BIRDS, MAMMALS, AMPHIBIANS and REPTILES seen i Thailand and Cambodia Jan 23 – Feb 11 2010

Stefan Lithner



Siamese Fireback Sakaerat Biosphere Reserve, Thailand. Photo S. Lithner

Acknowledgements

The result of this expedition I dedicate to my excellent guides: Mr Tu (Rattapon Kaichid) and Ms Jan (Pitchaya Janhom) Thailand, Ms Sophoan Sahn in coorporation with WCS and SVC in Seam Reap Cambodia and my sister MrsViveca Lithner-Ask and her husband Mr Björn Larsson-Ask residents in Thailand, for highly appreciated logistic support. I also thank Dr Philip Round, Mahidol University, Bangkok Thailand, and Mr Peter Ericsson Sweden and Thailand for valuable information on some birds and Mr Joakim Johansson

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Jan 22

In the afternoon of Jan 22 I landed in Bangkok, where I was picked up by Mrs Viveca and Mr Björn.

Jan 23 -26

. The following days I spent getting acklimatized to and acquainted with Thailand. Leasurely birding and mammalwatching in Laem Mae Phim, SW of Klaeng, Rayong District. Here is still remnants of primary forest interspersed with secondary growth, swamps, rivers, fish- and schrimp- ponds, making it plesant to revise some of the more common birds of SE Asia. A few species like Puff-throated Bulbul, Streak-eared Bukbul and White-eyed Bulbul were a good exercise.

In Laem Mae Phim a wall is raised for nest-farming on Germain's Swiftlet. Birds were seen daily.

Nest-farming on Germain's Swiftlet is carried on in many places on the Thai mainland. Beside Gremain's Swiftlet (*Aerodramus germani*) also Edible-nest Swiftlet (*Aerodramus fuciphaga*), Black-nest Swiftlet (*Aerodramus maximus*) and Glossy Swiftlet (*Collocalia esculenta*) are reported to be subjects to nest-farming where these species occur. The former two create white nests, however occasionally reddish, the coloration caused by chemical reaction between the birds' saliva and the limestone cave. White nests are most apprecieated for food purpouses.

During a visit to the island Koh Mai Nai, a short boat trip from the mainland on Jan 24 we discovered an Indochinese Ground-squirrel whichs tail was stuck in a hole in the ground, while the animal was leaping for its life, eventually managing to tear its tail off, but kept leaping like a mouse having taken in poison does. The only explaination to this bizarre event I can think of, is that a venomous snake had bitten the squirrel, pulled down its tail in a hole to keep it from leaping away, waiting for the venom to kill the animal. We did not investigate the hole.

On the mainland several Western Striped Squirrels were frequently seen and heard and at least one Variable Squirrel was seen.

Jan 27.

At 01.00 in the morning I took the bus from Klaeng and arrived at the bus-station Eckamai at 03:40. One hour later Mr Tu and his wife Ms Jan, also a skilled birder and an excellent and rewarded digiscoper picked me up. We made a short stop to have breakfast at at petrol-station, and then drove straight to the saltpans at Laem Pak Bia. These saltpans are approximately 30 by 35 km. We made our first stop at the best sight for Nordmanns Greenshank at first sunlight. On arrival attempts to net this species for collecting faeces-samples to send to laboratories for analysis of existence of $H_5 N_1$ -virus, were carried out. We therefore drove on to the site for Spoon-billed Sandpiper. It took Mr Tu and Ms Jen less than ten minutes to spot the first bird. A second bird was spotted about 20 minutes later. Here we spent some time approaching this individual, and with a bit of patience managed to come within 20 meters from it.

We then returned to first sight and found no longer people attempting to net the Greenshanks. We rather immediately saw about 1000 Great Knot. In one of these flocks containing maybe 300 Great Knot, we counted 34 Nordmann's Greenshank.

We continued to nearby canal, took a boat to the island Leam Pak Bia about 100 meters off the kanal-mouth, stepped ashore and found the first Malaysian Plover within five minutes. It did not take many more minutes until we also spotted an individual of the remarkable White-fronted Plover*.

*This taxon is recently described as a Spec. nova, but it has been observed only on two sites and only in one plumage, causing us to question the athenticity of this species.

About 75 meter further out into the open sea a stony gathering hosted a Chinese Egret.



Chinese Egret Laem Pak Bia, Thailand. Photo S. Lithner

After lunch served by the wife of a private fisherman we continued to Kaeng Krachan. National Park. After only a few kilometers into the park we picked up our first Great Hornbills. A male courting his female. This magnificent species eventually proved to be well represented in the park.

On arrival at the Ban Klang campsite we found a fruiting tree with a group of 12 Dusky Langur, including one baby, and also one mother White-handed Gibbon with a baby. About an hour after sunset we took a walk spotlighting. At the entrance we had been informed that a not so friendly elephant was making his way in all directions around the camp. For this reason we did not walk very far that night. Yet we managed to pick up a Masked Palm Civet, feeding around the waste deposit behind the kitchen at the edge of the camp. This animal later proved to hang around this area all the time we were there.

Jan 28.

During the night Mr Tu had heard the enraged elephant making his way through the forest. Shortly before sunrise we drove towards the summit. At first daylight we caught our first Orange-headed Thrush on our way towards the smmit. We made a stop at a lookout by the side of the road and picked up a number of good species: Slender-billed Oriole, Chinese Grey Drongo, Grey Peacock-phesant, Fire-breasted Flowerpecker, Grey-chinned Minivet, while a Mountain Scops Owl was calling.

We also spotted a Black Giant Squirrel. and heard groups of White-handed Gibbon calling. At the summit a Yellow-throated Marten was known to fourage from the waste of the kitchen, but since we arrived there no earlier than around noon we did not find the animal.

We however saw a few mountain-species like more Mountain Imperial Pigeons, Whitebrowed Shrike-babbler, White-browed Scimitar-babbler, Muntain Bulbul, Flavscent Bulbul, Buff-vented Bulbul,

On our way down we stopped at different habitats. In primary forest we picked up Hill Blue Flycatcher, Thailand Grey Drongo, Red-headed Trogon, Ratchet-tailed Tree-pie, Bronzed Drongo, Green Magpie, Green-billed Malkoha and Sulphur-breasted Warbler.

In bamboo we found Tickell's Blue Flycatcher, Golden Babbler, Puff-throated Babbler, Orange-headed Trogon, White-hooded Babbler, Black-throated Laughingthrush and a Collared Falconet.

Furher down as the day was starting to fade a magnificent cook Kalij Phesant was standing on the road. After a little while of watching from the car Mr Tu picked up the call of Tickell's Grey Hornbill. We just managed to get out of the car to see a flock of 15 individuals passing right over our heads. Yet some more individuals were heard calling.

After supper we went spotlighting. We stopped at a waterhole before it was quite dark. After a while a Lesser Chevrotain came sneaking down to get some water and a few minutes later a Common Palm Civet also tried its luck.

Meanwhile Great Eared Nightjars were flying over us and Large-tailed Nightjars were calling around us.

A short walk spotlighting around the camp gave an Asian Barred Owlet perched above our tents, while Collared Scops-owls were calling around the camp.

Jan 29

During the night I had realized that I wanted to make another try for the Yellow-throated Marten. At dawn Blue-bearded Bee-eaters, Asian Bared Owlet, Greater Racket-tailed Drongo, Asian Fairy Bluebirds were active around the campground.

On our way towards the Summit Mr Tu spotted a Fea's Muntjac as it bounced over the road. I just missed it.

At the summit the personel at the kitchen knew the marten very well. When we arrived they told us the marten had already been there. We sat down and waited. After about 20 minutes we caught a glimpse of the animal. A few mintes later it came out in the open and without any fear it picked up eatable waste at the edge of the kitchen. We stayed and enjoyed this animal for quite a while.

Before lunch we stopped at a stream with dense vegetation. Here we saw another Orangebreasted Trogon, Dollarbird, Ocraceous- and Buff-vented Bulbuls, Zultan Tit, Tickell's Blue Flycatcher, Black-naped Monarch, Pale-legged Leaf-warbler and a Common Kingfisher. In the afternoon, around 14:00 Mr Tu and Ms Jan set a hide at an always water-carrying waterhole. On our way to the waterhole two Grey Peacock-pheasants sneaked away just ahead of us.

Ms Jan and I sat down and waited. As the day became cooler the birds started to come in. More Ocraceous Bulbuls and Puff-throated Wabblers, Asian Paradise Flycatcher, Hainan Blue Flycatcher, Blue-throated Flycatcher, Tickell's Blue Flycatcher, Siberian Blue Robin, Orange-headed Thrush, Dusky Warbler, while Crested Serpent Eagle and Asian Pied Hornbill were calling in the setting.

Shortly before dusk we paid another visit to the during previous evening rather productive waterhole. On our way to the waterhole we picked up the first Grey-bellied Squirrel for our trip. This time the waterhole produced Greater Yellownape but also a Bengal Monitor.

Jan 30

We left the campsite in Kaeng Krachan early. On our way out we counted ten Large-tailed Nightjars sitting on the road.

After about two hours drive we reached the Khao Kapok (non-hunting area) near Ta Yang. At one site along this road Stump-tailed Macaques have turned habituated to people feeding them, despite recommendations not to do so.

