

Birding
in
Xinjiang
China

3-23 May 2007

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Participants

Gao Jun
Paul Holt
Wang Qingyu

Summary

From late July-late August 2005 I made a 27-day birding visit to Xinjiang, China's north-western-most province. I was travelling with the Chinese ground agent, Wang Qingyu, who organizes the Sunbird/Wings bird watching tours that I lead to various destinations in China. Although I'd already travelled quite widely in China this was my first visit to Xinjiang and I was keen to see some of the region's specialties. I was particularly keen to see the following three species, Xinjiang Ground-jay, Azure Tit and Saxaul Sparrow all of which were new to me. All three were easily seen. Other highlights included – White-winged Woodpecker, Pallid Scops Owl, Tibetan Sandgrouse, Pallas's Fish and White-tailed Eagles and Lesser Kestrel. I encountered five species regarded as globally threatened by BirdLife International and these are detailed in my first Xinjiang trip report as are some notes on three taxa of birds that are very rare in China – a *thunbergi* Yellow Wagtail near Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 31st July 2005, a Hume's Whitethroat *Sylvia althaea* near Jia Si Xiang, west of Kashi on the 3rd August 2005 and an *erythronotus* Long-tailed Shrike at Taheman Xiang north of Tashikurgan on both the 6th and 8th August 2005.

I made my second visit to Xinjiang in late autumn 2006 and had an even better time, seeing some superb birds. I again travelled with Wang Qingyu and this time we were very fortunate to team up with some local birders. Chief among these was Gou Jun from Urumqi. We spent a lot of time birding together with him and, through him met several more Xinjiang birders including Wang Chuanbo, Xu Jie and Professor Ma Ming. Everyone we met was very friendly, extraordinarily helpful and generous. The trip would have been no where near as enjoyable, nor as successful without them.

Highlights of my second trip to Xinjiang when I recorded about 182 species included – a phenomenal array of waterfowl with White-headed Duck (up to 11 birds at three different sites on a total of six different dates) being 'pick of the bunch', White-winged Woodpecker, the most northerly record in Xinjiang (and hence China) of Laughing Dove, a single Great Bustard, good numbers of White-tailed Eagles (25 bird-days), Greater Spotted Eagle (singles on two dates), Steppe Eagle (impressive numbers of migrants at one site), Saker Falcon (birds at two sites including five actively migrating at the second), Red-necked Grebe (the first Xinjiang record of a live bird), Black-throated Loon, Rufous-backed Redstart (44 bird-days), Black-throated Accentor (152 bird-days), Eurasian Greenfinch (a massive 370 bird-days with up to 92 birds being noted on 18 dates including what was apparently the easternmost record ever in China and both Long-tailed & Red-mantled Rosefinches. I also recorded seven new birds for Xinjiang – Lesser White-fronted Goose, two different Greater Scaup, Long-tailed Duck, Common Ringed Plover, Mew Gull, White-cheeked Starling, Red-throated Pipit. Buff-bellied Pipit had not previously been reported from Xinjiang but I was shown a misidentified photograph of one taken earlier in the autumn (hence the first record for Xinjiang) and the species proved to be not uncommon (37 bird-days). I also noted one, possibly two, other new taxa for Xinjiang – Taiga Bean Goose and a possible male *pallidus* Merlin.

I made my third visit to Xinjiang in May 2007. I again travelled with Wang Qingyu and we were very fortunate to again team up with Gou Jun. We spent a lot of time birding together with him & again met several more Xinjiang birders including Zhao Bo, Wang Chuanbo & Xu Jie. Everyone we met was again very friendly, extraordinarily helpful and generous & once again our trip would have been no where near as enjoyable, nor as successful without their help.

Highlights of my third trip to Xinjiang, when we covered almost 3000 kilometres & recorded about 219 species, included – White-headed Duck, Ferruginous Pochard, White-winged Scoter, Eurasian Scops Owl, Corn & Spotted Crakes, Pallas's & Black-bellied Sandgrouse, Xinjiang's first Long-toed Stint & surprising numbers of Little Stints, Collared Pratincole, Relict, Siberian & presumed breeding Little Gulls, both Pallid & Montagu's Harriers, Lesser Kestrel, Dalmatian Pelican, White's Thrush, Sykes's & Booted Warblers, several *sylvia* warblers including Asian Desert Warbler, Saxaul Sparrow & Mongolian Finch

Xinjiang, covering 1,660,000 kms² (about one-sixth of China's total area!) and stretching for a massive 1500 kilometres from north to south and 1870 kilometres from east to west, is China's largest province. Its altitudinal range is equally huge, ranging China's lowest elevation (minus 154 metres) in the Turpan Depression, to the mighty peaks of the Altai, Tian Shan, Pamir and Kunlun Mountains several of which rise to well over 7000 metres.

I have absolutely no hesitation in recommending Wang Qingyu as a guide, ground agent and all-round fixer. She can be contacted at –

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Tongzhou,
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China 101100

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<http://www.chinabirdtours.com/>

Very few birders have visited Xinjiang, and even fewer have written reports on their visits and I had rather little information to follow in advance of my trip. I used the following sources –

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Acknowledgements

First and foremost I must thank Gou Jun for his incredible generosity – my second two trips to Xinjiang would have been significantly poorer without his help and advice. The same could also be said of Wang Chuanbo, Xu Jie, Professor Ma Ming & Zhao Bo – they were all very generous no least with their time and information. Geoff Carey and Mike Kilburn provided me with their reports in advance of my first Xinjiang trip. Jesper Hornskov answered my queries and provided succinct, well informed information on the status, in neighbouring Qinghai, of a number of species that I was seeing. Qingyu was, as always, a star.

Costs

Exchange rates

In May 2007 £1 = 15.35 yuan
 \$1US = 7.6 yuan

2007

Our Air China flights from Beijing to Urumqi on the 3 May cost 1210 yuan one-way. The return leg on the 23 May were exactly 100 yuan cheaper.

Chinese settlement designations

In order of ascending scale settlements in China are classified in the following order –
Chun Xiang Zhen Xian Shi (city)

Climate

Average Temperatures and the Rainfall in Urumqi.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Average High (°C)	-9	-6	3	16	23	28	31	29	23	14	2	-6
Average Low (°C)	-19	-16	-6	5	11	16	18	19	11	3	-7	-16
Rainfall (mm)	8	12	23	32	33	33	27	23	23	23	18	12

Brief Itinerary

2007

May

- Thursday 3:** Flew Beijing to Urumqi. Met Gou Jun & birded Qingedahu.
Friday 4: All day around Urumqi: Wulabo wetland, Wulabo reservoir, Dong Wan cun/Banfangou
Saturday 5: Urumqi to the Guerbantongute Desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang. Bayi Res., Binghu Res. & near Wucaiwan cun
Sunday 6: Wucaiwan to Kamuste & on to Fuyun
Monday 7: All day N. of Fuyun - Yeyahu, Haizikou & Keketuohai.
Tuesday 8: Fuyun-Fuhai-Beitin: Yeyahu, Ertix Valley & 188 Corps Marsh nr Fuhai.
Wednesday 9: All day nr Fuhai: am Jilihu, pm Ulunguhu
Thursday 10: Fuhai, Ulunguhu & Beitun
Friday 11: Beitun to Altai: Rte S319 west of Beitun; Beitun Yuchang - Ulunguhu; Heicitan; Daweitan Reservoir; 181 Corps Marsh; Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender)
Saturday 12: All day Altai: Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender).
Sunday 13: Altai-Buerjin-Kanasi: Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Alahake marsh, Tuohongtai Reservoir & Jiadengyu Forest Park
Monday 14: All day Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin
Tuesday 15: Kanas back to Buerjin: Jiadengyu forest, Woyimoke xiang area & Tuohongtai Reservoir
Wednesday 16: Buerjin to Habahe & further west

- Thursday 17:** Habahe to Buerjin to western border of Junggar Pendi to Wuerhe & Ailikehu (Kelamayi)
- Friday 18:** All day Kelamayi: Am Ailikehu, pm drove south to Baijiantan
- Saturday 19:** Baijiantan south to Kelamayi, Kuitun & Wusu: Baijiantan desert, Kelamayi Pools, Tachakou Pool, Xinjiang Oil Co. Pumping Station No. 4, Kuitun Res. & Chepaizi Res.
- Sunday 20:** Kuitun to Shawan & Shihezi: Qian Quyan Wu, Mo Gu Hu Muchang & Mo Gu Hu
- Monday 21:** Shihezi Tielu Dujiacun; Manasi Valley Nature Reserve & Jiujiawan Reservoir, Urumqi
- Tuesday 22:** Day off in Urumqi.
- Wednesday 23:** Qingedahu, Changji am. Pm flew back to Beijing

DAILY DIARY

Thursday 3 May 2007. Flew from Beijing to Urumqi, Xinjiang. Afternoon Qingedahu.

The Air China flight that Qingyu & I had booked left Beijing on time at 11:50hrs and arrived in Urumqi, after a flight of 2630 kilometres, about 3.5 hours later at 15:40hrs. As on our previous visit to Xinjiang we were met by one of the province's most active birders, Gou Jun, & the three of us headed off to Qingedahu. We birded two sites on the edge of the lake from 15:00-20:10hrs.

Our discounted Air China flight (it was Golden Week in China, all flights are heavily subscribed & need to be booked well in advance and few flights are discounted by much) from Beijing to Urumqi cost 1210 yuan one-way. The return leg on the 23 May cost exactly 100 yuan less.

Qingyu had already booked two nights at the 5-star Yindu Hotel, 39 Xibei Road, Urumqi, Xinjiang, 830000. Tel. 00 86 991 4536688. Fax. 00 86 991 4517166. Email: yindu@yiduhotel.com Website: www.yiduhotel.com Our room here cost 540 yuan/night inc. two complementary breakfasts.

Sun rise in central Urumqi on 3/5/2007	06:59
Sun set	21:14

It took only about 30 minutes to drive from the airport to the first of the two sites that we birded at Qingedahu.

Weather

It was 27°C at 16:00hrs at Qingedahu, Changji. It was also quite windy – perhaps Beaufort force 3-4.

Site 1. Shang Yuchang (literally 'Upper fishing station'), Qingedahu, Changji. (44°05.61'N., 87°31.72'E.). 17:00-19:00hrs.

We walked about 800 metres from the vehicle towards the lake edge. Unlike when we were last at Qingedahu in autumn 2006 we were unable to access the lake itself – there was quite a lot more water in it now (but still much less than normal for this time of year according to Gou Jun) & much of the lake edge was reed fringed and very muddy. This site is accessed by turning right off route S102 about 150 metres before (the airport side of) kilometre post 23. This small junction is on a bend and there are crash barriers at least on the right side of the main highway. Birds here included -

Collared Pratincole	3
Black Tern	2

After two hours here we returned to the main highway (Rte S102), turned right (i.e. away from Urumqi & the airport). We came off the highway again after less than one kilometre & again turned right and drove to a series of fish ponds.

Site 2. Sha Liangzi, Qingedahu, Changji. (44°06.00'N., 87°30.26'E.). 19:30-20:10hrs.

This site is basically an area of fish ponds, a couple of which were drained, flanking the side of Qingedahu. Several of these fishponds had small stands of reed in them & one, the one at the very end of the track we chose, had a 50-100 metre width reed bed that held quite a few birds. Birds here included -

Paddyfield Warbler	5 singing birds
Savi's Warbler	2 singing birds were both well seen
Whiskered Tern	1 adult-summer

Common Quail	1 was heard & subsequently seen in flight at Shang Yuchang, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
Ruddy Shelduck	2 at Shang Yuchang, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
Gadwall	35 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
Mallard	30 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
Northern Shoveler	30 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
Garganey	15 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
Red-crested Pochard	20 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
Common Pochard	5 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
Ferruginous Pochard	25 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
Eurasian Hoopoe	6 between Urumqi airport, Qingedahu & Urumqi city on the 3/5/2007. (470-520 metres)
Common Kingfisher	1 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
Common Cuckoo	20 between Urumqi airport, Qingedahu & Urumqi city on the 3/5/2007. Gao Jun had heard his first singing bird of the spring only four days earlier – one the 29 April! (470-520 metres)
Common Swift	At least 5000 over Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
Rock Pigeon	2 on the edge of Urumqi city on the 3/5/2007. (520 metres)
Eurasian Collared Dove	10 between Urumqi airport, Qingedahu & Urumqi city on the 3/5/2007. (470-520 metres)
Common Moorhen	10 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
Eurasian Coot	1 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)

Whimbrel	1 flew over Shang Yuchang, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. A scarce bi-annual passage migrant through Xinjiang this was a new bird for Gou Jun.. (470 metres)
Common Redshank	30 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. Apparently breeds here. (470 metres)
Common Greenshank	1 at Sha Liangzhi, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
Wood Sandpiper	1 was heard at Shang Yuchang, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. A scarce bi-annual passage migrant through Xinjiang. (470 metres)
Common Sandpiper	6 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
Temminck's Stint	1 at Sha Liangzhi, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
Black-winged Stilt	20 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. Apparently breeds here. (470 metres)
Little Ringed Plover	2 at Sha Liangzhi, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. Apparently breeds here. (470 metres)
Northern Lapwing	40 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. Apparently breeds here. (470 metres)
Collared Pratincole	3 singles were seen in flight at Shang Yuchang, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. A rare breeding species here. (470 metres)
Yellow-legged Gull	5 immatures at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
Pallas's Gull	2 birds, both third years, flew over the fishponds at Sha Liangzhi, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
Black-headed Gull	100, mostly first-summer, at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. At least one adult was seen carrying nesting material implying that this species breeds here. (470 metres)
Common Tern	60 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. Apparently breeds here. (470 metres)
'Western' Little Tern	10 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. Apparently breeds here. (470 metres)
Whiskered Tern	1 adult summer at Sha Liangzhi, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
White-winged Black Tern	20 at Shang Yuchang, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
Black Tern	2 adult-summer at Shang Yuchang, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
Black Kite	1 at Sha Liangzhi, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. The species is a common migrant through the Urumqi area during the first half of April when up to 400 birds can be encountered around Qingedahu. (470 metres)
Long-legged Buzzard	1 at Sha Liangzhi, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
Common Kestrel	2 singles at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
Great Crested Grebe	1 at Sha Liangzhi, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
Great Cormorant	4 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
Grey Heron	8 flew high over Sha Liangzhi, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
Great Egret	5 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
Black-crowned Night Heron	4, at least two adults, one first-summer & one apparent second summer, flying in and out of the reed bed at Shang Yuchang, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. Thought to be an uncommon summer visitor to the Urumqi area – breeding has not been proved. (470 metres)
Little Bittern	5 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
Black Stork	1 at Sha Liangzhi, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
Rufous-tailed Shrike	20 between Urumqi airport, Qingedahu & Urumqi city on the 3/5/2007. (470-520 metres)
Bluethroat	4 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. Spring migration of this species through the Urumqi area possibly peaks in the last week of April. (470 metres)
Common Starling	40 between Urumqi airport, Qingedahu & Urumqi city on the 3/5/2007. Local breeders. (470-520 metres)
Sand or Pale Martin	10 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
Barn Swallow	100 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
Northern House Martin	1 at Shang Yuchang, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
Savi's Warbler	2 singing territorial birds were eventually seen well at Sha Liangzhi, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
Paddyfield Warbler	5 singing, territorial birds at Sha Liangzhi, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
Great Reed Warbler	15 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
Bearded Parrotbill	2, a pair, at Sha Liangzhi, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
House Sparrow	20 between Urumqi airport, Qingedahu & Urumqi city on the 3/5/2007. (470-520 metres)
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	5 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
White Wagtail	5 between Urumqi airport, Qingedahu & Urumqi city on the 3/5/2007. (470-520 metres)
Citrine Wagtail	10 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
Western Yellow Wagtail	15 at Qingedahu (especially Shang Yuchang), Changji on the 3/5/2007. Several subspecies were noted – <i>M. f. thumbergi</i> was by far the commonest with at least six birds showing characters of that form, there was one apparent <i>beema</i> & one <i>feldegg</i> . The latter was photographed. (470 metres)

Friday 4 May 2007. All day around Urumqi.

Weather

It was 10°C at Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi at 08:10hrs rising to 27°C there at 11:40hrs. It remained sunny all day.

We had breakfast at the Yindu Hotel as soon as it started at 07:00hrs & we left there at 07:45hrs heading, with Gao Jun, to a series of sites to the south of Urumqi city. Sites visited today included -

Site 1. Wulabo Wetland (Wulabo Shidi). 08:10-09:15hrs. (43°39.6'N., 87°34.9'E.) (1025 metres)

This site is only about two or three kilometres from the Wulabo Reservoir & is easily reached from Urumqi. Drive towards Wulabo Reservoir but turn left in the village you reach about three kms before the reservoir (turning right and up a slight incline at this same village centre junction would take you to the reservoir itself). After about another 500 metres there's an open area off to the right of the road, turn right on to a dirt track at the end of this open area & before the road enters the desert. This dirt track parallels a drainage channel that issues from Wulabo Reservoir about three kilometres in front. We drove up

here, past a small village on the left, for about one kilometre before parking up. We then explored the small area of woodland & open fields here. This area is also a breeding site for Red-headed Bunting, the first of which typically return towards the end of the first week of May. Highlights today included -

Chukar	1 was heard
Gadwall	4 (two pairs)
Mallard	14
Common Sandpiper	2
Oriental Turtle Dove	5
Azure Tit	1 was heard
Great Tit	1 was heard
Citrine Wagtail	10
Barred Warbler	4 were heard
Common Nightingale	3 were heard
Bluethroat	1 was heard
Richard's Pipit	2 were heard
White-crowned Penduline Tit	2 were heard
Great Egret	12
Hume's Warbler	7 were heard
Siberian Chiffchaff	4 were heard

Leaving the excellent Wulabo Wetland we continued driving up the dirt track towards the reservoir. After about another 1.5 kms the track swung back right, towards the 'main' highway. We turned left here & ended up besides Wulabo Reservoir itself after about another one kilometre or so.

Site 2. Wulabo Shuiku (Wulabo Reservoir) area. 09:30-10:05hrs. (43°39.4'N., 87°34.9'E.) (1060 metres)

We birded two sites over looking the reservoir. At the first site we stayed close to the road & scanned the lake from there. The reservoir supplies Urumqi with a large proportion of its drinking water & there's now a guard post/watchtower here. The sole purpose of the guards seems to be to keep people away from the edge of the reservoir. There were few birds at this site so we drove on another five minutes or so, through the small settlement of Wulabo (?). We turned left at the southern end of the village, down Gucheng Donglu. We travelled down here about 1.5kms to where this road came to within about 50 metres of the reservoirs south-western shore. We spent about 15 minutes scanning from here (there was apparently a Solitary Snipe at this site in December 2006). Birds here included -

Ruddy Shelduck	1
Great Cormorant	2
Mallard	20
Northern Shoveler	1
Red-crested Pochard	5
Gadwall	12
Great Crested Grebe	3
Northern Pintail	5
Garganey	4
Little Ringed Plover	12
Common Sandpiper	10
Common Greenshank	1
Green Sandpiper	1
Tufted Duck	5 (four males)

Leaving Wulabo Reservoir we headed towards the Nanshan (South Mountains) – an impressive, forested range of mountains clearly visible from near Wulabo. On route the road crossed over the Ganhezi Da Qiao (Gan Hezi Big Bridge) where Mr Gou Jun & other local Urumqi birders had seen a Mongolian Ground Jay in February 2006.

Site 3. Desert area at Km post 10 besides route X023 between Wulabo and the Nanshan mountains, Urumqi. (43°37.12'N., 87°31.25'E.) (1248 metres)

An area of desert to the right of this minor highway & only about a 10 minute drive from Wulabo reservoir. We stopped to look at some migrating Black Kites & saw a couple of distant sandgrouse dropping in to the desert. This prompted us to stay a bit longer. Birds seen here included –

Tawny Pipit	3
Raven	2
Horned Lark	4
Lesser Kestrel	1 adult male flew east over head
Isabelline Wheatear	4
Linnet	3
Pallas's Sandgrouse	3
Black-bellied Sandgrouse	1
Black Kite	7 flew northwest
Himalayan Griffon	2 flew northwest

Lunch at Dong Wan cun near Banfangou xiang. From here we headed towards Xibaiyang Gou the road soon dropping down & the following the right bank up the Urumqi River.

Linnet	20 in Banfangou xiang, Urumqi
Goldfinch	1 in Banfangou xiang, Urumqi
Booted Eagle	1 dark morph near Banfangou xiang, Urumqi

Site 4. Gangou xiang on route S110 near Nanshan mountains, Urumqi

Carrion Crow	2
Coal Tit	6
Black Kite	3
Eurasian Jackdaw	40
Mistle Thrush	2 singles

Chukar	1 was heard at Wulabo Wetland, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1035 metres)
Ruddy Shelduck	1 on Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 metres)
Gadwall	16 – four at Wulabo Wetland & 12 on Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1025 & 1060 metres)
Mallard	34 – 14 at Wulabo Wetland & 20 on Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1025 & 1060 metres)
Northern Shoveler	1 on Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 metres)
Northern Pintail	5 on Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 metres)
Garganey	4 on Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 metres)
Red-crested Pochard	5 on Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 metres)
Tufted Duck	5 on Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 metres)
Eurasian Hoopoe	3 near Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060-1540 metres)
Common Kingfisher	1 was heard at Wulabo Wetland, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1025 metres)
Common Cuckoo	5 near Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060-1670 metres)
Common Swift	300 near Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (850-1670 metres)
Rock Pigeon	50 in & around Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (850-1670 metres)
Stock Pigeon	2, a pair, besides route S110 near Gangou xiang, south of Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1715 metres)
Oriental Turtle Dove	5 at Wulabo Wetland, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1025 metres)
Eurasian Collared Dove	2 at Wulabo Wetland, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1025 metres)
Common Moorhen	4 at Wulabo Wetland, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1025 metres)
Pallas's Sandgrouse	3 in the desert at Km post 10 besides route X023 between Wulabo and the Nanshan mountains, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1250 metres)
Black-bellied Sandgrouse	1 in the desert at Km post 10 besides route X023 between Wulabo and the Nanshan mountains, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1250 metres)
Common Snipe	4 near Urumqi on the 4/5/2007 – three at the Wulabo Wetland & one in the desert between there and the Nanshan mountains. (1025 & 1250 metres)
Common Redshank	6 at Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 metres)
Common Greenshank	1 at Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 metres)
Green Sandpiper	3 at Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 metres)
Common Sandpiper	12 at Wulabo, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1025 & 1060 metres)
Little Ringed Plover	14 besides Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 metres)
Northern Lapwing	4 besides Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 metres)
Common Tern	1 besides Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 metres)
Black Kite	14 between Wulabo & the Nanshan Mountains, south of Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1220-1850 metres)
Himalayan Griffon	2 in the desert at Km post 10 besides route X023 between Wulabo and the Nanshan mountains, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1250 metres)
Common Buzzard	1 besides route S110 near Gangou xiang, south of Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1715 metres)
Long-legged Buzzard	1 near Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 metres)
Booted Eagle	1 dark morph near Banfangou xiang, Nanshan, south Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. It attempted, but failed, to take a feral chicken! This species, scarce in the Tianshan Mountains, is according to Gou Jun, more regularly seen in the Altay Mountains of northern Xinjiang. (1610 metres)
Lesser Kestrel	1 adult male, loosely associating with another unspecified kestrel sp., flew east over the desert at Km post 10 besides route X023 between Wulabo and the Nanshan mountains, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1250 metres)
Great Crested Grebe	3 on Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 metres)
Black-necked Grebe	2, a pair, on Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 metres)
Great Cormorant	2 on Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 metres)
Great Egret	12 at Wulabo Wetland, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1025 metres)
Rufous-tailed Shrike	54 between Urumqi, Wulabo & the Nanshan mountains on the 4/5/2007. (890-1640 metres)
Black-billed Magpie	1 besides route S110 near Gangou xiang, south of Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1750 metres)
Eurasian Jackdaw	40 besides route S110 near Gangou xiang, south of Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1850 metres)
Carrion Crow	2 besides route S110 near Gangou xiang, south of Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1850 metres)
Common Raven	3 near Wulabo, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 & 1250 metres)
Mistle Thrush	2 singles besides route S110 near Gangou xiang, south of Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1530 & 1550 metres)
Common Nightingale	3 were heard at Wulabo Wetland, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1025 metres)
Bluethroat	1 was heard at Wulabo Wetland, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1025 metres)
Isabelline Wheatear	6 in the desert at Km post 10 besides route X023 between Wulabo and the Nanshan mountains, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1250 metres)
Common Starling	2 near Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 metres)
White-crowned Penduline Tit	2 were heard at Wulabo Wetland, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1025 metres)
Coal Tit	5 were heard near Gangou xiang, in the Nanshan mountains south of Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1950 metres)
Great Tit	1 was heard at Wulabo Wetland, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1025 metres)

Azure Tit	3 south of Urumqi on the 4/5/2007 – one at the Wulabo Wetland & the other two near Gangou xiang, in the Nanshan mountains. (1025 & 1715 metres)
Barn Swallow	50 in & around Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (850- <i>ca.</i> 1500 metres)
Northern House Martin	2 over the desert at Km post 10 besides route X023 between Wulabo and the Nanshan mountains, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1250 metres)
Siberian Chiffchaff	4 were heard at Wulabo Wetland, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1035 metres)
Hume's Warbler	8 were heard south of Urumqi on the 4/5/2007 – seven at Wulabo Wetland & the other close to Gangou xiang, in the Nanshan mountains. (1035 & 1970 metres)
Barred Warbler	4 were heard at Wulabo Wetland, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1035 metres)
Horned Lark	4 in the desert at Km post 10 besides route X023 between Wulabo and the Nanshan mountains, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1250 metres)
House Sparrow	10 near Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (890-1100 metres)
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	2 near Urumqi on the 4/5/2007.
Rock Sparrow	3 singles in the desert at Km post 10 besides route X023 between Wulabo and the Nanshan mountains, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1230-1270 metres)
White Wagtail	10 near Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1020-1420 metres)
Citrine Wagtail	15 at Wulabo Wetland, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1035 metres)
Grey Wagtail	2 singles near Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1035 & 1250 metres)
Richard's Pipit	2 at Wulabo Wetland, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1035 metres)
Tawny Pipit	3 in the desert at Km post 10 besides route X023 between Wulabo and the Nanshan mountains, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1250 metres)
Tree Pipit	2 singing birds near Banfangou in the Nanshan mountains south of Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1590 & 1660 metres)
Eurasian Siskin	5 in the Nanshan mountains south of Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1660 & 1860 metres)
European Goldfinch	1 with the flock of Eurasian Linnet near Banfangou in the Nanshan mountains south of Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1640 metres)
Eurasian Linnet	25 south of Urumqi on the 4/5/2007 – three in the desert at Km post 10 besides route X023 between Wulabo and the Nanshan mountains & about 20 near Banfangou in the Nanshan mountains south of Urumqi. (1250 & 1640 metres)
Common Rosefinch	2 were heard at Wulabo Wetland, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1035 metres)

Saturday 5 May 2007. Urumqi to Wucaiwan cun, Fukang in the Guerbantongute Desert/Junggar Basin.

We checked out & left the Yindu Hotel at 07:45hrs & headed north out of Urumqi soon entering the Tuwuda (the Tulufan to Dahuangshan) Expressway. This major highway, also known as route G216, soon took us in to the desert north of the city. We exited the Expressway at Km post 624 turning west towards Ganquanpu. We paid our 10 yuan at the exit toll station and turned first left at the T-junction about 150 metres after this. We arrived at the day's first site at 08:45hrs.

Weather

There were some light spots of intermittent rain from *ca.* 11:30hrs & a heavy wind and rain storm that lasted for about 30 minutes from 17:10hrs. It was 24°C at Bayi reservoir, Wujiaqu at 08:30hrs & 19°C at Kalamaili at 17:30hrs.

Site 1. Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu. 08:45-13:00hrs. (44°13.07'N., 87°40.93'E.) (450 metres)

Also known as 102 Corps Reservoir, we initially birded the south-eastern corner of the reservoir before driving north, past some shallow pools on the outside of the reservoir's embankment that held decent numbers of (breeding?) Pied Avocets etc. This raised embankment then took us around the entire northern edge of the reservoir before circuiting down the eastern side. We spent a lot of time on the eastern side – I spent time sound recording the reed warblers, Gou Jun photographing the Blyth's Reeds.

White-headed Duck	1 female on Bayi reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
Common Shelduck	1
Ruddy Shelduck	1
Gadwall	140
Eurasian Wigeon	5
Mallard	210
Northern Shoveler	40
Northern Pintail	400
Garganey	25
Common Teal	4
Red-crested Pochard	85
Common Pochard	14
Ferruginous Pochard	7
Tufted Duck	44
Eurasian Hoopoe	5
Common Kingfisher	1 was heard
Common Cuckoo	9 between Urumqi & Bayi reservoir
Common Swift	300
Common Snipe	1

Black-tailed Godwit	7 flew north
Whimbrel	1
Common Redshank	65
Common Greenshank	1
Green Sandpiper	1
Wood Sandpiper	3 singles
Common Sandpiper	2
Temminck's Stint	22
Ruff	1 male
Black-winged Stilt	120
Pied Avocet	16
Little Ringed Plover	40
Kentish Plover	52
Greater Sand Plover	29 (in flocks of two, five & 22 birds)
Northern Lapwing	80
Collared Pratincole	1
Yellow-legged Gull	50
Pallas's Gull	1 first-summer
Black-headed Gull	8
Common Tern	15
'Western' Little Tern	16
White-winged Black Tern	14
Great Crested Grebe	8
Black-necked Grebe	14
Great Cormorant	13
Grey Heron	9
Great Egret	14
Little Bittern	1
Rufous-tailed Shrike	17 around the reservoir itself
Common Starling	30
White-crowned Penduline Tit	1 was heard flying north over
Sand Martin or Pale Martin	5
Barn Swallow	50
Northern House Martin	1
Blyth's Reed Warbler	3 singing & apparently territorial birds in the small reed beds in the fishponds & channels between Bayi & neighbouring Wolonggan Reservoir. (450 metres)
Great Reed Warbler	15 singing, territorial birds,
Crested Lark	5
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	5
White Wagtail	2
Citrine Wagtail	1
Western Yellow Wagtail	10

Leaving Bayi reservoir we walked across a series of embankments & ditches to neighbouring **Wolonggan Reservoir, Miquan.** This site held fewer birds -

Gadwall	30
Mallard	5
White-winged Black Tern	23

Returning to the Tuwuda Expressway we headed north on route S111 that paralleled it and linked Bayi with nearby Fukang.

There was some major construction work underway on the north of the highway & not far north of Bayi Reservoir – about four kilometres north of the toll booth & adjacent to Km 45 on route S111. They were apparently constructing another major reservoir here.

We soon entered the southern part of the Junggar Pendi (Junggar Basin) and arrived at Fukang Shi (Fukang town) at 14:10hrs (30 minutes & a 30 km drive after leaving Bayi Reservoir). Note that Fukang is a 60 kilometre, non-stop direct drive from Urumqi.

Site 2. Binghu Reservoir (literally 'Ice Lake'), Fukang. 15:00-16:00hrs. (44°11.64'N., 88°00.61'E.) (450 metres)

Birds on this medium sized reservoir that's a six kilometre drive from Fukang town included -

Ruddy Shelduck	21
Gadwall	70
Eurasian Wigeon	35
Mallard	60
Northern Shoveler	10
Northern Pintail	15
Garganey	15
Common Teal	3
Red-crested Pochard	12
Common Pochard	2

Ferruginous Pochard	26
Tufted Duck	15
Common Merganser	2 (a pair)
Eurasian Hoopoe	2
Common Cuckoo	2
Common Swift	30
Little Owl	1 was heard
Common Moorhen	26
Common Redshank	20
Common Greenshank	7
Common Sandpiper	2
Temminck's Stint	3
Ruff	1 female
Black-winged Stilt	10
Little Ringed Plover	29
Northern Lapwing	10
Yellow-legged Gull	45
Pallas's Gull	83
Black-headed Gull	8 first-summers
Common Tern	25
'Western' Little Tern	4
Black Kite	3
Great Crested Grebe	4
Great Cormorant	40
Great Egret	1
Rufous-tailed Shrike	45 between Urumqi & Bayi reservoir
Common Nightingale	3
Common Stonechat	1 female
Common Starling	35
Barred Warbler	1 singing bird was heard
Richard's Pipit	1 flew over

Leaving Binghu Reservoir (Km 2112 on the car's clock) we headed back to Fukang and rejoined the Tuwuda Expressway. The reservoir is only a nine km drive from the closest junction on the Expressway). The Expressway is supposed to end five kilometres north of Fukang – signs indicated that it did but there was no change in its condition or quality and amenities once it had become route G216 again.

Route G216 soon enters China's second largest desert, the Guerbantongute desert, which forms the Junggar Basin.

3rd stop. Shuiyuandi, Fukang. 19:30-20:30hrs. (44°41.70'N., 88°55.98'E.) (495 metres)

This site, only eight kilometres south of Wucaiwan cun, is accessed by turning right off route G216 about 200 metres south of Km post 477. This junction is sign posted (from both directions) and is opposite a single storey China Telecom building that has several solar panels on its roof. We drove down here 10 or 11 kms to the first buildings. There are a few trees & some scrub here & we birded along the 'approach road' and in this scrub for about one hour. We then returned to the main highway and continued on to Wucaiwan cun where we spent the night. Birds at Shuiyuandi included –

Booted Eagle	1
Hume's Warbler	1
Grey Wagtail	1
White Wagtail	2 <i>personata</i>
Desert Finch	2
Southern Grey Shrike	1 <i>pallidirostris</i> was seen about two kilometres from Shuiyuandi.
House Martin	1
Saxaul Sparrow	5

Wucaiwan cun, Fukang. Km 469 on NH G216. (44°46.8'N., 88°51.4'E.). 455 metres

We arrived at this small linear settlement in the middle of the desert at 20:50hrs, found a guest house (there were several – all very basic), checked in & had dinner. Wucaiwan cun's basically a trucker's stop on the road through the Junggar Basin – all the guest houses are very simple – dirty bed linen, no locks on the doors, continental style communal toilet at the rear and no water save from in a thermos flask. The staff were friendly however & the dinner of noodles delicious. The village itself is surrounded by vast amounts of garbage.

In all we'd driven 296 kilometres today.

White-headed Duck	1 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiagu on the 5/5/2007. (44°13.07'N., 87°40.93'E.) (450 metres)
Ruddy Shelduck	22 on the 5/5/2007 - 1 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiagu & 21 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
Common Shelduck	1 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiagu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
Gadwall	240 on the 5/5/2007 - 140 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiagu, 30 on neighbouring Wolonggan Reservoir, Miqan & 70 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)

Eurasian Wigeon	40 on the 5/5/2007 - 5 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu, 5 on neighbouring Wolonggan Reservoir, Miqian & 35 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
Mallard	275 on the 5/5/2007 - 210 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu, 5 on neighbouring Wolonggan Reservoir, Miqian & & 60 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
Northern Shoveler	50 on the 5/5/2007 - 40 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 10 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
Northern Pintail	415 on the 5/5/2007 - 400 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 15 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
Garganey	40 on the 5/5/2007 - 25 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 15 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
Common Teal	7 on the 5/5/2007 - 4 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 3 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
Red-crested Pochard	97 on the 5/5/2007 - 85 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 12 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
Common Pochard	16 on the 5/5/2007 - 14 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 2 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
Ferruginous Pochard	33 on the 5/5/2007 - 7 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 26 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
Tufted Duck	59 on the 5/5/2007 - 44 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 15 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
Common Merganser	2, a pair, on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
Eurasian Hoopoe	10 between Urumqi, Bayi Reservoir, Fukang & Wucaiwan on the 5/5/2007. (450-650 metres)
Common Kingfisher	1 near Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
Common Cuckoo	14 between Urumqi, Bayi Reservoir, Fukang & Wucaiwan on the 5/5/2007. (450-650 metres)
Common Swift	500 between Urumqi, Bayi Reservoir, Fukang & Wucaiwan on the 5/5/2007. (450-650 metres)
Little Owl	1 was heard near Binghu Reservoir, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
Rock Pigeon	50 between Urumqi, Bayi Reservoir, Fukang & Wucaiwan on the 5/5/2007. (450-650 metres)
Oriental Turtle Dove	1 near Binghu Reservoir, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
Eurasian Collared Dove	5 between Urumqi, Bayi Reservoir & Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
Common Moorhen	30 on the 5/5/2007 - 4 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 26 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
Eurasian Coot	4 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
Common Snipe	1 at Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
Black-tailed Godwit	7 flew north over Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
Whimbrel	1 at Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
Common Redshank	85 on the 5/5/2007 - 65 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 20 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
Common Greenshank	9 on the 5/5/2007 - these included 1 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 7 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
Green Sandpiper	1 at Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
Wood Sandpiper	3 singles at Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
Common Sandpiper	8 between Urumqi, Bayi Reservoir & Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
Temminck's Stint	25 on the 5/5/2007 - 22 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 3 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
Ruff	2 on the 5/5/2007 - a male on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & a female at Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
Black-winged Stilt	130 on the 5/5/2007 - 120 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 10 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
Pied Avocet	16 at Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
Little Ringed Plover	75 on the 5/5/2007 - these included 40 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu, 29 on Binghu Reservoir & 2 at Wucaiwan cun Fukang. (450 metres)
Kentish Plover	52 at Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
Greater Sand Plover	29 (in flocks of two, five & 22 birds) at Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. The two larger flocks were of birds that flew north, low over the reservoir. (450 metres)
Northern Lapwing	90 on the 5/5/2007 - 80 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 10 on Binghu Reservoir. (450 metres)
Collared Pratincole	1 at Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
Yellow-legged Gull	95 on the 5/5/2007 - 50 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 45 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
Pallas's Gull	84 on the 5/5/2007 - 1 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 83 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
Black-headed Gull	16 on the 5/5/2007 - 8 at both Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
Common Tern	40 on the 5/5/2007 - 15 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 25 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
'Western' Little Tern	20 on the 5/5/2007 - 16 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 4 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
White-winged Black Tern	37 on the 5/5/2007 - 14 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 23 on neighbouring Wolonggan Reservoir, Miqian. (450 metres)
Black Kite	5 on the 5/5/2007 - one near Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu, three over Binghu Reservoir, Fukang & another midway between there & Wucaiwan cun, Fukang. (450 metres)
Long-legged Buzzard	2 singles besides route G216 in the Guerbantongute desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (500 metres)
Golden Eagle	1 adult on a roadside telegraph pole at Km 525 on route G216 in the Guerbantongute desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (540 metres)
Booted Eagle	1 dark morph bird at Shuiyuandi, in the Guerbantongute desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (495 metres)
Common Kestrel	1 near Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
Great Crested Grebe	12 on the 5/5/2007 - eight on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & four on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
Black-necked Grebe	14 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
Great Cormorant	53 on the 5/5/2007 - 13 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 40 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
Grey Heron	9 besides Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
Great Egret	15 on the 5/5/2007 - 14 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & one at Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
Little Bittern	1 near Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
Rufous-tailed Shrike	81 on the 5/5/2007 - 77 of these were in the 66 kms between Urumqi and Binghu Reservoir, Fukang.
Southern Grey Shrike	1 <i>pallidirostris</i> was seen about two kilometres from Shuiyuandi, in the Guerbantongute desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (495 metres)
Black-throated Thrush	1 at Wucaiwan cun, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (455 metres)
Common Nightingale	3 near Binghu Reservoir, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
Common Stonechat	1 female near Binghu Reservoir, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
Desert Wheatear	5 within 20 kilometres south of Wucaiwan cun in the Guerbantongute desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (450-495 metres)
Isabelline Wheatear	20 in the Guerbantongute desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (450-495 metres)
Common Starling	50 between Urumqi, Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & Wucaiwan on the 5/5/2007. (450-650 metres)
White-crowned Penduline Tit	1 was heard over Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
Sand Martin or Pale Martin	20 between Urumqi, Bayi Reservoir, Fukang & Wucaiwan on the 5/5/2007. (450-650 metres)

Barn Swallow	300 between Urumqi, Bayi Reservoir, Fukang & Wucaiwan on the 5/5/2007. (450-650 metres)
Northern House Martin	2 singles on the 5/5/2007 – 1 over Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & the other over Shuiyuandi, in the Guerbantongute desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang. (450 & 495 metres)
Blyth's Reed Warbler	3 singing & apparently territorial birds in the small reed beds in the fishponds & channels between Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & neighbouring Wolonggan Reservoir, Miquan on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
Great Reed Warbler	15 apparently territorial birds in the small reed beds in the fishponds & channels between Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & neighbouring Wolonggan Reservoir, Miquan on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
Hume's Warbler	1 at Shuiyuandi in the Guerbantongute desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (495 metres)
Barred Warbler	1 singing bird was heard near Binghu Reservoir, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
Asian Short-toed Lark	30 in the Guerbantongute desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (450-495 metres)
Crested Lark	25 on the 5/5/2007 – several near Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & at least 15 in the Guerbantongute desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang. (450-495 metres)
Saxaul Sparrow	5 at Shuiyuandi in the Guerbantongute desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (495 metres)
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	50 between Urumqi, Bayi Reservoir, Fukang & Wucaiwan on the 5/5/2007. (450-650 metres)
Rock Sparrow	1 from the Tuwuda Expressway between Urumqi & Bayi Reservoir on the 5/5/2007/ (610 metres)
White Wagtail	8, all <i>personata</i> , between Urumqi, Bayi Reservoir, Fukang & Wucaiwan on the 5/5/2007. (450-650 metres)
Citrine Wagtail	1 near Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
Western Yellow Wagtail	10 near Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
Grey Wagtail	1 at Shuiyuandi in the Guerbantongute desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (495 metres)
Richard's Pipit	1 over Binghu Reservoir, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
Tawny Pipit	1 in the desert near Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
Eurasian Linnets	3 near Shuiyuandi in the Guerbantongute desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (495 metres)
Mongolian Finch	2 near Shuiyuandi in the Guerbantongute desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (495 metres)

Sunday 6 May 2007. Wucaiwan cun in the Guerbantongute Desert/Junggar Basin to Fuyun

Weather

At Kalamaili it was 13°C at 08:05hrs & 27°C at 14:45hrs. It remained sunny all day.

I spent about 30 minutes birding around the Wucaiwan cun guest house before we left at 06:50hrs & continued to drive north in to the Kalamaili Shan Nature Reserve & the Guerbantongute Desert/Junggar Basin. We stopped briefly on the northern edge of the village where there was a 300metre diameter roadside pool. It held a few shorebirds, but nothing of great consequence & we soon continued on.

The next few stops that we made were all brief – several of them were to search for Mongolian Ground Jays in the Km post 436.5-410 area. We failed.

1st stop. Km post 408.5 – 62 kms north of Wucaiwan cun & 28.5 kms south of Kamuste, Fukang on NH G216. (45°09.83N., 89°22.01'E.). 1100 metres.

We spent 1.5hrs in this area. There's some roadside scrub & small pool immediately to the east of the road and a rocky ridge to the west. – I attempted to make some sound recordings of Xinjiang Whitethroat & the Mongolian Finches that we saw here while Gou Jun was busy photographing. Birds here included –

Mongolian Finch	50
Xinjiang Whitethroat	1 singing bird
Citrine Wagtail	1
Grey-necked Bunting	1 male
Yellow Wagtail	2
Common Stonechat	1
Eurasian Kestrel	1
Little Ringed Plover	2
White Wagtail	1
Hume's Warbler	1

Kamuste guest house. Km post 379.7. (45°23.1'N., 89°24.5'E.). 1020 metres.

(From the village it is 227kms @ 217° back to Urumqi). Note that there's now an airstrip in Kamuste! The guest house is better than the one we used in Wucaiwan cun and is the very first building on the left side of the route G216 in Kamuste and has about six rooms all of which appeared to have at least four beds – some of them had more in the form of bunk beds. No room has anything other than these beds and a small table. Toilet facilities are shared & 'out the back' while there are no washing facilities other than a plastic bowl & thermos flask. The guest house has a simple restaurant where very tasty noodles are served but probably not much else.

2nd site. Oasis at Lao Kamuste cun – 'Old Kamuste', Fukang. (45°23.0'N., 89°30.0'E.). 1064 metres

From here its 232kms @ 219° back to Urumqi.

We turned right of the main north-south highway (route G216) right in the centre of the small hamlet of Kamuste (about two kilometres north of the guest house that we stayed in when we visited this area in October 2006). There's a dirt track off to the

east – it starts immediately opposite a large radio or phone aerial in Kamuste & leads, after about seven kilometres to a couple of houses and a spring at Lao Kamuste cun. We spent about one hour birding around the oasis before driving back to the main north-south highway, G216, and continuing north.

3rd stop. Qiaquerte besides the Ulungu He, Fukang. (46°20.16'N., 89°32.20'E.). 810 metres. 14:30-15:15hrs

This sizeable, sprawling village is surrounded by a large number of trees and is undoubtedly a haven for migrants passing through the Junggar Basin. We didn't spend very long here – I was very, very tired & we simply birded along a short stretch of the river (about 800 metres downstream from the main road bridge), checking a couple of small riverside reed beds & a tiny coppice on the edge of town. Birds here today included –

Black Kite	4
Kestrel	2
Little Ringed Plover	2
Green Sandpiper	1
Common Sandpiper	2
Common Moorhen	2
Common Nightingale	2
Azure Tit	1
Blyth's Reed Warbler	2

Leaving Qiaquerte we drove on to the Shijixing Hotel in Fuyun. Arriving at 17:00hrs we checked in & headed down for dinner at 19:00hrs.

