

# W Yunnan, China, 29 Oct – 20 Nov 2007

## ***An at-a-glance list of 421 species of birds recorded.***

By Jesper Hornskov xxx ALL RIGHTS RESERVED xxx [this draft 18 Dec 2007]

Please note that the following list is best considered a work in progress. It should not be quoted without consulting the author.

This write-up covers a journey in Yunnan undertaken by G Anderson, G Allison, K Blomerley, I Stephenson, G White, S Wotton & myself. We 'did' Lijiang, Gaoligongshan, Tengchong, the Yingjiang & Ruili areas, and Kunming's Xishan.

Thank you for your enthusiasm in joining, and for making this trip so enjoyable!

For want of what else to do with records of an additional 13 species made at Beijing on 21 Nov they are inserted here.

A strike in France compounded by a thunderstorm over Beijing, severe and unseasonal in roughly equal measure, made for a rather tripped-up start: except for GoA who was already in place to catch the flight to Lijiang we were almost 48 hours late into NW Yunnan & six pieces of luggage took nine days to catch up... We managed to claw back a day along the way but partly on account of a bit of more unseasonal weather stuck with the revised plan of skipping the intended 'extra' days around Beijing (which would have targeted e.g. Brown Eared Pheasant) in favour of doing fullest possible justice to W Yunnan. Unfortunately two of us had not been able to spare time for 'extra' birding and thus travelled back to Beijing on 17<sup>th</sup> as planned – only to learn that their homebound flight was cancelled due to another strike... this time, much to our relief, the offer was of a direct flight instead, and our break-away team members due to the cancellation were home sooner than they would have been!

The species list is based mainly on my personal field notes. In it, the concept "bird-days" is employed - it is the avian equivalent of man-hours: for example, separate flocks of ten and 15 Asian Dowitchers moving through score 25 bird-days, as would the same single individual seen daily for 25 days. The sum of day totals - a handy measure of relative abundance, nothing more.

The sequence of the bird list follows *The Howard and Moore Complete Checklist of the Birds of the World – 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition* (Dickinson 2003), in my opinion by far the most useful one-volume checklist to date.

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## **Species List:**

**Common Hill Partridge** *Arborophila torqueola*

55 bird-days. Noted on eight dates – most were heard-onlies.

**Rufous-throated Hill Partridge** *Arborophila rufogularis*

2+ bird-days. Noted only at Gaoligongshan.

**White-cheeked Hill Partridge** *Arborophila atrogularis*

1-2 heard in the Yingjiang area on 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Mountain Bamboo Partridge** *Bambusicola fytchii*

7+ bird-days. Noted on three dates – four out at the side of the road in a place we wouldn't have been at except for the rain...

**Koklass Pheasant** *Pucrasia macrolopha*

Two males calling strongly but unwilling to respond to tape-luring near Lijiang on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Red Junglefowl** *Gallus gallus*

One male [KB] on 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Silver Pheasant** *Lophura nyctemera*

6-7 bird-days. Noted on two dates.

**Mandarin Duck** *Aix galericulata*

One female [ISt] in the Yingjiang area on 11<sup>th</sup> was a gripping find.

\*\*\*Cheng (1987) listed the species as recorded in winter from Kunming & NE Yunnan. Robson (2000) considered the species to be only a vagrant to SE Asia (C Burma, NW & C Thailand, and W Tonkin).

**Eurasian Wigeon** *Anas penelope*

Five at Ruili on 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Indian Spotbill** *Anas poecilorhyncha*

42+ at Ruili on 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Northern Pintail** *Anas acuta*

Three bird-days. Noted on two dates.

**Garganey** *Anas querquedula*

One [GoA] at Ruili on 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Common Teal** *Anas crecca*

70 at Ruili on 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Common Pochard** *Aythya ferina*

Ten at Ruili on 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Tufted Duck** *Aythya fuligula*

Two at Ruili on 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Little Grebe** *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

40 bird-days. Noted on three days.

**Great Crested Grebe** *Podiceps cristatus*

One at Ruili on 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Black Stork** *Ciconia nigra*

Six 1<sup>st</sup> c-y birds near Ruili on 15<sup>th</sup> were all beyond the Burmese border...

**Black-crowned Night Heron** *Nycticorax nycticorax*

One heard pre-dawn on 1<sup>st</sup> was the only record.

**Striated Heron** *Butorides striata*

Two bird-days. Singles noted on two dates.

**Chinese Pond Heron** *Ardeola bacchus*

Seven bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Eastern Cattle Egret** *Bubulcus coromandus*

c128 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Grey Heron** *Ardea cinerea*

Three bird-days. Noted at just two sites.

**Intermediate Egret** *Egretta intermedia*

One on 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Little Egret** *Egretta garzetta*

59 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**Little Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax niger*

61 bird-days. Noted near Ruili on two dates, with a record count of 56 on 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Great Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax carbo*

48 bird-days. Noted on four dates – 36 near Ruili on 14<sup>th</sup> were of note.

**Common Kestrel** *Falco tinnunculus*

35 bird-days. Noted on ten dates – particularly common in the lowlands near Ruili.

**Amur Falcon** *Falco amurensis*

A 1<sup>st</sup> c-y in flight, possibly migrating, near Ruili on 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Peregrine** *Falco peregrinus*

Three bird-days.

**Osprey** *Pandion haliaetus*

Two bird-days. Singles noted on two dates.

**Oriental Honey Buzzard** *Pernis ptilorhynchus*

Five bird-days. Noted on four dates – nice views of one or two of them...

**Black-shouldered Kite** *Elanus caeruleus*

19 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Black Kite** *Milvus migrans*

Two bird-days. Noted near Ruili & at Kunming.

\*\*\*Cheng (1987) considered Black Kite to be the commonest *Falconiformes* in China.

**Crested Serpent Eagle** *Spilornis cheela*

Singles near Ruili on 16+17<sup>th</sup>.

**Crested Goshawk** *Accipiter trivirgatus*

Seven bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**Shikra** *Accipiter badius*

One [GuA & SW] near Ruili on 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Besra** *Accipiter virgatus*

Seven bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Eurasian Sparrowhawk** *Accipiter nisus*

Five bird-days. Noted on three dates.

\*\*\*In addition, two at Beijing on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Northern Goshawk** *Accipiter gentilis*

One at Lijiang on 30<sup>th</sup> was the only record.

**Common Buzzard** *Buteo buteo japonicus*

22+ bird-days. Noted on ten dates.

\*\*\*In addition, two at Beijing on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**?Long-legged Buzzard** *Buteo rufinus*

A Buzzard at Lijiang on 30<sup>th</sup> was 'suspected' of being this species...

**Black Eagle** *Ictinaetus malayensis*

13-14 bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

**Bonelli's Eagle** *Hieraaetus fasciatus*

One near Ruili on 17<sup>th</sup>, 'buzzed by a Common Buzzard'.

\*\*\*Cheng (1987) did not list the species for Yunnan, and it had apparently not previously been recorded with certainty at Ruili. It occurs in adjacent SE Asia as a scarce resident in C+E Burma, and has been recorded in NW Thailand (Robson 2000).

**Booted Eagle** *Hieraaetus pennatus*

One in the Yinjiang area on 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Rufous-bellied Eagle** *Hieraaetus kienerii*

One at c1,100m in the Yinjiang area on 10<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*deSchauensee (1984) & Cheng (1987) listed the species only for Hainan (where maybe extinct now: no sightings for several decades: Woodward 2006, p128), and Robson (2000) listed the species for neither N nor E Burma. There were two sightings in the Ruili area in 2005.

