

# Beijing & Yunnan, China, with OBC.

***An at-a-glance list of 436 species of birds & eight species of mammals recorded.***

By Jesper Hornskov @

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

Based mostly on my own field notes, this brief write-up covers the birds & mammals noted by C Clifford (until 27 March), C Dietzen, P Drake-Brockman, R East, W Grossi, E Patterson, P Post, W v d Schot, N Zalinge & myself during the **15 March – 3 April 2010** OBC Fundraiser trip to Beijing's Botanical Garden, and Lijiang, Gaoligongshan, Tengchong, the Yingjiang area & Ruili.

We recorded 436 species of birds and eight species of mammals on the 'main tour', very similar totals to those of a private tour in 2008 & the 2009 OBC Fundraiser. An additional 24 species were noted when eight of us covered Beijing's Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup> - to make it easier for future participants to decide if it might be worth their while to extend their visit by a day or two these are mentioned in the list but are not included in the total species tally - and quite a few more, notably Long-billed Plover *Charadrius placidus*, and Tristram's *Emberiza tristrami* & Yellow-browed Buntings *E. chrysophrys*, were found during 'non-scheduled' excursions before and after the trip.

Beijing's winter returned with a vengeance in the run-up to the trip, with thick snow in the mountains preventing access to the Ibisbill site on 14 March. Not only would it have been logistically unfeasible to kick off with the intended visit to Wild Duck Lake on 15<sup>th</sup>, it would also have been pretty pointless: even at the Plan B site (the delightful Botanical Gardens) the windchill factor was noticeable, combined with ice under foot & some 15 cm of new snow on the ground!

On to Yunnan where we bagged the hoped-for Yunnan Nuthatch *Sitta yunnanensis* at Lijiang without breaking into a run before 'doing' our main target area, mostly forested habitats at c300-2,500m W of the Salween, under almost too-magnificently blue skies (W Yunnan remained in the grip of a headline-making drought) until the last week of the trip when we encountered some apparently at least in part 'triggered' rain. We worked around this - as one has to - adjusting our daily plans to fit the circumstances... and of course noone in the group begrudged the land the rain it so desperately craved.

The birds, the mammals, the butterflies, the plants, the scenery, a stimulating mix of local cultures, wonderful food, comfortable accommodations & (not least) the companionship all came together to produce a trip the more memorable for the region being so desperately under-visited by birdwatchers.

Thank you all for making this trip so enjoyable, and thank you for, by joining, contributing to OBC's Conservation Fund. Special thanks are due to Michael Edgecombe for volunteering to coordinate.



## **Species list:**

**Common Hill Partridge** *Arborophila torqueola*

29+ bird-days. Noted on nine dates – most were heard-onlies.

**Mountain Bamboo Partridge** *Bambusicola fytchii*

35+ bird-days. Noted on nine dates – mostly heard-onlies, but (this being more of a forest edge species) quite a few seen.

**Red Junglefowl** *Gallus gallus*

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

**Silver Pheasant** *Lophura nychtemera*

Two heard at Ruili on 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**\*\*\*Common Pheasant** *Phasianus colchicus*

1+ at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Lady Amherst's Pheasant** *Chrysolophus amherstiae*

Two on 24<sup>th</sup>: one male (PD-B) & one female (NZ).

**Grey Peacock Pheasant** *Polyplectron bicalcaratum*

One heard W of Yingjiang on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**\*\*\*Swan Goose** *Anser cygnoides*

150+ at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**\*\*\*Bean Goose** *Anser fabalis*

c200 at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup> – most were ssp *serrirostris* but at least five were the distinctive ssp *middendorffii*.

**Bar-headed Goose** *Anser indicus*

c40 at Lijiang on 16<sup>th</sup>.

**\*\*\*Bewick's Swan** *Cygnus columbianus*

Several at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Common Shelduck** *Tadorna tadorna*

Eight near Lijiang on 16<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*In addition, four at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Ruddy Shelduck** *Tadorna ferruginea*

c65 bird-days. Noted on two dates.

\*\*\*An additional 25+ were noted at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Gadwall** *Anas strepera*

20+ at Lijiang on 16<sup>th</sup>.

**\*\*\*Falcated Duck** *Anas falcata*

100+ at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup> – Tingaling!

**Eurasian Wigeon** *Anas penelope*

Eight near Lijiang on 16<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*An additional 20+ were noted at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Mallard** *Anas platyrhynchos*

Noted on two dates.

\*\*\*An additional 50+ were noted at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Indian Spotbill** *Anas poecilorhyncha*

40+ at Ruili on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Chinese Spotbill** *Anas zonorhyncha*

Ten at Lijiang on 16<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*An additional ten were at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Northern Shoveler** *Anas clypeata*

12+ near Lijiang on 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Northern Pintail** *Anas acuta*

10+ near Lijiang on 16<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\***Garganey** *Anas querquedula*

1+ [WvdS] at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Common Teal** *Anas crecca*

208+ bird-days. Noted on two dates – main event 200+ near Lijiang on 16<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*An additional 75+ were noted at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\***Common Pochard** *Aythya ferina*

100+ at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Ferruginous Duck** *Aythya nyroca*

13+ bird-days. Noted on two dates.

\*\*\*An additional two were seen at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Tufted Duck** *Aythya fuligula*

Six near Lijiang on 16<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*An additional 30 were recorded at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\***Common Goldeneye** *Bucephala clangula*

Six at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\***Smew** *Mergellus albellus*

100+ at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Goosander** *Mergus merganser*

Eight near Lijiang on 16<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*In addition, 75+ at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Little Grebe** *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

265+ bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Great Crested Grebe** *Podiceps cristatus*

Three bird-days. Noted on two dates.

**Black Stork** *Ciconia nigra*

One 2<sup>nd</sup> c-y bird near Lijiang on 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Cinnamon Bittern** *Ixobrychus cinnamomeus*

One 'in flight & sitting up nicely' W of Yingjiang on 29<sup>th</sup>.

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

One adult in flight at Lijiang on 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Chinese Pond Heron** *Ardeola bacchus*

Two W of Yingjiang on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Eastern Cattle Egret** *Bubulcus coromandus*

36+ bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Grey Heron** *Ardea cinerea*

10+ near Lijiang on 16<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*In addition, ten were seen at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Great Egret** *Ardea alba*

c44 bird-days. Noted on two dates – main event c40 at roost near Ruili on 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Little Egret** *Egretta garzetta*

120+ bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**Little Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax niger*

154+ bird-days. Noted on two dates – all but one were near Ruili on 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Great Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax carbo*

c42 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

\*\*\*In addition, four were recorded at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Common Kestrel** *Falco tinnunculus*

17 bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

\*\*\*In addition, one at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Peregrine** *Falco peregrinus*

Singles – incl a male probably of the ssp *calidus* near Lijiang on 16<sup>th</sup> – on four dates.

**Jerdon's Baza** *Avecida jerdoni*

One W of Yingjiang on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Oriental Honey Buzzard** *Pernis ptilorhynchus*

35 bird-days. Noted on 12 dates.

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

Nine bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Black Kite** *Milvus migrans lineatus*

Two migr near Ruili on 3<sup>rd</sup>.

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

**Crested Serpent Eagle** *Spilornis cheela*

Six bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Eastern Marsh Harrier** *Circus spilonotus*

Migrating singletons were seen on two dates.

\*\*\*In addition, two at Wild Duck lake on 4<sup>th</sup>, both males – at least one was a full adult!

**Hen Harrier** *Circus cyaneus*

Three bird-days, incl a memorable adult male quartering terraced fields on 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Crested Goshawk** *Accipiter trivirgatus*

9+ bird-days. Noted on seven dates – single(s) seen & 'scoped repeatedly near Ruili on 2<sup>nd</sup> was a trip highlight.

**Besra** *Accipiter virgatus*

Singles were noted on three dates.