Chukar	2, a pair, at Km post 411.5 on G216 (approximately mid-way between Wucaiwan cun & Kamuste), in the Guerbantongute Desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1035 metres)
Ruddy Shelduck	3 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (810 & 1060 metres)
Mallard	1 male in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1000 metres)
Garganey	2 males on a tiny roadside marsh in Kamuste in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1010 metres)
Eurasian Hoopoe	4 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (810-1050 metres)
European Roller	1 at Km post 337 (55 kms north of Kamuste) besides G216 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (955 metres)
Common Cuckoo	6 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (815-1060 metres)
Common Swift	5 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1100 metres)
Little Owl	2 singles besides G216 (approximately mid-way between Wucaiwan cun & Kamuste), in the Guerbantongute Desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1020 & 1070 metres)
Rock Pigeon	10 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007.
Eurasian Collared Dove	2 at Qiakurtu, Fukang on the 6/5/2007.
Demoiselle Crane	13 at Kamuste in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. Three birds were seen on the ground less than fifty metres from the highway & while we were watching them a group of 10 more flew north high overhead. 11:00hrs. (1010 metres)
Common Moorhen	2 at Qiakurtu in the Junggar Basin on the 6/5/2007. (815 metres)
Common Redshank	2 on the 6/5/2007 - 1 on the pool besides G216 just one kilometre north of Wucaiwan cun, Fukang. (1100 metres)
Green Sandpiper	1 at Qiakurtu in the Junggar Basin on the 6/5/2007. (815 metres)
Common Sandpiper	4 on the 6/5/2007 - 1 on the pool besides G216 just one kilometre north of Wucaiwan cun, Fukang. (1100 metres)
Black-winged Stilt	11 on the pool besides G216 just one kilometre north of Wucaiwan cun, in the Guerbantongute Desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (455 metres)
Little Ringed Plover	10 on the 6/5/2007 - 2 on the pool besides G216 just one kilometre north of Wucaiwan cun, 2 on a small pool right in Kamuste, 2 more at Lao Kamuste cun.
Black Kite	6 between Wucaiwan cun, Fukang & Fuyun on the 6/5/2007. (850-1100 metres)
Long-legged Buzzard	1 near Qiakurtu in the Junggar Basin on the 6/5/2007. (985 metres)
Steppe Eagle	1 near Lao Kamuste cun in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1060 metres)
Common Kestrel	2 singles in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1060 & 1100 metres)
Rufous-tailed Shrike	40 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (850-1120 metres)
Common Nightingale	2 at Qiakurtu in the Junggar Basin on the 6/5/2007. (815 metres)
Common Stonechat	3 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1100 metres)
Desert Wheatear	15 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1000-1020 metres)
Isabelline Wheatear	20 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1000-1020 metres)
Common Starling	30 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007.
Azure Tit	1 at Qiakurtu in the Junggar Basin on the 6/5/2007. (815 metres)
Sand Martin or Pale Martin	4 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007.
Barn Swallow	40 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007.
Blyth's Reed Warbler	2 in a tiny reed bed at Qiakurtu in the Junggar Basin on the 6/5/2007. (815 metres)
Siberian Chiffchaff	1 at Qiakurtu in the Junggar Basin on the 6/5/2007. (815 metres)
Hume's Warbler	8 between Wucaiwan cun, Fukang & Fuyun on the 6/5/2007. (850-1100 metres)
Xinjiang Whitethroat	1 at Km post 428 (41 kms north of Wucaiwan cun) in the Guerbantongute Desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1100 metres)
Asian Short-toed Lark	20 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (ca.1000-1100 metres)
Horned Lark	20 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (ca.1000-1100 metres)
House Sparrow	10 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (ca.1000-1100 metres)
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (ca.1000-1100 metres)

Rock Sparrow	7 between Wucaiwan cun & Kamuste cun in the Guerbantongute Desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. The first were two at Km post 428 (41 kms north of Wucaiwan cun) & the other five were at Km post 408.5. (875 & 1100 metres)
White Wagtail	4 singles in the Guerbantongute Desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (890-1100 metres)
Citrine Wagtail	4 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007.
Western Yellow Wagtail	6 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007.
Grey Wagtail	1 at Lao Kamuste cun in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1060 metres)
Tawny Pipit	1 at Lao Kamuste cun in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1060 metres)
Tree Pipit	2 at Lao Kamuste cun in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1060 metres)
Mongolian Finch	60 in the Guerbantongute Desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. These included 50 at Km post 428 (41 kms north of Wucaiwan cun), 2 in Kamuste, 4 at Lao Kamuste cun & about four others elsewhere on the drive. (890-1100 metres)
Grey-necked Bunting	1 male on the rocky hillside at Km post 428 (41 kms north of Wucaiwan cun) in the Guerbantongute Desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1100 metres)

Mammals

Long-tailed Ground-squirrel (Long-tailed Souslik)	2 between Kamuste & Lao Kamuste cun in the Kalamaili Shan NP, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1000-1020 metres)
Mongolian Hare	4 in the Kalamaili Shan NP, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1000-1020 metres)
Goitred Gazelle	6 in the Kalamaili Shan NP, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1000-1020 metres)
Kiang	5 in the Kalamaili Shan NP, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1000-1020 metres)

Monday 7 May 2007. All day in the Altai mountains near Fuyun – Yeyahu, Haizikou (Yiliemute) Reservoir & Keketuohai

We left the Shijixing Hotel at 06:30hrs, fuelled up & headed, on route S226, east out of Fuyun & back towards route G216. After about 3.5kms (there were some roadside kilometre posts) we turned north (left) off this highway on to a minor road posted, in Chinese, to Keketuohai zhen. This road privately built road (route 842) took us through the desert and gradually up in to the Altai Mountains. After about another 7.5 kms there's a forest check post and barrier right at a point where the road enters a narrow valley and starts to climb slightly more steeply up in to the mountains.

The road crested the 1515 metre ridge at Kilometre post 25 and then descended on the northern side.

Weather

The day started fairly poorly – it was cold and remained so until about midday – and there was low cloud. We entered the low cloud at about 1050 metres (shortly after driving in to the mountains). It was 8°C at Yeyahu (1330 metres) when we arrived at 07:30hrs but this dropped to 6°C by 10:45hrs when the fog was at its most dense! The fog dissipated as the wind picked up midday & by 14:00hrs it was 26°C at Shenshanhualing Nature Reserve, Keketuohai (ca. 1500 metres).

Site 1. Yeyahu (literally 'Wild Duck Lake'), Fuyun. Km 30 on route 842. (47°01.83'N., 89°45.30'E.). 1330 metres. 07:30-11:00hrs

Yeyahu is a medium sized (perhaps two kilometres east-west & four kilometres north-south) apparently fairly shallow lake. There were small areas of reed bed about 40-100 metres from the lake's western shore and a few fishing nets scattered elsewhere. We also saw three small fishing boats out on the lake. After scanning the lake from near Kilometre post 31 we continued north, took the first road to the right, passed through a small village and then circuited right around the lake's eastern side. We drove all the way around this lake, through a couple of small settlements, one of which was Tuerhong, but dense fog on its eastern side, and the fact that the road on that side is set well back from the lake edge, meant that by far the best area was around the lake's eastern and northern flank. The road actually first approaches the lake near its south-western side (less than one kilometre north of a sign posted [in Chinese] road off to the east [right] to Tuerhong) and the two best vantage points that we found were almost as soon as you see the lake (near Kilometre post 29?) and again about two kilometres further north (Kilometre post 31). Birds here today included -

Demoiselle Crane	216
European Water Rail	1
Great Bittern	1
Black Stork	1
Richard's Pipit	1
Savi's Warbler	3 singing birds (two of which were seen)
Paddyfield Warbler	6 birds (four of which were seen)
Oriental Bunting	Fairly common

The presence of any *acrocephalus* reed warblers here was very surprising – it was very cold and even the hirundines were finding it hard to catch insects. The reed beds were all withered and dead with hardly any new, green growth yet visible!

Site 2. Haizikou (Yiliemutehu - Yiliemute lake or more correctly reservoir), Fuyun. (47°09.28'N., 89°43.52'E.). 1260 metres. 12:10-13:45hrs

Nine kilometres north of Yeyahu a driveable dirt track leads off privately built route 842 down to the left to this larger lake. We drove about eight kilometres up the reservoir's western side, the track then detoured up a narrow side valley and away from the lake edge. This side track ended at some gates just before a small dam. We were forcefully told by one of the staff that there was positively no access, without written permission, beyond here. We scanned the main lake from several points along its western side – it appeared to be shallow at both its southern and northern edge & this is where the bulk of the birds (except the diving ducks) were. The narrow valley near the dam held a couple of Sulphur-bellied Warblers, about eight Eurasian Crag Martins & a male Rock Bunting. Birds here today included -

Common Crane	1
Booted Eagle	1
Eurasian Crag Martin	6
Sulphur-bellied Warbler	2 were heard
Black Stork	1 – probably the same bird we saw earlier in the day at Yeyahu.
Rufous-tailed Rock Thrush	2
Pied Wheatear	Fairly common
Tawny Pipit	1

Site 3. Shenshanhualing Nature Reserve, Keketuohai Valley, Fuyun. (ca.1500 metres)

Shenshanhualing literally means 'Magic Mountain'. Leaving Haizikou (Yiliemutehu) we returned to the 'main road' (privately funded & built route 842) and continued north towards Keketuohai. This medium sized settlement is the centre of a large open cast mining operation (they're apparently mining lithium for batteries?). We drove past one of the huge mines and continued up, past a small check post that claimed to be a check post near the Mongolian border (this international border was still a long, long way from here!). The attractive valley above the town is a thriving site for domestic Chinese tourists and, with it still being Golden Week, it was quite busy. We only stayed a short while before slowly heading back to Fuyun. Gou Jun had previously seen both Common Redstart & Lesser Spotted Woodpecker in the centre of Keketuohai village.

Site 4. Small pool west of route 842 & near Fuyun. Ca.920 metres

There's a dirt track off to the west about 3.2 kilometres up route 842 (it starts at about Km post 7.7(?)). We drove about 600 metres down this and scanned this small (200 metres by 100 metres) pool from a ridge about 300 metres distant. Birds here included –

Ruddy Shelduck	4
Mallard	1 male
Northern Pintail	1 male
Demoiselle Crane	2
Common Redshank	12
Northern Lapwing	4

Ruddy Shelduck	165 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007 – these included 25 on Yeyahu & 130 on Haizikou. (900, 1260 & 1330 metres)
Gadwall	77 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007 - 66 on Yeyahu & 10 on Haizikou. (1260 & 1330 metres)
Eurasian Wigeon	20 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007 - 10 on both Yeyahu & Haizikou. (1260 & 1330 metres)
Mallard	40 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007 - 30 on Yeyahu & 10 on Haizikou. (1260 & 1330 metres)
Northern Shoveler	12 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007 - 8 (four pairs) on Yeyahu & four on Haizikou. (1260 & 1330 metres)
Northern Pintail	14 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007 - 4 on Yeyahu & 10 on Haizikou. (1260 & 1330 metres)
Garganey	19 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007 - 17 on Yeyahu & 2 on Haizikou. (1260 & 1330 metres)
Common Teal	26 on Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Red-crested Pochard	50 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007 - 40 on Yeyahu & 10 on Haizikou. (1260 & 1330 metres)
Common Pochard	3 on Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Tufted Duck	42 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007 - 13 on Yeyahu & 29 on Haizikou. (1260 & 1330 metres)
Common Merganser	26 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007 - 2 males on Yeyahu & 24 on Haizikou. (1260 & 1330 metres)
Eurasian Wryneck	1 in Keketuohai, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1500 metres)
Eurasian Hoopoe	1 near Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Common Cuckoo	1 was heard near Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Rock Pigeon	50 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007.
Demoiselle Crane	218 north of Fuyun (mostly at Yeyahu) on the 7/5/2007 - 2 flew over Yeyahu at 08:00hrs & dropped in, joining a group of 16 others, in fields at the lake's northern end; there were 198 at the lake's south-western end in the late morning (several of these appeared to be just arriving). Elsewhere there were two on the small pool in the desert close to Fuyun. (ca.900 & 1260 metres)
Common Crane	1 in the fields at the southern edge of Haizikou, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
European Water Rail	1 was heard at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Eurasian Coot	10 on Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Common Snipe	1 displaying bird over Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Common Redshank	30 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007 - 15 at Yeyahu, 5 near Haizikou & 12 on the small pool close to Fuyun. (ca. 900, 1260 & 1330 metres)
Green Sandpiper	1 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Common Sandpiper	6 near Fuyun on the 7/5/2007 – these included 2 at Yeyahu. (950-1330 metres)
Little Ringed Plover	1 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Northern Lapwing	4 on the small pool near Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (ca.900 metres)

Yellow-legged Gull	50 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007 - 40 on Yeyahu & 10 on Haizikou. For this first time this trip adults were seen – and indeed almost every bird was an adult. Breeding might well occur at Yeyahu. (1260 & 1330 metres)
White-winged Black Tern	2 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Black Kite	54 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007 – 19 at Yeyahu, 26 near Haizikou, five near Keketuohai & four over Fuyun. (830-1500 metres)
[Eurasian Sparrowhawk	1 dead bird was seen at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)]
Long-legged Buzzard	2 near Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Booted Eagle	1 dark morph bird at Haizikou, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1300 metres)
Common Kestrel	2 singles at Haizikou, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1250 & 1330 metres)
Great Crested Grebe	14 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Great Cormorant	39 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007 – 21 at Yeyahu & 18 on Haizikou. (1260 & 1330 metres)
Great Bittern	1 booming bird was heard at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Black Stork	1 flew north over Yeyahu, Fuyun at 09:15hrs & what was probably the same bird was seen a couple of times at Haizikou in the early afternoon. (1260 & 1330 metres)
Carriion Crow	1 in Keketuohai, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1500 metres)
Rufous-tailed Rock Thrush	2 males near Haizikou, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1185 & 1240 metres)
Bluethroat	3 singing males at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Common Stonechat	15 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007 – most of these were around Yeyahu. (1200-1400 metres)
Northern Wheatear	3 males near Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Pied Wheatear	15 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. Pied Wheatear was the commonest wheatear north of Yeyahu & was particularly conspicuous around Haizikou. (1150-1230 metres)
Isabelline Wheatear	20 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (ca.900-1350 metres)
Common Starling	10 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (ca.900-1350 metres)
Azure Tit	2 singles were heard in Fuyun town on the 7/5/2007. (830 metres)
Sand Martin or Pale Martin	300 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Eurasian Crag Martin	6 at Haizikou, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1160-1200 metres)
Barn Swallow	200 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Savi's Warbler	3 singing birds (two of which were seen) at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Paddyfield Warbler	6 birds (four of which were seen) at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Sulphur-bellied Warbler	2 were heard near Haizikou, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1160 metres)
Hume's Warbler	3 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007 – two at Haizikou & one at Keketuohai. (1180-ca.1500 metres)
Asian Short-toed Lark	2 near Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Eurasian Skylark	25 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Horned Lark	10 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (ca.900-1350 metres)
House Sparrow	20 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (ca.900-1350 metres)
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	40 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (ca.900-1350 metres)
White Wagtail	3 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (ca.900-1350 metres)
Western Yellow Wagtail	15 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Grey Wagtail	15 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (ca.900-1350 metres)
Richard's Pipit	1 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Tawny Pipit	1 near Haizikou, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1225 metres)
Brown Accentor	1 near Km post 18 in the arid valley besides route 842 between Fuyun & Yeyahu on the 7/5/2006. (1280 metres)
Eurasian Linnnet	2 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Mongolian Finch	2 near Haizikou, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1225 metres)
Rock Bunting	3 singles between Haizikou & Keketuohai, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1160 metres)
Ortolan Bunting	19, mostly singing birds, north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. Birds were most common (11 birds) around Yeyahu, in a tree-lined avenue north-east of Haizikou (six singing birds) & two were also noted at Keketuohai. (1210-1380 metres)

Tuesday 8 May 2007. Morning at Yeyahu in the Altai mountains near Fuyun, afternoon drove to Fuhai

We left Fuyun at 05:03hrs & drove straight back to Yeyahu arriving at that site, 32kms from our Fuyun hotel 42 minutes later at 05:45hrs.

Weather

It was a chilly 2°C at 05:45hrs at Yeyahu, Fuyun while by the time we reached the Ertix (Erqisi) River Valley, Fuhai (11:40hrs) it was 22°C. It was cloudy & overcast most of the day & it rained a little bit around 16:00hrs at 188 Tuan (it was then 20°C there).

Sun rise today was at 06:35hrs but there was a good moon & a clear sky and it was possible to see birds almost as soon as we arrived at Yeyahu – a full 50 minutes before sunrise!

Site 1. Yeyahu (literally 'Wild Duck Lake'), Fuyun. Km 30 on route 842. (47°01.83'N., 89°45.30'E.). 1330 metres. 05:45-09:00hrs

We'd no sooner arrived than we heard a Spotted Crake calling and shortly after than we heard another. We spent much of the following hour attempting to see one of them, & finally did, obtaining good views – I recorded it, Gou Jun obtained a record photograph. The weather was also much better this morning – there was good long-range visibility, but with no cloud cover it

was even colder than yesterday – a chilly 2°C when we arrived! There was initially no wind, but this picked up quite markedly from about 08:30hrs.

Birds here today included -

Demoiselle Crane	595
Spotted Crane	2 (one seen, one only heard)
Black Stork	1 flew high to the northwest

Leaving Yeyahu at 09:00hrs we headed back towards Fuyun

Site 2. Small pool west of route 842 & near Fuyun. Ca.920 metres

This is the same small pool that we stopped at briefly yesterday. 10:20hrs. It held fewer birds today.

We arrived at Route 226 at 10:32hrs & 24 kilometres (14 minutes) later arrived at the main east-west expressway. We turned right (west) here & headed towards Altai.

Site 3. '635 Reservoir' near Kezihabake. Km 118 from Altai on the main highway. 11:50hrs.

This reservoir, right in the heart of the desert was undoubtedly attractive to birds – we saw a Great Egret in flight from a distance, but access was denied. The reservoir's about one kilometre west of the Kezihabake toll booth.

Site 4. Ertix (Ergisi) River Valley, Fuhai. (47°14.13'N., 88°22.20'E.). 605 metres. 12:30-15:00hrs

We turned right (north) off the expressway on to a dirt road about 30 metres before kilometre post 108 (& just three kilometres east of Qinghe Nong Chang [Qinghe farm]). We then drove about 500 metres down the rough, dirt road to a bridge over a fast flowing, willow-lined drainage canal, crossed this & turned immediately right. We drove about one kilometre back east along the side of this canal before parking up. We then spent 2.5hrs birding here (I spent much of that time tape recording a couple of species) before it started to rain & we left. This area lying about one kilometre to the north of and paralleling the expressway is an attractive one of lower lying wetland and marshes with tiny scattered reed beds, willow-type scrub and fields. This is the middle reaches of the Ertix river – the only river in China that eventually empties in to the Arctic Ocean! Birds here included –

Common Snipe	12 birds, many of which were displaying
Common Redshank	10 – breeding was again suspected
Black Kite	3
Common Teal	2
Common Sandpiper	2
Little Ringed Plover	1
Northern Lapwing	15
White-crowned Penduline Tit	2 pairs
Common Starling	40
Yellow Wagtail	6
Bluethroat	2 singing birds
Paddyfield Warbler	4 singing birds

There's a turning south off the expressway at Km post 85.3 that's posted to 183 Corps, Fuhai. (15:27hrs)

There's a turning south off the expressway at Km post 74 that's posted to 187 Corps, Fuhai. (15:35hrs)

Beitun zhen is at Km post 61(?) 520 metres 15:42hrs

The town is surrounded by attractive areas of woodland and scrub – particularly along its northern flank where the Ertix river is.

Site 5. 188 Corps Marsh immediately to the west of Beitun, Altai. (47°19.93'N., 87°46.23'E.). 510 metres.

We spent almost two hours (16:00-17:50hrs) here. This was the lowest altitude reed bed that we'd visited so far during this trip in Xinjiang and, unlike most of the previous sites, there was a considerable amount of new growth in it. Birds here included -

Black Kite	450
Yellow-legged Gull	100
Black-headed Gull	10
Common Reed Bunting	3
Paddyfield Warbler	6
Blyth's Reed Warbler	2
Great Reed Warbler	2
Common Swift	50

At kilometre post 30 (25 kilometres after Beitun) there's a turning to the right that's posted to a swimming spot on the edge of Ulunguhu lake, Fuhai (I didn't note the name at the time but its possibly 'Kuigan').

We arrived at the 2-star Lijinluyou Hotel in Fuhai (tel.: 0906 3472561, 3473534, 3472387 or 3473773. Fax: 0906 3472493) at about 18:30hrs. Rooms here cost 110 yuan/night. This was apparently the best hotel in the town & had hot water from 20:00-01:00hrs and the rooms, although quite simple, were OK and the bed linen clean. The hotel also had a decent restaurant.

Chukar	2 between Yeyahu & Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1280 metres)
Ruddy Shelduck	50 on the 8/5/2007 – these included 30 at Yeyahu & 3 on the small pool between there & Fuyun, 10 in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai. (510-1330 metres)
Gadwall	55 on the 8/5/2007 – 40 at Yeyahu, Fuyun & 15 on the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai. (510-1330 metres).
Eurasian Wigeon	17 on the 8/5/2007 - 10 at Yeyahu & 7 on the small pool between there & Fuyun. (920, 1330 metres)
Mallard	30 on the 8/5/2007 – these included 20 at Yeyahu & 1 on the small pool between there & Fuyun, 2 on the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai. (510-1330 metres)
Northern Shoveler	15 on the 8/5/2007 – these included 10 at Yeyahu, Fuyun & 2 on the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai. (510-1330 metres)
Northern Pintail	25 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Garganey	9 on the 8/5/2007 - 7 at Yeyahu, Fuyun & 2 on the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai. (510 & 1330 metres)
Common Teal	17 on the 8/5/2007 - 15 at Yeyahu, Fuyun; & 2 in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai. (605 & 1330 metres)
Red-crested Pochard	28 on the 8/5/2007 - 25 at Yeyahu, Fuyun & 3 on the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai. (510-1330 metres)
Common Pochard	3 on the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai. (510 metres)
Tufted Duck	1 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Common Merganser	2 (a pair) at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Eurasian Hoopoe	2 near Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (880 metres)
Common Cuckoo	3 on the 8/5/2007 – 1 near Fuyun, one in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai & the other near the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai. (510-9000 metres).
Common Swift	50 over the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Fuhai on the 8/5/2007. (510 metres)
Little Owl	1 was heard at Km 12.3 between Yeyahu & Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1060 metres)
Rock Pigeon	50 between Fuyun & Fuhai on the 8/5/2007. (510-1330 metres)
Demoiselle Crane	595 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. The birds had apparently roosted in the fields at the southern end of the lake overnight & started to leave, heading up and high to the northwest at 06:00hrs (35 minutes before sun rise). They continued to do this until 09:00hrs when we left – by which time there were less than 80 birds remaining. (1330 metres)
European Water Rail	3 birds were noted on the 8/5/2007 - 2, possibly three, birds were heard at Yeyahu, Fuyun & 1 was heard in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai. (605 & 1330 metres)
Spotted Crane	2 (one seen & the other only heard) at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Common Moorhen	15 on the 8/5/2007 - 10 in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai & 5 in the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai (510 & 605 metres)
Eurasian Coot	23 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Common Snipe	20 on the 8/5/2007 - 4 at Yeyahu, Fuyun, 12 in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai & 'several' around the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai (510-1330 metres)
Common Redshank	40 on the 8/5/2007 - 20 at Yeyahu, Fuyun, 10 in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai & 'several' around the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai (510-1330 metres).
Green Sandpiper	1 in the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai on the 8/5/2007. (510 metres)
Common Sandpiper	8 on the 8/5/2007 - 2 at Yeyahu & 2 on the small pool between there & Fuyun, 2 more in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai. & 2 the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai (510-1330 metres)
Black-winged Stilt	2 in the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai (510 metres)
Little Ringed Plover	8 on the 8/5/2007 - 2 at Yeyahu & 4 on the small pool between there & Fuyun & 2 more in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai. (920, 1330 metres).
Northern Lapwing	40 on the 8/5/2007 – these included 20 at Yeyahu, Fuyun & 15 in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai. (605-1330 metres)
Yellow-legged Gull	170 on the 8/5/2007 – these included 50 at Yeyahu, Fuyun, 20 near 187 Corps, Fuhai & 100 near the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai (510-1330 metres)
Pallas's Gull	1 adult-summer at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Black-headed Gull	10 on the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai on the 8/5/2007. (510 metres)
Common Tern	4 on the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai on the 8/5/2007. (510 metres)
White-winged Black Tern	3 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Black Kite	About 500 on the 8/5/2007 – these included 8 at Yeyahu, 4 more in the valley between there & Fuyun, 11 near Fuyun itself, 9 from the express way west of Fuyun, 3 in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai & at least 450 around the fishponds & '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai (510-1330 metres)
Long-legged Buzzard	1 near Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (880 metres)
Common Kestrel	3 singles on the 8/5/2007 – 1 near Fuyun, 1 in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai & the other near 187 Corps, Fuhai. (540, 605 & 900 metres)
[Eurasian Hobby	1 bird, possibly this species, was seen briefly near the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai (510 metres)]
Great Crested Grebe	9 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Great Cormorant	3 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Great Egret	2 in Fuhai on the 8/7/2007 - 1 over '635 Reservoir' & the other in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai. (605 & 635 metres)
Great Bittern	1 was heard at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Black Stork	1 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Rufous-tailed Shrike	4 on the 8/7/2007 – 1 at Yeyahu, Fuyun, 1 in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai & 2 others near the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai (510-1350 metres)
Eurasian Jackdaw	1 in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai on the 8/7/2007. (605 metres)
Carrion Crow	1 in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai on the 8/7/2007. (605 metres)
Rufous-tailed Rock Thrush	3 (two singing males & a female) on route from Yeyahu back towards Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1270 metres)

Bluethroat	4 on the 8/5/2007 - 1 at Yeyahu, Fuyun, 2 in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai & 1 the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai (510, 605 & 1330 metres)
[Black Redstart	1 bird, possibly this species, was heard briefly outside the hotel in Fuyun at 04:50hrs. (850 metres)]
Common Stonechat	30 on the 8/5/2007 – these included 15 at Yeyahu, Fuyun & 10 in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai. (605-1330 metres)
Northern Wheatear	1 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Pied Wheatear	10 on the 8/5/2007 – most of these were on the rocky hillsides & in the gorge between Yeyahu & Fuyun. (1330-1450 metres)
Isabelline Wheatear	15 on the 8/5/2007 – about six of these were between Yeyahu & Fuyun. (1330 metres)
Common Starling	200 on the 8/5/2007 – these included 10 at Yeyahu, Fuyun, 40 in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai & 150 over the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai (510-1330 metres)
White-crowned Penduline Tit	4 (two pairs) in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai on the 8/5/2007. (605 metres)
Sand Martin or Pale Martin	5 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Barn Swallow	30 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Northern House Martin	30 at a roadside cliff nesting colony between Yeyahu & Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1050-1280 metres)
[Rusty-rumped Warbler	1 bird, possibly this species, was heard calling in a distant reed bed at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)]
Savi's Warbler	2 were heard at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Paddyfield Warbler	15 on the 8/5/2007 - 5 at Yeyahu, Fuyun, 4 in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai & 6 the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai. (510, 605 & 1330 metres)
Blyth's Reed Warbler	2 in the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai on the 8/5/2007. (510 metres)
Great Reed Warbler	2 in the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai on the 8/5/2007. (510 metres)
Hume's Warbler	1 was heard near the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai on the 8/5/2007. (510 metres)
Barred Warbler	1 was heard near the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai on the 8/5/2007. (510 metres)
Eurasian Skylark	15 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Horned Lark	5 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)
House Sparrow	30 between Fuyun & Fuhai on the 8/5/2007.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	30 between Fuyun & Fuhai on the 8/5/2007.
White Wagtail	5 between Fuhai & Beitun on the 8/5/2007. (500-510 metres)
Citrine Wagtail	2 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Western Yellow Wagtail	20 on the 8/5/2007 - 10 at Yeyahu, Fuyun, 6 in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai. (605-1330 metres)
Grey Wagtail	6 between Yeyahu & Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (940-1330 metres)
Tawny Pipit	2 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Eurasian Linnet	2 between Yeyahu & Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1280 metres)
Rock Bunting	3 (two singing males & a female) on route from Yeyahu back towards Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1080-1280 metres)
Ortolan Bunting	1 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)
Reed Bunting	3 in the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai on the 8/5/2007. (510 metres)

Wednesday 9 May 2007. All day around Ulunguhu, Fuhai

We left the Lijinluyou Hotel in Fuhai at 06:00hrs & spent much of the rest of the day birding a couple of areas by the two large lakes to the west of the town.

Weather

It was a chilly 6°C at 7:00hrs & windy (force 4-5) at Jilihu, Fuhai. At 14:00hrs it had only warmed slightly (10°C at Haishang Mogui Cheng) & the wind had only eased very slightly (now force 3-4). By 17:30hrs it was 13°C there and the wind had continued to ease (now force 2-3).

Site 1. Jilihu, Fuhai. (46°58.82'N., 87°20.77'E.). 410 metres.

The first site that we drove to was on the eastern side of Jilihu, a small lake south-south-east of Fuhai and at the south-eastern end of the much larger Ulunguhu (Ulungu Lake). We birded several areas here and most were accessed by turning left off the main road that leads southwest through Fuhai town. At the far end (south-western end) of Fuhai Yuchang (a small touristy fishing village replete with numerous fish restaurants – the village that straddles the canal linking Ulunguhu to the north with smaller Jilihu just to the south) there's a petrol station. We turned south on to a dirt track in to the desert immediately after this petrol station & drove down here about five kilometres (very approximate) before heading left (east) towards a small lake slightly separate from Jilihu itself. This smaller lake held 3 Whooper Swans, two of the area's three Dalmatian Pelicans, three Little Stints and later five Goldeneye. We birded here for perhaps 45 minutes before heading over to view the larger Jilihu (Jili Lake) itself. We accessed the latter from near a single-storey brick building adjacent to the south-eastern side of this first lake & from here we could view the northern end of Jilihu. There was a large reed bed at the very northern end (this is apparently better viewed from a different access route – one that can be reached by turning south, in Fuhai Yuchang, off the main road immediately before the bridge over the canal linking Ulunguhu & Jilihu. Keep heading straight down here for about 2-3 kilometres until the road peters out at a complex of fishponds. Its apparently possible to walk along a series of raised embankments here to view the reed bed – but the open water of the lake itself is apparently too distant to be seen from here). After birding this second site we drove further down the western side of Jilihu to a fishing site where there's a hut (in summer i.e. June & July it's a tourist restaurant) & a small watch tower – this site is called 'Yu Jia Feng Qing Yun'. The bay immediately to the south of here held a large number of waterfowl (795 of the 1015 Red-crested Pochard we counted on Jilihu

& four Smew being the highlights) and several shorebirds including 26 Ruff. After birding here we continued further south down the lake edge for about another 3-4 kilometres but saw little else & headed back to Fuhai town for a sit-down, hot lunch.

Birds at Jilihu included -

Whooper Swan	3 adults
Red-crested Pochard	1015
White-winged Scoter	4
Goldeneye	5
Smew	4
Common Swift	3000 were estimated
Little Stint	3
Ruff	26 (1 male & 25 females)
Eurasian Oystercatcher	2 singles
Collared Pratincole	1 flew south
Siberian Gull	1 second summer (photos)
White-winged Black Tern	420
Black Tern	24
Dalmatian Pelican	3 birds (an adult and an immature and a separate adult)
Sykes's Warbler	1 near Yu Jia Feng Qing Yun

After lunch in Fuhai we headed back out – this time to an area almost due west of town.

Site 2. Haishang Mogui Cheng (also known as Ulunguhu Ru Kou Chu) on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai. (approx. 47°00.74'N., 87°27.64'E.). 410 metres.

This site is close to where the Ulungu river enters Ulungu Lake. We spent much of the afternoon here (14:05-17:50hrs) on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. There was a marked passage of birds migrating north up the eastern side of the lake – this was initially most obvious with Black Kites & Common Swifts but also involved a few Lesser Kestrels and two European Rollers. We spent some time watching this visible migration & then more time scanning the lake & especially the large reed bed. This whole area was very attractive &, had it not been quite so cold & windy, would probably have repaid further exploration. Ulunguhu itself is massive – it must be about 35 kilometres long and perhaps 10 kilometres at its widest and we birded a tiny fraction of it from the foot of a 150 metre high ridge on its eastern flank. This ridge was set back from the lake edge by about 1.5kms with much of the area between there & Fuhai town being arid desert apart from an attractive woodland belt lining the Ulungu River.

We initially found this site difficult to access. Our 16 kilometre drive back to the hotel in Fuhai took 50 minutes. **Directions** – turn right on to the street from the car park of the Lijinluyou Hotel in Fuhai. Continue down her, past Hebin Park on the left and cross the bridge over the Ulungu River. There's a sign on the right after the bridge indicating that the next village is Liang Zhong Chang. (The road from here on is unpaved &, once past the graveyards [see later] is very rough & only suitable for a motorbike or 4-wheel drive vehicle). Drive right through to the rear of this village to near a couple of brickworks that both have tall, & conspicuous chimneys. The road then climbs up on to a 50 metre higher plateau – but forks about half way up this incline – the right fork is sign posted (again in Chinese) to a Muslim cemetery. Take the left fork – posted to Haishang Mogui Cheng – and drive up on to the plateau. There's another junction as soon as you summit the ridge where you should now take the right fork, the one that initially doubles on itself before going past the first of about four or five scattered cemeteries. After about two or three kilometres this track crosses under a set of single electricity poles & then starts to drift left towards a line of larger double telegraph poles. When it comes closest to these there's an indistinct track off down to the right. Take this and descend down a shallow dry wadi & off the 'plateau'. Towards the bottom the track goes through a gated fence before bending left at the bottom. A couple of conspicuous and quite distinctive sandstone coloured 50 foot high rock outcrops are visible about one kilometre away towards the lake. The track passes to the right of the conical right-hand one of these rocks and continues right up towards the lake. We went as far as it was possible to drive – the track eventually petered out about eight kilometres south of these two outcrops.

Birds at Haishang Mogui Cheng included -

Common Swift	7000 were estimated flying north
White-winged Black Tern	625
Black Tern	37
Eurasian Marsh Harrier	2 cream crowns
Hen Harrier	1 ringtail
Lesser Kestrel	5 flew north
Great Bittern	1 was heard
Red-backed x Rufous-tailed Shrike	1 apparent hybrid male
Rosy Starling	35
Savi's Warbler	1 was heard

Whooper Swan	3 adults on Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
Greylag Goose	63 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 4 at Jilihu & 59 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
Ruddy Shelduck	9 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 1 at Jilihu & 8 on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
Common Shelduck	2 on Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)

Gadwall	22 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 14 at Jilihu & 8 on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
Eurasian Wigeon	7 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 3 at Jilihu & 4 on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
Mallard	7 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 3 at Jilihu & 4 on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
Northern Shoveler	16 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 4 at Jilihu & 12 on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
Northern Pintail	5 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 3 at Jilihu & 2 on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
Garganey	14 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 5 at Jilihu & 9 on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
Red-crested Pochard	1135 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 1015 at Jilihu & 120 on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. A sample count of 89 birds at Jilihu produced 51 males (57%) & 38 female. (410 metres)
Common Pochard	3 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 1 at Jilihu & 2 on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
Tufted Duck	14 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 12 at Jilihu & 2 on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
White-winged Scoter	4 (one adult male, one female & two apparent immature males) on Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
Common Goldeneye	5 birds (including one adult male) on Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
Smew	4 (including one adult male) on Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
Eurasian Hoopoe	2 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
European Roller	3 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - one flew north low over the lake at Jilihu at 09:15hrs & two others were seen at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
Common Cuckoo	5 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - one at Jilihu & four on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
Common Swift	10,000 were estimated near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 3000 were estimated at Jilihu in the morning & 7000 were estimated to be moving north at Haishang Mogui Cheng along the eastern side of Ulunguhu in the afternoon. This afternoon passage was most pronounced from about 14:100-16:00hrs during which time I made several timed counts that all produced in excess of 100 birds/minute moving north! (410 metres)
Rock Pigeon	100 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
Common Moorhen	1 was seen at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
Eurasian Coot	250 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 110 at Jilihu & 140 on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
Common Snipe	1 at Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
Black-tailed Godwit	1 at Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
Eurasian Curlew	1 at Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
Common Redshank	21 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 11 at Jilihu & 10 on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
Common Greenshank	12 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 11 at Jilihu & 1 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
Common Sandpiper	2 at Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
Little Stint	3 at Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. Apparently only the third record for Xinjiang! (410 metres)
Temminck's Stint	4 at Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
Ruff	26 (one male & 25 females) at Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
Eurasian Oystercatcher	2 singles at Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
Black-winged Stilt	21 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 20 at Jilihu & 1 flew north at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
Little Ringed Plover	16 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 12 at Jilihu & 4 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
Kentish Plover	38 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 32 at Jilihu & 6 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
Northern Lapwing	70 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 30 at Jilihu & 40 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
Collared Pratincole	1 flew south at Jilihu, Fuhai at 09:32hrs on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
Siberian Gull	1 second summer <i>L. h. heuglini</i> was seen roosting with Yellow-legged Gulls at Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. Apparently only the second record for Xinjiang. (Photos) (410 metres)
Yellow-legged Gull	112 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 89 at Jilihu & 23 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
Pallas's Gull	1 first-summer at Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
Black-headed Gull	250 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 170 at Jilihu & 80 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
Common Tern	60 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 30 at both Jilihu & Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
'Western' Little Tern	4 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 2 at Jilihu & 2 more at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
White-winged Black Tern	1045 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 420 at Jilihu & 625 over the marsh at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
Black Tern	61 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 24 at Jilihu & 37 over the marsh at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. Several birds were seen, at both sites, carrying food items & disappearing in to reed beds & we thought that they were probably taking food to their mate that was sat on a nest. (410 metres)
Black Kite	60 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 2 at Jilihu & 58 flew north at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu in the 2hrs 10 minutes between 14:05-16:15hrs. (410 metres)
Eurasian Marsh Harrier	2 cream-crowns at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
Hen Harrier	1 ringtail at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
Long-legged Buzzard	1 near Fuhai town on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
Lesser Kestrel	5 single males flew purposefully north at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. In addition a further three kestrel sp., most likely this species, but too distant to be confident also flew north there. (410 metres)
Common Kestrel	2 at Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
Eurasian Hobby	2 singles at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
Great Crested Grebe	190 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 59 at Jilihu & 131 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
Black-necked Grebe	17 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
Great Cormorant	19 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 17 at Jilihu & 2 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)

Grey Heron	6 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 2 singles flew north at Jilihu & 4 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
Great Egret	11 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 3 at Jilihu & 8 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
Great Bittern	1 was heard at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
Dalmatian Pelican	3 (an adult & an immature & a separate adult) at Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (46°58.82'N., 87°20.77'E.). (410 metres). A local commercial fisherman clearly knew this bird & used the colloquial name 'Ma Er' literally 'Horse swan'. He explained that this meant it was a 'large, big headed swan with a long muzzle'. He went on to say that it was a summer visitor and was difficult to see in May when, he claimed, it nested in the red beds, but it was easier to see post-breeding in June and July. This seemed perfectly plausible. The same fishermen knew that it was a protected species in China & that catching or killing one was punishable by imprisonment! However what's probably a bigger problem is that the reeds in the lake are harvested annually – this is apparently a recent thing as they didn't used to be. This could be an additional reason for the pelican's decline – though I'd suspect that the harvesting takes place in the mid-autumn, well after the pelicans (& Mute Swans that up until this year were a regular feature at Ulunguhu) have finished breeding.
Red-backed x Rufous-tailed Shrike	1 apparent hybrid male at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
Rufous-tailed Shrike	8 around Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410-450 metres)
Desert Wheatear	1 male at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
Isabelline Wheatear	10 around Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410-450 metres)
Rosy Starling	35 birds, with Common Starlings, in the reed bed at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
Common Starling	160 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 20 at Jilihu & 140 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
Sand Martin or Pale Martin	600 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 – 300 at both Jilihu & Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
Barn Swallow	1000 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 400 at Jilihu & at least 600 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
Savi's Warbler	1 was heard in the reed bed at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
Paddyfield Warbler	20 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 – at least 8 at Jilihu & slightly more than that in the reed bed at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
Great Reed Warbler	20 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 6 at Jilihu & many more than that at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
[Sykes's or Booted Warbler	1 at Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)]
Hume's Warbler	1 was heard calling & singing from the reed bed at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
Xinjiang Whitethroat	3 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
Asian Short-toed Lark	10 around Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410-450 metres)
Horned Lark	6 around Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410-450 metres)
White Wagtail	3 around Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410-450 metres)
Citrine Wagtail	2 at Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
Western Yellow Wagtail	10 around Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410-450 metres)
Richard's Pipit	1 flew north at Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
Tawny Pipit	3 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - two at Jilihu & one at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)

Thursday 10 May 2007. Most of day around to Ulunguhu, Fuhai. Evening drive to Beitun.

We left the Lijinluyou Hotel in Fuhai at 05:15hrs & headed back to the same site besides Ulunguhu that we'd birded yesterday evening.

Weather

It was sunny all day. At Haishang Mogui Cheng it was 4°C at 06:45hrs, this had risen to 16°C by 10:05hrs & by 14:30hrs it was 22°C. Elsewhere at Huangjin Hai'an it was 27°C at 16:40hrs.

Site 1. Haishang Mogui Cheng (also known as Ulunguhu Ru Kou Chu) on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai. (approx. 47°00.74'N., 87°27.64'E.). 410 metres.

Despite making several brief stops on route we arrived at this site at 06:05hrs - exactly 50 minutes after leaving the Lijinluyou Hotel in Fuhai. These stops produced a few singing birds including no less than nine Common Nightingales. We spent much of the morning at Haisheng Mogui Cheng – I spent a lot of time tape recording things in the marsh before all three of us retraced our route partway back towards Fuhai & then headed off to explore the scrub & grassland besides the Ulungu River. We finally headed back in to Fuhai at 13:30hrs. Birds here today included -

Black Tern	41
Spotted Redshank	1
Great Bittern	1 was heard
Savi's Warbler	5 heard
Grasshopper Warbler	1
Rusty-rumped Warbler	1

Site 2. Road from Fuhai to Zhonghaizi, Fuhai. 14:15-15:00hrs. (47°07.67'N., 87°26.01'E.). ca.430 metres.

We were told that this road, that starts right in the centre of Fuhai town, led all the way to a reed bed on the edge of Ulunguhu. It didn't and instead, although well paved, apparently little used & quiet, it became extremely rough immediately after the small village of Zhonghaizi. I'd already spent some time birding along the road stopping at a couple of attractive-looking sites during the nine kilometres between Fuhai & Zhonghaizi. The best singles spot was at about kilometre 4.5. Birds here included

Common Nightingale	1
Bluethroat	1
Saxaul Sparrow	1 singing, territorial male
European Bee-eater	3 flew high northeast overhead at 14:30hrs
Yellow Wagtail	15 in recently flooded fields
Xinjiang Whitethroat	2
Rook	2

Site 3. Ulunguhu Haibin Yuchang, Fuhai (also known as Huangjin Haian – literally 'Golden Beach'). ca.430 metres.

This tourist site is well sign posted off the main Fuhai to Beitun road & is about 30 kilometres from the latter. The 16 kilometre long side road leads directly to the lake edge where an entrance fee of 20 yuan/person & 5 yuan/vehicle is payable. This place was undergoing massive redevelopment. We spent about one hour here – I spent most of the time recording the *fuscus* Reed Warblers.

We then headed in to Beitun, Altai arriving at the 3-star Dian Li Hotel where rooms cost 130/night. 24 hrs hot water about 50 minutes after leaving Ulunguhu Haibin Yuchang.

Greylag Goose	40 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Ruddy Shelduck	6 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Gadwall	10 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Mallard	10 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Northern Shoveler	6 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Garganey	13 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Red-crested Pochard	30 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Ferruginous Pochard	1 male at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Eurasian Hoopoe	4 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
European Roller	3 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
European Bee-eater	3 flew high northeast over the minor road between Fuhai & Zhonghaizi at 14:30hrs on the 10/5/2007. (ca.430 metres)
Common Cuckoo	6 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Common Swift	1000 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Little Owl	1 near Ulunguhu Haibin Yuchang (Huangjin Haian), Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (ca.430 metres)
Rock Pigeon	200 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
European Water Rail	3 were heard at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Common Moorhen	2 were heard at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Eurasian Coot	30 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Common Snipe	2 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Spotted Redshank	1 flew over the reed bed at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Common Redshank	30 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Common Greenshank	1 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Green Sandpiper	1 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Common Sandpiper	6 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Black-winged Stilt	20 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Little Ringed Plover	10 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Northern Lapwing	20 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Yellow-legged Gull	60 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Pallas's Gull	2 adult-summers at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Black-headed Gull	180 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Common Tern	40 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
'Western' Little Tern	2 at Ulunguhu Haibin Yuchang (Huangjin Haian), Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (ca.430 metres)
White-winged Black Tern	500 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Black Tern	41 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Black Kite	30 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. Most of these were in Beitun, Altai. (410 metres)
Eurasian Marsh Harrier	2 cream-crowns at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Long-legged Buzzard	1 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Common Kestrel	4 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Great Crested Grebe	70 on Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Black-necked Grebe	10 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Great Cormorant	2 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Grey Heron	8 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Great Egret	12 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

Red-backed Shrike	1 adult male at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. It was very aggressive towards a male Rufous-tailed Shrike & repeatedly chased it. (410 metres)
Rufous-tailed Shrike	10 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Rook	2 singles near Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Carrion Crow	1 near at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Common Nightingale	11 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Bluethroat	4 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Common Stonechat	1 male near Ulunguhu Haibin Yuchang (Huangjin Haian), Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (ca.430 metres)
Desert Wheatear	3, two males & one female, near Ulunguhu Haibin Yuchang (Huangjin Haian), Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (ca.430 metres)
Isabelline Wheatear	2 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Rosy Starling	75 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Common Starling	150 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. Most of these were near Beitun, Altai. (410 metres)
White-crowned Penduline Tit	1 was heard at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Great Tit	3 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Sand Martin or Pale Martin	200 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Barn Swallow	300 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Grasshopper Warbler	1 (in the red bed!) at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. It was taped & eventually seen well. (410 metres)
[Rusty-rumped Warbler	1 bird, possibly this species, was heard distantly at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)]
Savi's Warbler	5 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Paddyfield Warbler	10 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Eurasian Reed Warbler	5 singing birds in the reed bed on the beach at Ulunguhu Haibin Yuchang (Huangjin Haian), Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (ca.430 metres)
Great Reed Warbler	15 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. Most were at Haishang Mogui Cheng but there were also two at Ulunguhu Haibin Yuchang. (410 metres)
Siberian Chiffchaff	2 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Hume's Warbler	5 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Bearded Parrotbill	2 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Xinjiang Whitethroat	8 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Asian Short-toed Lark	4 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Horned Lark	2 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Saxaul Sparrow	1 singing, territorial male besides the minor road between Fuhai & Zhonghaizi on the 10/5/2007. (ca.430 metres)
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	30 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Western Yellow Wagtail	40 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
Reed Bunting	3 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

Friday 11 May 2007. Beitun to Altai (also known as Aletai = Aertai = Altay).