**Mountain Hawk Eagle** *Spizaetus nipalensis*

Nine bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**White-breasted Waterhen** *Amaurornis phoenicurus*

Five bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Common Moorhen** *Gallinula chloropus*

70 on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Common Coot** *Fulica atra*

Three seen well on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Common Crane** *Grus grus*

A group of four birds headed NW near Yingjiang on 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Ibisbill** *Ibidorhyncha struthersii*

Probably the same individual on 8+9+11<sup>th</sup>. Tingaling!

\*\*\*It was so much better to see this superbly weird bird on a 'living' river rather than on a trickle of water buidling-site-cum-duck-farm outside China's capital!

**River Lapwing** *Vanellus duvaucelii*

20 bird-days, involving c11 individuals noted on five dates.

**Grey-headed Lapwing** *Vanellus cinereus*

20 bird-days, involving 13 individuals recorded on four dates.

**Red-wattled Lapwing** *Vanellus indicus*

34 bird-days, involving 22+ individuals noted on three dates.

**Long-billed Plover** *Charadrius placidus*

One on 11<sup>th</sup> was a bonus if not entirely unexpected.

**Little Ringed Plover** *Charadrius dubius*

One briefly on 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Greater Painted-snipe** *Rostratula benghalensis*

A male seen memorably in flight on 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Pheasant-tailed Jacana** *Hydrophasanius chirurgus*

Five bird-days. Noted on two dates.

**Pintail Snipe** *Gallinago stenura*

Instructive views of one on 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Common Snipe** *Gallinago gallinago*

Three bird-days. Noted on two dates.

**Common Greenshank** *Tringa nebularia*

11 near Ruili on 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Green Sandpiper** *Tringa ochropus*  
Five bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Wood Sandpiper** *Tringa glareola*  
Four bird-days. Noted on two dates.

**Common Sandpiper** *Actitis hypoleucos*  
12 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Common Black-headed Gull** *Larus ridibundus*  
One 1<sup>st</sup>-winter bird on 14<sup>th</sup>...

**Speckled Wood Pigeon** *Columba hodgsonii*  
c82 bird-days. Noted on five dates – main event a flock of c50 on 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Oriental Turtle Dove** *Streptopelia orientalis*  
41 bird-days. Noted on four dates.  
\*\*\*In addition, 8+ at Beijing on 21<sup>st</sup>.

\*\*\***Eurasian Collared Dove** *Streptopelia decaocto*  
One at Beijing on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Spotted Dove** *Streptopelia chinensis*  
53 bird-days. Noted on six dates – fairly common in the lowlands near Ruili.  
\*\*\*In addition, two at Beijing on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Barred Cuckoo-Dove** *Macropygia unchall*  
Ten bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

**Emerald Dove** *Chalcophaps indica*  
Singles noted on two dates.

**Thick-billed Green Pigeon** *Treron curvirostra*  
1+ [SW] on 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Pin-tailed Green Pigeon** *Treron apicauda*  
23 bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon** *Treron sphenurus*  
6+ bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Mountain Imperial Pigeon** *Ducula badia*  
14 bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Alexandrine Parakeet** *Psittacula eupatria*  
One in flight on 11<sup>th</sup>, with nothing whatsoever to suggest that it was anything but a genuinely wild bird.  
\*\*\*One of uncertain origin (with nine Rose-ringed Parakeets *P. krameri* considered to be possibly 'free-flying escaped birds') was recorded near Ruili on 12 Jan 2004 (P I Holt 2005); otherwise apparently no records for China.

**Finsch's Parakeet** *Psittacula finschii*

One flew N at c1,950m at Gaoligongshan on 5<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\* Rasmussen & Anderton (2005) notes that "sympatry with *P. himalayana* not well documented, but no intergrades were noted in review of specimens [...]. Furthermore, differences in plumage and size, as well as markedly distinct vocalisations, support treatment of *finschii* as a distinct species". Dickinson (2003) only tentatively accepted the split.

**Red-breasted Parakeet** *Psittacula alexandri*

525+ bird-days. Noted on three dates – incl a superbly satisfying encounter in the Yingjiang area on 12<sup>th</sup>: 25 birds flying around and then perched up at a very reasonable range in morning sunlight...

**Large Hawk-Cuckoo** *Cuculus sparveroides*

Three bird-days. Singles noted on three dates.

**Plaintive Cuckoo** *Cacomantis merulinus*

An adult sitting out nicely near Ruili on 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Asian Emerald Cuckoo** *Chrysococcyx maculatus*

Two bird-days. Different adults sitting out near Yingjiang on two dates.

**Green-billed Malkoha** *Rhopodytes tristis*

2+ bird-days. Noted on two dates.

**Greater Coucal** *Centropus sinensis*

One sitting out on a wire, drying its wings, near Ruili on 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Mountain Scops Owl** *Otus spilocephalus*

Presumably the same individual heard calling on four nights.

**Collared Scops Owl** *Otus lettia*

One heard on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Chinese Tawny Owl** *Strix nivicola*

One heard on 6<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*"The Indian taxa *biddulphi* and *nivicola* are usually considered races of Tawny, but differ markedly from each other in morphology and song, despite their close geographic approach in the W Himalayas; *nivicola* is thus afforded species status [...]" :Rasmussen & Anderton (2005).

**Collared Owlet** *Glaucidium brodiei*

18 bird-days. Noted on 12 dates.

**Short-eared Owl** *Asio flammeus*

One swooping by at c07h30 on 10<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*Mapped by Cheng (1987) as occurring in winter throughout Yunnan.

**Grey Nightjar** *Caprimulgus jokata*

One [GuA *et al.*] on 1<sup>st</sup>.

\*\*\*\*“The S Indian [/] Sri Lanka taxa (*indicus*, *kelaarti*) and Himalayan *jokata* are traditionally treated as conspecific, but they show consistent morphological and vocal differences, different juvenile plumages, and the eggs of the two groups are markedly dissimilar; those of *indicus* and *kelaarti* are buff to rich salmon with dense pale chestnut to olive blotches, while those of *jokata* are bluish-white to creamy-white with heavy dark brown blotches”: Rasmussen & Anderton (2005).

**Himalayan Swiftlet** *Aerodramus brevirostris*

57+ bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**White-vented Needletail** *Hirundapus cochinchinensis*

Eight with hirundines in the Yinjiang area on 10<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*Cheng (1987) recorded the species only for Hainan, where considered rare and "only seen locally during the cooler hours of the day". Lewthwaite (1996) reported sightings from Guangxi & Guangdong, and there is at least one previous record for Yunnan: 13 near Ruili on 10 Mar 1999 (JH unpubl.)

**Asian Palm Swift** *Cypsiurus balasiensis*

22 bird-days. Noted on four dates... repeated good looks!

**Fork-tailed Swift** *Apus pacificus*

13+ bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**\*\*\*Swift sp**

2-3 birds near Yingjiang on 11<sup>th</sup> [GW] 'could have been **Common Swift** *A apus*' but are more likely to have been **Dark-rumped Swift** *A acuticauda*.

**House Swift** *Apus nipalensis*

78+ bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Red-headed Trogon** *Harpactes erythrocephalus*

Seven bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Indian Roller** *Coracias benghalensis*

A distant bird perched up on 11<sup>th</sup>.

**White-throated Kingfisher** *Halcyon smyrnensis*

18 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Black-capped Kingfisher** *Halcyon pileata*

One on 11<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*Cheng (1987) listed the species as breeding in W + S Yunnan but not previously recorded by JH, not even at Ruili on a late April visit.

**Common Kingfisher** *Alcedo atthis*

11 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

\*\*\*In addition, one at Beijing on 21<sup>st</sup>.



**Crested Kingfisher** *Megaceryle lugubris*

Three bird-days. Noted on two dates.

\*\*\*Cheng (1987) listed the species for NW + S Yunnan, and did not map it for W of the Salween. It is considered a scarce to uncommon resident in adjacent Burma (Robson 2000).

