

The total for today didn't go further than 51 species but most of them were new.



Orchids at km 34,5, Doi Inthanon.

Photo: Johannes Rydström



Ang Ka Boardwalk, Doi Inthanon.

Photo: Thomas Hultquist

21/2

Started out on this wonderful day with a short stop at km 37,5 (the beginning of Jeep Track) Arrived there before sunrise with hopes high of “myriads of flycatchers and others being attracted to the moths that hang around the lights at the checkpoint during dawn”. At least that’s what we read in another report, well, well, not all visits can be equally productive.

Still with spirits high and the aim set on nice views of spectacular birds we started birding the Summit area and Ang Ka Boardwalk while it was still early morning and this once again turned out to be an extraordinary place where you get to see so many nice birds up close, over and over again!

Great views of Orange-flanked Bush Robin, Mrs Gould's Sunbird, the Green-tailed ditto, White-browed Shortwing and Pygmy Wren babbler as we had here on the 20th, as well as ones new to the trip such as Ashy Wood Pigeon, Scaly Thrush (felt almost mythical while slowly walking on a moss-covered fallen log) , Eyebrowed Thrush, Grey-sided Thrush and Common Rosefinch. The one thing that didn't show, that we'd hoped for, was the odd-looking Dark-sided Thrush. We tried our luck at Vachirathan Waterfall for a while in the middle of the day, maybe not the best time for a visit but we got to see River Chat, Plumbeous Water Redstart and several Grey Wagtails any way. During afternoon Sebastian and Thomas H chose to sit on our porch close the HQ and eat ice cream, like most sane people would have done, while Johannes and Tomas L instead chose to explore the shrubby grounds nearby.

The area held lots of Bulbuls, Munias, Prinias, Bushchats and so on. Also three new ones for the trip, Grey-backed Shrike, White Wagtail and Common Buzzard, the two latter might not sound so exciting but they look quite different from those back home so still really nice to see. Also a mole was seen scratching for food in the mud close to the HQ. An hour birding before dusk back at km 37,5 just came up with the most regular ones except for a nice flock of Japanese White-eyes. The last bird for the day was a lovely Scaly Thrush by the stream behind our cottage. The evening was spend with cigars and some Sangsom (Thai rum) to celebrate that Doi Inthanon had filled it's quote as well as all previous sites visited.

This day came up with a very modest number of species, 58 species were seen, but like yesterday most were really stunning ones!



Vachiratarn Waterfall, Doi Inthanon.

Photo: Johannes Rydström

22/2

Me, Tomas and Thomas started out at Jeep Track with some rewarding birding until 10 o'clock, with Thomas H being the one with most luck in the trio by enjoying a Green Cochoa together with two Thai birders. Tomas and I didn't go empty-handed either though we had prolonged close-up views of two Eye-browed Wren Babblers in the leaf litter as well as a Chestnut-vented Nuthatch which was new for the trip. Many of the species we saw here the days before were seen as well, such as Large Niltava, Dark-backed Sibia, White-browed Shrike Babbler, Great Barbet, Golden Babbler, Chestnut-crowned Warbler, Maroon Oriole, Pygmy Wren Babbler and so on and so on. Without a doubt good birding, but nonetheless difficult and frustrating birding one might add. If you have the possibility you should spend more days on Doi Inthanon than we did, as the matter of fact that goes for just about all places we visited during our Thailand trip!

Went back down the mountain to HQ where we picked up Sebastian, who had slept in this morning, and drove down to km 13 where we had hopes high for some other specialities.

We walked around in the basking sun up and down the slopes that were totally burnt by the heat, not many green leaves left at this lower altitude. But that didn't matter much, we still got

to see a handful of great birds and me and Sebastian even had a much-needed swim in the fresh, cold mountain water that filled the rocky stream, water from Vachiratharn Waterfall up the mountain. Missed out on the big Woodpeckers but hey, you have to have some reasons left for a revisit. What we did come up with was, at least three Collared Falconets, Rufous-winged Buzzard, White-browed Piculet, Siberian Blue Robin, Black-hooded Oriole, Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch, Purple Sunbird and Common Woodshrike. Satisfied with the day so far we sat aim on food and postal services. Postal services showed easy to find but the same did not go for the food we wanted, the western kind. We bought some pizza slices at a 7eleven in Chiang Mai right after picking out a Wire-tailed Swallow, on a wire (coincidence?).

After filling our stomachs we had time for some evening birding at Mae Hia Agricultural Centre before driving into Chiang Mai for the evening. A Merlin seen by Thomas was a true rarity, a Hoopoe showed itself well to every ones delight, also seen was several Pied Wagtails, all were of strange looking races and both confusing and interesting to watch. Other birds here were Plain-backed Sparrow, Green Bee-eater, Paddyfield Pipit, Pied Bushchat, Wire-tailed Swallow, as well as many Black-collared Starlings giving expression for their miserable voice, and nervous Whistling Ducks constantly flying overhead. When it was almost pitch-black we felt that enough is enough and took off into Chiang Mai. We stayed at a guest house just around the corner from the busiest street with bars and restaurants, and also the tourist ballyhoo of Muay Thai (Thai boxing). As a result of this we did not go to bed early, not even close to “next morning we’re going for the Green Peafowls” early. But a great time we had indeed, it was truly refreshing to mix ingredients like civilization and partying in to the travel experience. After many Changs and Singhas we tottered in to the guest house for a short nights sleep.

This day gave us 98 species.

23/2

Definitely hadn’t had enough sleep when the alarm rang at an hour before dawn or so.

Luckily, since we still had alcohol in the blood we weren’t supposed to drive by our selves therefore we could head straight for Huai Hong Krai Royal Project outside Chiang Mai where we had our morning coffee while watching and listening to mighty Green Peafowls. Talk about being huge! After seeing and hearing (dinosaur call!) the wild birds and also the ones

being in cages together with the Indian relative as well as several Silver Pheasants we went back to Chiang Mai for some food, picking up laundry and even some shopping.

Got our belongings and set off for Chiang Dao Nest where we had pre-booked our accommodation for the night. On the way there we made a stop at Mae Tang Irrigation Project. You can find a sign along the main road pointing to the left if you come from Chiang Mai and if you follow that road you will end up at Mae Tang Irrigation Project. We'd read about possibilities of seeing *Emberiza Buntings* here. Didn't see any of those but still we had great views of our only Greater Painted Snipes as well as Ruddy-breasted Crake and Wire-tailed Swallows. We arrived at Chiang Dao Nest 2 just a couple of hours before dusk. This is an extraordinary beautiful area, both around the temple and around the bungalows. The mighty Doi Chiang Dao rises more than 2300 metres in the background, being the highest limestone-mountain in all of Thailand. Spend about two hours around the temple area birding before dusk. The area consisting of tall rainforest with lots of birds and it was a true shame that we didn't have the proper amount of time for birding here. The short time we did have gave us Oriental Hobby capturing bats at dusk, Streaked Wren-Babbler, Drongo Cuckoo, Black Bulbul, Scaly-breasted Partridge, Grey-throated Babbler, Hill Blue- and Tickell's Bule Flycatcher. The accommodation as well as the food at Chiang Dao Nest 2 was probably the best we had all trip!

This day produced 69 species.



Holy monks at the monastery at Chiang Dao.

Photo: Johannes Rydström

24/2

Woke up after a good nights sleep. We were set to go for Den Ya Kad Substation on the Chiang Dao Mountain to look for specialities such as Giant Nuthatch and Mrs Hume's Pheasant. To get there you will have the need for a 4WD so we had arranged for a guy hired by Chiang Dao Nest to take us there. Those arrangements were pretty easy to make from back home in Sweden and they had to be done since we knew that the minivan that our driver had would not be capable of climbing the steep and ruff road. The price was truly reasonable, don't remember exactly now but you can check it up on Chiang Dao Nests homepage that I've written down earlier in this report. Included in the price was; fabulous breakfast at Chiang Dao Nest 1, being picked up by a 4WD at 5.am and taken to Den Ya Kad area on the mountain, packed lunch on the mountain, water and going back in the afternoon. The drive from the Guesthouse to the most rewarding birding areas around Den Ya Kad takes about two hours so you should get of with an early start. Already on our way up the mountain we saw

both Black-backed- and Slaty-backed Forktails, Crested Treeswifts and lots of Minivets and Black-naped Orioles as well as Great Barbets and others. Halfway up the mountain I stood on the back of the van to be able to spot more birds and we sure got some really stunning ones without effort, such as; Burmese Shrike, Pin-tailed Green Pigeon and Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush. Even more pulse-raising was the close encounter with a displaying male Mrs Hume's Pheasant who had made it his territorial grounds right where we pulled over and was the first bird to be spotted there, even before the others had left the car! It ran around on burnt ground so that, when it halted to put on a display, the ashes blew in all directions around it! The next few birds to reveal themselves were three female Mrs Hume's Pheasant crossing the road and then more Black-naped Orioles, a cute Speckled Piculet clinching on to a small branch as well as Blue-winged Minla, Chestnut Bunting, Little Pied Flycatcher, Oriental Hobby and Maroon Oriole. After enjoying our packed lunch at Den Ya Kad we started to walk down the mountain as we had agreed with our driver for the day to pick us up further down the road after an hour or so. We heard a loud call from the pines at almost the exact same spot as the Pheasant had used for his showing-off earlier. Thomas had bruised his ankle from putting his foot down strange just a few minutes earlier so I went inside to check it out. Yes! The second target bird for today, Giant Nuthatch! It was climbing the same branch as a Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker, which was dwarfed in comparison. All of us eventually had good views of this Giant and another individual further down. Other good birds added as we kept on walking were Asian Emerald Cuckoo, Eurasian Jay (odd-looking race) and Large Cuckooshrike. When we got back to Chiang Dao Nest in around 3pm we ordered double dinners each, once again terrific food, packed our belongings and were on our way to Doi Ang Khang. Two hours later after an extremely steep climb with our van we were on Doi Ang Khang where our next days were to be spent. Before going to bed in Ban Koom Village we had to more species new for the trip; Grey Nightjar and Brown-breasted Bulbul.

This day we had 72 species.



Probably the most luxurious accommodation we had.

Photo: Johannes Rydström

25/2

We woke up before dawn as we had made it custom to do. We strolled around before breakfast in the area just around Ban Koom Village and the Royal Botanical Gardens that lie there. Not too many birds around this first hour of the day but still we had; a big flock of Silver-eared Mesias, Blue-winged Minla, Great Tit and some more. Back to wake up Sebastian and grab some breakfast before going to Km 21.5 for some exceptional birdwatching! Within the first half an hour we'd had terrific views of species such as; Crested Finchbill, Brown-breasted Bulbul, Grey Treepie, White-gorgetted Flycatcher, Little Pied Flycatcher, Orange-flanked Bush Robin, Buff-barred Warbler, Bianchi's Warbler and even more species. In the morning and evening at this spot, birds are literally everywhere, but you have to be patient because the vegetation is thick and the undergrowth is impenetrable. So, not easy birding but truly rewarding! In the midday heat we climbed to the top of Ang Khang mountain, not that high, reaching only 1900metres something above sea level, but still very steep at some parts. Continuing on the small track down on the other side of the highest point we came down to the military checkpoint area, which was also quite rewarding. Other birds added through the day, both in this area and at Ban Luang, were; the ever so beautiful Red-faced Liochichla, Buff-throated Warbler, Striated Bulbul, Plumbeous Water Redstart, Slaty Blue Flycatcher, Rufous-bellied Niltava, Spectacled Barwings and Streaked Spiderhunter. Taking a walk in Ban Koom Village in the evening was a big event in it self. Ban Koom

which is mostly inhabited by Chinese people holds a large number of interesting shops and strange little food places, even including karaoke machines. We sat on the porch in front of our guest house that evening, under a beautiful star-dotted sky. Together with us were our neighbours from southern Thailand, having a beer, as Pon, our driver, was singing Thai folksongs while playing his guitar. A magic night indeed.

The day which was another incredible one gave us 61 species.



Spectacular landscape at Doi Ang Khang.

Photo: Johannes Rydström

26/2

On this wonderful morning we began at km 21.5 since we were impressed with what that area had produced the day before. Not as many new ones there on this day, naturally, but still great close-up encounters with many of the good ones from yesterday as well as a few new. Stripe-breasted Woodpecker, Lesser Yellownape, Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush, Red-faced Liochichla, Mountain Bamboo Partridge, Buff-throated Warbler, Rufous-gorgetted Flycatcher, Rufous-backed Sibia and Pale Blue Flycatcher. Thomas H also had a Chestnut-headed Tesia hopping off into the bushes. After a quick lunch in the village we went to check

out the Burmese border and the small stands where people from hill-tribes had gathered to sell handicraft. On a sign in Burma, just across the border, one could read “Who dare. We will win”, a little bit cocky you would have to admit. We also found an ok birding area close to the border along the road. Even though it was the middle of the day we had species such as White-browed Scimitar Babbler, Rufous-bellied Niltava, Asian Stubtail, Japanese White-eye, Streaked Spiderhunter and Tomas L alone was lucky to find Brown Bush Warbler and White-tailed Robin. In the afternoon everyone but me felt like having dinner so I was let off at km 23, supposed to be a good birding area, and followed the trail downwards to a small settlement. As I was trying to satisfy my artistic demands by sitting down to take a picture of a small child taking a bath in a tin-bucket, I got bitten in the back by a dog! The parents of the little child threw stones after the dog to show it that it had been a bad doggie. Luckily it didn't bite very hard but still, it punctuated the skin in two places and I had a small bruise instantly. Fear of rabies. But first I kept on walking down the trail in search for some more highlight birds. I got one really good new bird, or eight to ten of them to be correct, that the others did not get; White-necked Laughingthrush. This was a charming, vocal, but shy bird that took some effort to get to see properly. Other birds here were Golden Babblers, Silver-eared Mesias, Blue-winged Minlas and Yellow-cheeked Tits. On the way back I met the others that told I should probably go to see the local doctor, which I did. “-One shot for rabies now and two more in a few days in Bangkok” was the prescription. In the evening we had dinner at the conspicuous “'Pizza' and Steak House” in Ban Koom Village. The restaurant doesn't serve any pizzas what so ever but on the menu you can find amongst others; Ostrich Pizza!

This day ended with the Grey Nightjar from yesterday and all in all 62 species.



Children in Ban Koom Village, Doi Ang Khang. Photo: Johannes Rydström



Child taking a bath close to Ban Koom Village, Doi Ang Khang. Photo: Johannes Rydström



On hardcore birding trips people tend to get wounded sooner or later.
On the left myself with a dogbite to the back and to the right
Thomas with a sprained ankle. Photo: Sebastian Rydström

27/2

Morning birding at the regular spot, km 21.5, before leaving for Thaton around 10 o'clock. Birds that we had this last morning on the mountain were amongst others: Rufous-throated Partridges giving cracking views, Mountain Bamboo Partridge, a flock of fifteen Red-faced Liochiclas hopping around on the trail (!), and the highlight of the morning without a doubt a Spot-breasted Parrotbill! Much larger than what we had in mind, looking totally outrageous. Our plan for the day was to stop for three hours birding at Thaton before driving on towards Chiang Saen and maybe have some time left for evening birding there.