The population here is estimated to at least 100 individuals. When we arrived about 20 individuals were fouraging along the road. At this site we also saw another Grey-bellied Squirrel.



Stump-tailed Macaque, Parents with baby, Khao Kapok Ta Yang, Thailand. Photo S. Lithner

Since I had obtained information about confirmation of the long lost Large-billed Reed Warbler (*Acrocephalus orinus*) at the reed-beds about 200 meters east of Research Center at Laem Pak Bia just before I left Sweden, we returned to this site.

Dr Philip Round informed me that a single individual has been found there twice, transitorily, in now nearly ten years of observation and mist-netting at the site. It was first caught, ringed and identified by Dr Round in late March 2006. The same individual was retrapped by Mr Win (Somchai Nimnuan) a MSc student working with Dr Round at the Research Center for some years, in late March 2008. Two more subsequent records have been accepted to Thailand.

We drove over there and found two beds of reed about 10 x 100 meters labelled *Typha* angustifolia.

In the far end, close to a small temple we found two individuals we hoped could belong to this species. Here were also found Oriental Reed-warbler (*A. orientalis*) (OR), which it by a brief look resembles externally. The birds we suspected could be Large-billed Reed-warbler had a different contact-call and a different song than OR. Contact call was much more distinct and well dearcated. I have described it as: "tak-tik". It also uttered a straight, lower pitched, well articulated "r-r-r-r" or "ar-r-r-r". The song it performed durng my vistit seemd to consist mainly of well interwined stanzas of the deepest sounds performed by Europran Reed-warbler (*A. scirpaceus*) and clear trills/warbles from European Marsh Warbler (*A. palustris*) and/or Blyth's Reed Warbler (*A. dumetorum*).

I have found no recording of either song or contact-call of Large-billed Reed Warbler. Nor have I found any facts strengthening the hypothesis that these birds actually could be the sought warbler. Dr Round has been mist-netting in these reeds during early February and during late February 2010, but not caught any bird giving us any hint as to which species these birds belong. These two birds remain unidentified.

The reed-beds also contained Ruddy Crake Scaly-breasted Munia and Pied Fantail. The dams between the Research Center and the reed-beds contained a good number of wasders, including Common Snipe and Ruff. Along the gravel roads between the ponds we found an Eastern Yellow Wagtail (*Motacilla tschutchensis*), and a number of magnificent Water Monitors.

In the afternoon we arrived in Khao Yai National Park. From park entrance and all the way up to the camp site Pig-tailed Macaque was abundant.

Since one of the trips target species ' was Coral-billed Groud Cuckoo, and this species is known to be fairly easy to see just a few hundred meters behind the toilets at camp-site Pha Kuay Mai, we started by setting up a hide here. This site is also known to offer a fair chance of seeing Blue Pitta, but usually not before the first rain. This year however a Japanese Thrush was discovered at this site during January. For this reason the semi-open area in the forest had been crowded with hides up to about ten days before my visit. Mr Tu diplomatically stated that he estimated the chances of really seeing the Ground Cuckoo here to be only about 20%. Ms Jan and I discretely clothed sat down in the hide. Birds coming in were Puff-throated Babbler, Hainan Blue Flycatcher, Siberian Blue Robin and White-rumped Shama. After about 20 minutes of waiting a Coral-billed Ground Cuckoo sneaked across the forest path, and within the nearest minutes another one came up but decided not to cross the forest path. After about 15 minutes the first bird crossed the path again and returned to where it came from.

After supper, between 21:00 and 22:30 we went spotlighting. Sambars were all over. We counted at least 75. A few Red Muntiacs were seen. One male elephant was encountered walking on one of the less frequently used roads, and we also picked up our first Asian Porcupine.

During the spotlighting we also encountered a beautiful Banded Krait slowly making its way across the road.

Jan 31

At first light we walked a few hundred meters to the pond Nong Pak Chee hoping to pick up some open-country birds. We also hoped for Dhole. Mr Tu also told me that since a small forest creek runs through this pond, it occasionally happens that people see Oriental Small-clawed Otter here.

Before sunrise a magnificet Wrteathed Hornbill flew over us. At the pond we picked up Lesser Coucal, Long-tailed Shrike, Blue Rock-thrush, Plain- and Yellow-bellied Prinias, Thick-billed Pigeon, Stork-billed Kingfisher.

After about ³/₄ of an hour Ms Jan in a low voice said: "Otter". Within the next ten minutes three Oriental Small-clawed Otters were fishing in the pond. They stayed at east half an hour. After that finding Mr Tu said to me: "You are a lucky man. You get everything!" We also saw Variable- and Grey-belied Squirrels here.

Since I know that the Siamese Chrocodile has become extremely rare I asked Mr Tu about it. "Do you want to see it?" he replied. After a visit to the pond we drove to a rainforested area and walked a medium steep shortcut down to a water, Lum Ta Klong. We did not have to search for long until we spotted one of the two animals known to be here.



Siamese Crocodile Khao Yai National Park, Thailand. Photo S. Lithner

I had expressed a certain desire to see Siamese Fireback. Since we happend to visit Khao Yai during a week-end, thus with lots of people and heavy trafficc on the roads of the national park Mr Tu feared that the firebacks might be difficult to see at Khao Yai. For this reason he picked a visit to Sakaerat Biosphere Reserve about two hours drive from Khao Yai. He estimated our chances to see the fireback there to be about 80%.

We arrived at the research center about 14.30. We walked slowly and silently on the road with some kind of paved surface. After maybe 500 meters we discovered a cock Siamese Frieback walking in the semi-dense bush-forest. We continued another 5-700 meters. On our way back we spotted another cock Siamese Fireback coming out on the road about 100 meters in front of us, walking back into the forest again. I suggested we should walk another 50 meters and sit down on the road and see what happend. We did. After about ten minutes the bird came out again. Now only about 40 meters away. It walked back in again. Another five to ten minutes later it came out again. This time only aout 20 or 25 meters away. We sat still and waited. The bird came slowly closer. After a few minutes another cock came out onto the road. This time even closer than the first one. Then a third and a fourth one came out. They walked slowly, but came closer. When all four of them were about 7 - 8 meters away from us they all simultaneously raised their heads, holding their heads higher than our eye-level. One bird uttered a low "Qwrok", and the birds made a front towards us and came at us at good speed, as if they were trying to tell us: "We don't want you here!" They stopped less than a meter in front of us with their heads raised. One of the birds once again uttered this low "Qwrok" and launched a drumwhirl with his wings. We kept sitting still and waited to see what was going to happen, and the four magnificent birds were standing about one meter from us waiting for us to act. When we did not act the birds eventually started to fourage in front of us, and after a while also around us. Eventually the birds slowly had withdrawn 15 to 20 meters.

Mr Tu certainly picked a good sight!

At the research center photo-trapping is also one of the methods to study wildlife. Among mammals the photo-traps during the last month had caught pictures of Asian Black Bear, Hog Badger, Serov, Asian Palm Civet, Red Muntjac and Leopard Cat.

We then returned to Khao Yai National Park. Around 17.40 Mr Tu turned successively more focused on the driving. About 2 km before we reached the park entrance, we turned off the road and entered China Town Restaurant. We arrived around 18.10 and sat down at a table. At 18.15 Mr Tu said: "Look at the bats!" In front of us maybe hundred meters away clouds of bats started to cover the sky. They were too many even to make a fair estimation of their number. Mr Tu said that people had tried to estimate the number, and were rather certain there were more than one million individuals. I believe there might have been even a lot more than that. Mr Tu said that three species were known to roost att these caves; Black-bearded Tomb Bat, Theobald's Tomb Bat and Asian Wrinkle-lipped Bat.

Feb 1

In the morning of February 1 s:t we drove towards the summit. At Padeaw Dai we entered a path leading through the forest out to a lookout. From there we picked up more Great Hornbills, Great Eared Nightjar, Asian Collared Owlet, Red-headed Trogon, Green Magpie, Large Scimitar-babbler, Scaly-breasted Partridge, Sulphur-breasted Warbler, Raddes Warbler, Inornate Leaf-warbler, Yellow-bellied Yuhina, Blue-eared Barbet, Moustached Barbet, Black Eagle, Verditer Flycatcher and Black-crested Bulbul of the subspecies Pycnonotus flaviventris johnsoni, with red chin and throat.

From this lookout you stand a fair chance of spotting Serov. This morning however was misty until the day was getting hot, thus dramtically reducing our chances for this species.

Our target species of bird this morning was Silver Pheasant. There were a few students at the lookout as we arrived. Mr Tu meant that they might be a bit too brightly dressed and might not moove quiet enough through the forest. When they had left we slowly sneaked back towards the road. About half way up, we spotted the first Silver Pheasant, a cock as it was silently gliding through the vegetation. We stayed around for a while, moving slowly and quietly up and down the path. Eventually it passed us no further than about 15 meters away.

We continued a few hundre meters by car to the summit; Hao Kio, situated about 1140 meters a.s.l. Here we saw Vernal Hanging Parrot and Blue-winged Leafbird among others.

As we were passing Sai Sora Reservoir on our way to lunch we stopped and looked at at pair of Plain-backed Sparrow and an Asian Woodswallow.