**Pied Kingfisher** *Ceryle rudis*

Six bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Blue-bearded Bee-eater** *Nyctiornis athertoni*

Nine bird-days. Noted on no less than four dates – superb views of what can be a tricky bird!

**Green Bee-eater** *Merops orientalis*

Six bird-days. Noted on two dates.

**Hoopoe** *Upupa epops*

Five bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Oriental Pied Hornbill** *Anthracoceros albirostris*

Three in the Yingjiang area on 11<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*Cheng (1987) listed the species for S & W Yunnan and S Guangxi, considering it “uncommon”, while Robson (2000) considered it an uncommon to locally common resident up to 1,400m in adjacent SE Asia.

**Great Barbet** *Megalaima virens*

54 bird-days. Noted on 16 dates.

**Golden-throated Barbet** *Megalaima franklinii*

29 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**Blue-throated Barbet** *Megalaima asiatica*

49+ bird-days. Noted on 12 dates.

**Northern Wryneck** *Jynx torquilla*

Three bird-days. Two near Ruili on 15<sup>th</sup> both showed well: one in river grass, the other 15m+ up in the open on dead stick protruding from bamboo grove.

**Speckled Piculet** *Picumnus innominatus*

Four bird-days.

**White-browed Piculet** *Sasia ochracea*

Two bird-days. One near Ruili on 19<sup>th</sup> provided a chance to catch up.

**Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos canicapillus*

Six bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Stripe-breasted Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos atratus*

Two bird-days.

**Crimson-breasted Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos cathpharius*

Six bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Darjeeling Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos darjellensis*  
One at Gaoligongshan on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Great Spotted Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos major*  
Two on 7<sup>th</sup>.  
\*\*\*In addition, two at Beijing on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Lesser Yellownape** *Picus chlorolophus*  
Ten bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Greater Yellownape** *Picus flavinucha*  
Six bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Grey-headed Woodpecker** *Picus canus*  
Three bird-days. Singles heard on three dates.  
\*\*\*In addition, one at Beijing on 21<sup>st</sup> Beijing.

**Greater Goldenback** *Chrysocolaptes lucidus*  
Two bird-days in the Yingjiang area.

**Bay Woodpecker** *Blythipicus pyrrhotis*  
39 bird-days. Noted on 15 dates: vocal but exceptionally hard to see.

**Long-tailed Broadbill** *Psarisomus dalhousiae*  
4+ bird-days. Noted on three dates – most were heard-onlies.

**Large Woodshrike** *Tephrodornis virgatus*  
30 near Ruili on 17<sup>th</sup> & 5+ (possibly the same flock) there on 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Ashy Woodswallow** *Artamus fuscus*  
Four [1St] in the Yingjiang area on 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Common Iora** *Aegithina tiphia*  
Six bird-days. Noted one four dates Ruili.

**Large Cuckoo-shrike** *Coracina macei*  
14+ bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Black-winged Cuckoo-shrike** *Coracina melaschistos*  
11 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**Rosy Minivet** *Pericrocotus roseus*  
One male on 17<sup>th</sup> & 14 (incl a group of ten, of which four were showy males: pink and grey is a pretty powerful colour combination – bring on Crested Ibis!) in the same area on 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Ashy Minivet** *Pericrocotus divaricatus*  
One heard flying over (migrating?) at Kunming on 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Grey-chinned Minivet** *Pericrocotus solaris*  
Seven bird-days at Gaoligongshan. Noted on three dates.

**Long-tailed Minivet** *Pericrocotus ethologus*

69+ bird-days. Noted on eight dates. Main event 29 (incl a migrating flock of 15) at Lijiang on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Short-billed Minivet** *Pericrocotus brevirostris*

61 bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

**Scarlet Minivet** *Pericrocotus speciosus*

80 bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

**Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike** *Hemipus picatus*

72+ bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

**Burmese Shrike** *Lanius collurio*

Singles on two dates. One near Ruili on 14<sup>th</sup> put on a good show.

**Long-tailed Shrike** *Lanius schach*

51 bird-days. Noted on 11 dates.

**Grey-backed Shrike** *Lanius tephronotus*

Seven bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Slender-billed Oriole** *Oriolus tenuirostris*

Three vocal birds showed well on 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Maroon Oriole** *Oriolus traillii*

39 bird-days. Noted on 12 dates.

**Black Drongo** *Dicrurus macrocercus*

Seven bird-days. Noted on just two dates.

**Ashy Drongo** *Dicrurus leucophaeus*

54 bird-days. Noted on 18 dates.

**Bronzed Drongo** *Dicrurus aeneus*

104 bird-days. Noted on 12 dates.

**Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo** *Dicrurus remifer*

12 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**Hair-crested Drongo** *Dicrurus hottentottus*

36 bird-days. Noted on no less than six dates, with main event 23 on 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Yellow-bellied Fantail** *Rhipidura hypoxantha*

87 bird-days. Noted on 14 dates. Main event 47 (incl 25 migr) at Lijiang on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**White-throated Fantail** *Rhipidura albicollis*

83 bird-days. Noted on 19 dates.

**Eurasian Jay** *Garrulus glandarius*

Near Ruili probably the same two individuals on 17+19<sup>th</sup>.

**\*\*\*Azure-winged Magpie** *Cyanopica cyanus*  
100+ at Beijing on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Yellow-billed Blue Magpie** *Urocissa flavirostris*  
Three bird-days. Noted on two dates at Gaoligongshan.

**Red-billed Blue Magpie** *Urocissa erythrorhyncha*  
29 bird-days. Noted on eight dates.  
\*\*\*In addition, great views of three at Beijing on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Common Green Magpie** *Cissa chinensis*  
8+ bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Grey Treepie** *Dendrocitta formosae*  
66 bird-days. Noted on 14 dates.

**Collared Treepie** *Dendrocitta frontalis*  
14 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**\*\*\*Common Magpie** *Pica pica*  
20+ at Beijing on 21<sup>st</sup> Beijing (where it is a hard-to-miss species).

**Eurasian Nutcracker** *Nucifraga caryocatactes*  
14 bird-days. Noted on three dates – particularly in evidence near Lijiang on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Carrion Crow** *Corvus corone*  
Four at Lijiang on 31<sup>st</sup>.  
\*\*\*In addition, two at Beijing on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Large-billed Crow** *Corvus macrorhynchos*  
11 bird-days. Noted on five dates.  
\*\*\*In addition, one at Beijing on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Great Tit** *Parus major*  
29 bird-days. Noted on eight dates.  
\*\*\*In addition at least three near Beijing on 21<sup>st</sup>.  
\*\*\* Cheng (1987) listed only *subtibetanus* – part of the *minor* group - for Yunnan.

**Green-backed Tit** *Parus monticolus*  
18 bird-days. Noted on five dates – main event nine at Kunming on 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Yellow-bellied Tit** *Parus venustulus*  
8+ (incl seven migr) at Kunming on 20<sup>th</sup>.  
\*\*\*In addition, 12 at Beijing on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Yellow-cheeked Tit** *Parus sibilans*  
25 bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

**Rufous-vented Tit** *Parus rubidiventris*  
Two near Lijiang on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Coal Tit** *Parus ater*  
22 near Lijiang on 31<sup>st</sup>.

\*\*\***Marsh Tit** *Parus palustris*  
Two at Beijing on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Black-bibbed Tit** *Parus hypermelaenus*  
One near Lijiang on 31<sup>st</sup> unfortunately eluded most of us.

**Grey Crested Tit** *Parus dichrous*  
Four near Lijiang on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Yellow-browed Tit** *Sylviparus modestus*  
50 bird-days. Noted on six dates. Main event 23 on 1<sup>st</sup>, at Gaoligongshan.

**Fire-capped Tit** *Cephalopyrus flammiceps*  
8+ bird-days. Noted on two dates, incl three migr on 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Grey-throated Sand Martin** *Riparia chinensis*  
c41 bird-days. Note on three dates.  
\*\*\*Split from Plain Martin *R. paludicola* following Rasmussen & Anderton (2005).