We overslept & left the Beitun hotel at 06:45hrs, 1.5hrs later than planned. We immediately headed west out of town on route S319. We made several stops today.

Weather

It was 4°C at 06:40hrs at the un-named 'Little Gull Lake' west of Beitun & it was 28°C at 13:50hrs at Daweitan reservoir, Altai.

1st stop. Un-named 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 on S319 west of Beitun, Altai. 07:15-09:30hrs. (47°26.18'N., 87°25.27'E.). 490 metres.

There's a small, but sprawling reed fringed lake 200 metres north of the road. This was the site that Professor Ma Ming apparently discovered breeding Little Gulls a few years ago – none were present today but there was a decent assortment of other species including –

Gadwall	396
Smew	25
Marsh Sandpiper	2
Little Stint	15
Temminck's Stint	1
Savi's Warbler	1
Cetti's Bush Warbler	2
Paddyfield Warbler	4
Great Reed Warbler	1
Common Redstart	1 male

2nd stop. Pool north of route S319 at Km 22 west of Beitun, Altai. 09:50-10:05hrs. (47°25.85'N., 87°32.67'E.). 475 metres.

This pool is accessed by driving about 400 metres north in to the desert immediately opposite the sign posted turning south to 'Fuhai Lake scenic spot' at Km 22. This lake held far fewer birds than our previous stop. It wasn't reed fringed and appeared to be deeper. The only birds of note were -

Horned Grebe	1
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Site 3. Northern end of Ulunguhu at Beitun Yuchang (Beitun Fishing Station or Nong Shishi Yuchang – 10 Corps Fishing Station). 10:10-12:05hrs. (47°25.05'N., 87°32.14'E.). 475 metres.

This recently developed tourist site at the northern end of Ulunguhu is sign posted south off route S319 22 kms west of Beitun. Drive down here for one kilometre until the road comes close to the lake edge. Having heard at Grey-necked Bunting singing on the escarpment here we birded here for a short while & then drove on in to the tourist/fishing village about two kilometres further south. There were a few birds out on the lake – but nothing of any great consequence. Of greater interest was a small passage of raptors, Black Kites & one Lesser Kestrel, moving north along the ridge that flanks the western side of the lake and a mixed party of hirundines (mostly Barn Swallows and Pale Martins but also including at least three Sand Martins) on wires on the edge of the fishing village. Highlights here included -

Black Kite	35
Eurasian Marsh Harrier	1 cream-crown
Lesser Kestrel	1
Grey-necked Bunting	1
Pale Martin	20
Sand Martin	3

Site 4. Heicitan (Heici Pool) at Km 45 on the Beitun to Altai road. 12:45-13:00hrs. (47°29.50'N., 87°51.19'E.). 475 metres.

A roughly circular (five kilometre diameter?) pool to the right (east) of the road linking Beitun & Altai. We saw few birds of note here.

The main Beitun to Altai road crosses the Kelan River at Km 38.5.

Km 35.6 road off to the left (west) to 81 Corps.

Site 5. Daweitai Reservoir, Altai. 13:15-15:00hrs. (47°39.27'N., 88°00.98'E.). 645 metres.

A moderately large reservoir to the east of the road linking Beitun with Altai & 23 kilometres from the latter. It was hot (27°C) when we were here midday. We initially birded from the dam at the reservoir's western end, saw the Whimbrel on the far side & drove around for a better look. Birds of interest today included -

Rook	65
Eurasian Jackdaw	9
Demoiselle Crane	1 flew over
Whimbrel	5

We then turned around & headed back south & away from Altai before turning right (west) on to route X400 towards 181 Corps.

Site 6. Small woodland and pool north of X400 at Km 7.5 in 181 Corps, Altai. (47°34.30'N., 87°49.84'E.). 515 metres.

We saw a European Bee-eater here while driving past. Other birds of note once we'd stopped included -

European Bee-eater	1
Wryneck	1
Paddyfield Warbler	2

Sprawling settlement of 181 Corps at Km 12.

Site 7. Shiqi Lian, 181 Corps (Literally '14th company, 181 Corps'), Kekesu Wetland, Altai. 16:50-18:00hrs. (47°36.82'N., 87°28.44'E.). 490 metres.

This site is also known as Mongguwan cun.

The Kekesu Wetland covers a large area & we only covered one site - a large reed bed (with very little open water). There's a village at Shiqi Lian with a multi-storey protection station building at its far end that has an observation tower used for scanning for winter fires. Birds seen from near here included -

Eurasian Marsh Harrier	4
Eurasian Hobby	1
White-winged Black Tern	630
Greylag Goose	
Ferruginous Duck	2
Whooper Swan	2 adults

Site 8. Grassland between Kekesu & Alahake Lake. 18:40-19:20hrs. (47°37.34'N., 87°31.44'E.). 485 metres.

A very attractive looking low, flat grassy floodplain to the east of the Kekesu Wetland. There's a new road right through this area that connects 181 Corps in the heart of the Kekesu Wetland with the main Altai to Buerjin highway (route S217) to the north. I spent just over 30 minutes scanning this area from the road. Highlights included -

We turned right (north-east) at Alahake xiang once we'd joined Rte S217 and headed toward Altai & away from Buerjin. From this junction its 48 kilometres to Altai.

Site 9. Small roadside pool near Alahake xiang & 47 kms from Altai. 19:40hrs.

Birds here included -

Temminck's Stint	2
Wood Sandpiper	1
Green Sandpiper	1
Black-winged Stilt	10

Site 10. Luobuhongma Nature Reserve (also known as Alahake Lake or Lop Kender), Altai. 20:15-21:30hrs. (47°41.90'N., 87°34.00'E.). 480 metres.

Perhaps about four kilometres long and 1.5 wide at its widest, this east-west oriented, bird-rich salt lake is set back to the south of the Buerjin-Altai road (S217). It is accessed by turning south in to the desert at about Kilometre 43.9 (the Kilometre posts give the distance from Altai) immediately east of the small settlement of Alahake xiang. (When accessing this site from Altai, Alahake lake is clearly visible well to the south of the highway from about Kilometre post 34 onwards). The 4.5 kilometre dirt track between the main highway and a small goat herder's house on the northern lake edge is rough &, at times, difficult to follow but the lake is large & easily seen from the main highway & is still visible for most of the drive down to it. The whole area's apparently also known as the Lop Kender Protection Zone and is in the 'northwest area of the Alahake Salt River'. Birds here today included –

Demoiselle Crane	1 circled overhead & eventually headed off high to the north.
Little Gull	23 summer plumaged adults
Relict Gull	1 adult summer
Pied Avocet	143
Common Ringed Plover	1 male
Terek Sandpiper	2

We arrived at the supposedly 3-star Gold Bridge Hotel in the centre of Altai (47°50.57'N., 86°08.07'E. - 910 metres) at 22:55hrs.

Common Quail	1 was heard in the grassland between Kekesu & Alahakehu, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (485 metres)
Whooper Swan	2 adults at Shiqi Lian, 181 Corps. Kekesu Wetland, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (490 metres)
Greylag Goose	360 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 - 4 flew over the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 176 (including two adults with five recently fledged chicks) at Shiqi Lian, 181 Corps. Kekesu Wetland; 180 in the grassland between Kekesu & Alahakehu, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (485-490 metres)
Ruddy Shelduck	173 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 14 on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 4 at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu; 10 on Heicitan pool between Beitun & Altai; 35 on Daweitan Reservoir; 10 at Shiqi Lian, 181 Corps. Kekesu Wetland; 20 in the grassland between Kekesu & Alahakehu; 80 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender). (475-650 metres)
Common Shelduck	64 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 2 at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu; 62 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender). (475 metres)
Gadwall	482 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 396 on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 8 at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu; 4 on Heicitan pool between Beitun & Altai; 32 on Daweitan Reservoir; 2 at Shiqi Lian, 181 Corps. Kekesu Wetland; 40 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender). (475, 490, 650 metres)
Eurasian Wigeon	110 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 14 on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 66 on Daweitan Reservoir; 40 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender). (490-650 metres)
Mallard	114 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 72 on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 5 at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu; 27 on Daweitan Reservoir; 10 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender). (475-650 metres)
Northern Shoveler	26 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 10 on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 2 on Daweitan Reservoir; 14 in the Kekesu Wetland. (490-650 metres)
Northern Pintail	88 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 2 on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 13 at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu; 68 on Daweitan Reservoir; 4 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender). (475-490 metres)
Garganey	17 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 3 on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 7 on Daweitan Reservoir; 7 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender). (475-490 metres)
Common Teal	10 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 2 (a pair) on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 8 on Daweitan Reservoir. (490-650 metres)
Red-crested Pochard	33 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 3 on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 24 at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu; 6 at Shiqi Lian, 181 Corps. Kekesu Wetland. (475-490 metres)
Common Pochard	2 at Shiqi Lian, 181 Corps. Kekesu Wetland. (475-490 metres)
Ferruginous Pochard	3 males in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 1 at Shiqi Lian, 181 Corps. Kekesu Wetland & the other two in the grassland between there & Alahakehu. (470-485 metres)
Tufted Duck	5 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 - 1 male on Daweitan Reservoir & 4 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender). (650 metres)
Common Goldeneye	8 at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (475 metres)

Smew	25 (including just one male) on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (490 metres)
Eurasian Wryneck woodpecker sp.	1 was heard at Km 7.5 besides route X400 in 181 Corps, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (515 metres) 1 was heard near the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (500 metres)
Eurasian Hoopoe	6 in Altai on the 11/5/2007. (400-520 metres)
European Bee-eater	1 at Km 7.5 besides route X400 in 181 Corps, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (515 metres)
Common Cuckoo	8 in Altai on the 11/5/2007. (400-520 metres)
Rock Pigeon	50 in Altai on the 11/5/2007. (400-520 metres)
Eurasian Collared Dove	2 near Kekesu, Altai on the 11/5/2007 we possibly the first for Altai. (470 metres)
Demoiselle Crane	2 singles in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 1 circled over on Daweitan Reservoir before gradually heading off northeast at 13:40hrs; another was seen circling over Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) at 20:30hrs before it also headed off east. (480 & 645 metres)
Common Moorhen	2 on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (490 metres)
Eurasian Coot	10 on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (490 metres)
Common Snipe	8 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 3 at the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun & 5 in the Kekesu Wetland. (490 metres)
Whimbrel	5 besides Daweitan Reservoir, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (650 metres)
Eurasian Curlew	6 in the Kekesu Wetland-Alahakehu area, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (470-485 metres)
Common Redshank	120 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – these included 16 at the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 40 in the grassland between Kekesu & Alahakehu; 50 besides Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender). (480-650 metres)
Marsh Sandpiper	3 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 2 (a pair that were seen displaying & copulating) at the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 1 in the Kekesu Wetland area. (485 metres)
Common Greenshank	1 besides Daweitan reservoir, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (650 metres)
Green Sandpiper	3 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 1 on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 2 on a pool near Alahake xiang besides the Buerjin-Altai road. (490 metres)
Wood Sandpiper	2 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 - 1 flew over the grassland between Kekesu & Alahakehu; 1 on a pool near Alahake xiang besides the Buerjin-Altai road. (485 metres)
Terek Sandpiper	2 besides Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 11/5/2007. (480 metres)
Common Sandpiper	4 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 2 on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun & 2 more besides the Km 22 pool just north of route S319 west of Beitun. (475 & 490 metres)
Little Stint	22 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 15 on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 7 besides Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender). (480 & 490 metres)
Temminck's Stint	3 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 1 flew over the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 2 on a pool near Alahake xiang besides the Buerjin-Altai road. (490 metres)
Ruff	16 besides Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 11/5/2007. (480 metres)
Black-winged Stilt	80 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 2 on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 6 at Shiqi Lian, 181 Corps. Kekesu Wetland; 72 besides Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender). (480-490 metres)
Pied Avocet	143 besides Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 11/5/2007. (480 metres)
Common Ringed Plover	1 male besides Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 11/5/2007. (480 metres). This is apparently only the second record for Xinjiang – the first was a bird I saw at Jiahezi Reservoir, Manasi on the 4 November 2006.
Little Ringed Plover	30 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – these included 6 on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 8 besides Daweitan Reservoir; 6 in the Kekesu Wetland. (490-650 metres)
Kentish Plover	25 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 10 besides Daweitan Reservoir; 15 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender). (480 & 650 metres)
Northern Lapwing	100 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – these included 20 near the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 50 in the Kekesu Wetlands area. (480 metres)
Yellow-legged Gull	60 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – these included 27 besides on Daweitan Reservoir; 20 in the Kekesu Wetlands area; 10 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender). (480-650 metres)
Black-headed Gull	140 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – these included 20 besides on Daweitan Reservoir; 70 in the Kekesu Wetlands area; 10 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender). (480-650 metres)
Relict Gull	1 adult-summer on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 11/5/2007. It flew off southeast after being harassed by a Pied Avocet! (Photos). The first recent record for Xinjiang. (480 metres)
Little Gull	23 adult-summers on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 11/5/2007. (480 metres)
Gull-billed Tern	10 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 11/5/2007. (480 metres)
Common Tern	74 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 4 on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 2 on the Km 22 pool just north of route S319 west of Beitun; 8 at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu; 10 on Heicitan pool between Beitun & Altai; 20 at Shiqi Lian, 181 Corps. Kekesu Wetland; 10 in the grassland between Kekesu & Alahakehu; 20 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender). (475-490 metres)
White-winged Black Tern	644 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 4 at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu; 630 at Shiqi Lian, 181 Corps. Kekesu Wetland; 10 flew high to the east (as if migrating) over the grassland site between Kekesu & Alahakehu at 18:45hrs. (470-490 metres)
Black Kite	110 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – these included 25 in Beitun town h(all were heading north & away from the roost site in the woodland belt besides the Ertix river); 3 near the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 4 over the Km 22 pool just north of route S319 west of Beitun; 35 flew north at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu; 20 on Daweitan Reservoir. (475-650 metres)
Eurasian Marsh Harrier	5 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 1 cream-crown at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu; 3 (2 males & 1 cream-crown at Shiqi Lian, 181 Corps. Kekesu Wetland; 1 different cream-crown in the grassland between Kekesu & Alahakehu. (475-490 metres)
Hen Harrier	1 male in the grassland between Kekesu & Alahakehu, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (485 metres)
Montagu's Harrier	1 adult male in the grassland between Kekesu & Alahakehu, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (485 metres)

Common Kestrel	6 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 1 near the ‘Little Gull lake’ at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 1 at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu; 1 near Beitun; 1 besides route X400 in 181 Corps; 2 in the grassland between Kekesu & Alahakehu. (475-515 metres)
Lesser Kestrel	1 flew north over Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu, Altai at 10:30hrs on the 1/5/2007. (475 metres)
Eurasian Hobby	2 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 1 at Shiqi Lian, 181 Corps. Kekesu Wetland & the other in the grassland between Kekesu & Alahakehu. (485-490 metres)
Great Crested Grebe	7 on Heicitan pool between Beitun & Altai on the 11/5/2007. (475 metres)
Horned Grebe	1 on the Km 22 pool just north of route S319 west of Beitun, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (475 metres)
Great Cormorant	10 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 3 on the ‘Little Gull lake’ at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 7 on Daweitan Reservoir. (490 & 650 metres)
Grey Heron	9 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 2 near the ‘Little Gull lake’ at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 2 over the Km 22 pool just north of route S319 west of Beitun; 3 at Shiqi Lian, 181 Corps. Kekesu Wetland; 2 in the grassland between Kekesu & Alahakehu. (475-490 metres)
Great Egret	17 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 3 on the ‘Little Gull lake’ at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 1 over the Km 22 pool just north of route S319 west of Beitun; 9 at Shiqi Lian, 181 Corps. Kekesu Wetland; 4 in the grassland between Kekesu & Alahakehu.. (475-490 metres)
Rufous Shrike	15 in Altai on the 11/5/2007.
Eurasian Jackdaw	9 at Daweitan Reservoir, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (650 metres)
Rook	65 at Daweitan Reservoir, Altai on the 11/5/2007. Three of these were nominate <i>frugilegus</i> the rest <i>pastinator</i> . (650 metres)
Large corvid sp.	1 near the ‘Little Gull lake’ at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (490 metres)
Common Nightingale	2 singing birds were heard in scrub in 181 Corps, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (480 metres)
Bluethroat	6 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 2 singing birds near the ‘Little Gull lake’ at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 2 near Heicitan pool between Beitun & Altai; 2 were heard near the Kekesu Wetland. (475-490 metres)
Common Redstart	1 male besides the ‘Little Gull lake’ at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (490 metres)
Common Stonechat	9 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 3 near the ‘Little Gull lake’ at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 6 near the Kekesu Wetland. (475-490 metres)
Northern Wheatear	4 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 2 males near the ‘Little Gull lake’ at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 1 near Heicitan pool between Beitun & Altai; 1 at Daweitan Reservoir. (475, 490 & 650 metres)
Pied Wheatear	8 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 1 at Km 29 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 2 near the ‘Little Gull lake’ at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 1 male near the Km 22 pool just north of route S319 west of Beitun; 4 at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu; 1 in 181 Corps. (430, 475, 490, 520 metres)
Desert Wheatear	4 in Altai on the 11/5/2007. (450 metres)
Isabelline Wheatear	8 in Altai on the 11/5/2007. (475-650 metres)
Rosy Starling	2 copulating birds in the reed bed at the ‘Little Gull lake’ at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (490 metres)
Common Starling	40 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – these included 20 near Beitun & 10 near the ‘Little Gull lake’ at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun. (460-490 metres)
Great Tit	8 in the Kekesu Wetland Altai on the 11/5/2007. (475-490 metres)
Sand Martin	7 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 - 3 roosting on wires with a small party of Pale Martins at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu (photos). This species has apparently only been recorded in Xinjiang a few times before. (475 metres)
Pale Martin	20, with three Sand Martins, at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu , Altai on the 11/5/2007. (475 metres)
Sand Martin or Pale Martin	3 near the ‘Little Gull lake’ at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (490 metres)
Barn Swallow	200 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – these include about 30 at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu. (475 metres)
Cetti's Bush Warbler	2 singing, territorial birds in the reed bed at the ‘Little Gull lake’ at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (490 metres)
Savi's Warbler	1 singing, territorial bird in the reed bed at the ‘Little Gull lake’ at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (490 metres)
Paddyfield Warbler	4 singing, territorial birds besides the ‘Little Gull lake’ at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (490 metres)
Great Reed Warbler	20 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 1 was heard at the ‘Little Gull lake’ at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 10 on Heicitan pool between Beitun & Altai; 10 at Shiqi Lian, 181 Corps. Kekesu Wetland. (470-490 metres)
Siberian Chiffchaff	1 near 181 Corps, Kekesu, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (490 metres)
Hume's Warbler	6 near 181 Corps, Kekesu, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (490 metres)
Xinjiang Whitethroat	8 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – these included 4 near the ‘Little Gull lake’ at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun. (480 metres)
Asian Short-toed Lark	2 near the ‘Little Gull lake’ at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (480 metres)
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	30 in Altai on the 11/5/2007.
White Wagtail	6 in Altai on the 11/5/2007.
Citrine Wagtail	6 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – these included 1 at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu. (475 metres)
Western Yellow Wagtail	60 in Altai on the 11/5/2007.
Tawny Pipit	3 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 2 near the ‘Little Gull lake’ at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 1 near the Km 22 pool just north of route S319 west of Beitun. (475 & 490 metres)
Chaffinch	2 singing birds near 181 Corps, Kekesu, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (490 metres)
Eurasian Linnet	2 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 1 near the ‘Little Gull lake’ at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 1 at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu. (475 & 490 metres)
Grey-necked Bunting	1 singing male was seen where the rocky ridge comes close to Ulunguhu at Beitun Yuchang, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (490 metres)
Reed Bunting	3 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 1 singing bird in the reed bed at the ‘Little Gull lake’ at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 2 in the Kekesu Wetlands. (490 metres)

Saturday 12 May 2007. All day around Altai.

We left the Gold Bridge Hotel, Altai at 06:15hrs & headed straight back to the excellent site that we'd visited yesterday evening. We spent the entire morning there returning to Altai city for a late lunch & then had the afternoon catching up on some paperwork.

Weather

It was 12°C at 07:20hrs at Luobuhongma NR (Alahake Lake or Lop Kender), Altai & it had risen to 27°C there by 12:40. It remained windy all day – force 3-4.

Site 1. Luobuhongma Nature Reserve (also known as Alahake Lake or Lop Kender), Altai. 07:20-13:45hrs. (47°41.90'N., 87°34.00'E.). 480 metres.

We initially birded the same area as yesterday – the area immediately around the shepherd's house on the lake's western shore. The same access directions as yesterday applied. We then walked about two kilometres west along the muddy lake edge – to view the marsh at the lake's western end. Our view was OK but only that & we next drove part-way around the lake – back up to route S217 to Alahake xiang where we turned left (towards Buerjin) only to turn off this road again in less than four kilometres (at kilometre post 48). This smaller road is the one we'd driven on yesterday & led back to 181 Corps. We drove down here only a couple of hundred metres – to level with the last house in the village before heading off on a dirt track back towards the lake. I'd hoped that by accessing the lake's eastern shore we might have been able to have seen what the Relict & Little Gulls were doing – whether we could actually confirm breeding or not. In the event we couldn't – the Little Gulls kept disappearing in to the short reeds while the Relict Gulls were actually better seen from the other side of the lake. In the event we left the area at 13:45hrs & drove straight back to Altai.

Greylag Goose	14 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Ruddy Shelduck	120 besides Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Common Shelduck	75 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Gadwall	35 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Eurasian Wigeon	45 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Mallard	6 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Northern Shoveler	11 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Northern Pintail	15 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Garganey	5 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Common Teal	2 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Red-crested Pochard	2 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Eurasian Hoopoe	3 between Altai & on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) on the 12/5/2007. (480-780 metres)
Rock Pigeon	50 between Altai & on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) on the 12/5/2007. (480-900 metres)
Common Snipe	10, including several displaying birds, at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Eurasian Curlew	1 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Common Redshank	200 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Marsh Sandpiper	1 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Common Greenshank	8 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Green Sandpiper	1 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Wood Sandpiper	1 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Terek Sandpiper	2 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Common Sandpiper	2 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Little Stint	6 (a single bird & a group of five) at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Temminck's Stint	24 (in parties of 1, 3, 3, 7 & 10 birds) flew east at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Dunlin	3 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Ruff	121 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. In the early morning several singles and flocks (1, 1, 3, 7, 11 & 23 birds) flew east over the lake. Numerous breeding plumaged males were seen fighting with each other and/or displaying to potential mates. (480 metres)
Black-winged Stilt	135 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Pied Avocet	188 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Grey Plover	2 (a pair) at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Common Ringed Plover	The same adult female was still present at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Little Ringed Plover	3 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Kentish Plover	20 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Northern Lapwing	40 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Yellow-legged Gull	10, including three birds sitting on nests, at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. This was the only site during my Xinjiang trips that I've seen Yellow-legged Gulls actually nesting. (480 metres)

Black-headed Gull	200 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. Many of these birds were sitting on nests towards the lake's southern end. (480 metres)
Relict Gull	6 (five summer plumaged adults and a second summer bird) at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. Although birds weren't definitely seen sitting on nests at least one pair was seen displaying to each other & several birds occasionally flew around calling vociferously. I suspected that breeding was taking, or would take, place in the marsh towards the lake's southern edge – close to the Gull-billed Tern colony. (480 metres)
Little Gull	49 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. One second-summer bird was seen – all the rest were summer plumaged adults. As with Relict Gull breeding was suspected but not confirmed. I twice saw different birds drop in the areas of reed bed towards the lake's southern end. (480 metres)
Gull-billed Tern	263 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. A large number (well in excess of 150) of birds were seen sitting on nests towards the lake's southern end. (480 metres)
Common Tern	20 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
White-winged Black Tern	4 flew east over Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Black Kite	11 between Altai & on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) on the 12/5/2007. (480-820 metres)
Long-legged Buzzard	1 besides route S217 at Km post 24, from Altai, on the 12/5/2007. (760 metres)
Lesser Kestrel	1 male flew purposefully east low over Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Common Kestrel	5 between Altai & on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) on the 12/5/2007. (480-795 metres)
Great Cormorant	3 flew east over Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Great Egret	5 singles flew east over Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Red-backed Shrike	1 male at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Rufous-tailed Shrike	10 between Altai & on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) on the 12/5/2007. (480-650 metres)
Rufous-tailed Rock Thrush	1 female at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Bluethroat	4 singing males around Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Common Stonechat	2 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480-520 metres)
Northern Wheatear	2 males at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480-520 metres)
Pied Wheatear	6 between Altai & on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) on the 12/5/2007. (480-780 metres)
Rosy Starling	1 with a flock of Common Starlings, between Altai & on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) on the 12/5/2007. (770 metres)
Common Starling	40 between Altai & on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) on the 12/5/2007. (480-770 metres)
Pale Martin	1 flew east low over Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Sand Martin or Pale Martin	3 flew east low over Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Barn Swallow	20 between Altai & on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) on the 12/5/2007. (480-680 metres)
Hume's Warbler	1 was heard in woodland near Altai on the 12/5/2007. (820 metres)
Xinjiang Whitethroat	4 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Asian Short-toed Lark	3 singing birds at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 between Altai & on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) on the 12/5/2007. (480-900 metres)
White Wagtail	2 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Western Yellow Wagtail	25 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
Tawny Pipit	2 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)

Sunday 13 May 2007. Morning near Altai & Buerjin. Afternoon drove to Kanasi.

We left the Gold Bridge Hotel, Altai at 05:15hrs & headed up the valley towards Xiaodonggou Forest Park. However it had clearly rained hard overnight, was drizzling as we left & this turned to heavy rain within about ten minutes. We made the decision to cut our losses & head back to Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) & then continue on the Buerjin & Kanasi.

Weather

It rained hard at Altai and on route to Alahakehu until about 07:30hrs. It rained again, mostly drizzle but turning to sleet at higher altitudes, as we headed to Kanasi in the late afternoon. Strong westerly wind all day until about 18:00hrs. It was 22°C at 14:30hrs near the Buerjin wetlands while by 17:50hrs it was 8°C as we'd ascended towards Jiadengyu.

Site 1. Luobuhongma (Alahake Lake or Lop Kender), Altai. 07:00-09:00hrs. (47°41.90'N., 87°34.00'E.). 480 metres.

We birds the western shore – around the shepherd's house. Birds here today included -

Relict Gull	1 adult summer
Little Gull	33 including one second summer
Little Stint	8
Temminck's Stint	35
Ruff	105
Curlew Sandpiper	1
Greater Sand Plover	1
Common Ringed Plover	1 male
Demoiselle Crane	1

Leaving Alahakehu at 09:00hrs we slowly made our way back to the main Altai-Buerjin highway (route S217) & turned immediately west (left) at Alahake xiang (Km 48).

Site 2. Alahake Marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai. 09:45-10:45hrs. (47°45.39'N., 87°25.90'E.). 500 metres.

This very productive marsh is right besides the main Altai-Buerjin road (route S217) between Kilometre posts 54-57. (The distance from Altai to Buerjin is exactly 100 kms so the marsh is just over half way from the former & starts about six kilometres west of Alahake xiang). The marsh is probably the northern edge of the Kekesu Wetland that we visited (in 181 Corps) two days previously. The best section of marsh is immediately to the north of the road between Kms 56-57. Birds here today included -

Whooper Swan	A pair of adults
European Roller	1
Black-tailed Godwit	7 (including three pairs that gave the impression of breeding locally)
Ruff	4
Eurasian Marsh Harrier	1 cream-crown
Pallid Harrier	2 males (one adult, one immature)
Montagu's Harrier	2 (an apparent pair)
Great Bittern	1 was heard
Red-backed Shrike	1 male
Savi's Warbler	16 were counted along a one kilometres stretch of road through the marsh!
Red-headed Bunting	1 flew south

The border between the districts of Altai & Buerjin is at Kilometre 61.3 (38.7 from Buerjin) on route S217 & is marked by a large arch over the highway.

Almost immediately after entering Buerjin county a stand of trees either side of the road held large numbers of birds -

Red-backed Shrike	1 male
Common Nightingale	12 birds were heard along a 500 metre stretch of road near Km post 62!
Hume's Warbler	3 were heard
Reed Warbler	3 were heard
Red-headed Bunting	1 male at Km 62.5
White-crowned Penduline Tit	1 was heard at Km 62.5

We arrived in Buerjin town at 12:45hrs, had a leisurely lunch, did some food shopping & fuelled up. We left there again at 14:20hrs.

Kanas is 166 kilometres from Buerjin.

Its 52 kilometres on route S227 from Buerjin to Habahe

Site 3. Small marsh two kilometres before Tuohongtai Reservoir on route S232 close to Buerjin. 14:50-15:00hrs. (47°46.70'N., 86°49.82'E.). 470 metres.

This small marsh is only about 1.5kms down route S232 (the Buerjin to Kanas road) from the junction with route S227 (the Buerjin to Habahe road) & as such is only nine kilometres from Buerjin town. Birds here today included -

White-winged Black Tern	55
Marsh Sandpiper	2
Red-crested Pochard	3
Greylag Goose	6
Common Redshank	30

Site 4. Tuohongtai Reservoir, Buerjin. 15:10hrs. (47°47.70'N., 86°50.22'E.). 475 metres.

A very large, apparently recently constructed (it doesn't appear on our 2002 road map that was revised in 2006!) reservoir only about 11 kilometres drive from Buerjin. Close to route S232 it had a very attractive, shallow sloping muddy edge that appeared perfect for shorebirds & the lake itself clearly held a decent number of birds but it was extremely windy and raining again so we didn't scan for long. We visited this site again on the 15 May 2007. Birds of note today included -

White-tailed Eagle	1 adult
Great Egret	7
Common Greenshank	2

Attractive area of rolling hills dotted with numerous small bushes at Kilometre 108 (from Kanasi & hence 58 from Buerjin) on route S232. (770 metres).

Chonghuer xiang is at Kilometre 99 (660 metres) on route S232.

Road climbs up steeply over the first, scrub covered pass from Kilometres 89-83 & reaches 1160 metres at its summit.

Kilometre 75 (from Kanasi & hence 91 kilometres from Buerjin) there's a junction to Heiliutan (Kanasi) Airport (under construction & due for completion in 2008. (1155 metres)

Second & higher road pass. 1355 metres.

Buerjin Forest Workers Station Km 52 (from Kanasi & hence 114 kms from Buerjin) 1760metres

On 4 May 2006 at Km 51 (from Kanasi & hence 115 kms from Buerjin) & at 1800 metres Gou Jun saw 100+ Asian Rosy Finches. There was lots of deep snow on the road then!

Km post 47 (from Kanasi & hence 119 kms from Buerjin) & at 1840 metres we entered Jiadengyu Forest Park. It was sleeting!

Road forked at Km 46 – we kept left towards Kanasi.

Site 5. Highest point on the Buerjin to Kanasi road (S232). 17:45-18:40hrs. (48°25.95'N., 87°12.37'E.). 1990 metres.

Km post 46.5 (from Kanasi & hence 119.5 kms from Buerjin) & only 500 metres after entering the Jiadengyu Forest Park. An area of open alpine grassy meadow and scattered, open larch forest with small numbers of conifers and patches of lingering snow. Birds here included –

Black Redstart	2 males
Tree Pipit	5
Ortolan Bunting	1
Black-throated Thrush	2 singing males
Mistle Thrush	2
Songar Tit	2
Kestrel	1
Black Kite	1
Northern Wheatear	4
Carrion Crow	1
Rufous-tailed Rock Thrush	1 female

Site 6. Area between the Kanasi National Park Information Centre & Jiadengyu cun. 19:00-21:20hrs. (48°30.22'N., 87°08.13'E.). 1420 metres.

I spent most of the time birding the tiny coppice near the petrol station. Birds seen included -

Pine Bunting	6
Ortolan Bunting	65
Fieldfare	3
Black-throated Thrush	4
Mistle Thrush	3
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	1
Northern Hobby	3
Eurasian Treecreeper	1

Note that Kanas is often spelt Kanasi and is also known as Hanasi.

Whooper Swan	2 adults on the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (500 metres)
Greylag Goose	50 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. These included 6 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), 25 on the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), both Altai & 6 on the marsh near Tuohongtai Reservoir, Buerjin. (480-500 metres)
Ruddy Shelduck	100 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. These involved 56 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai included two parties with the parents accompanied by numerous recent fledglings – the first pair had seven chicks, the second pair 13. There were also about 30 on the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland). (480-500 metres)
Common Shelduck	50 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. These included 28 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai & at least 20 on the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland). (480-500 metres)
Gadwall	20 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)
Eurasian Wigeon	20 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)
Mallard	20 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. These included six at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) & a similar number on the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai. (480 metres)
Northern Shoveler	30 in Altai on the 13/5/2007. These included 10 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) & 14 on the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland). (480-500 metres)
Northern Pintail	5 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)
Garganey	12 in Altai on the 13/5/2007. These included 5 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) & 7 on the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland). (480-500 metres)
Common Teal	3 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)
Red-crested Pochard	9 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. These included 3 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), 3 more over the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland) both Altai & 3 more over the small marsh near Tuohongtai Reservoir, Buerjin. (480-500 metres)
Common Pochard	2 on the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (500 metres)

Eurasian Hoopoe	1 near the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (500 metres)
European Roller	4 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. These included one at Km 58 near the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland) between Altai & Buerjin, Altai; 2 besides the Buerjin to Habaha road only three kilometres from the former. (460, 490 & 500 metres)
Common Cuckoo	8 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. These included 3 near the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai & one at the highest road pass in the Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin. (480-2100 metres)
Rock Pigeon	50 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007.
[Oriental Turtle Dove	1 bird, probably this species, was heard in the Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (1910 metres)
Demoiselle Crane	1 grounded bird was seen walking in the desert midway between Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) and the main Altai to Buerjin road on the 13/5/2007. (510 metres)
Common Moorhen	1 was heard on the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (500 metres)
Common Snipe	40 in Altai on the 13/5/2007. These included 8 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) & the rest on the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland). (480-500 metres)
Black-tailed Godwit	7 (three pairs & a single bird) on the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai on the 13/5/2007. The fact that the three pairs were widely dispersed on the marsh suggested that they might breed here. (500 metres)
Eurasian Curlew	4 (two pairs that were probably breeding) on the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (500 metres)
Common Redshank	140 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. These included 30 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), no less than 50 on the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), both Altai & 30 on the small marsh near Tuohongtai Reservoir, Buerjin. (480-500 metres)
Marsh Sandpiper	4 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai & 2 more on the marsh near Tuohongtai Reservoir, Buerjin. (470 & 480 metres)
Common Greenshank	7 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007 - 5 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai & 2 on Tuohongtai Reservoir, Buerjin. (475 & 480 metres)
Wood Sandpiper	2 in Altai on the 13/5/2007 - 1 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) & the other flew west over the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland). (480-500 metres)
Terek Sandpiper	1 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)
Common Sandpiper	6 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. These included one that was heard over the Gold Bridge Hotel, Altai at 05:10hrs; 1 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) & four others between there Kanasi. (480-1810 metres)
Little Stint	8 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)
Temminck's Stint	35 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)
Curlew Sandpiper	1 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)
Ruff	113 in Altai on the 13/5/2007 - 105 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) & the other 8 over the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland). (480-500 metres)
Black-winged Stilt	80 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)
Pied Avocet	100 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. Elsewhere there was one 28 kms north of Buerjin on route S232. (480 & 495 metres)
Grey Plover	2 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)
Common Ringed Plover	1 adult male, (a different bird to yesterday's female) at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)
Little Ringed Plover	2 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)
Kentish Plover	12 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)
Greater Sand Plover	1 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)
Northern Lapwing	150 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. These included 30 around Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai. & no less than 80 the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), both Altai. (480-550 metres)
Yellow-legged Gull	8 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)
Black-headed Gull	40 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)
Relict Gull	1 adult-summer at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)
Little Gull	33 (32 adult-summer & one second-summer) at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)
Gull-billed Tern	14 in Altai on the 13/5/2007 - 10 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) & 4 singles flew low to the west over the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland). (480-500 metres)
Common Tern	15 in Altai on the 13/5/2007 - 10 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) & 5 more over the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland). (480-500 metres)
White-winged Black Tern	83 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. These included 4 around Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) & 14 over the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), both Altai; elsewhere there were 55 over the small marsh near Tuohongtai Reservoir, Buerjin (480-500 metres)
Black Kite	25 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. These included 5 over the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai & 7 besides route S227 close to Buerjin & one over the highest road pass in the Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin. (460-560 & 1150 & 2050 metres)
White-tailed Eagle	1 adult flew north-west low over Tuohongtai Reservoir, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (475 metres)
Eurasian Marsh Harrier	1 cream-crown at Km 54 on S217 through the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (500 metres).
Pallid Harrier	2 males (one adult, one sub-adult) at Km 56 on S217 through the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai on the 13/5/2007. The adult male was seen to drop a small bundle of grass or reeds that we thought was probably nesting material in to a small reed bed. At times these two birds were very close to the pair of Montagu's Harriers we saw over the same marsh! (500 metres)
Montagu's Harrier	2 (an apparent pair) at Km 56 on S217 through the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai on the 13/5/2007. The pair were keeping very close company and the female eventually disappeared in to a small reed bed where we suspected they were breeding. At times these two birds were very close to the two Pallid Harriers we saw over the same marsh! (500 metres)

Eurasian Sparrowhawk	1 hunting the buntings near the Kanasi National Park information centre close to Jiadengyu cun, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (1450 metres)
Booted Eagle	1 dark morph in Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (2200 metres)
Common Kestrel	8 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. These included two over the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai & one over the highest road pass in the Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin. (495, 510, 515, 690, 1140, 1150, 1440 & 2050 metres)
Eurasian Hobby	3 (including one vociferous pair) near the Kanasi National Park information centre close to Jiadengyu cun, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (1450 metres)
Great Cormorant	2 flew west over Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)
Great Egret	19 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. These included 9 at the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai & 7 besides Tuohongtai Reservoir, Buerjin. (475-550 metres)
Great Bittern	1 was heard in the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (500 metres)
Red-backed Shrike	3 males in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. These included one at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), one besides the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), both Altai & 1 at KM post 62 less than 500 metres in to Buerjin county. (480, 490 & 500 metres)
Rufous-tailed Shrike	10 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (450-550 metres)
Eurasian Jackdaw	1 at Km post 102 (three kilometres) south of Chonghuer (between Buerjin & Kanasi), Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (680 metres)
Carriion Crow	3 in the Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007 – one besides the highest road pass & two others closer to Jiadengyu cun. (1770-2050 metres)
Rufous-tailed Rock Thrush	1 female besides the highest road pass in the Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (2040 metres)
Mistle Thrush	4 in the Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007 – one singing male besides the highest road pass & three others near the Kanasi National Park information centre close to Jiadengyu cun. (1450-2050 metres)
Black-throated Thrush	6 in the Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007 – two singing males besides the highest road pass & about four near the Kanasi National Park information centre close to Jiadengyu cun. (1410-2050 metres)
Fieldfare	3 near the Kanasi National Park information centre close to Jiadengyu cun, Kanasi NP, Buerjin on the 13/4/2007.. (1410 metres)
Common Nightingale	12 singing birds in a 500 metre stretch of route S217 just inside Buerjin county on the 13/5/2007. (490 metres)
Bluethroat	3 in Altai on the 13/5/2007 – one at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) & two in the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland) . (490-500 metres)
Black Redstart	2 males besides the highest road pass in the Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (2050 metres)
Common Stonechat	1 besides the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (500 metres)
Northern Wheatear	15 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. The only bird in Altai was a single male carrying food to a nest in Alahake xiang with all the rest being seen between Buerjin & Kanasi. (510, 1150, 1380, 1390, 1525, 1585, 1610, 1990-2050 metres)
Pied Wheatear	3 on the small pass 12 kms north of Chonghuer xiang (on route S232 between Buerjin & Kanasi), Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (960-980 metres)
Rosy Starling	25 on the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (500 metres)
Common Starling	30 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (450-620 metres)
Eurasian Nuthatch	1 was heard near the Kanasi National Park information centre close to Jiadengyu cun, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (1450 metres)
Eurasian Treecreeper	1 near the Kanasi National Park information centre close to Jiadengyu cun, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (1450 metres)
White-crowned Penduline Tit	1 was heard (at Km 62.5) besides route S217 about 500 metres after entering Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (490 metres)
Willow (Songar) Tit	3 (two seen & one only heard) in the Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007 – two besides the highest road pass & one near the Kanasi National Park information centre close to Jiadengyu cun. (1400-1980 metres)
Coal Tit	5 were heard in the Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (1830-2100 metres)
Sand Martin	1 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)
Sand Martin or Pale Martin	5 between Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (500 metres)
Barn Swallow	40 between Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007.
Northern House Martin	6 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)
Goldcrest	2 were heard near the Kanasi National Park information centre close to Jiadengyu cun, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (1450 metres)
Savi's Warbler	16 singing birds were counted along a one kilometre stretch of road (kms 56-57 – from Altai) through the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (500 metres)
Eurasian Reed Warbler	13 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007 - 10 singing birds were heard along a one kilometre stretch of road (kms 56-57 – from Altai) through the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai & 3 singing birds in reeds besides route S217 less than one kilometre inside Buerjin county. (490 & 500 metres)
Great Reed Warbler	2 singing birds were heard along a one kilometre stretch of road (kms 56-57 – from Altai) through the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (500 metres)
Siberian Chiffchaff	3 were heard near the Kanasi National Park information centre close to Jiadengyu cun, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (1450 metres)
Hume's Warbler	10 in Buerjin on the 13/5/2007 – 3 in trees besides route S217 less than one kilometre inside Buerjin county & the rest in Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (490 & 1450 metres)
Asian Short-toed Lark	4 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007 – the highest of these were 3 on the summit of the small pass 16 kms north of Chonghuer xiang (on route S232 between Buerjin & Kanasi), Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (1140 metres)
White Wagtail	6 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007 – these included several near the Kanasi National Park information centre close to Jiadengyu cun, Buerjin. (500-1440 metres)
Citrine Wagtail	4 at the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (500 metres)
Western Yellow Wagtail	30 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (490-650 metres)
Grey Wagtail	3 in Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (1410-1470 metres)
Tree Pipit	5 on the highest road pass in the Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (1990-2040 metres)

Chaffinch	2 were heard near the Kanasi National Park information centre close to Jiadengyu cun, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (1500 metres)
Eurasian Siskin	10 in Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (1410-1830 metres)
European Goldfinch	3 between Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007 – one at the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai & the other two near the entrance gate to Kanasi National Forest Park, Buerjin. (500 & 1420 metres)
Common Redpoll	2 in the Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (1830 metres)
Common Rosefinch	1 was heard in the Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (1440 metres)
Red Crossbill	6 in the Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (1830 metres)
Pine Bunting	6, with the large flock of Ortolan Buntings, near the Kanasi National Park information centre close to Jiadengyu cun, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (1420 metres)
Rock Bunting	2 on the small pass 12 kms north of Chonghuier xiang (on route S232 between Buerjin & Kanas), Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (960 metres)
Red-headed Bunting	2 singles on the 13/5/2007 – one flew south over the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai & the other was on a roadside wire just inside Buerjin county. (490 & 500 metres)
Ortolan Bunting	65 in Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007 – one near the summit of the highest road pass shortly after entering the park & a flock of 65 about one kilometre before the Kanasi National Park information centre close to Jiadengyu cun. (1420-2010 metres)
Reed Bunting	7 singing birds in the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (500 metres)

Mammals

Mongolian Hare	1 in the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (500 metres)
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Monday 14 May 2007. All day Kanasi National Geological Park, Buerjin.

We left the Hongfu Shengtai Hotel, Jiadengyu 10 minutes late at 05:25hrs & drove back towards the entrance gate to Kanasi National Geological Park. Arriving at 05:30hrs we spent about 20 minutes listening, to no avail, for owls before walking about one kilometre up in to the forest. Gou Jun returned to the hotel to pick up Qingyu & we all entered the park as soon as it opened at 08:30hrs. We boarded the first shuttle bus (this left slightly later than planned at 08:45hrs) & took us the 22 kms up to Kanasi Lake. The drive up through very attractive, but rather bird less forest, took about 45 minutes. We spent the rest of the morning & early afternoon birding in the forest immediately around the tourist complex at the lake head before taking one of the shuttle buses part-way back to the entrance gate. It was still early season (the park apparently opens on 1st May & closes at the start of October & there are normally very few tourists here until June. During peak season [late June-August] there can be 8000 tourists in the park daily!). The park entrance fee is 184 yuan/person & its possible to pay 10 yuan more for a two-day pass. If this two day pass isn't bough on the first day then two separate single day tickets would be necessary. There are several cafes and small restaurants at two sites inside the park – these were open but devoid of tourists. There are also a couple of guest houses and simple places to stay at these two sites inside the park –unfortunately however foreigners are NOT allowed to stay in side the park overnight. We returned to the Hongfu Shengtai Hotel at about 18:00hrs & had dinner in the hotel restaurant (that they'd opened especially for us) shortly afterwards.

The forest here is OK – though most of the large trees have been selectively logged quite some years ago. The trees include Siberian Larch, Siberian Fir & *Abies sibirica* as well as aspen & birch.

Weather

It was 8°C at 08:00hrs besides the entrance to Kanasi National Park & by 12:10hrs it was 24°C at Kanasi Lake.

Kanasi National Geological Park Ticket Office, Buerjin. (48°30.35'N., 87°07.74'E.). 1432 metres.

After leaving the park entrance the road descends down to 1220 metres (& there are reputedly bus stops about every two or three kilometres).

Kanasi Lake bus terminus. (48°42.49'N., 87°01.42'E.). 1400 metres.