The search for Jerdon's in Thaton did not succeed, but still we had some great birds. A stunning male Siberian Rubythroat, Barred Buttonquail was seen well, as was a Baya Weaver and quick views of Yellow-eyed Babblers.

Arriving to at Chiang Saen with some birding time left before darkness we went to the visitor centre to get information about ducks in the area. It didn't seem that any one knew exactly where would be the best place or how many ducks were present at the time, so we just birded the nearest surroundings and a little bit along the east lake-shore. This turned out to be rewarding and after less than an hour birding we had seen Citrine Wagtail, Pintail Snipe, Grey-headed Lapwing and also I had spotted a "second-ever" to Thailand: one adult and one juvenile Red-billed Starling! They came, flying along the shore and dropped in to the short grass in the search for food. I called out to the others what I had discovered and the came running in. We all got god views of the birds before they disappeared in to a bush nearby. Before it was all dark we enjoyed a flock of Small Pratincoles flying back and forth along the Mekong River while ordering dinner just outside our guest house in Chiang Saen town.

81 species were recorded this day.



By the Mae Kok River at Thaton. Photo: Johannes Rydström



Hard labour at Thaton.

Photo: Sebastian Rydström

28/2

Sadly we had come to our last day of birding, all things has to have an end, unfortunately.

We had an early start, as usual, and drove to the southwest corner of Chiang Saen Lake, where we had read in Peter Ericsson's report that the ducks where supposed to hang around. Good birding from the moment we stepped out of the car with loads of herons and other birds such as Striated Grassbirds, Oriental Reed Warblers, Citrine Wagtails, two male Burmese Shrikes, Black-collared Starlings and Chestnut-tailed Starlings. Found our way to the part of the lake that held all the good ducks and started to count them in, two thousand Lesser Whistling Ducks, Gadwalls, Mallards, Northern Pintails, Spot-billed Ducks, Garganeys, Ferruginous Pochards and Tufted Ducks! Quite rare to see this many ducks in Thailand, really too bad we couldn't find any Baer's Pochard though. Great-crested Grebes were present as well and also three Pied Avocets. Searched through the scrub on our way back and found some obliging Racket-tailed Treepies. We went up-river along the Mekong to Rim Kong River Restaurant. A top-notch birding spot while having a meal, that's something quite out of the ordinary! While scoping from the restaurant we saw Ruddy Shelduck, Spot-billed Ducks, Pied Kingfisher, Blue-tailed Bee-eater, Long-toed Stint, Temnick's Stint, large numbers of Small Pratincoles, Grey-headed Lapwing, and lots of Black-winged Stilts and Spotted Redshanks. In midday we checked out the Golden Triangle which is quite close, did some shopping and took a brief boat-trip over to Laos. From the boat we could add another flock of Spot-billed Ducks and even more Small Pratincoles.

While in Doi Ang Khang we were told of a place south of Chiang Saen that was called Chiang Kong and where River Lapwing was supposed to breed. Tempted with the chance of seeing this beautiful shorebird we went for a drive south, picking a smaller side-track of closer to the river we stopped every now and then where it seemed like good habitat and searched through our scopes. Close to a small village called Rim Kong Village (not to be mistaken with the Rim Kong River Restaurant mentioned earlier) we pulled over once again and checked the riverbeds in the mighty Mekong. Before long Thomas L announced that he had spotted a pair of River Lapwings. Joy! We didn't really have in mind really finding them, just giving it a worthy try. Even more surprising was it when I followed the River Lapwings around in my scope, just to stumble across a lovely male Jerdon's Bushchat! I told the others to look into my scope and that they should be surprised, and truly they were. With spirits on top and everything going better than expected we went back to Chiang Saen for an hour and a half birding before dusk. Hundreds of egrets flying in before dark to roost in a huge flock along the shore. Plenty of Eastern Marsh Harriers and a single female pied harrier came in to roost as well. Several Chinese Francolins calling and a Bluethroat hopping on the ground were to be the last birds recorded this day.

This terrific last birding day we saw 85 species.



Humongous insect, Mekong River. Photo: Johannes Rydström



The last evening of birding at Chiang Saen Lake. Photo: Johannes Rydström

1/3

Woke up in Chiang Saen Guesthouse and stuffed our belongings into the car for the long ride south. We halted for bathroom visits and to eat three times on our way to Bangkok. The trip took about eleven hours but still wasn't that bad. The roads are well-maintained and we had an early start so we arrived at Khaosarn Road, Bangkok with enough time left to have a few beers! One new bird was added to the trip list this day, when we stopped to eat at a KFC along the road. The much longed for House Sparrow. Also seen from the car where many egrets, Black-winged Kites and a few Crested Treeswifts.

2/3

This day Tomas and Thomas were going home and arriving to travel with me and my brother instead were some friends of mine. Before the poor souls had to leave for Ban Luang (the airport), we had the time to look around many cool and interesting places in Bangkok. Even in

the core of Bangkok there where Asian Koels, Radde's Warblers, Red-collared Doves, Olive-backed Sunbirds and yet more.

3/3 – 4/4

The hours spent in birding during this period could be counted on the fingers of one hand. Even so, I managed to add three lifers more and another few new Thailand ticks. We visited a Marine National park called Surin Islands or Mu Koh Surin in Thai. This place holds a population of Nicobar Pigeons as well as Beach Thick-knee. Sadly I missed out on both but at least I got Pied Imperial Pigeon, Green Imperial Pigeon and Glossy Swiftlet. Also seen on the islands were a couple of Black Bazas migrating north. On the boattrip from and back to the mainland I spotted Pomarine Skua and Parasitic Skua as well as Bridled Terns.

If any one has an interest in going to Surin Islands, feel free to contact me. The area is one of the best in the world for snorkelling and diving!

On Koh Lanta further south I had a magnificent flock of Christmas Island Frigatebird hanging over the beach.

On the ferry from Koh Pha Ngan to Koh Samui I saw several Pomarine Skuas and Great Crested Terns.

Hong Island just outside of Krabi gave Dusky Crag Martin and Olive-winged Bulbuls while lying on the beach. Krabi Town mangrove was full of Brown-winged Kingfishers as usual.

Full Species List

Chinese Francolin (*Francolinus pintadeanus*) At least five birds calling in the evening at the southwest shore of Chiang Saen Lake 28/2.

Barred Buttonquail (*Turnix suscitator*) Two seen well at Thaton (north of the Mae Kok River) on 27/2.

Rufous-throated Partridge (*Arborophila rufogularis*) 1-2 birds seen and heard at the summit, Doi Inthanon on both 20/2 and 21/2, one bird calling at Jeep Track, Doi Inthanon on 22/2. Heard everyday on Doi Ang Khang and four birds giving great views at km 21.5 on 27/2.

Bar-backed Partridge (*Arborophila brunneopectus*) Seen and heard well in Kaeng Krachan on 13/2, 14/2 and 15/2. Largest flock of eight individuals.

Scaly-breasted Partridge (*Arborophila chloropus*) Both seen and heard on all days in Kaeng Krachan, maximum day count 14 birds. Another four birds were seen at the Chiang Dao Temple on 23/2.

Ferruginous Partridge (*Caloperdix oculea*) Both seen well and heard on several occasions in Kaeng Krachan. Maximum of six birds in one day and three calling at the same time.

Mountain Bamboo Partridge (*Bambusicola fytchii*) 2-3 birds seen briefly, but mostly heard at km 21.5, Doi Ang Khang on both 26/2 and 27/2.

Red Junglefowl (*Gallus gallus*) 2-3 birds seen daily in Khao Yai (close-up views at Pha Kluey Mai), at least two birds on Jeep Track, Doi Inthanon on 22/2. One bird heard at Doi Ang Khang on 27/2.

Silver Pheasant (*Lophura nychtemera*) One male and two females showing extremely well along trail 6, Khao Yai on 17/2. Beautiful birds!

Kalij Pheasant (*Lophura leucomelanos*) One pair + one male and two females seen at the higher elevations (km 28 and km 25) in Kaeng Krachan on the 14/2. Three males and two females seen at the lower elevations (km 17 and km 19) on 15/2. Gorgeous!

Siamese Fireback (*Lophura diardi*) One pair of this fantastic species seen at very close range crossing the road and walking beside it at Radar Road, Khao Yai on 18/2.



Male Siamese Fireback.

Photo: Sebastian Rydström

Mrs Hume's Pheasant (*Syrnaticus humiae*) One male giving absolutely cracking views while displaying on burnt grounds, about one km before you reach Den Ya Kad substation on Doi Chiang Dao. At least two females also seen along the road shortly after.

Grey Peacock Pheasant (*Polyplectron bicalcaratum*) At least three birds calling frequently at km 16, Kaeng Krachan on 13/2. One bird flushed along a small trail and one more heard at about km 27, Kaeng Krachan on 14/2.

At least two birds, of which one giving exceptional views at km 19, Kaeng Krachan on 15/2.

Green Peafowl (*Pavo muticus*) At least three wild birds both seen and heard calling at Huai Hong Krai Royal Project, outside Chiang Mai. Humongous and incredibly beautiful creatures!

Lesser Whistling Duck (*Dendrocygna javanica*) One seen along Rama Road outside Bangkok on 11/2, 30 seen at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2. At least 3000 seen on our boat-trip on Beung Boraphet on 19/2. At least 200 seen at Mae Hia Agricultural Center, Chiang Mai on 22/2. At

least 150 seen Mae Tang on 23/2. 250 seen Chiang Saen Lake on 27/2 and more than 2500 seen on the same place the day after.

Ruddy Shelduck (*Tadorna ferruginea*) Two on a river-bar outside Rim Kong River Restaurant, Mekong River on 28/2.

Gadwall (*Anas strepera*) Two males in the southwest corner of Chiang Saen Lake 28/2.

Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) Four in the southwest corner of Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2.

Northern Shoveler (*Anas clypeata*) Three from the boat on Beung Boraphet on 19/2.

Northern Pintail (*Anas acuta*) Two females in the southwest corner of Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2.

Cotton Pygmy Goose (*Nettapus coromandelianus*) At least 3000 from the boat on Beung Boraphet on 19/2.

Spot-billed Duck (*Anas poecilorhyncha*) Two birds in the southwest corner of Chiang Saen Lake and about forty at Rim Kong River Restaurant, Mekong River and another forty on the Mekong at Golden Triangle. All observations were made on 28/2.

Garganey (*Anas querquedula*) At least 100 from the boat on Beung Boraphet on 19/2 and another thirty in the south west corner of Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2.

Ferruginous Pochard (*Aythya nyroca*) At least ten from the boat on Beung Boraphet on 19/2 and more than thirty in the southwest corner of Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2. Could not find any Baer's Pochard, unfortunately.

Tufted Duck (*Aythya fuligula*) Seven in the southwest corner of Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2.

Great Crested Grebe (*Podiceps cristatus*) Two individuals in the southwest corner of Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2.

Little Grebe (*Tachybaptus ruficollis*) At least 20 in marshes along Rama Road on 11/2 and ten at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2. Well over 1000 birds seen on the boat-trip on Beung Boraphet. We had flocks of about 100 Little Grebes taking to the wings just in front of the boat! Ten were seen at Mae Tang on 23/2 and about 40 were seen on both dates at Chiang Saen.

Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker (*Dendrocopus canicapillus*) One at km 13, Doi Inthanon on 22/2 and one more close to Den Ya Kad substation, Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2.

Fulvous-breasted Woodpecker (*Dendrocopus macei*) 1 male at Thung Feau, Petchaburi Province on 11/2.

Stripe-breasted Woodpecker (*Dendrocopus atratus*) 1 male at km 21.5, Doi Ang Khang on 26/2.

Speckled Piculet (*Picumnus innominatus*) One individual close to Den Ya Kad, Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2.

White-browed Piculet (*Sasia ochracea*) One bird seen at really close range clinging on bamboo at km 13, Doi Inthanon on 22/2.

Heart-spotted Woodpecker (*Hemicercus canente*) One seen at km 17, Kaeng Krachan on 15/2.

Hemicercus sp. One seen flying by at km 27, Kaeng Krachan on 14/2.

Lesser Yellownape (*Picus chlorolophus*) One male seen at km 21.5, Doi Ang Khang on 26/2.

Greater Yellownape (*Picus flavinucha*) Two seen at Km 10, Kaeng Krachan on 13/2. At least five seen around km 16, Kaeng Krachan on 15/2.

Crimson-winged Woodpecker (*Picus puniceus*) One male at km 28, Kaeng Krachan on 14/2.



Stunning individual at km 28, Kaeng Krachan.

Photo: Thomas Hultquist

Laced Woodpecker (*Picus vittatus*) One km 16, Kaeng Krachan on 15/2 and two on Mo Singto Trail, Khao Yai on 18/2.

Grey-headed Woodpecker (*Picus canus*) One pair at km 19, Kaeng Krachan on 13/2.

Common Flameback (*Dinopium javanese*) At least six Kaeng Krachan on 13/2. Two seen there also on 15/2 and one on 16/2.

Greater Flameback (*Dinopium lucidus*) Two seen at Ban Krang Camp Site, Kaeng Krachan on 16/2.

Dinopium sp. Several seen at the beginning of Trail 6, Khao Yai on 17/2.

Maroon Woodpecker (*Blythipicus rubiginosus*) Two birds showing well and being very noisy at km 28.5, Kaeng Krachan on 15/2.

Rufous Woodpecker (*Ceolus brachyurus*) One at HQ, Kaeng Krachan on 13/2 and one close to Pha Kluey Mai Campground, Khao Yai on 18/2.

Great Slaty Woodpecker (*Mulleripicus pulverulentus*) Three to four birds showing well on 13/2, 15/2 and 16/2 between km 16-18, Kaeng Krachan. Huge, really cool woodpecker that makes a lot of noise.

Great Barbet (*Megalaima virens*) Calling from all directions, all the time at the higher elevations Kaeng Krachan (at least forty individuals) on 14/2, also many seen. Ten at Jeep Track, Doi Inthanon 20/2, mostly heard. At least five Jeep Track on 22/2. A few calling at Chiang Dao Temple on 23/2. At least 30 seen and heard along the road to Den Ya Kad substation, Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2. Five seen and heard Doi Ang Khang area on 24/2 and 25/2.

Linneated Barbet (*Megalaima lineate*) At least ten in the dry surroundings of Chumporn on 12/2. Three birds calling at km 13, Doi Inthanon on 22/2.

Green-eared Barbet (*Megalaima faiostriata*) Between ten and twenty-five birds seen and heard every day in both Kaeng Krachan and Khao Yai. One bird Chiang Saen on 27/2.

Golden-throated Barbet (*Megalaima franklinii*) At least four at the higher elevations Kaeng Krachan on 14/2. Another fifteen along Jeep Track and around Summit Marsh, Doi Inthanon on 20/2. Five on the same places the following day. Between five and ten birds daily at Doi Ang Khang.

Blue-throated Barbet (*Megalaima asiatica*) Common Kaeng Krachan and approximately at least fifty birds on one day. A few on Doi Inthanon on 21/2 and 22/2. Several at Chiang Dao Temple on 23/2 and also on Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2.