**Barn Swallow** *Hirundo rustica*  
370+ bird-days in addition to hundreds, possibly thousands, roosting in Yingjiang town.

**Wire-tailed Swallow** *Hirundo smithii*  
Five bird-days. 1-2 birds noted on three days in the Yingjiang area.  
\*\*\*1<sup>st</sup> record for China near Ruili on 10 January 2004 (Holt 2005).

**Eurasian Crag Martin** *Ptyonoprogne rupestris*  
Four on 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Asian House Martin** *Delichon dasypus*  
112+ bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

**Nepal House Martin** *Delichon nipalense*  
Eight bird-days. Noted on just two dates – main event five on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Red-rumped Swallow** *Cecropis daurica*  
c105 bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

**Striated Swallow** *Cecropis striolata*  
c33 bird-days. Noted on three dates in the Yingjiang area.

**Long-tailed Tit** *Aegithalos caudatus*  
Six at Lijiang on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Black-throated Tit** *Aegithalos concinnus*  
c115 bird-days. Noted on seven dates – main event 55 at Kunming on 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Pere Bonvalot's Tit** *Aegithalos bonvaloti*  
32 bird-days. Noted at Lijiang on two dates.

**Oriental Skylark** *Alauda gulgula*  
One on 15<sup>th</sup> near Ruili eventually started song-flighting.

\*\*\***Chinese Hill Warbler** *Rhopophilus pekinensis*  
2+ heard at Beijing on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Striated Prinia** *Prinia crinigera*  
One was seen by GW in the Yingjiang area on 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Hill Prinia** *Prinia superciliaris*  
20 bird-days. Noted on ten dates.

**Rufescent Prinia** *Prinia rufescens*  
Five near Ruili on 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Grey-breasted Prinia** *Prinia hodgsonii*  
18 bird-days. Noted on five dates, mostly in the Ruili area.

**Plain Prinia** *Prinia inornata*  
Seven near Ruili on 15<sup>th</sup> – one was video'd by KB...

**Mountain Tailorbird** *Orthomus cucullatus*  
17 bird-days. Noted on eight days. KB nearly obtained stunning footage of this, alas, accomplished skulker...

**Common Tailorbird** *Orthomus sutorius*  
23+ bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

**Crested Finchbill** *Spizixos canifrons*  
91+ bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

**Striated Bulbul** *Pycnonotus striatus*  
42 bird-days. This vocal species was noted on 11 dates.

**Black-crested Bulbul** *Pycnonotus flaviventris*  
52+ bird-days. Noted on seven dates near Yingjiang & at Ruili.

**Red-whiskered Bulbul** *Pycnonotus jocosus*  
c35 bird-days. Noted on just five dates.

**Brown-breasted Bulbul** *Pycnonotus xanthorrhous*  
68+ bird-days. Noted on six dates.

\*\*\***Chinese Bulbul** *Pycnonotus sinensis*  
Noted at Chengdu & at Beijing on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Red-vented Bulbul** *Pycnonotus cafer*  
410+ bird-days. Noted on 13 dates.

**Flavescent Bulbul** *Pycnonotus flavescens*

57 bird-days. Noted on ten dates.

**White-throated Bulbul** *Criniger flaveolus*

92 bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

**Grey-eyed Bulbul** *Iole propinqua*

Eight bird-days. Noted on two dates.

**Mountain Bulbul** *Ixos mcclellandii*

121 bird-days. Noted on 13 dates.

**Ashy Bulbul** *Hemixos flavala*

56 bird-days. Noted on seven dates near Yingjiang & at Ruili.

**Black Bulbul** *Hypsipetes leucocephalus*

655+ bird-days. Noted on 18 dates.

\*\*\*What with three morphs – in addition to all-black(ish) birds, white-breasted ssp *leucothorax* and white-headed birds (sspp *leucocephalus* & *stresemanni*) were seen – this attractive species is a strong 'presence' almost throughout the region covered by our trip.

**Striated Warbler** *Megalurus palustris*

24 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Chestnut-headed Tesia** *Oligura castaneocoronata*

25 bird-days. Noted on seven dates – some superb encounters.

**Slaty-bellied Tesia** *Tesia olivea*

17 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Grey-bellied Tesia** *Tesia cyaniventer*

21 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Pale-footed Bush Warbler** *Cettia pallidipes*

One heard calling & singing just as we were leaving for the airport on 19<sup>th</sup>: we just did NOT have the time to dig it out.

**Brownish-flanked Bush Warbler** *Cettia fortipes*

Three bird-days.

**Grey-sided Bush Warbler** *Cettia brunnifrons*

One showing well at Gaoligongshan on 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Dusky Warbler** *Phylloscopus fuscatus*

16 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Tickell's Leaf Warbler** *Phylloscopus affinis*

Seven bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Buff-throated Leaf Warbler** *Phylloscopus subaffinis*

Five bird-days. Noted on two dates – one appeared on cue at Kunming on 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Yellow-streaked Warbler** *Phylloscopus armandii*

Nine bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Buff-barred Leaf Warbler** *Phylloscopus pulcher*

35 bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

**Ashy-throated Leaf Warbler** *Phylloscopus maculipennis*

39 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**Chinese Leaf Warbler** *Phylloscopus yunnanensis*

Three bird-days. Singles noted on three dates.

\*\*\*The “newly described” “*Phylloscopus sichuanensis*” in fact dates back to 1922: Dickinson (2003).

It remains to be seen if the German name should be changed from Alstromlaubsanger to Latouchelaubsanger? Cheng (1987) listed *P. yunnanensis* as a synonym of *chloronotus*.

Martens *et al.* 2004 (*vide* Rheindt 2006) apparently proposed to change the now well-established English name for this species to ‘La Touche’s Leaf Warbler’...

**Pallas’s Leaf Warbler** *Phylloscopus proregulus*

15 bird-days. Main event 14 at Kunming on 20<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*In addition, one at Beijing on 21<sup>st</sup>: about as late in autumn as one can hope to encounter this attractive species here...

**Eastern Lemon-rumped Warbler** *Phylloscopus forresti* 95A)

41 bird-days. Noted on 16 dates & probably in reality more common than the bird-day total implies: mixed flocks often had in them a number of *Phylloscopus* warblers which it was not a priority to identify...

\*\*\*Martens *et al.* 2004 (*vide* Rheindt 2006) elevated *forresti*, considered a synonym of *chloronotus* by Cheng (1987), to full species status, splitting it from *chloronotus* (of Nepal) which, with *simlaensis*, becomes Western Lemon-rumped Warbler. The two differ “dramatically in song and mitochondrial DNA (4.2% cytochrome-b divergence)”: Rheindt (2006). Given that the type locality for *forresti* is Lijiang, in Yunnan (Cheng 1987) it is not obvious that “Sichuan Leaf Warbler’ is preferable to ‘Eastern Lemon-rumped Warbler’. “Presumably the hitherto unknown border between both species lies somewhere in Yunnan, Burma or north-eastern India.”: Rheindt (2006). *Ahem?*

**Yellow-browed Warbler** *Phylloscopus inornatus*

100 bird-days. Noted on 15 dates.

**Hume’s Leaf Warbler** *Phylloscopus humei*

33 bird-days. Noted on 12 dates.

\*\*\*No reason to think that any were not ssp *mandellii*, a taxon tentatively given full species status by Rasmussen & Anderton (2005).

**Greenish Warbler** *Phylloscopus trochiloides*

Two bird-days. Singles heard on two dates.

**Blyth’s Leaf Warbler** *Phylloscopus reguloides*

75+ bird-days. Noted on 11 dates. Main event 22+ near Ruili on 19<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*Few were seen well enough to eliminate the virtually identical ‘**Claudia’s Leaf Warbler** *P. claudiae*’.