**Eurasian Sparrowhawk** *Accipiter nisus*

Six bird-days. Noted on five dates, incl at Beijing Botanical Garden on 15<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*In addition, one was at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Grey-faced Buzzard** *Butastur indicus*

One migr near Ruili on 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Common Buzzard** *Buteo buteo japonicus* & *B. b. vulpinus*

34 bird-days. Noted on 11 dates, incl one at Beijing on 15<sup>th</sup> – single ssp *vulpinus* birds were seen on 18<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*An additional two were at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

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

A buzzard on 17<sup>th</sup> was almost certainly this species.

\*\*\*The species is known for SE Asia only as a vagrant to adjacent N Burma (Robson 2000).

Cheng (1987) listed the species for E Yunnan during migration/winter.

\*\*\***Upland Buzzard** *Buteo hemilasius*

A 2<sup>nd</sup> c-y bird was at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Black Eagle** *Ictinaetus malayensis*

15 bird-days. Noted on nine dates, incl a migrating bird^ W of Yingjiang on 30<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*Cheng (1987) considered the species "very rare, being confined to Fujian & Taiwan Provinces".

Lewthwaite (1996) reported three sightings from Guangdong, and the species was noted at Wawu Shan, Sichuan, on two dates in late Apr 2008 (JH *et al.* pers obs).

\*\*\*^Robson (2008) considered the species a resident.

**Greater Spotted Eagle** *Aquila clanga*

One adult migr at Gaoligongshan on 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Steppe Eagle** *Aquila nipalensis*

A 2<sup>nd</sup> + c-y migr W of Yingjiang on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Booted Eagle** *Hieraaetus pennatus*

One pale morph bird headed off on migration near Ruili on 2<sup>nd</sup>.

\*\*\*Listed for Yunnan (Xishuangbanna) only by Chu *et al.* (1989); this was ignored or overlooked by Zheng *et al.* (2005) who listed the species for Heilongjiang, Jilin, Liaoning, Beijing, Inner Mongolia, Xinjiang & 'Xizang' – there were at least four previous sightings of singletons for Yunnan (JH *pers obs*), all concerning dark morph birds.

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

One W of Yingjiang on 27<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).

\*\*\*Robson (2008) listed the species for N but not E Burma.

**Mountain Hawk Eagle** *Spizaetus nipalensis*

Five bird-days. Noted on four dates – main event two at Gaoligongshan on 21<sup>st</sup> ('one perched across valley, other soaring nearby').

\*\*\*Interestingly one immature (w/ 'no pale on rump; very pale body & head') W of Yingjiang on 30<sup>th</sup> was migrating - Robson (2008) considered the species to be 'subject to local movements [only]'.

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

Ten bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Black-tailed Crake** *Porzana bicolor*

Two put on a good show on 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Common Moorhen** *Gallinula chloropus*

Eight bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Common Coot** *Fulica atra*

1,000+ near Lijiang on 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Common Crane** *Grus grus*

Ten near Lijiang on 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Ibisbill** *Ibidorhyncha struthersii*

Two on the Burma border on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Black-winged Stilt** *Himantopus himantopus*

One near Lijiang on 16<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\***Northern Lapwing** *Vanellus vanellus*

30+ at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**River Lapwing** *Vanellus duvaucelii*

18 bird-days. Noted W of Yingjiang on two dates – main event 12 on 27<sup>th</sup>.

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

Seven W of Yingjiang on 29<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*In addition, two were recorded at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

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

Six bird-days. Noted W of Yingjiang on two dates.

**Little Ringed Plover** *Charadrius dubius*

25 bird-days. Noted on three dates.

\*\*\*An additional 25+ were at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Kentish Plover** *Charadrius alexandrinus*

c15 near Lijiang on 16<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*In addition, four at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

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

A pair 'ducking behind stones in river, swimming & feeding Ibisbill-style' W of Yingjiang on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Eurasian Woodcock** *Scolopax rusticola*

One on 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Pintail Snipe** *Gallinago stenura*

Singles were noted on two dates.

**Common Snipe** *Gallinago gallinago*

Seven bird-days. Noted on two dates.

**Green Sandpiper** *Tringa ochropus*

17+ bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Wood Sandpiper** *Tringa glareola*

Two near Lijiang on 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Common Sandpiper** *Actitis hypoleucos*

17 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Red-necked Stint** *Calidris ruficollis*

One at Yingjiang on 26<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*The species was included for 'all' Chinese provinces by Zheng (2005).

**Little Stint** *Calidris minuta*

One near Lijiang on 16<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*The species was not listed for Yunnan by e g Zheng (2005).

**Temminck's Stint** *Calidris temminckii*

12 bird-days. Noted on two dates.

**Dunlin** *Calidris alpina*

Two winter-plumaged birds near Lijiang on 16<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*The species was not listed for Yunnan by e g Zheng (2005).



**Small Pratincole** *Glareola lactea*  
210 near Yingjiang on 26<sup>th</sup> – Bingo!

\*\*\***Yellow-legged Gull** *Larus 'cachinnans' mongolicus*  
Two at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Great Black-headed Gull** *Larus ichthyaetus*  
Three (two adults & a 2<sup>nd</sup> c-y) near Lijiang on 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Brown-headed Gull** *Larus brunnicephalus*  
Eight bird-days. Noted near Lijiang on 16<sup>th</sup> & near Ruili (where five adults on 31<sup>st</sup> may have been the 1<sup>st</sup> recorded there).

**Common Black-headed Gull** *Larus ridibundus*  
c15 near Lijiang on 16<sup>th</sup>.  
\*\*\*An additional 30+ were at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**River Tern** *Sterna aurantia*  
8-10 birds were recorded near Yingjiang on 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Speckled Wood Pigeon** *Columba hodgsonii*  
34+ bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Oriental Turtle Dove** *Streptopelia orientalis*  
33 bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

\*\*\***Eurasian Collared Dove** *Streptopelia decaocto*  
Noted near Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Spotted Dove** *Streptopelia chinensis*  
45 bird-days. Noted on 11 dates.

**Barred Cuckoo-Dove** *Macropygia unchall*  
Three bird-days. Noted W of Yingjiang on two dates.

**Emerald Dove** *Chalcophaps indica*  
Nine bird-days. Noted on two dates W of Yingjiang.

**Thick-billed Green Pigeon** *Treron curvirostra*  
12 bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Pin-tailed Green Pigeon** *Treron apicauda*  
15+ bird-days. Noted W of Yingjiang on three dates.

**Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon** *Treron sphenurus*  
Two near the Burma border on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Mountain Imperial Pigeon** *Ducula badia*  
51 bird-days. Noted on three dates – main event 46 on 30<sup>th</sup>.

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

51 bird-days. Noted on 16 dates – prolonged 'scope views of one on 30<sup>th</sup> was a treat.

**Indian Cuckoo** *Cuculus micropterus*

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

**Common Cuckoo** *Cuculus canorus*

Two in the lowlands near Yingjiang on 26<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*On previous visits recorded no earlier than 3 Apr.

**Oriental Cuckoo** *Cuculus saturatus*

Singles were noted on four dates – it was pleasing to get 'scope views of a calling bird near Ruili on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Banded Bay Cuckoo** *Cacomantis sonneratii*

Singles heard on two dates.

**Plaintive Cuckoo** *Cacomantis merulinus*

Nine bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Square-tailed Drongo Cuckoo** *Surniculus lugubris*

11+ bird-days. Noted on five dates.

\*\*\*\*"Multiple species are clearly involved in *S. lugubris* (*sensu lato*) but the number and consituation are not yet fully resolved [...] (matter under study by R . B. Payne).": Rasmussen & Anderton (2005). Zheng *et al.* (2005), Collar & Pilgrim (2007), and Mann (in prep) - the latter provisionally following Payne (2005) – are in error in asserting that the Chinese taxon is *dicruroides*, Fork-tailed Drongo Cuckoo, whose song differs (*vide* Rasmussen & Anderton (2005), but pending confirmation: Mann in prep) in having the first two notes on the same pitch – in Square-tailed Drongo Cuckoo *S. lugubris* (of lowland Assam, Thailand, the Sundaic Region & Sri Lanka) the song is a mellow, uniformly rising series of six notes: Collar & Pilgrim (2007); Rasmussen & Anderton (2005), on the other hand, gave the range of *S. lugubris* as 'SE Tibet to Indonesia' (with a song similar to Fork-tailed's but 'much higher-pitched, shriller, faster and with choppy delivery, the second note lower than the first') while considering *dicruroides* endemic to India and Sri Lanka.