Mallard	4 in Kanasi National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1300 & 1400 metres)
Common Goldeneye	7 on Wolongwan lake in Kanasi National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1300 metres)
Common Merganser	4 (three males & one female) on Wolongwan lake in Kanasi National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1300 metres)
Black Woodpecker	3 in Kanasi National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1450 & 1480 metres)
Grey-headed Woodpecker	1 was heard near Kanasi Lake in Kanasi National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1450 metres)
woodpecker sp.	1 was heard near Kanasi Lake in Kanasi National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1430 metres)
Common Cuckoo	3 were heard in Kanasi National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1240-1500 metres)
Oriental Turtle Dove	1 was heard in Kanasi National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1420 metres)
Common Sandpiper	2 besides Wolongwan lake in Kanasi National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1300 metres)
Black Kite	13 in Kanasi National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1300-ca.1700 metres)
Himalayan Griffon	1 flew high to the east over the ridge northeast of Wolongwan lake in Kanasi National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (ca.1700 metres)

Eurasian Sparrowhawk	2 singles in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1420 & ca.1700 metres)
Long-legged Buzzard	1 in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1400 metres)
Common Kestrel	4 singles in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1350-ca.1700 metres)
Eurasian Hobby	1 over the ridge northeast of Wolongwan lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (ca.1600 metres)
Black Stork	7 were seen besides the Kanas River about seven kilometres downstream from Kanas Lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. They were not present when we drove back later in the day. Three birds, possibly part of this same flock, were later seen in flight over the tourist complex near Kanas Lake.(1330 & 1420 metres)
Spotted Nutcracker	1 near Kanas Lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1400 metres)
Eurasian Jackdaw	2, with a flock of Carrion Crows, near Kanas Lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1380 metres)
Carrion Crow	15 in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1360-1480 metres)
Common Raven	2 over Kanas Lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (ca.1500 metres)
Mistle Thrush	6 (including five singing birds) in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1480 metres)
Black-throated Thrush	3 near the entrance to Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1450 metres)
Fieldfare	6 in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1360-1400 metres)
Black Redstart	1 near Kanas Lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. At one stage it was singing from the very same tree as a Common Redstart! (1410 metres)
Common Redstart	15 in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. At one stage a bird seen near Kanas Lake was singing from the very same tree as a Black Redstart! (1380-1450 metres)
Common Stonechat	2 near Wolongwan lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1340 metres)
Northern Wheatear	1 near Wolongwan lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1340 metres)
Common Starling	1 near Kanas Lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1420 metres)
Eurasian Nuthatch	10 in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1360-1450 metres)
Eurasian Treecreeper	2 singles in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1400 & 1420 metres)
Willow (Songar) Tit	14 (mostly pairs) in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1370-1450 metres)
Coal Tit	15 in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1360-1450 metres)
Great Tit	4 in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1420 metres)
Barn Swallow	10 between Jiadengyu & Kanas Lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1400-1450 metres)
Northern House Martin	45 high over Wolongwan lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1400 metres)
Goldcrest	6 in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1380-1420 metres)
Siberian Chiffchaff	15 in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1370-1450 metres)
Hume's Warbler	40 in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1370-1480 metres)
Lesser Whitethroat	3 singing birds were seen in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. The first bird was near the park entrance gate (48°30.13'N., 87°07.22'E.) & the other two were close to the tourist complex besides Kanas Lake. (1420, 1430 & 1480 metres)
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	4 near Jiadengyu outside Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1450 metres)
White Wagtail	8 between Jiadengyu & Kanas Lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1220-1450 metres)
Citrine Wagtail	1 male on a pool near Kanas Lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1410 metres)
Grey Wagtail	15 between Jiadengyu & Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1230-1470 metres)
Tree Pipit	6 in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1300-1420 metres)
Water Pipit	1 near Kanas Lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1420 metres)
Chaffinch	7 singing birds were noted between Jiadengyu & Kanas Lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1320-1450 metres)
Eurasian Siskin	4 in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1350 & 1450 metres)
European Goldfinch	4, two pairs, in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1350 & 1420 metres)
Common Rosefinch	3 in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1420 & 1480 metres)
Red Crossbill	4, two pairs, in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1420 & 1480 metres)
Pine Bunting	4 birds (two singles & a pair) in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1420 & 1440 metres)
Ortolan Bunting	14 in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. The best areas were immediately around the park entrance & around the buildings close to Kanas Lake. (1340-1450 metres)

Tuesday 15 May 2007. Kanasi National Geological Park back to Buerjin.

We left the Hongfu Shengtai Hotel, Jiadengyu at 04:20hrs & headed back to Buerjin. We started early in the hope of hearing some owls in the Kanas forests on the way out – we didn't but we made numerous stops listening for these & numerous others between Jiadengyu & Buerjin. We finally arrived in Buerjin at 20:30hrs.

Weather

It was 0°C at 05:10hrs on route to the summit of the pass above Jiadengyu, Kanasi National Park. By 12:20hrs at Chonghuer xiang it was 26°C.

Site 1. Forest adjacent to Km 43.8 Jiadengyu on the Kanasi to Buerjin road. (48°26.79'N., 87°10.96'E.). 04:50-09:45hrs.

This was about the fourth roadside stop that we made listening for owls & we'd no sooner climbed out of the vehicle that I heard a White's Thrush singing way off in the distance. I headed off down and across the stream stumbling in the dark to try &

locate it. After about a 50 minutes & after walking about one kilometre, up the forested east-facing hillside I was close enough to obtain a half decent recording. However as soon as it was light enough to stand a chance of seeing the bird it stopped singing & vanished. In all I walked from the road at about 1760 metres up to the White's Thrush at 1960 metres.

White's Thrush	1 singing from at least 04:50hrs stopped at 06:05hrs (sun rise today was officially at 06:33hrs) (48°26.79'N., 87°10.96'E.). (1960 metres).
Black-throated Thrush	3 singing birds. (1910-1955 metres)
Fieldfare	3 were heard. (1840 metres)
Mistle Thrush	5. (1770, 1770, 1840, 1950 & 1980 metres)
Goldcrest	1 was heard. (1960 metres)
Eurasian Treecreeper	1 was heard singing. (1965 metres)
Oriental Turtle Dove	3 (1960 metres)
Coal Tit	10 (1860-1980 metres)
Songar Tit	6 (1860-1940 metres)
Eurasian Nuthatch	8 (1860-1970 metres)
Northern Orange-flanked Bush Robin	1 first-summer male was heard & subsequently seen. (1900 metres)
Black-throated Accentor	2 singing birds (1900 metres)
Hume's Warbler	At least 20 birds were heard – several of which were also seen. (1740-1965 metres)
Siberian Chiffchaff	2 (1820 & 1840 metres)
White-throated Dipper	1 (1740-1790 metres)
Eurasian Bullfinch	1 female (1900 metres)
Common Rosefinch	3 (1800-1860 metres)
Red Crossbill	8 (1770-1920 metres)
Ortolan Bunting	1 (1830 metres)
Tree Pipit	7 singing birds on the west facing grassier slope adjacent to Km 44 post. (1830-1870 metres)
Northern Wheatear	1 on the west facing grassier slope adjacent to Km 44 post. (1800 metres)
Linnet	2 (1760 metres)
Black Redstart	1 singing male (1760 metres)

We left this area at 09:45hrs driving back down the road about one kilometre, back towards Kanas, to where some local Kazakh herders had a camp. Outside this camp they had two captive eagles – a juvenile Steppe and an immature (possibly third calendar year) Golden Eagle. They used these as a source of income charging tourists 10 yuan to take photographs of them. The family claimed that the Golden Eagle had been taken as a fledgling from a nest & the Steppe Eagle was caught last autumn.

We then headed up & back over the road pass before descending slowly down to Buerjin.

Arrived at the 'Pied Wheatear Pass' about seven kilometres north of Chonghuer xiang (Km 83) at 11:45hrs.

2nd site. Km post 92.7 (6.3 kms north of Chonghuer xiang), Buerjin. (48°10.23'N., 87°02.94'E.). 12:15-12:40hrs. 790 metres

About 73 kms north of Buerjin. Birds in this open, grassy plain with a few scattered bushes on the lower slopes of an escarpment included -

Chukar	1 was heard
Tawny Pipit	1
Red-backed Shrike	9
Ortolan Bunting	2

3rd site. Saline desert pool five kilometres north of Woyimoke xiang, Buerjin. (47°55.53'N., 86°49.78'E.). 13:50-15:20hrs. 450 metres

This is the largest (but at only 600 x 800 metres in size is still small) of a series of shallow desert pools to the west of the main Buerjin to Kanas highway. This particular pool is set back about 800 metres at about Km post 138 (28 kms north of Buerjin) & is about one kilometre north of a large drainage canal that cuts east-west under the road & across the desert. Birds here included -

Eurasian Curlew	13
Whimbrel	24
Curlew Sandpiper	2
Little Stint	4
Ruff	1 male
Yellow-legged Gull	6
White-winged Black Tern	21
Ruddy Shelduck	2 adults with a crèche of 17 chicks
Common Shelduck	3
Black-winged Stilt	8
Asian Short-toed Lark	4
Common Tern	19
Kentish Plover	5 including one recent fledgling
Bluethroat	2
Booted Warbler	2 singing birds in separate stands of low scrub between the road and the pool

Grey Heron	1
Great Bittern	1 was heard booming off to the south

Village of Woyimoke xiang

Site 4. Marsh between Woyimoke xiang & Yashicheng, Buerjin. (47°52.92'N., 86°51.60'E.). 15:50-17:20hrs. 480 metres

Stretching for about three kilometres this north-south oriented marsh & pool with extensive reed bed begins less than one kilometre south of Woyimoke xiang & end about two kilometres to the north of the village of Yashicheng (Km 148). Its to the east of the main Buerjin to Kanas highway & held particularly impressive numbers of White-winged Black Tern. We also explored the fields with their tall shelterbelts of trees to the west of the road. Birds in this area included –

White-winged Black Tern	950
Black Tern	1
Common Tern	20
Northern Shoveler	12
Red-crested Pochard	7
Gadwall	5
Greylag Goose	10
Great Bittern	1 was heard
Nightingale	3
Bluethroat	2
White-backed Woodpecker	1 female
Northern Lapwing	60
Reed Bunting	13 singing males
White-crowned Penduline Tit	4 including a pair regularly visiting a nest
Spotted Flycatcher	1
Common Redshank	30
Eurasian Golden Oriole	1
Lesser Grey Shrike	2
Red-backed Shrike	2
Great Reed Warbler	10

Yashicheng village is at Km post 148 (18 kms north of Buerjin)

Km 150 (16 kms north of Buerjin & 2 kms south of Yashicheng village) has area of attractive scrub and marshland either side of the highway.

Site 5. Tuohongtai Reservoir, Buerjin. (47°47.70'N., 86°50.22'E.). 475 metres.

We scanned the reservoir from its north-eastern corner (before driving north & accessing it again about half-way along its eastern shoreline. We did the latter by turning west off the Buerjin-Kanas highway at about Km 156.7 (less than 10 kilometres north of Buerjin) & headed down towards the lake. This route involved a walk of about 1.5kms to view more of the lake. Birds here included –

Common Pochard	12
Northern Shoveler	20
Northern Wigeon	6
Common Goldeneye	29
Smew	2 (a pair)
Common Merganser	2 (a pair)
Black Kite	7
Eurasian Oystercatcher	9
Greenshank	47
Little Stint	1
Marsh Sandpiper	1
Dunlin	30
Greater Sand Plover	1
Common Tern	55
Eurasian Hoopoe	1
Red-backed Shrike	5 (four males, one female)
Lesser Grey Shrike	1
Ortolan Bunting	5

We arrived at the 4-star Buerjin Mysterious Lake Hotel at 20:30hrs, checked in & headed out shortly afterwards to have dinner. Tel: 0906 6528888. Fax: 0906 6520818. Discounted, low season rooms here cost 240 each.

Chukar	1 was heard on the arid ridge about seven kilometres north of Chonghuer xiang between Buerjin & Jiadengyu on the 15/5/2007. (870 metres)
Greylag Goose	25 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included about 10 on the marsh between Woyimoke xiang & Yashicheng & 10 more on Tuohongtai Reservoir. (450-500 metres)
Ruddy Shelduck	50 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included two adults with a crèche of 17 fledglings on the saline pool four kilometres north of Woyimoke xiang. (450-1700 metres)

Common Shelduck	10 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007 – these included 3 on the saline pool four kilometres north of Woyimoke xiang & another 4 on the marsh between Woyimoke xiang & Yashicheng. (450-480 metres)
Gadwall	10 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (450 metres)
Eurasian Wigeon	6 on Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475 metres)
Mallard	20 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (450-600 metres)
Northern Shoveler	40 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included 12 on the marsh between Woyimoke xiang & Yashicheng & 20 on Tuohongtai Reservoir close to Buerjin. (475-520 metres)
Red-crested Pochard	25 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included 7 over the marsh between Woyimoke xiang & Yashicheng & 12 on Tuohongtai Reservoir close to Buerjin. (475-520 metres)
Common Pochard	12 on Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475 metres)
Common Goldeneye	29 on Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475 metres)
Smew	2, a pair, on Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475 metres)
Common Merganser	2, a pair, on Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475 metres)
White-backed Woodpecker	1 female in the wind break trees at Woyimoke xiang, between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (480 metres)
Eurasian Hoopoe	1 near Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (490 metres)
Common Cuckoo	4 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (500-1900 metres)
Rock Pigeon	50 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007.
Oriental Turtle Dove	3 on the east facing slope at Km 44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1960 metres)
Common Snipe	30 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (474-550 metres)
Whimbrel	24 on the saline pool four kilometres north of Woyimoke xiang between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (450 metres).
Eurasian Curlew	13 on the saline pool four kilometres north of Woyimoke xiang between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (450 metres).
Common Redshank	60 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007.
Marsh Sandpiper	1 at Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475 metres)
Common Greenshank	47 at Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475 metres)
Common Sandpiper	2 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007.
Little Stint	5 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007 – four on the saline pool four kilometres north of Woyimoke xiang & one on Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin. (450 & 475 metres)
Dunlin	30 at Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475 metres)
Curlew Sandpiper	2 on the saline pool four kilometres north of Woyimoke xiang between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (450 metres).
Ruff	1 male on the saline pool four kilometres north of Woyimoke xiang between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (450 metres).
Eurasian Oystercatcher	9 besides Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475 metres)
Black-winged Stilt	8 on the saline pool four kilometres north of Woyimoke xiang between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (450 metres).
Pied Avocet	40 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included 27, several of which were sitting on nests, on the saline pool four kilometres north of Woyimoke xiang & at least 10 at Tuohongtai Reservoir. (450 metres).
Little Ringed Plover	15 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (450-520 metres)
Kentish Plover	10 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included 5 including a recently fledged chick on the saline pool four kilometres north of Woyimoke xiang. (450 metres)
Greater Sand Plover	1 at Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475 metres)
Northern Lapwing	100 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included 60 on the marsh between Woyimoke xiang & Yashicheng. (480 metres)
Yellow-legged Gull	10 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included six on the saline pool four kilometres north of Woyimoke xiang. (450 metres)
Black-headed Gull	20 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (450-475 metres)
Common Tern	90 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included 19 on the saline pool four kilometres north of Woyimoke xiang & 55 on Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin. (450 metres).
White-winged Black Tern	1000 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included 21 on the saline pool four kilometres north of Woyimoke xiang & massive 950 on the marsh between Woyimoke xiang & Yashicheng & 30 near Tuohongtai Reservoir. (450-480 metres)
Black Tern	1 on the marsh between Woyimoke xiang & Yashicheng, between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (480 metres)
Black Kite	25 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. Most of these were close to Buerjin itself. (450-1570 metres)
Long-legged Buzzard	1 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1750 metres)
Common Kestrel	9 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475-1900 metres)
Eurasian Hobby	1 was seen on the pass between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1950 metres)
Great Crested Grebe	6 on Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475 metres)
Great Cormorant	2 on Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475 metres)
Grey Heron	2 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (450 & 480 metres)
Great Egret	16 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included 9 on the marsh between Woyimoke xiang & Yashicheng. (480 metres)
Great Bittern	2 were heard between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. The northern-most was just south of the saline pool four kilometres north of Woyimoke xiang & the other was on the marsh between Woyimoke xiang & Yashicheng. (450 & 480 metres)
Red-backed Shrike	16 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included 9 (seven males one of which was repeatedly seen carrying nesting material & two females) within a two kilometre stretch of road (Km 93-95) (between six & four kilometres north of Chonghuer xiang). There were also 2 males at the marsh between Woyimoke xiang & 5 (four males, one female) at Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin. (475, 480, 750, 790 metres)
Rufous-tailed Shrike	1 near Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475 metres)
Lesser Grey Shrike	3 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included 2 in the shelter belt trees between Woyimoke xiang & Yashicheng & another near Tuohongtai Reservoir closer to Buerjin. (480 metres)

Eurasian Jackdaw	3 birds (one of which was collecting nesting material) between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1580 metres)
Carrion Crow	4 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1300 metres)
Eurasian Golden Oriole	1 at Woyimoke xiang between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (450 metres)
White-throated Dipper	1 in the stream near the road between Jiadengyu & Buerjin at Km 44 on the 15/5/2007. (1740-1790 metres)
Rufous-tailed Rock Thrush	1 male between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1360 metres)
White's Thrush	1 singing from at least 04:50hrs stopped at 06:05hrs (sun rise today was officially at 06:33hrs) on the east facing slope at Km 44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (48°26.79'N., 87°10.96'E.). (1960 metres).
Mistle Thrush	5 on the east facing slope at Km 44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1770, 1770, 1840, 1950 & 1980 metres)
Black-throated Thrush	3 singing birds on the east facing slope at Km 44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1910-1955 metres)
Fieldfare	4 (one seen the other three only heard) mostly on the east facing slope at Km 44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1840 & 1960 metres)
Spotted Flycatcher	1 at Woyimoke xiang between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (480 metres)
Common Nightingale	3 near Woyimoke xiang between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (480 metres)
Bluethroat	4 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (450 metres)
Northern Orange-flanked Bush Robin	1 first-summer male on the east facing slope at Km 44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1900 metres)
Black Redstart	1 singing male at Km 44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1760 metres)
Common Stonechat	4 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1200-1230 metres)
Northern Wheatear	44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007 – they were all between Km 44 & the pass north of Chonghuer xiang at Km 92. (1050-1800 metres)
Pied Wheatear	9 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin, especially around Chonghuer xiang on the 15/5/2007. (740, 790 [3 birds], 830, 1000 & 1140 metres)
Common Starling	1 at Woyimoke xiang between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (450 metres)
Eurasian Nuthatch	8 on the east facing slope at Km 44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1860-1970 metres)
Eurasian Treecreeper	1 was heard singing on the east facing slope at Km 44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1965 metres)
White-crowned Penduline Tit	4 including a pair regularly visiting a nest at Woyimoke xiang between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (480 metres)
Willow (Songar) Tit	6 on the east facing slope at Km 44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1860-1940 metres)
Coal Tit	10 on the east facing slope at Km 44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1860-1980 metres)
Sand Martin or Pale Martin	30 over Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475 metres)
Barn Swallow	50 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475-1800 metres)
Northern House Martin	7 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (450 & 1220 metres)
Goldcrest	1 was heard on the east facing slope at Km 44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1960 metres)
Great Reed Warbler	10 on the marsh between Woyimoke xiang & Yashicheng, between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (480 metres)
Booted Warbler	2 separate singing males in stands of low scrub near the saline pool four kilometres north of Woyimoke xiang between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (450 metres)
Siberian Chiffchaff	3 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included two that were heard on the east facing slope at Km 44. (1820, 1840 & 1910 metres)
Hume's Warbler	30 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007 - at least 20 birds of these were on the east facing slope at Km 44. (450-1965 metres)
Xinjiang Whitethroat	2 at Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475 metres)
Asian Short-toed Lark	4 near the saline pool four kilometres north of Woyimoke xiang between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (450 metres).
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	10 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (550 & 1220 metres)
White Wagtail	7 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007.
Western Yellow Wagtail	75 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included particularly large numbers near Tuohongtai Reservoir. (475-1230 metres)
Grey Wagtail	15 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007.
Tawny Pipit	3 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007 – these included one at Km 93 (about six kilometres north of Chonghuer xiang) & another near Tuohongtai Reservoir closer to Buerjin. (475-790 metres)
Tree Pipit	8 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included 7 singing birds on the west facing grassier slope adjacent to Km 44. The eighth bird was a presumed migrant that flew north over the fields at Woyimoke xiang. (480, 1630 & 1830-1870 metres)
Black-throated Accentor	2 singing birds on the east facing slope at Km 44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1900 metres)
Chaffinch	1 was heard at Km 93 (about six kilometres north of Chonghuer xiang), between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (770 metres)
Eurasian Siskin	5 on the east facing slope at Km 44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1890-1960 metres)
European Goldfinch	4 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included 2 at Km 93 (about six kilometres north of Chonghuer xiang) & 2 more over the fields at Woyimoke xiang. (480 & 790 metres)
Eurasian Linnet	6 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007 – these included 2 at Km 44. (1230, 1310 & 1760 metres)
Common Rosefinch	3 on the east facing slope at Km 44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1800-1860 metres)
Red Crossbill	8 on the east facing slope at Km 44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1770-1920 metres)
Eurasian Bullfinch	1 female on the east facing slope at Km 44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1900 metres)
Rock Bunting	1 was heard about between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1040 metres)
Ortolan Bunting	17 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475 [5 birds], 790-810 [3 birds], 1330, 1530, 1590 [2 birds], 1620 [2 birds], 1830, 1910, 1950 metres)

Red-headed Bunting	2 males at Km 93 (about six kilometres north of Chonghuer xiang) between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (780-795 metres)
Reed Bunting	15 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included 13 on the marsh between Woyimoke xiang & Yashicheng. (480 metres)

Wednesday 16 May 2007. Buerjin to Habahe.

We left the Buerjin Mysterious Lake Hotel at 05:08hrs & headed east towards Habahe. We made numerous stops today, but the marshes & habitat around Habahe was much drier than expected & the woodland near the two towns significantly nosier. Consequently, despite some good birds, it was a slightly disappointing day.

Weather

It was 13°C at 08:40hrs at the Buerjin river woodland. By 13:00hrs in the Habahe river woodland it had risen to 31°C & by 18:10hrs near 182 Tuan it had dropped very slightly to 29°C.

Site 1. Buerjin Hegou (Buerjin river valley). (47°43.69'N., 86°50.11'E.). 475 metres. 05:15-10:15hrs.

We turned right (north) off Provincial road S227 (the main Buerjin to Habahe/Kanas road) shortly after crossing the main river immediately to the west of Buerjin. This turning was at Km 54.1. We parked up almost immediately. It was only about 05:25hrs & we'd no sooner stopped than we heard a Eurasian Scops Owl close by & shortly afterwards we heard another. It didn't take long to actually see one & we then spent most of the remainder of the morning exploring this narrow strip of old birch wood land. Birds here included -

Eurasian Scops Owl	2 (one heard & one only seen)
Greater Whitethroat	5
Grasshopper Warbler	1 heard
Xinjiang Lesser Whitethroat	3
Eurasian Golden Oriole	2
Common Nightingale	8
Chaffinch	15
Eurasian Cuckoo	2
Eurasian Hoopoe	1
Common Rosefinch	8 (four of which flew high & strong to the west as if migrating)
Hume's Warbler	15
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	1
Goldfinch	2
Blyth's Reed Warbler	1 was seen poorly but sound recorded. (483 metres)
Tree Pipit	4 – one singing in the forest & 3 singles flew high to the east as if migrating
Common Kingfisher	1
White-backed Woodpecker	2 (a pair) feeding young in a nest
Hobby	1
Great Tit	6
Azure Tit	6 (3 pairs)
Eurasian Kestrel	1
Eurasian Starling	100 – perhaps these had roosted overnight in the woodland here

The turning north to Kanas is at Km post 50.8.

Site 2. Small marsh at Km 47.5 west of Buerjin. (490 metres)

Birds here included –

White-winged Black Tern	10
Great Egret	2
Grey Heron	1
Eurasian Starling	10
Paddyfield Warbler	1

Site 3. Tuohongtai Reservoir outflow, Buerjin. (500 metres)

Accessed by turning right (north) off provincial road S227 at about Km post 43.5 & driving about 300 metres to the reservoir's dam. There were very few birds here –

Black Kite	8
Northern House Martin	20
Rufous Shrike	1

The Buerjin to Habahe highway (provincial road S227) soon parallels the Ertix River.

Site 4. Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang. (48°01.70'N., 86°29.44'E.). 520 metres. 12:00-12:50hrs.

A small pool to the south of the Buerjin to Habahe Provincial road (S227) about 6.5kms east of Buerjin. Birds here included –

Mallard	11
Gadwall	41
Northern Shoveler	4
Eurasian Wigeon	1 male
Garganey	6 males
Common Sandpiper	8
Temminck's Stint	4
Little Ringed Plover	6
Common Ringed Plover	1 female
Greater Sand Plover	1 female
Black Kite	25 flew east in the 50 minutes that we were here

We had lunch in a noodle restaurant in Habahe &, at 13:15hrs, continued our journey west. We took local road Z840 west of town & stayed on this for much of the remainder of the day – returning to Habahe at about 20:15hrs. We made numerous stops - but few of them were very significant.

Site 5. Km 5 – just after route Z840 has crossed the Haba River – dirt track in to the birch forest to the north of the road

We spent about 30 minutes here early afternoon. Birds here included -

White-backed Woodpecker	3 (two squabbling males & a female)
Fieldfare	5
Eurasian Golden Oriole	1 heard
Chaffinch	20
Common Starling	6
Spotted Flycatcher	1
Tree Pipit	1

Kulebai xiang is 7 kms west of Habahe

Site 6. Grassland & desert 26 kilometres west of Habahe. (48°01.34'N., 86°06.48'E.). 475 metres.

Birds here included -

Pallid Harrier	1 male
Montagu's Harrier	1 pair
Ortolan Bunting	4

Some soldiers told us that there was a wetland about another 30 kilometres further west so we headed off to try & find this – however Gou Jun was very tired & needed a break. While he was sleeping I birded our last site of the day –

Site 7. Woodland belt & cultivated fields at Axia cun (also known as Tulukele cun). 48 kilometres west of Habahe. (47°59.45'N., 85°49.90'E.). 460 metres. 17:15-19:00hrs.

We parked up where there's a large sign pointing right (north) to this village. I walked down this dirt road about 500 metres before heading in to the narrow woodland belt off to the west. Birds here included -

Red-headed Bunting	1 male
Oriental Turtle Dove	4
European Bee-eater	6 flew purposefully east
Black-bellied Sandgrouse	7
Eurasian Cuckoo	3
Hume's Warbler	5
Common Nightingale	1
Eurasian Reed Warbler	2
Paddyfield Warbler	1
Common Quail	1
Richard's Pipit	1
Tawny Pipit	1 singing

We spent the night at the two star Habahe Luyou Hotel where rooms cost 120 each/night. Tel. 0906 6622944 or 6627446. Fax: 0906 6624056.

Common Quail	1 at Axia cun (Tulukele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460 metres)
Greylag Goose	20 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tulukele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460-525 metres)
Ruddy Shelduck	6 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460-525 metres)
Gadwall	50 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. These included 41 on the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin. (460-525 metres)
Eurasian Wigeon	4 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460-525 metres)
Mallard	20 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. These included 11 on the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin. (460-525 metres)

Northern Shoveler	10 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. These included 4 on the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin. (460-525 metres)
Garganey	6 males on the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin on the 16/5/2007. (520 metres)
Red-crested Pochard	10 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460-525 metres)
White-backed Woodpecker	5 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. A pair feeding young in the nest in the Buerjin river valley & three birds (two males & a female) in the Haba river valley. (475 & 520 metres)
Eurasian Hoopoe	4 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tulukele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460-525 metres)
European Roller	2 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. They were at Km posts 39.5 & 35.5 respectively. (505 & 540 metres)
Common Kingfisher	1 in the Buerjin river valley on the 16/5/2007. (460 metres)
European Bee-eater	6 flew purposefully & high to the east-north-east at 18:440hrs. (500 metres)
Common Cuckoo	6 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tulukele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460-525 metres)
Eurasian Scops Owl	2 (one seen & the other only heard) at about 05:20hrs in the Buerjin river valley on the 16/5/2007. (460 metres)
Rock Pigeon	50 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tulukele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460-525 metres)
Oriental Turtle Dove	8 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tulukele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. Birds were seen in the Buerjin river valley and at Axia cun. (460-525 metres)
Black-bellied Sandgrouse	7 at Axia cun (Tulukele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460 metres)
Common Snipe	10 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tulukele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. Birds were seen in the Buerjin river valley and at Axia cun. (460-525 metres)
Eurasian Curlew	4 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tulukele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. Birds were seen in the Buerjin river valley and at Axia cun. (460-525 metres)
Common Redshank	50 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tulukele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. Birds were seen in the Buerjin river valley and at Axia cun. (460-525 metres)
Common Sandpiper	8 besides the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin on the 16/5/2007. (520 metres)
Temminck's Stint	4 besides the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin on the 16/5/2007. (520 metres)
Eurasian Oystercatcher	1 was heard over the Buerjin river valley on the 16/5/2007. (475 metres)
Common Ringed Plover	1 female besides the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin on the 16/5/2007. (Photos) (520 metres)
Little Ringed Plover	6 besides the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin on the 16/5/2007. (520 metres)
Kentish Plover	4 besides the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin on the 16/5/2007. (520 metres)
Greater Sand Plover	1 female besides the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin on the 16/5/2007. (520 metres)
Northern Lapwing	50 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tulukele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. Birds were seen in the Buerjin river valley and at Axia cun. (460-525 metres)
Yellow-legged Gull	6 on Tuohongtai reservoir, Buerjin on the 16/5/2007. (500 metres)
Common Tern	10 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460-525 metres)
White-winged Black Tern	20 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460-525 metres)
Black Kite	40 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. Most of these (25 were seen flying east up the Ertix Valley just to the east of Habahe.
Pallid Harrier	1 male was seen from local road Z840 west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. It was at Km post 26. What was probably this same male was seen at Km post 23 as we drove back to Habahe. (535 metres)
Montagu's Harrier	5 (four males & a female) were seen from local road Z840 west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. The first was at Km post 21 & the other four were all around Km 24-25. (535 metres)
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	1 in the Buerjin river valley on the 16/5/2007. (460 metres)
Common Kestrel	6 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tulukele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. Birds were seen in the Buerjin river valley and at Axia cun. (460-525 metres)
Grey Heron	1 on a small marsh west of Buerjin on the 16/5/2007. (490 metres)
Great Egret	2 on a small marsh west of Buerjin on the 16/5/2007. (490 metres)
Red-backed Shrike	3 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tulukele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. Birds were seen in the Buerjin river valley and at Axia cun. (460 & 475 metres)
Rufous-tailed Shrike	2 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460-525 metres)
Rook	150 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tulukele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. Most of these were seen to the west of Habahe. (460-525 metres)
Eurasian Golden Oriole	3 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. 2 in the Buerjin river valley & one in the Haba river valley. (475 & 520 metres)
Fieldfare	10 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. 4 in the Buerjin river valley, 5 in the Haba river valley & 1 outside the Habahe Luyou Hotel. (475 & 520 metres)
Spotted Flycatcher	1 in the Haba river valley on the 16/5/2007. (520 metres)
Common Nightingale	11 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tulukele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. Most of these (9 birds) were seen within nine kilometres west of Buerjin. (460-525 metres)
Bluethroat	4 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460-525 metres)
Common Stonechat	15 from local road Z840 within 40 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007.
Common Starling	150 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tulukele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. Most of these (9 birds) were seen in & around the Buerjin river valley where it appeared birds might have been roosting overnight. (460-525 metres)
White-crowned Penduline Tit	6 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tulukele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. 2 birds (a pair) in the Buerjin river valley & 4 (two pairs) at Axia cun. (460-525 metres)
Great Tit	8 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. 6 in the Buerjin river valley & 2 in the Haba river valley. (475 & 520 metres)
Azure Tit	8 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. 6 in the Buerjin river valley & 2 in the Haba river valley. (475 & 520 metres)
[Long-tailed Tit	1 bird, possibly this species, was heard poorly & distantly in the Haba river valley on the 16/5/2007. (520 metres)]

Sand Martin	2 flew east over Axia cun (Tuluokele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460 metres)
Pale Martin	1 near Axia cun (Tuluokele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (500 metres)
Sand Martin or Pale Martin	30 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tuluokele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460-525 metres)
Barn Swallow	50 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tuluokele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460-525 metres)
Northern House Martin	25 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tuluokele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. These included 20 birds near the outflow of the Tuohongtai Reservoir, Buerjin. (460-525 metres)
Grasshopper Warbler	1 was heard in the Buerjin river valley on the 16/5/2007. (460 metres)
Paddyfield Warbler	1 was seen in a small marsh just west of Buerjin on the 16/5/2007. (490 metres)
Eurasian Reed Warbler	2 at Axia cun (Tuluokele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460 metres)
Blyth's Reed Warbler	1 in the Buerjin river valley on the 16/5/2007. (483 metres).
Siberian Chiffchaff	3 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tuluokele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. 2 in the Buerjin river valley & the other at Axia cun. (460-475 metres)
Hume's Warbler	40 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tuluokele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. 20 in the Buerjin river valley, 15 in the Habahe river valley & the others at Axia cun. (460-475 metres)
Greater Whitethroat	5 in the Buerjin river valley on the 16/5/2007. (470 metres)
Xinjiang Whitethroat	3 in the Buerjin river valley on the 16/5/2007. (470 metres)
Asian Short-toed Lark	2 near Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (480 metres)
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	30 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tuluokele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460-525 metres)
White Wagtail	3 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tuluokele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460-525 metres)
Western Yellow Wagtail	50 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tuluokele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460-525 metres)
Richard's Pipit	1 at Axia cun (Tuluokele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460 metres)
Tawny Pipit	3 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tuluokele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. These included 1 at the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin & 2 near Axia cun. (460-520 metres)
Tree Pipit	6 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. 4 – one singing in the forest & three singles flew high to the east as if migrating at the Buerjin river valley & 2 in the Haba river valley. (460 & 520 metres)
Chaffinch	40 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. 15 in the Buerjin river valley, 20 in the Haba river valley & 5 in Habahe town itself. (460 & 520 metres)
European Goldfinch	2 in the Buerjin river valley on the 16/5/2007. (470 metres)
Eurasian Linnet	6 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460-520 metres)
Common Rosefinch	8 (four of which flew high & strong to the west as if migrating) in the Buerjin river valley on the 16/5/2007. (460 metres)
Ortolan Bunting	6 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tuluokele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. These included 4 at the grassland 26 kms west of Habahe & 2 more at Buerjin Axia cun & 2 near Axia cun. (460 & 475 metres)
Red-headed Bunting	1 singing male at Axia cun (Tuluokele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460 metres)

Thursday 17 May 2007. Habahe back to Buerjin & south through Hebukasaer county to Wuerhe.

We left the Habahe Luyou Hotel 15 minutes late (I had a problem with my audio recorder) at 05:45 hrs & headed back west on provincial road X840. We spent the early part of the morning birding the grassland immediately to the west of the town.

Weather

Although still & calm in the early morning the wind picked up quite dramatically at 08:30hrs & continued to increase in strength until the early evening. By the time we crossing the western edge of the Junggar Basin it was extremely windy (at least force six) & difficult to use the telescope. At 06:00hrs near the Habahe wetland it was 12°C while by 11:20hrs at Buerjin this had risen to 22°C & at 17:30hrs at Wuerhe it was 20°C.

Site 1. Habahe Grassland & Marsh. (48°03.56'N., 86°23.80'E.), 530 metres. 05:55-07:15hrs.

This site – a large grassland with a small area of reeds bordering provincial road X840 is only about 700 metres from the western edge of Habahe town and is mid-way between there & the junction with the road south (left) to 185 Corps & Jimunai xian. According to Gou Jun the whole area was a marsh last year - after a much wetter winter. Birds here this morning included

Spotted Crake	1 was heard, later seen & photographed.
Corncrake	3 calling birds, one of which was seen
Richard's Pipit	1 singing
Great Bittern	1 heard well to the south of the road
Reed Warbler	10
Paddyfield Warbler	1
Bluethroat	4
Citrine Wagtail	1
Yellow Wagtail	15

Leaving here we continued about 4.5 kilometres further west on X840 to Km post 5.4. Here we turned left in to a tourist complex & spent almost 1.5hrs birding around the woodland here.

Site 2. Baihualing Feng Jing Qu, Habahe. (48°04.29'N., 86°20.18'E.). 528 metres. 07:30-08:50hrs.

Accessed by turning south off provincial road X840 exactly 5.4 kms west of Habahe this is a sprawling, recently constructed (several small chalets were still in the process of being built) tourist complex. Set in the middle of meadows and attractive birch woodland there were few people & relatively little traffic noise. Birds here included -

Grey-headed Woodpecker	1
Eurasian Golden Oriole	4
Greater Whitethroat	4
Great Tit	4
[Blyth's Reed Warbler	1 bird, possibly this species, was tape recorded]
Common Rosefinch	1
Eurasian Goldfinch	4 (2 pairs)
Tree Pipit	2
Chaffinch	10 singing birds
Mistle Thrush	1
Fieldfare	6
Eurasian Wryneck	2 singing birds

Site 3. Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang. (48°01.70'N., 86°29.44'E.). 520 metres. 09:10-09:25hrs.

I spent a very short time at the same small pool to the south of the Buerjin to Habahe provincial road (S227) about 6.5kms east of Buerjin that we visited yesterday. Birds here today included -

Mallard	11
Gadwall	36
Garganey	2 males
Temminck's Stint	13
Common Sandpiper	3
Little Ringed Plover	4
Common Ringed Plover	1 female
Greater Sand Plover	1 female
Black-winged Stilt	3
Lesser Grey Shrike	2
Bluethroat	1

Site 4. Pool between Habahe & Buerjin at Km 24.4 on provincial road (S227)

Gadwall	7
White-winged Black Tern	2
Common Reed Bunting	1 male

We had a leisurely, sit down lunch in Buerjin before heading south down the western side of the Junggar Basin to Kelamayi. We spent the night at Wuerhe in the northern part of Kelamayi county.

Its 222 kms on G217 (?) from Buerjin (at Km post 98) to Wuerhe (Kelamayi) (Km post 320)

Buerjin Toll Booth Km 111.4 (13.4kms south of Buerjin) 730 metres 11:55hrs

The road ascended through the desert south of Buerjin reaching a peak of 1035 metres at Km 119 (21 kms south of Buerjin) before descending again. There were a few minor ridges but essential the route was then a descent down to Wuerhe

Site 5. Extensive grassy plain at Km 189 (13 kms north of Wutubuluke), Hebukasaer. (46°59.37'N., 86°32.11'E.). 1265 metres.

This is an extensive & poorly grazed (!) grassy plain besides G217 (?) that would definitely repay further exploration on a later visit. We stopped at Km post 189 (89 kms south of Buerjin & 131 kms north of Wuerhe) but the area between kilometre posts 187-188 looked even better. The area is best about 10 kms north of the road off to the east that leads to Fuhai (junction is at Km 198). It was blowing a gale when we stopped here but this area looked so interesting that I couldn't resist having a look anyway. Not surprisingly we saw very little here. This was a large grassy area but further south, & closer to the settlement of Guoyingmuchang, it was heavily grazed and of much poorer quality. Birds here were few but included -

Common Swift	10
Desert Wheatear	3

Wutubuluke (literally 'Wutu spring') toll booth. Km 202. 1285 metres

The following translations are useful - in Kazakh, Mongolian & apparently also in Uigur -

Kala	=	Black
Ake	=	White
Kezile	=	Red

Site 6. Guoyingmuchang Reservoir, Hebukasaer. (46°53.73'N., 86°22.73'E.). 1260 metres. 13:45-14:45hrs.

This small village in the desert at Km post 208 on G217 (?) was apparently once, & possibly still is, a state-run collective farm. The settlement has a small (600 metres diameter) almost circular reservoir on its south-eastern side. Birds here included -

Demoiselle Crane	18 arrived from the south at 13:45hrs, circled for about five minutes and came down to the reservoir edge
Northern Wheatear	10
Isabelline Wheatear	1
Tree Pipit	1
Twite	15
White-winged Black Tern	23 – 12 of which flew off high to the northwest
Black Tern	1
Rosy Starling	25 birds arrived from the south at 14:10hrs
Yellow Wagtail	15
Mallard	10
Gadwall	6
Northern Shoveler	2 (a pair)
Citrine Wagtail	1
Common Redshank	20
Common Snipe	8
Common Kestrel	2
Rufous Shrike	1
Eurasian Skylark	8 singing birds
Northern House Martin	Flock of 20 flew north
Common Starling	1
Bluethroat	2

Site 7. Bulincun Reservoir, Hebukasaer. (46°44.19'N., 86°09.36'E.). 1070 metres. 15:15-15:35hrs.

The reservoir is about 1.5km to the west of G217 (?) & is accessed by a dirt track through the desert at Km post 234. The site is about 136 kms south off Buerjin & 86 kms north of Wuerhe (Kelamayi). Birds here included -

Demoiselle Crane	1
Common Merganser	11 females
Ruddy Shelduck	7
Great Egret	3
Common Coot	2
Yellow-legged Gull	4
Mallard	20
Northern Pintail	5
Eurasian Wigeon	6
Common Teal	5
Grey Heron	1
Horned Lark	1
Gadwall	15
Garganey	3
Northern Shoveler	4

Heshutulogan – this sprawling linear but relatively small industrial settlement that's complete with a smoke belching factory (cement plant?) off to the west of the road is between Kms 256-262 on G217 (?).

Wuerhe toll booth & the Shijie Mogui Cheng (literally 'World Devil's City' or 'World Ghost City') Km 316
360 metres

We arrived Huan Ying Guan Lin Hotel, Wuerhe at 17:25hrs, checked in, dropped the bags & Gou Jun & myself headed off to try & find a route to access Ailikehu. The helpful manager of the hotel came with us & we picked up two of his friends, both soldiers, on route.

Wuerhe is at 325 metres.

Site 8. Ailikehu, Kelamayi. (45°57.74'N., 85°45.76'E.). 270 metres. 18:45-19:15hrs.

It proved difficult, even with our knowledgeable local guides, to find decent access to, or even a vantage point overlooking, the lake. After driving around for about one hour we settled on one site that must have been nearly 1.5kms from the shoreline. There was a vast reed bed, perhaps the largest we'd seen on this Xinjiang trip, between us & the lake.

Directions

Turn right out of the hotel & drive back to the main north-south highway (G217 [?]). Head south (towards Kelamayi) & about 200 metres after crossing the river turn left (east). After another 1.5kms we entered the 6th part of 137 Corps, drove to the left of a large sign saying 'Welcome' [in Chinese]. Turn right on to a dirt road at the next T-junction & continue on through the desert. Turn right again at the next T-junction back on to a hard surfaced road (we'd now driven 14.9 kms from the Ying Guan Lin Hotel in Wuerhe). Continue on this increasingly sandy track (there are several turns off it) to view the reed bed.