After lunch we made a stroll along a small creek near the Hearquarters (HQ) restaurant to look for White-crowned Forktail. After about 40 minutes we heard the bird for the first time, but it took about another half hour befroe I had seen it. On our way up to where the bird was found, about ten minutes before we heard the forktail, Blue Pittas tarted to call. According to Mr Tu this was the first time this season the Pittas had called. It seems like the rather little rainshower the day before just got them started. On our way up to the forktail at least four individuals of Blue Pittas ewre calling. Abbott's Babbler vas rahter frequent and the smell of elephants was intense.

One of my most wanted mammals for this trip was the Gaur. Mr Tu said that he could arrange an attempt to see it, but told me to be aware that the chance to actually see a Gaur was

probably only about 50%. We therefore drove to Krong Ba Gang Research Center in the southern part of Khao Yai. Here we met with Mr Dao Loy, a PhD-student studying the Gaur. Mr Dao Loy told us that the pupultion of Gaur in the park in january 2010 was 84 individuals, and 24 calves were bourne during 2009. He also told us that if the dominant bull finds a newbourne bull calf he kills it. For this reason every cow giving birth to a bull calf tries to leave the flock with her calf and seeks other cows with bull calves also having left the herd. This way new groups or even herds may be created. The bull calves stays with their mothers until they are big enough to survive on their own. Then they leave this group. Mr Dao Loy also told us that the animals are rather unpredictable and shy indeed. Some days they come out shortly after 16.00. Other days they come out after dark and some days they don't come at all. The night before he counted 36 individuals, the first ones coming out at 18.30, when it was almost dark.

From the research center we drove a 4-wheel-drive for about 15 minutes, then walked between 0,6 and 1 km, communicating sparesly and in a low voice, discretely clothed in clothes that don't rustle or make other kinds of noise while walking. We then entered a watchtower, about b12 –15 meters high and sat down to wait. Mr Dao suggested that I should take a rest in one of the hammocks suitably hung up in the tower because the Gaur never come out before 16.00.

About 15.10 Mr Dao Loy uttered some short message in Thai. A few seconds later Mr Tu declared in a low but firm voice: "Asian Black Bear!" It took me about five seconds to spot it as it was galopping across the opening maybe 500 meters away from us. The bear stopped at three or four times investigated the surface of the ground most likely for something eatable. After about five minutes it continued its journey in the same direction it had entered the scene. I asked Mr DaoLoy how often this happends to him – Maybe two, maybe three times a year. At 16.40 Mr Dao Loy spotted a magnificent bull Gaur just entering the open. During the first while he moved with caution, but having reached the center of the opening he alone ruled until it was almost dark. Shortly after 18.30 three cow Gaur also entered the opening. At dusk Eurasian Wild Boar was heard.



Gaur, Khao Yai, Thailand Photo S. Lithner

This part of the park also offered a number of nice birds. While waiting for mammals we saw White-vented Myna, Hill Myna, a pair of Golden-crested Myna, Greater Yellownape, Collared Falconet, Red-breasted Parakeet and Pompadour Green Pigeon.

At 18.10 a mixed group of birds gathered to catch insects over the semi-open forest. During between five and ten minutes 3 - 4 Indian Roller, 5 - 6 Dollarbird, about 20 Brown-backed Needletail, 2 - 3 Himalayan Swiftlet, 2 - 3 Racket-tailed Drongo, about 10 Ashy Drongo, some Black Drongo and 5 - 6 Red-rumped Swallow shared the airspace here. As we stepped down from the watchtower a Great Eared Nightjar passed over us.

On our way back to our camp we spotted some Sambar and an Asian Porcupine. We also med a stroll around the camp looking for Slow Lori, which Mr Tu and Ms Jan have seen here during earlier visits. This animal we did not find.

Feb 2

In the morning we left Khao Yai and drove to Wat Ta Wabut temple in Pra Chinburi. We arrived shortly before 09.00 to study Lyle's Flying-fox. We saw about 50 ind., but the total number of animals roosting here is estimated to be about 1000 ind.

We then drove past Bangkok and Bangkoks International Airport (Suvanabhomi), south to Bang Pakong. From Ka Kam, docks on the southern side of the rivermouth we took a boat out onto the estuary of Bang Pakong River. Skipper, Mr Tin is a fisherman who also runs a buisness taking people out to see the dolphins. Target species is normally Irrawaddy Dolphin. This is easiest to see during November, December and first half of January. Towards the end of January they are becoming successively more difficult to locate.

Mr Tin also revealed that he rather frequently finds Finless Porpoise too, but to see that species you have to go further off shore where the water is clear in contrast to the muddy waters where the Irrawaddy Dolphins occur.

The Irrawaddies sometimes take more than two hours to locate, but may also be found less than 20 minutes from the docks. Unfortunately it took us longer time to get to the dock at Bang Pakong than we expected, while my flight to Seam Reap in the afternoon approached rather rapidly. To reach the waters where the Irrawaddy Dolphins most frequently had been sighted the last few days we spent one hour and twenty minutes. After a brief search this attempt had to be cut short.

During our drive from the highway (road No 3) to the dock at Ka Kam we also saw some Long-tailed Macaques.

At 15.10 I took off from Suvanabhomi Airport. One hour later I landed on Seam Reap Airport, where my Cambodia guide, Ms Sophoan Sahn met me with a 4-wheel-drive and Mr Soly, the driver.

After a brief visit to the joint office of WCS (Wildlife Conservation Society) and SVC (Sam Veasna Center) in Seam Reap, we drove to The Royal Garden in the center of Seam Reap to study Flying Foxes.

Prior to my visit to the Royal Garden Ms Sophoan had obtained a report stating that the gathering of flying-foxes here is a mixed flock. We arrived about 18.00 and saw a good number of individuals, roosting as well as flying. The only flying –fox seeming possible to find here according to distribution maps besides Lyle's Flying-fox is the Large Flying-fox.

Despite a considerable, if not to say remarkable variation in size and colour of pelage, we found no animal even near the size of an aveerage Large Flying-fox. Nor did we find any individual with a pelage quite as dark as that of an average Large Flying-fox. The night I spent at Thunborey Hotel in Seam Reap, booked by Ms Sophoan prior to my arrival.

Feb 3

At 04.30 we left Seam Reap. About two hours later we arrived at Kompong Thom Grasslands At breakfast we started with Plain-backed Sparrow, Yellow-vented Bulbul, Indian Roller, Little Green Bee-eater, White-vented Myna and some more common open-country birds.



Breakfast at Kompong Thom Grasslands, Cambodia Photo S. Lithner

We then started to walk towards the water. We soon saw our first Bengal Florican on the wings. During our stay we saw two males several times, while 7 Painted Storks, 4 Sarus Cranes, 4 Indian Spot-billed Duck crossed the sky. A group of 5 Chestnut-eared Bunting surprised my guide a bit. In waist-high tussocks of grass we managed to asess two Manchurian Reed-warblers. We flushed two Barred Button-quails. Flocks of Scaly-breasted Munia and Red Avadavat mooved to and fro over the fields. Oriental Skylark, Australian Busklark, Eastern Yellow Wagtail, Shikra, Paddyfield Pipit, Zitting isticola, Pied Bush-chat, Asian House-martin were easy to see. A number of Scandinavian species also seemd to be in good health here. Red-throated Pipit was numerous. Bluetrhoat, Common Snipe, Wood Sandpiper we also found here.

We continued our journey and arrived at Tmatboey in Kulen Promtep Wildlife Sanctuary while the day was still quite hot. Our first bird was the neat Rufous-winged Buzzard. After we had settled in our bungalows belonging to the Community Ecotourism Project just outside the village, we took an afternoon walk. As the day was cooling off we encountered birds like Common Iora, Little Minivet, Lineated Barbet, Crested Tree-swift, Greater- and Lesser Coucal, Alexander Parakeet, Asian Black-headed Oriole. Two Black-heade Woodpeckers, our first target species for our visit to this area showed up and Chinese Francolins started clling. Around sunset we moved to another sight in immediate vicinity of the bungalows. As it was getting dark the first White-shouldered Ibis came in to roost in a huge dead thee. Withing ten minutes there were nine individuals of this species in the tree, for a while accompanied by a wolly-necked stork.

The population of White-shouldered Ibis in Tmatboey area 2009 was 43 ind. The World population is estimated to be between 300 and 500 individuals.

Before supper I asked my guide whether we could do a bit of spotlighting later in the evening. She contacted a local, Mr Kimoun who agreed to meet me at 21.00. Meanwhile I asked for permission to set some traps for smaller rodents. Something that was already carried out regularly around the kitcken, however with a bit larger traps.

A little while before 21.00 Mr Kimoun arrived. Ms Sophoan informed him about my desires in khmer, since Mr Komoun and I had no language in common. Then he and I took a nocturnal walk-about in the neighbourhood. Unfortunately for this specific event the moon was nearly full and the sky was clear, which is not optimal for this activity. After almost 1½ hours of searching we eventually found an animal. Since Mr Kimoun and I could not communicate properly, we had to wait until we met with Ms Sophoan who could translate our observations. The animal was an Indian Giant Flying Squirrel.

Feb 4

Shortly before 04.30 I checked the traps. They were empty but one traps had been opened and the bait removed. This morning I encountered a Savile's Bandicoot Rat as it peacefully came woddling across the path.

At 04.30 we took off a short distance, about 15 minutes by jeep. As the light turned from complete darkness to first crack of dawn we started walking, and walked for about 45 minutes through open forest and over seasonally dried out ricefields to a sight where a pair of Giant Ibis fairly frequently land in some dead trees to survey the area before they eventually land on the ground and start feeding.