Moustached Barbet (*Megalaima incognita*) One seen km 27, Kaeng Krachan on 14/2. Common in Khao Yai where it replaces the Blue-throated “cousin”. Between twenty and thirty birds daily in Khao Yai.

Blue-eared Barbet (*Megalaima australis*) Many heard and seen every day in both Kaeng Krachan and Khao Yai, but no place else.

Coppersmith Barbet (*Megalaima haemacephala*) Always at least one present in more open country, even seen and heard in Central Bangkok! And on another trip also on the beach in Phuket!



Coppersmith Barbet, Mae Hia, Chiang Mai.

Photo: Johanens Rydström

Great Hornbill (*Buceros bicornis*) At least twenty seen between km 29 and km 32, Kaeng Krachan on 14/2. At least one at km 18 on 15/2 and one also, flying by at km 19 on 16/2. Stunning as always!

Oriental Pied Hornbill (*Anthracoceros albirostris*) At least twenty seen on the way into Kaeng Krachan and around km 16-km 17 on 13/2. Two seen there on 15/2 and another five on 16/2. At least fifteen seen in Khao Yai on 17/2 and about five seen in Khao Yai on 18/2.

Brown Hornbill (*Anorrhinus tickelli austeni*) Five birds came flapping across HQ area in Khao Yai almost as soon as we got there on 17/2! Unexpected and welcome.

Wreathed Hornbill (*Aceros undulatus*) Two seen at Ban Krang Camp Site, Kaeng Krachan on 13/2. Four at km 27.5, Kaeng Krachan on 14/2. One seen close to the Ban Krang, Kaeng Krachan on both 15/2 and 16/2. One showing extremely well at Radar Road, Khao Yai on 18/2.

Orange-breasted Trogon (*Harpactes oreskios*) Seen every day in Kaeng Krachan with three-four birds giving great views most days. Seen with at least three birds in Khao Yai on both 17/2 and 18/2.



One of many in Kaeng Krachan.

Photo: Thomas Hultquist

Red-headed Trogon (*Harpactes erythrocephalus*) One beautiful pair at the entrance to the Trail 6, Khao Yai on 17/2 and one male along the trail between Haew Suwat and Pha Kluey Mai, Khao Yai on 19/2.



Red-headed Trogon trail 6, Khao Yai.

Photo: Thomas Hultquist

Common Kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis*) Seen at almost every visited site that held some kind of water, dam, lake or a slow-flowing river/stream. All together on the trip we saw about 40 individuals of this cute reminder of the European avifauna. Maximum day count on the 11/2

White-throated Kingfisher (*Halcyon smyrnensis*) All days that we spend any birding in drier areas held at least a couple of White-breasted Kingfishers, altogether 35 individuals. Day counts of five birds on 11/2, 12/2 and 28/2.



White-throated Kingfisher, Thaton.

Photo: Thomas Hultquist

Black-capped Kingfisher (*Halcyon pileata*) Only seen on the localities in the Siam Bay on the 11/2, 12/2 and 16/2. A total of 33 individuals, 20 of those were seen on the 12/2 alone!

Collared Kingfisher (*Todiramphus chloris*) Common in the mangroves at Khok Kham on 11/2 and also several seen at Leam Pak Biae on 16/2. A total of 20 birds.



Collared Kingfisher at Khok Kham.

Photo: Johannes Rydström

Pied Kingfisher (*Ceryle rudis*) One bird seen resting on a stick in the Mekong River outside Rim Kong River Restaurant, Chiang Saen on 28/2.

Blue-bearded Bee-eater (*Nyctyornis athertoni*) Seen on three days in Kaeng Krachan with 7 birds on the 15/2 being the highest number, all Kaeng Krachan observations except one were

made around km 16-17. In Kao Yai we had one bird at the HQ on 18/2 and 2 more at Heaw Suwat Waterfall on 19/2.

Blue-tailed Bee-eater (*Merops philippinus*) Seen on many places. 11/2, 12/2, 16/2, 19/2 and 28/2. A total of 70-80 birds. Highest day count 40, mostly around Kao Yoi and Thung Feau.



Blue-tailed Bee-eater, Thung Feau.

Photo: Johannes Rydström

Green Bee-eater (*Merops orientalis*) A few seen on most days when birding took place in open, drier areas. Highest day counts was 25 seen on 12/2 and 35 seen on 23/2.



Green Bee-eater, Mae Hia, Chiang Mai.

Photo: Johannes Rydström

Chestnut-headed Bee-eater (*Merops leschenaulti*) Seen in both Kaeng Krachan and Kao Yai with 40 respectively 15 individuals. All the Chestnut-headed in Kaeng Krachan was seen at the higher elevations.

Large Hawk Cuckoo (*Hierococcyx sparverioides*) One bird calling in the morning at Pha Kluey Mai Campground, Khao Yai on the 18/2.

Greater Coucal (*Centropus sinensis*) Seen with a few individuals on all days when any birding took place at lower elevations. Not seen on the mountains in the north and not in Khao. Maximum day count 15 birds on 28/2 in Chiang Saen area.

Lesser Coucal (*Centropus bengalensis*) 1 bird seen in shrubby area just south of Chumporn on 12/2 and one seen at Beung Boraphet on 19/2.

Indian Cuckoo (*Cuculus micropterus*) At least 2 birds heard calling each day in Kaeng Krachan, one bird calling in Khao Yai on the 18/2 and 2 individuals along Jeep Track on Doi Inthanon on 22/2 of which one showing well. Also one bird calling at km 21,5, Doi Ang Khang on 25/2.

Banded Bay Cuckoo (*Cacomantis sonneratii*) One bird showing well at km 15, Kaeng Krachan on the 15/2.



Banded Bay Cuckoo, Kaeng Krachan. Photo: Thomas Hultquist

Plaintive Cuckoo (*Cacomantis merulinus*) 2 birds seen at the Mahidol University area in Bangkok on the 10/2 and at least 8 birds on different locations on the 11/2. One bird seen Doi Inthanon on 20/2 and one seen Ban Koom Village, Doi Ang Khang on 24/2.

Asian Emerald Cuckoo (*Chrysococcyx maculatus*) Two females showing well at km 20 Kaeng Krachan on 15/2. One superb male on the way down from Den Ya Kad, Doi Chiang Dao 24/2.



Asian Emerald Cuckoo, Kaeng Krachan. Photo: Thomas Hultquist

Drongo Cuckoo (*Surniculus lugibris*) One bird calling at Radar Road, Khao Yai on 18/2 and two birds calling and showing at Chiang Dao temple on 23/2.

Asian Koel (*Eudynamys scolopacea*) Heard and seen with several individuals all days that birding took place in more open areas, including in the middle of Bangkok. Often heard already one or two hours before sunrise. No observations at higher altitudes.

Green-billed Malkoha (*Phaenicophaeus tristis*) One Chumporn on 12/2, one Kaeng Krachan on 16/2, two in Khao Yai on 17/2, one at km 13 Doi Inthanon on 22/2, one at km 21,5 Doi Ang Khang on 25/2 and one in the same area on 26/2

Chestnut-breasted Malkoha (*Phaenicophaeus curvirostris*) Three birds around km 19 Kaeng Krachan on 15/2 giving cracking views, Two of them tearing a fat, green lizard apart between them.



Chestnut-breasted Malkoha, Kaeng Krachan. Photo: Thomas Hultquist

Raffle's Malkoha (*Phaenicophaeus chlorophaeus*) One female seen extremely well at km 19 Kaeng Krachan on 15/2.



Raffle's Malkoha, Kaeng Krachan. Photo: Thomas Hultquist

Coral-billed Ground Cuckoo (*Carpococcyx renauldi*) Two birds giving superb views in the morning after a long wait at the Pha Kluey Mai Campground, Khao Yai on 18/2. They came out of the forest to feed on the borderline of the campground.

Indian Roller (*Coracias benghalensis*) First individual seen even before we got to leave Bangkok at Mahidol University. Several seen every day when birding took place in any kind of open terrain or when any major driving took place. Less common in the north. Maximum

day counts were fifteen on 16/2 while birding around Ban Pak Talay and Leam Pak Biae , ten both days in Khao Yai and fifteen on 19/2 mostly between Khao Yai and Beung Boraphet.

Dollarbird (*Eurystomus orientalis*) One seen in Kaeng Krachan 13/2, Three in Khao Yai at the golf course on 18/2 and one HQ, Doi Inthanon on 21/2.

Vernal Hanging Parrot (*Loriculus vernalis*) One seen at the higher elevations Kaeng Krachan on 14/2 and two seen at lower elevations, Kaeng Krachan on both 15/2 and 16/2. Ten birds seen Khao Yai on 18/2

Red-breasted Parakeet (*Psittacula alexandri*) At least fifteen birds showed well at their well-known colony just outside Khao Yai National Park on 17/2.



Red-breasted Parakeet, outside Khao Yai. Photo: Johannes Rydström

Common Hoopoe (*Upupa epops*) One at Mae Hia Agricultural Center on 22/2.

Himalayan Swiftlet (*Collocalia brevirostris*) One Kaeng Krachan 13/2, Seen with many individuals all days in Khao Yai with a highest day count of more than one hundred birds. Thirty seen on Doi Inthanon on 22/2, at least 20 Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2.

Germain's Swiftlet (*Collocalia germani*) Very many seen every day along the coast and in Kaneg Krachan. Highest day count along the coast exceeds a thousand birds and highest in Kaneg Krachan goes well over a hundred.

Asian Palm Swift (*Cypsiurus balasiensis*) At least twenty at Mahidol University, Bangkok on 10/2, at least one hundred seen along the coast on 11/2, twenty at Mae Hia on 22/2. Ten at Thaton on 27/2.

Fork-tailed Swift (*Apus pacificus*) Three at the Watchtower, Khao Yai on 17/2, two on Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2, at least twenty at Doi Ang Khang on 25/2 and more than thirty there the two days following after that.

House Swift (*Apus affinis*) Six at Mahidol University, Bangkok on 10/2, five seen in Chumporn on 12/2, Twenty Khao Yai on 17/2 and 18/2, twenty more at Mae Hia on 22/2. Thirty at different locations on 23/2.

Brown-backed Needletail (*Hirundapus giganteus*) At least thirty flying over our campground at km 15, Kaeng Krachan on 13/2, one Kaeng Krachan on 16/2.

Crested Treeswift (*Hemiprocne coronata*) Two birds on Doi Chiang Dao in 24/2 and three more the same day at Doi Ang Khang. One seen central Thailand along the road to Bangkok on 1/3.

Grey-rumped Treeswift (*Hemiprocne longipennis*) At least ten birds flying above the road at km 12, Kaeng Krachan on 16/2.

Whiskered Treeswift (*Hemiprocne comata*) Two birds showing off beautifully at km 19, Kaeng Krachan on 15/2.

Mountain Scops Owl (*Otus spilocephalus*) One bird calling at our campsite on 14/2. One calling Doi Ang Khang on all nights .

Oriental Scops Owl (*Otus sunia*) One calling at km 21,5, Doi Ang Khang on 25/2

Collared Scops Owl (*Otus bakkamoena*) Two calling at or campsite Kaeng Krachan on 13/2, 14/2 and 15/2. One calling at Chiang Dao Nest on 23/2.

Collared Owlet (*Glaucidium brodei*) Heard with between 4-6 individuals each day in Kaeng Krachan, also seen there, a few heard in Khao Yai,

Asian Barred Owlet (*Glaucidium cuculoides*) One calling Chumporn 11/2, one calling Kaeng Krachan on 13/2, two calling there on the 14/2, three birds at Kaeng Krachan on 15/2 of which one showing extremely well. Two birds heard in Khao Yai. Two birds on Doi Inthanon on 20/2. One Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2.



Asian Barred Owlet, Kaeng Krachan.

Photo: Thomas Hultquist

Spotted Owlet (*Athene brama*) Two showing well at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2.

Brown Hawk Owl (*Ninox scutulata*) One bird at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2, and one-two birds calling at our campsite Kaeng Krachan every night. Two birds heard in Khao Yai and one of them was spotlighted right above the restaurant at the HQ. One Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2.

Buffy Fish Owl (*Ketupa ketupu*) One bird giving absolutely stunning views at km 16, Kaeng Krachan on 13/2 and 15/2. What a bird!



Buffy Fish Owl, Kaeng Krachan.

Photo: Johannes Rydström

Great Eared Nightjar (*Eurostopodus macrotis*) One bird flying around at our campsite Kaeng Krachan on 13/2 and 14/2 and 16/2 and two seen there on 15/2. One seen in Khao Yai on both 17/2 and 18/2.

Large-tailed Nightjar (*Caprimulgus macrurus*) Two outside Kaeng Krachan on 12/2, two birds displaying at our campsite Kaeng Krachan every night. One displaying Chiang Dao Nest 2 on 23/2. One Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2.

Grey Nightjar (*Caprimulgus indicus*) One displaying at Ban Koom Village, Doi Ang Khang on 24/2 and 25/2.

Savannah Nightjar (*Caprimulgus affinis*) Three birds seen on an island in Beung Boraphet, all giving great views. One of them seen down to two metres sitting on its nest.



Savannah Nightjar on its nest, Beung Boraphet. Photo: Thomas Hultquist

Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*) Very common everywhere in the vicinity of towns and villages.

Ashy Wood Pigeon (*Columba pulchricollis*) Two birds flying over the Summit Marsh, Doi Inthanon on 21/2.

Pale-capped Pigeon (*Columba punicea*) One bird flying across the river at the river mouth in Chumporn while being out with a boat on 12/2.

Mountain Imperial Pigeon (*Ducula badia*) At least thirty were seen and heard at the higher elevations Kaeng Krachan on 14/2, two in Khao Yai on 17/2, at least ten in Khao Yai on 18/2, two in Khao Yai on 19/2, two birds Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2 and two on Doi Ang Khang on 26/2.



Mountain Imperial Pigeon, Kaeng Krachan. Photo: Thomas Hultquist

Spotted Dove (*Streptopelia chinensis*) Very common everywhere except in the rainforest and at higher altitudes. A few birds seen on Doi Ang Khang though.

Red Collared Dove (*Streptopelia tranquebarica*) Quite common in open areas visited (except in the north) and for example at least fifty were seen on different locations on 11/2, more than a hundred seen along the coast on 16/2,

Peaceful Dove (*Geopelia striata*) Seen with between five and twenty individuals all days when birding took place in more open, cultivated areas or in cities (not in the far north). Highest day-count, at least twenty birds, was on 11/2 along the coast in cultivated areas.

Pink-necked Green Pigeon (*Treron vernans*) One pair showed well at Thung Feau, Petchaburi on 11/2, at least five flying across the river at Chumporn river mouth on 12/2.

Thick-billed Green Pigeon (*Treron curvirostra*) At least fifteen were seen in two flocks while driving in to Kaeng Krachan National Park, one bird Kaeng Krachan on 15/2, at least ten in Khao Yai on 18/2.

Emerald Dove (*Chalcophaps indica*) Seven birds were seen in Kaeng Krachan on 14/2, most of them walking on the road while driving back down the mountain in the afternoon, three in Kaeng Krachan on 15/2, three in Khao Yai on 18/2 and one on Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2.