Birds seen while scanning included –

Ruddy Shelduck	2
Gadwall	4
Common Greenshank	1
Temminck's Stint	21 including a partially melanistic bird
Black-winged Stilt	30
Little Ringed Plover	2
Grey Heron	2
Great Egret	5
Black-headed Gull	20
Yellow-legged Gull	15
Little Tern	2
White-winged Black Tern	150
Black Tern	2
Common Tern	40

Ruddy Shelduck	13 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17 May 2007. (340-1070 metres)
Gadwall	68 between Buerjin, Habahe, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17/5/2007. These included 36 on the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin; 6 on Guoyingmuchang Reservoir & 15 at Bulincun Reservoir, both Hebukasaer & 4 at Ailikehu, Kelamayi. (340-1070 metres)
Eurasian Wigeon	6 at Bulincun Reservoir, Hebukasaer on the 17 May 2007. (1070 metres)
Mallard	51 between Buerjin, Habahe, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17/5/2007. These included 11 again on the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin; 10 on Guoyingmuchang Reservoir & 20 at Bulincun Reservoir, both Hebukasaer & 10 at Ailikehu, Kelamayi. (340-1260 metres)
Northern Shoveler	4 on the 17 May 2007 – 2 (a pair) on Guoyingmuchang Reservoir, Hebukasaer & another 2 at Ailikehu, Kelamayi. (340 & 1270 metres)
Northern Pintail	5 on Bulincun Reservoir, Hebukasaer on the 17 May 2007. (1070 metres)
Garganey	6 on the 17 May 2007 – 2 on the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin & 2 more on Ailikehu, Kelamayi. (340 & 560 metres)
Common Teal	5 on Bulincun Reservoir, Hebukasaer on the 17 May 2007. (1070 metres)
Common Pochard	1 on Bulincun Reservoir, Hebukasaer on the 17 May 2007. (1070 metres)
Common Merganser	11 females on Bulincun Reservoir, Hebukasaer on the 17 May 2007. (1070 metres)
Eurasian Wryneck	2 singing birds at Baihualing Feng Jing Qu, Habahe on the 17 May 2007. (530 metres)
Grey-headed Woodpecker	1 at Baihualing Feng Jing Qu, Habahe on the 17 May 2007. (530 metres)
woodpecker sp.	1 was heard outside the Huan Ying Guan Lin Hotel, Wuerhe on the 17 May 2007. (340 metres)
Eurasian Hoopoe	1 flew over the highway south of Buerjin on the 17/5/2007. (1225 metres)
Common Cuckoo	6 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17 May 2007. (340-1240 metres)
Common Swift	300 on the 17/5/2007 – 10 over the grassland 13 kms north of Wutubuluke, Hebukasaer & 300 over Ailikehu, Kelamayi. (320 & 1265 metres)
Eurasian Scops Owl	1 was heard outside the Habahe Luyou Hotel in central Habahe at about 05:10hrs on the 17/5/2007. (540 metres)
Rock Pigeon	50 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17 May 2007.
Oriental Turtle Dove	7 on the 17/5/2007 – 5 at Baihualing Feng Jing Qu, Habahe & 2 more near Ailikehu, Kelamayi. (320 & 520 metres)
Demoiselle Crane	19 in Hebukasaer on the 17/5/2007 – 18 arrived at Guoyingmuchang Reservoir from the south at 14:10hrs & a single was besides Bulincun Reservoir. (1070 & 1260 metres)
Corn Crane	3 (one seen & two only heard) in the Habahe Grassland on the 17/5/2007. (520 metres)
Spotted Crane	1 was heard & subsequently seen in the roadside marsh in the Habahe Grassland on the 17/5/2007. (520 metres) (Photo)
Eurasian Coot	2 on Bulincun Reservoir, Hebukasaer on the 17 May 2007. (1070 metres)
Common Snipe	30 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17 May 2007. (340-1260 metres)
Eurasian Curlew	2 in the Habahe Grassland on the 17/5/2007. (520 metres)
Common Redshank	100 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17 May 2007. (340-1260 metres)
Common Greenshank	1 at Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 17 May 2007. (340 metres)
Common Sandpiper	3 on the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin on the 17/5/2007. (560 metres)
Temminck's Stint	34 on the 17/5/2007 - 13 on the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin & 21 (including a partially melanistic bird (that was darker over most of its upperparts & breast & had a particularly with blackish face & fore-crown, lower rear scapulars & some inner median & greater coverts) at Ailikehu, Kelamayi. (340 & 560 metres)
Black-winged Stilt	33 on the 17/5/2007 – 3 on the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin & 30 at Ailikehu, Kelamayi. (340 & 560 metres)
Common Ringed Plover	1 female again besides the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin on the 17/5/2007. (560 metres)
Little Ringed Plover	10 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17/5/2007. (340-560 metres)
Kentish Plover	4 at Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 17/5/2007. (340 metres)
Greater Sand Plover	1 female again besides the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin on the 17/5/2007. (560 metres)
Northern Lapwing	60 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17/5/2007. (340-1070 metres)
Yellow-legged Gull	25 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17/5/2007. These included 4 besides Bulincun Reservoir, Hebukasaer & 15 at Ailikehu, Kelamayi. (340-1070 metres)
Black-headed Gull	20 at Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 17/5/2007. (340 metres)
Common Tern	44 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17/5/2007. These included 4 at Habahe Marsh & 40 over Ailikehu, Kelamayi. (340 & 560 metres)
'Western' Little Tern	2 at Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 17/5/2007. (340 metres)

White-winged Black Tern	175 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17/5/2007. These included 2 between Habahe & Buerjin; 23 (12 of which flew off high to the northwest) at Guoyingmuchang Reservoir, Hebukasaer & 150 over Ailikehu, Kelamayi. (340, 560 & 1260 metres)
Black Tern	3 on the 17/5/2007 – one over Guoyingmuchang Reservoir, Hebukasaer & 2 at Ailikehu, Kelamayi. (340 & 1260 metres)
Black Kite	39 on the 17/5/2007 – 25 in Habahe; 5 near Buerjin; 7 in Hebukasaer & 2 near Wuerhe, Kelamayi. (340-1270 metres)
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	1 at Baihualing Feng Jing Qu, Habahe on the 17 May 2007. (530 metres)
Common Kestrel	5 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17/5/2007. (340-1280 metres)
Great Crested Grebe	1 on Bulincun Reservoir, Hebukasaer on the 17/5/2007. (1070 metres)
Grey Heron	3 on the 17/5/2007 – one besides Bulincun Reservoir, Hebukasaer & 2 at Ailikehu, Kelamayi. (340 & 1070 metres)
Great Egret	10 on the 17/5/2007 – 2 near Habahe, 3 besides Bulincun Reservoir, Hebukasaer & 5 at Ailikehu, Kelamayi. (340, 560 & 1070 metres)
Great Bittern	1 was heard towards the southern end of the Habahe Grassland on the 17/5/2007. (530 metres)
Rufous-tailed Shrike	1 near Guoyingmuchang Reservoir, Hebukasaer on the 17/5/2007. (1270 metres)
Lesser Grey Shrike	2 near the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin on the 17/5/2007. (560 metres)
Rook	20 between Habahe & Buerjin on the 17/5/2007. (560 metres)
Eurasian Golden Oriole	4 in the Baihualing Feng Jing Qu, Habahe on the 17 May 2007. (530 metres)
Mistle Thrush	1 in the Baihualing Feng Jing Qu, Habahe on the 17 May 2007. (530 metres)
Fieldfare	12 near Habahe on the 17 May 2007 – 2 outside the Habahe Luyou Hotel near the town centre & 6 more at Baihualing Feng Jing Qu. (530 metres)
Common Nightingale	12 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17/5/2007. These included 5 in & around Habahe; 2 between Habahe & Buerjin & 5 more between Wuerhe & Ailikehu (Kelamayi). (340-540 metres)
Bluethroat	12 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17/5/2007. These included 5 in & around Habahe; 2 between Habahe & Buerjin, 2 near Guoyingmuchang Reservoir, Hebukasaer & 3 more between Wuerhe & Ailikehu (Kelamayi). (340-1270 metres)
Northern Wheatear	10 near Guoyingmuchang Reservoir, Hebukasaer on the 17/5/2007. (1270 metres)
Pied Wheatear	1 near Heshutulogan, Hebukasaer on the 17/5/2007. (840 metres)
Desert Wheatear	4 in Hebukasaer on the 17/5/2007 – 3 at the grassland 13 kms north of Wutubuluke & 1 close to Bulincun Reservoir. (1110 & 1265 metres)
Isabelline Wheatear	1 near Guoyingmuchang Reservoir, Hebukasaer on the 17/5/2007. (1270 metres)
Rosy Starling	25 near Guoyingmuchang Reservoir, Hebukasaer on the 17/5/2007. (1270 metres)
Common Starling	1 near Guoyingmuchang Reservoir, Hebukasaer on the 17/5/2007. (1270 metres)
White-crowned Penduline Tit	2 at Baihualing Feng Jing Qu, Habahe on the 17 May 2007. (530 metres)
Great Tit	4 at Baihualing Feng Jing Qu, Habahe on the 17 May 2007. (530 metres)
Azure Tit	2 at Baihualing Feng Jing Qu, Habahe on the 17 May 2007. (530 metres)
Sand Martin or Pale Martin	40 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17/5/2007. These included 4 near Habahe; 5 over Guoyingmuchang Reservoir, Hebukasaer & 30 at Ailikehu (Kelamayi). (340-1270 metres)
Barn Swallow	100 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17/5/2007. (340-1270 metres)
Northern House Martin	20 flew north over Guoyingmuchang Reservoir, Hebukasaer on the 17/5/2007. (1270 metres)
Paddyfield Warbler	1 in Habahe Marsh on the 17/5/2007. (530 metres)
Eurasian Reed Warbler	10 in Habahe Marsh on the 17/5/2007. (530 metres)
[Blyth's Reed Warbler	1 bird, possibly this species, was seen very poorly & heard very briefly at Baihualing Feng Jing Qu, Habahe on the 17 May 2007. (530 metres)]
Great Reed Warbler	6 between Wuerhe & Ailikehu (Kelamayi) on the 17/5/2007. (340 metres)
Booted Warbler	1 near Ailikehu (Kelamayi) on the 17/5/2007. (340 metres)
Siberian Chiffchaff	1 singing bird at Baihualing Feng Jing Qu, Habahe on the 17 May 2007. (530 metres)
Hume's Warbler	10 at Baihualing Feng Jing Qu, Habahe on the 17 May 2007. (530 metres)
Greater Whitethroat	4 at Baihualing Feng Jing Qu, Habahe on the 17 May 2007. (530 metres)
Eurasian Skylark	8 singing birds near Guoyingmuchang Reservoir, Hebukasaer on the 17/5/2007. (1270 metres)
Horned Lark	1 at Bulincun Reservoir, Hebukasaer on the 17 May 2007. (1070 metres)
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17/5/2007.
White Wagtail	5 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17/5/2007. (320-540 metres)
Citrine Wagtail	2 on the 17/5/2007 – 1 in the Habahe Grasslands & 1 more near Guoyingmuchang Reservoir, Hebukasaer. (540 & 1270 metres)
Western Yellow Wagtail	40 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17/5/2007. (320-1270 metres)
Richard's Pipit	1 in the Habahe Grasslands on the 17/5/2007. (530 metres)
Tree Pipit	3 on the 17/5/2007 – 2 at Baihualing Feng Jing Qu, Habahe & 1 near Guoyingmuchang Reservoir, Hebukasaer. (530 metres)
Chaffinch	15 near Habahe on the 17 May 2007 – 5 outside the Habahe Luyou Hotel near the town centre & 10 more at Baihualing Feng Jing Qu. (530 metres)
European Goldfinch	4 (two pairs) at Baihualing Feng Jing Qu, Habahe on the 17/5/2007. (530 metres)
Twite	15 near Guoyingmuchang Reservoir, Hebukasaer on the 17/5/2007. (1270 metres)
Common Rosefinch	1 was heard at Baihualing Feng Jing Qu, Habahe on the 17/5/2007. (530 metres)
Reed Bunting	1 on a pool between Habahe & Buerjin on the 17/5/2007. (530 metres)

Friday 18 May 2007. Am Ailikehu near Wuerhe. Pm drove south to Baijiantan.

We left the Huan Ying Guan Lin Hotel, Wuerhe at 04:45hrs & drove back to the same Ailikehu site that we'd visited yesterday evening.

Weather

It was already windy when we left the Wuerhe hotel (*ca.* 325 metres) at 04:45hrs but this increased markedly during the morning. By 06:00hrs near Ailikehu it was 10°C & by 14:30hrs at Baijiantan it was 28°C.

Site 1. Ailikehu, Kelamayi. (45°57.74'N., 85°45.76'E.). 270 metres. 06:45-08:45hrs.

After birding here we drove slowly back to Wuerhe & then continued to drive around to view the northern end of Ailikehu. We headed for a site called Hubincun (literally 'Lake Side Village'). We drove right to the end of the paved road that headed northeast out of the northern end of Wuerhe. The pavement on the is road finished after 18 kilometres & we continued on about another five kilometres on a dirt track to the lake edge & a tiny fishing settlement. There were very few birds here so, after less than 15 minutes scanning, we returned to Wuerhe & then headed south towards Kelamayi. We arrived at Baijiantan at 13:40hrs & spent the night in the Huayuan hotel. We had a late lunch in the good hotel right next door & were joined by a birding friend of Gou Jun – a Mr Zhao Bo. Mr Zhao's a keen & accomplished bird photographer & we spent much of the afternoon looking through his digital images.

Common Pheasant	1 between Ailikehu & Wuerhe, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Ruddy Shelduck	6 on Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Gadwall	10 at Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Mallard	6 at Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Northern Shoveler	2 at Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Garganey	3 at Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Red-crested Pochard	2 at Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Eurasian Hoopoe	1 near at Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
European Bee-eater	3 between Ailikehu & Wuerhe, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Common Cuckoo	3 between Ailikehu & Wuerhe, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Common Swift	About 5000 were estimated at Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. Virtually all the birds were moving purposefully in to the south-south-westerly wind. During the period 07:45-08:05hrs I made five, five minute counts & these varied from 210 to 580 birds/period and averaged just over 420 birds per five minute period. Noting that the passage continued for at least two hours this would put the number of birds present at a figure (16,800) more than three times higher than my estimate! (280 metres)
Eurasian Nightjar	2, a pair, near Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Rock Pigeon	30 between Ailikehu, Wuerhe & Baijiantan, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280-300 metres)
Common Moorhen	1 was heard at Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Common Snipe	1 near Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Whimbrel	1 flew south at Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Common Greenshank	1 at Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Common Sandpiper	2 at Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Temminck's Stint	16 at Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Black-winged Stilt	20 at Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Little Ringed Plover	4 at Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Kentish Plover	3 at Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Yellow-legged Gull	25 at Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Pallas's Gull	3 adult-summers at Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Black-headed Gull	10 at Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Common Tern	40 at Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
White-winged Black Tern	150 at Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Black Kite	1 between Ailikehu & Baijiantan, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (320 metres)
Shikra	1 adult near Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Common Kestrel	2 near Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Great Crested Grebe	2 at Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Great Cormorant	17 at Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Grey Heron	8 (all adults except one bird) at Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Great Egret	34 flew south at Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Little Bittern	1 adult male at Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Rufous-tailed Shrike	2 near Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Carrion Crow	2 singles near Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Common Nightingale	19 between Ailikehu & Wuerhe, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280-300 metres)
Bluethroat	2 near Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Desert Wheatear	2 between Ailikehu & Wuerhe, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280-300 metres)
Rosy Starling	8 flew over Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Common Starling	1 near Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Turkestan Tit	1 between Ailikehu & Wuerhe, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280-300 metres)
Sand Martin or Pale Martin	10 at Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Barn Swallow	30 at Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Savi's Warbler	1 was heard at Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Eurasian Reed Warbler	10 at Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Great Reed Warbler	2 were heard at Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Sykes's Warbler	1 singing, territorial bird near Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Hume's Warbler	2 near Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Asian Short-toed Lark	2 near Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Saxaul Sparrow	4 near Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)

Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 between Ailikehu, Wuerhe & Baijiantan, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280-300 metres)
White Wagtail	1 near Wuerhe, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (320 metres)
Western Yellow Wagtail	20 near Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Tawny Pipit	2 near Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
Reed Bunting	1 was heard at Ailikehu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)

Saturday 19 May 2007. Most of day in Kelamayi. Later Kuitun & Wusu. Am near Baijiantan, Kelamayi. Pm drove south to 125 Corps near Chepaizi.

We left the Huayuan hotel, Baijiantan with Mr Zhao Bo at 05:20hrs & drove about ten minutes to a desert site on the south-western edge of town. The site is to the rear (west) of the Xiu Li Chang - a large, well lit factory that specialises in repairing heavy machinery for the oil industry - especially oil derricks & cranes. We arrived here at 05:30hrs. This is a site where Mr Zhao has seen & photographed Asian Desert Warbler. It took us a while but at 07:10hrs we eventually heard one &, ten minutes later, managed to see one of his Desert Warblers.

Weather

It was 15°C at 05:45hrs near Baijiantan, Kelamayi. At 10:10hrs near the 'Kelamayi Kilometre 9 Polluted Oil Pools' it was 20°C & at Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu at 16:20hrs it was 31°C.

Site 1. Desert site to southwest of Baijiantan, Kelamayi. (45°42.07'N., 85°05.16'E.). 355 metres. 05:30-08:55hrs.

The warbler was difficult to find – even when found it rarely sang & was covering a very large area. It was holding territory in a large area of *Haloxylon ammodendron*. On the drive out to the site we saw a long-eared, kangaroo-legged, nocturnal species of gerbil-like creature. Birds here included -

Desert Warbler	6 singing birds
Richard's Pipit	1 flew north
Tawny Pipit	6 – including several singing, territorial birds
Asian Short-toed Lark	2
Desert Wheatear	6 – the first bird to start singing pre-dawn.
Linnet	1 flew over
[Desert or Mongolian Finch	2 silent birds flew high overhead]
Little Ringed Plover	1 apparently holding territory out in the desert!
Horned Lark	2
White-winged Black Tern	5 flew high to the north

Leaving this site at 08:55hrs we headed back to the main north-south highway (G217) & turned south towards Kelamayi.

Site 2. 'Kelamayi Kilometre 9 Polluted Oil Pools', Kelamayi. (45°33.41'N., 84°57.32'E.). 270 metres. 10:00-11:00hrs.

This disgustingly polluted shallow pool immediately to the right (west) of G217 (the Altai to Kelamayi road) & only 9 kilometres by road from Kelamayi (northeast of the city) held a large number of shorebirds. We initially scanned them from the hard shoulder of the highway, soon spotted a Long-toed Stint & then climbed over the roadside crash barrier & walked closer.

Birds here included -

Long-toed Stint	1 adult-summer. Photos & on site description taken. Apparently the first record for Xinjiang.
Little Stint	4 (one of which was oiled)
Temminck's Stint	23 (8 of which were oiled)
Pied Avocet	1 (badly oiled)
Black-winged Stilt	24 (one appeared un-oiled, 15 were oiled and 8 were badly oiled)
Terek Sandpiper	1 (oiled)
Whimbrel	2 (both oiled)
Pacific Golden Plover	1 (badly oiled)
Dunlin	4 (two oiled)
Little Ringed Plover	4 (two oiled)
Kentish Plover	13 (9 badly oiled)
Citrine Wagtail	2 (both oiled)
Bearded Tit	3 (one male oiled!)
Eurasian Reed Warbler	1
White-winged Black Tern	5

Site 3. Pool immediately east of Kelamayi. 320 metres.

This site, perhaps only four kilometres south of the previous one, was accessed by turning west off the main highway towards Kelamayi city. It was a deeper water pool than the previous one & seemingly not polluted. We only spent about 10 minutes here. Birds seen included -

Northern Pintail	1 female
Northern Shoveler	2 males
Gadwall	5
Mallard	4

Great Crested Grebe	9
White-winged Black Tern	5
Black-headed Gull	19
Collared Dove	1
Great Egret	5
Pied Wheatear	1

Kelamayi toll booth 11:45hrs 280 metres

Site 4. Tachakou Pool, Kelamayi. 340 metres. 12:00-12:15hrs.

This small (& this year completely dry) pool is accessed by turning right (west) off G217 at about Km post 438.8. (This junction is a five minute drive south of the Kelamayi toll booth & is immediately after the petrol station in Tachakou). We drove only about one kilometre up this side road, route S221, to view a small pool on the right. Sadly the pool was completely dry & held no birds. Gou Jun had previously seen both Black-bellied & Pallas's Sandgrouse & a single White-winged Lark here in July 2005. Birds we saw were -

Black-bellied Sandgrouse	At least one bird was heard
Steppe Grey Shrike	1 <i>pallidirostris</i>
Isabelline Wheatear	4
Tawny Pipit	2
Asian Short-toed Lark	2

Returning to the highway (G217) we continued south.

Qianshang Lao Ba Huang Mozhibei Baohu zhen (Literally 'Qianshang Lao Ba Desert Plant Protection Station') Km 458.5
285 metres

Km 471 Junction to 128 Corps 290 metres

There's a lengthy strip of decent-looking, roadside woodland stretching for numerous kilometres south of this junction. It surely must be good for migrant passerines in the right season.

Site 5. Xinjiang Oil Company No. 4 Pumping Station, Chepaizi, Kelamayi. (44°55.28'N., 84°46.71'E.). 290 metres. 13:15-14:30hrs.

This site, where Mr Zhao Bo had previously seen Eurasian Thickknee, is apparently also a decent site for Eurasian Bee-eater & European Roller. Its accessed by turning left (east) off G217 at Km 482 (five kilometres north of Wu Wu Xing zhen). The side road passes immediately to the north of the pumping station & we parked up after about one kilometre before exploring the area near the embanked fishpond north of this minor road. Birds here included -

Rufous-tailed Shrike	2
Eurasian Reed Warbler	2
Savi's Warbler	1 heard
European Bee-eater	1 heard
European Turtle Dove	2
Citrine Wagtail	1
Garganey	1
Nightingale	1 heard

Km 487 Wu Wu Xing zhen (also known as Wu Wu Jiedao Ban Shichu) Noodle lunch here & dep. 15:15hrs

Turned right (west) on to route S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu) ten minutes drive south of Wu Wu Xing zhen

Site 6. Roadside pools at Km 6.5 on S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu), Kelamayi. (44°47.16'N., 84°43.29'E.). 320 metres. 15:25-16:10hrs.

This site straddles the road – there are pools on either side where it appears that sand has been quarried & the resulting depressions now have a series of attractive small pools & associated reed beds. Their sandy cliffs appear to hold nesting European Bee-eaters (& possibly also Pale Martins?). Birds here included -

Gadwall	2
Red-crested Pochard	3
Mallard	2
Common Shelduck	2
Coot	1
Temminck's Stint	31
Black-winged Stilt	46 – with several birds sitting on nests
Common Redshank	10
Little Ringed Plover	4
Kentish Plover	4
Terek Sandpiper	1
Collared Dove	1

European Bee-eater	30 with several sitting near what appeared to be recently excavated nest holes
Sand or Pale Martin	50 – all of those positively identified were pale martins
Pale Martin	8
Savi's Warbler	1 heard
Great Reed Warbler	2 heard
Roller	1

Site 7. Kuitun Reservoir, Kuitun. (44°46.96'N., 84°36.23'E.). 315 metres. 16:40-16:50hrs.

A circular reservoir that has a concrete bank around two-thirds of it & supports rather few birds.

Great Crested Grebe	47
Great Cormorant	1
Black-headed Gull	20
Yellow-legged Gull	15
Little Tern	4
Common Tern	10
White-winged Black Tern	70
House Martin	20
Great Egret	21
European Bee-eater	2

Site 8. Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu. (44°49.25'N., 84°36.48'E.). 300 metres. 17:00-18:20hrs.

Note that on our road map this site is shown as being in Wusu district yet Gou Jun was adamant that it was in Kuitun, declaring that the map was wrong! We accessed this site by turning north up the western side of the dirt road that parallels the large irrigation canal issuing from the northern end of Kuitun reservoir. The canal itself held quite a decent number of birds –

European Bee-eater	14 with several again sitting near recently excavated holes.
White-winged Black Tern	40
Black Tern	1
Pale Martin	50

Chepaizi reservoir, accessed at a vantage point 4.5 kms up & to the left of the track along the irrigation canal, held slightly more birds than Kuitun reservoir -

Ruddy Shelduck	1 was heard
Red-crested Pochard	30
Whimbrel	14
Common Greenshank	1
Collared Pratincole	1
Pallas's Gull	2 adult-summers
Yellow-legged Gull	10
Common Tern	10

Leaving Chepaizi Reservoir at 18:20hrs it took us about 15 minutes to reach the hotel in Yao Er Wu Tuan (125 Corps). We checked in & had a break of about 45 minutes before I went back to the reservoir again. I stayed out until almost mid-night but failed to hear any Eurasian Stone-curlews, or indeed much of any consequence other than Common Nightingales.

Common Pheasant	1 was heard at Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu on the 19/5/2007. (300 metres)
Ruddy Shelduck	1 was heard at Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu on the 19/5/2007. (300 metres)
Common Shelduck	2 on the roadside pools at Km 6.5 on S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu), Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (320 metres)
Gadwall	11 on the 19/5/2007 - 5 on the Kelamayi Pool; 2 on the roadside pools at Km 6.5 on S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu), Kelamayi & four on Kuitun Reservoir, Kuitun. (300-320 metres)
Mallard	20 on the 19/5/2007 - 4 on the Kelamayi Pool; 2 on the roadside pools at Km 6.5 on S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu), Kelamayi; 4 on Kuitun Reservoir, Kuitun & 10 near Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu. (300-320 metres)
Northern Shoveler	2 males on the Kelamayi Pool on the 19/5/2007. (320 metres)
Northern Pintail	1 female on the Kelamayi Pool on the 19/5/2007. (320 metres)
Red-crested Pochard	33 on the 19/5/2007 - 3 on the roadside pools at Km 6.5 on S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu), Kelamayi; 30 on Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu. (300-320 metres)
Eurasian Hoopoe	2 between Kelamayi, Kuitun & Chepaizi on the 19/5/2007.
European Roller	3 on the 19/5/2007 – 1 near the roadside pools at Km 6.5 on S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu), Kelamayi; 1 near Kuitun Reservoir, Kuitun & the other at Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu, (300-320 metres)
Common Kingfisher	1 was heard near Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu on the 19/5/2007. (300 metres)
European Bee-eater	49 on the 19/5/2007 – 1 was heard near the Xinjiang Oil Company No. 4 Pumping Station 5 kms north of Wu Wu Xing zhen; 2 near the junction of G217 & S304 (Qingbei Gonglu) about ten minutes drive south of Wu Wu Xing zhen; 30, with several sitting near what appeared to be recently excavated nest holes, near the roadside pools at Km 6.5 on S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu), Kelamayi; 2 near Kuitun Reservoir, Kuitun & the other 14, again with some suiting near recently excavated holes at Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu. (245-340 metres)
Common Cuckoo	5 between Kelamayi, Kuitun & Chepaizi on the 19/5/2007.
Common Swift	100 between Kelamayi, Kuitun & Chepaizi on the 19/5/2007.
Rock Pigeon	40 between Kelamayi, Kuitun & Chepaizi on the 19/5/2007.
European Turtle Dove	2 near the Xinjiang Oil Company No. 4 Pumping Station 5 kms north of Wu Xiang zhen, Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (290 metres)

Eurasian Collared Dove	2 singles in Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007 – 1 near the Kelamayi Pool & the other near the Xinjiang Oil Company No. 4 Pumping Station 5 kms north of Wu Xiang zhen. (290 & 320 metres)
Common Moorhen	1 was heard at Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu on the 19/5/2007. (300 metres)
Eurasian Coot	1 near the roadside pools at Km 6.5 on S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu), Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (320 metres)
Black-bellied Sandgrouse	1 was heard near the Tachakou Pool, Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (340 metres)
Whimbrel	16 on the 19/5/2007 – 2 on the ‘Kelamayi Kilometre 9 Polluted Oil Pools’, Kelamayi & 14 at Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu. (270 & 300 metres)
Common Redshank	60 between Kelamayi, Kuitun & Chepaizi on the 19/5/2007.
Common Greenshank	1 on Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu on the 19/5/2007. (300 metres)
Terek Sandpiper	2 in Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007 – 1 oiled bird on the ‘Kelamayi Kilometre 9 Polluted Oil Pools’ & the other on the roadside pools at Km 6.5 on S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu). (270 & 320 metres)
Common Sandpiper	1 near Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu on the 19/5/2007. (300 metres)
Little Stint	4 (one of which was oiled) on the ‘Kelamayi Kilometre 9 Polluted Oil Pools’ northeast of Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (270 metres)
Temminck’s Stint	54 in Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007 – 23 (8 of which were oiled) on the ‘Kelamayi Kilometre 9 Polluted Oil Pools’ northeast of Kelamayi & 31 besides the roadside pools at Km 6.5 on S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu). (270 & 320 metres)
Long-toed Stint	1 adult-summer on the ‘Kelamayi Kilometre 9 Polluted Oil Pools’ northeast of Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. Apparently the first record for Xinjiang. Photos & notes taken at the time. (270 metres)
Dunlin	4 on the ‘Kelamayi Kilometre 9 Polluted Oil Pools’ northeast of Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (270 metres)
Ruff	1 badly oiled bird on the ‘Kelamayi Kilometre 9 Polluted Oil Pools’ northeast of Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (270 metres)
Black-winged Stilt	100 on the 19/5/2007. These included 24 (one of which appeared un-oiled, 15 were oiled and 8 were badly oiled); 46 – with several birds sitting on nests besides the roadside pools at Km 6.5 on S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu) also Kelamayi & 15 near Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu. (270-320 metres)
Pied Avocet	1 badly oiled bird on the ‘Kelamayi Kilometre 9 Polluted Oil Pools’ northeast of Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (270 metres)
Pacific Golden Plover	1 badly oiled bird on the ‘Kelamayi Kilometre 9 Polluted Oil Pools’ northeast of Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (270 metres)
Little Ringed Plover	20 in Kelamayi, Kuitun & Wusu counties on the 19/5/2007. These included 1 that was apparently holding territory out in the Baijiantan Desert; 4 (two of which were badly oiled) on the ‘Kelamayi Kilometre 9 Polluted Oil Pools’ northeast of Kelamayi; 4 besides the roadside pools at Km 6.5 on S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu) also Kelamayi & 8 near Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu. (270-320 metres)
Kentish Plover	19 in Kelamayi, Kuitun & Wusu counties on the 19/5/2007. These included 13 (nine of which were badly oiled) on the ‘Kelamayi Kilometre 9 Polluted Oil Pools’ northeast of Kelamayi; 4 besides the roadside pools at Km 6.5 on S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu) also Kelamayi & 2 near Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu. (270-320 metres)
Collared Pratincole	1 flew over Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu on the 19/5/2007. (300 metres)
Yellow-legged Gull	30 on the 19/5/2007 with 15 at both Kuitun Reservoir & Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu. (300 metres)
Pallas's Gull	2 summer plumaged adults at Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu on the 19/5/2007. (300 metres)
Black-headed Gull	49 on the 19/5/2007. 19 besides the pool immediately east of Kelamayi; 20 at Kuitun Reservoir; 10 at Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu. (300-320 metres)
Common Tern	20 on the 19/5/2007 with 10 at both Kuitun Reservoir & Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu. (300 metres)
‘Western’ Little Tern	4 over Kuitun Reservoir on the 19/5/2007. (315 metres)
White-winged Black Tern	135 in Kelamayi, Kuitun & Wusu counties on the 19/5/2007 - 5 flew high to the north over the Baijiantan Desert; 5 more over the ‘Kelamayi Kilometre 9 Polluted Oil Pools’ northeast of Kelamayi; 5 more on the pool immediately east of Kelamayi; 70 over Kuitun Reservoir; 40 over the canal linking Kuitun Reservoir with Chepaizi Reservoir; 10 over Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu. (270-320 metres)
Black Tern	1 over the canal linking Kuitun Reservoir with Chepaizi Reservoir, Kuitun on the 19/5/2007. (290 metres)
Black Kite	2 over 125 Corps, Wusu on the 19/5/2007. (290 metres)
Eurasian Hobby	1 near the Xinjiang Oil Company No. 4 Pumping Station 5 kms north of Wu Wu Xing zhen, Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (290 metres)
Common Kestrel	1 near Baijiantan, Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (320 metres)
Great Crested Grebe	56 on the 19/5/2007 - 9 on the pool immediately east of Kelamayi; 47 on Kuitun Reservoir. (315 & 320 metres)
Great Cormorant	1 flew over Kuitun Reservoir on the 19/5/2007. (315 metres)
Grey Heron	4 on the on the 19/5/2007 included three singles in Kelamayi - 1 near Baijiantan, another near the Xinjiang Oil Company No. 4 Pumping Station 5 kms north of Wu Wu Xing zhen & the third bird besides the roadside pools at Km 6.5 on S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu); 1 over Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu. (290-320 metres)
Great Egret	26 on the on the 19/5/2007 included five on the pool immediately east of Kelamayi & the other 21 on Kuitun Reservoir. (315 metres)
Little Bittern	1 near the Xinjiang Oil Company No. 4 Pumping Station 5 kms north of Wu Wu Xing zhen, Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (290 metres)
Red-backed Shrike	1 male near Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu on the 19/5/2007. (280 metres)
Rufous-tailed Shrike	50 in Kelamayi, Kuitun & Wusu counties on the 19/5/2007. (280-500 metres)
Southern Grey Shrike	1 near the Tachakou Pool, Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (340 metres)
Common Nightingale	23 on the on the 19/5/2007 included 6 near the Xinjiang Oil Company No. 4 Pumping Station 5 kms north of Wu Wu Xing zhe; 11 along the Qingbei Gonglu (S304) about ten minutes drive south of Wu Wu Xing zhen & about 10 more near Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu. (260-340 metres)
Bluethroat	2 singles on the 19/5/2007. One near the Xinjiang Oil Company No. 4 Pumping Station 5 kms north of Wu Wu Xing zhe & the other near Chepaizi Reservoir. (290 & 300 metres)
Pied Wheatear	1 near the Kelamayi Pool on the 19/5/2007. (320 metres)
Desert Wheatear	6 singing birds in the desert west of Baijiantan, Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (320-355 metres)
Isabelline Wheatear	10 on the 19/5/2007 – these included four near the dry Tachakou Pool, Kelamayi & six more from the highway between there & 128 Corps. (300-340 metres)

Rosy Starling	1 near Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu on the 19/5/2007. (320 metres)
Common Starling	40 in Kelamayi, Kuitun & Wusu counties on the 19/5/2007. (300 metres)
Pale Martin	60 on the 19/5/2007 – these included eight on wires near besides the roadside pools at Km 6.5 on S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu) & 50 over the canal linking Kuitun Reservoir with Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu. (300 metres)
Sand Martin or Pale Martin	50 over the roadside pools at Km 6.5 on S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu), Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (320 metres)
Barn Swallow	100 in Kelamayi, Kuitun & Wusu counties on the 19/5/2007.
Northern House Martin	20 over Kuitun Reservoir on the 19/5/2007. (315 metres)
Savi's Warbler	3 singles were heard on the 19/5/2007 – one at the 'Kelamayi Kilometre 9 Polluted Oil Pools' northeast of Kelamayi; another in the reed bed at the pool at Km 6.5 on S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu), also Kelamayi & the third bird near Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu. (290-310 metres)
Eurasian Reed Warbler	3 in Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007 – one at the 'Kelamayi Kilometre 9 Polluted Oil Pools' northeast of Kelamayi & two in the reeds near the Xinjiang Oil Company No. 4 Pumping Station 5 kms north of Wu Wu Xing zhen. (270 & 290 metres)
Great Reed Warbler	4 birds were heard on the 19/5/2007 – 2 in the reed bed at the pool at Km 6.5 on S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu) & two more near Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu. (290-320 metres)
Hume's Warbler	1 near 125 Corps, Wusu on the 19/5/2007. (290 metres)
Bearded Parrotbill	3, including an oiled male, besides the 'Kelamayi Kilometre 9 Polluted Oil Pools' northeast of Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (270 metres)
Asian Desert Warbler	1 singing, territorial bird in the desert southwest of Baijiangtan, Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. It was first heard singing at 07:05hrs. (45°42.07'N., 85°05.16'E.). (355 metres).
Barred Warbler	2 near Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu on the 19/5/2007. (280 metres)
Asian Short-toed Lark	6 in Kelamayi, Kuitun & Wusu counties on the 19/5/2007. (300 metres)
Crested Lark	1 near Baijiangtan, Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (ca.350 metres)
Horned Lark	2 were heard at the 'Desert Warbler site' southwest of Baijiangtan, Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (340-360 metres).
House Sparrow	10 in Kelamayi, Kuitun & Wusu counties on the 19/5/2007. (300 metres)
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 in Kelamayi, Kuitun & Wusu counties on the 19/5/2007. (300 metres)
White Wagtail	4 in Kelamayi, Kuitun & Wusu counties on the 19/5/2007. (300 metres)
Citrine Wagtail	6 in Kelamayi, Kuitun & Wusu counties on the 19/5/2007. (270-300 metres)
Western Yellow Wagtail	10 in Kelamayi, Kuitun & Wusu counties on the 19/5/2007. (300 metres)
Richard's Pipit	1 flew north over the desert at Baijiangtan, Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (355 metres)
Tawny Pipit	10 in Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. These included six (with several territorial, singing birds) at the 'Desert Warbler site' southwest of Baijiangtan & two at the Tachakou Pool, Kelamayi. (270-355 metres)
Eurasian Linnet	1 near Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007.
[Mongolian or Desert Finch	1 bird flew over at the 'Desert Warbler site' southwest of Baijiangtan, Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (350 metres)]
Red-headed Bunting	2 separate males on roadside wires in the Qianshang Lao Ba Huang Mozhibei Baohu zhen (Literally 'Qianshang Lao Ba Desert Plant Protection Station') between Tachakou & Wu Wu Xing zhen, Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (285 metres)

Mammals

Hare sp.	1 was accidentally flushed near the 'Desert Warbler site' to the southwest of Baijiangtan, Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (480 metres)
Kangaroo Gerbil	1, either <i>Euchoreutes naso</i> or <i>Allactaga sibirica</i> , was seen about one hour before sunrise in the desert to the southwest of Baijiangtan, Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (380 metres)

Sunday 20 May 2007. 125 Corps near Chepaizi to Shihezi. Pm near Shihezi.

We left the hotel at Yao Er Wu Tuan (125 Corps) at 06:25hrs & headed back to Chepaizi Reservoir. We saw nothing of note here, nor at our next stop Kuitun Reservoir, so we decided to 'cut our losses' & head to Shihezi. Mr Zhao Bo left us on the edge of Kuitun & we headed on to Shihezi where we met Xu Jie. We spent much of the rest of the day birding near Shihezi.

Weather

It was 20°C at 10:10hrs at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan

Site 1. Qian Quan Hu, Shawan. (44°23.7'N., 85°53.2'E.) 385 metres. 11:00-14:00hrs

We spent about three hours here scanning the lake for waterfowl & the surrounding fields & sprawling reed bed for other species. Birds seen inc. –

Black-necked Grebe	3 - two adults with a juvenile riding on the back of one of them & being fed by the other parent
Great Crested Grebe	8 including two adults with a couple of juveniles riding on the back of one of them
Black Tern	15
White-winged Black Tern	30
Common Tern	10
Little Tern	2
Booted Eagle	1 pale morph attempted to take a Redshank
European Roller	1 flew southwest
Temminck's Stint	1 flew southwest
Collared Pratincole	60 were estimated resting on the undisturbed fields near the lake's north-western edge. They were impossible to count when on the ground – the best estimates occurring when the entire group (?) occasionally took flight.
Great Bittern	1 seen

Common Snipe	1 in display flight
Common Redshank	20
Bluethroat	4
Black-headed Gull	60 – breeding confirmed with birds seen sitting on nests on the edge of the reed bed
Great Egret	15 – breeding suspected
Grey Heron	10 – breeding suspected
Rosy Starling	15
European Bee-eater	1
Common Quail	1 was heard
Red-crested Pochard	10
Ferruginous Duck	5
Gadwall	4
Great Reed Warbler	5
European Reed Warbler	10
Savi's Warbler	1 was heard
Cetti's Bush Warbler	3 heard
Little Bittern	4
Bearded Tit	1 male
Citrine Wagtail	3
Richard's Pipit	1 singing

We then drove for about 30 minutes to the next site –

Site 2. Mo Gu Hu Mu Chang, Shawan. (44°25.22'N., 85°53.31'E.) 380 metres. 15:30-16:15hrs

This attractive extensive grassy meadow with scattered pools is midway between Qian Quan Hu & Mo Gu Hu lakes & produced a few waterfowl & good number of shorebirds -

Garganey	10 (nine males, one female)
Common Teal	2
Ferruginous Duck	3 males
Northern Shoveler	6
Northern Pintail	1 male
Mallard	77
Red-crested Pochard	15
Gadwall	2
Eurasian Wigeon	1 male
Northern Lapwing	155 including one small chick
Whimbrel	2
Pacific Golden Plover	2
Temminck's Stint	13
Spotted Redshank	1 adult summer
Common Redshank	25
Collared Pratincole	61
Eurasian Skylark	2 singing
Richard's Pipit	1 singing
Common Quail	1 heard
Oriental Turtle Dove	3 flew over

Site 3. Beihu Reservoir (previously known as Da Quan Gou), Shihezi. (44°24.5'N., 85°59.5'E.). 365 metres. 15:30-15:45hrs

From here its 10.4kms @ 164° back to Shihezi town centre. This site is most easily accessed by heading out of Shihezi on Route S204 – a sizeable road that leads to 'Yi Bai Wu Tuanchang' ('150 Corps.') and on to Beikui. There are regular kilometre posts on along the side of this road. We passed a large power station adjacent to Km post 94 & parked up adjacent to the reservoir on the right at Km 84. Birds here included -

Mallard	31
Gadwall	3
Red-crested Pochard	5
Garganey	3 males
Great Cormorant	8
Great Egret	16
Grey Heron	18
Yellow-legged Gull	175
Pallas's Gull	2 immatures
Black-headed Gull	78
Common Tern	73
Little Tern	14
Whiskered Tern	1 summer plumaged adult

Site 4. Mo Gu Hu, Shihezi. (literally 'Mushroom Lake') (44°26.4'N., 85°55.8'E.) 365 metres. 15:55hrs for only five minutes

Leaving Beihu we continued to drive away from Shihezi & turned left off route S204 at Km post 81.2 (only about three kilometres after the previous stop at Beihu Reservoir). We drove down the dirt road here for little over one kilometre until we arrived at the eastern side of embankment that surrounds (? – at least the northern half of) Mo Gu Hu reservoir. Mo Gu Hu was a site that I visited repeatedly when I was in Xinjiang late autumn 2006 – its a large impounded reservoir that's surrounded on three sides (when the water level's not too high as it frequently is in spring) by very short, heavily over-grazed grassland. It's a superb autumn site for ducks (especially diving ducks) & apparently a good wintering site for geese. From here its 15.4kms @ 149° back to Shihezi. The reservoir was completely full of water today, there was no grassy edge and very, very few birds present. Consequently we only stayed for a short time before heading back to Shihezi for dinner & an early night. Birds seen here included -

Red-crested Pochard	4
Gadwall	2
Mallard	2

We spent the night at the 4-star Tianfu Hotel, 28 Bei 2 Lu, Shihezi, Xinjiang 83200 (Tel.: 0993 2812888) at 18:10hrs. Rooms here cost 240 yuan/night not including breakfast (breakfast added another 20 yuan to the price/person).

Common Quail	2 singles were heard in Shawan on the 20/5/2007 – one at Qian Quan Hu & the other at Mo Gu Hu Muchang. (375 & 385 metres)
Gadwall	11 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. These included 4 at Qian Quan Hu & 2 at Mo Gu Hu Muchang also Shawan; 3 at Beihu Reservoir & 2 on Mo Gu Hu, Shihezi. (365-385 metres)
Eurasian Wigeon	1 male at Mo Gu Hu Muchang, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (380 metres)
Mallard	114 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. These included 4 at Qian Quan Hu; 77 at Mo Gu Hu Muchang, also Shawan; 31 at Beihu Reservoir & 2 on Mo Gu Hu, Shihezi. (365-380 metres)
Northern Shoveler	6 at Mo Gu Hu Muchang, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (380 metres)
Northern Pintail	1 male at Mo Gu Hu Muchang, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (380 metres)
Garganey	13 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. These included 10 (nine males & one female) at Mo Gu Hu Muchang, Shawan & 3 males at Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi. (365 & 380 metres)
Common Teal	2 at Mo Gu Hu Muchang, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (380 metres)
Red-crested Pochard	34 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. These included 10 at Qian Quan Hu & 15 Mo Gu Hu Muchang also Shawan; 5 at Beihu Reservoir & 4 on Mo Gu Hu, Shihezi. (365-385 metres)
Ferruginous Pochard	8 in Shawan on the 20/5/2007. These included 5 at Qian Quan Hu & 3 . (380 & 385 metres)
Eurasian Hoopoe	3 between Kuitun, Shawan & Shihezi on the 20/5/2007. (360-450 metres)
European Roller	2 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. The first flew southwest at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan & the other was near Mo Gu Hu, Shihezi. (370-385 metres)
Common Kingfisher	1 at Mo Gu Hu Muchang, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (380 metres)
European Bee-eater	3 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007 with single birds seen at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan, Mo Gu Hu Muchang also Shawan & near Mo Gu Hu, Shihezi. (365-385 metres)
Common Cuckoo	8 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. (380-385 metres)
Common Swift	50 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. (380-385 metres)
Rock Pigeon	30 between Kuitun, Shawan & Shihezi on the 20/5/2007. (360-450 metres)
Oriental Turtle Dove	3 flew over Mo Gu Hu Muchang, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (380 metres)
Eurasian Collared Dove	14 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. (380-385 metres)
European Water Rail	1 was heard at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)
Common Moorhen	1 was heard at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)
Eurasian Coot	1 was heard at Qian Quan Hu on the 20/5/2007. (365 metres), Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)
Common Snipe	1 seen in display flight at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)
Whimbrel	2 at Mo Gu Hu Muchang, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (380 metres)
Spotted Redshank	1 at Mo Gu Hu Muchang, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (380 metres)
Common Redshank	45 in the Shawan area on the 20/5/2007. 20 at Qian Quan Hu & 25 at Mo Gu Hu Muchang. (385 metres)
Common Sandpiper	1 near Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)
Temminck's Stint	14 in the Shawan area on the 20/5/2007. The first flew southwest at Qian Quan Hu & there were 13 more at Mo Gu Hu Muchang also Shawan. (380-385 metres)
Black-winged Stilt	20 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. (380-385 metres)
Pacific Golden Plover	2 adult-summers at Mo Gu Hu Muchang, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (380 metres)
Little Ringed Plover	4 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. (380-385 metres)
Kentish Plover	4 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. (380-385 metres)
Northern Lapwing	190 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. These included 155 including one small chick at Mo Gu Hu Muchang, Shawan. (365-400 metres)
Collared Pratincole	120 in the Shawan area on the 20/5/2007. 60 were estimated resting on the undisturbed fields near the north-western edge of Qian Quan Hu, Shawan. They were impossible to count when on the ground – the best estimates occurring when the entire group (?) occasionally took flight. 61 were counted at Mo Gu Hu Muchang. (380-385 metres)
Yellow-legged Gull	200 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. By far the most important site was Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi where 175 were counted. (365-385 metres)
Pallas's Gull	2 immatures at Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi on the 20/5/2007. (365 metres)
Black-headed Gull	160 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. These included 60 at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan where breeding confirmed with birds seen sitting on nests on the edge of the reed bed & 78 at Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi. (365-385 metres)
Common Tern	90 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. These included 10 at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan & 73 at Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi. (365-385 metres)

'Western' Little Tern	16 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. These included 2 at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan & 14 at Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi. (365-385 metres)
Whiskered Tern	1 adult at Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi on the 20/5/2007. (365 metres)
White-winged Black Tern	30 at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)
Black Tern	15 at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)
Booted Eagle	1 pale morph at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007 attempted to take a Redshank. (385 metres)
Great Crested Grebe	8, including two adults with a couple of juveniles riding on the back of one of them, at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)
Black-necked Grebe	3 (two adults with a juvenile riding on the back of one of them & being fed by the other parent) at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)
Great Cormorant	8 at Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi on the 20/5/2007. (365 metres)
Grey Heron	31 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. 10 at Qian Quan Hu, where breeding was suspected; 3 at Mo Gu Hu Muchang also Shawan; 18 at Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi. (365-385 metres).
Great Egret	37 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. 15 at Qian Quan Hu where breeding was suspected; 4 at Mo Gu Hu Muchang also Shawan; 16 at Beihu Reservoir & 2 at Mo Gu Hu, Shihezi. (365-385 metres)
Little Bittern	4 at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)
Great Bittern	1 was seen at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)
Rufous-tailed Shrike	40 between Kuitun. Shawan & Shihezi on the 20/5/2007. (360-450 metres)
Common Nightingale	15 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. (360-380 metres)
Bluethroat	3 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)
Rosy Starling	15 at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)
Common Starling	30 between Kuitun. Shawan & Shihezi on the 20/5/2007. (360-450 metres)
Sand Martin or Pale Martin	5 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. (360-380 metres)
Barn Swallow	200 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. (360-380 metres)
Cetti's Bush Warbler	3 were heard at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)
Savi's Warbler	1 was heard at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)
Eurasian Reed Warbler	10 were heard at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)
Great Reed Warbler	5 at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)
Bearded Parrotbill	1 at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)
Barred Warbler	4 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. (360-400 metres)
Eurasian Skylark	2 singing birds at Mo Gu Hu Muchang, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (380 metres)
House Sparrow	10 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. (360-400 metres)
White Wagtail	2 near Kuitun on the 20/5/2007.
Citrine Wagtail	3 near Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)
Western Yellow Wagtail	20 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. (360-400 metres)
Richard's Pipit	2 singing birds were heard in the Shawan area on the 20/5/2007 – one at Qian Quan Hu & the other at Mo Gu Hu Muchang. (385 metres)
Eurasian Greenfinch	1 was heard in Shihezi town on the 20/5/2007. (425 metres)
Common Rosefinch	1 was heard on the edge of Shihezi town on the 20/5/2007. (425 metres)

Monday 21 May 2007. Am near Shihezi. Late morning drive back to Urumqi.