At dawn two spotted Wood Owl were duetting. A Great Slaty Woodpecker was heard. Two Cambodian Striped Squirrel and two Variable Squirrel vere eagerly fouraging in the treetops near us.

After about 45 minutes of waiting Mr Kimoun concluded that the Ibises were not going to come to this lookout this morning, why we started to walk across the area to look for them. After maybe 15 minutes a Lesser Adjutant took off from a waterhole. Before we had passed the waterhole we had seen five Lesser Adjutants. It took another 15 minutes before our first individual of our target species was seen. Despite our good local guide Mr Kimoun, we happend to surprise the bird on the ground. We only saw this one fly away and disappear in the forest. A few minutes later however, two Giant Ibis were located in a tree, where they could be well studied until we decided to withdraw in order to diminish the disturbance. In 2009 the population of Giant Ibis in Tmatboey-area was 26 ind., and the world population was estimated to between 200 and 250 ind.

During our morning walk we then studied Indochinese Bushlark, Neglected Nuthatch, Velvetfronted Nuthatch, Alexandrine-, Blossom-headed- and Red-breasted Parakeets, Rufous Treepie, Grey-capped Pygmy-woodpecker, Oriental Pied Hornbill, Burmese Shrike Red-billed Blue Magpie, Rufescent Prinia and Plain Prinia. After lunch we went to look for White-rumped Falcon. Walking through the open forest we found more Black-geaded Woodpecker, a whole family of five Great Slaty Woodpecker, excellent views of Greater Flameback and at least one Indochinese Ground-squirrel.

Reaching the spot for White-rumped Falcon Ms Sophoan played her CD-player. A female falcon replied almost immediately from less than 200 meters away and came right over to us and perched about 20 meters above our heads. Then it just sat there, and was still sitting there when we left the area.



White-rumped Falcon female Tmatboey, Cambodia Photo S. Lithner

After supper we had decided to go spotlighting again. This time Ms Sophoan joined us. We did not find the Indian Giant Flying Squirrel again, but after less than an hour Ms Sophoan discovered our only Burmese Hair for the trip. It was grazing on the dried out rice-fields and did not seem particularly worried about our presence, but eventually moved into the thicker grass and disappeared.

After spotlighting I tried to get in contact with some bats with help of my ultra-sound batdetector. I managed to record three bats at quite different frequency. Whether these recordings ever will lead to an identification of species remains to be seen.

Feb 5

We left our bungalows at dawn and walked to a bamboo-forest to look for Pale-capped Pigeon. At dawn Brown Boobok, Asian Barred Owlet and spotted Wood-owl were calling. During the morning we found another White-shouldered Ibis, the three species of Parakeets, Great Slaty-, White-bellied-, Spotted- Black-headed-, Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpeckers, Comon- and Greater Flameback, Large- and Indochinese Cuckoo-shrikes, Indian Cuckoo, , Scarlet- and Small Minivets, Neglected Nuthatch and lots of Black-collared Starling, but no contact with any Pale-capped Pigeon. Before lunch Ms Sopohoan found two bats hanging from the wooden ceiling in a non-used room in one of our bungalows. These were photographed and identified as Lesser False-vampire.

In the afternoon we made a joint effort for the pigeon and mammals. We drove about 45 minutes by our 4W-drive to reach a small pond surrounded by bamboo forest. The last 30 minutes we travelled in a maevellous dry forest as far as we could. We then walked the forest to a waterhole surrounded by bamboo forest, again hoping to get in contact with a Pale-capped Pigeon.

The afternoon gave more lovely sightings of birds mentioned above.

As it turned dark we sat down at the waterhole. We saw splashes and listened to big Snakeheaded Fish (probably Giant Snakehead *Channa micropeltes*) splashing about in the waterhole. When it was all dark we walked about 45 minutes back to our jeep while spotlighting. Also this night was very bright, which may explain why we saw no mammals here.

Making our way with our jeep on the track back to the small road we crossed a dry creek, rather densly surrounded by bamboo. Here we found a Long-tailed Giant Rat. (see details below) fouraging without paying much attention to us.

While studying this big rat we caught sight of a Long-tailed Climbing-mouse (see details below). This animal caused a bit of confusion since this species is known not to spend much time on the ground.

Passing through center of village Tmatboey a Lesser Ricefield-rat was seen crossing the road.

Returning to our bungalows I made a try for bats with my ultrasound bat-detector. Meanwhile a Common Barn Owl was calling.

Feb 6

A colleague of mine reported a sigting of Ricefield Rat (*Rattus argentiventris*) paying him a visit while showering in one of the bungalows (Sarus) last March. Rodents in this area are known to come in when people inhabit the rooms, often eating on soap. Despite my efforts, including extra showers, extra checks in the shower and a trap set in the shower I saw no rodent here. Yet, this morning bitemarks in one of my apples revealed a visit by a rodent.

At 05.30 we left the bungalows for another bamboo-forest to look for Pale-capped Pigeon. At dawn we heard a pigeon calling, whichs voice well matched the call of this piegon on Ms Sophoans recording present at the moment. The bird was calling only during about ten minutes and very scarcely. Despite efforts to come within sight, we failed to do so. We saw a number of species we had seen beore, like White-bellied Woodpecker, Green Imperial Pigeon, Crested Serpent Eagle, Shikra, and few groups of Chestnut-capped Babrbler and also an Indochinese Ground Squirrel.

After a somewhat melancholic goodbye to the kitcken personel and to Mr Kimoun, we left Tmaboey, heading via Siem Reap for ATT (Ang Trapaeng Thmor) Research Center. About $1\frac{1}{2} - 1\frac{3}{4}$ hour after we passed through Seam Reap our 4W-drive had an error and stopped. A new jeep was immediately ordered from Seam Reap. In about 2 hours a new jeep arrived. We said goodbye to our former driver Mr Soly and hello to our new driver Mr Woti, switched into the new jeep and continued to ATT Research Center.

The main reason I decided to include ATT in my trip was the information I obtained shortly before arrival to Cambodia, that some individuals of the critically endangered Eld's Deer had

started to show up at ATT. Normally they come down to this area when the season is approaching maximum drought, which usually falls towards the end of March. We arrived a little while before sunset. Ms Sophoan had contacted the local guide at ATT shortly before our arrival, thus arranginging at swift pickup. The drive from Research Center took about 15 or 20 minutes before we spotted our first Eld's Deer. While the sun was setting we counted 9 individuals, 7 hinds and 2 calves.

At least 3 Savannah Nightjar were displaying around us as the light was fading.

After supper at Research Center we made a little walk-about around the center. Ms Sophoan joined me, so did Dr Paul (Howie) Nielsen and Mr Jim Reside, at the time working at the Research Center. Here we looked at some amphibians. Mr Jim also spotlighted a bat hunting over the ponds.

After the spotlighting I recorded a hunting bat over the water at the same sight, and another bat at another frequency over the trees next to the garden of the Research Center.

Feb 7

During the night and about an hour before sunrise, prior to leaving the Research Center for birdwatching we saw some Asian House Mouse. After a short ride we walked out into the reservoir on a raised path, from which we could overlook a fair part of the reservoir. From here we saw a multitude of waterbirds including several globally threatened species. The population of Spot-billed Pelican is estimated to about 500. As they were leaving their roosting-site I counted 278 ind., Comb Duck at least 40, Painted Stork at least 75, Fulvous Whistling Duck, Cotton Pygmu Goose, Indian Spot-billed Duck, Garganey, at least six species of egrets and herons, including Purple Heron, Intemediate Egret and at least two Javan Pond-heron, Pheasant-tailed- and Bronze-winged Jacanas, maybe 100 White-shouldered Starling, hundreds of Black-collared Starling, at least 50 White-vented Myna, probably over 500 Common Myna, over hundred Scaly-breasted Munia and a fair number of White-rumped Munia.

Here we also found a stork which proved to be a hybrid between Milky Stork and Painted Stork. According to Dr Paul Nielsen this hybridisation took place a few years ago. Their offspring is sighted here at ATT now and then.

Shortly before 08.00 we returned to the area for Els'd Deer. This morning we counted 14 ind.; 4 magnificent stags, 7 hinds and 3 calves.

We then continued out onto the dry fields to look for Sarus Cranes. We did not find any resting on the ground, only a small flock of 11 birds on the wing.

During our search we also spotted an eagle perched in a lone tree, initially puzzling us. However as soon as it took to its wings it proved to be a Short-toed Serpent Eagle, which particularly pleased Ms Sophoan.

After an ealry lunch we said goodbye to the people at the Research Center, returned to Seam Reap and continued to Ankor Wat Temple Area. I spent about half a day in an area where you easily could spend several days.

Here Ms Sophoan showed me some bats. I took some photos. The Black-bearded Tomb Bat known to dwell here, seem to match most individuals on the photos, with their geyish brown pelage and medium long free tail. But here are also a few all grey bats with a free tail seeming longer than on this species, indicating they might be Theobald's Tomb Bats (see below). Photos have been sent for validation.

The night I spent at a hotel in Seam Reap.