**Common Koel** *Eudynamis scolopaceus*

Four bird-days. Noted on three dates.

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

Seven bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Greater Coucal** *Centropus sinensis*

18 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**Lesser Coucal** *Centropus bengalensis*

Singles heard on two dates near the Burma border.

**Collared Scops Owl** *Otus lettia*

Singles heard on two nights at gaoligongshan

**Oriental Scops Owl** *Otus sunia*

A grey morph bird at Lijiang offered prolonged 'scope views.

**Chinese Tawny Owl** *Strix nivicola*

One heard pre-dawn on 21<sup>st</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*

Eight bird-days. Heard-onlies on five dates.

**Asian Barred Owlet** *Glaucidium cuculoides*

One above the Shweli on 24<sup>th</sup> – 'stopped, saw it well if briefly'.

**Himalayan Swiftlet** *Aerodramus brevirostris*

Seven bird-days. Recorded on just two days.

**White-throated Needletail** *Hirundapus caudacutus*

3+ W of Yingjiang on 28<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*In addition, a total of 12 **Needletail sp.** were seen...

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

12+ bird-days. Noted W of Yingjiang on three dates.

\*\*\*Cheng (1987) recorded the species only for Hainan, where considered rare and "only seen locally during the cooler hours of the day". It appears to be regular in small numbers in SW-most Yunnan (JH pers obs), and Lewthwaite (1996) reported sightings from Guangxi & Guangdong.

**Asian Palm Swift** *Cypsiurus balasiensis*

85 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

\*\*\***Common Swift** *Apus apus*

Two at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

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

Ten bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**House Swift** *Apus nipalensis*

c245 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**Crested Treeswift** *Hemiprocne coronata*

Eight bird-days. This graceful species was seen on no less than three dates – two 'scoped on 27<sup>th</sup> was a real highlight.

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

27 bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

**Common Kingfisher** *Alcedo atthis*

18 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

\*\*\*In addition, one was recorded at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Pied Kingfisher** *Ceryle rudis*

Six bird-days. Noted on three dates.

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

Four bird-days. This retiring species was noted on three dates.

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

27 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Chestnut-headed Bee-eater** *Merops leschenaulti*

25 bird-days. Noted W of Yingjiang on four dates.

**Hoopoe** *Upupa epops*

Ten bird-days. Noted on five dates.

\*\*\*In addition, two were at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Great Hornbill** *Buceros bicornis*

One in flight, fiercely mobbed by two Greater Racket-tailed Drongos, W of Yingjiang on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Wreathed Hornbill** *Rhyticeros undulates*

Three (photo by WvdS) W of Yingjiang on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Great Barbet** *Megalaima virens*

65 bird-days. Noted on 14 dates.

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

48 bird-days. Noted on 11 dates.

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

82 bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

**Blue-eared Barbet** *Megalaima australis*

Singles heard W of Yingjiang on two dates.

**Coppersmith Barbet** *Megalaima haemacephala*

Singles on three dates.

**Speckled Piculet** *Picumnus innominatus*

Five bird-days. Noted on four dates.

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

One near the Burma border on 30<sup>th</sup>.

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

13 bird-days. Noted on eight dates, incl on 15<sup>th</sup> at Beijing Botanical Gardens.

**Darjeeling Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos darjellensis*

Two (incl 'a male 'scoped upside down') in Gaoligongshan on 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Great Spotted Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos major*

Ten bird-days. Noted on three dates, incl at Beijing Botanical Gardens on 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Rufous Woodpecker** *Celeus brachyurus*

Singles W of Yingjiang on two dates.

**Lesser Yellownape** *Picus chlorolophus*

11 bird-days. Noted W of Yingjiang on three dates.

**Greater Yellownape** *Picus flavinucha*

Four bird-days. Noted on three dates.

\*\*\*In addition, single **Yellownape sp.** were noted at Gaoligongshan on three dates.

**Grey-headed Woodpecker** *Picus canus*

Six bird-days. Noted on three dates, with excellent view at Botanical Gardens on 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Greater Goldenback** *Chrysocolaptes lucidus*

Singles heard on two dates W of Yingjiang.

**Bay Woodpecker** *Blythipicus pyrrhotis*

11+ bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Long-tailed Broadbill** *Psarisomus dalhousiae*

11 bird-days. Noted on no less than four dates...

**Silver-breasted Broadbill** *Serilophus lunatus*

Two hard-to-get-on-to birds high in bamboo near Ruili on 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Rusty-naped Pitta** *Pitta oatesi*

One singing near Ruili on 2<sup>nd</sup> ... 'responded somewhat to playback but 'showed' only for CD who pursued it solo after it had been declared a Lost Cause'.

**Large Woodshrike** *Tephrodornis virgatus*

16 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Ashy Woodswallow** *Artamus fuscus*

23+ bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Common Iora** *Aegithina tiphia*

Five bird-days. Noted on two dates.

**Large Cuckoo-shrike** *Coracina macei*

Eight bird-days. Noted on four dates.

\*\*\*Considered uncommon by Cheng (1987) who listed the species as *C. novaehollandiae*.

**Black-winged Cuckoo-shrike** *Coracina melaschistos*

39 bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

**Rosy Minivet** *Pericrocotus roseus*

13 bird-days. Noted on four dates – three on 31<sup>st</sup> were 'the birds we stopped at bamboo grove for; they didn't really reappear but the number of other birds there was a minor revelation'.

**Grey-chinned Minivet** *Pericrocotus solaris*

12 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

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

21+ bird-days. Noted on three dates – main event 16+ at Lijiang on 16<sup>th</sup>.

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

22 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**Scarlet Minivet** *Pericrocotus speciosus*

47 bird-days. Noted on eight days.

**\*\*\*Minivet sp.**

Four at nearly 2,500m in Gaoligongshan on 18<sup>th</sup>.

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

13 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Brown Shrike** *Lanius cristatus*

Singles noted on two dates.

**Burmese Shrike** *Lanius collurioides*

Nine bird-days. Noted on four dates.

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

48 bird-days. Noted on 13 dates.

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

18 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

\*\*\*In addition, three **Long-tailed / Grey-backed Shrikes** were noted en route on 17<sup>th</sup>.

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

7+ bird-days. Noted on three dates – main event 5+ near Tengchong on 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Maroon Oriole** *Oriolus traillii*

52 bird-days. Noted on ten dates.

**Black Drongo** *Dicrurus macrocercus*

23 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

\*\*\*The 2009 OBC Fundraiser trip, slightly later in spring, scored 177 bird-days (main event 136 along a stretch of road that yielded just six birds in 2010)!

**Ashy Drongo** *Dicrurus leucophaeus*

96 bird-days. Noted on 14 dates.

**Bronzed Drongo** *Dicrurus aeneus*

43 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

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

21 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

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

15 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

\*\*\*Cheng (1987) listed ssp *hottentottus* for W & NW Yunnan (but for nowhere else in China). These birds perhaps more likely to have been the (partially?) migratory *brevirostris*, which is regular as far N as NE-most Hebei.

**Greater Racket-tailed Drongo** *Dicrurus paradiseus*

13 bird-days. Noted on seven dates - one near Ruili on 2<sup>nd</sup> was "scoped as it dried itself: a classic profile"...

**Yellow-bellied Fantail** *Chelidorhynch hypoxantha*

39 bird-days. Noted on 11 dates.

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

63 bird-days. Noted on 17 dates.