Site 1. Tielu Dujiacun (literally 'Railway Station Resort') on the edge of Shihezi. (44°18.4'N., 86°01.6'E.) 434 metres. 05:40-08:30hrs

A sprawling complex of small strips of woodland, patches of abandoned orchard and tracts of scrub & ornamental gardens right on the edge of Shihezi town (6.45kms @ 320° to Shihezi town centre). According to Xu Jie the park is a breeding area for Corncrake (seems strange habitat & location), Great Rosefinch & Common Nightingale & is one of three sites in Shihezi for wintering European Robin. According to Xu Jie the earliest local arrival date of the latter is 20 October. The park is also a regular winter site for Black-throated Accentor, Long-tailed Rosefinch (typical first arrivals appear from end of first week of October) etc. Birds seen this morning included –

Eurasian Woodcock	1 roding bird pre-dawn
Eurasian Blackbird	2 singing males
Greater Whitethroat	4
Barred Warbler	10
Common Nightingale	30
Oriental Turtle Dove	4 including one singing within 50 metres of a singing European Turtle Dove
Common Rosefinch	4 singing birds
Rufous-tailed Shrike	4
Hoopoe	2
Bluethroat	2 singing
Eurasian Greenfinch	4 singing birds
Common Cuckoo	3
European Starling	4

Site 2. Manasi He Gu Xiao Baohuqu (Manasi Valley Nature Reserve), Manasi. (44°11.5'N., 86°07.2'E.) 600-610 metres

From near the protection station its 16.1kms @ 327° back to Shihezi. We birded here from 09:45-11:15hrs before heading back to Urumqi. The site is accessed by following route X894 down the side of a large, canalised drainage channel from the Nature Reserve almost all the way down the eastern side of the valley to the massive Manasi Power Station. After perhaps 15kms we joined the main east-west road – G312 at Km post 4304.5 (about two kilometres east of the Manasi toll booth). The Manasi

River Valley holds few breeding birds but is a very good area for migrants with up to 50 White-winged Redstarts being counted here on one day in late autumn 2005. Its also a good site for wintering European Robin. Birds here today included –

Chukar	3
Azure Tit	2 pairs – both feeding young in the nest
Great Tit	3 pairs
Oriental Turtle Dove	6
European Starling	25
Cetti's Bush Warbler	2 singing birds
Hobby	2
Nightingale	10 singing birds
Common Moorhen	3
Eurasian Greenfinch	2
Common Sandpiper	1
Eurasian Greenfinch	1
Common Cuckoo	1
Mistle Thrush	1
Black-billed Magpie	1

Leaving the river valley we headed back to the main east-west Expressway & then back to Urumqi. Just as we arrived on the edge of the city Gou Jun received a phone call & was told that some of the Urumqi birders were currently watching a White-headed Duck at a reservoir on the edge of the city. We headed right there to have a look.

Site 3. Jiujiawan Reservoir, western edge of Urumqi city. (43°49.20'N., 87°32.96'E) 828 metres

This small (500 metre diameter) reservoir has a steep concrete bank around three-quarters of it & a tiny reed bed at one end. It held few birds other than the White-headed Duck!

White-headed Duck	1 male. It had been found there the previous day.
Red-crested Pochard	2 males
Mallard	1 female with 9 chicks
Black-winged Stilt	7
Common Sandpiper	2
Citrine Wagtail	4
Barred Warbler	1 singing bird

We then returned to the Yindu Hotel in Urumqi city where we spent the following two nights.

Chukar	3 at the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve, Manasi on the 21/5/2007. (630 metres)
White-headed Duck	1 summer plumaged male on Jiujiawan Reservoir, Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (828 metres)
Mallard	10 (a female with nine chicks) on Jiujiawan Reservoir, Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (828 metres)
Red-crested Pochard	2 males on Jiujiawan Reservoir, Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (828 metres)
Eurasian Hoopoe	6 between Shihezi, the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve & Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (430-830 metres)
Common Cuckoo	6 between Shihezi, the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve & Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (430-830 metres)
Common Swift	300 over Jiujiawan Reservoir, Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (830 metres)
Rock Pigeon	50 between Shihezi, the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve & Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (430-830 metres)
European Turtle Dove	2 at the Tielu Dujiacun, Shihezi on the 21/5/2007. (430 metres)
Oriental Turtle Dove	7 in the Shihezi-Manasi area on the 21/5/2007 – two in the Tielu Dujiacun, Shihezi & five Manasi Valley Nature Reserve, Manasi. (430 & 600-610 metres)
Eurasian Collared Dove	3 between Shihezi, the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve & Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (430-830 metres)
Common Moorhen	6 on Jiujiawan Reservoir, Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (828 metres)
Eurasian Woodcock	1 roding bird in the Tielu Dujiacun, Shihezi on the 21/5/2007. (430 metres)
Common Sandpiper	2 besides Jiujiawan Reservoir, Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (828 metres)
Black-winged Stilt	7 besides Jiujiawan Reservoir, Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (828 metres)
Common Kestrel	1 between Shihezi & Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (550 metres)
Eurasian Hobby	2 (possibly a breeding pair) at the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve, Manasi on the 21/5/2007. (600 metres)
Rufous-tailed Shrike	30 between Shihezi, the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve & Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (430-830 metres)
Black-billed Magpie	1 at the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve, Manasi on the 21/5/2007. (600 metres)
Eurasian Blackbird	3 on the 21/5/2007 – two singing males in the Tielu Dujiacun, Shihezi & another singing male in the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve, Manasi. (430 & 620 metres)
Mistle Thrush	1 near the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve, Manasi on the 21/5/2007. (580 metres)
Common Nightingale	40 on the 21/5/2007 – 30 singing birds in the Tielu Dujiacun, Shihezi & another 10 singing birds in the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve, Manasi. (430 & 600-620 metres)
Bluethroat	2 singing males in the Tielu Dujiacun, Shihezi on the 21/5/2007. (430 metres)
Common Starling	25 between Shihezi, the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve & Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. These included 4 in the Tielu Dujiacun, Shihezi & the rest from the highway between Shihezi and Urumqi. (430-830 metres)
Great Tit	6 (three pairs) in the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve, Manasi on the 21/5/2007. (600-620 metres)
Azure Tit	4 (two pairs) in the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve, Manasi on the 21/5/2007. (600-620 metres)
Barn Swallow	50 between Shihezi, the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve & Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (430-830 metres)
Northern House Martin	10 near Jiujiawan Reservoir, Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (830 metres)
Cetti's Bush Warbler	2 singing birds in the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve, Manasi on the 21/5/2007. (600-620 metres)
Greater Whitethroat	4 singing birds in the Tielu Dujiacun, Shihezi on the 21/5/2007. (430 metres)
Barred Warbler	15 on the 21/5/2007 – 10 singing males in the Tielu Dujiacun, Shihezi; 4 in the expressway services between Shihezi & Urumqi & another singing male besides Jiujiawan Reservoir, Urumqi. (430-840 metres)

Crested Lark	1 was seen from the Expressway between Shihezi & Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (ca.600 metres)
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 between Shihezi, the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve & Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (430-830 metres)
White Wagtail	4 besides the Jiujiawan Reservoir, Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (830 metres)
Citrine Wagtail	4 at Jiujiawan Reservoir, Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (830 metres)
Grey Wagtail	2 at the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve, Manasi on the 21/5/2007. (610 metres)
Eurasian Greenfinch	5 on the 21/5/2007 – four in the Tielu Dujiacun, Shihezi & another in the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve, Manasi. (430 & 600 metres)
Eurasian Siskin	1 in the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve, Manasi on the 21/5/2007. (610 metres)
Eurasian Linnet	2 besides the Jiujiawan Reservoir, Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (830 metres)
Common Rosefinch	4 singing birds in the Tielu Dujiacun, Shihezi on the 21/5/2007. (430 metres)

Tuesday 22 May 2007. Urumqi.

Day at leisure!

Wednesday 23 May 2007. Urumqi.

We had breakfast at 07:15hrs & left the Yindu Hotel at 08:30hrs driving straight to our only birding site of the day -

Qingedahu, Wujiagu, Changji. (44°05.9'N., 87°33.4'E.) 470 metres. 09:35-12:30hrs

We just birded a small area around the reservoir's north-western edge. We left there at 12:50hrs & headed straight for the airport arriving at 13:45 hrs, in plenty of time to catch our 17:10hrs flight back to Beijing.

Gadwall	15 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Mallard	90, including several groups of recently fledged chicks, at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Northern Shoveler	25 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Garganey	8 (just one female) at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Red-crested Pochard	65 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Ferruginous Pochard	11 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Eurasian Hoopoe	2 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Common Cuckoo	10 between Urumqi city & Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Common Swift	2000 were estimated at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Rock Pigeon	30 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Common Moorhen	10 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Eurasian Coot	8 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Black-tailed Godwit	1 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Common Redshank	30 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Terek Sandpiper	5 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Common Sandpiper	1 near at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Temminck's Stint	11 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Black-winged Stilt	30 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Pied Avocet	6 (three pairs) at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Little Ringed Plover	6 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Kentish Plover	4 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Northern Lapwing	25 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Collared Pratincole	12 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Yellow-legged Gull	155 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Pallas's Gull	11 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Black-headed Gull	20 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
'Western' Little Tern	20 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
White-winged Black Tern	650 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Black Tern	2 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Booted Eagle	1 dark morph flew south-west at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Great Crested Grebe	14 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Great Cormorant	75 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Grey Heron	8 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Great Egret	10 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Little Bittern	1 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Rufous-tailed Shrike	6 between Urumqi city & Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Common Starling	10, including several pairs that appeared to be breeding in roadside street lights, at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Great Tit	1 was heard at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Pale Martin	4 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Sand Martin or Pale Martin	15 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Barn Swallow	50 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Northern House Martin	4 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Cetti's Bush Warbler	2 were heard at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Savi's Warbler	1 was heard at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Great Reed Warbler	8 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Barred Warbler	2 were heard at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 between Urumqi city & Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
White Wagtail	1 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Citrine Wagtail	2 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Western Yellow Wagtail	3 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Richard's Pipit	1 was heard at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)
Grey-necked Bunting	7 flew east-north-east up the embankment on the north-western flank of Qingedahu, Changji at 11:40hrs on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

Bird List

Two sets of parentheses are presented after each bird name. Four figures are given in the first set of parentheses - the first of these four figures details how many days (out of a maximum of 20) that particular species was seen in Xinjiang. The third figure notes the highest daily count & the third the number of bird-days. Hence the entry for Chukar reads (5/20 3 9) - birds were noted on 5 of the 20 days that I was in Xinjiang, with up to 3 individuals on any one date & with a total of 9 bird-days. The figures in the second set of parentheses denote the altitudinal range that particular species was encountered at.

Taxonomy & nomenclature mostly follow those of Inskipp, T. et al. *An Annotated Checklist of the Birds of the Oriental Region*. Oriental Bird Club. 1996.

CHUKAR *Alectoris chukar*

May 2007

(5/20 3 9) (630-1035 metres)

1 was heard at Wulabo Wetland, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1035 metres)

2, a pair, at Km post 411.5 on G216 (approximately mid-way between Wucaiwan cun & Kamuste), in the Guerbantongute Desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1035 metres)

2 between Yeyahu & Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1280 metres)

1 was heard on the arid ridge about seven kilometres north of Chonghuer xiang between Buerjin & Jiadengyu on the 15/5/2007. (870 metres)

3 at the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve, Manasi on the 21/5/2007. (630 metres)

COMMON QUAIL *Coturnix coturnix*

May 2007

(4/20 2 5) (375-485 metres)

1 was heard & subsequently seen in flight at Shang Yuchang, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)

1 was heard in the grassland between Kekesu & Alahakehu, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (485 metres)

1 at Axia cun (Tuluokele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460 metres)

2 singles were heard in Shawan on the 20/5/2007 – one at Qian Quan Hu & the other at Mo Gu Hu Muchang. (375 & 385 metres)

COMMON PHEASANT *Phasianus colchicus*

May 2007

(2/20 1 2) (280 & 300 metres)

1 between Aibihu & Wuerhe, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)

1 was heard at Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu on the 19/5/2007. (300 metres)

WHITE-HEADED DUCK *Oxyura leucocephala* EN

May 2007

(2/20 1 2) (450 & 828 metres)

1 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiagu on the 5/5/2007. (44°13.07'N., 87°40.93'E.) (450 metres)

1 summer plumaged male on Jiujiawan Reservoir, Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. It had apparently been found there the day before & was seen with a female on the 22/5/2007 (Gou Jun pers. comm.). (828 metres)

WHOOPEE SWAN *Cygnus cygnus*

May 2007

(3/20 3 7) (410-500 metres)

3 adults on Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)

2 adults at Shiqi Lian, 181 Corps. Kekesu Wetland, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (490 metres)

2 adults on the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (500 metres)

GREYLAG GOOSE *Anser anser*

May 2007

(7/20 360 572) (410-525 metres)

63 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 4 at Jilihu & 59 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)

40 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

360 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 - 4 flew over the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 176 (including two adults with five recently

fledged chicks) at Shiqi Lian, 181 Corps. Kekesu Wetland; 180 in the grassland between Kekesu & Alahakehu, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (485-490 metres)

14 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)

50 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. These included 6 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), 25 on the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), both Altai & 6 on the marsh near Tuohongtai Reservoir, Buerjin. (480-500 metres)

25 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included about 10 on the marsh between Woyimoke xiang & Yashicheng & 10 more on Tuohongtai Reservoir. (450-500 metres)

20 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tuluokele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460-525 metres)

RUDDY SHELDUCK *Tadorna ferruginea*

May 2007

(16/20 173 727) (metres)

2 at Shang Yuchang, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)

1 on Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 metres)

22 on the 5/5/2007 - 1 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 21 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)

3 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (810 & 1060 metres)

165 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007 - these included 25 on Yeyahu & 130 on Haizikou. (900, 1260 & 1330 metres)

50 on the 8/5/2007 - these included 30 at Yeyahu & 3 on the small pool between there & Fuyun, 10 in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai. (510-1330 metres)

9 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 1 at Jiliu & 8 on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)

6 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

173 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 - 14 on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 4 at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu; 10 on Heicitan pool between Beitun & Altai; 35 on Aweitan Reservoir; 10 at Shiqi Lian, 181 Corps. Kekesu Wetland; 20 in the grassland between Kekesu & Alahakehu; 80 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender). (475-650 metres)

120 besides Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)

100 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. These involved 56 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai included two parties with the parents accompanied by numerous recent fledglings - the first pair had seven chicks, the second pair 13. There were also about 30 on the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland). (480-500 metres)

50 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included two adults with a crèche of 17 fledglings on the saline pool four kilometres north of Woyimoke xiang. (450-1700 metres)

6 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460-525 metres)

13 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17 May 2007. (340-1070 metres)

6 on Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)

1 was heard at Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu on the 19/5/2007. (300 metres)

COMMON SHELDUCK *Tadorna tadorna*

May 2007

(7/20 75 204) (320-500 metres)

1 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)

2 on Jiliu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)

64 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 - 2 at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu; 62 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender). (475 metres)

75 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)

50 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. These included 28 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai & at least 20 on the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland). (480-500 metres)

10 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007 - these included 3 on the saline pool four kilometres north of Woyimoke xiang & another 4 on the marsh between Woyimoke xiang & Yashicheng. (450-480 metres)

2 on the roadside pools at Km 6.5 on S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu), Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (320 metres)

GADWALL *Anas strepera*

May 2007

(17/20 482 1167) (300-1330 metres)

35 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)

16 - four at Wulabo Wetland & 12 on Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1025 & 1060 metres)

240 on the 5/5/2007 - 140 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu, 30 on neighbouring Wolonggan Reservoir, Miqian & 70 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)

77 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007 - 66 on Yeyahu & 10 on Haizikou. (1260 & 1330 metres)

55 on the 8/5/2007 - 40 at Yeyahu, Fuyun & 15 on the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai. (510-1330 metres).

22 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 14 at Jiliu & 8 on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)

10 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

482 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 - 396 on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 8 at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu; 4 on Heicitan pool between Beitun & Altai; 32 on Aweitan Reservoir; 2 at Shiqi Lian, 181 Corps. Kekesu Wetland; 40 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender). (475, 490, 650 metres)

35 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)

20 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)

10 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (450 metres)

50 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. These included 41 on the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin. (460-525 metres)

68 between Buerjin, Habahe, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17/5/2007. These included 36 on the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kilometres east of Buerjin; 6 on Guoyingmchang Reservoir & 15 at Bulincun Reservoir, both Hebukasaer & 4 at Aibihu, Kelamayi. (340-1070 metres)

10 at Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
11 on the 19/5/2007 - 5 on the Kelamayi Pool; 2 on the roadside pools at Km 6.5 on S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu), Kelamayi & four on Kuitun Reservoir, Kuitun. (300-320 metres)
11 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. These included 4 at Qian Quan Hu & 2 at Mo Gu Hu Muchang also Shawan; 3 at Beihu Reservoir & 2 on Mo Gu Hu, Shihezi. (365-385 metres)
15 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

EURASIAN WIGEON *Anas penelope*

May 2007

(11/20 110 276) (380-1330 metres)

40 on the 5/5/2007 - 5 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiayu, 5 on neighbouring Wolonggan Reservoir, Miqian & 35 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
20 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007 - 10 on both Yeyahu & Haizikou. (1260 & 1330 metres)
17 on the 8/5/2007 - 10 at Yeyahu & 7 on the small pool between there & Fuyun. (920, 1330 metres)
7 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 3 at Jiliu & 4 on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
110 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 - 14 on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 66 on Aweitan Reservoir; 40 on Alahakehu (Lop Kender). (490-650 metres)
45 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
20 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)
6 on Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475 metres)
4 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460-525 metres)
6 at Bulincun Reservoir, Hebukasaer on the 17 May 2007. (1070 metres)
1 male at Mo Gu Hu Muchang, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (380 metres)

MALLARD *Anas platyrhynchos*

May 2007

(20/20 275 902) (metres)

30 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
34 - 14 at Wulabo Wetland & 20 on Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1025 & 1060 metres)
275 on the 5/5/2007 - 210 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiayu, 5 on neighbouring Wolonggan Reservoir, Miqian & 60 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
1 male in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1000 metres)
40 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007 - 30 on Yeyahu & 10 on Haizikou. (1260 & 1330 metres)
30 on the 8/5/2007 - these included 20 at Yeyahu & 1 on the small pool between there & Fuyun, 2 on the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun. Altai. (510-1330 metres)
7 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 3 at Jiliu & 4 on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
10 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
114 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 - 72 on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 5 at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu; 27 on Aweitan Reservoir; 10 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender). (475-650 metres)
6 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
20 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. These included six at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) & a similar number on the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai. (480 metres)
4 in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1300 & 1400 metres)
20 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (450-600 metres)
20 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. These included 11 on the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin. (460-525 metres)
51 between Buerjin, Habahe, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17/5/2007. These included 11 again on the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin; 10 on Guoyingmuchang Reservoir & 20 at Bulincun Reservoir, both Hebukasaer & 10 at Aibihu, Kelamayi. (340-1260 metres)
6 at Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
20 on the 19/5/2007 - 4 on the Kelamayi Pool; 2 on the roadside pools at Km 6.5 on S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu), Kelamayi; 4 on Kuitun Reservoir, Kuitun & 10 near Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu. (300-320 metres)
114 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. These included 4 at Qian Quan Hu; 77 at Mo Gu Hu Muchang, also Shawan; 31 at Beihu Reservoir & 2 on Mo Gu Hu, Shihezi. (365-380 metres)
10 (a female with nine chicks) on Jiujiawan Reservoir, Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (828 metres)
90, including several groups of recently fledged chicks, at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

NORTHERN SHOVELER *Anas clypeata*

May 2007

(17/20 50 286) (280-1330 metres)

30 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
1 on Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 metres)
50 on the 5/5/2007 - 40 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiayu & 10 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
12 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007 - 8 (four pairs) on Yeyahu & four on Haizikou. (1260 & 1330 metres)
15 on the 8/5/2007 - these included 10 at Yeyahu, Fuyun & 2 on the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai. (510-1330 metres)
16 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 4 at Jiliu & 12 on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
6 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
26 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 - 10 on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 2 on Aweitan Reservoir; 14 in the Kekesu Wetland. (490-650 metres)
11 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)

30 in Altai on the 13/5/2007. These included 10 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) & 14 on the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland). (480-500 metres)
40 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included 12 on the marsh between Woyimoke xiang & Yashicheng & 20 on Tuohongtai Reservoir close to Buerjin. (475-520 metres)
10 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. These included 4 on the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin. (460-525 metres)
4 on the 17 May 2007 – 2 (a pair) on Guoyingmuchang Reservoir, Hebukasaer & another 2 at Aibihu, Kelamayi. (340 & 1270 metres)
2 at Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
2 males on the Kelamayi Pool on the 19/5/2007. (320 metres)
6 at Mo Gu Hu Muchang, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (380 metres)
25 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

NORTHERN PINTAIL *Anas acuta*

May 2007

(11/20 415 579) (320-1330 metres)

5 on Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 metres)
415 on the 5/5/2007 - 400 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 15 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
14 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007 - 4 on Yeyahu & 10 on Haizikou. (1260 & 1330 metres)
25 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)
5 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 3 at Jilihu & 2 on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
88 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 2 on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 13 at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu; 68 on Aweitan Reservoir; 4 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender). (475-490 metres)
15 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
5 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)
5 on Bulincun Reservoir, Hebukasaer on the 17 May 2007. (1070 metres)
1 female on the Kelamayi Pool on the 19/5/2007. (320 metres)
1 male at Mo Gu Hu Muchang, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (380 metres)

GARGANEY *Anas querquedula*

May 2007

(16/20 40 186) (metres)

15 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
4 on Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 metres)
40 on the 5/5/2007 - 25 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 15 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
2 males on a tiny roadside marsh in Kamuste in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1010 metres)
19 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007 - 17 on Yeyahu & 2 on Haizikou. (1260 & 1330 metres)
9 on the 8/5/2007 - 7 at Yeyahu, Fuyun & 2 on the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai. (510 & 1330 metres)
14 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 5 at Jilihu & 9 on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
13 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
17 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 3 on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 7 on Aweitan Reservoir; 7 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender). (475-490 metres)
5 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
12 in Altai on the 13/5/2007. These included 5 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) & 7 on the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland). (480-500 metres)
6 males on the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin on the 16/5/2007. (520 metres)
6 on the 17 May 2007 – 2 on the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin & 2 more on Aibihu, Kelamayi. (340 & 560 metres)
3 at Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
13 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. These included 10 (nine males & one female) at Mo Gu Hu Muchang, Shawan & 3 males at Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi. (365 & 380 metres)
8 (just one female) at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

COMMON TEAL *Anas crecca*

May 2007

(/20) (metres)

7 on the 5/5/2007 - 4 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 3 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
26 on Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
17 on the 8/5/2007 - 15 at Yeyahu, Fuyun; & 2 in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai. (605 & 1330 metres)
10 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 2 (a pair) on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 8 on Aweitan Reservoir. (490-650 metres)
2 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
3 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)
5 on Bulincun Reservoir, Hebukasaer on the 17 May 2007. (1070 metres)
2 at Mo Gu Hu Muchang, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (380 metres)

RED-CRESTED POCHARD *Rhodonessa rufina*

May 2007

(17/20 1135 1580) (300-1330 metres)

20 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
 5 on Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 metres)
 97 on the 5/5/2007 - 85 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiagu & 12 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
 50 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007 - 40 on Yeyahu & 10 on Haizikou. (1260 & 1330 metres)
 28 on the 8/5/2007 - 25 at Yeyahu, Fuyun & 3 on the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai. (510-1330 metres)
 1135 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 1015 at Jilihu & 120 on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. A sample count of 89 birds at Jilihu produced 51 males (57%) & 38 female. (410 metres)
 30 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
 33 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 - 3 on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 24 at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu; 6 at Shiqi Lian, 181 Corps. Kekesu Wetland. (475-490 metres)
 2 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
 9 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. These included 3 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), 3 more over the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland) both Altai & 3 more over the small marsh near Tuohongtai Reservoir, Buerjin. (480-500 metres)
 25 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included 7 over the marsh between Woyimoke xiang & Yashicheng & 12 on Tuohongtai Reservoir close to Buerjin. (475-520 metres)
 10 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460-525 metres)
 2 at Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
 33 on the 19/5/2007 - 3 on the roadside pools at Km 6.5 on S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu), Kelamayi; 30 on Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu. (300-320 metres)
 34 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. These included 10 at Qian Quan Hu & 15 Mo Gu Hu Muchang also Shawan; 5 at Beihu Reservoir & 4 on Mo Gu Hu, Shihezi. (365-385 metres)
 2 males on Jiujiawan Reservoir, Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (828 metres)
 65 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

COMMON POCHARD *Aythya ferina*

May 2007

(9/20 16 47) (410-1330 metres)
 5 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
 16 on the 5/5/2007 - 14 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiagu & 2 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
 3 on Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
 3 on the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai on the 8/5/2007.. (510 metres)
 3 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 1 at Jilihu & 2 on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
 2 at Shiqi Lian, 181 Corps. Kekesu Wetland. (475-490 metres)
 2 on the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (500 metres)
 12 on Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475 metres)
 1 on Bulincun Reservoir, Hebukasaer on the 17 May 2007. (1070 metres)

FERRUGINOUS POCHARD *Aythya nyroca* NT

May 2007

(6/20 33 81) (380-485 metres)
 25 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
 33 on the 5/5/2007 - 7 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiagu & 26 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
 1 male at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
 3 males in Altai on the 11/5/2007 - 1 at Shiqi Lian, 181 Corps. Kekesu Wetland & the other two in the grassland between there & Alahakehu. (470-485 metres)
 8 in Shawan on the 20/5/2007. These included 5 at Qian Quan Hu & 3. (380 & 385 metres)
 11 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

TUFTED DUCK *Aythya fuligula*

May 2007

(6/20 59 126) (410-1330 metres)
 5 on Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 metres)
 59 on the 5/5/2007 - 44 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiagu & 15 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
 42 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007 - 13 on Yeyahu & 29 on Haizikou. (1260 & 1330 metres)
 1 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)
 14 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 12 at Jilihu & 2 on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
 5 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 - 1 male on Aweitan Reservoir & 4 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender). (650 metres)

WHITE-WINGED SCOTER *Melanitta fusca*

May 2007

(1/20 4 4) (410 metres)
 4 (one adult male, one female & two apparent immature males) on Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)

COMMON GOLDENEYE *Bucephala clangula*

May 2007

(4/20 29 49) (410-1300 metres)

5 birds (including one adult male) on Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)

8 at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (475 metres)

7 on Wolongwan lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1300 metres)

29 on Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475 metres)

SMEW *Mergellus albellus*

May 2007

(3/20 25 31) (410-490 metres)

4 (including one adult male) on Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)

25 (including just one male) on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (490 metres)

2, a pair, on Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475 metres)

COMMON MERGANSER *Mergus merganser*

May 2007

(6/20 26 47) (450-1330 metres)

2, a pair, on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)

26 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007 - 2 males on Yeyahu & 24 on Haizikou. (1260 & 1330 metres)

2 (a pair) at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)

4 (three males & one female) on Wolongwan lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1300 metres)

2, a pair, on Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475 metres)

11 females on Bulincun Reservoir, Hebukasaer on the 17 May 2007. (1070 metres)

EURASIAN WRYNECK *Jynx torquilla*

May 2007

(3/20 2 4) (515, 530 & 1500 metres)

1 in Keketuohai, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1500 metres)

1 was heard at Km 7.5 besides route X400 in 181 Corps, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (515 metres)

2 singing birds at Baihualing Feng Jing Qu, Habahe on the 17 May 2007. (530 metres)

WHITE-BACKED WOODPECKER *Dendrocopos leucotos*

May 2007

(2/20 5 6) (475-520 metres)

1 female in the wind break trees at Woyimoke xiang, between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (480 metres)

5 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. A pair feeding young in the nest in the Buerjin river valley & three birds (two males & a female) in the Habahe river valley. (475 & 520 metres)

BLACK WOODPECKER *Dryocopus martius*

May 2007

(1/20 3 3) (1450 & 1480 metres)

3 in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1450 & 1480 metres)

GREY-HEADED WOODPECKER *Picus canus*

May 2007

(2/20 1 2) (530 & 1450 metres)

1 was heard near Kanas Lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1450 metres)

1 at Baihualing Feng Jing Qu, Habahe on the 17 May 2007. (530 metres)

WOODPECKER SP.

May 2007

(3/20 1 3) (340, 500 & 1430 metres)

1 was heard near the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (500 metres)

1 was heard near Kanas Lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1430 metres)

1 was heard outside the Huan Ying Guan Lin Hotel, Wuerhe on the 17 May 2007. (340 metres)

EURASIAN HOOPOE *Upupa epops*

May 2007

(19/20 10 64) (280-1330 metres)

- 6 between Urumqi airport, Qingdahu & Urumqi city on the 3/5/2007. (470-520 metres)
- 3 near Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060-1540 metres)
- 10 between Urumqi, Bayi Reservoir, Fukang & Wucaiwan on the 5/5/2007. (450-650 metres)
- 4 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (810-1050 metres)
- 1 near Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
- 2 near Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (880 metres)
- 2 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
- 6 in Altai on the 11/5/2007. (400-520 metres)
- 3 between Altai & on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) on the 12/5/2007. (480-780 metres)
- 1 near the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (500 metres)
- 1 near Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (490 metres)
- 4 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tuluokele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460-525 metres)
- 4 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
- 1 flew over the highway south of Buerjin on the 17/5/2007. (1225 metres)
- 1 near at Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
- 2 between Kelamayi, Kuitun & Chepaizi on the 19/5/2007.
- 3 between Kuitun, Shawan & Shihezi on the 20/5/2007. (360-450 metres)
- 6 between Shihezi, the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve & Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (430-830 metres)
- 2 at Qingdahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

EUROPEAN ROLLER *Coracias garrulus*

May 2007

(7/20 4 18) (300-955 metres)

- 1 at Km post 337 (55 kms north of Kamuste) besides G216 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (955 metres)
- 3 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 – one flew north low over the lake at Jilihu at 09:15hrs & two others were seen at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
- 3 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
- 4 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. These included one at Km 58 near the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland) between Altai & Buerjin, Altai; 2 besides the Buerjin to Habahe road only three kilometres from the former. (460, 490 & 500 metres)
- 2 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. They were at Km posts 39.5 & 35.5 respectively. (505 & 540 metres)
- 3 on the 19/5/2007 – 1 near the roadside pools at Km 6.5 on S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu), Kelamayi; 1 near Kuitun Reservoir, Kuitun & the other at Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu, (300-320 metres)
- 2 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. The first flew southwest at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan & the other was near Mo Gu Hu, Shihezi. (370-385 metres)

COMMON KINGFISHER *Alcedo atthis*

May 2007

(6/20 1 6) (300-1025 metres)

- 1 at Qingdahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
- 1 was heard at Wulabo Wetland, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1025 metres)
- 1 near Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
- 1 in the Buerjin river valley on the 16/5/2007. (460 metres)
- 1 was heard near Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu on the 19/5/2007. (300 metres)
- 1 at Mo Gu Hu Muchang, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (380 metres)

EUROPEAN BEE-EATER *Merops apiaster*

May 2007

(6/20 49 65) (280-515 metres)

- 1 at Km 7.5 besides route X400 in 181 Corps, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (515 metres)
- 6 flew purposefully & high to the east-north-east at 18:440hrs. (500 metres)
- 3 flew high northeast over the minor road between Fuhai & Zhonghaizi at 14:30hrs on the 10/5/2007. (ca.430 metres)
- 3 between Aibihu & Wuerhe, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
- 49 on the 19/5/2007 – 1 was heard near the Xinjiang Oil Company No. 4 Pumping Station 5 kms north of Wu Wu Xing zhen; 2 near the junction of G217 & S304 (Qingbei Gonglu) about ten minutes drive south of Wu Wu Xing zhen; 30, with several sitting near what appeared to be recently excavated nest holes, near the roadside pools at Km 6.5 on S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu), Kelamayi; 2 near Kuitun Reservoir, Kuitun & the other 14, again with some suiting near recently excavated holes at Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu. (245-340 metres)
- 3 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007 with single birds seen at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan, Mo Gu Hu Muchang also Shawan & near Mo Gu Hu, Shihezi. (365-385 metres)

COMMON CUCKOO *Cuculus canorus*

May 2007

(19/20 20 127) (280-1330 metres)

20 between Urumqi airport, Qingedahu & Urumqi city on the 3/5/2007. Gao Jun had heard his first singing bird of the spring only four days earlier – one the 29 April! (470-520 metres)

5 near Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060-1670 metres)

14 between Urumqi, Bayi Reservoir, Fukang & Wucaiwan on the 5/5/2007. (450-650 metres)

6 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (815-1060 metres)

1 was heard near Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)

3 on the 8/5/2007 – 1 near Fuyun, one in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai & the other near the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai. (510-9000 metres).

5 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - one at Jilihu & four on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)

8 in Altai on the 11/5/2007. (400-520 metres)

8 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. These included 3 near the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai & one at the highest road pass in the Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin. (480-2100 metres)

3 were heard in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1240-1500 metres)

4 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (500-1900 metres)

6 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tuluokele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460-525 metres)

6 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

6 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17 May 2007. (340-1240 metres)

3 between Aibihu & Wuerhe, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)

5 between Kelamayi, Kuitun & Chepaizi on the 19/5/2007.

8 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. (380-385 metres)

6 between Shihezi, the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve & Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (430-830 metres)

10 between Urumqi city & Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

COMMON SWIFT *Apus apus*

May 2007

(13/20 10,000 25,000) (280-1670 metres)

At least 5000 over Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)

300 near Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (850-1670 metres)

500 between Urumqi, Bayi Reservoir, Fukang & Wucaiwan on the 5/5/2007. (450-650 metres)

5 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1100 metres)

50 over the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Fuhai on the 8/5/2007. (510 metres)

10,000 were estimated near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 – 3000 were estimated at Jilihu in the morning & 7000 were estimated to be moving north at Haishang Mogui Cheng along the eastern side of Ulunguhu in the afternoon. This afternoon passage was most pronounced from about 14:100-16:00hrs during which time I made several timed counts that all produced in excess of 100 birds/minute moving north! (410 metres)

1000 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

300 on the 17/5/2007 – 10 over the grassland 13 kms north of Wutubuluke, Hebukasaer & 300 over Aibihu, Kelamayi. (320 & 1265 metres)

About 5000 were estimated at Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. Virtually all the birds were moving purposefully in to the south-south-westerly wind.

During the period 07:45-08:05hrs I made five, five minute counts & these varied from 210 to 580 birds/period and averaged just over 420 birds per five minute period. Noting that the passage continued for at least two hours this would put the number of birds present at a figure (16,800) more than three times higher than my estimate! (280 metres)

100 between Kelamayi, Kuitun & Chepaizi on the 19/5/2007.

50 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. (380-385 metres)

300 over Jiujawan Reservoir, Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (830 metres)

2000 were estimated at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

EURASIAN SCOPS OWL *Otus scops*

May 2007

(2/20 2 3) (460 & 540 metres)

2 (one seen & the other only heard) at about 05:20hrs in the Buerjin river valley on the 16/5/2007. (460 metres)

1 was heard outside the Habahe Luyou Hotel in central Habahe at about 05:10hrs on the 17/5/2007. (540 metres)

LITTLE OWL *Athene noctua*

May 2007

(4/20 2 5) (430-1070 metres)

1 was heard near Binghu Reservoir, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)

2 singles besides G216 (approximately mid-way between Wucaiwan cun & Kamuste), in the Guerbantongute Desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1020 & 1070 metres)

1 was heard at Km 12.3 between Yeyahu & Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1060 metres)

1 near Ulunguhu Haibin Yuchang (Huangjin Haian), Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (ca.430 metres)

EURASIAN NIGHTJAR *Caprimulgus europaeus*

May 2007

(1/20 2 2) (280 metres)

2, a pair, near Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)

ROCK PIGEON *Columba livia*

May 2007

(19/20 200 1000) (280-1670 metres)

2 on the edge of Urumqi city on the 3/5/2007. (520 metres)

50 in & around Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (850-1670 metres)

50 between Urumqi, Bayi Reservoir, Fukang & Wucaiwan on the 5/5/2007. (450-650 metres)

10 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007.

50 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007.

50 between Fuyun & Fuhai on the 8/5/2007. (510-1330 metres)

100 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)

50 in Altai on the 11/5/2007. (400-520 metres)

50 between Altai & on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) on the 12/5/2007. (480-900 metres)

50 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007.

50 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007.

50 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tuluoke cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460-525 metres)

200 around Ulungu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

50 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17 May 2007.

30 between Aibihu, Wuerhe & Baijiantan, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280-300 metres)

40 between Kelamayi, Kuitun & Chepaizi on the 19/5/2007.

30 between Kuitun, Shawan & Shihezi on the 20/5/2007. (360-450 metres)

50 between Shihezi, the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve & Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (430-830 metres)

30 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

STOCK PIGEON *Columba oenas*

May 2007

(1/20 2 2) (1715 metres)

2, a pair, besides route S110 near Gangou xiang, south of Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1715 metres)

EUROPEAN TURTLE DOVE *Streptopelia turtur*

May 2007

(2/20 2 4) (290 & 430 metres)

2 near the Xinjiang Oil Company No. 4 Pumping Station 5 kms north of Wu Xiang zhen, Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (290 metres)

2 at the Tielu Dujiacun, Shihezi on the 21/5/2007. (430 metres)

ORIENTAL TURTLE DOVE *Streptopelia orientalis*

May 2007

(8/20 8 35) (320-1960 metres)

5 at Wulabo Wetland, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1025 metres)

1 near Binghu Reservoir, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)

1 was heard in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1420 metres)

3 on the east facing slope at Km 44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1960 metres)

8 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tuluoke cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. Birds were seen in the Buerjin river valley and at Axia cun. (460-525 metres)

7 on the 17/5/2007 – 5 at Baihualing Feng Jing Qu, Habahe & 2 more near Aibihu, Kelamayi. (320 & 520 metres)

3 flew over Mo Gu Hu Muchang, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (380 metres)

7 in the Shihezi-Manasi area on the 21/5/2007 – two in the Tielu Dujiacun, Shihezi & five Manasi Valley Nature Reserve, Manasi. (430 & 600-610 metres)

[In addition one bird, probably this species, was heard in the Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (1910 metres)]

EURASIAN COLLARED DOVE *Streptopelia decaocto*

May 2007

(8/20 14 40) (290-1025 metres)

10 between Urumqi airport, Qingedahu & Urumqi city on the 3/5/2007. (470-520 metres)

2 at Wulabo Wetland, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1025 metres)

5 between Urumqi, Bayi Reservoir & Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)

2 at Qiakurtu, Fukang on the 6/5/2007.

2 near Kekesu, Altai on the 11/5/2007 we possibly the first for Altai. (470 metres)

2 singles in Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007 – 1 near the Kelamayi Pool & the other near the Xinjiang Oil Company No. 4 Pumping Station 5 kms north of Wu Xiang zhen. (290 & 320 metres)

14 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. (380-385 metres)

3 between Shihezi, the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve & Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (430-830 metres)

DEMOISELLE CRANE *Grus virgo*

May 2007

(6/20 595 848) (480-1330 metres)

- 13 at Kamuste in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. Three birds were seen on the ground less than fifty metres from the highway & while we were watching them a group of 10 more flew north high overhead. 11:00hrs. (1010 metres)
- 218 north of Fuyun (mostly at Yeyahu) on the 7/5/2007 - 2 flew over Yeyahu at 08:00hrs & dropped in, joining a group of 16 others, in fields at the lake's northern end; there were 198 at the lake's south-western end in the late morning (several of these appeared to be just arriving). Elsewhere there were two on the small pool in the desert close to Fuyun. (ca.900 & 1330 metres)
- 595 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. The birds had apparently roosted in the fields at the southern end of the lake overnight & started to leave, heading up and high to the northwest at 06:00hrs (35 minutes before sun rise). They continued to do this until 09:00hrs when we left – by which time there were less than 80 birds remaining. (1330 metres)
- 2 singles in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – one circled over on Aweitan Reservoir before gradually heading off northeast at 13:40hrs; another was seen circling over Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) at 20:30hrs before it also headed off east. (480 & 645 metres)
- 1 grounded bird was seen walking in the desert midway between Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) and the main Altai to Buerjin road on the 13/5/2007. (510 metres)
- 19 in Hebukasaer on the 17/5/2007 – 18 arrived at Guoyingmuchang Reservoir from the south at 14:10hrs & a single was besides Bulincun Reservoir. (1070 & 1260 metres)

COMMON CRANE *Grus grus*

May 2007

(1/20 1 1) (1330 metres)

- 1 in the fields at the southern edge of Haizikou, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)

EUROPEAN WATER RAIL *Rallus aquaticus*

May 2007

(4/20 3 8) (385-1330 metres)

- 1 was heard at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
- 3 birds were noted on the 8/5/2007 - two, possibly three, birds were heard at Yeyahu, Fuyun & one was heard in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai. (605 & 1330 metres)
- 3 were heard at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
- 1 was heard at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)

CORN CRAKE *Crex crex*

May 2007

(1/20 3 3) (520 metres)

- 3 (one seen & two only heard) in the Habahe Grassland on the 17/5/2007. (520 metres)

SPOTTED CRAKE *Porzana porzana*

May 2007

(2/20 2 3) (520 & 1330 metres)

- 2 (one seen & the other only heard) at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres) (Photo).
- 1 was heard & subsequently seen in the roadside marsh in the Habahe Grassland on the 17/5/2007. (520 metres) (Photo).

COMMON MOORHEN *Gallinula chloropus*

May 2007

(14/20 30 86) (280-830 metres)

- 10 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
- 4 at Wulabo Wetland, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1025 metres)
- 30 on the 5/5/2007 - 4 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 26 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
- 2 at Qiakurtu in the Junggar Basin on the 6/5/2007. (815 metres)
- 15 on the 8/5/2007 - 10 in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai & 5 in the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai (510 & 605 metres)
- 1 was seen at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
- 2 were heard at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
- 2 on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (490 metres)
- 1 was heard on the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (500 metres)
- 1 was heard at Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
- 1 was heard at Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu on the 19/5/2007. (300 metres)
- 1 was heard at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)
- 6 on Jiujawan Reservoir, Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (828 metres)

10 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

EURASIAN COOT *Fulica atra*

May 2007

(11/20 250 340) (320-1330 metres)

1 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)

4 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)

10 & 23 on Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7th & 8/5/2007 respectively. (1330 metres)

250 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 110 at Jilihu & 140 on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)

30 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

10 on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (490 metres)

2 on Bulincun Reservoir, Hebukasaer on the 17 May 2007. (1070 metres)

1 near the roadside pools at Km 6.5 on S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu), Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (320 metres)

1 was heard at Qian Quan Hu on the 20/5/2007. (365 metres), Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)

8 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

PALLAS'S SANDGROUSE *Syrhaptes paradoxus*

May 2007

(1/20 3 3) (1250 metres)

3 in the desert at Km post 10 besides route X023 between Wulabo and the Nanshan mountains, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1250 metres)

BLACK-BELLIED SANDGROUSE *Pterocles orientalis*

May 2007

(3/20 7 9) (340, 460 & 1250 metres)

1 in the desert at Km post 10 besides route X023 between Wulabo and the Nanshan mountains, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1250 metres)

7 at Axia cun (Tuluoke cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460 metres)

1 was heard near the Tachakou Pool, Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (340 metres)

EURASIAN WOODCOCK *Scolopax rusticola*

May 2007

(1/20 1 1) (430 metres)

1 roding bird in the Tielu Dujiacun, Shihezi on the 21/5/2007. (430 metres)

COMMON SNIPE *Gallinago gallinago*

May 2007

(14/20 40 159) (280-1330 metres)

4 near Urumqi on the 4/5/2007 – three at the Wulabo Wetland & one in the desert between there and the Nanshan mountains. (1025 & 1250 metres)

1 at Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)

1 displaying bird over Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)

20 on the 8/5/2007 - 4 at Yeyahu, Fuyun, 12 in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai & 'several' around the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai (510-1330 metres)

1 at Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)

2 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

8 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 3 at the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun & 5 in the Kekesu Wetland. (490 metres)

10, including several displaying birds, at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)

40 in Altai on the 13/5/2007. These included 8 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) & the rest on the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland). (480-500 metres)

30 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (474-550 metres)

10 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tuluoke cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. Birds were seen in the Buerjin river valley and at Axia cun. (460-525 metres)

30 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17 May 2007. (340-1260 metres)

1 near Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)

1 seen in display flight at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)

BLACK-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa limosa*

May 2007

(4/20 7 16) (410-500 metres)

7 flew north over Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)

1 at Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)

7 (three pairs & a single bird) on the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai on the 13/5/2007. The fact that the three pairs were widely

dispersed on the marsh suggested that they might breed here. (500 metres)
1 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

WHIMBREL *Numenius phaeopus*

May 2007

(7/20 24 50) (280-650 metres)

1 flew over Shang Yuchang, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. A scarce bi-annual passage migrant through Xinjiang this was a new bird for Gou Jun.. (470 metres)

1 at Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)

5 besides Aweitan Reservoir, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (650 metres)

24 on the saline pool four kilometres north of Woyimoke xiang between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (450 metres).

1 flew south at Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)

16 on the 19/5/2007 – 2 on the 'Kelamayi Kilometre 9 Polluted Oil Pools', Kelamayi & 14 at Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu. (270 & 300 metres)

2 at Mo Gu Hu Muchang, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (380 metres)

EURASIAN CURLEW *Numenius arquata*

Oct.-Nov. 2006

(2/25 3 4) (365 & 470 metres)

3 at Mo Gu Hu, Shihezi on the 19/10/2006. (365 metres)

1 at Qingedahu, Wujiaqu, Changji on 21/10/2006. (470 metres)

May 2007

(7/20 13 31) (410-525 metres)

1 at Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)

6 in the Kekesu Wetland-Alahakehu area, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (470-485 metres)

1 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)

4 (two pairs that were probably breeding) on the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (500 metres)

13 on the saline pool four kilometres north of Woyimoke xiang between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (450 metres).