Feb 8

We left Seam Reap at 05.30, drove for about half an hour to a canal leading out into lake Ton Lesap. Shortly after arriving we entered a boat and travelled for about 1½ hour to Prek Toal to register as visitors and inform personnel at the Kbal Taol Bird Sanctuary that we were coming in. We took another boat and travelled almost 1½ hour to a small bridge where we entered a smaller boat. While travelling another hour by boat on the narrow passages through the swampland Yellow Bittern, Black Bittern, Striated Heron, Openbilled Storks, Spot-billed Pelicans, Grey-headed Fish Eagle, Indian Shags and Darters took off from either the vegetation along the passages or from the surface of the water.

The Darter was abundant, to be moderate. The population is calculated to about 5000 pairs. The numbers consequently soaring around us indicate that this is not an exageration. After about 1 hour 20 minutes we arrived to a watch-platform situated about 12 - 15 meters above present water level. From there we could survey an impressive area of the surrounding swamp.

The Kbal Taol Bird Sanctuary holds at present 20 watch-platforms from which the progress and success of breeding results, particularly those of Milky Stork and Greater Adjutant Storks are monitored. From this look-out two nests of Milky Stork were monitored. We saw one bird on each of the two nests. The total number of breeding pairs of Milky Stork in this sanctuary lays between 20 and 30.



Milky Stork Ton Lesap, Cambodia Photo S. Lithner

We here saw at least 4, maybe more Greater Adjutant Storks, at least 75 Painted Storks, plenty of Open-billed Storks and odd Lesser Adjutant Storks.

We commenced our return trip at 13.30 and returned to Seam Reap at about 18.30. Here I said goodbye to Ms Sophoan.

Feb 9

From my hotel I took a Tuk-tuk to another hotel where I met with Mrs Viveca and Mr Björn. We then travelled by car back to Laem Mae Pim in Thailand.

Feb 11

Being aware of my desire to try another time for the Irrawaddy Dolphins Mrs Viveca and Mr Björn, residents in Thailand had become curious about the project. They were familiar with a Thai woman speaking Thai, as well as English and Swedish. With her help we previous evening arranged a boat trip with Mr Tin in Bang Pakong.

We left Laem Mae Pim shortly after 05.00. The turnoff from Route 3 down to the docks at Ka Kam was complicated and took us a while to find. We arrived at 08.30, met with mr Tin and were soon off to look for the dolphins. It took us 2½ hours to find the little group of at least 6 individuals. After about 15 minutes the dolphins were suddenly gone. Despite another rather scrupulous search it was not until we were on our way back to the docks we rediscovered the group. This time they were not so anxious to disappear.

Since we had given Mr Tin the phone number to our contact in Laem Mae Pim, Mr Tin was quite anxious to get our efforts to exchange messages interpreted. This way we communicated over the phone with an interpreter in Laem Mae Pim about 150 km away.

Mr Tin told us that during previous season, Nov 2008 – Jan 2009 he counted approximately 60 individuals of Irrawaddy Dolphins in the Bang Pakong River Estuaty, while he during the season prior to that counted about 40 individuals. This season he had seen 8 - 10 individuals.



Irrawaddy Dolphins Bang Pakong River Estuary, Thailand Photo S. Lithner

The Irrawaddy Dolphin and its close relative the Australian Snubfin Dolphin (See below) are known to hunt in groups of at least six individuals. They are the only two species of dolphins "spitting" or launching water-rays at their prey to herd them and thus facilitate the kill. This spitting is also recorded to occur straight up in the air as well as along the surface of the water (Bangkok Post May 25. 2009).

We arrived to Laem Mae Pim around sunset.

Feb 12 – 15

The following days I did not do any bird- or mammalwatching. In the evening of Feb 15. I took my flight back to Scandinavia.

Checklist: birds

Species listed as presented in Robson: A Field Guoide to the Birds of South-East Asia (2000) (I apologize for not using the latest taxonomic order)

	English	Scientific	Thailand	Cambodia
1	Chinese Francolin	Francolinus pintadeanus		х
2	Barred Buttonquail	Turnix suscitator		х
3	Scaly-breasted Partridge	Arborophila charltonii	х	
4	Red Junglefowl	Gallus gallus	х	х
5	Kalij Pheasant	Lophura leucomelanos	х	
6	Silver Pheasant	Lophura nycthemera	Х	
7	Siamese Fireback	Lophura diardi	х	
8	Grey Peacock-Pheasant	Polyplectron bicalcaratum	х	
9	Lesser Whistling Duck	Dendrocygna javanica		Х
10	Knob-billed Duck	Sarkidiornis melanotos		Х
11	Cotton Pygmy Goose	Nettapus coromandelianus		Х
12	Indian Spot-billed Duck	Anas poecilorhyncha		Х
13	Garganey	Anas querquedula		х
14	Little Greebe	Tachybaptus ruficollis	Х	Х
15	Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpeck	er Dendrocopos canicapillus		Х
16	White-bellied Woodpecker	Dryocopus javensis		х
17	Lesser Yellownape	Picus chlorolophus	Х	
18	Crimson-winged Woodpecker	Picus puniceus	Х	
19	Greater Yellownape	Picus flavinucha	Х	
20	Black-headed Woodpecker	Picus erythropygius		Х
21	Great Slaty Woodpecker	Mulleripicus pulverulentus		Х
22	Common Goldenback	Dinopium javanense		Х
23	Greater Goldenback	Chrysocolaptes lucidus		Х
24	Rufous Woodpecker	Celeus brachyurus		Х
25	Great Barbet	Megalaima virens		
26	Lineated Barbet	Megalaima lineata		Х
27	Green-eared Barbet	Megalaima faiostricta	Х	
28	Red-throated Barbet	Megalaima mystacophanos	Х	
29	Blue-throated Barbet	Megalaima asiatica	Х	
30	Moustached Barbet	Megalaima incognita	Х	
31	Blue-eared Barbet	Megalaima australis	Х	
32	Coppersmith Barbet	Megalaima haemacephala	Х	Х
33	Oriental Pied Hornbill	Anthracoceros albirostris	Х	Х
34	Great Hornbill	Buceros bicornis	Х	
35	Tickell's Brown Hornbill	Anorrhinus tickelli	Х	
36	Wreathed Hornbill	Rhyticeros undulatus	Х	
37	Orange-breasted Trogon	Harpactes oreskios	Х	
38	Red-headed Trogon	Harpactes erythrocephalus	Х	
39	Blue-bearded Bee-eater	Nyctyornis athertoni	Х	
40	Green Bee-eater	Merops orientalis	Х	Х
41	Blue-tailed Bee-eater	Merops philippinus	Х	Х
42	Chestnut-headed Bee-eater	Merops leschenaulti	Х	
43	Common Kingfisher	Alcedo atthis	Х	Х

44	Stork-billed Kingfisher	Pelargopsis capensis	х	
45	White-throated Kingfisher	Halcyon smyrnensis	x	х
46	Black-capped Kingfisher	Halcyon pileata	x	A
47	Collared Kingfisher	Todiramphus chloris	x	
48	Indian Cuckoo	Cuculus micropterus		х
49	Plaintive Cuckoo	Cacomantis merulinus	х	x
50	Asian Koel	Eudynamys scolopaceus	х	х
51	Green-billed Malkoha	Phaenicophaeus tristis	X	x
52	Coral-billed Ground Cuckoo	Carpococcyx renauldi	х	
53	Greater Coucal	Centropus sinensis	х	х
54	Lesser Coucal	Centropus bengalensis	х	х
55	Eurasian Hoopoe	Upupa epops		х
56	Indian Roller	Coracias benghalensis	х	х
57	Oriental Dollarbird	Eurystomus orientalis	х	
58	Alexandrine Parakeet	Psittacula eupatria		х
59	Blossom-headed Parakeet	Psittacula roseata		х
60	Red-breasted Parakeet	Psittacula alexandri		х
61	Vernal Hanging Parrot	Loriculus vernalis	х	
62	Himalayan Swiftlet	Aerodramus brevirostris	Х	
63	Germain's Swiftlet	Aerodramus germani	Х	х
64	Brown-backed Needletail	Hirundapus giganteus	х	
65	Asian Palm Swift	Cypsiurus balasiensis	Х	х
66	Crested Treeswift	Hemiprocne coronata		х
67	Grey-rumped Treeswift	Hemiprocne longipennis	х	
68	Mountain Scops Owl	Otus spilocephalus	Х	
69	Oriental Scops-owl	Otus sunia		х
70	Collared Scops Owl	Otus lettia	Х	
71	Asian Barred Owlet	Glaucidium cuculoides	Х	
72	Spotted Owlet	Athene brama	Х	
73	Brown Boobok	Ninox scutulata	Х	х
74	Barn Owl	Tyto alba		х
75	Spotted Wood Owl	Strix seloputo		х
76	Great Eared Nightjar	Eurostopodus macrotis	Х	
77	Large-tailed Nightjar	Caprimulgus macrurus	Х	х
78	Savannah Nightjar Back Bizoon	Caprimulgus affinis Columba livia		х
79 80	Rock Pigeon Green Imperial Pigeon	Ducula aenea	X	X
80 81	Mountain Imperial Pigeon	Ducula badia	X	Х
81 82	Ashy-headed Green-Pigeon	Treron phayrei	X	
82 83	Thick-billed Green Pigeon	Treron curvirostra	X	
83 84	Spotted Dove	Stigmatopelia chinensis	X	v
85	Red Turtle Dove	Streptopelia tranquebarica	X X	X X
86	Barred Cuckoo-Dove	Macropygia unchall	x	А
87	Little Cuckoo-Dove	Macropygia ruficeps	x	
88	Common Emerald Dove	Chalcophaps indica	x	
89	Zebra Dove	Geopelia striata	x	х
90	Bengal Florican	Eupodotis bengalensis		х
91	Sarus Crane	Grus antigone		х
92	Black-backed Swamphen	Porphyrio poliocephalus		х
93	Common Moorhen	Gallinula chloropus	х	х
94	Eurasian Coot	Fulica atra		х
95	Pheasant-tailed Jacana	Hydrophasianus chirurgus		х