**Black-naped Monarch** *Hypothymis azurea*

Three near the Burma border on 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Asian Paradise-flycatcher** *Terpsiphone paradisi*

Single males on three dates, incl a white morph one on 30<sup>th</sup>!

**Eurasian Jay** *Garrulus glandarius*

15 bird-days. Noted on three dates.

\*\*\*Not listed for W of the Salween by Cheng (1987) – presumably birds here are *leucotis*, listed for Xishuangbanna, S-most Yunnan, by Cheng (1987) & for E Burma by Dickinson (2003): the birds seen had 'dark eye-surround; dark chin; head otherwise largely white'.

**'Eastern' Azure-winged Magpie** *Cyanopica cyanus*

20 in Beijing Botanical Gardens on 15<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*Apparently (G Pettersson pers com) the Iberian taxon, *C. (c.) cooki*, has been shown to be sufficiently differentiated genetically to merit elevation to full species status. In addition to the one we saw, ssp *interposita*, the eastern species includes a further six taxa (Dickinson 2003)...

**Yellow-billed Blue Magpie** *Urocissa flavirostris*

Two seen rather briefly in Gaoligongshan on 24<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*In addition, an unidentified **Blue Magpie** was noted in the Gaoligongshan on 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Red-billed Blue Magpie** *Urocissa erythrorhyncha*

Ten bird-days. Noted on five dates, incl on 15<sup>th</sup> at Beijing Botanical Gardens.

**Common Green Magpie** *Cissa chinensis*

Ten bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Grey Treepie** *Dendrocitta formosae*

24 bird-days. Noted on ten dates.

**Collared Treepie** *Dendrocitta frontalis*

Two on 30<sup>th</sup> were unfortunately seen poorly by most of us.

\*\*\*Cheng (1987) listed the species for "Xizang Aut. Reg. (Medog), China-Burma boundary along Western Yunnan" but gave no indication of its abundance. Robson (2000) considered the species a rare resident in adjacent N Burma, occurring up to 1,220m; King *et al.* (2001) however found it to be fairly common there in November 1999, with 119 bird-days for 12 days. The species' range stretches from Darjeeling to W+E Tonkin; Grimmett *et al.* (1998) noted that in India it is "locally frequent in Arunachal Pradesh, very few recent records from elsewhere", occurring up to 2,100m, whilst in Bhutan it is "uncommon".

Vocalisations are “poorly described, but has a wide variety of calls similar to those of other treepies (Ali and Ripley 1987)” (Grimmett *et al.* 1998) – the species was one of the few for which Robson (2000) offered no description of voice.

**Common Magpie** *Pica pica*

10+ at Beijing Botanical Gardens on 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Carrion Crow** *Corvus corone*

Two at Beijing Botanical Gardens on 15<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*In addition, four at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Large-billed Crow** *Corvus macrorhynchos*

The ‘official’ part of the tour missed presumed ssp *mandshuricus* around Beijing while one at Lijiang on 16<sup>th</sup> was perhaps ssp *tibetosinensis* (rather than *levaillantii*); birds which appeared to be *levaillantii* scored 11 bird-days (being noted on five dates W of the Salween)

\*\*\*It has only gradually dawned on us that it would be justified to pay closer attention to these birds...

\*\*\*Robson (2008) elevates one of these taxa to full species status as Eastern Jungle Crow *Corvus levaillantii* but without including SW-most Yunnan in its range.

**Eastern Great Tit** *Parus minor*

15 ssp *minor* birds at Beijing Botanical Gardens on 15<sup>th</sup>, and 48 bird-days (noted on ten dates) in Yunnan^.

\*\*\*Both taxa belong with *minor*, one on 3-4 ‘Great Tit’ species in China. Keep your fingers crossed that the inappropriate name ‘Japanese’ Tit doesn’t stick for this one...

\*\*\*^Cheng (1987) listed only *subtibetanus* – part of the *minor* group - for Yunnan.

**Green-backed Tit** *Parus monticolus*

21 bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

**Yellow-bellied Tit** *Parus venustulus*

Four at Beijing Botanical Gardens on 15<sup>th</sup> – getting this attractive endemic on the ‘official’ part of the trip was a bonus.

**Yellow-cheeked Tit** *Parus spilonotus*

54 bird-days. Noted on 11 dates.

**Coal Tit** *Parus ater*

c20 at Lijiang on 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Marsh Tit** *Parus palustris*

Two at Beijing Botanical Gardens on 15<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*Given that ‘each male [Marsh Tit] may have a repertoire of up to 19 song variants’ (Harrap & Quinn 1996), differences in vocalizations between this taxon, the SE-most, and others will need to be shored up by DNA & behavioral studies before skeptics will even begin to consider elevating the morphologically only subtly different *hellmayri* to full species status...

**Yellow-browed Tit** *Sylviparus modestus*

34 bird-days. Noted in the Gaoligongshan on six dates.



\*\*\***Chinese' Penduline Tit** *Remiz pendulinus consobrinus*  
Heard at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Fire-capped Tit** *Cephalopyrus flammiceps*  
14+ bird-days. Noted in the Gaoligongshan on three dates – a group of ten considerably delayed us on 23<sup>rd</sup> as they presented themselves for prolonged 'scoping at close range.

**Grey-throated Sand Martin** *Riparia chinensis*  
c105 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.  
\*\*\*Split from Plain Martin *R. paludicola* following Rasmussen & Anderton (2005).

**Barn Swallow** *Hirundo rustica*  
550+ bird-days. Seen on at least 13 dates.  
\*\*\*An additional two were seen at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Wire-tailed Swallow** *Hirundo smithii*  
1-2 birds noted on two dates W of Yingjiang - 1<sup>st</sup> confirmed nesting in China as recently as spring 2009.

**Asian House Martin** *Delichon dasypus*  
385+ bird-days. Noted on six dates.  
\*\*\*Some of the 20+ unidentified 'House Martins' seen on 22<sup>nd</sup> were suspected **Nepal House Martin** *D. nipalense*.

**Red-rumped Swallow** *Cecropis daurica*  
310+ bird-days. Noted on five dates – main event 300+ on 1<sup>st</sup>.  
\*\*\*An additional 345+ unidentified **Red-rumped / Striated Swallows** were noted – main event 245 near the Burma border on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Striated Swallow** *Cecropis striolata*  
98+ bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Long-tailed Tit** *Aegithalos caudatus vinaceus*  
Six bird-days. Noted on two dates – at Beijing on 15<sup>th</sup> & at Lijiang on 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Black-throated Tit** *Aegithalos concinnus*  
97+ bird-days. This attractive species was seen on no less than ten dates.

**Pere Bonvalot's Tit** *Aegithalos (iouschistos) bonvaloti*  
8+ bird-days. Noted only at Lijiang.

\*\*\***Greater Short-toed Lark** *Calandrella brachydactyla*  
c105 at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*\***Asian' Lesser Short-toed Lark** *Calandrella 'cheleensis'*  
Ten at Wild Duck lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\***Eurasian Skylark** *Alauda arvensis*  
15 at Wild Duck lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Oriental Skylark** *Alauda gulgula*  
6+ near Lijiang on 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Chinese Hill Warbler** *Rhopophilus pekinensis*  
One at Beijing Botanical Gardens on 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Striated Prinia** *Prinia crinigera*  
Three bird-days. Noted on two dates.

**Hill Prinia** *Prinia superciliaris*  
30 bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

**Rufescent Prinia** *Prinia rufescens*  
Seven bird-days. Noted on three dates

**Grey-breasted Prinia** *Prinia hodgsonii*  
45 bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

**Plain Prinia** *Prinia inornata*  
Three bird-days. Noted on two dates.

**Mountain Tailorbird** *Orthomus cucullatus*  
27 bird-days. Noted on 12 dates – widespread but mostly hard to see...

**Common Tailorbird** *Orthomus sutorius*  
57 bird-days. Noted on ten dates.

**Crested Finchbill** *Spizixos canifrons*  
65 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**Striated Bulbul** *Pycnonotus striatus*  
26 bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

**Black-crested Bulbul** *Pycnonotus flaviventris*  
Five bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Red-whiskered Bulbul** *Pycnonotus jocosus*  
54+ bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

**Brown-breasted Bulbul** *Pycnonotus xanthorrhous*  
160+ bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

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

**Flavescent Bulbul** *Pycnonotus flavescens*  
34 bird-days. This subtly attractive forest edge species was noted on eight dates.