4 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tuluokele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. Birds were seen in the Buerjin river valley and at Axia cun. (460-525 metres)

2 in the Habahe Grassland on the 17/5/2007. (520 metres)

SPOTTED REDSHANK *Tringa erythropus*

May 2007

(2/20 1 2) (380 & 410 metres)

1 flew over the reed bed at Haishang Mogu Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

1 at Mo Gu Hu Muchang, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (380 metres)

COMMON REDSHANK *Tringa totanus*

May 2007

(17/20 200 1049) (340-1330 metres)

30 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. Apparently breeds here. (470 metres)

6 at Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 metres)

85 on the 5/5/2007 - 65 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 20 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)

2 on the 6/5/2007 - 1 on the pool besides G216 just one kilometre north of Wucaiwan cun, Fukang. (1100 metres)

30 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007 - 15 at Yeyahu, 5 near Haizikou & 12 on the small pool close to Fuyun. (ca. 900, 1260 & 1330 metres)

40 on the 8/5/2007 - 20 at Yeyahu, Fuyun, 10 in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai & 'several' around the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai (510-1330 metres).

21 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 11 at Jilihu & 10 on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)

30 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

120 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – these included 16 at the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 40 in the grassland between Kekesu & Alahakehu; 50 besides Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender). (480-650 metres)

200 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)

140 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. These included 30 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), no less than 50 on the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), both Altai & 30 on the small marsh near Tuohongtai Reservoir, Buerjin. (480-500 metres)

60 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007.

50 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tuluokele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. Birds were seen in the Buerjin river valley and at Axia cun. (460-525 metres)

100 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17 May 2007. (340-1260 metres)

60 between Kelamayi, Kuitun & Chepaizi on the 19/5/2007.

45 in the Shawan area on the 20/5/2007. 20 at Qian Quan Hu & 25 at Mo Gu Hu Muchang. (385 metres)

30 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

MARSH SANDPIPER *Tringa stagnatilis*

May 2007

(4/20 4 9) (470-485 metres)

3 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 2 (a pair that were seen displaying & copulating) at the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 1 in the Kekesu Wetland area. (485 metres)

1 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)

4 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai & 2 more on the marsh near Tuohongtai Reservoir, Buerjin. (470 & 480 metres)

1 at Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475 metres)

COMMON GREENSHANK *Tringa nebularia*

May 2007

(12/20 47 90) (280-650 & 1060 metres)

1 at Sha Liangzhi, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)

1 at Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 metres)

9 on the 5/5/2007 – these included 1 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiagu & 7 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)

12 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 11 at Jilihu & 1 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)

1 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

1 besides Aweitan reservoir, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (650 metres)

8 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)

7 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007 - 5 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai & 2 on Tuohongtai Reservoir, Buerjin. (475 & 480 metres)

47 at Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475 metres)

1 at Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 17 May 2007. (340 metres)

1 at Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)

1 on Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu on the 19/5/2007. (300 metres)

GREEN SANDPIPER *Tringa ochropus*

May 2007

(8/20 3 12) (410-1330 metres)

3 at Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 metres)

1 at Bayi Reservoir, Wujiagu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)

1 at Qiakurtu in the Junggar Basin on the 6/5/2007. (815 metres)

1 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)

1 in the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai on the 8/5/2007. (510 metres)

1 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

3 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 1 on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 2 on a pool near Alahake xiang besides the Buerjin-Altai road. (490 metres)

1 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)

WOOD SANDPIPER *Tringa glareola*

May 2007

(5/20 3 9) (450-500 metres)

1 was heard at Shang Yuchang, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. A scarce bi-annual passage migrant through Xinjiang. (470 metres)

3 singles at Bayi Reservoir, Wujiagu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)

2 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 - 1 flew over the grassland between Kekesu & Alahakehu; 1 on a pool near Alahake xiang besides the Buerjin-Altai road. (485 metres)

1 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)

2 in Altai on the 13/5/2007 - 1 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) & the other flew west over the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland). (480-500 metres)

TEREK SANDPIPER *Xenus cinereus*

May 2007

(5/20 5 12) (270-480 metres)

2 besides Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 11/5/2007. (480 metres)

2 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)

1 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)

2 in Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007 – 1 oiled bird on the 'Kelamayi Kilometre 9 Polluted Oil Pools' & the other on the roadside pools at Km 6.5 on S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu). (270 & 320 metres)

5 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

COMMON SANDPIPER *Actitis hypoleucos*

May 2007

(20/20 12 85) (280-1330 metres)

- 6 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
- 12 at Wulabo, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1025 & 1060 metres)
- 8 between Urumqi, Bayi Reservoir & Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
- 4 on the 6/5/2007 - 1 on the pool besides G216 just one kilometre north of Wucaiwan cun, Fukang. (1100 metres)
- 6 near Fuyun on the 7/5/2007 – these included 2 at Yeyahu. (950-1330 metres)
- 8 on the 8/5/2007 - 2 at Yeyahu & 2 on the small pool between there & Fuyun, 2 more in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai. & 2 the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai (510-1330 metres)
- 2 at Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
- 6 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
- 4 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 2 on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun & 2 more besides the Km 22 pool just north of route S319 west of Beitun. (475 & 490 metres)
- 2 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
- 6 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. These included one that was heard over the Gold Bridge Hotel, Altai at 05:10hrs; 1 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) & four others between there Kanasi. (480-1810 metres)
- 2 besides Wolongwan lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1300 metres)
- 2 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007.
- 8 besides the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin on the 16/5/2007. (520 metres)
- 3 on the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin on the 17/5/2007. (560 metres)
- 2 at Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
- 1 near Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu on the 19/5/2007. (300 metres)
- 1 near Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)
- 2 besides Jiujiawan Reservoir, Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (828 metres)
- 1 near at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

LITTLE STINT *Calidris minuta*

May 2007

(6/20 22 48) (270-490 metres)

- 3 at Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. Apparently only the third record for Xinjiang! (410 metres)
- 22 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 15 on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 7 besides Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender). (480 & 490 metres)
- 6 (a single bird & a group of five) at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
- 8 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)
- 5 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007 – four on the saline pool four kilometres north of Woyimoke xiang & one on Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin. (450 & 475 metres)
- 4 (one of which was oiled) on the 'Kelamayi Kilometre 9 Polluted Oil Pools' northeast of Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (270 metres)

TEMMINCK'S STINT *Calidris temminckii*

May 2007

(12/20 54 225) (270-560 metres)

- 1 at Sha Liangzhi, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
- 25 on the 5/5/2007 – 22 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 3 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
- 4 at Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
- 3 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 1 flew over the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 2 on a pool near Alahake xiang besides the Buerjin-Altai road. (490 metres)
- 24 (in parties of 1, 3, 3, 7 & 10 birds) flew east at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
- 35 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)
- 4 besides the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin on the 16/5/2007. (520 metres)
- 34 on the 17/5/2007 - 13 on the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin & 21 (including a partially melanistic bird that was darker over most of its upperparts & breast & had a particularly with blackish face & fore-crown, lower rear scapulars & some inner median & greater coverts) at Aibihu, Kelamayi. (340 & 560 metres)
- 16 at Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
- 54 in Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007 – 23 (8 of which were oiled) on the 'Kelamayi Kilometre 9 Polluted Oil Pools' northeast of Kelamayi & 31 besides the roadside pools at Km 6.5 on S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu). (270 & 320 metres)
- 14 in the Shawan area on the 20/5/2007. The first flew southwest at Qian Quan Hu & there were 13 more at Mo Gu Hu Muchang also Shawan. (380-385 metres)
- 11 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

LONG-TOED STINT *Calidris subminuta*

May 2007

(1/20 1 1) (270 metres)

- 1 adult-summer on the 'Kelamayi Kilometre 9 Polluted Oil Pools' northeast of Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. Apparently the first record for Xinjiang. Photos & notes taken at the time. (270 metres) The species is apparently a scarce passage migrant through neighbouring north-eastern Qinghai Province. (Jesper Hornskov in litt.)

DUNLIN *Calidris alpina*

May 2007

(3/20 30 37) (270-480 metres)

3 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)

30 at Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475 metres)

4 on the 'Kelamayi Kilometre 9 Polluted Oil Pools' northeast of Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (270 metres)

CURLEW SANDPIPER *Calidris ferruginea*

May 2007

(2/20 2 3) (450 & 480 metres)

1 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)

2 on the saline pool four kilometres north of Woyimoke xiang between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (450 metres).

RUFF *Philomachus pugnax*

May 2007

(7/20 121 280) (270-500 metres)

2 on the 5/5/2007 – a male on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & a female at Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)

26 (one male & 25 females) at Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)

16, 121 & 105 besides Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 11th, 12th & 13/5/2007 respectively. During the early morning of the second date several singles and flocks (1, 1, 3, 7, 11 & 23 birds) flew east over the lake & numerous breeding plumaged males were seen fighting with each other and/or displaying to potential mates. (480 metres)

8 over Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (500 metres)

1 male on the saline pool four kilometres north of Woyimoke xiang between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (450 metres).

1 badly oiled bird on the 'Kelamayi Kilometre 9 Polluted Oil Pools' northeast of Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (270 metres)

EURASIAN OYSTERCATCHER *Haematopus ostralegus*

May 2007

(3/20 9 12) (410 & 475 metres)

2 singles at Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)

9 besides Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475 metres)

1 was heard over the Buerjin river valley on the 16/5/2007. (475 metres)

BLACK-WINGED STILT *Himantopus himantopus*

May 2007

(16/20 135 717) (270-830 metres)

20 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. Apparently breeds here. (470 metres)

130 on the 5/5/2007 – 120 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 10 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)

11 on the pool besides G216 just one kilometre north of Wucaiwan cun, in the Guerbantongute Desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (455 metres)

2 in the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai on the 8/5/2007. (510 metres)

21 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 20 at Jilihu & 1 flew north at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)

20 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

80 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 2 on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 6 at Shiqi Lian, 181 Corps. Kekesu Wetland; 72 besides Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender). (480-490 metres)

135 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)

80 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)

8 on the saline pool four kilometres north of Woyimoke xiang between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (450 metres).

33 on the 17/5/2007 – 3 on the Habaha Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin & 30 at Aibihu, Kelamayi. (340 & 560 metres)

20 at Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)

100 on the 19/5/2007. These included 24 (one of which appeared un-oiled, 15 were oiled and 8 were badly oiled); 46 – with several birds sitting on nests besides the roadside pools at Km 6.5 on S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu) also Kelamayi & 15 near Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu. (270-320 metres)

20 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. (380-385 metres)

7 besides Jiujiawan Reservoir, Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (828 metres)

30 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

PIED AVOCET *Recurvirostra avosetta*

May 2007

(7/20 188 494) (270-480 metres)

16 at Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)

143 besides Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 11/5/2007. (480 metres)

188 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
100 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. Elsewhere there was one 28 kms north of Buerjin on route S232. (480 & 495 metres)
40 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included 27, several of which were sitting on nests, on the saline pool four kilometres north of Woyimoke xiang & at least 10 at Tuohongtai Reservoir. (450 metres).
1 badly oiled bird on the 'Kelamayi Kilometre 9 Polluted Oil Pools' northeast of Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (270 metres)
6 (three pairs) at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

PACIFIC GOLDEN PLOVER *Pluvialis fulva*

May 2007

(2/20 2 3) (270 & 380 metres)
1 badly oiled bird on the 'Kelamayi Kilometre 9 Polluted Oil Pools' northeast of Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (270 metres)
2 adult-summers at Mo Gu Hu Muchang, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (380 metres)

GREY PLOVER *Pluvialis squatarola*

May 2007

(2/20 2 4) (480 metres)
2 (a pair) at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
2 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)

COMMON RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius hiaticula*

May 2007

(5/20 1 5) (480, 520 & 560metres)
At least three different birds, the second to fourth records for Xinjiang, were seen. All were photographed.
1 male besides Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 11/5/2007. (480 metres). This is apparently only the second record for Xinjiang – the first was a bird I saw at Jiahezi Reservoir, Manasi on the 4 November 2006.
1 female at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
1 adult male, (a different bird to yesterday's female) at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)
1 female besides the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin on the 16/5/2007. (Photos) (520 metres)
1 female again besides the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin on the 17/5/2007. (560 metres)

LITTLE RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius dubius*

May 2007

(18/20 75 236) (metres)
2 at Sha Liangzhi, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. Apparently breeds here. (470 metres)
75 on the 5/5/2007 – these included 40 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu, 29 on Binghu Reservoir & 2 at Wucaiwan cun Fukang. (450 metres)
14 besides Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 metres)
10 on the 6/5/2007 - 2 on the pool besides G216 just one kilometre north of Wucaiwan cun, 2 on a small pool right in Kamuste, 2 more at Lao Kamuste cun.
1 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
8 on the 8/5/2007 - 2 at Yeyahu & 4 on the small pool between there & Fuyun & 2 more in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai. (920, 1330 metres).
16 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 12 at Jilihu & 4 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
10 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
30 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – these included 6 on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 8 besides Aweitan Reservoir; 6 in the Kekesu Wetland. (490-650 metres)
3 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
2 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)
15 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (450-520 metres)
6 besides the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin on the 16/5/2007. (520 metres)
10 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17/5/2007. (340-560 metres)
4 at Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
20 in Kelamayi, Kuitun & Wusu counties on the 19/5/2007. These included 1 that was apparently holding territory out in the Baijiantan Desert; 4 (two of which were badly oiled) on the 'Kelamayi Kilometre 9 Polluted Oil Pools' northeast of Kelamayi; 4 besides the roadside pools at Km 6.5 on S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu) also Kelamayi & 8 near Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu. (270-320 metres)
4 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. (380-385 metres)
6 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

KENTISH PLOVER *Charadrius alexandrinus*

May 2007

(12/20 52 195) (270-650 metres)
52 at Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
38 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 32 at Jilihu & 6 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
25 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 10 besides Aweitan Reservoir; 15 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender). (480 & 650 metres)

20 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
 12 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)
 10 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included 5 including a recently fledged chick on the saline pool four kilometres north of Woyimoke xiang. (450 metres)
 4 besides the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin on the 16/5/2007. (520 metres)
 4 at Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 17/5/2007. (340 metres)
 3 at Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
 19 in Kelamayi, Kuitun & Wusu counties on the 19/5/2007. These included 13 (nine of which were badly oiled) on the 'Kelamayi Kilometre 9 Polluted Oil Pools' northeast of Kelamayi; 4 besides the roadside pools at Km 6.5 on S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu) also Kelamayi & 2 near Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu. (270-320 metres)
 4 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. (380-385 metres)
 4 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

GREATER SAND PLOVER *Charadrius leschenaultii*

May 2007

(5/20 29 33) (450-560 metres)

29 (in flocks of two, five & 22 birds) at Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. The two larger flocks were of birds that flew north, low over the reservoir. (450 metres)

1 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)

1 at Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475 metres)

1 female besides the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin on the 16/5/2007. (520 metres)

1 female again besides the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin on the 17/5/2007. (560 metres)

NORTHERN LAPWING *Vanellus vanellus*

May 2007

(15/20 190 983) (340-1330 metres)

40 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. Apparently breeds here. (470 metres)

4 besides Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 metres)

90 on the 5/5/2007 – 80 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 10 on Binghu Reservoir. (450 metres)

4 on the small pool near Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (ca.900 metres)

40 on the 8/5/2007 – these included 20 at Yeyahu, Fuyun & 15 in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai. (605-1330 metres)

70 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 30 at Jilihu & 40 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)

20 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

100 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – these included 20 near the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 50 in the Kekesu Wetlands area. (480 metres)

40 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)

150 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. These included 30 around Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai. & no less than 80 the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), both Altai. (480-550 metres)

100 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included 60 on the marsh between Woyimoke xiang & Yashicheng. (480 metres)

50 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tuluoke cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. Birds were seen in the Buerjin river valley and at Axia cun. (460-525 metres)

60 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17/5/2007. (340-1070 metres)

190 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. These included 155 including one small chick at Mo Gu Hu Muchang, Shawan. (365-400 metres)

25 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

COLLARED PRATINCOLE *Glareola pratincola*

May 2007

(6/20 120 138) (300-470 metres)

3 singles were seen in flight at Shang Yuchang, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. Note that the first sighting in Xinjiang in 2007 was a single seen by Wang Chuanbo & others near Kuitun the very day before – the 2 May. His & our sighting are typical first dates for this apparently increasing species. An uncommon breeding species at Qingedahu. (470 metres)

1 at Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)

1 flew south at Jilihu, Fuhai at 09:32hrs on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)

1 flew over Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu on the 19/5/2007. (300 metres)

120 in the Shawan area on the 20/5/2007. 60 were estimated resting on the undisturbed fields near the north-western edge of Qian Quan Hu, Shawan. They were impossible to count when on the ground – the best estimates occurring when the entire group (?) occasionally took flight. 61 were accurately counted at Mo Gu Hu Muchang a couple of hours later. (380-385 metres)

12 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

SIBERIAN GULL *Larus heuglini heuglini*

May 2007

(1/20 1 1) (410 metres)

1 second summer *L. h. heuglini* was seen roosting with Yellow-legged Gulls at Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. Apparently only the second record for Xinjiang. (Photos) (410 metres)

YELLOW-LEGGED GULL *Larus cachinnans*

May 2007

(16/20 200 1021) (280-1330 metres)

5 immatures at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)

95 on the 5/5/2007 – 50 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 45 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)

50 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007 - 40 on Yeyahu & 10 on Haizikou. For this first time this trip adults were seen – and indeed almost every bird was an adult.

Breeding might well occur at Yeyahu. (1260 & 1330 metres)

170 on the 8/5/2007 – these included 50 at Yeyahu, Fuyun, 20 near 187 Corps, Fuhai & 100 near the ‘188 Corps marsh’ immediately west of Beitun, Altai (510-1330 metres)

112 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 89 at Jilihu & 23 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)

60 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

60 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – these included 27 besides on Aweitan Reservoir; 20 in the Kekesu Wetlands area; 10 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender). (480-650

metres)

10, including three birds sitting on nests, at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. This was the only site during my Xinjiang trips that I've seen

Yellow-legged Gulls actually nesting. (480 metres)

8 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)

10 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included six on the saline pool four kilometres north of Woyimoke xiang. (450 metres)

6 on Tuohongtai reservoir, Buerjin on the 16/5/2007. (500 metres)

25 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17/5/2007. These included 4 besides Bulincun Reservoir, Hebukasaer & 15 at Aibihu, Kelamayi. (340-1070 metres)

25 at Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)

30 on the 19/5/2007 with 15 at both Kuitun Reservoir & Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu. (300 metres)

200 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. By far the most important site was Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi where 175 were counted. (365-385 metres)

155 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

PALLAS'S GULL *Larus ichthyaetus*

May 2007

(9/20 84 108) (280-470 & 1330 metres)

2 birds, both third years, flew over the fishponds at Sha Liangzhi, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)

84 on the 5/5/2007 – 1 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 83 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)

1 adult-summer at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)

1 first-summer at Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)

2 adult-summers at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

3 adult-summers at Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)

2 summer plumaged adults at Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu on the 19/5/2007. (300 metres)

2 immatures at Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi on the 20/5/2007. (365 metres)

11 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

BLACK-HEADED GULL *Larus ridibundus*

May 2007

(14/20 250 1185) (280-650 metres)

100, mostly first-summers, at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. At least one adult was seen carrying nesting material implying that this species breeds here. (470 metres)

16 on the 5/5/2007 – 8 at both Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)

10 on the ‘188 Corps marsh’ immediately west of Beitun, Altai on the 8/5/2007. (510 metres)

250 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 170 at Jilihu & 80 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)

180 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

140 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – these included 20 besides on Aweitan Reservoir; 70 in the Kekesu Wetlands area; 10 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender). (480-650 metres)

200 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. Many of these birds were sitting on nests towards the lake's southern end. (480 metres)

40 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)

20 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (450-475 metres)

20 at Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 17/5/2007. (340 metres)

10 at Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)

19 besides the pool immediately east of Kelamayi; 20 at Kuitun Reservoir; 10 at Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu on the 19/5/2007. (300-320 metres)

160 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. These included 60 at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan where breeding confirmed with birds seen sitting on nests on the edge of the reed bed & 78 at Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi. (365-385 metres)

20 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

RELICT GULL *Larus relictus* VU

May 2007

(3/20 6 8) (480 metres)

All records were from Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai where between one & six birds (at least five summer plumaged adults & one second summer bird) were seen on all three visits 11-13/5/2007. Although birds weren't definitely seen sitting on nests at least one pair was seen displaying to each other & several birds occasionally flew around calling vociferously. I suspected that breeding was taking, or would take, place in the marsh towards the lake's southern edge – close to the Gull-billed Tern colony. This was the same area that Little Gull was suspected as breeding in. All records as follows -

1 adult-summer on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 11/5/2007. It flew off southeast after being harassed by a Pied Avocet! (Photos). The first recent record for Xinjiang. (480 metres)

6 (five summer plumaged adults and a second summer bird) at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)

1 adult-summer at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)

LITTLE GULL *Larus minutus*

May 2007

(3/20 49 105) (480 metres)

All records were from Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai where between 23 & 49 birds were seen on all three visits 11-13/5/2007. All except for one second-summer bird were adults in full breeding plumage & I suspected that the species was probably breeding in the marsh towards the lake's southern edge – close to the Gull-billed Tern colony. This was the same area that Relict Gull was suspected as breeding in.

23 adult-summer on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 11/5/2007. (480 metres)

49 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. One second-summer bird was seen – all the rest were summer plumaged adults.

As with Relict Gull breeding was suspected but not confirmed. I twice saw different birds drop in the areas of reed bed towards the lake's southern end. (480 metres)

33 (32 adult-summer & one second-summer) at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)

GULL-BILLED TERN *Sterna nilotica*

May 2007

(/1521 263 287) (480 metres)

Almost all records were from Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai where between 10 & 263 birds were seen on all three visits 11-13/5/2007. Breeding was proved in the marsh towards the lake's southern edge. The highest count, on the second date, was the most reliable of the three – it was windy on the other two dates and birds were sitting tight on their nests.

10 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 11/5/2007. (480 metres)

263 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. A large number (well in excess of 150) of birds were seen sitting on nests towards the lake's southern end. (480 metres)

14 in Altai on the 13/5/2007 – 10 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) & 4 singles flew low to the west over the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland). (480-500 metres)

COMMON TERN *Sterna hirundo*

May 2007

(15/20 90 608) (280-1060 metres)

60 at Qingdahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. Apparently breeds here. (470 metres)

1 besides Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 metres)

40 on the 5/5/2007 – 15 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 25 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)

4 on the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai on the 8/5/2007. (510 metres)

60 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 30 at both Jiliu & Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)

40 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

74 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 4 on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 2 on the Km 22 pool just north of route S319 west of Beitun; 8 at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu; 10 on Heicitan pool between Beitun & Altai; 20 at Shiqi Lian, 181 Corps. Kekesu Wetland; 10 in the grassland between Kekesu & Alahakehu; 20 on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender). (475-490 metres)

20 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)

15 in Altai on the 13/5/2007 - 10 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) & 5 more over the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland). (480-500 metres)

90 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included 19 on the saline pool four kilometres north of Woyimoke xiang & 55 on Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin. (450 metres).

10 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460-525 metres)

44 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17/5/2007. These included 4 at Habahe Marsh & 40 over Aibihu, Kelamayi. (340 & 560 metres)

40 at Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)

20 on the 19/5/2007 with 10 at both Kuitun Reservoir & Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu. (300 metres)

90 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. These included 10 at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan & 73 at Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi. (365-385 metres)

'WESTERN' LITTLE TERN *Sterna albifrons albifrons**

May 2007

(8/20 20 78) (315-470 metres)

10 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. Apparently breeds here. (470 metres)
20 on the 5/5/2007 – 16 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiagu & 4 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
4 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 2 at Jilihu & 2 more at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
2 at Ulunguhu Haibin Yuchang (Huangjin Haian), Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (ca.430 metres)
2 at Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 17/5/2007. (340 metres)
4 over Kuitun Reservoir on the 19/5/2007. (315 metres)
16 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. These included 2 at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan & 14 at Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi. (365-385 metres)
20 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

WHISKERED TERN *Chlidonias hybridus*

May 2007

(2/20 1 2) (365 & 470 metres)
1 adult summer at Sha Liangzhi, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
1 adult at Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi on the 20/5/2007. (365 metres)

WHITE-WINGED BLACK TERN *Chlidonias leucopterus*

May 2007

(16/20 1045 4498) (270-1330 metres)
20 at Shang Yuchang, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
37 on the 5/5/2007 – 14 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiagu & 23 on neighbouring Wolonggan Reservoir, Miquan. (450 metres)
2 & 3 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7th & 8/5/2007 respectively. (1330 metres)
1045 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 420 at Jilihu & 625 over the marsh at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
500 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
644 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 4 at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu; 630 at Shiqi Lian, 181 Corps. Kekesu Wetland; 10 flew high to the east (as if migrating) over the grassland site between Kekesu & Alahakehu at 18:45hrs. (470-490 metres)
4 flew east over Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
83 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. These included 4 again around Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) & 14 over the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), both Altai; elsewhere there were 55 over the small marsh near Tuohongtai Reservoir, Buerjin (480-500 metres)
1000 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included 21 on the saline pool four kilometres north of Woyimoke xiang & massive 950 on the marsh between Woyimoke xiang & Yashicheng & 30 near Tuohongtai Reservoir. (450-480 metres)
20 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460-525 metres)
175 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17/5/2007. These included 2 between Habahe & Buerjin; 23 (12 of which flew off high to the northwest) at Guoyingmchang Reservoir, Hebukasaer & 150 over Aibihu, Kelamayi. (340, 560 & 1260 metres)
150 at Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
135 in Kelamayi, Kuitun & Wusu counties on the 19/5/2007 - 5 flew high to the north over the Baijiantan Desert; 5 more over the 'Kelamayi Kilometre 9 Polluted Oil Pools' northeast of Kelamayi; 5 more on the pool immediately east of Kelamayi; 70 over Kuitun Reservoir; 40 over the canal linking Kuitun Reservoir with Chepaizi Reservoir; 10 over Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu. (270-320 metres)
30 at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)
650 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

BLACK TERN *Chlidonias niger*

May 2007

(8/20 61 126) (290-480 & 1260 metres)
2 adult-summer at Shang Yuchang, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
61 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 24 at Jilihu & 37 over the marsh at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. Several birds were seen, at both sites, carrying food items & disappearing in to reed beds & we thought that they were probably taking food to their mate that was sat on a nest. (410 metres)
41 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
1 on the marsh between Woyimoke xiang & Yashicheng, between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (480 metres)
3 on the 17/5/2007 – one with a party of White-winged Black Terns over Guoyingmchang Reservoir, Hebukasaer & 2 at Aibihu, Kelamayi. (340 & 1260 metres)
1 over the canal linking Kuitun Reservoir with Chepaizi Reservoir, Kuitun on the 19/5/2007. (290 metres)
15 at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)
2 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

BLACK KITE *Milvus migrans lineatus*

May 2007

(8/20 61 126) (290-1850 metres)
1 at Sha Liangzhi, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. The species is a common migrant through the Urumqi area during the first half of April when up to 400 birds can be encountered around Qingedahu. (470 metres)
14 between Wulabo & the Nanshan Mountains, south of Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1220-1850 metres)
5 on the 5/5/2007 – one near Bayi Reservoir, Wujiagu, three over Binghu Reservoir, Fukang & another midway between there & Wucaiwan cun, Fukang. (450 metres)
6 between Wucaiwan cun, Fukang & Fuyun on the 6/5/2007. (850-1100 metres)
54 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007 – 19 at Yeyahu, 26 near Haizikou, five near Keketuohai & four over Fuyun. (830-1500 metres)

About 500 on the 8/5/2007 – these included 8 at Yeyahu, 4 more in the valley between there & Fuyun, 11 near Fuyun itself, 9 from the express way west of Fuyun, 3 in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai & at least 450 around the fishponds & ‘188 Corps marsh’ immediately west of Beitun, Altai (510-1330 metres)
 60 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 2 at Jilihu & 58 flew north at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu in the 2hrs 10 minutes between 14:05-16:15hrs. (410 metres)
 30 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. Most of these were in Beitun, Altai. (410 metres)
 110 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – these included 25 in Beitun town h(all were heading north & away from the roost site in the woodland belt besides the Ertix river); 3 near the ‘Little Gull lake’ at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 4 over the Km 22 pool just north of route S319 west of Beitun; 35 flew north at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu; 20 on Aweitan Reservoir. (475-650 metres)
 11 between Altai & on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) on the 12/5/2007. (480-820 metres)
 25 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. These included 5 over the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai & 7 besides route S227 close to Buerjin & one over the highest road pass in the Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin. (460-560 & 1150 & 2050 metres)
 13 in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1300-ca.1700 metres)
 25 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. Most of these were close to Buerjin itself. (450-1570 metres)
 40 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. Most of these, a loose flock of 25 birds, were seen flying east up the Ertix Valley just to the east of Habahe.
 39 on the 17/5/2007 – 25 in Habahe; 5 near Buerjin; 7 in Hebukasaer & 2 near Wuerhe, Kelamayi. (340-1270 metres)
 1 between Aibihu & Baijiantan, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (320 metres)
 2 over 125 Corps, Wusu on the 19/5/2007. (290 metres)

WHITE-TAILED EAGLE *Haliaeetus albicilla* NT

May 2007

(1/20 1 1) (475 metres)

1 adult flew north-west low over Tuohongtai Reservoir, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (475 metres)

HIMALAYAN GRIFFON *Gyps himalayensis*

May 2007

(2/20 2 3) (1250 & ca.1700 metres)

2 in the desert at Km post 10 besides route X023 between Wulabo and the Nanshan mountains, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1250 metres)

1 flew high to the east over the ridge northeast of Wologwan lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (ca.1700 metres)

EURASIAN MARSH HARRIER *Circus aeruginosus*

May 2007

(4/20 5 10) (410-500 metres)

2 cream-crowns at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)

2 cream-crowns at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

5 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 1 cream-crown at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu; 3 (2 males & 1 cream-crown at Shiqi Lian, 181 Corps. Kekesu Wetland; 1 different cream-crown in the grassland between Kekesu & Alahakehu. (475-490 metres)

1 cream-crown at Km 54 on S217 through the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (500 metres).

HEN HARRIER *Circus cyaneus*

May 2007

(2/20 1 2) (410 & 485 metres)

1 ringtail at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)

1 adult male in the grassland between Kekesu & Alahakehu, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (485 metres)

PALLID HARRIER *Circus macrourus* NT

May 2007

(2/20 2 3) (500 & 535 metres)

2 males (one adult, one sub-adult) at Km 56 on S217 through the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai on the 13/5/2007. The adult male was seen to drop a small bundle of grass or reeds that we thought was probably nesting material in to a small reed bed. At times these two birds were very close to the pair of Montagu's Harriers we saw over the same marsh! (500 metres)

1 male was seen from local road Z840 west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. It was at Km post 26. What was probably this same male was seen at Km post 23 as we drove back to Habahe. (535 metres)

MONTAGU'S HARRIER *Circus pygargus*

May 2007

(3/20 5 8) (485-535 metres)

1 adult male in the grassland between Kekesu & Alahakehu, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (485 metres)

2 (an apparent pair) at Km 56 on S217 through the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai on the 13/5/2007. The pair were keeping very close company and the female eventually disappeared in to a small reed bed where we suspected they were breeding. At times these two birds were very close to the two Pallid Harriers we saw over the same marsh! (500 metres)

5 (four males & a female) were seen from local road Z840 west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. The first was at Km post 21 & the other four were all around Km 24-25. (535 metres)

SHIKRA *Accipiter badius*

May 2007

(1/20 1 1) (280 metres)

1 adult near Aibihu, Kalamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)

EURASIAN SPARROWHAWK *Accipiter nisus*

May 2007

(4/20 2 5) (460-530 & 1420-ca.1700 metres)

1 hunting the buntings near the Kanasi National Park information centre close to Jiadengyu cun, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (1450 metres)

2 singles in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1420 & ca.1700 metres)

1 at Baihualing Feng Jing Qu, Habahe on the 17 May 2007. (530 metres)

1 in the Buerjin river valley on the 16/5/2007. (460 metres)

[In addition a dead bird was seen at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)]

COMMON BUZZARD *Buteo buteo*

May 2007

(1/20 1 1) (1715 metres)

1 besides route S110 near Gangou xiang, south of Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1715 metres)

LONG-LEGGED BUZZARD *Buteo rufinus*

May 2007

(11/20 2 13) (410-1750 metres)

1 at Sha Liangzhi, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)

1 near Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 metres)

2 singles besides route G216 in the Guerbantongute desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (500 metres)

1 near Qiakurtu in the Junggar Basin on the 6/5/2007. (985 metres)

2 near Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)

1 near Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (880 metres)

1 near Fuhai town on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)

1 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

1 besides route S217 at Km post 24, from Altai, on the 12/5/2007. (760 metres)

1 in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1400 metres)

1 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1750 metres)

STEPPE EAGLE *Aquila nipalensis*

May 2007

(1/20 1 1) (1060 metres)

1 near Lao Kamuste cun in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1060 metres)

GOLDEN EAGLE *Aquila chrysaetos*

May 2007

(1/20 1 1) (540 metres)

1 adult on a roadside telegraph pole at Km 525 on route G216 in the Guerbantongute desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (540 metres)

BOOTED EAGLE *Hieraetus pennatus*

May 2007

(6/20 1 6) (385-495, 1300, 1610 & 2200 metres)

1 dark morph near Banfangou xiang, Nanshan, south Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. It attempted, but failed, to take a feral chicken! This species, scarce in the Tianshan Mountains, is according to Gou Jun, more regularly seen in the Altay Mountains of northern Xinjiang. (1610 metres)

1 dark morph bird at Shuiyuandi, in the Guerbantongute desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (495 metres)

1 dark morph bird at Haizikou, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1300 metres)

1 dark morph in Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (2200 metres)

1 pale morph at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007 attempted to take a Redshank. (385 metres)

1 dark morph flew south-west at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

LESSER KESTREL *Falco naumanni* VU

May 2007

(4/20 5 8) (410-480 & 1250 metres)

- 1 adult male, loosely associating with another unspecified kestrel sp., flew east over the desert at Km post 10 besides route X023 between Wulabo and the Nanshan mountains, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1250 metres)
- 5 single males flew purposefully north at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. In addition a further three kestrel sp., most likely this species, but too distant to be confident also flew north there. (410 metres)
- 1 flew north over Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu, Altai at 10:30hrs on the 1/5/2007. (475 metres)
- 1 male flew purposefully east low over Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)

COMMON KESTREL *Falco tinnunculus*

May 2007

(17/20 9 63) (280-2050 metres)

- 2 singles at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
- 1 near Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
- 2 singles in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1060 & 1100 metres)
- 2 singles at Haizikou, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1250 & 1330 metres)
- 3 singles on the 8/5/2007 – 1 near Fuyun, 1 in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai & the other near 187 Corps, Fuhai. (540, 605 & 900 metres)
- 2 at Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
- 4 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
- 6 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 1 near the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 1 at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu; 1 near Beitun; 1 besides route X400 in 181 Corps; 2 in the grassland between Kekesu & Alahakehu. (475-515 metres)
- 5 between Altai & on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) on the 12/5/2007. (480-795 metres)
- 8 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. These included two over the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai & one over the highest road pass in the Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin. (495, 510, 515, 690, 1140, 1150, 1440 & 2050 metres)
- 4 singles in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1350-ca.1700 metres)
- 9 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475-1900 metres)
- 6 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tuluoke cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. Birds were seen in the Buerjin river valley and at Axia cun. (460-525 metres)
- 5 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17/5/2007. (340-1280 metres)
- 2 near Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
- 1 near Baijiantan, Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (320 metres)
- 1 between Shihezi & Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (550 metres)

EURASIAN HOBBY *Falco subbuteo*

May 2007

(7/20 3 12) (290-1950 metres)

- 2 singles at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
- 2 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 1 at Shiqi Lian, 181 Corps. Kekesu Wetland & the other in the grassland between Kekesu & Alahakehu. (485-490 metres)
- 3 (including one vociferous pair) near the Kanasi National Park information centre close to Jiadengyu cun, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (1450 metres)
- 1 over the ridge northeast of Wolongwan lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (ca.1600 metres)
- 1 was seen on the pass between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1950 metres)
- 1 near the Xinjiang Oil Company No. 4 Pumping Station 5 kms north of Wu Wu Xing zhen, Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (290 metres)
- 2 (possibly a breeding pair) at the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve, Manasi on the 21/5/2007. (600 metres)
- [In addition one bird, possibly this species, was seen briefly near the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai (510 metres)]

GREAT CRESTED GREBE *Podiceps cristatus*

May 2007

(14/20 190 393) (280-1330 metres)

- 1 at Sha Liangzhi, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
- 3 on Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 metres)
- 12 on the 5/5/2007 – eight on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & four on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)
- 14 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
- 9 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)
- 190 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 59 at Jilihu & 131 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
- 70 on Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
- 7 on Heicitan pool between Beitun & Altai on the 11/5/2007. (475 metres)
- 6 on Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475 metres)
- 1 on Bulincun Reservoir, Hebukasaer on the 17/5/2007. (1070 metres)
- 2 at Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
- 56 on the 19/5/2007 - 9 on the pool immediately east of Kelamayi; 47 on Kuitun Reservoir. (315 & 320 metres)
- 8, including two adults with a couple of juveniles riding on the back of one of them, at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)
- 14 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

HORNED GREBE *Podiceps auritus*

May 2007

(1/20 1 1) (475 metres)

1 on the Km 22 pool just north of route S319 west of Beitun, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (475 metres)

BLACK-NECKED GREBE *Podiceps nigricollis*

May 2007

(5/20 17 46) (385-450 & 1060 metres)

2, a pair, on Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 metres)

14 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)

17 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)

10 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

3 (two adults with a juvenile riding on the back of one of them & being fed by the other parent) at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)

GREAT CORMORANT *Phalacrocorax carbo*

May 2007

(15/20 75 240) (280-1330 metres)

4 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)

2 on Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 metres)

53 on the 5/5/2007 – 13 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 40 on Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)

39 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007 – 21 at Yeyahu & 18 on Haizikou. (1260 & 1330 metres)

3 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)

19 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 17 at Jilihu & 2 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)

2 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

10 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 3 on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 7 on Aweitan Reservoir. (490 & 650 metres)

3 flew east over Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)

2 flew west over Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)

2 on Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475 metres)

17 at Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)

1 flew over Kuitun Reservoir on the 19/5/2007. (315 metres)

8 at Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi on the 20/5/2007. (365 metres)

75 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

GREY HERON *Ardea cinerea*

May 2007

(12/20 31 97) (280-490 & 1070 metres)

8 flew high over Sha Liangzhi, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)

9 besides Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)

6 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 2 singles flew north at Jilihu & 4 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)

8 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

9 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 2 near the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 2 over the Km 22 pool just north of route S319 west of Beitun; 3 at Shiqi Lian, 181 Corps. Kekesu Wetland; 2 in the grassland between Kekesu & Alahakehu. (475-490 metres)

2 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (450 & 480 metres)

1 on a small marsh west of Buerjin on the 16/5/2007. (490 metres)

3 on the 17/5/2007 – one besides Bulincun Reservoir, Hebukasaer & 2 at Aibihu, Kelamayi. (340 & 1070 metres)

8 (all adults except one bird) at Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)

4 on the on the 19/5/2007 included three singles in Kelamayi - 1 near Baijiantan, another near the Xinjiang Oil Company No. 4 Pumping Station 5 kms north of Wu Wu Xing zhen & the third bird besides the roadside pools at Km 6.5 on S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu); 1 over Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu. (290-320 metres)

31 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. 10 at Qian Quan Hu, where breeding was suspected; 3 at Mo Gu Hu Muchang also Shawan; 18 at Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi. (365-385 metres).

8 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

GREAT EGRET *Casmerodius albus*

May 2007

(16/20 37 233) (280-560 & 1025-1070 metres)

5 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)

12 at Wulabo Wetland, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1025 metres)

15 on the 5/5/2007 – 14 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & one at Binghu Reservoir, Fukang. (450 metres)

2 in Fuhai on the 8/7/2007 - 1 over '635 Reservoir' & the other in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai. (605 & 635 metres)

11 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 3 at Jilihu & 8 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)

12 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
17 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 3 on the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 1 over the Km 22 pool just north of route S319 west of Beitun; 9 at Shiqi Lian, 181 Corps. Kekesu Wetland; 4 in the grassland between Kekesu & Alahakehu.. (475-490 metres)
5 singles flew east over Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
19 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. These included 9 at the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai & 7 besides Tuohongtai Reservoir, Buerjin. (475-550 metres)
16 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included 9 on the marsh between Woyimoke xiang & Yashicheng. (480 metres)
2 on a small marsh west of Buerjin on the 16/5/2007. (490 metres)
10 on the 17/5/2007 – 2 near Habahe, 3 besides Bulincun Reservoir, Hebukasaer & 5 at Aibihu, Kelamayi. (340, 560 & 1070 metres)
34 flew south at Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
26 on the on the 19/5/2007 included five on the pool immediately east of Kelamayi & the other 21 on Kuitun Reservoir. (315 metres)
37 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. 15 at Qian Quan Hu where breeding was suspected; 4 at Mo Gu Hu Muchang also Shawan; 16 at Beihu Reservoir & 2 at Mo Gu Hu, Shihezi. (365-385 metres)
10 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON *Nycticorax nycticorax*

May 2007

(1/20 4 4) (470 metres)

4, at least two adults, one first-summer & one apparent second summer, flying in and out of the reed bed at Shang Yuchang, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. Thought to be an uncommon summer visitor to the Urumqi area – breeding has not been proved. (470 metres)

LITTLE BITTERN *Ixobrychus minutus*

May 2007

(6/20 5 13) (470 metres)

5 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)

1 near Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)

1 adult male at Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)

1 near the Xinjiang Oil Company No. 4 Pumping Station 5 kms north of Wu Wu Xing zhen, Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (290 metres)

4 at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)

1 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

GREAT BITTERN *Botaurus stellaris*

May 2007

(7/20 2 8) (385-530 & 1330 metres)

1 booming bird was heard at Yeyahu, Fuyun on both the 7th & 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)

1 was heard at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)

1 was heard in the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (500 metres)

2 were heard between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. The northern-most was just south of the saline pool four kilometres north of Woyimoke xiang & the other was on the marsh between Woyimoke xiang & Yashicheng. (450 & 480 metres)

1 was heard towards the southern end of the Habahe Grassland on the 17/5/2007. (530 metres)

1 was seen at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)

DALMATIAN PELICAN *Pelecanus crispus* CR

May 2007

(1/20 3 3) (410 metres)

3 (an adult & an immature & a separate adult) at Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (46°58.82'N., 87°20.77'E.). (410 metres). A local commercial fisherman clearly knew this bird & used the colloquial name 'Ma Er' literally 'Horse swan'. He explained that this meant it was a 'large, big headed swan with a long muzzle'. He went on to say that it was a summer visitor and was difficult to see in May when, he claimed, it nested in the red beds, but it was easier to see post-breeding in June and July. This seemed perfectly plausible. The same fishermen knew that it was a protected species in China & that catching or killing one was punishable by imprisonment! However what's probably a bigger problem is that the reeds in the lake are harvested annually – this is apparently a recent thing as they didn't used to be. This could be an additional reason for the pelican's decline – though I'd suspect that the harvesting takes place in the mid-autumn, well after the pelicans (& Mute Swans that up until this year were a regular feature at Ulunguhu) have finished breeding.

BLACK STORK *Ciconia nigra*

May 2007

(4/20 7 10) (470 & 1260-1420 metres)

1 at Sha Liangzhi, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)

1 flew north over Yeyahu, Fuyun at 09:15hrs & what was probably the same bird was seen a couple of times at Haizikou in the early afternoon. (1260 & 1330 metres)

1 again at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)

7 were seen besides the Kanas River about seven kilometres downstream from Kanas Lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. They

were not present when we drove back later in the day. Three birds, possibly part of this same flock, were later seen in flight over the tourist complex near Kanas Lake.(1330 & 1420 metres)

RED-BACKED SHRIKE *Lanius collurio*

May 2007

(6/20 16 25) (280-790 metres)

1 adult male at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. It was very aggressive towards a male Rufous-tailed Shrike & repeatedly chased it. (410 metres)

1 male at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)

3 males in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. These included one at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), one besides the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), both Altai & 1 at KM post 62 less than 500 metres in to Buerjin county. (480, 490 & 500 metres)

16 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included 9 (seven males one of which was repeatedly seen carrying nesting material & two females) within a two kilometre stretch of road (Km 93-95) (between six & four kilometres north of Chonghuer xiang). There were also 2 males at the marsh between Woyimoke xiang & 5 (four males, one female) at Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin. (475, 480, 750, 790 metres)

3 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tuluokele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. Birds were seen in the Buerjin river valley and at Axia cun. (460 & 475 metres)

1 male near Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu on the 19/5/2007. (280 metres)

RUFOUS SHRIKE *Lanius phoenicuroides**

May 2007

(18/20 81 384) (280-1640 metres)

20 between Urumqi airport, Qingedahu & Urumqi city on the 3/5/2007. (470-520 metres)

54 between Urumqi, Wulabo & the Nanshan mountains on the 4/5/2007. (890-1640 metres)

81 on the 5/5/2007 – 77 of these were in the 66 kms between Urumqi and Binghu Reservoir, Fukang.

40 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (850-1120 metres)

4 on the 8/7/2007 – 1 at Yeyahu, Fuyun, 1 in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai & 2 others near the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai (510-1350 metres)

8 around Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410-450 metres)

10 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

15 in Altai on the 11/5/2007.