Pin-tailed Green Pigeon (*Treron apicauda*) At least five seen well sitting in a pine before arriving at Den Ya Kad substation on Doi Chiang Dao 24/2.

Yellow-vented Green Pigeon (*Treron seimundi*) Four birds at the higher elevations Kaeng Krachan on 14/2, one pair giving fantastic views at the viewpoint and another two flying over at km 29.

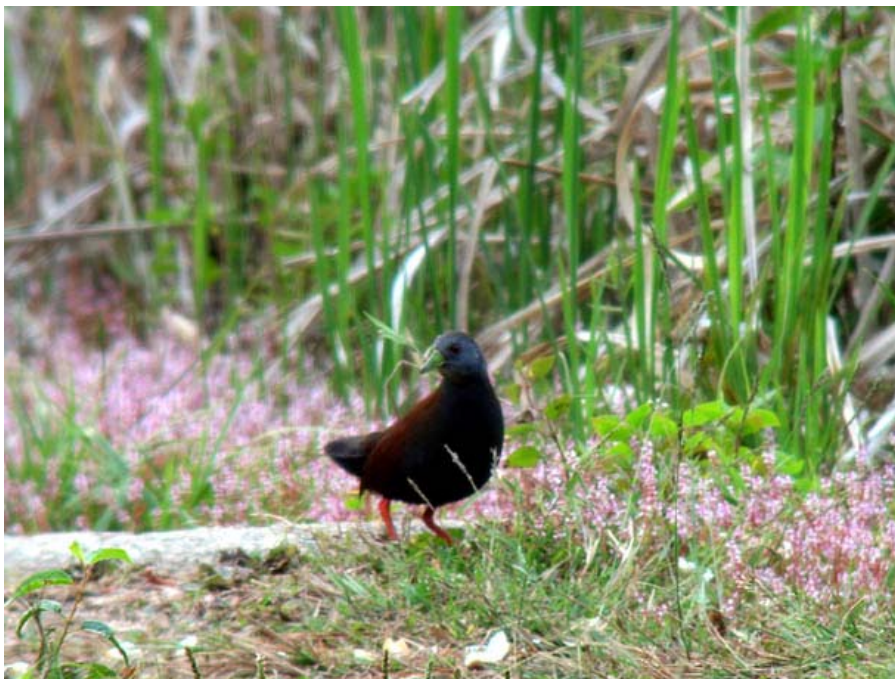
White-breasted Waterhen (*Amauornis phoenicurus*) Three seen at different location on 11/2, two Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2, three in Khao Yai on 17/2, at least twenty were seen around Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2.

Purple Swamphen (*Porphyrio porphyrio*) At least twenty at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2, more than 3000 individuals at Beung Boraphet on 19/2(!) walking like cattle on floating vegetation. Five seen at Chiang Saen on 27/2 and at least twenty there on 28/2.

Common Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*) Seen at most wet lowland areas, at least sixty at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2, at least 300 at Beung Boraphet on 19/2, fifteen at Mae Tang on 23/2, Ten seen at Chiang Saen on 27/2 and at least forty there on 28/2.

Common Coot (*Fulica atra*) More than 1000 on Beung Boraphet on 19/2.

Black-tailed Crake (*Porzana bicolor*) One bird showing extremely well at the “Crake Pond” by the campground close to HQ, Doi Inthanon, while coming out into the open to feed on bread that had been placed out by Thai birders.



Black-tailed Crake, Doi Inthanon.

Photo: Johannes Rydström

Ruddy-breasted Crake (*Porzana fusca*) Two displaying at Thung Feau, Petchaburi on 11/2, at least six birds displaying at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2, one seen walking out in the open at Mae Tang on 23/2.

Greater Painted Snipe (*Rostratula benghalensis*) Two birds seen well at Mae Tang on 23/2.

Eurasian Woodcock (*Scolopax rusticola*) Two were seen in Khao Yai on 18/2, one of them was flushed from a small stream at Pha Kluey Mai Campground.

Pintail Snipe (*Gallinago stenura*) Four birds seen close to HQ, Chiang Saen on 27/2 and two there on 28/2.

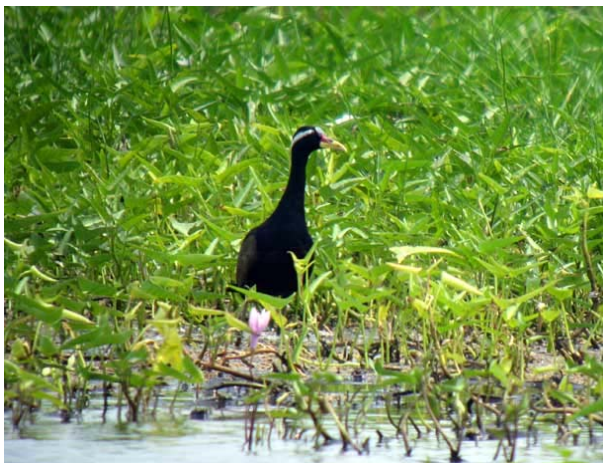
Common Snipe (*Gallinago gallinago*) One Mahidol University, Bangkok 10/2, one along the coast on 11/2, at least twenty at Beung Boraphet on 19/2,

Pheasant-tailed Jacana (*Hydrophasianus chirurgus*) At least ten seen on different locations on 11/2, one at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2, at least 150 at Beung Boraphet on 19/2. At least fifteen at Mae Tang on 23/2. One Chiang Saen on 28/2.



Pheasant-tailed Jacana, Rama Road. Photo: Johannes Rydström

Bronze-winged Jacana (*Metopidius indicus*) At least twenty seen on different locations on 11/2, three seen at Beung Boraphet on 19/2 and one seen at Mae Tang on 23/2.



Bronze-winged Jacana, Rama Road. Photo: Johannes Rydström

Black-tailed Godwit (*Limosa limosa*) Two birds on Beung Boraphet on 19/2.

Asian Dowitcher (*Limnodromus semipalmatus*) One bird in one of the canals/ponds that lies furthest to the south of Khok Kham on 11/2 was unexpected this time of year.

Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*) About twenty birds seen in the mangrove at Chumporn on 12/2.

Eurasian Curlew (*Numenius arquata*) One bird Khok Kham on 11/2,

Spotted Redshank (*Tringa erythropus*) Fifteen seen at Leam Pak Biae and Ban Pak Talay on 16/2, two at Beung Boraphet on 19/2. At least sixty birds at Rim Kong River Restaurant, Mekong River and at Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2.

Common Redshank (*Tringa totanus*) Ten at Khok Kham on 11/2, four at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2,

Marsh Sandpiper (*Tringa stagnatilis*) At least seventy at Khok Kham on 11/2, at least fifteen seen at Leam Pak Biae and Ban Pak Talay on 16/2.



Marsh Sandpipers, Kohok Kham.

Photo: Johannes Rydström

Common Greenshank (*Tringa nebularia*) At least 100 at Khok Kham on 11/2, thirty seen at Leam Pak Biae and Ban Pak Talay on 16/2. Five at Mae Tang on 23/2 and at least thirty at Chiang Saen and Rim Kong River Restaurant, Mekong River on 28/2..

Nordmann's Greenshank (*Tringa guttifer*) At least twenty birds giving good views together with its relatives, in one of the further most south canals/ponds, at Khok Kham on 11/2.



Nordmann's Greenshanks, Khok Kham.

Photo: Thomas Hultquist

Green Sandpiper (*Tringa ochropus*) Three at Mae Tang on 23/2, three at Thaton and Chiang Saen on 27/2 and five at Rim Kong River Restaurant, Mekong River on 28/2.

Wood Sandpiper (*Tringa glareola*) At least twenty at Khok Kham on 11/2, five at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2, one seen at Ban Pak Talay on 16/2. At least fifty at Beung Boraphet on 19/2.

Terek Sandpiper (*Xenus cinereus*) At least five Khok Kham on 11/2, one seen at Ban Pak Talay on 16/2.

Common Sandpiper (*Actitis hypoleucos*) Twenty at Khok Kham on 11/2, two seen at Leam Pak Biae and Ban Pak Talay on 16/2 three Thaton and Chiang Saen on 27/2. At least twenty at Rim Kong River Restaurant, Mekong River on 28/2.

Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*) Five at Khok Kham on 11/2 also four seen at Leam Pak Biae and Ban Pak Talay on 16/2.

Great Knot (*Calidris tenuirostris*) Two birds at Khok Kham on 11/2,

Red Knot (*Calidris canutus*) Ten at Khok Kham on 11/2.

Ruff (*Philomachus pugnax*) One seen at Ban Pak Talay on 16/2.

Sanderling (*Calidris alba*) Fifteen at Leam Pak Biae on 16/2.

Spoon-billed Sandpiper (*Calidris pygmeus*) One bird of this charismatic species giving cracking views at the regular site Khok Kham on 11/2 after some searching.



Spoon-billed Sandpiper, Khok Kham.

Photo: Thomas Hultquist



Black-winged Stilt together with Spoon-billed Sandpiper, Khok Kham.

Photo: Johannes Rydström

Red-necked Stint (*Calidris ruficollis*) At least 250 seen at Khok Kham on 11/2, fifteen seen at Leam Pak Biae and Ban Pak Talay on 16/2.

Temminck's Stint (*Calidris temminckii*) At least fifty at Rim Kong River Restaurant, Mekong River on 28/2.

Long-toed Stint (*Calidris subminuta*) At least ten seen at Khok Kham on 11/2, one at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2, two seen at Ban Pak Talay on 16/2. Four birds at Rim Kong River Restaurant, Mekong River on 28/2.



Long-toed Stint, Khok Kham.

Photo: Johannes Rydström

Dunlin (*Calidris alpina*) Five seen at Leam Pak Biae and Ban Pak Talay on 16/2.

Curlew Sandpiper (*Calidris ferruginea*) At least 100 seen at Khok Kham on 11/2, four seen at Leam Pak Biae and Ban Pak Talay on 16/2.

Broad-billed Sandpiper (*Limicola falcinellus*) At least forty seen at Khok Kham on 11/2.



Broad-billed sandpiper, Khok Kham.

Photo: Johannes Rydström

Black-winged Stilt (*Himantopus himantopus*) More than 300 seen on different locations on 11/2, at least 200 seen at Leam Pak Biae and Ban Pak Talay on 16/2. More than 500 seen on Beung Boraphet on 19/2. At least 150 at Chiang Saen and at Rim Kong River Restaurant, Mekong River on 28/2.



Black-winged Stilt, Khok Kham.

Photo: Johannes Rydström

Pied Avocet (*Recurvirostra avosetta*) Three in the southwest corner of Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2.

Little Ringed Plover (*Charadrius dubius*) Two seen at Khok Kham on 11/2, at least twenty at Beung Boraphet on 19/2. One at Mae Tang on 23/2. Twenty at Rim Kong River Restaurant, Mekong River on 28/2.

Kentish Plover (*Charadrius alexandrinus*) At least thirty seen at Khok Kham on 11/2, at least 100 seen at Leam Pak Biae and Ban Pak Talay on 16/2. Thirty at Rim Kong River Restaurant, Mekong River on 28/2.

Malaysian Plover (*Charadrius peronii*) After some searching at least three seen at Leam Pak Biae on 16/2.

Lesser Sand Plover (*Charadrius mongolus*) At least 300 seen at Khok Kham on 11/2, twenty seen at Leam Pak Biae and Ban Pak Talay on 16/2.

Greater Sand Plover (*Charadrius leschenaultii*) Two seen at Leam Pak Biae on 16/2.

Pacific Golden Plover (*Pluvialis fulva*) At least 200 seen at Khok Kham on 11/2, 20 at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2, two Ban Pak Talay on 16/2 and five at Beung Boraphet on 19/2.

Grey Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*) 20 seen at Khok Kham on 11/2,

Oriental Pratincole (*Glareola maldivarum*) Seven beautiful birds at Beung Boraphet on 19/2.

Small Pratincole (*Glareola lactea*) At least 15 flying over the Mekong at Chiang Saen Guesthouse, Chiang Saen Town on 27/2 and a stunning 250 at Golden Triangle and at Rim Kong River Restaurant, Mekong River on 28/2.

River Lapwing (*Vanellus duvaucelii*) Two birds on sandbars in the Mekong at Rim Kong Village south of Chiang Saen Town on 28/2. What a bonus!

Grey-headed Lapwing (*Vanellus cinereus*) Five birds on the eastern shore of Chiang Saen Lake on 27/2. Four birds seen at Rim Kong River Restaurant, Mekong River and at Rim Kong Village on 28/2.



Grey-headed Lapwing, Chiang Saen. Photo: Thomas Hultquist

Red-wattled Lapwing (*Vanellus indicus*) Twenty birds seen on different locations on 11/2, at least twenty seen at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2, a few seen every day in Kaeng Krachan and

also in Khao Yai. At least ten at Beung Boraphet on 19/2. Two seen at Mae Hia Agricultural Center on 22/2.

Heuglin's Gull (*Larus heuglini*) 17 at Leam Pak Biae on 16/2.

Pallas's Gull (*Larus ichtyaetus*) One adult beautiful bird at Leam Pak Biae on 16/2.

Brown-headed Gull (*Larus brunnicephalus*) Around 300 birds seen on different locations on 11/2, most of them, at least 200 at Khok Kham. At least forty at Leam Pak Biae on 16/2.

Caspian Tern (*Sterna caspia*) 28 at Khok Kham on 11/2, one at Leam Pak Biae on 16/2.

Lesser Crested Tern (*Sterna banghalensis*) Nine at Leam Pak Biae on 16/2.

Greater Crested Tern (*Sterna bergii*) 79 at Leam Pak Biae on 16/2.

Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*) At least 250 at Leam Pak Biae on 16/2.

Gull-billed Tern (*Sterna nilotica*) At least 20 at Khok Kham on 11/2,

Little Tern (*Sterna albifrons*) Ten at Khok Kham on 11/2, at least 250 at Leam Pak Biae on 16/2

Whiskered Tern (*Chlidonias hybridus*) At least 800 at Khok Kham on 11/2, at least 50 Ban Pak Talay on 16/2.

White-winged Tern (*Chlidonias leucopterus*) One bird at Khok Kham on 11/2.

Black Baza (*Aviceda leuphotes*) One beautiful bird perched in a tree, seen from the viewpoint at km 32, Kaeng Krachan on 14/2.

Oriental Honey Buzzard (*Pernis ptilorhyncus*) One Kaeng Krachan on 13/2 and three there on 16/2. One Khao Yai on 17/2 and one there on 18/2 also, one Doi Inthanon on 21/2. One Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2. One Doi Ang Khang on 25/2 and one there on 27/2.

Black Eagle (*Ictinaetus malayensis*) One at km 27 Kaeng Krachan on 14/2.

Black Kite (*Milvus migrans*) At least 100 on different locations on 11/2, most of them in the Khao Yoi area. Four north of Ban Pak Talay on 16/2. One in Khao Yai on 17/2.

Brahminy Kite (*Haliastur Indus*) Two birds at Khao Yoi on 11/2 and four at Leam Pak Biae and Ban Pak Talay on 16/2.

White-bellied Sea Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucogaster*) Two birds at Chumporn on 12/2, one of them an adult bird sitting by its nest. At least two more adults at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2 as well.