**White-throated Bulbul** *Criniger flaveolus*  
67+ bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

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

Six bird-days. Noted on two dates near the Burma border.

\*\*\*Cheng (1987), who considered the species rare, listed the nominate race for W+S Yunnan.

**Mountain Bulbul** *Ixos mccllellandii*

76+ bird-days. Noted on 16 dates.

**Ashy Bulbul** *Hemixos flavala*

17 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Black Bulbul** *Hypsisetes leucocephalus*

465+ bird-days. Noted on 15 dates.

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

**Striated Warbler** *Megalurus palustris*

36 bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

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

Six bird-days. Noted on four dates.

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

Three heard singing on 31<sup>st</sup>.

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

Four bird-days. Noted on three dates near the Burma border.

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

Six bird-days. Noted on two dates near Ruili – one bird was eventually seen well by all of us...

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

Eight bird-days. Noted on five dates – one taped into view on our last morning!

**Aberrant Bush Warbler** *Cettia flavolivacea*

Four bird-days. Noted in the Gaoligongshan on two dates.

**Yellowish-bellied Bush Warbler** *Cettia acanthizoides*

Singletons heard singing on three dates.

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

One heard near Tengchong on 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Spotted Bush Warbler** *Bradypterus thoracicus*

One singing briefly on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Indian Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus (stentoreus) brunnescens*

One [CD] at Lijiang on 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Dusky Warbler** *Phylloscopus fuscatus*

27+ bird-days. Noted on five dates – one on 29<sup>th</sup> was ssp *weigoldicus*, a Yunnan 1<sup>st</sup> for JH...

\*\*\*Martens (2008) unconvincingly aligns *weigoldicus* with Smoky Warbler *P. fuligiventer*

[http://globiz.sachsen.de/snsd/publikationen/vertebrate-zoology/vz58-2/06\\_Martens.pdf](http://globiz.sachsen.de/snsd/publikationen/vertebrate-zoology/vz58-2/06_Martens.pdf)

**'Chinese' Tickell's Warbler** *Phylloscopus occisinensis*

Three bird-days. Noted on two dates.

\*\*\*Martens (2008) elevates part of Tickell's Leaf Warbler to full species status as *P. occisinensis*

[http://globiz.sachsen.de/snsd/publikationen/vertebrate-zoology/vz58-2/06\\_Martens.pdf](http://globiz.sachsen.de/snsd/publikationen/vertebrate-zoology/vz58-2/06_Martens.pdf)

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

Five bird-days. Noted on three dates – one singing individual presented itself for extended viewing on 24<sup>th</sup>.

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

13 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

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

71+ bird-days. Noted on 14 dates – main event 15 on 31<sup>st</sup>.

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

57 bird-days. Noted on seven dates. Main event 17 on 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Chinese Leaf Warbler** *Phylloscopus yunnanensis*

Six bird-days. Noted on five dates – actually seeing one well on 31<sup>st</sup> was a highlight: it was 'calling, singing, 'scoped: in fresh plumage'.

\*\*\*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 Latouche-laubsanger? 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*

16 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**'Eastern' Lemon-rumped Warbler** *Phylloscopus 'forresti'*

102 bird-days. Noted on 16 dates – main event 37 near Tengchong on 27<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*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*

68 bird-days. Noted on 16 dates.

**Hume's Leaf Warbler** *Phylloscopus humei*

112 bird-days. Noted on 14 dates – main event 31 W of Yingjiang on 27<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*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*

Six bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Blyth's Leaf Warbler** *Phylloscopus reguloides*

95+ bird-days. Noted on 12 dates – one at <3m on 24<sup>th</sup> was a trip highlight.

**White-tailed Leaf Warbler** *Phylloscopus davisoni*

114 bird-days. Noted on 16 dates.

**Yellow-vented Leaf Warbler** *Phylloscopus cantator*

Singles heard singing in the Gaoligongshan on two dates.

**Grey-crowned Warbler** *Seicercus tephrocephalus*

13 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Bianchi's Warbler** *Seicercus valentini*

47 bird-days. Noted on 13 bird-days.

**Grey-cheeked Warbler** *Seicercus poliogenys*

11 bird-days. 1-3 birds were noted on six dates.

**Chestnut-crowned Warbler** *Seicercus castaniceps*

34 bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

**Broad-billed Warbler** *Tickellia hodgsoni*

21 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Rufous-faced Warbler** *Abroscopus albogularis*

Seven bird-days. Noted W of Yingjiang on three dates.

**Black-faced Warbler** *Abroscopus schisticeps*

25 bird-days. Noted on five dates in Gaoligongshan.

**Yellow-bellied Warbler** *Abroscopus superciliaris*

Five bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Puff-throated Babbler** *Pellorneum ruficeps*

29 bird-days. Noted on eight dates – the majority were heard-onlies!

**Spot-breasted Scimitar Babbler** *Pomatorhinus erythrocnemis*

52 bird-days. Noted on 11 dates – seeing one 'very well' on 17<sup>th</sup> was one of the morning's highlights.

\*\*\*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*

73 bird-days. Noted on 19 dates.

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

17 bird-days. This charismatic bamboo specialist was noted on four dates.

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

Two were seen very briefly on 30<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*The species, which was not included for China by deScauensee (1984), was listed for Luchun & Yingjiang, Yunnan, by Cheng (1987) who considered it "rare". In the Himalayas the species has been recorded up to 3,800m and is "usually [found] above 1,200m" (Grimmett *et al.* 1998)

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

Four bird-days. Noted on two dates – one seen on 20<sup>th</sup> was not tape-responsive...

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

Two near the Burma border on 28<sup>th</sup>.

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

Singles heard on two dates.

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

Five bird-days. Noted on two dates – a pair taped into view on 31<sup>st</sup>!

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

Ten bird-days. Noted on four dates at Gaoligongshan.

\*\*\*"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 for *S. reptatus* by Rasmussen & Anderton (2005), for reasons unknown.

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

Two territorial birds were seen by most of us on 21<sup>st</sup>.

\*\*\*"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*

88 bird-days. Noted on 12 dates.

**Golden Babbler** *Stachyris chrysaea*

23+ bird-days. Noted on six dates.

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

25 bird-days. Noted on seven dates – we watched a nest-building pair on 27<sup>th</sup>...

**Striped Tit-Babbler** *Macronous gularis*

12 bird-days. Noted W of Yingjiang on three dates.

**Yellow-eyed Babbler** *Chrysomma sinense*

Six bird-days. Pairs were noted on three dates – two showed well as they moved about high in a tree above the Salween, most un-Yellow-eyed-Babbler-like behavior.

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

2+ at Lijiang unfortunately proved somewhat uncooperative.

**Chinese Babax** *Babax lanceolatus*

31+ bird-days. Noted on four dates – main event 18+ near Tengchong on 26<sup>th</sup>.

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

A flock of c25 at Gaoligongshan on 21<sup>st</sup>...

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

50+ bird-days. Noted on five dates. Seeing six out on the road after rain on 28<sup>th</sup> was a highlight.

**Lesser Necklaced Laughingthrush** *Garrulax monileger*

27+ bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Greater Necklaced Laughingthrush** *Garrulax pectoralis*

Singles were noted on two dates.

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

7+ bird-days. Noted on four dates – as with White-crested, 'seeing six out on the road after rain on 28<sup>th</sup> was a highlight'.

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

Two at Beijing Botanical Gardens on 15<sup>th</sup> – a N China endemic!

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

Two at Gaoligongshan on 18<sup>th</sup>.