**White-tailed Leaf Warbler** *Phylloscopus davisoni*  
55 bird-days. Noted on 12 dates.

**Grey-crowned Warbler** *Seicercus tephrocephalus*  
23 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Bianchi's Warbler** *Seicercus valentini*  
24 bird-days. Noted on 12 dates.

**Emei Flycatcher-warbler** *Seicercus omeiensis*  
One heard at Ruili on 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Grey-cheeked Warbler** *Seicercus poliogenys*  
16 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Chestnut-crowned Warbler** *Seicercus castaniceps*  
19 bird-days. Noted on ten dates.

**Rufous-faced Warbler** *Abroscopus albogularis*  
16+ bird-days. Noted on three days with a particularly satisfying encounter with a pair responding to pishing on 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Black-faced Warbler** *Abroscopus schisticeps*  
21 bird-days. Noted on just two dates.

**Yellow-bellied Warbler** *Abroscopus superciliaris*  
28 bird-days. This bamboo-loving species was noted on seven dates.

**Puff-throated Babbler** *Pellorneum ruficeps*  
34 bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

**Spot-breasted Scimitar Babbler** *Pomatorhinus erythrocnemis*  
54+ bird-days. Noted on 11 dates. Main event 14+ at Kunming on 20<sup>th</sup>.  
\*\*\*Collar (2006) elevates *odicus* (of NE and E Burma, N Indochina, S Yunnan and Guizhou (except N), *decarlei* (of 'E Xizang', SW Sichuan, and NW Yunnan), *'dedekensi* [sic]' (of '(N)E Xizang', W Sichuan, and NW Yunnan), *gravivox* (of S Gansu, S Shaanxi, S Shanxi, NW Henan, and N Sichuan), and *cowensae* (of C and E Sichuan, N Guizhou, and W Hubei) to species status on morphological grounds, a 'new arrangement, which clearly rests on uncertain foundations and is in need of considerable fortification (which is not supplied by morphometric analysis, as this shows as much variation within the new species as between them, notably a remarkably long tail in *dedekensi* [sic]...'. In the absence of DNA analysis and a thorough study of the notoriously varied vocalizations of these birds, such rearrangement seems fairly meaningless...

**Streak-breasted Scimitar Babbler** *Pomatorhinus ruficollis*  
104 bird-days. Noted on 20 dates.

**Red-billed Scimitar Babbler** *Pomatorhinus ochraceiceps*  
Two bird-days. Singles recorded in the Yingjiang area [GoA] & near Ruili.

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

Three on 18<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\* Rasmussen & Anderton (2005) notes that “nominate may be better considered a separate species from other races, with its different head pattern and crown feather shape. Vocalisations seem to support this and no evidence of intergradation is known, but more recordings and further study is needed”.

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

Six bird-days. Noted on four dates at Gaoligongshan – two birds showed superbly on 3<sup>rd</sup> and pretty much left everything else out of the race for Bird of the Trip...

**Streaked Wren-Babbler** *Napothera brevicaudata*

Two bird-days. Singles on two dates.

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

Ten bird-days. Mostly heard-onlies were noted on five dates.

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

22 bird-days. Noted on 11 dates – two or three were seen well by most of us.

**Spotted Wren-Babbler** *Spelaeornis formosus*

Possibly the same bird heard singing on 13+18<sup>th</sup>.

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

22 bird-days. Noted on six dates – turned out to be a comparatively easy bird to see, even without playback.

\*\*\*“Marked morphological differences between *oatesi*, *chocolatinus* and *reptatus*, all usually treated as races of *Spelaeornis chocolatinus*, suggest that species status is warranted for each. The songs of *oatesi* and *reptatus* differ significantly, but that of *chocolatinus* is undocumented; further study needed.”: Rasmussen & Anderton (2005) – “Grey-bellied Wren-Babbler” is the English name used by Rasmussen & Anderton (2005), for reasons unknown.

**Cachar Wedge-billed Babbler** *Sphenocichla roberti*

Five bird-days. Undoubtedly just two birds noted on three dates... seen by all, with a bit of effort.

\*\*\*“Usually considered wren-babblers, these enigmatic babblers are larger, with strange, deep-based, chisel-like bills and broad rounded tails. Little known in life, they are normally encountered in groups in trees, and perform musical whistled duets. [... *roberti* is] strikingly different from *S. humei* in many aspects of plumage, without any evidence of intergradation despite close geographic approach. Doubtless better considered a separate species on basis of morphology; comparative study of vocalisations desirable when recordings of *roberti* become available.”: Rasmussen & Anderton 2005.

**Rufous-capped Babbler** *Stachyris ruficeps*

38 bird-days. Noted on 14 dates.

**Golden Babbler** *Stachyris chrysaee*

25 bird-days. Noted on 12 dates.

**Grey-throated Babbler** *Stachyris nigriceps*

18 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Rufous-tailed Moupinia** *Moupinia poecilotis*

Three near Lijiang – one pair proved very responsive to tape luring, though rather disappointingly one lacked its tail!

**Chinese Babax** *Babax lanceolatus*

Two heard on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**White-throated Laughingthrush** *Garrulax albogularis*

A flock of c25 on 6<sup>th</sup>.

**White-crested Laughingthrush** *Garrulax leucolophus*

74+ bird-days. Noted on six dates – seen well on a number of occasions.

**Lesser Necklaced Laughingthrush** *Garrulax monileger*

7+ bird-days. Noted on at least two dates.

**Greater Necklaced Laughingthrush** *Garrulax pectoralis*

40+ bird-days. Noted on six dates... some of us were getting a bit worried but on 10<sup>th</sup> six birds 'called & were finally induced to fly across the road', showing well up in trees either side.

**Black-throated Laughingthrush** *Garrulax chinensis*

Six bird-days. Noted on two dates.

**\*\*\*Pere David's Laughingthrush** *Garrulax davidi*

7+ at Beijing was a bonus...

**Moustached Laughingthrush** *Garrulax cineraceus*

Three bird-days. Seeing this elusive species well on two dates was a major bonus!

**Rufous-chinned Laughingthrush** *Garrulax rufogularis*

Three near Ruili on 19<sup>th</sup> – nice record (only the 3<sup>rd</sup> for China) but unfortunately not all of us saw 'em properly...

**Giant Laughingthrush** *Garrulax maximus*

Two heard on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Grey-sided Laughingthrush** *Garrulax caerulatus*

c6 [GoA, ISt] at Gaoligongshan on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Rufous-necked Laughingthrush** *Garrulax ruficollis*

24+ bird-days. Noted on three dates. 10+ out on a track ingesting grit allowed close approach using the vehicle as a mobile hide – a not-so-minor trip highlight!

**White-browed Laughingthrush** *Garrulax sannio*

58+ bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

**Blue-winged Laughingthrush** *Garrulax squamatus*

5+ bird-days. Noted on two dates.

**Scaly Laughingthrush** *Garrulax subunicolor*

14 bird-days. Noted at Gaoligongshan on four dates – definitely above-average numbers, and superb views as well!

**Elliot's Laughingthrush** *Garrulax elliotii*

18 bird-days. Noted daily at Lijiang.

**Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush** *Garrulax erythrocephalus*

12 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Red-tailed Laughingthrush** *Garrulax milnei*

9+ bird-days. Seen well on two dates.

**Red-faced Liocichla** *Liocichla phoenicea*

21-23 bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

**Silver-eared Mesia** *Leiothrix argentauris*

c145 bird-days. Noted on 12 dates.

**Red-billed Leiothrix** *Leiothrix lutea*

63+ bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**Cutia** *Cutia nipalensis*

17 bird-days. Noted on three dates – extended views had by all: Tingaling!