White-bellied Sea Eagle, Chumporn. Photo: Johannes Rydström

Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) One at Beung Boraphet on 19/2.

Western Marsh Harrier (*Circus aeruginosus*) One female hunting over the reeds at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2.

Eastern Marsh Harrier (*Circus spilonotus*) Ten seen coming to roost in the reeds at Thung Feau, Petchaburi on 11/2, one Beung Boraphet on 19/2. At least ten coming to roost Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2.

Pied Harrier (*Circus melanoleucos*) Three coming to roost in the reeds at Thung Feau, Petchaburi on 11/2. One was a superb adult male and also my number 1000 on the life-list!

Also one second-calendar year male at Ban Pak Talay on 16/2. One female coming to roost Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2.

Shikra (*Accipter badius*) One Khao Yoi on 11/2, two in Khao Yai on 19/2. One Doi Inthanon on 22/2. One Chiang Dao Cave on 23/2. Two Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2.

Chinese Sparrowhawk (*Accipter soloensis*) One at Chumporn on 12/2.

Japanese Sparrowhawk (*Accipter gularis*) One at Chumporn on 12/2 and one Kaeng Krachan on 16/2. One in Khao Yai on 18/2.

Besra (*Accipter virgatus*) Two Kaeng Krachan on 13/2 and two there on 14/2 and 16/2 as well.

Crested Goshawk (*Accipter trivirgatus*) One at km 17 Kaeng Krachan on 25/2, one Vachiratarn Waterfall on 21/2.

Rufous-winged Buzzard (*Butastur liventer*) Two at km 13, Doi Inthanon on 22/2.

Steppe Eagle (*Aquila nipalensis*) Two birds at Khao Yoi on 11/2 and one at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2.

Crested Serpent Eagle (*Spilornis cheela*) At least four Kaeng Krachan on 13/2, one Kaeng Krachan on 14/2 and one there also on 15/2 and 16/2,

Common Buzzard (*Buteo buteo*) One at HQ, Doi INthanon on 21/2.

Changeable Hawk Eagle (*Spizaetus chirratus*) One bird perched nicely in a treetop at km 34,5 Doi Intahnnon on 20/2.

Black-shouldered Kite (*Elanus caeruleus*) At least ten at Khao Yoi and Thung Feau on 11/2. At least three different locations on 12/2. One at Ban Pak Talay on 16/2 and one in Khao Yai on 18/2. At least five along the road to Beung Boraphet on 19/2. One Thaton on 27/2 and one Chiang Saen on 28/2.

Collared Falconet (*Microhierax caerulescens*) At least three of this incredibly cool species at km 13, Doi Inthanon on 22/2.

Black-thighed Falconet (*Microhierax fringillarius*) One bird of this spectacular species at km 27,5 Kaeng Krachan on 14/2.



Black-thighed Falconet, km 29, Kaeng Krachan.

Photo: Thomas Hultquist

Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) One bird made a brief visit to the bat cave at Wat Khao Chong Pran on 16/2.

Common Kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*) One at Mahidol University, Bangkok on 10/2, 15(!) Kestrels diving in to the steady stream of bats coming out of the cave at Wat Khao Chong Pran on 16/2. The temple lies between Petchaburi and Bangkok. Two Chiang Saen on 27/2 and one there on 28/2.

Oriental Hobby (*Falco severus*) One bird eating a bat in the dusk at Chiang Dao Temple on 23/2. One giving cracking views at Den Ya Kad, Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2.

Little Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax niger*) Very common along the coast in the Siam Bay in marshes and salt pans. For example more than 3000 seen on different locations on 11/2 and at least 1000 at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2. Also about 50 birds were seen on Beung Boraphet on 19/2.

Indian Shag (*Phalacrocorax fuscicollis*) Two with other cormorants at Wat Khao Takhrao on 11/2.



Three species of Cormorant visible in the picture, Wat Khao Takhrao.

Photo: Johannes Rydström

Great Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*) Seven at Wat Khao Takhrao on 11/2.

Little Egret (*Egretta garzetta*) Very common at larger marshes and salt pan areas, seen at all wet areas in lowland. For example at least 400 on different locations on 11/2, several hundreds at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2, 300 on different locations on 16/2, at least 100 Beung Boraphet on 19/2 and at least 200 coming in to roost in the southwest corner of Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2.



Hundreds of Egrets coming to roost at the southwest corner of Chiang Saen. Photo: Johannes Rydström

Great Egret (*Egretta albus*) Quite common at larger marshes and saltpan areas for example at least 150 seen on different locations on 11/2, at least 100 at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2, at least 40 Beung Boraphet on 19/2 and at least 50 coming in to roost in the southwest corner of Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2.

Pacific Reef Egret (*Egretta sacra*) Four at the coast at Chumporn on 12/2.

Intermediate Egret (*Mesophoyx intermedia*) At least 50 seen on different locations on 11/2, ten at Beung Boraphet on 19/2, two at Mae Tang on 23/2 and 10 coming in to roost in the southwest corner of Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2.

Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*) Very common in open areas and marshes for example at least 50 seen on different location son 11/2, 700 at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2, 500 on different locations on 16/2, not seen at Beung Boraphet(!) but at least 500 coming in to roost in the southwest corner of Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2.

Grey Heron (*Ardea cinerea*) At least 30 seen on different locations on 11/2, ten at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2, five at ban Pak Talay on 16/2, three Beung Boraphet on 19/2 and at least 30 Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2.

Purple Heron (*Ardea purpurea*) One bird at Thung Feau on 11/2, at least 40 at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2, at least 20 at Beung Boraphet on 19/2 and one Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2

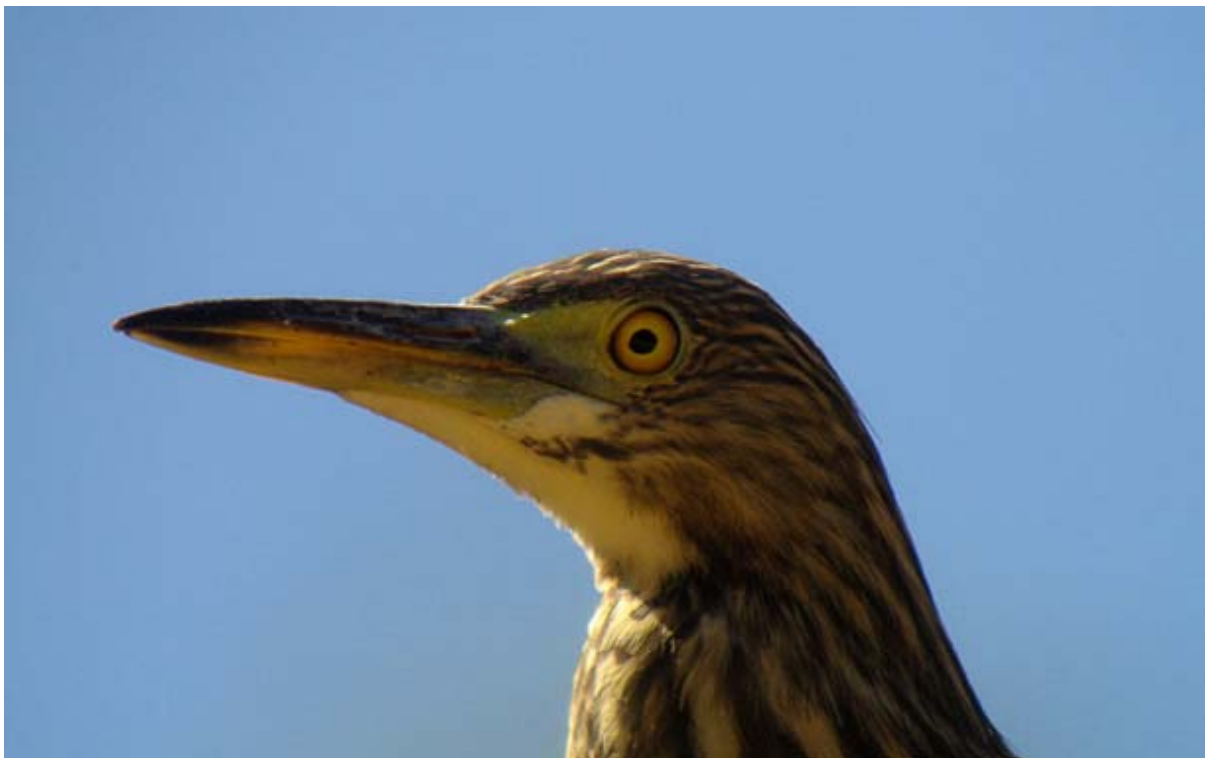


Purple Heron, Chiang Saen Lake.

Photo: Johannes Rydström

Ob. Pond Heron (*Ardeola* Sp.) Thousands seen along the coast on 11/2, several thousands at especially Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2, at least 200 at Beung Boraphet on 19/2.

Chinese Pond Heron (*Ardeola bacchus*) At least ten seen all days in Kaeng Krachan, several all days in Khao Yai and about 20 seen all days in the north when any kind of wet area was visited.



Chinese Pond Heron, Kaeng Krachan.

Photo: Johannes Rydström

Javan Pond Heron (*Ardeola speciosa*) Two birds that already had assumed breeding plumage showed well at Khok Kham on 11/2,

Black-crowned Night Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) At least 50 flying out from their roost at dusk in Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2.

Little Heron (*Butorides striatus*) Two at Khok Kham on 11/2, one in the mangrove at Chumporn on 12/2, one Khao Yai on 17/2 and two there on 18/2, one Beung Boraphet on 19/2, three at Huai Hong Krai, Chiang Mai on 23/2,

Yellow Bittern (*Ixobrychus sinensis*) One at km 79, Rama Road and one at Thung Feau on 11/2 and four birds seen well at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2.

Cinnamon Bittern (*Ixobrychus cinnamomeus*) One flushed by our boat at Beung Boraphet on 19/2.

Black Bittern (*Dupetor flavicollis*) One unexpected bonus flying over the reeds at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2.

Asian Openbill (*Anastomus oscitans*) Two flying over at km 79, Rama Road on 11/2. At least 2000 at Beung Boraphet on 19/2, Several flocks of 300-400 individuals each!

Eared Pitta (*Pitta phayrei*) Two birds giving stunning views(!) along trail 6, Khao Yai on 17/2.

Rusty-naped Pitta (*Pitta oatesi*) One giving brief views at km 37,5 on 20/2.

Silver-breasted Broadbill (*Serilophus lunatus*) A flock of at least 15 birds seen at km 17, Kaeng Krachan on 13/2 and at least 20 seen coming down to drink at km 17, Kaeng Krachan on 15/2. Four along trail 6, Khao Yai on 18/2. All giving cracking views, what an extraordinary species this is!



Silver-breasted Broadbill, Kaeng Krachan.

Photo: Johannes Rydström

Banded Broadbill (*Eurylaimus javanicus*) Three birds Khao Yai on 17/2. Two different birds calling at the HQ and one birds showing superbly along trail 6.

Blue-winged Leafbird (*Chloropsis cochinchinesis*) Several seen all days in Kaeng Krachan, highest day count at least 50 birds at the higher elevations of the park on 14/2. Ten in Khao Yai on 17/2 and five there on 19/2. One Doi Inthanon on 22/2.

Golden-fronted Leafbird (*Chloropsis aurifrons*) Three at km 13, Doi Inthanon on 22/2.

Orange-bellied Leafbird (*Chloropsis hardwickii*) One pair of this beautiful species at km 30 Kaeng Krachan on 14/2.

Asian Fairy Bluebird (*Irena puella*) Many seen all days in Kaeng Krachan, highest day count well over 100 birds at the higher elevations on 14/2. Many seen all days in Khao Yai with the highest day count being at least 80 birds on 18/2. Five Doi Inthanon on 22/2, ten at Chiang Dao Temple on 23/2 and five Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2.

Brown Shrike (*Lanius cristatus*) A few birds seen all days when birding took place in any area that was not rainforest. Some days more than ten birds were seen.

Burmese Shrike (*Lanius collurioides*) Two males at Den Ya Kad, Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2 and two males at Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2. A truly beautiful Shrike, but then again, they all are!

Long-tailed Shrike (*Lanius schach*) Two at Khao Yoi on 11/2 and two in Chumporn on 12/2. At least five at Beung Boraphet on 19/2 and one at Mae Hia, Chiang Mai on 22/2. One Mae Tang on 23/2 and two Doi Ang Khang on 26/2 and two Thaton on 27/2.

Grey-backed Shrike (*Lanius tephronotus*) One male at HQ, Doi Inthanon on 21/2, one male at Den Ya Kad, Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2.

Black Drongo (*Dicrurus macrocerus*) Common in all open cultivated areas visited.

Ashy Drongo (*Dicrurus leucophaeus*) At least 40 in Kaeng Krachan on 13/2 and a few seen all other days as well in the park. A few birds in Khao Yai all days as well. A few seen Doi Inthanon on 21/2 and 22/2. Five Chiang Dao temple on 23/2 and 30 Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2. Several seen all days Doi Ang Khang.

Bronzed Drongo (*Dicrurus aeneus*) Several seen all days in Kaeng Krachan, highest daycount at least 50 birds at the higher elevations of the park on 14/2. One on Doi Inthanon on 22/2 and one Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2. A few seen all days Doi Ang Khang.

Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo (*Dicrurus remifer*) Two at km 27 Kaeng Krachan on 14/2. At least 20 Doi Inthanon on 20/2 and five there on 22/2. Five Doi Ang Khang on 25/2 and 26/2.

Spangled Drongo (*Dicrurus hottentottus*) Several seen all days in Kaeng Krachan, highest day count at least 30 at the higher elevations of the park on 14/2. Six in Khao Yai on 18/2 and ten there on 19/2.

Greater Racket-tailed Drongo (*Dicrurus paradiseus*) One at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2 between ten and 20 seen in Kaeng Krachan all days. Ten Khao Yai on 17/2, and a few there on 18/2 and 19/2. Two Doi Inthanon on 22/2 and one Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2.



Greater Racket-tailed Drongo, Khao Sam Roi Yot.

Photo: Thomas Hultquist

Large-billed Crow (*Corvus macrorhynchos*) One Mahidol University, Bangkok on 10/2, about 20 on different locations on 11/2 and 20 also on 12/2. One at Ban Pak Taly on 16/2 and a few birds in Khao Yai. Two Doi Inthanon on 20/2 and three at Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2.

Crested Jay (*Platylophus galericulatus*) Two birds of this unbelievable species showed off very well at km 18 Kaeng Krachan on 15/2.

Eurasian Jay (*Garrulus glandarius*) One Kaeng Krachan on 15/2 and five on Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2.

Common Green Magpie (*Cissa chinensis*) At least two at km 18, Kaeng Krachan on 15/2 and four at km 19, Kaeng Krachan on 16/2. Incredibly beautiful birds! Two at Pha Kluey Mai Campground, Khao Yai on 19/2 and one bird in a pine tree at the Crake Pond, Doi Inthanon on 20/2.

Grey Treepie (*Dendrocitta formosae*) Three at the Viewpoint at km 32, Kaeng Krachan on 14/2 and one km 21,5, Doi Ang Khang on 25/2.