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

Four sat up nicely near Ruili on 31<sup>st</sup>.

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

104+ bird-days. Noted on 12 dates.

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

6+ bird-days. Noted on two dates.

**Scaly Laughingthrush** *Garrulax subunicolor*

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

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

Just four could be found at Lijiang on 16<sup>th</sup>...

**Black-faced Laughingthrush** *Garrulax affinis*

12 heading N at Gaoligongshan on 18<sup>th</sup>.

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

23 bird-days. Noted on six dates in Gaoligongshan.

\*\*\*Collar & Robson (HBW vol 12, p260), following on from Collar (2006), subjects this well-known 'species' to what amounts to a taxonomic ambush which appears to have left their HBW map-maker baffled... of relevance from a Yunnan / China perspective are three 'species':

\*\*\*Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush *Trochalopteron erythrocephalum*, comprising *erythrocephalum*, *kali* & *nigrimentum*, of which only the latter occurs in 'China' (SE Xizang). It is perhaps symptomatic that Collar (2006) grouped *woodi* with these three! *nigrimentum* 'has crown dark grey with broad black streaks, chestnut only on nape, and is much richer rufous [than extralimital *kali*] throughout underparts and on back and scapulars'.

\*\*\*Assam Laughingthrush *Trochalopteron chrysopterum*, comprising *chrysopterum*, *godwini*, *erythrolaemum*, *woodi* (which occurs in NW & W Yunnan) & *ailaoshanense* (of Ailao Shan, 'C Yunnan' – interestingly, in the treatment of *kinneari* 'Long-tailed Wren Babbler' Ailao Shan is considered to be in SE Yunnan).

The species has a spotted back (unlike *T. melanostigma*), with the spotting extending to lower back (unlike *T. erythrocephalum*), has spotting below arranged in wedge-shapes (smooth-curving scales in *T. melanostigma*), and lacks the rufous patch at base of secondaries (unlike *T. melanostigma*) & (unlike *T. melanostigma*) has no distinct black throat.

*Ailaoshanense* differs from *woodi* in having 'crown brighter and with less black on forehead, spotting above dark brown and more arrow-shaped on yellowish olive-brown base'.

\*\*\*Silver-eared Laughingthrush *Trochalopteron melanostigma*, comprising *melanostigma* (NE Burma birds are thought to have been assigned to this form in error), *ramsayi*, *schistaceum*, *subconnectens* & *connectens* (of C & SE Yunnan, NE & C Laos, and N Tonkin).

Hybrid(s?) between the last and *ailaoshanense* have been reported 'calling into question the recent taxonomic split [*sic* - are there any splits except taxonomic ones?] of *T. erythrocephalum*'.

The species differs from *T. erythrocephalum* & *T. chrysopterum* 'in unspotted back, dark primary coverts, more extensive silvery edges on ear-coverts, dark-streaked grey supercilium spreading to upper neck side, black chin and malar area, and olive tinged underparts' – *connectens* 'has scaly effect below even more pronounced [than in *subconnectens*], [and] has yellowish-olive wing fringing (including primary coverts [despite the statement above that dark primary coverts is a feature which distinguishes this species from *T. erythrocephalum* & *T. chrysopterum*])'.

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

33+ bird-days. Noted on four dates.



**'Red-faced' Liocichla** *Liocichla (phoenicea) ripponi*

21 bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

\*\*\*HBW vol 12 (p265) treats *riponi* (with *wellsi*, of SE Yunnan to NE Guangxi, N Laos & N Tonkin) as Scarlet-faced Liocichla, ranging S to NW-most Thailand. It differs from Crimson-faced Liocichla *L. phoenicea* (with which *bakeri* is placed – this taxon's range is stated to include W & S parts of N Burma and adjacent W Yunnan; birds from Gongshan are presumed to be nominate *phoenicea*) in 'having crimson of faced replaced by much brighter scarlet extending clearly over eye, onto lores and over malar area to chin, [having] black lateral crown stripe vestigial, crown grayer, underparts paler, [and] undertail browner'. As Ruili, W of Yingjiang & S Gaoligongshan birds are *riponi* (*contra* HBW) *L. phoenicea* may be a Chinese bird species only if the Gongshan birds are indeed that taxon...

**Silver-eared Mesia** *Leiothrix argenteauris*

111+ bird-days. Noted on 11 dates.

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

24+ bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Cutia** *Cutia nipalensis*

Six on 22<sup>nd</sup> – two 'scoped: Bingo!

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

Four bird-days. Noted in the Gaoligongshan on two dates – seeing a male well on 22<sup>nd</sup> was well worth the effort of getting to The Spot.

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

61 bird-days. Noted on 14 dates.

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

16 bird-days. Noted on seven dates – with a bit of patience singing males proved relatively easy to see.

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

Ten bird-days. Noted on three dates.

\*\*\*HBW vol 12 (p212) splits *torquatus* (with *luciae* & *saturation*) as Collared Babbler *G. torquatus*, leaving *rufulus* as a monotypic species ranging into W Yunnan. Zheng *et al.* (2005) listed *torquatus* for S & SW Yunnan - '*torquatus* [...] has very different vocalizations and several morphological distinctions. At Namdapha (SE Arunachal), *G. rufulus* did not respond to playback of *torquatus* tapes (CR)'. Apparently (C Robson verbally: Collar (2006)) 'the vocalizations are constant within these two groupings and entirely different from each other'.

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

70 bird-days. Noted on 11 dates.

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

81 bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

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

105 bird-days. Noted on ten dates.

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

36 bird-days. Noted on eight dates – main event 13 on 26<sup>th</sup>.

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

15 bird-days. A bamboo specialist - noted in Gaoligongshan on three dates.

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

14 bird-days. Noted on two dates – ten seen very well on 21<sup>st</sup>!

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

c51 bird-days. Noted at Gaoligongshan on seven dates.

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

Three bird-days. Noted at Gaoligongshan on just two dates.

**Spectacled Fulvetta** *Alcippe ruficapilla*

33 bird-days. Noted only at Lijiang.

**Manipur Fulvetta** *Alcippe manipurensis*

33+ bird-days. Noted at Gaoligongshan on seven 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*

47 bird-days. Noted on 11 dates.

\*\*\*‘Northern’ Grey-cheeked Fulvetta *Alcippe davidi*

Two [EP, BG] at Lijiang – where not previously recorded (?) - on 16<sup>th</sup> would be this species rather than the following.

‘Western’ Grey-cheeked Fulvetta *Alcippe fratercula*

225+ bird-days. Noted on 11 dates.

\*\*\*Zou *et al.* (2007) discovered that 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*

4+ bird-days. Noted W of Yingjiang on two dates.

\*\*\*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 – a pair taped into view on 1<sup>st</sup> was seen again the following day.

**Grey Sibia** *Heterophasia gracilis*

33+ bird-days. Noted on four dates.

\*\*\*Considered very rare by Cheng (1987) but is perhaps not uncommon within its limited range in China.

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

13 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**Beautiful Sibia** *Heterophasia pulchella*

88 bird-days. Noted on six dates – two migr on 24<sup>th</sup>!

\*\*\*A well-named species...

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

27 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Striated Yuhina** *Yuhina castaniceps*

c175 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**Whiskered Yuhina** *Yuhina flavicollis*

74 bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

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

37+ bird-days. Noted at Gaoligongshan on five dates.

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

20 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

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

Noted on five dates – of note were migrants at Gaoligongshan: 161 on 18<sup>th</sup> & 72 on 24<sup>th</sup>.

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

17 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**Brown Parrotbill** *Paradoxornis unicolor*

One taped into view at Gaoligongshan – Tingaling! views for everyone present...

**Spot-breasted Parrotbill** *Paradoxornis guttaticollis*

Six near Ruili on 1<sup>st</sup> was a real bonus.

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

c30 at Beijing Botanical Gardens on 15<sup>th</sup>.