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

Nine bird-days. Noted on three dates – very obliging, allowing camera-wielding team members plenty of time to get it right.

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

35 bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

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

Eight bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**White-hooded Babbler** *Gampsorhynchus rufulus*

One [SW] on 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Rusty-fronted Barwing** *Actinodura egertoni*

126+ bird-days. Noted on no less than 14 dates – main event 36 on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Blue-winged Minla** *Minla cyanouroptera*

112 bird-days. Noted on ten dates.

**Chestnut-tailed Minla** *Minla strigula*

48 bird-days. Noted on six dates, incl at Lijiang (one heard singing on 30<sup>th</sup>) where it is rather rare.

**Red-tailed Minla** *Minla ignotinta*

16 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**Golden-breasted Fulvetta** *Alcippe chrysotis*

Four bird-days. 1-2 noted on three dates at Gaoligongshan was fewer than expected – one, however, ‘caught a caterpillar’.

**Yellow-throated Fulvetta** *Alcippe cinerea*

Ten bird-days. Seen at Gaoligongshan on two dates.

**Rufous-winged Fulvetta** *Alcippe castaneiceps*

19 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**White-browed Fulvetta** *Alcippe vinipectus*

Four on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Spectacled Fulvetta** *Alcippe ruficapilla*

53 bird-days. Noted on three dates. Main event 42 on 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Manipur Fulvetta** *Alcippe manipurensis*

Ten bird-days. Noted on two dates.

\*\*\*Rasmussen & Anderton (2005) splits *manipurensis* and *tonkinensis* as Manipur

Fulvetta *A. manipurensis*. The diminished *A. cinereiceps* is a Mainland China endemic with a range encompassing Fujian & N Guangdong (*ssp guttaticollis*), C Hubei to Hunan (*ssp fucata*), W Hubei to SW Sichuan & Guizhou (*ssp cinereiceps*), and Gansu, S Shaanxi & NE Qinghai [?] (*ssp fessa*) (Dickinson 2003).

\*\*\*Collar (2006) asserts that ‘*A. manipurensis* [which he upholds by “[taking] on trust” from Rasmussen and Anderton (2005) vocal evidence to shore up morphological differences] takes with it the English name Streak-throated Fulvetta, with Grey-hooded Fulvetta for the diminished *Alcippe cinereiceps*’. That’s very helpful, Nigel...

**Rusty-capped Fulvetta** *Alcippe dubia*

99+ bird-days. This charismatic and frequently inquisitive species was noted on 11 dates.

**Brown-cheeked Fulvetta** *Alcippe poiocephala*

Four bird-days. Noted on two dates.

**‘Western’ Grey-cheeked Fulvetta** *Alcippe (morrisonia) fratercula*

c230 bird-days. Noted on ten dates.

\*\*\*Zou *et al.* (2007) discovered that ‘Grey-cheeked Fulvetta’ ssp *schaefferi* (of northern Vietnam, SE Yunnan, Guizhou & Guangxi) & *davidi* (of ‘Gansu, Shannxi [sic], Sichuan, Guizhou, Hunan, Fujian [error?: if correct this is an isolated population; Fujian is listed also for *hueti*] & NE Yunnan), probably, based on range, with *yunnanensis* (which was excluded from the study as no DNA sample was handy; this taxon was listed for Dali by Cheng (1987) and is probably the one occurring at Kunming – from where no taxa was listed by Cheng (1987)) are better considered one species (morphologically they differ in having a brown, not grey, head, and they lack the prominent black superciliary line found in ‘the peripheral taxa’), *fratercula* (E & SE Burma, N & C Laos, N Thailand & SW Yunnan) another, *annamensis* (previously considered to belong with Mountain Fulvetta *Alcippe paracensis*) a third, and *morrisonia* (Taiwan), *hueti* (of SE China, ‘incl Guangxi, Anhui, Jiangxi, Zhejiang, Fujian & Guangdong’) & *rufescentior* (of Hainan) a fourth. The authors concede that a case can be made to consider *morrisonia* a full species: it is c5% diverged from both *hueti* & *rufescentior*.

**Nepal Fulvetta** *Alcippe nipalensis*

19 bird-days. Noted on in the Yingjiang area & at c1,050m at Ruili.

\*\*\* The species shares a white eyering with 'Grey-cheeked Fulvetta' (see above) but has an 'olive gray' iris (Zou *et al.* 2007).

**Rufous-backed Sibia** *Heterophasia annectans*

Five bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Grey Sibia** *Heterophasia gracilis*

76 bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

**Black-headed Sibia** *Heterophasia desgodinsi*

7+ bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Beautiful Sibia** *Heterophasia pulchella*

76 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Long-tailed Sibia** *Heterophasia picaoides*

48 bird-days. Noted on six dates. One memorable encounter concerned five birds near Ruili on 17<sup>th</sup> – they appeared at sunset and started flycatching...

**Striated Yuhina** *Yuhina castaniceps*

315 bird-days. Noted on six dates. Main event 170 on 9<sup>th</sup>...

**Whiskered Yuhina** *Yuhina flavicollis*

105 bird-days. Noted on ten dates.

**Stripe-throated Yuhina** *Yuhina gularis*

Three seen well on 5<sup>th</sup>.

**White-collared Yuhina** *Yuhina diademata*

17 bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Rufous-vented Yuhina** *Yuhina occipitalis*

65 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**White-bellied Yuhina** *Erpornis zantholeuca*

12+ bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Vinous-throated Parrotbill** *Paradoxornis webbianus*

12+ 'Ashy-throated' at Kunming on 20<sup>th</sup> & 50+ at Beijing on 21<sup>st</sup>.

\*\*\*Includes Ashy-throated Parrotbill. This arrangement "[which retains Brown-winged Parrotbill *P. brunneus* as a separate species] follows a large, careful study of Han (1991), and maps in earlier publications were corrected by Cheng (1993), who endorsed Han's findings": Dickinson (2003)

**Brown-winged Parrotbill** *Paradoxornis brunneus*

Eight seen well on 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Black-throated Parrotbill** *Paradoxornis nipalensis*

c60 bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Lesser Rufous-headed Parrotbill** *Paradoxornis atrosuperciliaris*

Seven bird-days. Noted on two dates.

**Greater Rufous-headed Parrotbill** *Paradoxornis ruficeps*

Two near Ruili on 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Grey-headed Parrotbill** *Paradoxornis gularis*

31+ bird-days. Noted on four dates – main event a flock of 25 seen well near Ruili on 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Chestnut-flanked White-eye** *Zosterops erythropleurus*

c195 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**Japanese White-eye** *Zosterops japonicus*

110+ bird-days. Identified on 14 dates.

**Oriental White-eye** *Zosterops palpebrosus*

c57 bird-days. Noted on eight dates

**Asian Fairy-bluebird** *Irena puella*

One female seen well near Ruili on 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Goldcrest** *Regulus regulus*

52 bird-days. Noted on four dates – main event 33 on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Northern Wren** *Troglodytes troglodytes*

Five bird-days. 1-3 daily at Lijiang...

\*\*\*In addition, one at Beijing on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Naga Nuthatch** *Sitta nagaensis*

32 bird-days. Noted on 11 dates.

**Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch** *Sitta cinnamoventris*

One at 1,200m near Yingjiang on 8<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*Split from *S. castanea*, which becomes an Indian region endemic, by Rasmussen & Anderton (2005): [*S. castanea* is] “markedly different from *cinnamoventris* and its races morphologically and vocally, despite close approach along the base of the Himalayas. The third major group, extralimital *neglecta*, also has some different vocalisations (Thailand – PDR) and is likely to comprise a separate species.” The latter is “much paler and more orange below than in *cinnamoventris* in both sexes, with small, thin bill, and little contrast between cheek and underparts.”

**White-tailed Nuthatch** *Sitta himalayensis*

Five bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Yunnan Nuthatch** *Sitta yunnanensis*

19 bird-days, involving at least 12 individuals.