96	Bronze-winged Jacana	Metopidius indicus		х
97	White-breasted Waterhen	Amaurornis phoenicurus	х	x
98	Ruddy-breasted Crake	Porzana fusca	X	
99	Common Snipe	Gallinago gallinago	X	х
100	Black-tailed Godwit	Limosa limosa	х	
101	Bar-tailed Godwit	Limosa lapponica	х	
102	Eurasian Curlew	Numenius arquata	х	
103	Spotted Redshank	Tringa erythropus	х	
104	Common Greenshank	Tringa nebularia	х	х
105	Nordmann's Greenshank	Tringa guttifer	х	
106	Marsh Sandpiper	Tringa stagnatilis	х	
107	Wood Sandpiper	Tringa glareola	х	Х
108	Common Redshank	Tringa totanus	х	
109	Great Knot	Calidris tenuirostris	х	
110	Red Knot	Calidris canutus	х	
111	Curlew Sandpiper	Calidris ferruginea	х	
112	Ruff	Philomacus pugnax	х	
113	Common Sandpiper	Actitis hypoleucos	х	
114	Sanderling	Calidris alba	х	
115	Spoon-billed Sandpiper	Eurynorhynchus pygmeus	х	
116	Red-necked Stint	Calidris ruficollis	Х	
117	Long-toed Stint	Calidris subminuta	Х	
118	Black-winged Stilt	Himantopus himantopus	Х	
119	Common Ringed Plover	Charadrius hiaticula	Х	
120	Kentish Plover	Charadrius alexandrinus	Х	
121	Malaysian Plover	Charadrius peronii	Х	
122	White-frobted Plover	Charadrius marginatus	Х	
	Lesser Sand Plover	Charadrius mongolus	Х	
124	Greater Sand Plover	Charadrius leschenaultii	Х	
125	Pacific Golden Plover	Pluvialis fulva	Х	
126	Grey Plover	Pluvialis squatarola	х	
127	Red-wattled Lapwing	Vanellus indicus	х	Х
128	Common Black-headed Gull	Larus ridibundus	Х	Х
129	Brown-headed Gull	Larus brunnicephalus	Х	Х
130	Great Black-headed Gull	Larus ichthyaetus	Х	
131	Caspian Tern	Hydroprogne caspia	Х	
132	Common Tern	Sterna hirundo	Х	
133	Little Tern	Sternula albifrons	х	
134	Whiskered Tern	Chlidonias hybrida Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus	х	Х
135	Grey-headed Fish Eagle			Х
136	Crested Serpent Eagle Black Kite	Spilornis cheela Miluus miorans	х	Х
137	Brahminy Kite	Milvus migrans Haliastur indus	Х	Х
138	Short-toed Snake Eagle	Circaetus gallicus	Х	
139 140	Black Eagle	Ictinaetus malayensis		Х
140	Eastern Marsh Harrier	Circus spilonotus	Х	v
141	Shikra	Accipiter badius	v	X
142 143	Sinkra Rufous-winged Buzzard	Butastur liventer	Х	X
143 144	Crested Honey Buzzard	Pernis ptilorhyncus	v	Х
144 145	Crested HawkEagle	Spizaetus cirrhatus	Х	v
145 146	White-rumped Falcon	Polihierax insignis		X
140	Collared Falconet	Microhierax caerulescens	Х	Х
14/	- shur eu i uleollet		Λ	

1/18	Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus		v
	Little Egret	Egretta garzetta	v	X
149	Chinese Egret	Egretta eulophotes	X	х
150 151	Pacific Reef Heron	Egretta sacra	X	
151	(Eastern) Cattle Egret	Bubulcus ibis coromandus	X	
	Grey Heron	Ardea cinerea	X	X
153	Purple Heron	Ardea purpurea	Х	Х
154	Great Egret	Casmerodius albus	Х	Х
155	_	Mesophoyx intermedius	Х	Х
156	Intermediate Egret Chinese Pond Heron	Ardeola bacchus		Х
157			Х	Х
158	Javan Pond Heron	Ardeola speciosa Butorides striata		Х
159	Striated Heron			Х
160	Black-crowned Night Heron Yellow Bittern	Nycticorax nycticorax	Х	Х
161		Ixobrychus sinensis		Х
162	Black Bittern Oriental Darter	Dupetor flavicollis		Х
163		Anhinga melanogaster		х
	Little Cormorant	Phalacrocorax niger	Х	х
	Indian Cormorant	Phalacrocorax fuscicollis	Х	х
166	Great Cormorant White-shoukdered Ibis	Phalacrocorax carbo		Х
167		Pseudibis davisoni		х
168	Giant Ibis	Pseudibis gigantea		Х
169	Spot-billed Pelican	Pelecanus philippensis		х
170	Milky Stork Miller & Deinted Stork	Mycteria cinerea Mysteria sinerea r levescerhola		Х
	Milky x Painted Stork	Mycteria cinerea x leucocephala Mycteria lung gambala		х
171	Painted Stork	Mycteria leucocephala		х
172	Asian Openbill	Anastomus oscitans	Х	х
173	Wolly-necked Stork	Ciconia episcopus		х
	Lesser Adjutant	Leptoptilos javanicus		х
175	Greater Adjutant	Leptoptilos dubius		х
176	Blue Pitta	Hydrornis cyaneus	Х	
177	Asian Fairy-bluebird	Irena puella	Х	
178	Blue-winged Leafbird	Chloropsis cochinchinensis	Х	х
	Golden-fronted Leafbird	Chloropsis aurifrons	Х	Х
	Brown Shrike	Lanius cristatus	Х	х
181	Burmese Shrike	Lanius collurioides		Х
	Long-tailed Shrike	Lanius schach	Х	
	Black Drongo	Dicrurus macrocercus	Х	Х
	(Thai) Ashy Drongo	D. Leucophaeus mouboti/nigrescens	Х	х
	(Chinese) Ashy Drongo	D. Leucoph. leucogenis/salangensis	Х	
	Bronzed Drongo	Dicrurus aeneus	Х	
	Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo	Dicrurus remifer Dicrurus hottentottus	Х	
	Hair-crested Drongo		Х	Х
	Greater Racket-tailed Drongo	Dicrurus paradiseus	Х	Х
	Red-billed Blue Magpie	Urocissa erythrorhyncha		Х
190	Common Green Magpie	Cissa chinensis	Х	
191	Rufous Treepie	Dendrocitta vagabunda Tampurus tampurus		Х
	Ratchet-tailed Treepie	Temnurus temnurus Compus magnarhunghas	Х	
193	Large-billed Crow	Corvus macrorhynchos Oriolus tenuirostris	Х	Х
194	Slender-billed Oriole	Oriolus tenutrostris Oriolus xanthornus	Х	
	Black-hooded Oriole Common Iora	Aegithina tiphia		X
	Large Cuckooshrike	Coracina macei	Х	X
197	Laigt Cuchoosiii ike			х

	Indochinese Cuckooshrike	Coracina polioptera		Х
	Black-winged Cuckooshrike	Coracina melaschistos	х	
	Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike	Hemipus picatus	Х	
	Large Woodshrike	Tephrodornis virgatus	х	
	Common Woodshrike	Tephrodornis pondicerianus		Х
	Rosy Minivet	Pericrocotus roseus	Х	
204	Ashy Minivet	Pericrocotus divaricatus	х	
	Small Minivet	Pericrocotus cinnamomeus		Х
	Grey-chinned Minivet	Pericrocotus solaris	Х	
207	Scarlet Minivet	Pericrocotus speciosus	Х	Х
208	White-browed Fantail	Rhipidura aureola		Х
	Pied Fantail	Rhipidura javanica	х	Х
	Black-naped Monarch	Hypothymis azurea	х	
	Asian Paradise Flycatcher	Terpsiphone paradisi	Х	
	Blue Rock Thrush	Monticola solitarius	х	
213	Orange-headed Thrush	Zoothera citrina	х	
	Dark-sided Flycatcher	Muscicapa sibirica	Х	
215	Asian Brown Flycatcher	Muscicapa dauurica		х
216	Taiga Flycatcher	Ficedula akbicilla	х	х
217	Grey-headed Canary-Flycatcher	Culicicapa ceylonensis	х	
218	Verditer Flycatcher	Eumyias thalassinus	х	
219	Pale Blue Flycatcher	Cyornis unicolor	х	
220	Hainan Blue Flycatcher	Cyornis hainanus	х	
221	Hill Blue Flycatcher	Cyornis banyumas	х	
222	Tickell's Blue Flycatcher	Cyornis tickelliae	х	
223	Blue-throated Blue Flycatcher	Cyornis rubeculoides	х	
224	Bluethroat	Luscinia svecica		х
225	Siberian Blue Robin	Luscinia cyane	х	
226	Northern Red-flanked Bluetail	Tarsiger cyanurus	х	
227	Oriental Magpie-robin	Copsychus saularis	х	х
228	White-rumped Shama	Copsychus malabaricus	х	х
229	White-crowned Forktail	Enicurus leschenaulti	х	
230	Eurasian Stonechat	Saxicola torquatus		х
231	Pied Bush Chat	Saxicola caprata		х
232	Ashy Woodswallow	Artamus fuscus	х	
233	White-shouldered Starling	Sturnus sinensis		х
234	Black-collared Starling	Sturnus nigricollis		х
235	Common Myna	Acridotheres tristis	х	х
236	White-vented (Great) Myna	Acridotheres grandis	х	х
237	Golden-crested Myna	Ampeliceps coronatus	Х	
	Common Hill Myna	Gracula religiosa	Х	х
	Neglected Nuthatch	Sitta neglecta		X
240	Velvet-fronted Nuthatch	Sitta frontalis		x
241	Sultan Tit	Melanochlora sultanea	х	
	Sand Martin	Riparia riparia	X	х
	Barn Swallow	Hirundo rustica	X	x
	Red-rumped Swallow	Cecropis daurica	X	x
	Asian House Martin	Delichon dasypus	X	X
	Black-headed Bulbul	Microtarsus atriceps	X	<i>7</i> .
	Black-crested Bulbul	Pycnonotus flaviventris caecilli	X	х
247 A 247 B		Pycnonotus flaviventris johnsoni	X	л
	Red-whiskered Bulbul	Pycnonotus jocosus	X	
240	rea windhereu Duibui		А	