Racket-tailed Treepie (*Crypsirina temia*) Two flocks of four birds each of this really cool species at Thung Feau, Petchaburi on 11/2 and a flock of seven birds at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2, one at HQ, Kaeng Krachan on 13/2. Three birds at Chiang Saen Lake on 27/2 and about ten around the lake on 28/2.

Ratchet-tailed Treepie (*Temnurus temnurus*) After a long search we finally had cracking views of five birds of this rare and restricted species at km 27,5 Kaeng Krachan on 14/2! It has got an incredible call as well!

Black-naped Oriole (*Oriolus chinensis*) At least 50 Kaeng Krachan on 13/2 most of them on the drive in to the park. At least ten at the higher elevations of the park on 14/2 and one on 15/2.

Slender-billed Oriole (*Oriolus tenuirostris*) Three birds showing well at the viewpoint km 32, Kaeng Krachan on 14/2 and at least 40 seen on Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2!



Slender-billed Oriole, Kaeng Krachan.

Photo: Thomas Hultquist

Black-hooded Oriole (*Oriolus xanthornus*) Three at km 13, Doi Intahnnon on 22/2. Two at Chiang Dao Temple on 23/2.

Maroon Oriole (*Oriolus trailii*) One singing along Jeep Track, Doi Inthanon on 20/2 and 22/2. One male showing well at Den Ya Kad, Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2 and one at km 21,5, Doi Ang Khang on 25/2.

Indochinese Cuckooshrike (*Coracina polioptera*) One in Kaeng Krachan on 13/2, two at the higher elevations of the park on 14/2. One at km 17, Kaeng Krachan on 15/2 and one at km 17, Kaeng Krachan on 16/2.

Black-winged Cuckooshrike (*Coracina melaschistos*) Two in Kaeng Krachan on 13/2 and two also on 15/2 and also one there on 16/2. Two birds in Khao Yai on 17/2 and one there on 18/2 and 19/2.

Large Cuckooshrike (*Coracina macei*) One at km 13, Doi Inthanon on 22/2 and one Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2.

Swinhoe's Minivet (*Pericrocotus cantonensis*) At least five at the higher elevations Kaeng Krachan on 14/2 and five at km 17, Kaeng Krachan on 15/2 and two there on 16/2. One in Khao Yai on 17/2 and four there on 19/2.

Small Minivet (*Pericrocotus cinnamomeus*) One male at km 13, Doi Inthanon on 22/2.

Grey-chinned Minivet (*Pericrocotus solaris*) Three along Jeep Track, Doi Inthanon on 20/2.

Long-tailed Minivet (*Pericrocotus ethologus*) Four at km 13, Doi Inthanon on 22/2 and at least five on Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2. At least ten Doi Ang Khang on 25/2 and 26/2.

Short-billed Minivet (*Pericrocotus brevirostris*) Two at km 37,5, Doi Inthanon on 20/2, four km 37, 5, Doi Inthanon on 21/2 and five along Jeep Track, Doi Inthanon on 22/2. At least 20 Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2 and ten Doi Ang Khang on 25/2 and 26/2 and five there on 27/2.

Scarlet Minivet (*Pericrocotus flammeus*) Several seen all days Kaeng Krachan, highest day count 30 birds on 15/2. One Doi Inthanon on 21/2.

Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike (*Hemipus picatus*) A few seen Kaeng Krachan all days, highest day count at least 30 at the higher elevations of the park on 14/2. Four in Khao Yai on 19/2 and one Doi Ang Khang on 26/2.

Great Iora (*Aegithina lafresnaye*) At least five Kaeng Krachan on 13/2 and at least ten on 15/2 and five in the park on 16/2.

Common Iora (*Aegithina tiphia*) Two Khok Kham on 11/2, at least five different locations on 12/2 and one at Thaton on 27/2.

Yellow-bellied Fantail (*Rhipidura hypoxantha*) At least ten birds showing fantastically at Ang Ka boardwalk, Doi Inthanon on 20/2 and on 21/2.

White-throated Fantail (*Rhipidura albicollis*) One at the higher elevations Kaeng Krachan on 14/2, about ten on Doi Inthanon on 20/2 and two at Doi Ang Khang on 26/2.

Pied fantail (*Rhipidura javanica*) At least ten seen on different locations on 11/2, two in Chumporn on 12/2. At least ten birds seen in the mangroves at Leam Pak Biae while going out with the boat on 16/2. Two at Beung Boraphet on 19/2.

Black-naped Monarch (*Hypothymis azurea*) A few birds seen in Kaeng Krachan on 13/2, 15/2 and 16/2. Three birds Khao Yai, both on 17/2 and 18/2. At least five at km 13, Doi Inthanon on 22/2.

Asian Paradise Flycatcher (*Terpsiphone paradisi*) Four in Kaeng Krachan on 15/2, one Khao Yai on 18/2. One male at Chiang Dao Temple on 23/2.

Large Woodshrike (*Tephrodornis gularis*) At least five at the higher elevations Kaeng Krachan on 14/2 and four at Den Ya Kad, Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2.

Common Woodshrike (*Tephrodornis pondicerianus*) At least five at km 13, Doi Inthanon on 22/2.

Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush (*Monticola rufiventris*) One superb male Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2.

Blue Rock Thrush (*Monticola solitarius*) Two males close to HQ, Khao Yai on 17/2, four birds seen in Khao Yai on 18/2, had representatives of both possible races. Two also Khao Yai on 19/2. One male at km 13, Doi Inthanon on 22/2.



Blue Rock Thrush, Khao Yai.

Photo: Thomas Hultquist

Blue Whistling Thrush (*Myophonus caeruleus*) One at Pha Kluey Mai Campground, Khao Yai on 18/2. Two Jeep Track, Doi Inthanon on 20/2 and at least ten on different locations Doi Inthanon on 21/2. Five Doi Inthanon on 22/2. Two at Doi Ang Khang on 26/2.

Orange-headed Thrush (*Zoothera citrina*) One pair giving absolute knock-out views at Pha Kluey Mai Campground, Khao Yai on 18/2.

Grey-sided Thrush (*Turdus feae*) One at Ang Ka Boardwalk, Doi Inthanon on 21/2.

Eyebrowed Thrush (*Turdus obscurus*) Two along Radar Road, Khao Yai on 18/2, at least ten along Jeep Track, Doi Inthanon on 20/2, at least 20 at Ang Ka boardwalk, Doi Inthanon on 21/2. One Jeep Track on 22/2.

Scaly Thrush (*Zoothera dauma*) Two individuals of this fantastic species giving great views on Doi Inthanon on 21/2, one at Ang Ka Boardwalk and one by the stream at HQ.

Purple Cochoa (*Cochoa purpurea*) One male giving great views in the scope only a short way in on Jeep Track, Doi Inthanon on 20/2.

Green Cochoa (*Cochoa viridis*) One bird along Jeep track, Doi Inthanon on 22/2.

Dark-sided Flycatcher (*Muscicapa sibirica*) Two at the viewpoint km 32, Kaeng Krachan on 14/2, one Kaeng Krachan on 15/2.

Asian Brown Flycatcher (*Muscicapa dauurica*) One in Kaeng Krachan on 16/2.

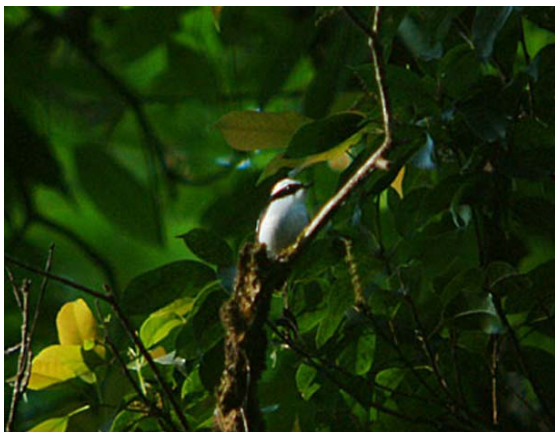
Rufous-gorgetted Flycatcher (*Ficedula strophciata*) One female at km 21,5, Doi Ang Khang on 26/2.

Red-throated Flycatcher (*Ficedula parva*) Two at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2, a few seen all days in Kaeng Krachan. One Khao Yai on 17/2, two Doi Inthanon on 20/2 and 21/2.

White-gorgetted Flycatcher (*Ficedula monileger*) One male at 21,5, Doi Ang Khang on 25/2.

Snowy-browed Flycatcher (*Ficedula hyperthra*) Two males showing superbly at Ang Ka boardwalk, Doi Inthanon on 20/2 and 21/2.

Little Pied Flycatcher (*Ficedula westermanni*) One male Jeep Track, Doi Inthanon on 22/2 and one male at Den Ya Kad, Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2. Both stunning male and female at km 21,5, Doi Ang Khang on 25/2.



Little Pied Flycatcher, Doi Inthanon. Photo: Thomas Hultquist

Slaty Blue Flycatcher (*Ficedula tricolor*) One female at km 21,5, Doi Ang Khang on both 25/2 and 27/2.

Hainan Blue Flycatcher (*Cyornis hainanus*) Two males in Kaeng Krachan on 15/2.

Blue-throated Flycatcher (*Cyornis rubeculoides*) One male in Kaeng Krachan on 15/2.

(Chinese Blue-throated Flycatcher) (*Cyornis glaucicomans*) One female of this possible “soon to be treated as a full species” was seen together with End and her English group of birders at km 20 Kaeng Krachan on 15/2.

Hill Blue Flycatcher (*Cyornis banyumas*) One male Kaeng Krachan on 15/2 and two males along trail 6, Khao Yai on 17/2 and two other males Khao Yai on 18/2. One male at km 13, Doi Inthanon on 22/2. One male at Chiang Dao Temple on 23/2. One male Doi Ang Khang on 26/2.

Tickell's Blue Flycatcher (*Cyornis tickelliae*) One male Kaeng Krachan on 15/2. One male at Km 13, Doi Inthanon on 22/2. One male at Chiang Dao Temple on 23/2.

Verditer Flycatcher (*Eumiyas thalassina*) Three in Kaeng Krachan on 13/2 and five there also on 15/2 and two on 16/2. Two males at km 37,5, Doi Inthanon on 20/2 and three males Doi Inthanon on 21/2.

Pale Blue Flycatcher (*Cyornis unicolor*) One male at km 21,5, Doi Ang Khang on 26/2.

Large Niltava (*Niltava grandis*) At least five along Jeep Track, Doi Inthanon on 20/2 and five there also on 22/2.

Rufous-bellied Niltava (*Niltava sundara*) One male km 19, Doi Ang Khang on 25/2. Two superb males and one female close to the Burmese border, Doi Ang Khang on 26/2.

Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher (*Culicicapa ceylonensis*) A few seen all days in Kaeng Krachan, one Khao Yai on 18/2 and two there on 19/2. Two on Doi Inthanon on 20/2 and two

at Chiang Dao Temple on 23/2. Three on Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2 a few seen all days Doi Ang Khang.

Rufous-tailed Robin (*Luscinia sibilans*) One bird giving great views at Pha Kluey Mai Campground, Kao Yai on 18/2.

Siberian Rubythroat (*Luscinia calliope*) One female at Beung Boraphet on 19/2 and an extraordinary male at Thaton on 27/2.

Bluethroat (*Luscinia svecia*) One just south of Chumporn on 12/2, perhaps the southernmost record ever in Thailand. Two birds at Beung Boraphet on 19/2 and one at Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2.

Siberian Blue Robin (*Luscinia cyane*) One female at km 18, Kaeng Krachan on 15/2, and both gorgeous male and a female at Pha Kluey Mai Campground, Khao Yai on 17/2. The male still present there also on 18/2. Another male was spotted on 19/2 along the Heaw Suwat Waterfall trail, Khao Yai. The trail which was really productive runs between Heaw Suwat and Pha Kluey Mai Campground. One 2cy male at km 13, Doi Inthanon on 22/2.

Oriental Magpie Robin (*Copsychus saularis*) Many seen all days when birding took place in more open, cultivated areas, not quite as many seen in the north as in the areas around Bangkok and the south.

Orange-flanked Bush Robin (*Tarsiger cyanurus*) One superb male giving absolutely stunning views at Ang Ka Boardwalk, Doi Inthanon on 20/2. The male still present on 21/2 and also a female seen then. Two females seen at km 21,5, Doi Ang Khang on 25/2 and one female still there on 26/2.



Orange-flanked Bush Robin, Doi Inthanon.

Photo: Thomas Hultquist

White-rumped Shama (*Copsychus malabaricus*) One male at the higher elevations, Kaeng Krachan on 14/2. At least ten in Khao Yai on 17/2, and a few on 18/2 especially confiding at Pha Kluey Mai Campground. Two at km 13, Doi Inthanon on 22/2. At least two at Chiang Dao Temple on 23/2 and one on Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2.

White-capped Water Redstart (*Chaimarrornis leucocephalus*) One at Vachiratarn Waterfall, Doi Inthanon on 21/2.

Plumbeous Water Redstart (*Rhyacornis fuliginosus*) One male at Vachiratarn Waterfall, Doi Inthanon on 21/2. Three at Ban Luang, Doi Ang Khang on 25/2.

White-browed Shortwing (*Brachypteryx montana*) One female seen Ang Ka Boardwalk on 20/2 and two lovely males seen there on 21/2.

Black-backed Forktail (*Enicurus immaculatus*) Three birds of this lovely species seen on Doi Chiang Dao on the way up to Den Ya Kad Substation on 24/2.

Slaty-backed Forktail (*Enicurus schistaceus*) Three birds Khao Yai on 18/2, one in the stream behind HQ and two in the stream at Pha Kluey Mai Campground. Two were seen at Heaw Suwat on 19/2.

White-crowned Forktail (*Enicurus leschenaulti*) Two seen a couple of hundred metres in on trail 6, Khao Yai on 17/2.

White-tailed Robin (*Myiomela leucura*) One male at Doi Ang Khang close to the Burmese border on 26/2.

Common Stonechat (*Saxicola torquata*) One male at Khao Yoi on 11/2, at least ten on different locations on 12/2. One Khao Yai on 17/2 and at least 20 at Beung Boraphet on 19/2. Ten at Mae Hia, Chiang Mai on 22/2. At least ten at Thaton on 27/2 and also ten at Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2.

Pied Bushchat (*Saxicola caprata*) Four at HQ, Doi Inthanon on 21/2 and at least ten at Mae Hia, Chiang Mai on 22/2. Two at Mae Tang on 23/2, one Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2 and two on Doi Ang Khang on 25/2. At least 20 at Thaton and Chiang Saen on 27/2 and more than 15 in the Chiang Saen area on 28/2.



Pied Bushchat, Mae Hia, Chiang Mai.

Photo: Johannes Rydström

Jerdon's Bushchat (*Saxicola jerdoni*) One most unexpected and welcome male on a small river island in the Mekong at Rim Kong Village south of Chiang Saen Town on 28/2!

Grey Bushchat (*Saxicola ferrea*) One male near the summit Doi Inthanon on 20/2 and four birds close to HQ, Doi Inthanon on 21/2. One male at Mae Tang on 23/2 and another on Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2. A few seen all days on Doi Ang Khang.