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

21 bird-days. Noted on three dates – most memorably a good session with a flock of 15 at the edge of the forest on 23<sup>rd</sup>.

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

c15 at Gaoligongshan on 21<sup>st</sup>.

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

Seven bird-days. Noted on two dates.

\*\*\*In addition, five **Rufous-headed Parrotbill sp.** *P. atrosupercilliaris* / *P. ruficeps* [RE] near Ruili on 1<sup>st</sup>.

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

c65 bird-days. Noted near Ruili on three dates.

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

135+ bird-days. Noted on eight dates – main event 71 migr on 24<sup>th</sup>.

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

39+ bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

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

28 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**Goldcrest** *Regulus regulus*

Four at Lijiang on 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Northern Wren** *Troglodytes troglodytes*

One at Beijing Botanical Gardens on 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Naga Nuthatch** *Sitta nagaensis*

53 bird-days. Noted on 11 dates – main event 19 near Tengchong on 25<sup>th</sup>.

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

Nine bird-days. Noted in the Gaoligongshan on four dates.

**Yunnan Nuthatch** *Sitta yunnanensis*

12 on 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Chinese Nuthatch** *Sitta villosa*

Four at Beijing Botanical Gardens on 15<sup>th</sup>.

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

Ten bird-days. Noted near Ruili on two dates – surprising that we didn't come across any W of Yingjiang...

**Wallcreeper** *Tichodroma muraria*

One in female-type plumage by the side of the road on 17<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*One of the most spectacular birds in the world, this species is aptly named 'rock flower' in Chinese': Harrap & Quinn (1996) – I'm not sure which Chinese dialect Harrap and/or Quinn is familiar with but both Cheng (1987) and Zheng (2005) refer to *Tichodroma muraria* as 'Hongchi xuanbi que', 'red-winged cliff-hanging bird'.

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

One at Lijiang on 16<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*This new-ish split "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)

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

Nine bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Hume's Treecreeper** *Certhia (discolor^)^ manipurensis*

13 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

\*\*\*^*discolor* & *manipurensis* highly divergent genetically and vocally (see Collar & Pilgrim 2007) – the former becomes a monotypic species whose range includes 'S Xizang' (Zheng *et al.* 2005) while the latter (whose range includes W Yunnan: Zheng *et al.* 2005) groups with extralimital *shanensis* & *meridionalis*.

**Great (= White-vented) Myna** *Acridotheres grandis*

14 bird-days. Noted on just two dates.

**Crested Myna** *Acridotheres cristellatus*

One w/ other mynas on 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Collared Myna** *Acridotheres albocinctus*

Three bird-days. Noted on two dates – finding an active nest of this restricted-range species was nice...

\*\*\*Cheng (1987), giving no indication of its abundance, listed the species for Lijiang and Tengchong.

\*\*\*Rated as globally threatened or near-threatened (Kazmierczak 2000), with a range extending from Manipur to W Yunnan. In SE Asia occurs only in W, N, C & E Burma where it is an uncommon to locally common resident frequenting "open country, grassy areas, cultivation" (Robson 2000), while in Manipur it is a scarce or rare resident of "damp grassy areas often near habitation.

Frequently associates with cattle" (Kazmierczak 2000). Grimmett *et al.* (1998) adds that it is a vagrant to Assam & subject to local movements, stating that its habits are "very similar to those of Jungle Myna [*A. fuscus*]" which in turn are described as "similar to those of Common Myna [*A. tristis*], but not so bold, less of a scavenger, and not so commensal with humans. Keeps in pairs or family parties, or in flocks in winter." In Manipur the species "often feeds and roosts with White-vented Myna [*A. cinereus*]" (Grimmett *et al.* 1998).

There seems to be general agreement that the voice is undescribed...

**Common Myna** *Acridotheres tristis*

One near Yingjiang on 26<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*The species was listed for Yunnan by Zheng (2005).

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

Six near the Burma border on 29<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*Cheng (1987) listed the species as a rare resident at Yingjiang *vide* Kuang *et al.* 1981 *Zhongguo Helei Xin Jilu: Dongwu Fenlei Xuebao Vol 6, 1, p97.*

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

Singles on two dates.

**Asian Pied Starling** *Sturnus contra*

Two W of Yingjiang on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Chestnut-tailed Starling** *Sturnus malabaricus*

160+ bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**Rosy Starling** *Sturnus roseus*

One 'scoped at close range near Ruili on 1<sup>st</sup>.

\*\*\*Zheng (2005) listed the species only for NW Gansu, W & N Xinjiang & W Xizang.

**White-cheeked Starling** *Sturnus cineraceus*

A vagrant 2<sup>nd</sup> c-y bird on a wire en route on 17<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*Cheng (1987) mentions the species for Kunming; Robson (2008) states that it is only a vagrant to adjacent N Burma (as well as to NW + C Thailand & N Laos).

\*\*\*An additional six were at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\***Eurasian Starling** *Sturnus vulgaris*

One at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Blue Whistling Thrush** *Myophonus caeruleus*

15 bird-days. Noted on nine dates – eight were definitely yellow-billed birds.

**Plain-backed Thrush** *Zoothera mollissima*

Six bird-days. Noted in the Gaoligongshan on three dates – superb views!

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

Seven bird-days. Noted in the Gaoligongshan on five dates.

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

Two near Tengchong on 25<sup>th</sup>.

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

58 bird-days. Noted on no less than 11 dates.

**Grey-winged Blackbird** *Turdus boulboul*

One male [WG] near Tengchong on 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Chestnut Thrush** *Turdus rubrocanus*

18 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Eyebrowed Thrush** *Turdus obscurus*

13 bird-days. Noted on three dates.

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

One at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

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

Four ssp *eunomus* birds were at Lijiang on 16<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*In addition, five were seen rather briefly at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Lesser Shortwing** *Brachypteryx leucophrys*

Four bird-days. Noted on three dates – one taped into view on 31<sup>st</sup>...

**Siberian Rubythroat** *Luscinia calliope*

Nine bird-days. This classic Palearctic species was noted on four days.

**Siberian Blue Robin** *Luscinia cyane*

One male [CD, WG] near Tengchong on 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Himalayan Red-flanked Bluetail** *Tarsiger rufilatus*

12 bird-days. Noted on six 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*

An adult male (white brow!) near Tengchong on 25<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*apparently (L Svensson pers com; H Jannes) birds in NE Qinghai & adjacent Gansu – with a white brow in adult males – are *albocoeruleus*, a taxon hitherto considered of doubtful validity, but with a song distinct from both *cyanurus*' & *rufilatus*'. It is genetically closer to *cyanurus*, but has legs as long as *rufilatus*' – at the time of writing it is uncertain if the two can be distinguished in the field except on song.

**Golden Bush Robin** *Tarsiger chrysaea*

One male seen on two dates – on 23<sup>rd</sup> 'out on the track intermittently but it took the whole morning before everyone had caught up'.

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

80 bird-days. Noted on 14 dates.

**Hodgson's Redstart** *Phoenicurus hodgsoni*

Four bird-days. Noted on two dates.

**Daurian Redstart** *Phoenicurus aureus*

Four bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Blue-fronted Redstart** *Phoenicurus frontalis*

24 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Plumbeous Redstart** *Rhyacornis fuliginosa*

25 bird-days. Noted on ten dates.

**River Chat** *Chaimarrornis leucocephalus*

14 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**White-tailed Robin** *Myiomela leucura*

Eight bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Black-backed Forktail** *Enicurus immaculatus*

Five bird-days. Noted W of Yingjiang on two dates.

**Slaty-backed Forktail** *Enicurus schistaceus*

7+ bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**White-crowned Forktail** *Enicurus leschenaulti*

Two [RE, WvdS] near Ruili on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Spotted Forktail** *Enicurus maculatus*

One on 19<sup>th</sup>.

**'Siberian' Common Stonechat** *Saxicola 'torquatus'*

44 bird-days. Noted on seven dates – several seen on 17<sup>th</sup> were male ssp *przewalskii*.