249	Sooty-headed Bulbul	Pycnonotus aurigaster	х	х
250	Flavescent Bulbul	Pycnonotus flavescens	х	
251	Yellow-vented Bulbul	Pycnonotus goiavier	х	Х
252	Streak-eared Bulbul	Pycnonotus blanfordi	х	Х
253	Ochraceous Bulbul	Alophoixus ochraceus	х	
254	Grey-eyed Bulbul	Iole propinqua	х	
255	Buff-vented Bulbul	Iole olivacea	х	
256	Mountain Bulbul	Ixos mcclellandii	х	
257	Ashy Bulbul	Hemixos flavala	х	
258	Rufescent Prinia	Prinia rufescens		х
259	Yellow-bellied Prinia	Prinia flaviventris	Х	
260	Plain Prinia	Prinia inornata	X	х
261	Dark-necked Tailorbird	Orthotomus atrogularis		х
262	Zitting Cisticola	Cisticola juncidis		х
263	Manchurian Reed Warbler	Acrocephalus tangorum		X
264	Oriental Reed Warbler	Acrocephalus orientalis	Х	x
265	Striated Grassbird	Megalurus palustris		x
266	Dusky Warbler	Phylloscopus fuscatus	Х	x
267	Radde's Warbler	Phylloscopus schwarzi	X	A
268	Yellow-browed Warbler	Phylloscopus inornatus	X	
269	Two-barred Warbler	Phylloscopus plumbeitarsus	X	х
270	Pale-legged Leaf Warbler	Phylloscopus tenellipes	X	A
270	Sulphur-breasted Warbler	Phylloscopus ricketti	X	
272	White-crested Laughingthrush	Garrulax leucolophus	X	
273	White-cheeked Laughingthrush	Dryonastes (Garrulax) vassali	A	х
274	Black-throated Laughingthrush	Dryonastes chinensis	Х	
275	Abbott's Babbler	Malacocincla abbotti	X	
276	Puff-throated Babbler	Pellorneum ruficeps	X	
277	White-browed Scimitar Babbler		X	
278	Large Scimitar Babbler	Pomatorhinus hypoleucos	X	
279	Chestnut-capped Babbler	Timaila pileata		х
280	Golden Babbler	Stachyridopsis chrysaea	Х	
	Pin-striped Tit-Babbler	Macronous gularis	X	х
282	White-browed Shrike-Babbler	Pteruthius flaviscapis	X	А
283	Collared Babbler	Gampsorhynchus torquatus	X	
203 284	White-bellied Yuhina	Erpornis zantholeuca	X	
285	Plain Flowerpecker	Dicaeum minullum (concolor)	X	
286	Fire-breasted Flowerpecker	Dicaeum ignipectum	X	
200 287	Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker	Dicaeum cruentatum	A	х
288	Olive-backed Sunbird	Cinnyris jugularis		X
289	Purple Sunbird	Cinnyris asiaticus	х	x
290	Streaked Spiderhunter	Arachnothera magna	X	A
291	Horsfield's Bush Lark	Mirafra javanica	A	х
292	Indochinese Bush Lark	Mirafra erythrocephala		x
293	Oriental Skylark	Alauda gulgula		x
294	Paddyfield Pipit	Anthus rufulus	Х	X
295	Red-throated Pipit	Anthus cervinus		x
296	Forest Wagtail	Dendronanthus indicus	Х	
290 297	Eastern Yellow Wagtail	Motacilla tschutschensis	X	х
298	Plain-backed Sparrow	Passer flaveolus	X	x
299	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	Passer montanus	X	x
300	Baya Weaver	Ploceus philippinus		x
		-		

301	Red Avadavat	Amandava amandava		х
302	White-rumped Munia	Lonchura striata		х
303	Scaly-breasted Munia	Lonchura punctulata	х	х
304	Chestnut-eared Bunting	Emberiza fucata		х

218 170 Incl 2 subsp incl 1 hybrid

Checklist: mammals

Taxa presentet in odrer according to Duff/Lawson; Mammals of the World, a Checklist 2004. Discussions referring to litt: Francis; AFG to the Mammals of South-East Asia 2008 (Francis 2008)

- **1** Burmese Hair *Lepus peguensis* Cambodia, Tmaboey, 3/2 during spotlighting (20.30 - 22.15); 1 ind. found on dried ricefields behind the camp.
- 2 Black Giant Squirrel Ratufa bicolor Thailand, Kaeng Krachan 28/1: one ind.
- **3 Grey-bellied Squirrel** Thailand, Kaeng Krachan 29/1: i ind., Khao Yai 31/1 1 ind., Khao Yai, Krong Ba Gang 1/ 2 1 ind.
- 4 Variable Squirrel Callosciurus finlaysonii
 Thailand, Laem Mae Phim 25/1: 1 ind, Kaeng Krachan 28 –30/1 seen daily, Khao Yai 31/1 1 ind.
 Cambodia, Tmat Boey 4/2: Two ind. fouraging near the tree-tops at dawn.
- **5 Western Striped Squirrel** *Tamiops mcclellandii* Thailand, Laem Mae Phim 23 26/1: heard or seen almost every day.
- **6 Cambodian Striped Squirrel** *Tamiops rodolphii* Cambodia, Tmat Boey 4/2: Two ind. fouraging near the tree-tops at dawn.
- 7 Indochinese Ground Squirrel Menetes berdmorei
 Thailand, Koh Mai Nai 2 ind., Cambodia, Tmat Boey 4/2: one ind in the aftrenoon, 5/2: one in early morning.
- **8 Indian Giant Flying Squirrel** *Petaurista philippensis* Cambodia, Tmatboey 3/2; during spotlighting in the evening (21:00 – 23:00) 1 ind.
- **9** Long-tailed Climbing Mouse Vandeeluria oleracea Cambodia, Tmatboey; 5/2 during spotlighting. This tiny, golden-brown mouse with rather small rounded ears appeared while studying the Long-tailed Giant Rat. Relative

length of tail (T/HB)was not asessed, but tail at least as long as HB. Ears were (rather) small. Nose notably blunt and rounded. Jizz of head quite a bit reminiscent of Harvest Mouse (*Micromys minutus*), which I am familiar with from Sweden.

Comparing paintings, drawings and available photos of all small species of rodents known to occur in, or withinn reasonable distance from the area, reveals no other rodent with this colour and no other rodent with this jizz of head.

Despite the fact that golden brown varieties of Ricefield Mouse (*Mus caroli*) has been asessed (<u>http://jhered.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/content/abstract/79/3/151</u>) the short ears and rounded nose of our animal excludes this colour-phase as well.

10 Asian House Mouse *Mus musculus*

Cambodia, ATT; 6/2 and 7/2, in the house as well as between houses at dawn, several ind.

11 Lesser Ricefield Rat Rattus losea

Cambodia, Tmatboey; 5/2. One ind. crossing the sand-road in center of Tmatboey village. In identifying this species size, body proportions and T/HB-relation compared to its larger cousine the Ricefield Rat (*Rattus argentiventer*) does not seem helpful. The distribution area of the latter does according to Francis 2008 not reach this far north. On the other hand distribution of many small mammals is not fully known/investigated in all of Sout-East Asia. The Ricefield Rat t is also known to be quite dark and giving a mottled appearance. This animal was rather reddish brown and not mottled in appearance.

12 Savile's Bandicoot Rat Bandicota savilei

Cambodia, Tmatboey; 4/2 in the morning:1 ind.