**Velvet-fronted Nuthatch** *Sitta frontalis*

22 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**Hodgson's Treecreeper** *Certhia hodgsoni*

Five bird-days. Noted on two dates.

\*\*\*“embraces the Sino-Himalayan [taxa] *hodgsoni* Brooks, 1874 (W Himalayas), *mandellii* Brooks, 1874 (E Himalayas) and *khamensis* Bianchi 1903 (SW & W China [N as far as the road between Jiuzhaigou & Sungpan in N Sichuan]” : D T Tietze *et al* 2006. Birds in SE Qinghai & E Xizang are this taxon: Cheng (1987).

**Bar-tailed Treecreeper** *Certhia himalayana*

One at Lijiang on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Rusty-flanked Treecreeper** *Certhia nipalensis*

One at c2,400m in the Gaoligongshan on 6<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*“White of brow curving ‘round ear-coverts very obvious’, an excellent and widely acknowledged field mark which Arlott (2007) somehow missed completely.

**Brown-throated Treecreeper** *Certhia discolor*

13 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Spot-winged Starling** *Saroglossa spiloptera*

18 bird-days. Noted on three dates – superb views obtained by all.

**Golden-crested Myna** *Ampeliceps coronatus*

21+ bird-days. Noted on two dates.

**Hill Myna** *Gracula religiosa*

111+ bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Crested Myna** *Acridotheres cristellatus*

Five bird-days. Noted on two dates near Ruili.

**Collared Myna** *Acridotheres albocinctus*

60 bird-days. Noted on two dates.

**Vinous-breasted Starling** *Sturnus burmannicus*

Eight on 9<sup>th</sup> – ‘scope views were had by all as these birds tried to hide amongst the Collared Mynas...

**Black-collared Starling** *Sturnus nigricollis*

Five bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Asian Pied Starling** *Sturnus contra*

51 bird-days. Noted on three dates – main event a group of 37 near Ruili on 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Blue Whistling Thrush** *Myophonus caeruleus*

26 bird-days. Noted on 15 dates. All those seen well were yellow-billed...

**Long-tailed Thrush** *Zoothera dixonii*

Eight bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Small-billed Scaly Thrush** *Zoothera dauma*

One on 3<sup>rd</sup>.



**White's Thrush** *Zoothera aurea*

One on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Black-breasted Thrush** *Turdus dissimilis*

One showed well on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Grey-winged Blackbird** *Turdus bouboul*

Superb views of a male on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Chestnut Thrush** *Turdus rubrocanus*

Just three birds seen...

**Eyebrowed Thrush** *Turdus obscurus*

112+ bird-days. Noted on 14 dates.

**Red-throated Thrush** *Turdus ruficollis*

One in flight on 13<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*In addition, four at Beijing on 21<sup>st</sup>...

\*\*\***Naumann's Thrush** *Turdus naumanni*

13+ individuals at Beijing on 21<sup>st</sup> included one *eunomus* & at least a couple of hybrid origin.

**Chinese Song Thrush** *Turdus mupinensis*

Five bird-days. Noted on two dates.

**Gould's Shortwing** *Heteroxenicus stellata*

14 bird-days. Noted on eight dates & seen well, if mostly rather briefly, by all group members. WOW!

**Lesser Shortwing** *Brachypteryx leucophrys*

Seven bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Bluethroat** *Luscinia svecica*

One near Ruili on 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Siberian Rubythroat** *Luscinia calliope*

Five bird-days. Noted on four dates. Main event two on 1<sup>st</sup>, calling, then pushed into view...

**Himalayan Red-flanked Bluetail** *Tarsiger rufilatus* 134A)

24 bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

\*\*\*"Sino-Himalayan *rufilatus* and N Asian *cyanurus* are widely disjunct in breeding ranges. Consistent differences in morphology and song-types over wide areas indicate they are better treated as separate species.": Rasmussen & Anderton (2005).

\*\*\***Northern Red-flanked Bluetail** *Tarsiger cyanurus*

Four at Beijing on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Golden Bush Robin** *Tarsiger chrysaea*

Eight bird-days. Noted on five dates – 1-2 comparatively showy individuals at Gaoligongshan...

**Oriental Magpie-Robin** *Copsychus saularis*

56 bird-days. Noted on ten dates.

**White-rumped Shama** *Copsychus malabaricus*  
One [ISt] in the Yingjiang area on 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Hodgson's Redstart** *Phoenicurus hodgsoni*  
Seven bird-days. Five males on 30<sup>th</sup>...

**Daurian Redstart** *Phoenicurus aureus*  
16 bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

**Blue-fronted Redstart** *Phoenicurus frontalis*  
56 bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

**Plumbeous Redstart** *Rhyacornis fuliginosa*  
39 bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

**River Chat** *Chaimarrornis leucocephalus*  
22 bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

**Little Forktail** *Enicurus scouleri*  
Singles seen superbly on two days.

**Black-backed Forktail** *Enicurus immaculatus*  
11 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Slaty-backed Forktail** *Enicurus schistaceus*  
16 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**White-crowned Forktail** *Enicurus leschenaulti*  
One showed exceptionally well near Ruili on 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Spotted Forktail** *Enicurus maculatus*  
11 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**\*\*\*Forktail sp.**  
Nine more or less unidentified Forktails were noted.

**Common Stonechat** *Saxicola torquatus*  
49 bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

**Pied Bushchat** *Saxicola caprata*  
25 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Grey Bushchat** *Saxicola ferreus*  
19 bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

**Blue Rock Thrush** *Monticola solitarius*  
Singles were seen on two dates.

**Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush** *Monticola rufiventris*  
Ten bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**Sooty Flycatcher** *Muscicapa sibirica*

Single ssp *rothschildi* birds were seen in the Yingjiang area on two dates.

\*\*\*Work on vocalizations may well lead to suggestions that the distinctive *rothschildi* be elevated to full species status...

**Asian Brown Flycatcher** *Muscicapa dauurica*

One at Gaoligongshan on 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Slaty-backed Flycatcher** *Ficedula hodgsonii*

Nine bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Rufous-gorgetted Flycatcher** *Ficedula strophciata*

Eight bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Red-throated Flycatcher** *Ficedula albicilla*

An adult male was seen well at Lijiang on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**White-gorgetted Flycatcher** *Ficedula monileger*

One in the Yingjiang area on 10<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*Dickinson (2003) omitted W Yunnan from the range of this hard-to-find species which was listed as accidental in China by Cheng (1987), with the sole record (a male collected at Nankang River, SW Yunnan, in December) cited also by Yan *et al.* (1995).

**Snowy-browed Flycatcher** *Ficedula hyperythra*

One male showed well near Ruili on 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Little Pied Flycatcher** *Ficedula westermanni*

12 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Slaty-blue Flycatcher** *Ficedula tricolor*

Four bird-days. Noted on three days – main event a male showing very well on 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Sapphire Flycatcher** *Ficedula sapphira*

A female-type bird on 12<sup>th</sup> was all – we had expected at least a few more...

**Blue-and-White Flycatcher** *Cyanoptila cyanomelaena*

One male 'seen well' [SW, GW, GoA] at Gaoligongshan on 4<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*Cheng (1987) listed the species only for S & SE Yunnan.

**Asian Verditer Flycatcher** *Eumyias thalassinus*

15 bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

**Pale Blue Flycatcher** *Cyornis unicolor*

Three on 19<sup>th</sup> – of which one was very cooperative, announcing its presence by singing repeatedly & then coming close without us having to resort to playback...

**Hill Blue Flycatcher** *Cyornis banyumas*

15 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Rufous-bellied Niltava** *Niltava sundara*

Five bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Large Niltava** *Niltava grandis*

56 bird-days. Noted on 18 dates – most were heard only...