\*\*\*Ssp *maurus*, *przewalskii* & *stejnegeri* occur in China / Tibet. Dickinson (2003): "proposed splits of this complex species seem unsatisfactory if only in how the forms are ascribed to species".

**Pied Bushchat** *Saxicola caprata*

53 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**Grey Bushchat** *Saxicola ferreus*

17 bird-days. Noted on six dates – main event eight [EP] on 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Blue Rock Thrush** *Monticola solitarius*

Singles on three dates – one near Ruili on 31<sup>st</sup> was a blue-bellied male.

**Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush** *Monticola rufiventris*

One male near Tengchong on 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Brown-breasted Flycatcher** *Muscicapa muttui*

One was seen very well near Ruili on 2<sup>nd</sup>.

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

2+ bird-days. Noted on two dates near Ruili.

**Rufous-gorgetted Flycatcher** *Ficedula strophiiata*

Singles were noted on four dates.

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

Five bird-days. Noted on four dates.

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

Eight bird-days. Heard-onlies were noted on four dates.

\*\*\*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*

Six bird-days. Noted on three dates in the Gaoligongshan.

**Little Pied Flycatcher** *Ficedula westermanni*

c60 bird-days. Noted on 13 dates.

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

13 bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

**Asian Verditer Flycatcher** *Eumyias thalassinus*

46 bird-days. Noted on 14 dates.

**Pale Blue Flycatcher** *Cyornis unicolor*

Six bird-days. Noted on two dates – one taped into view and ‘scoped on 2<sup>nd</sup> was a real highlight.

**Hill Blue Flycatcher** *Cyornis banyumas*

72 bird-days. Noted on 11 dates – like most of its congeners a retiring species but (unlike some of its congeners) so common that sooner or later one’ll get superb views: males are real gems and the source of much highly accomplished singing.

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

Two birds – male and female at separate locations W of Yingjiang - on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Large Niltava** *Niltava grandis*

46 bird-days. Noted on 13 dates.

**Pygmy Blue Flycatcher** *Muscicapella hodgsoni*

Five bird-days. Noted at Gaoligongshan on three dates.

\*\*\*Considered very rare in China, and listed only for Tengchong, by Cheng (1987).

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

115 bird-days. Noted on 14 dates.

**Brown Dipper** *Cinclus pallasii*

11 bird-days. Noted on four dates, incl (for the 1<sup>st</sup> time) near Ruili on 1<sup>st</sup>.

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

Three seen well near the Burma border on 29<sup>th</sup>.

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

45+ bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

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

Four bird-days. Noted on two dates in Gaoligongshan.

**Plain Flowerpecker** *Dicaeum concolor*

A pair near the Burma border on 29<sup>th</sup>.

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

70+ bird-days. Noted on 16 dates.

**Purple Sunbird** *Cinnyris asiaticus*

12 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

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

165+ bird-days. Noted on 12 dates – main event 90 migr on 24<sup>th</sup>... though for most of us five males 'scoped in a pink-flowering tree on 20<sup>th</sup> was more pleasing!

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

74 bird-days. Noted daily in the Gaoligongshan.

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

15 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Crimson Sunbird** *Aethopyga siparaja*

Seven bird-days. Noted on three dates – seeing three well along the Salween was a bonus...

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

1,950+ bird-days. Noted on eight dates – main events 645+ migr (probably >1,500!) on 18<sup>th</sup> & 1,206+ migr on 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Little Spiderhunter** *Arachnothera longirostra*

Three bird-days. Noted W of Yingjiang on two dates.

**Streaked Spiderhunter** *Arachnothera magna*

54 bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

**Russet Sparrow** *Passer rutilans*

c57 bird-days. Noted on five dates – main event c30 at Lijiang on 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Eurasian Tree Sparrow** *Passer montanus*

Not systematically recorded.

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

c111 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

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

60 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Maroon-backed Accentor** *Prunella immaculata*

One [CC] on 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Eastern Yellow Wagtail** *Motacilla tschutschensis*

515+ bird-days – one at Lijiang on 16<sup>th</sup> & 515 near Yingjiang on 26<sup>th</sup>...

\*\*\*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*

Four bird-days. Noted on two dates – two were males of the grey-backed nominate form.

**Grey Wagtail** *Motacilla cinerea*

Nine bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**White Wagtail** *Motacilla alba*

145+ bird-days. Noted on 16 dates.

\*\*\*In addition, three were at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*Ssp recorded were *leucopsis*, *ocularis*, *baicalensis* & *alboides*.

\*\*\*Alstrom & Mild (2003) concludes that various factors "suggest that the White Wagtail is best treated as a single species under the BSC".

**Paddyfield Pipit** *Anthus rufulus*

Four bird-days. Noted on two dates.

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

\*\*\*Call variably transcribable as "pht", "priht", and "pirt" - clearly different from anything heard from Richard's or Blyth's. Song a fast-ish series of 5-6 "toeh" or "tove" notes.

\*\*\*Cheng (1987) listed this taxon as resident only at Gongshan, Tengchong, Dali & S+SE Yunnan.

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

67 bird-days. Noted on 16 dates.

**Rosy Pipit** *Anthus roseus*

13 bird-days. Noted on three dates.

\*\*\***Buff-bellied Pipit** *Anthus rubescens*

Four at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\***Water Pipit** *Anthus spinoletta*

One at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Brambling** *Fringilla montifringilla*

95+ bird-days. Noted on three dates; c75 at Beijing Botanical Gardens on 15<sup>th</sup> was the main event.

**Tibetan Siskin** *Serinus thibetanus*

21-23 bird-days. Noted on just two dates – 6-8 cooperative birds ('scoped & heard twittering) was a highlight of a morning near Tengchong on 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Oriental Greenfinch** *Carduelis sinica*

Three at Beijing Botanical Gardens on 15<sup>th</sup>.

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

28 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

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

24 bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Common Rosefinch** *Carpodacus erythrinus*

Ten bird-days. Noted on four dates – on 23<sup>rd</sup> five dropped in close to where we were standing, and allowed us time to 'scope the single adult male among them!

**Chinese Beautiful Rosefinch** *Carpodacus davidianus*

Four bird-days. Noted on two dates at Lijiang.

**Vinaceous Rosefinch** *Carpodacus vinaceus*

Eight bird-days. Noted at Gaoligongshan on two dates.

\*\*\*An additional 27 **Finch sp.** (four migr groups) in the Gaoligongshan on 24<sup>th</sup> may also have been this species.

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

Single males were seen on two dates – by CD!

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

Two birds in the Gaoligongshan on 18<sup>th</sup> – only RE saw the adult male!

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

**Scarlet Finch** *Haematospiza sipahi*

Five bird-days. Noted on three dates.

\*\*\*Cheng (1987) considered the species “rare”. Robson (2000) considered the species “resident (subject to altitudinal movements)”, and it has been recorded as low as 520m in Nepal (Grimmett *et al* 1998).

**Brown Bullfinch** *Pyrrhula nipalensis*

13 bird-days. Noted at Gaoligongshan on four dates.

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

Two [WG *et al.*] in the Gaoligongshan on 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Crested Bunting** *Melophus lathamii*

Ten above the Salween on 23<sup>rd</sup> – cracking ‘scope views!

**Eastern Rock Bunting** *Emberiza godlewskii*

19 bird-days. Noted on three dates, incl at Beijing Botanical Gardens on 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Meadow Bunting** *Emberiza cioides*

One male at Beijing Botanical Gardens on 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Little Bunting** *Emberiza pusilla*

130+ bird-days. Noted on nine dates – main event 49+ near Tengchong on 26<sup>th</sup>.

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

15 bird-days. Noted on seven dates – main event seven rather confiding birds at Beijing Botanical Gardens on 15<sup>th</sup>.

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

One en route near Lijiang on 17<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\***Pallas’s Reed Bunting** *Emberiza pallasii*

c10 at Wild Duck Lake on 4<sup>th</sup>.