13 Long-tailed Giant Rat Leopoldamys sabanus

Cambodia, Tmatboey; 5/2 during spotlighting: A big rodent with robust head and rounded ears was fouraging on the ground ten to fifteen meters in front of the car. The fur was not coarse but quite sleek and smoothe, in colour rather buffy or buffish brown, a bit darker than a normally coloured lion, thus not brown or oragnge on flanks as illustrated in Francis 2008. The full length of tail was not assessed. Tail however massive and thick about 10 - 15 cm from body and black in colour, thus contrasting well from body. Francis 2008 states "Juveniles plain light brown above" and "Considerable variation in size and pattern is known and may represent more than one species". On the other hand he does not reveal that this species is known from the area.

Size, proportions, smooth pelage and clear contrast between buffish brown body and massive black tail strongly incicate a taxon within this species as described in Francis 2008.

14 Malayan Porcupine

Hystrix brachyura

Thailand, Khao Yai, 30/1 during evening spotlighting 1 ind., and 31/1 during evening spotlighting 3; mother with young, and 1/2 during evening-drive 1 ind.

15 Masked Palm Civet Paguma larvata

Thailand, Kaeng Krachan; one ind. fouraging at the kitcken dump at the camping ground 27 - 30/1. The animal was seen daily.

16 Asian Palm Civet

Paradoxurus hermaphroditus

Thailand, Kaeng Krachan 28/1 as it was getting dark one ind came down to drink at a water hole.

17 Asian Black Bear Ursus thibetanus

Thailand, Khao Yai, Krong Ba Gang 1/2: 1 ind.

18 Oriental Small-clawed Otter Aonyx cinerea Thailand, Khao Yai, Nong Pak Chee-pond 31/1 3 ind. fishing during at least 1/2 an hour.

19 Yellow-throated Marten Martes flavigula

Thailand Kaeng Krachan 29/1 At the summit one ind fouraged fearlessly on waste from the kitchen.

20 Lyle's Flying Fox Pteropus lylei

Thailand, Wat Ta Wabut temple in Pra Chinburi 2/2 about 50 ind. Seen. Cambodia, Seam Reap, Royal Garden: at least 75 ind.

21 Black-bearded Tomb Bat *Taphozous melanopogon* (*Tm*)

Thailand: Khao Yai; China Town Restaurant 31/1. Huge flocks of three species of smaller bats left their roost at 18.15. One of these species roosting here is Black-bearded Tomb Bat.

Cambodia: Ankor Wat 7/2: about 50 ind.

22 Theobald's Tomb Bat Tapozous theobaldi (T.t.)

Thailand: Khao Yai; China Town Restaurant 31/1. Huge flocks of three species of smaller bats left their roost at 18.15. One of these species roosting here is Theobald's Tomb Bat. Cambodia: Ankor Wat 7/2; Working with photos in computer, most individuals show a warm brown pelage, some with a somewhat greyish tinge. They also show a medium long free tail. These ind. well match the description of T. m.

A few individuals show no or very little brown, but instead a dark- to medium grey pelage. These ind. also seem to have a longer free tail than the most long-tailed T.m. Knowing that the intraspecial variation in colour is often surprisingly big, and also knowing that only the most long-tailed individuals of this species have a longer tail than the most long-tailed Tm, these photos need validation. Despite a number of efforts to achieve this, I hitherto have not succeeded in achieving this.

This species is (slightly) larger and longer winged than (T.m.)

23 Asian Wrinkle-lipped Bat *Chaerepohon plicatus*

Thailand: Khao Yai; China Town Restaurant 31/1. Huge flocks of three species of smaller bats left their roost at 18.15. One of the three species known to roost here is Asian Wrinkle-lipped Bat, smaller than the two previous ones.

Megaderma spasma 24 Lesser False-Vampire

Cambodia: Tmaboey 5/2; two ind. Found hanging from the celieng of a non-used room at camp.

25 Dusky Langur Trachypithecus obscurus

Thailand, Kaeng Krachan 27/1 a group of 12 including one baby fouraging in a fruiting tree at the entrance of the camping ground.

26 Long-tailed Macaque

Macaca fascicularis

Thailand, Bang Pakong 2/2: a small group. Cambodia, Ankor Wat 8/2 a small group.

27 Northern Pig-tailed Macaque Macaca leonina Thailand, Khao Yai 30/1 - 1/2: abundant.

28 Stump-tailed Macaque *Macaca arctoides*

Thailand, Kao Kapok (non-hunting area) near Ta Yang 30/1 about 20 ind. Including adult maies, females, young and babies. The spoulation here is estimated to contail at least 100 ind.

29 White-handed Gibbon *Hylobates lar*

Thailand, Kaeng Krachan 27/1 a mother with baby four aging in a fruiting tree at the entrance of the camping ground. 28 - 30/1 groups heard calling daily.

30 Northern Treeshrew *Tupaia belangeri*

Thailand, Kaeng Krachan 27- 30/1 and Kao Yai 31/1 - 1/2 heard or seen every day.

31 Irrawaddy Dolphin

Thailand, Bang Pakong River Estuary 11/2: 6 ind seen at the same time. "No range-wide survey has been conducted for this species, nor is there a synoptic estimate of total numbers from local regional surveys"

Orcaella brevirostris

(http://www.iucnredlist.org/apps/redlist/details/15419/0). Local populations less than 70 individuals are regarded as critically endangered. Only in a few areas surveys have been carried out. Local populations are scattered over South-East Asia. Only the pupulation in coastal waters of Bangladesh and Sundarbans forest in Bangladesh seem to hold a fair or reasonably fair number of individuals. In remaining areas studied the populations are declining. I have not asessed wether the individuals in Bang Pakong River Estuary is an isolated population or a hived off population belonging to a somewhat larger isolated population. I have not found any reports of surveys of the species in ths area. In 2005 the Australian Snubfin Dolphin (*Orcaella heinsohni*) was described as a new species to science. It is known to occur along the northern coast of Australia, but may possibly also occur in Papua Gew Guinea.

32 Eurasian Wild Boar Sus scrofa

Thailand, Khao Yai, Krong Ba Gang 1/2: herd at dusk.

33 Lesser Chevrotain (Lesser Mouse-deer) Tragulus kanchil

Thailand: Kaeng Krachan 28/1; as it was getting dark one ind. came down to drink at a water hole.

This taxon is recently separated from the smaller taxon *T javanicus*, the latter now considered to be restricted to Java.

34 Fea's Muntjac

Muntiacus feae

Thailand: Kaeng Krachan 29/1; On our way up to the Summit Tu spotted a Fea's Muntjac as it bounced over the road. I missed it.

35 Red Muntjac (Barking Deer) *Muntiacus muntiac* Thailand, Kaeng Krachan 29/1 1 seen at campsite, Khao Yai 30/1 – 1/2 several seen daily.

36 Eld's Deer

Rucervus eldii

Cambodia: ATT 6/2; 9 ind.; 7 does and 2 calves, and 7/2 14 ind.; 4 hirds, 7 does and 3 calves.

37 Sambar

Rusa unicolor

Thailand, Kaeng Krachan 28 - 30/1 singles, Khao Yai 30/1 - 2/2 numerous. In the evening of 30/1 we saw at least 75 ind.

38 Gaur

Bos gaurus*

Thailand, Khao Yai, Krong Ba Gang 1/2: 1 bull seen from 16.40 untill dark and 3 cows seen from 18.30 until dark.

* According to Duff/Lawson 2004 *B gaurus* is the wild ancestor of *B. frontalis*, the Mithan (domestic gaur)domesticated in Hills of Assam (N India)

39 Asian Elephant

Elephas maximus

Thailand, Khao Yai 30/1 during night drive: 1 young male on the road.



Banded Krait Khao Yai Thailand Photo S. Lithner

Amphibians and reptiles

Frogs

- **1 Malayan Giant Frog** *Limnonectes blythii* Thailand: Keang Krachan NP during spotlighting 27/1.
- 2 Dark-sided Frog Rana nigrovittata Thailand: Khao Yai while spotlighting 31/1. 1 ind.

Crocodiles

3 Siamese Chrocodile Crocodylus siamensis Thailand Khao Yai, Lum Ta Klong 31/1: 1 ind.

Lizards

- 4 Water Monitor Varanus salvator Laem Pak Bia 27/1 about 3 and 30/1 about 6 ind.
- **5 Bengal Monitor** Varanus bengalensis Thailand, Kaeng Krachan 29/1; 1 ind.
- **6 Tockay** *Gekko gecko* Thailand, heard almost daily, Photographed Kaeng Krachan 27/1 Cambodia, Tmatboey 5/2 1 in the ceiling of one of the bungalows.
- 7 Four-clawed Gecko *Gehyra mutilata* Thailand, Khao Yai 30-31/1: 1 ind. in my room.
- 8 Spiny-tailed House-gecko *Hemidactylus frenatus* Thailand, Laem Mae Phim 27/1 – 13/2: several
- **9 Garden Fence Lizard** Calotes versicolor Cambodia, Seam Reap 2/2 1 juvenile.
- 10 Common Butterfly LizardLeiolepis bellianaThailand: Rayong, Koh Mai Nai 24/1: 3-4 ind.
- **11 Long-tailed Sun Skink**Mabuya longicaudataThailand, Laem Mae Phim: 25/1 1 ind.
- 12 Bowring's Supple SkinkLygosoma bowringiiThailand, Khao Yai 1/2 ind.sunbathing in a stream

Serpent

Banded Krait (*Bungarus fasciatus*) Thailand, Khao Yai 30/1 durig spotlighting in the evening crossing the road.

Adresses and links

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