Ashy Woodswallow (*Artamus fuscus*) At least 40 seen on the way into Kaeng Krachan on 13/2, 15 in Khao Yai on 17/2 and 20 there on 18/2. Several seen most days in the north.



Ashy Woodswallow, Mae Hia, Chiang Mai. Photo: Thomas Hultquist

Asian Glossy Starling (*Aplonis panayensis*) At least 15 at the Sports Center, Chumporn on 12/2.



Asian Glossy Starling, Chumporn Sports Center.

Photo: Thomas Hultquist

Asian Pied Starling (*Sturnus contra*) At least 50 seen on different locations on 11/2 and at least 25 seen on 12/2 on different locations. Ten were seen at Beung Boraphet on 19/2.

Black-collared Starling (*Sturnus nigricollis*) One at Ban Pak Talay on 16/2, at least 30 noisy birds at Mae Hia on 22/2 and 20 at Mae Tang on 23/2. Ten at Chiang Saen on 27/2 and at least 100 in the Chiang Saen area on 28/2.

Chestnut-tailed Starling (*Sturnus malabaricus*) Five at Chumporn on 12/2 and two at Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2.

Red-billed Starling (*Sturnus ceriseus*) One adult and one 2cy bird on the east shore of Chiang Saen Lake on 27/2. The second-ever find in Thailand (!!) following a single 2cy bird in Chumporn this winter. A beautiful and unexpected starling indeed!

Purple-backed Starling (*Sturnus sturninus*) At least 15 at the Sports Center, Chumporn on 12/2



Purple-backed Starling, Chumporn Sports Center.

Photo: Thomas Hultquist

White-shouldered Starling (*Sturnus sinensis*) One at the Sports Center, Chumporn on 12/2.
Two birds seen along the way to Beung Boraphet from Khao Yai on 19/2.

Vinous-breasted Starling (*Sturnus burmannicus*) Ten at the Sports Center, Chumporn on 12/2.

Common Myna (*Acridotheres tristis*) Very common and seen in large numbers in all open habitats including cities. Not seen in the forest.

Jungle Myna (*Acridotheres fuscus*) At least 15 seen at the Sports Center, Chumporn on 12/2.

White-vented Myna (*Acridotheres grandis*) Very common in open habitats and recorded in high numbers, especially in or near the cities.

Golden-crested Myna (*Ampeliceps coronatus*) Six birds gave cracking views on 17/2 in Khao Yai, both at the HQ and at the Elephant Lick.

Hil Myna (*Gracula religiosa*) Six birds in Khao Yai on 17/2 and at least ten there also on 18/2.
Two were seen at Chiang Dao Temple on 23/2.

Chestnut-vented Nuthatch (*Sitta nagaensis*) One bird along Jeep Track, Khao Yai on 22/2 and one bird at km 21,5, Doi Ang Khang on 27/2.

Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch (*Sitta castanea*) Three were seen at km 13, Doi Inthanon on 22/2.

Velvet-fronted Nuthatch (*Sitta frontalis*) Four at km 16, Kaeng Krachan on 15/2. one at Den Ya Kad, Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2.

Giant Nuthatch (*Sitta magna*) Three on Doi Chiang Dao close to Den Ya Kad on 24/2. What a gigantic and fascinating bird! It sat with a Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker and out-sized it totally.

Sultan Tit (*Melanochlora sultanea*) Six of this stunning species were seen around km 17, Kaeng Krachan on 13/2 and five on 15/2 in just about the same area.

Great Tit (*Parus major*) Three at Den Ya Kad, Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2 and two at km 21,5 Doi Ang Khang on 25/2.

Yellow-cheeked Tit (*Parus spilonotus*) Four along Jeep Track, Doi Inthanon on 20/2 and five at the summit on 21/2. Five along Jeep Track on 22/2 as well. Three birds on Doi Ang Khang on 26/2.

Asian House Martin (*Delichon dasypus*) At least 30 in Khao Yai on 17/2. At least 100 on Doi Inthanon on 20/2 and on 21/2 and several on 22/2 as well. Ten on Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2 and at least 100 on Doi Ang Khang on 25/2 and 26/2.

Sand Martin (*Riparia riparia*) One at the Elephant Lick in Khao Yai on 17/2.

Plain Martin (*Riparia paludicola*) At least 15 seen on 28/2 both at Rim Kong River Restaurant and at Rim Kong Village.

Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*) Several hundreds along the coast on 11/2 and tens of thousands at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2. Hundreds on 16/2 as well. 40 Khao Yai on 17/2 and thousands at Beung Boraphet on 19/2. At least 50 Doi Ang Khang on 25/2 and 26/2 and also at least 100 at Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2.

Pacific Swallow (*Hirundo tahitica*) 30 in the mangrove at the river-mouth in Chumporn on 12/2.

Wire-tailed Swallow (*Hirundo smithii*) Five at Mae Hia, Chiang Mai on 22/2. At least ten of this beautiful swallow were seen at Mae Tang on 23/2.

Red-rumped Swallow (*Hirundo daurica*) Four at Mahidol University, Bangkok on 10/2 and several hundreds on the way into Kaeng Krachan on 13/2. At least 50 at the higher elevations of Kaeng Krachan on 14/2 and at the lower on 15/2. Hundreds seen while leaving Kaeng Krachan on 16/2. Ten in Khao Yai on 17/2 and 40 there on 19/2. 20 Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2.

Striated Swallow (*Hirundo striolata*) Ten at the Crake Pond, Doi Inthanon on 20/2 and 30 Doi Inthanon on 22/2. 20 on Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2.

Crested Finchbill (*Spizixos canifrons*) More than 20 of this superb bulbul showing well at km 21,5, Doi Ang Khnag on 25/2 and five there also on 26/2.

Striated Bulbul (*Pycnonotus striatus*) At least five at km 21,5, Doi Ang Khang on 25/2 and 26/2.

Black-headed Bulbul (*Pycnonotus atriceps*) Three in Kaeng Krachan on 15/2 and two there on 16/2. Two in Khao Yai on 18/2. Two on Doi Inthanon on 21/2.

Black-crested Bulbul (*Pycnonotus melanicterus*) High numbers seen all days in Kaeng Krachan and in Khao Yai as well. At least 30 Doi Inthanon on 22/2. More than 20 Chiang Dao Temple on 23/2 and on Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2.

Red-whiskered Bulbul (*Pycnonotus jocosus*) One in Khao Yai on 17/2 and at least 20 there on 18/2. More than 30 on Doi Inthanon on 21/2 and at least 20 on 22/2. Several on different locations on 23/2 and at least 40 Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2. Many seen all days at Doi Ang Khang. More than 40 seen Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2.

Brown-breasted Bulbul (*Pycnonotus xanthorrhous*) Four on Doi Ang Khang on 24/2, at least 15 there on 25/2 and on 26/2 as much as 30 were seen. Ten same place on 27/2.

Sooty-headed Bulbul (*Pycnonotus aurigaster*) Six were seen on Doi Inthanon on 21/2 and another 30 on 22/2. Ten on Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2. 20 birds at Doi Ang Khang on 25/2. More than 50 on different locations on 27/2. At least 100 seen around Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2.



Sooty-headed Bulbul, Doi Inthanon. Photo: Johannes Rydström

Stripe-throated Bulbul (*Pycnonotus finlaysoni*) At least 25 Kaeng Krachan on 13/2 and ten there on 15/2.

Flavescent Bulbul (*Pycnonotus flavescens*) More than 100 at the higher elevations of Kaeng Krachan on 14/2. At least ten at the summit Doi Inthanon on 21/2. 15 at Den Ya Kad, Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2. many seen all days at Doi Ang Khang.



Flavescent bulbul, Kaeng Krachan.

Photo: Johannes Rydström

Yellow-vented Bulbul (*Pycnonotus goiavier*) Two at Mahidol University, Bangkok on 10/2 and two at Khao Yoi on 11/2. Five in chumporn on 12/2.

Streak-eared Bulbul (*Pycnonotus blanfordi*) Six Mahidol University, Bangkok on 10/2 and after that many - very many seen all days when birding took place in any cultivated or lightly forested areas.

Grey-eyed Bulbul (*Iole propinqua*) Two in Kaeng Krachan on 16/2. More than 20 in Khao Yai on 17/2 and 18/2 and a few there also on 19/2. Four birds at Chiang Dao Temple on 23/2.

Buff-vented Bulbul (*Iole olivacea*) A few seen all days in Kaeng Krachan with a maximum day-count of at least ten birds.

Puff-throated Bulbul (*Alophoixus pallidus*) At least 20 in Khao Yai on 17/2 and very many seen on 18/2. Ten Doi Inthanon on 22/2 and five Chiang Dao Temple on 23/2.

Ochraceous Bulbul (*Alophoixus ochraceus*) High numbers seen all days in Kaeng Krachan except on 14/2 at the higher elevations only ten were seen.

Ashy Bulbul (*Hemixos flavala*) At least 40 were seen at the higher elevations of Kaeng Krachan on 14/2 and one in Khao Yai on 18/2. More than 20 on Doi Inthanon on 21/2.

Mountain Bulbul (*Hypsipetes maclellandii*) Two at the higher elevations of Kaeng Krachan on 14/2. More than ten along Jeep Track, Doi Inthanon on 20/2 and 15 there on 22/2. Five Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2. Two Doi Ang Khang on 27/2.

Black Bulbul (*Hypsipetes leucocephalus*) Six birds showing well at Chiang Dao Temple on 23/2 and two more on Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2.

Golden-bellied Gerygone (*Gerygone sulphurea*) Three seen on 11/2, one at Khok Kham and two at Wat Khao Takhrao.

Zitting Cisticola (*Cisticola juncidis*) Two birds at Khok Kham on 11/2 and one at Mae Hia on 22/2.

Bright-headed Cisticola (*Cisticola exilis*) Three birds calling their cool trumpet sound at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2.

Hill Prinia (*Prinia atrogularis*) One of this large and terrific prinia was seen at km 34,5, Doi Inthanon on 20/2. Five birds at HQ, Doi Inthanon on 21/2. At least ten at Den Ya Kad, Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2. Seen all days Doi Ang Khang with several individuals.

Striated Grassbird (*Megalurus palustris*) More than ten birds showing well and displaying at Beung Boraphet on 19/2. Ten birds at Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2.

Yellow-bellied Prinia (*Prinia flaviventris*) Two at Thung Feau, Petchaburi Province on 11/2 and at least ten at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2. Several showing very well at Mae Tang on 23/2.

Grey-breasted Prinia (*Prinia hodgsonii*) Two birds at HQ, Doi Inthanon on 21/2 and another two at Mae Hia on 22/2. Two at Thaton on 27/2 and two more at Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2.

Plain Prinia (*Prinia inornata*) Many seen in all marshy areas visited.

Mountain Tailorbird (*Orthotomus cuculatus*) One beautiful bird showing well Doi Ang Khang on 25/2 and five there on 26/2 and four on 27/2.

Common Tailorbird (*Orthotomus sutorius*) Five at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2 and five in Kaeng Krachan on 13/2. Five at km 13, Doi Inthanon on 22/2. Three at Thaton on 27/2 and five at Chiang Saen on 28/2.

Dark-necked Tailorbird (*Orthotomus atrogularis*) Five at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2 and many all days in Kaeng Krachan. A few seen all days in Khao Yai.

Chestnut-headed Tesia (*Tesia castaneocoronata*) One at km 21,5, Doi Ang Khang on 27/2.

Asian Stubtail (*Urosphena squameiceps*) One bird of this little magnificent species gave superb views in the dried up streambed at km 19, kaeng Krachan on 15/2. One along the Heaw Suwat Trail to Pha Kluey Mai, Khao Yai on 19/2.

Pale-footed Bush Warbler (*Cettia pallidipes*) One giving superb views behind the toilets at Pha Kluey Mai Campground, Khao Yai on 17/2. A true rarity!

Brown Bush Warbler (*Bradypterus luteoventris*)

Black-browed Reed Warbler (*Acrocephalus bistrigiceps*) At least ten at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2 and a few at Beung Boraphet on 19/2.

Lanceolated Warbler (*Locustella lanceolata*) One at Thung Feau on 11/2 and two more at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2.

Oriental Reed Warbler (*Acrocephalus orientalis*) Two at Thung Feau on 11/2 and two also at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2. More than 30 at Beung Boraphet on 19/2. Two at Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2.

Thick-billed Warbler (*Acrocephalus aedon*) One bird showing well at Khao Yoi on 11/2.

Dusky Warbler (*Phylloscopus fuscatus*) Two at Khok Kham on 11/2 and another two at Beung Boraphet on 19/2. At least ten at Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2.

Buff-throated Warbler (*Phylloscopus subaffinis*) One at km 21,5, Doi Ang Khang on 25/2, 26/2 and 27/2.

Radde's Warbler (*Phylloscopus schwarzi*) Ten in Kaeng Krachan on 14/2 at the higher elevations and two in the park on 15/2 and one on 16/2. A few Radde's seen all days in Khao Yai. One Doi Inthanon on 20/2 and 21/2.

Arctic warbler (*Phylloscopus borealis*) Two Khao Yai on 18/2. One at Wat Thumphaphothisat on 19/2.

Greenish Warbler (*Phylloscopus trochiloides*) One close to our Campground at km 15, Kaeng Krachan on 16/2.

Two-barred Warbler (*Phylloscopus plumbeitarsus*) Two at Wat Thumphaphothisat on 19/2 and another two at Doi Ang Khang on 25/2 and on 26/2.

Pale-legged Leaf Warbler (*Phylloscopus tenellipes*) Two at Pha Kluey Mai, Khao Yai on 17/2 and at least 25 Khao Yai on 18/2, mostly at Pha Kluey Mai.

Eastern Crowned Warbler (*Phylloscopus coronatus*) At least ten seen in Kaeng Krachan on 15/2 and two more there on 16/2.

Buff-barred Warbler (*Phylloscopus pulcher*) More than ten Doi Ang Khang on 25/2 and five there on 26/2.

Ashy-throated Warbler (*Phylloscopus maculipennis*) Five at Ang Ka Boardwalk, Doi Inthanon on 20/2 and at least 20 there on 21/2. So tiny!

Yellow-browed Warbler (*Phylloscopus inornatus*) Many seen everywhere where there were forest of any kind.

Blyth's Leaf Warbler (*Phylloscopus reguloides*) Five at km 16, Kaeng Krachan on 13/2. At least 30 Ang Ka Boardwalk, Doi Inthanon on 20/2 and ten there on 21/2.

White-tailed Leaf Warbler (*Phylloscopus davisoni*) Between 20 and 40 seen all days on Doi Inthanon. Ten seen on Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2 and a few seen all days on Doi Ang Khang.

Yellow-vented Leaf Warbler (*Phylloscopus cantator*) One bird showing well along Jeep Track, Doi Inthanon on 20/2.

Sulphur-breasted Warbler (*Phylloscopus ricketti*) Four were seen in Kaeng Krachan on 15/2 and one in Khao Yai on 19/2.

Japanese White-eye (*Zosterops japonicus*) A flock of ten at Jeep Track, Doi Inthanon on 21/2. At least 30 Den Ya Kad, Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2. Five in a flock at Doi Ang Khang on 25/2 and three there on 26/2.

Everett's White-eye (*Zosterops everetti*) A flock of at least ten at km 28, Kaeng Krachan on 14/2.