**Small Niltava** *Niltava macgregoriae*

13 bird-days. Noted on six dates – most were heard only...

**Pygmy Blue Flycatcher** *Muscicapella hodgsoni*

One male at Gaoligongshan on 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Grey-headed Flycatcher** *Culicicapa ceylonensis*

59 bird-days. Noted on 13 dates.

**Flycatcher sp.**

Two heard on 15<sup>th</sup> – calls not attributable to any species identified on the trip...

**Brown Dipper** *Cinclus pallasii*

10-11 bird-days. Noted on three dates – several individuals were remarkably obliging!

**Blue-winged Leafbird** *Chloropsis cochinchinensis*

A pair near Yingjiang on 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Golden-fronted Leafbird** *Chloropsis aurifrons*

Five bird-days. Noted on two dates.

**Orange-bellied Leafbird** *Chloropsis hardwickii*

38 bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

**Yellow-vented Flowerpecker** *Dicaeum chrysorrheum*

Eight bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Yellow-bellied Flowerpecker** *Dicaeum melanoxanthum*

Six bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Buff-bellied Flowerpecker** *Dicaeum ignipectum*

73 bird-days. Noted on 18 dates.

**Ruby-cheeked Sunbird** *Chalcoparia singalensis*

Five bird-days. Noted on two dates at Ruili.

**Purple Sunbird** *Cinnyris asiaticus*

A female-type bird seen briefly (and heard) along the Salween...

**Mrs. Gould's Sunbird** *Aethopyga gouldiae*

52+ bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

**Green-tailed Sunbird** *Aethopyga nipalensis*

28+ bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Black-throated Sunbird** *Aethopyga saturata*

22 bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

**Crimson Sunbird** *Aethopyga siparaja*

Two birds feeding in flowering weeds near Ruili on 14<sup>th</sup>...

**Fire-tailed Sunbird** *Aethopyga ignicauda*

39 bird-days. Noted on five dates - a few migrating on both 3<sup>rd</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Streaked Spiderhunter** *Arachnothera magna*

127 bird-days. Noted on 14 dates. Some of the Yingjiang area birds were migrating...

**Russet Sparrow** *Passer rutilans*

Eight bird-days. Noted on two dates, incl at Kunming on 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Eurasian Tree Sparrow** *Passer montanus*

A few here and there: not systematically recorded.

**Baya Weaver** *Ploceus philippinus*

30-35 birds noted on two dates near Yingjiang.

**White-rumped Munia** *Lonchura striata*

16 bird-days. Noted on just four dates.

**Scaly-breasted Munia** *Lonchura punctulata*

155 bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

**Maroon-backed Accentor** *Prunella immaculate*

17 bird-days. Noted on four dates – superb views of this sought-after species...

**Eastern Yellow Wagtail** *Motacilla tschutschensis*

67 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

\*\*\*Alstrom & Mild (2003) conclude that “[...] the Yellow Wagtail complex is probably most appropriately classified as two species also under the BSC” (p34). Retained in *M. flava* are *flavissima*, *flava*, *beema*, *thunbergi* (incl. *plexa*), *iberiae*, *cinereocapilla*, *pygmaea*, *feldegg*, *lutea* & *leucocephala*. This treatment was adopted by Rasmussen & Anderton (2005).

**Citrine Wagtail** *Motacilla citreola*

Six bird-days. Noted on three dates – nice views!

**Grey Wagtail** *Motacilla cinerea*

17 bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

**White Wagtail** *Motacilla alba*

140 bird-days. Noted on 12 dates – both *leucopsis* & *alboides* birds were seen close-up.

\*\*\* Dickinson (2003) evidently consider without merit the idea that *lugens* is a valid species. Alstrom & Mild (2003) also concludes that various factors “suggest that the White Wagtail is best treated as a single species under the BSC”.

**Richard's Pipit** *Anthus richardi*

Five in the Ruili area on 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Paddyfield Pipit** *Anthus rufulus*

16 bird-days. Noted on two dates.

\*\*\* Dickinson (2003) treated the *rufulus* group as conspecific with *richardi*, unlike Alstrom & Mild (2003).

**Olive-backed Pipit** *Anthus hodgsoni*

84 bird-days. Noted on 18 dates.

**Rosy Pipit** *Anthus roseus*

82+ bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Brambling** *Fringilla montifringilla*

12 at Kunming on 20<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*In addition, 750+ at Beijing on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Tibetan Siskin** *Serinus thibetanus*

Singles on two dates at Gaoligongshan.

\*\*\***Oriental Greenfinch** *Carduelis sinica*

Six at Beijing on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Black-headed Greenfinch** *Carduelis ambigua*

29 bird-days. Noted on five days – most were heard only...

**Blanford's Rosefinch** *Carpodacus rubescens*

8-9 bird-days. Superb views were had on three dates.

\*\*\*Stott (1993) did not list the species for Kunming, while Cheng (1987) listed it for W & NW Yunnan. An erratic/nomadic species in Sichuan, rarely recorded during regular visits in May/June (B. King pers. com.) though it has been recorded on Emei Shan in March (C. Robson pers. com.). Grimmett *et al.* (1998) give its winter range in India as 1,300-1,800m and consider it a rare resident "subject to poorly known altitudinal movements" – a group seen near Kunming in winter 2003/2004 were at c2,250m.

**Dark-breasted Rosefinch** *Carpodacus nipalensis*

25 bird-days. Noted on four dates – main event 21 apparently migrating at Kunming on 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Vinaceous Rosefinch** *Carpodacus vinaceus*

A female feeding on the path on 5<sup>th</sup>...

**Dark-rumped Rosefinch** *Carpodacus edwardsii*

7+ bird-days. Noted daily at Lijiang – two males sitting out nicely on 31<sup>st</sup> 'made our day'.

**Crimson-browed Finch** *Pinicola subhimachala*

An immature male [GoA, ISt & GW] at c2,000m 13<sup>th</sup> was 'seen well but gone by the time the rest of us got there'.

\*\*\*Considered uncommon by Cheng (1987). The area visited on our trip are on the S fringe of the species' range.

**Brown Bullfinch** *Pyrrhula nipalensis*

Six on 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Grey-headed Bullfinch** *Pyrrhula erythaca*

Four on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**\*\*\*Chinese Grosbeak** *Eophona migratoria*

Three at Beijing on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Collared Grosbeak** *Mycerobas affinis*

57+ bird-days. Noted on two dates – 38+ showing off throughout the morning of 31<sup>st</sup> rated as one of the finest spectacles on the trip.

**Spot-winged Grosbeak** *Mycerobas melanozanthos*

46 bird-days. 9-23 birds were noted on three days near Yingjiang.

**Eastern Rock Bunting** *Emberiza godlewskii*

Nine bird-days. Seen on two days at Lijiang.

\*\*\*In addition, one at Beijing on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**\*\*\*Tristram's Bunting** *Emberiza tristrami*

It was a real bonus to see two at Beijing on 21<sup>st</sup>...

**Little Bunting** *Emberiza pusilla*

13 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

\*\*\*In addition, four at Beijing on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**\*\*\*Yellow-browed Bunting** *Emberiza chrysophrys*

Four at Beijing on 21<sup>st</sup> were even more of a bonus than the Tristram's...

**\*\*\*Rustic Bunting** *Emberiza rustica*

2+ at Beijing on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Yellow-throated Bunting** *Emberiza elegans*

Five bird-days. Noted on three dates.

\*\*\*In addition, three at Beijing on 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Yellow-breasted Bunting** *Emberiza aureola*

Two [ISt] near Yingjiang on 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Chestnut Bunting** *Emberiza rutila*

11 bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Black-faced Bunting** *Emberiza spodocephala*

c23 bird-days. Noted on two dates. Main event c20 [ISt] on 11<sup>th</sup>.