Grey-crowned Warbler (*Seicercus tephrocephalus*) One in Khao Yai on 18/2 and another there on 19/2. One Doi Ang Khang on 26/2 and one there also on 27/2.

Plain-tailed Warbler (*Seicercus soror*) One in Kaeng Krachan on 14/2 and two in Khao Yai on 17/2.

Bianchi's Warbler (*Seicercus valentini*) Two at km 21,5, Doi Ang Khang on 25/2 and one there also on 26/2.

Chestnut-crowned Warbler (*Seicercus castaniceps*) Two birds of this very cute species showed well along Jeep Track, Doi Inthanon on 20/2 and on 22/2.

Yellow-bellied Warbler (*Abroscopus superciliaris*) Two birds at km 29, Kaeng Krachan on 14/2.

White-crested Laughingthrush (*Garrulax leucolophus*) More than 20 mostly heard but also seen at the higher elevations in Kaeng Krachan on 14/2. Four birds giving great views at trail 6, Khao Yai on 17/2 and ten birds Khao Yai on 18/2. Six birds at km 13, Doi Inthanon on 22/2.

Lesser Necklaced Laughingthrush (*Garrulax monleger*) Six seen in Kaeng Krachan on 13/2 and on 15/2.

Greater Necklaced Laughingthrush (*Garrulax pectoralis*) A flock of at least 30 in Kaeng Krachan on 13/2 and on 15/2 as well. 15 seen on 16/2. Noisy, large and beautiful birds!

White-necked Laughingthrush (*Garrulax strepitans*) Seven birds seen well Doi Ang Khang on 26/2.

Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush (*Garrulax erythrocephalus*) Three seen well at Ang Ka Boardwalk, Doi Inthanon on 20/2 and more than ten giving great views on the same place on 21/2. Three at km 21,5, Doi Ang Khang on 26/2.

Red-faced Liocichla (*Liocichla phoenicea*) Five of this extraordinary beautiful species were seen very well on 25/2 at km 21,5, Doi Ang Khang and at least ten on 26/2 and more than 20(!) giving cracking views on 27/2.

Abott's Babbler (*Malacocincla abotti*) Four along the Heaw Suwat trail to Pha Kluey Mai, Khao Yai on 19/2.

Puff-throated Babbler (*Pellorneum ruficeps*) One Kaeng Krachan on 16/2 and two birds giving true close-up views at Pha Kluey Mai, Khao Yai on 18/2. Three seen at km 13, Doi Inthanon on 22/2.

White-browed Scimitar Babbler (*Pomatorhinus schisticeps*) Six at km 31, Kaeng Krachan on 14/2 and six at km 18, Kaeng Krachan on 15/2. Two along the Heaw Suwat trail to Pha Kluey Mai, Khao Yai on 19/2. Two close to the Burmese border, Doi Ang Khang on 26/2 and one Doi Ang Khang on 27/2.

Limestone Wren Babbler (*Napothera crispifrons*) Two birds giving absolutely cracking views at Wat Thumphaphothisat on 19/2.

Streaked Wren Babbler (*Napothera brevicaudata*) Three birds giving exceptional views in the forest above Chiang Dao Temple on 23/2.

Eyebrowed Wren Babbler (*Napothera epilepidota*) One bird seen exceptionally well while sneaking around like a mice at Jeep Track, Doi Intahanon on 20/2 and two birds giving cracking views at the Jeeptrack on 22/2.

Pygmy Wren Babbler (*Pnoepyga pussila*) One seen well at Ang Ka Boardwalk, Doi Inthanon on 20/2 and at least five both seen and heard at Ang Ka Boardwalk, Doi Inthanon on 21/2. Two singing along Jeep Track, Doi Inthanon on 22/2.

Striped Tit Babbler (*Macronus gularis*) Very many seen all days in Kaeng Krachan except on 14/2 at the higher elevations where only a few were seen. Five in Khao Yai on 18/2 and two more on 19/2. Five km 13, Doi Inthanon on 22/2.

Yellow-eyed Babbler (*Chrysomma sinense*) Two seen at Thaton by the Mae Kok river on 27/2.

Rufous-fronted Babbler (*Stachyris rufifrons*) At least five at km 30, Kaeng Krachan on 14/2, two Kaeng Krachan on 15/2 and one there also on 16/2. Five at Doi Ang Khang on 27/2.

Golden Babbler (*Stachyris chrysaea*) Three of this lovely little fellow at km 30, Kaeng Krachan on 14/2. Four seen along Jeep Track, Doi Inthanon on 20/2 and one Jeep Track on 22/2. Two Doi Ang Khang on 26/2.

Grey-throated Babbler (*Stachyris nigriceps*) Four really cool individuals at Chiang Dao Temple on 23/2. Two at km 21,5 Doi Ang Khang on 27/2.

Spot-necked Babbler (*Stachyris striolata*) Two Kaeng Krachan on 13/2 and also on 15/2. Three birds there on 16/2.

Silver-eared Mesia (*Leiothrix argentauris*) A flock of 20 seen just outside Ban Koom Village, Doi Ang Khang on 25/2. At least 25 of this undecipherable species gave stunning views Doi Ang Khang on 26/2. At least 15 at km 21,5, Doi Ang Khang on 27/2.

White-browed Shrike Babbler (*Pteruthius flaviscapis*) At least 20 of this beautiful bird at the higher elevations of Kaeng Krachan on 14/2. Two seen along Jeep Track, Doi Inthanon on 20/2. One male on Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2.



White-browed Shrike Babbler, Kaeng Krachan. Photo: Thomas Hultquist

Chestnut-fronted Shrike Babbler (*Pteruthius aenobarbus*) One giving good but brief views a few hundred meters in along Jeep Track, Doi Inthanon on 20/2.

Blue-winged Minla (*Minla cyanouroptera*) One at Den Ya Kad, Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2 and two Ban Koom Village, Doi Ang Khang on 25/2. At least ten Doi Ang Khang on 26/2 and one there also on 27/2.

Chestnut-tailed Minla (*Minla strigula*) At least ten at Ang Ka Boardwalk, Doi Inthanon on 20/2 and more than 20 there also on 21/2.

Striated Yuhina (*Yuhina castaneiceps*) 25 at the higher elevations of Kaeng Krachan on 14/2 and at least ten Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2.

Rufous-winged Fulvetta (*Alcippe castaneiceps*) More than 20 at Ang Ka Boardwalk, Doi Inthanon on 20/2 and at least 30 there also on 21/2.

Brown-cheeked Fulvetta (*Alcippe poioicephala*) Ten in Kaeng Krachan on 16/2 and at least ten Chiang Dao Temple on 23/2.

Grey-cheeked Fulvetta (*Alcippe morrisonia*) Four at the higher elevations of Kaeng Krachan on 14/2 and two at km 20, Kaeng Krachan on 15/2. Ten on Doi Inthanon on 20/2 and five

there on 21/2. At least 40 seen along Jeep Track, Doi Inthanon on 22/2. Five Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2. Between 15 and 40 seen all days on Doi Ang Khang.

White-bellied Yuhina (*Yuhina zatnholeuca*) Three Kaeng Krachan on 13/2 and five in Khao Yai on 18/2. One Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2.

White-hooded Babbler (*Gampsorhynchus rufulus*) Seven of this remarkable species at km 31,5, Kaeng Krachan on 14/2.

Spectacled Barwing (*Actinodura ramsayi*) Four lovely birds giving stunning views at km 37,5, Doi Inthanon on 20/2. Two seen at km 21,5, Doi Ang Khang on 25/2 and on 26/2.



Spectacled Barwing, Doi Inthanon.

Photo: Thomas Hultquist

Dark-backed Sibia (*Heterophasia melanoleuca*) At least 30 Doi Inthanon on both 20/2 and 21/2. Ten seen Jeep Track, Doi Inthanon on 22/2. Four at Den Ya Kad, Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2. Ten seen Doi Ang Khang on 25/2 and 26/2.

Rufous-backed Sibia (*Heterophasia annectens*) One Doi Ang Khang on 26/2 and one there also on 27/2.

Spot-breasted Parrotbill (*Paradoxornis guttaticollis*) One truly breathtaking bird showed well at km 21,5, Doi Ang Khang on 27/2.

Yellow-vented Flowerpecker (*Dicaeum chrysorrheum*) One at the viewpoint km 32, Kaeng Krachan on 14/2. Two in Khao Yai on 17/2 and one there on 18/2.

Plain Flowerpecker (*Dicaeum concolor*) Two at the HQ, Khao Yai on 17/2 and one at Vachiratarn Waterfall, Doi Inthanon on 21/2.

Fire-breasted Flowerpecker (*Dicaeum ignipectus*) At least ten (*cambodiana*) Khao Yai on 17/2 and five there also on 18/2 and two on 19/2. Two (*ignipectus*) at Doi Ang Khang on 25/2.

Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker (*Dicaeum cruentatum*) One male at Mahidol University, Bangkok on 10/2 and two in Kaeng Krachan on 13/2 and five there also on 16/2. Two at Rim Kong River Restaurant, Chiang Saen on 28/2.

Brown-throated Sunbird (*Anthreptes malacanesis*) One male at Thung Faeu on 11/2 and two in Chumporn on 12/2.

Ruby-cheeked Sunbird (*Anthreptes singalensis*) Six in Kaeng Krachan on 13/2 and at least ten on 15/2.

Olive-backed Sunbird (*Nectarina jugularis*) A few seen on most days, even in towns. Not seen in deep forest or at higher altitudes. Highest number was more than ten in Khao Yai on 18/2.

Purple Sunbird (*Nectarina asiatica*) One male at km 13, Doi Inthanon on 22/2.

Crimson Sunbird (*Aethopyga siparaja*) One male at our campground km 15, Kaeng Krachan on 13/2.

Mrs Gould's Sunbird (*Aethopyga gouldiae*) One male at Jeep Track, Doi Inthanon on 20/2 and at least five stunning birds at Ang Ka Boardwalk, Doi Inthanon on 21/2.

Green-tailed Sunbird (*Aethopyga nipalensis*) More than ten of this incredible bird at Ang Ka Boardwalk, Doi Inthanon on 20/2 and at least 20 on the same place on 21/2.



Green-tailed Sunbird. Doi Inthanon.

Photo: Johannes Rydström

Black-throated Sunbird (*Aethopyga saturata*) At least 20 seen at the higher elevations of Kaeng Krachan on 14/2. One male Khao Yai on 19/2 and one female Chiang Dao Temple on 23/2. Three on Doi Ang Khang on 26/2.

Little Spiderhunter (*Arachnothera longirostra*) One Khao Yai on 17/2. Three seen along the Heaw Suwat trail to Pha Kluey Mai, Khao Yai on 19/2.

Streaked Spiderhunter (*Arachnothera magna*) Two showing well at the higher elevations of Kaeng Krachan on 14/2. One Jeep Track, Doi Inthanon on 22/2. Two at Doi Ang Khang on 25/2 and one on 26/2 and 27/2.



Streaked Spiderhunter, Kaeng Krachan. Photo: Thomas Hultquist

Richard's Pipit (*Anthus richardi*) At least ten at Beung Boraphet on 19/2 and one at Mae Hia, Chiang Mai on 22/2. Two at Thaton on 27/2.

Paddyfield Pipit (*Anthus rufulus*) Two just south of Chumporn on 12/2 and one at the former golf course, Khao Yai on 18/2. Two at Beung Boraphet on 19/2 and more than 20 at Mae Hia, Chiang Mai on 22/2. Two at Mae Tang on 23/2 and three at Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2.

Olive-becked Pipit (*Anthus hodgsoni*) Two at the Crake Pond, Doi Inthanon on 20/2 and four Doi Inthanon on 21/2. 20 at Den Ya Kad, Doi Chiang dao on 24/2. Five Doi Ang Khang on 25/2. More than 20 at Thaton on 27/2 and ten Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2.

Red-throated Pipit (*Anthus cervinus*) Three at Beung Boraphet on 19/2. One starting to get summer plumage at Thaton on 27/2 and one also at Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2.

Indochinese Bushlark (*Mirafra marionae*) Four at Khao Yoi on 11/2.

White Wagtail (*Motacilla alba*) Three (leucopsis) at HQ, Doi Inthaon on 21/2 and two at Mae Hia, Chiang Mai on 22/2. Five at Mae Tang on 23/2. Two Doi Ang Khang on 25/2 and at least ten Thaton and Chiang Saen Lake on 27/2 and at least 50 Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2.



White Wagtail, Mae Hia.

Photo: Johannes Rydström

Citrine Wagtail (*Motacilla citreola*) Two Chiang Saen Lake on 27/2. More than 15 birds seen at Chiang Saen Lake and Rim Kong River Restaurant on 28/2.

Yellow Wagtail (*Motacilla flava*) At least 15 birds at Khao Yoi on 11/2 and two seen at Khao Sam Roi Yot on 12/2. At least five seen at Beung Boraphet on 19/2.

Grey Wagtail (*Motacilla cinerea*) Two Kaeng Krachan in the dried up streambeds on 13/2 and another on 15/2. One Khao Yai on 17/2 and seven at Vachiratarn Waterfall, Doi Inthanon on 21/2. Five km 13, Doi Inthanon on 22/2. Three at Ban Luang, Doi Ang Khang on 25/2 and one Thaton on 27/2. One Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2.

House Sparrow (*Parus major*) 20 at a gasstation in central Thailand on 1/3 was the last new bird for the trip-list.

Plain-backed Sparrow (*Parus flaveolus*) Two males at Khao Yoi on 11/2 and one male at Mae Hia, Chiang Mai on 22/2.

Eurasian Tree Sparrow (*Parus montanus*) Very many seen in all cultivated areas and towns.

Baya Weaver (*Ploceus philippinus*) One at the Mae Kok river, Thaton on 27/2.

Pin-tailed Parrotfinch (*Erythrura prasina*) One bird giving brief views in bamboo at km 30, Kaeng Krachan.

White-rumped Munia (*Lonchura striata*) Two on Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2 and more than 20 at Thaton on 27/2. Ten Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2.

Scaly-breasted Munia (*Lonchura punctulata*) At least 50 at Mahidol University, Bangkok on 10/2 and one lone bird at Chumporn on 12/2. More than 15 at HQ, Doi Inthanon on 21/2 and at least 200 at Mae Hia, Chiang Mai on 22/2. Hundreds on different locations on 23/2. 30 at Thaton on 27/2 and five at Chiang Saen Lake on 28/2.



Scaly-breasted Munia, Doi Inthanon. Photo: Johannes Rydström

Black-headed Munia (*Lonchura malacca*) Two birds at Beung Boraphet on 19/2.

Common Rosefinch (*Carpodacus erythrinus*) Five at the summit Doi Inthanon on 21/2 and at least ten at km 21,5, Doi Ang Khang on 25/2.

Yellow-breasted Bunting (*Emberiza aureola*) At least 2000(!) at Thung Feau, Petchaburi Province on 11/2.

Chestnut Bunting (*Emberiza rutila*) More than 20 Den Ya Kad, Doi Chiang Dao on 24/2 and 20 also at km 21,5, Doi Ang Khang on 25/2. Five Doi Ang Khang on 26/2 and 27/2.