10 between Altai & on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) on the 12/5/2007. (480-650 metres)

10 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (450-550 metres)

1 near Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475 metres)

2 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460-525 metres)

1 near Guoyingmuchang Reservoir, Hebukasaer on the 17/5/2007. (1270 metres)

2 near Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)

50 in Kelamayi, Kuitun & Wusu counties on the 19/5/2007. (280-500 metres)

40 between Kuitun, Shawan & Shihezi on the 20/5/2007. (360-450 metres)

30 between Shihezi, the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve & Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (430-830 metres)

6 between Urumqi city & Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

RED-BACKED x RUFOUS SHRIKE *L. collurio x L. phoenicuroides*

May 2007

(1/20 1 1) (410 metres)

1 apparent hybrid, a male, was seen at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)

LESSER GREY SHRIKE *Lanius meridionalis*

May 2007

(2/20 3 5) (480 & 560 metres)

3 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included 2 in the shelter belt trees between Woyimoke xiang & Yashicheng & another near Tuohongtai Reservoir closer to Buerjin. (480 metres)

2 near the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin on the 17/5/2007. (560 metres)

SOUTHERN GREY SHRIKE *Lanius meridionalis pallidirostris*

May 2007

(2/20 1 2) (340 & 495 metres)

1 *pallidirostris* was seen about two kilometres from Shuiyuandi, in the Guerbantongute desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (495 metres)

1 *pallidirostris* near the Tachakou Pool, Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (340 metres)

BLACK-BILLED MAGPIE *Pica pica*

May 2007

(2/20 1 2) (600 & 1750 metres)

1 besides route S110 near Gangou xiang, south of Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1750 metres)

1 at the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve, Manasi on the 21/5/2007. (600 metres)

SPOTTED NUTCRACKER *Nucifraga caryocatactes*

May 2007

(1/20 1 1) (1400 metres)

1 near Kanas Lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1400 metres)

EURASIAN JACKDAW *Corvus monedula*

May 2007

(6/20 40 56) (605-1850 metres)

40 besides route S110 near Gangou xiang, south of Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1850 metres)

1 in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai on the 8/7/2007. (605 metres)

9 at Aweitan Reservoir, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (650 metres)

1 at Km post 102 (three kilometres) south of Chonghuer (between Buerjin & Kanasi), Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (680 metres)

2, with a flock of Carrion Crows, near Kanas Lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1380 metres)

3 birds (one of which was collecting nesting material) between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1580 metres)

ROOK *Corvus frugilegus*

May 2007

(4/20 150 237) (410-650 metres)

2 singles near Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

65 at Aweitan Reservoir, Altai on the 11/5/2007. Three of these were nominate *frugilegus* the rest *pastinator*. (650 metres)

150 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tuluokele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. Most of these were seen to the west of Habahe. (460-525 metres)

20 between Habahe & Buerjin on the 17/5/2007. (560 metres)

CARRION CROW *Corvus corone**

May 2007

(8/20 15 29) (280-605 & 1300-2050 metres)

2 besides route S110 near Gangou xiang, south of Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1850 metres)

1 in Keketuohai, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1500 metres)

1 in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai on the 8/7/2007. (605 metres)

1 near at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

3 in the Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007 – one besides the highest road pass & two others closer to Jiadengyu cun. (1770-2050 metres)

15 in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1360-1480 metres)

4 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1300 metres)

2 singles near Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)

ROOK or CARRION CROW *Corvus frugilegus* or *C. corone*

May 2007

(1/20 1 1) (490 metres)

1 near the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (490 metres)

COMMON RAVEN *Corvus corax*

May 2007

(2/20 3 5) (1060-ca.1500 metres)

3 near Wulabo, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 & 1250 metres)

2 over Kanas Lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (ca.1500 metres)

EURASIAN GOLDEN ORIOLE *Oriolus oriolus**

May 2007

(3/20 4 8) (450-530 metres)

1 at Woyimoke xiang between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (450 metres)

3 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. 2 in the Buerjin river valley & one in the Haba river valley. (475 & 520 metres)

4 in the Baihualing Feng Jing Qu, Habahe on the 17 May 2007. (530 metres)

WHITE-THROATED DIPPER *Cinclus cinclus*

May 2007

(1/20 1 1) (1740-1790 metres)

1 in the stream near the road between Jiadengyu & Buerjin at Km 44 on the 15/5/2007. (1740-1790 metres)

RUFIOUS-TAILED ROCK THRUSH *Monticola saxatilis*

May 2007

(5/20 3 8) (480 & 1185-1360 & 2040 metres)

2 males near Haizikou, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1185 & 1240 metres)

3 (two singing males & a female) on route from Yeyahu back towards Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1270 metres)

1 female at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)

1 female besides the highest road pass in the Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (2040 metres)

1 male between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1360 metres)

WHITE'S THRUSH *Zoothera aurea*

May 2007

(1/20 1 1) (1960 metres)

1 was heard (& recorded) singing on the east facing slope at Km 44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (48°26.79'N., 87°10.96'E.).

(1960 metres). It was first heard at 04:50hrs but stopped at 06:05hrs (sun rise today was officially at 06:33hrs) & could be heard from well over one kilometre away!

EURASIAN BLACKBIRD *Turdus merula**

May 2007

(1/20 3 3) (430 & 620 metres)

3 on the 21/5/2007 – two singing males in the Tielu Dujiacun, Shihezi & another singing male in the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve, Manasi. (430 & 620 metres)

MISTLE THRUSH *Turdus viscivorus*

May 2007

(6/20 6 19) (530-580 & 1450-1980 metres)

2 singles besides route S110 near Gangou xiang, south of Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1530 & 1550 metres)

4 in the Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007 – one singing male besides the highest road pass & three others near the Kanasi National Park information centre close to Jiadengyu cun. (1450-2050 metres)

6 (including five singing birds) in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1480 metres)

5 on the east facing slope at Km 44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1770, 1770, 1840, 1950 & 1980 metres)

1 in the Baihualing Feng Jing Qu, Habahe on the 17 May 2007. (530 metres)

1 near the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve, Manasi on the 21/5/2007. (580 metres)

BLACK-THROATED THRUSH *Turdus atrogularis**

May 2007

(/20 6 13) (455 & 1410-1955 metres)

1 adult male at Wucaiwan cun, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. Clearly a late migrant. (455 metres)

6 in the Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007 – two singing males besides the highest road pass & about four singing birds near the Kanasi National Park information centre close to Jiadengyu cun. (1410-2050 metres)

3 singing birds near the entrance to Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1450 metres)

3 singing birds on the east facing slope at Km 44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1910-1955 metres)

FIELDFARE *Turdus pilaris*

May 2007

(5/20 12 35) (475-530 & 1360-1960 metres)

3 near the Kanasi National Park information centre close to Jiadengyu cun, Kanasi NP, Buerjin on the 13/4/2007.. (1410 metres)

6 in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1360-1400 metres)

4 (one seen the other three only heard) mostly on the east facing slope at Km 44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1840 & 1960 metres)

10 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. 4 in the Buerjin river valley, 5 in the Haba river valley & 1 outside the Habahe Luyou Hotel. (475 & 520 metres)

metres)

12 near Habahe on the 17 May 2007 – 2 outside the Habahe Luyou Hotel near the town centre & 6 more at Baihualing Feng Jing Qu. (530 metres)

SPOTTED FLYCATCHER *Muscicapa striata*

May 2007

(2/20 1 2) (480 & 520 metres)

1 at Woyimoke xiang between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (480 metres)

1 in the Haba river valley on the 16/5/2007. (520 metres)

COMMON NIGHTINGALE *Luscinia megarhynchos*

May 2007

(13/20 40 156) (260-815 metres)

3 were heard at Wulabo Wetland, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1025 metres)

3 near Binghu Reservoir, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)

2 at Qiakurtu in the Junggar Basin on the 6/5/2007. (815 metres)

11 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

2 singing birds were heard in scrub in 181 Corps, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (480 metres)

12 singing birds in a 500 metre stretch of route S217 just inside Buerjin county on the 13/5/2007. (490 metres)

3 near Woyimoke xiang between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (480 metres)

11 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tulukele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. Most of these (9 birds) were seen within nine kilometres west of Buerjin. (460-525 metres)

12 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17/5/2007. These included 5 in & around Habahe; 2 between Habahe & Buerjin & 5 more between Wuerhe & Aibihu (Kelamayi). (340-540 metres)

19 between Aibihu & Wuerhe, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280-300 metres)

23 on the on the 19/5/2007 included 6 near the Xinjiang Oil Company No. 4 Pumping Station 5 kms north of Wu Wu Xing zhen; 11 along the Qingbei Gonglu (S304) about ten minutes drive south of Wu Wu Xing zhen & about 10 more near Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu. (260-340 metres)

15 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. (360-380 metres)

40 on the 21/5/2007 – 30 singing birds in the Tielu Dujiacun, Shihezi & another 10 singing birds in the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve, Manasi. (430 & 600-620 metres)

BLUETHROAT *Luscinia svecica*

May 2007

(15/20 12 63) (280-1330 metres)

4 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. Spring migration of this species through the Urumqi area possibly peaks in the last week of April. (470 metres)

1 was heard at Wulabo Wetland, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1025 metres)

3 singing males at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)

4 on the 8/5/2007 - 1 at Yeyahu, Fuyun, 2 in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai & 1 the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai (510, 605 & 1330 metres)

4 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

6 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 2 singing birds near the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 2 near Heicitan pool between Beitun & Altai; 2 were heard near the Kekesu Wetland. (475-490 metres)

4 singing males around Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)

3 in Altai on the 13/5/2007 – one at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) & two in the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland) . (490-500 metres)

4 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (450 metres)

4 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460-525 metres)

12 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17/5/2007. These included 5 in & around Habahe; 2 between Habahe & Buerjin, 2 near Guoyingmuchang Reservoir, Hebukasaer & 3 more between Wuerhe & Aibihu (Kelamayi). (340-1270 metres)

2 near Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)

2 singles on the 19/5/2007. One near the Xinjiang Oil Company No. 4 Pumping Station 5 kms north of Wu Wu Xing zhen & the other near Chepaizi Reservoir. (290 & 300 metres)

3 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)

2 singing males in the Tielu Dujiacun, Shihezi on the 21/5/2007. (430 metres)

NORTHERN ORANGE-FLANKED BUSH ROBIN *Tarsiger cyanurus**

May 2007

(1/20 1 1) (1900 metres)

1 first-summer male was singing & holding territory on the east facing slope at Km 44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1900 metres)

BLACK REDSTART *Phoenicurus ochruros*

May 2007

(3/20 1 4) (1410, 1760 & 2050 metres)

2 males besides the highest road pass in the Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (2050 metres)

1 near Kanas Lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. At one stage it was singing from the very same tree as a Common Redstart! (1410 metres)
1 singing male at Km 44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1760 metres)
[In addition one bird, possibly this species, was heard briefly outside the hotel in Fuyun at 04:50hrs. (850 metres)]

COMMON REDSTART *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*

May 2007

(2/20 15 16) (490 & 1380-1450 metres)

1 male besides the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (490 metres)
15 in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. At one stage a bird seen near Kanas Lake was singing from the very same tree as a Black Redstart! (1380-1450 metres)

COMMON STONECHAT *Saxicola torquata stejnegeri*

May 2007

(11/20 30 83) (ca.430-1400 metres)

1 female near Binghu Reservoir, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
3 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1100 metres)
15 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007 – most of these were around Yeyahu. (1200-1400 metres)
30 on the 8/5/2007 – these included 15 at Yeyahu, Fuyun & 10 in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai. (605-1330 metres)
1 male near Ulunguhu Haibin Yuchang (Huangjin Hai'an), Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (ca.430 metres)
9 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 3 near the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 6 near the Kekesu Wetland. (475-490 metres)
2 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480-520 metres)
1 besides the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (500 metres)
2 near Wolongwan lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1340 metres)
4 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1200-1230 metres)
15 besides local road Z840 within 40 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007.

NORTHERN WHEATEAR *Oenanthe oenanthe*

May 2007

(8/20 44 80) (475-2050 metres)

3 males near Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
1 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)
4 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 2 males near the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 1 near Heicitan pool between Beitun & Altai; 1 at Aweitan Reservoir. (475, 490 & 650 metres)
2 males at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480-520 metres)
15 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. The only bird in Altai was a single male carrying food to a nest in Alahake xiang with all the rest being seen between Buerjin & Kanasi. (510, 1150, 1380, 1390, 1525, 1585, 1610, 1990-2050 metres)
1 near Wolongwan lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1340 metres)
44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007 – they were all between Km 44 & the pass north of Chonghuer xiang at Km 92. (1050-1800 metres)
10 near Guoyingmuchang Reservoir, Hebukasaer on the 17/5/2007. (1270 metres)

PIED WHEATEAR *Oenanthe pleschanka*

May 2007

(8/20 15 53) (320-1450 metres)

15 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. Pied Wheatear was the commonest wheatear north of Yeyahu & was particularly conspicuous around Haizikou. (1150-1230 metres)
10 on the 8/5/2007 – most of these were on the rocky hillsides & in the gorge between Yeyahu & Fuyun. (1330-1450 metres)
8 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 1 at Km 29 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 2 near the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 1 male near the Km 22 pool just north of route S319 west of Beitun; 4 at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu; 1 in 181 Corps. (430, 475, 490, 520 metres)
6 between Altai & on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) on the 12/5/2007. (480-780 metres)
3 on the small pass 12 kms north of Chonghuer xiang (on route S232 between Buerjin & Kanas), Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (960-980 metres)
9 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin, especially around Chonghuer xiang on the 15/5/2007. (740, 790 [3 birds], 830, 1000 & 1140 metres)
1 near Heshutulogan, Hebukasaer on the 17/5/2007. (840 metres)
1 near the Kelayayi Pool on the 19/5/2007. (320 metres)

DESERT WHEATEAR *Oenanthe deserti*

May 2007

(8/20 15 40) (280-1265 metres)

5 within 20 kilometres south of Wucaiwan cun in the Guerbantongute desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (450-495 metres)
15 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1000-1020 metres)
1 male at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)

3, two males & one female, near Ulunguhu Haibin Yuchang (Huangjin Haian), Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (ca.430 metres)
4 in Altai on the 11/5/2007. (450 metres)
4 in Hebukasaer on the 17/5/2007 – 3 at the grassland 13 kms north of Wutubuluke & 1 close to Bulincun Reservoir. (1110 & 1265 metres)
2 between Aibihu & Wuerhe, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280-300 metres)
6 singing birds in the desert west of Baijiantan, Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (320-355 metres)

ISABELLINE WHEATEAR *Oenanthe isabellina*

May 2007

(10/20 20 112) (300-1350 metres)

6 in the desert at Km post 10 besides route X023 between Wulabo and the Nanshan mountains, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1250 metres)
20 in the Guerbantongute desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (450-495 metres)
20 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1000-1020 metres)
20 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (ca.900-1350 metres)
15 on the 8/5/2007 – about six of these were between Yeyahu & Fuyun. (1330 metres)
10 around Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410-450 metres)
2 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
8 in Altai on the 11/5/2007. (475-650 metres)
1 near Guoyingmuchang Reservoir, Hebukasaer on the 17/5/2007. (1270 metres)
10 on the 19/5/2007 – these included four near the dry Tachakou Pool, Kelamayi & six more from the highway between there & 128 Corps. (300-340 metres)

ROSY STARLING *Sturnus roseus*

May 2007

(9/20 75 187) (280-1270 metres)

35 birds, with Common Starlings, in the reed bed at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
75 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
2 copulating birds in the reed bed at the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (490 metres)
25 on the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (500 metres)
1 with a flock of Common Starlings, between Altai & on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) on the 12/5/2007. (770 metres)
25 near Guoyingmuchang Reservoir, Hebukasaer on the 17/5/2007. (1270 metres)
8 flew over Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
1 near Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu on the 19/5/2007. (320 metres)
15 at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)

COMMON STARLING *Sturnus vulgaris*

May 2007

(20/20 200 1011) (280-1420 metres)

40 between Urumqi airport, Qingedahu & Urumqi city on the 3/5/2007. Local breeders. (470-520 metres)
2 near Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1060 metres)
50 between Urumqi, Bayi Reservoir, Fukang & Wucaiwan on the 5/5/2007. (450-650 metres)
30 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007.
10 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (ca.900-1350 metres)
200 on the 8/5/2007 – these included 10 at Yeyahu, Fuyun, 40 in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai & 150 over the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai (510-1330 metres)
160 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 20 at Jilihu & 140 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
150 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. Most of these were near Beitun, Altai. (410 metres)
40 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – these included 20 near Beitun & 10 near the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun. (460-490 metres)
30 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (450-620 metres)
1 near Kanas Lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1420 metres)
40 between Altai & on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) on the 12/5/2007. (480-770 metres)
1 at Woyimoke xiang between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (450 metres)
150 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tuluoke cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. Most of these (9 birds) were seen in & around the Buerjin river valley where it appeared birds might have been roosting overnight. (460-525 metres)
1 near Guoyingmuchang Reservoir, Hebukasaer on the 17/5/2007. (1270 metres)
1 near Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
40 in Kelamayi, Kuitun & Wusu counties on the 19/5/2007. (300 metres)
30 between Kuitun, Shawan & Shihezi on the 20/5/2007. (360-450 metres)
25 between Shihezi, the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve & Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. These included 4 in the Tielu Dujiacun, Shihezi & the rest from the highway between Shihezi and Urumqi. (430-830 metres)
10, including several pairs that appeared to be breeding in roadside street lights, at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

EURASIAN NUTHATCH *Sitta europaea*

May 2007

(3/20 10 19) (1360-1970 metres)

1 was heard near the Kanasi National Park information centre close to Jiadengyu cun, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (1450 metres)

10 in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1360-1450 metres)
8 on the east facing slope at Km 44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1860-1970 metres)

EURASIAN TREECREEPER *Certhia familiaris*

May 2007

(3/20 2 4) (1400-1965 metres)

1 near the Kanasi National Park information centre close to Jiadengyu cun, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (1450 metres)
2 singles in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1400 & 1420 metres)
1 was heard singing on the east facing slope at Km 44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1965 metres)

WHITE-CROWNED PENDULINE TIT *Remiz coronatus*

May 2007

(8/20 6 21) (410-605 & 1025 metres)

2 were heard at Wulabo Wetland, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1025 metres)
1 was heard over Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
4 (two pairs) in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai on the 8/5/2007. (605 metres)
1 was heard at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
1 was heard (at Km 62.5) besides route S217 about 500 metres after entering Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (490 metres)
4 including a pair regularly visiting a nest at Woyimoke xiang between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (480 metres)
6 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tuluoke cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. 2 birds (a pair) in the Buerjin river valley & 4 (two pairs) at Axia cun. (460-525 metres)
2 at Baihualing Feng Jing Qu, Habahe on the 17 May 2007. (530 metres)

WILLOW TIT *Parus montanus*

(The forms in Xinjiang are typically treated as subspecies of Songar Tit *Parus songarus*)

May 2007

(3/20 14 23) (1370-1980 metres)

3 (two seen & one only heard) in the Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007 – two besides the highest road pass & one near the Kanasi National Park information centre close to Jiadengyu cun. (1400-1980 metres)
14 (mostly pairs) in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1370-1450 metres)
6 on the east facing slope at Km 44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1860-1940 metres)

COAL TIT *Parus ater*

May 2007

(4/20 15 35) (1360-2100 metres)

5 were heard near Gangou xiang, in the Nanshan mountains south of Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1950 metres)
5 were heard in the Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (1830-2100 metres)
15 in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1360-1450 metres)
10 on the east facing slope at Km 44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1860-1980 metres)

GREAT TIT *Parus major*

May 2007

(8/20 8 35) (410-620 & 1025 metres)

1 was heard at Wulabo Wetland, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1025 metres)
3 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
8 in the Kekesu Wetland Altai on the 11/5/2007. (475-490 metres)
4 in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1420 metres)
8 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. 6 in the Buerjin river valley & 2 in the Haba river valley. (475 & 520 metres)
4 at Baihualing Feng Jing Qu, Habahe on the 17 May 2007. (530 metres)
6 (three pairs) in the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve, Manasi on the 21/5/2007. (600-620 metres)
1 was heard at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

TURKESTAN TIT *Parus bokharensis*

May 2007

(1/20 1 1) (280-300 metres)

1 between Aibihu & Wuerhe, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280-300 metres)

AZURE TIT *Parus cyanus*

May 2007

(6/20 8 19) (475-1025 & 1715 metres)

3 south of Urumqi on the 4/5/2007 – one at the Wulabo Wetland & the other two near Gangou xiang, in the Nanshan mountains. (1025 & 1715 metres)

1 at Qiakurtu in the Junggar Basin on the 6/5/2007. (815 metres)

2 singles were heard in Fuyun town on the 7/5/2007. (830 metres)

8 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. 6 in the Buerjin river valley & 2 in the Haba river valley. (475 & 520 metres)

2 at Baihualing Feng Jing Qu, Habahe on the 17 May 2007. (530 metres)

4 (two pairs) in the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve, Manasi on the 21/5/2007. (600-620 metres)

[LONG-TAILED TIT *Aegithalos caudatus*

May 2007

1 bird, possibly this species, was heard poorly & distantly in the Haba river valley on the 16/5/2007. (520 metres)]

SAND MARTIN *Riparia riparia*

May 2007

(3/20 7 10) (460-480 metres)

See also the entry for Sand or Pale Martin below.

7 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 - 3 roosting on wires with a small party of Pale Martins at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu (photos). This species has apparently only been recorded in Xinjiang a few times before. (475 metres)

1 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)

2 flew east over Axia cun (Tuluokele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460 metres)

PALE MARTIN *Riparia diluta*

May 2007

(5/20 60 86) (300-500 metres)

See also the entry for Sand or Pale Martin below.

20, with three Sand Martins, at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (475 metres)

1 flew east low over Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)

1 near Axia cun (Tuluokele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (500 metres)

60 on the 19/5/2007 – these included eight on wires near besides the roadside pools at Km 6.5 on S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu) & 50 over the canal linking Kuitun Reservoir with Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu. (300 metres)

4 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

SAND or PALE MARTIN *Riparia riparia* or *R. diluta*

May 2007

(17/20 600 1330) (280-1330 metres)

10 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)

20 between Urumqi, Bayi Reservoir, Fukang & Wucaiwan on the 5/5/2007. (450-650 metres)

4 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007.

300 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)

5 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)

600 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 – 300 at both Jilihu & Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)

200 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

3 near the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (490 metres)

5 between Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (500 metres)

3 flew east low over Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)

30 over Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475 metres)

30 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tuluokele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460-525 metres)

40 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17/5/2007. These included 4 near Habahe; 5 over Guoyingmunchang Reservoir, Hebukasaer & 30 at Aibihu (Kelamayi). (340-1270 metres)

10 at Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)

50 over the roadside pools at Km 6.5 on S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu), Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (320 metres)

5 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. (360-380 metres)

15 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

EURASIAN CRAG MARTIN *Hirundo rupestris*

May 2007

(1/20 6 6) (1160-1200 metres)

6 at Haizikou, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1160-1200 metres)

BARN SWALLOW *Hirundo rustica*

May 2007

(20/20) (1000 2920 metres)

- 100 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
- 50 in & around Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (850-ca.1500 metres)
- 300 between Urumqi, Bayi Reservoir, Fukang & Wucaiwan on the 5/5/2007. (450-650 metres)
- 40 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007.
- 200 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
- 30 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)
- 1000 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 400 at Jilihu & at least 600 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
- 300 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
- 200 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – these include about 30 at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu. (475 metres)
- 40 between Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007.
- 10 between Jiadengyu & Kanas Lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1400-1450 metres)
- 20 between Altai & on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) on the 12/5/2007. (480-680 metres)
- 50 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475-1800 metres)
- 50 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tuluoke cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460-525 metres)
- 100 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17/5/2007.). (340-1270 metres)
- 30 at Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
- 100 in Kelamayi, Kuitun & Wusu counties on the 19/5/2007.
- 200 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. (360-380 metres)
- 50 between Shihezi, the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve & Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (430-830 metres)
- 50 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

NORTHERN HOUSE MARTIN *Delichon urbicum*

May 2007

(12/20 45 162) (315-1400 metres)

- 1 at Shang Yuchang, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
- 2 over the desert at Km post 10 besides route X023 between Wulabo and the Nanshan mountains, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1250 metres)
- 2 singles on the 5/5/2007 – 1 over Bayi Reservoir, Wujiayu & the other over Shuiyuandi, in the Guerbantongute desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang. (450 & 495 metres)
- 30 at a roadside cliff nesting colony between Yeyahu & Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1050-1280 metres)
- 6 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)
- 45 high over Wolongwan lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1400 metres)
- 7 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (450 & 1220 metres)
- 25 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tuluoke cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. These included 20 birds near the outflow of the Tuohongtai Reservoir, Buerjin. (460-525 metres)
- 20 flew north over Guoyingmuchang Reservoir, Hebukasaer on the 17/5/2007. (1270 metres)
- 20 over Kuitun Reservoir on the 19/5/2007. (315 metres)
- 10 near Jiujiawan Reservoir, Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (830 metres)
- 4 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

GOLDCREST *Regulus regulus*

May 2007

(3/20 6 9) (1380-1960 metres)

- 2 were heard near the Kanasi National Park information centre close to Jiadengyu cun, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (1450 metres)
- 6 in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1380-1420 metres)
- 1 was heard on the east facing slope at Km 44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1960 metres)

CETTI'S BUSH WARBLER *Cettia cetti*

May 2007

(4/20 3 9) (385-620 metres)

- 2 singing, territorial birds in the reed bed at the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (490 metres)
- 3 were heard at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)
- 2 singing birds in the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve, Manasi on the 21/5/2007. (600-620 metres)
- 2 were heard at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

GRASSHOPPER WARBLER *Locustella naevia*

May 2007

(2/20 1 2) (410 & 460 metres)

- 1 (in the red bed!) at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. It was taped & eventually seen well. (410 metres)
- 1 was heard in the Buerjin river valley on the 16/5/2007. (460 metres)

[RUSTY-RUMPED WARBLER *Locustella certhiola*

May 2007

(1/20 1 1) (410 metres)

1 bird, possibly this species, was heard briefly at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
In addition one bird, possibly this species, was heard calling in a distant reed bed at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)]

SAVI'S WARBLER *Locustella luscinioides*

May 2007

(11/20 16 36) (290-500 & 1330 metres)

2 singing territorial birds were eventually seen well at Sha Liangzhi, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
3 singing birds (two of which were seen) & 2 singing birds (both only heard) were noted at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7th & 8/5/2007 respectively. (1330 metres)
1 was heard in the reed bed at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
5 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
1 singing, territorial bird in the reed bed at the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (490 metres)
16 singing birds were counted along a one kilometre stretch of road (kms 56-57 – from Altai) through the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (500 metres)
1 was heard at Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
3 singles were heard on the 19/5/2007 – one at the 'Kelamayi Kilometre 9 Polluted Oil Pools' northeast of Kelamayi; another in the reed bed at the pool at Km 6.5 on S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu), also Kelamayi & the third bird near Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu. (290-310 metres)
1 was heard at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)
1 was heard at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

PADDYFIELD WARBLER *Acrocephalus agricola*

May 2007

(8/20 20 62) (410-605 & 1330 metres)

5 singing, territorial birds at Sha Liangzhi, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
6 birds (four of which were seen) at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
15 on the 8/5/2007 - 5 again at Yeyahu, Fuyun, 4 in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai & 6 the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai (510, 605 & 1330 metres)
20 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 – at least 8 at Jilihu & slightly more than that in the reed bed at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)
10 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
4 singing, territorial birds besides the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (490 metres)
1 was seen in a small marsh just west of Buerjin on the 16/5/2007. (490 metres)
1 in Habahe Marsh on the 17/5/2007. (530 metres)

EURASIAN REED WARBLER *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*

May 2007

(7/20 13 53) (270-530 metres)

5 singing birds in the reed bed on the beach at Ulunguhu Haibin Yuchang (Huangjin Haian), Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (ca.430 metres)
13 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007 - 10 singing birds were heard along a one kilometre stretch of road (kms 56-57 – from Altai) through the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai & 3 singing birds in reeds besides route S217 less than one kilometre inside Buerjin county. (490 & 500 metres)
2 at Axia cun (Tulukele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460 metres)
10 in Habahe Marsh on the 17/5/2007. (530 metres)
10 at Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
3 in Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007 – one at the 'Kelamayi Kilometre 9 Polluted Oil Pools' northeast of Kelamayi & two in the reeds near the Xinjiang Oil Company No. 4 Pumping Station 5 kms north of Wu Wu Xing zhen. (270 & 290 metres)
10 were heard at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)

BLYTH'S REED WARBLER *Acrocephalus dumetorum*

May 2007

(4/20 3 8) (450-815 metres)

3 singing & apparently territorial birds in the small reed beds in the fishponds & channels between Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & neighbouring Wolonggan Reservoir, Miqan on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
2 in a tiny reed bed at Qiakurtu in the Junggar Basin on the 6/5/2007. (815 metres)
2 in the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai on the 8/5/2007. (510 metres)
1 in the Buerjin river valley on the 16/5/2007 (483 metres)
[In addition one bird, possibly this species, was seen very poorly & heard very briefly at Baihualing Feng Jing Qu, Habahe on the 17 May 2007. (530 metres)]

GREAT REED WARBLER *Acrocephalus arundinaceus*

May 2007

(13/20 20 128) (280-510 metres)

15 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)

15 apparently territorial birds in the small reed beds in the fishponds & channels between Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & neighbouring Wolonggan Reservoir, Miquan on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)

2 in the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai on the 8/5/2007. (510 metres)

20 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - 6 at Jiliu & many more than that at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)

15 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. Most were at Haishang Mogui Cheng but there were also two at Ulunguhu Haibin Yuchang. (410 metres)

20 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 - 1 was heard at the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 10 on Heicitan pool between Beitun & Altai; 10 at Shiqi Lian, 181 Corps. Kekesu Wetland. (470-490 metres)

2 singing birds were heard along a one kilometre stretch of road (kms 56-57 - from Altai) through the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (500 metres)

10 on the marsh between Woyimoke xiang & Yashicheng, between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (480 metres)

6 between Wuerhe & Aibihu (Kelamayi) on the 17/5/2007. (340 metres)

2 were heard at Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)

4 birds were heard on the 19/5/2007 - 2 in the reed bed at the pool at Km 6.5 on S304 (also known as Qingbei Gonglu) & two more near Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu. (290-320 metres)

5 at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)

8 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

SYKES'S WARBLER *Hippolais rama*

May 2007

(1/20 1 1) (280 metres)

1 singing, territorial bird near Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)

BOOTED WARBLER *Hippolais caligata*

May 2007

(2/20 2 3) (340 & 450 metres)

2 separate singing males in stands of low scrub near the saline pool four kilometres north of Woyimoke xiang between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (450 metres)

1 near Aibihu (Kelamayi) on the 17/5/2007. (340 metres)

[SYKES'S or BOOTED WARBLER *Hippolais rama* or *H. caligata*

May 2007

(1/20 1 1) (410 metres)

1 at Jiliu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)]

SIBERIAN CHIFFCHAFF *Phylloscopus [collybita] tristis**

May 2007

(9/20 15 33) (410-1910 metres)

4 were heard at Wulabo Wetland, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1035 metres)

1 at Qiakurtu in the Junggar Basin on the 6/5/2007. (815 metres)

2 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

1 near 181 Corps, Kekesu, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (490 metres)

3 were heard near the Kanasi National Park information centre close to Jiadengyu cun, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (1450 metres)

15 in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1370-1450 metres)

3 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included two that were heard on the east facing slope at Km 44. (1820, 1840 & 1910 metres)

3 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tuluoke cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. 2 in the Buerjin river valley & the other at Axia cun. (460-475 metres)

1 singing bird at Baihualing Feng Jing Qu, Habahe on the 17 May 2007. (530 metres)

SULPHUR-BELLIED WARBLER *Phylloscopus griseolus*

May 2007

(1/20 2 2) (1160 metres)

2 were heard near Haizikou, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1160 metres)

HUME'S WARBLER *Phylloscopus humei**

May 2007

(16/20 40 167) (280-1970 metres)

8 were heard south of Urumqi on the 4/5/2007 – seven at Wulabo Wetland & the other close to Gangou xiang, in the Nanshan mountains. (1035 & 1970 metres)

1 at Shuiyuandi in the Guerbantongute desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (495 metres)

8 between Wucaiwan cun, Fukang & Fuyun on the 6/5/2007. (850-1100 metres)

3 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007 – two at Haizikou & one at Keketuohai. (1180-ca.1500 metres)

1 was heard near the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai on the 8/5/2007. (510 metres)

1 was heard calling & singing from the reed bed at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)

5 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

6 near 181 Corps, Kekesu, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (490 metres)

10 in Buerjin on the 13/5/2007 – 3 in trees besides route S217 less than one kilometre inside Buerjin county & the rest in Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (490 & 1450 metres)

40 in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1370-1480 metres)

1 was heard in woodland near Altai on the 12/5/2007. (820 metres)

30 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007 - at least 20 birds of these were on the east facing slope at Km 44. (450-1965 metres)

40 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tulukele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. 20 in the Buerjin river valley, 15 in the Habahe river valley & the others at Axia cun. (460-475 metres)

10 at Baihualing Feng Jing Qu, Habahe on the 17 May 2007. (530 metres)

2 near Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)

1 near 125 Corps, Wusu on the 19/5/2007. (290 metres)

BEARDED PARROTBILL *Panurus biarmicus*

May 2007

(4/20 3 8) (270-470 metres)

2, a pair, at Sha Liangzhi, Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)

2 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

3, including an oiled male, besides the 'Kelamayi Kilometre 9 Polluted Oil Pools' northeast of Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (270 metres)

1 at Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)

GREATER WHITETHROAT *Sylvia communis*

May 2007

(4/20 3 8) (430-530 metres)

5 in the Buerjin river valley on the 16/5/2007. (470 metres)

4 at Baihualing Feng Jing Qu, Habahe on the 17 May 2007. (530 metres)

4 singing birds in the Tielu Dujiacun, Shihezi on the 21/5/2007. (430 metres)

LESSER WHITETHROAT *Sylvia curruca*

May 2007

(1/20 3 3) (1420-1480 metres)

3 singing birds were seen in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. The first bird was near the park entrance gate (48°30.13'N., 87°07.22'E.) & the other two were close to the tourist complex besides Kanas Lake. (1420, 1430 & 1480 metres)

DESERT LESSER WHITETHROAT *Sylvia minula*

May 2007

(7/20 8 29) (410-480 & 1100 metres)

1 at Km post 428 (41 kms north of Wucaiwan cun) in the Guerbantongute Desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1100 metres)

3 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)

8 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

8 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – these included 4 near the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun. (480 metres)

4 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)

2 at Tuohongtai Reservoir near Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475 metres)

3 in the Buerjin river valley on the 16/5/2007. (470 metres)

ASIAN DESERT WARBLER *Sylvia nana*

May 2007

(1/20 1 1) (355 metres)

1 singing, territorial bird in the desert southwest of Baijiangtan, Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. It was first heard singing at 07:05hrs. (45°42.07'N., 85°05.16'E.). (355 metres).

BARRED WARBLER *Sylvia nisoria*

May 2007

(6/20 15 29) (280-1035 metres)

4 were heard at Wulabo Wetland, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1035 metres)

1 singing bird was heard near Binghu Reservoir, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)

1 was heard near the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai on the 8/5/2007. (510 metres)

2 near Chepaizi Reservoir, Wusu on the 19/5/2007. (280 metres)

4 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. (360-400 metres)

15 on the 21/5/2007 – 10 singing males in the Tielu Dujiacun, Shihezi; 4 in the expressway services between Shihezi & Urumqi & another singing male besides Jiujiawan Reservoir, Urumqi. (430-840 metres)

2 were heard at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

ASIAN SHORT-TOED LARK *Calandrella cheleensis*

May 2007

(12/20 30 89) (280-1330 metres)

30 in the Guerbantongute desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (450-495 metres)

20 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (ca.1000-1100 metres)

2 near Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)

10 around Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410-450 metres)

4 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

2 near the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (480 metres)

4 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (480 metres)

3 singing birds at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)

4 near the saline pool four kilometres north of Woyimoke xiang between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (450 metres).

2 near Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (480 metres)

2 near Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)

6 in Kelamayi, Kuitun & Wusu counties on the 19/5/2007. (300 metres)

CRESTED LARK *Galerida cristata*

May 2007

(3/20 25 27) (ca.350-ca.600 metres)

25 on the 5/5/2007 – several near Bayi Reservoir, Wujiacu & at least 15 in the Guerbantongute desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang. (450-495 metres)

1 near Baijiangtan, Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (ca.350 metres)

1 was seen from the Expressway between Shihezi & Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (ca.600 metres)

EURASIAN SKYLARK *Alauda arvensis*

May 2007

(4/20 25 50) (380 & 1270-1330 metres)

25 & 15 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7th & 8/5/2007 respectively. (1330 metres)

8 singing birds near Guoyingmuchang Reservoir, Hebukasaer on the 17/5/2007. (1270 metres)

2 singing birds at Mo Gu Hu Muchang, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (380 metres)

HORNED LARK *Eremophila alpestris*

May 2007

(8/20 20 50) (340-1350 metres)

4 in the desert at Km post 10 besides route X023 between Wulabo and the Nanshan mountains, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1250 metres)

20 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (ca.1000-1100 metres)

10 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (ca.900-1350 metres)

5 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)

6 around Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410-450 metres)

2 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

1 at Bulincun Reservoir, Hebukasaer on the 17 May 2007. (1070 metres)

2 were heard at the 'Desert Warbler site' southwest of Baijiangtan, Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (340-360 metres).

SAXAUL SPARROW *Passer ammodendri*

May 2007

(3/20 5 10) (280-495 metres)

5 at Shuiyuandi in the Guerbantongute desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (495 metres)

4 near Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)

1 singing, territorial male besides the minor road between Fuhai & Zhonghaizi on the 10/5/2007. (ca.430 metres)

HOUSE SPARROW *Passer domesticus*

May 2007

- (7/20 30 110) (300-1100 metres)
20 between Urumqi airport, Qingedahu & Urumqi city on the 3/5/2007. (470-520 metres)
10 near Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (890-1100 metres)
10 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (ca.1000-1100 metres)
20 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (ca.900-1350 metres)
30 between Fuyun & Fuhai on the 8/5/2007.
10 in Kelamayi, Kuitun & Wusu counties on the 19/5/2007. (300 metres)
10 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. (360-400 metres)

EURASIAN TREE SPARROW *Passer montanus*

May 2007

- (18/20 50 391) (280-1350 metres)
5 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
2 near Urumqi on the 4/5/2007.
50 between Urumqi, Bayi Reservoir, Fukang & Wucaiwan on the 5/5/2007. (450-650 metres)
20 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (ca.1000-1100 metres)
40 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (ca.900-1350 metres)
30 between Fuyun & Fuhai on the 8/5/2007.
30 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
30 in Altai on the 11/5/2007.
20 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007 – the highest of these were 3 on the summit of the small pass 16 kms north of Chonghuer xiang (on route S232 between Buerjin & Kanas), Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (1140 metres)
4 near Jiadengyu outside Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1450 metres)
20 between Altai & on Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender) on the 12/5/2007. (480-900 metres)
10 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (550 & 1220 metres)
30 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tuluoke cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460-525 metres)
20 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17/5/2007.
20 between Aibihu, Wuerhe & Baijiantan, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280-300 metres)
20 in Kelamayi, Kuitun & Wusu counties on the 19/5/2007. (300 metres)
20 between Shihezi, the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve & Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (430-830 metres)
20 between Urumqi city & Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

ROCK SPARROW *Petronia petronia*

May 2007

- (3/20 7 11) (610-1270 metres)
3 singles in the desert at Km post 10 besides route X023 between Wulabo and the Nanshan mountains, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1230-1270 metres)
1 from the Tuwuda Expressway between Urumqi & Bayi Reservoir on the 5/5/2007/ (610 metres)
7 between Wucaiwan cun & Kamuste cun in the Guerbantongute Desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. The first were two at Km post 428 (41 kms north of Wucaiwan cun) & the other five were at Km post 408.5. (875 & 1100 metres)

WHITE WAGTAIL *Motacilla alba*

May 2007

- (19/20 10 87) (300-1450 metres)
All birds showed characters of the Central Asian form *M. a. personata*.
8, between Urumqi, Bayi Reservoir, Fukang & Wucaiwan on the 5/5/2007. (450-650 metres)
5 between Urumqi airport, Qingedahu & Urumqi city on the 3/5/2007. (470-520 metres)
10 near Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1020-1420 metres)
4 singles in the Guerbantongute Desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (890-1100 metres)
3 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (ca.900-1350 metres)
5 between Fuhai & Beitun on the 8/5/2007. (500-510 metres)
3 around Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410-450 metres)
6 in Altai on the 11/5/2007.
6 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007 – these included several near the Kanasi National Park information centre close to Jiadengyu cun, Buerjin. (500-1440 metres)
8 between Jiadengyu & Kanas Lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1220-1450 metres)
2 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
7 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007.
3 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tuluoke cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460-525 metres)
5 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17/5/2007. (320-540 metres)
1 near Wuerhe, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (320 metres)
4 in Kelamayi, Kuitun & Wusu counties on the 19/5/2007. (300 metres)
2 near Kuitun on the 20/5/2007.
4 besides the Jiujiawan Reservoir, Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (830 metres)
1 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

CITRINE WAGTAIL *Motacilla citreola*

May 2007

(14/20 15 62) (270-1410 metres)

- 10 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 3/5/2007. (470 metres)
- 15 at Wulabo Wetland, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1035 metres)
- 1 near Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
- 4 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (ca.1000-1100 metres)
- 2 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)
- 2 at Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
- 6 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – these included 1 at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu. (475 metres)
- 4 at the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (500 metres)
- 1 male on a pool near Kanas Lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1410 metres)
- 2 on the 17/5/2007 – 1 in the Habahe Grasslands & 1 more near Guoyingmuchang Reservoir, Hebukasaer. (540 & 1270 metres)
- 6 in Kelamayi, Kuitun & Wusu counties on the 19/5/2007. (270-300 metres)
- 3 near Qian Quan Hu, Shawan on the 20/5/2007. (385 metres)
- 4 at Jiujiaowan Reservoir, Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (830 metres)
- 2 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

WESTERN YELLOW WAGTAIL *Motacilla flava**

May 2007

(17/20 75 449) (280-1330 metres)

- 15 at Qingedahu (especially Shang Yuchang), Changji on the 3/5/2007. Several subspecies were noted – *M. f. thunbergi* was by far the commonest with at least six birds showing characters of that form, there was one apparent *beema* & one *feldegg*. The latter was photographed. (470 metres)
- 10 near Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
- 6 in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007.
- 15 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
- 20 on the 8/5/2007 - 10 at Yeyahu, Fuyun, 6 in the Ertix Valley, Fuhai. (605-1330 metres)
- 10 around Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410-450 metres)
- 40 around Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)
- 60 in Altai on the 11/5/2007.
- 30 in Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (490-650 metres)
- 25 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)
- 75 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included particularly large numbers near Tuohongtai Reservoir. (475-1230 metres)
- 50 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tuluoke cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460-525 metres)
- 40 between Habahe, Buerjin, Hebukasaer & Wuerhe (Kelamayi) on the 17/5/2007. (320-1270 metres)
- 20 near Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)
- 10 in Kelamayi, Kuitun & Wusu counties on the 19/5/2007. (300 metres)
- 20 in the Shawan-Shihezi area on the 20/5/2007. (360-400 metres)
- 3 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

GREY WAGTAIL *Motacilla cinerea*

May 2007

(9/20 15 60) (495-1470 metres)

- 2 singles near Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1035 & 1250 metres)
- 1 at Shuiyuandi in the Guerbantongute desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (495 metres)
- 1 at Lao Kamuste cun in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1060 metres)
- 15 north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (ca.900-1350 metres)
- 6 between Yeyahu & Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (940-1330 metres)
- 3 in Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (1410-1470 metres)
- 15 between Jiadengyu & Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1230-1470 metres)
- 15 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007.
- 2 at the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve, Manasi on the 21/5/2007. (610 metres)

RICHARD'S PIPIT *Anthus richardi*

May 2007

(9/20 2 11) (355-1330 metres)

- 2 at Wulabo Wetland, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1035 metres)
- 1 over Binghu Reservoir, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)
- 1 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)
- 1 flew north at Jilihu, Fuhai on the 9/5/2007. (410 metres)
- 1 at Axia cun (Tuluoke cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460 metres)
- 1 in the Habahe Grasslands on the 17/5/2007. (530 metres)
- 1 flew north over the desert at Baijiangtan, Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (355 metres)
- 2 singing birds were heard in the Shawan area on the 20/5/2007 – one at Qian Quan Hu & the other at Mo Gu Hu Muchang. (385 metres)

1 was heard at Qingedahu, Changji on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

TAWNY PIPIT *Anthus campestris*

May 2007

(12/20 10 34) (270-1330 metres)

3 in the desert at Km post 10 besides route X023 between Wulabo and the Nanshan mountains, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1250 metres)

1 in the desert near Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 5/5/2007. (450 metres)

1 at Lao Kamuste cun in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1060 metres)

1 near Haizikou, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1225 metres)

2 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)

3 near Fuhai on the 9/5/2007 - two at Jilihu & one at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu. (410 metres)

3 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 - 2 near the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 1 near the Km 22 pool just north of route S319 west of Beitun. (475 & 490 metres)

2 at Luobuhongma NR (Alahakehu or Lop Kender), Altai on the 12/5/2007. (480 metres)

3 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007 - these included one at Km 93 (about six kilometres north of Chonghuer xiang) & another near Tuohongtai Reservoir closer to Buerjin. (475-790 metres)

3 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tulukele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. These included 1 at the Habahe Gonglu Liqing Banhechang pools 6.5 kms east of Buerjin & 2 near Axia cun. (460-520 metres)

2 near Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)

10 in Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. These included six (with several territorial, singing birds) at the 'Desert Warbler site' southwest of Baijiangtan & two at the Tachakou Pool, Kelamayi. (270-355 metres)

TREE PIPIT *Anthus trivialis*

May 2007

(7/20 8 32) (460-530 & 1060-2040 metres)

Birds were apparently already well established on territory in the Tianshan Mountains in early May. Other apparent breeding birds were noted in the mountains in the Jiadengyu/Kanas National Geological Park area & in the lowlands near Buerjin and between there and Habahe. What appeared to be birds that were still in the process of migrating were also noted throughout the period with birds being seen in the Kalamaili Shan NR on the eastern side of the Junggar Basin on the 6th May, at Woyimoke xiang, Buerjin on the 15th, three singles in the Buerjin-Habahe area on the 16th & one at Guoyingmuchang Reservoir, Hebukasaer on the 17 May. All records as follows -

2 singing birds near Banfangou in the Nanshan mountains south of Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1590 & 1660 metres)

2 at Lao Kamuste cun in the Kalamaili Shan NR, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1060 metres)

5 on the highest road pass in the Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (1990-2040 metres)

6 in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1300-1420 metres)

8 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included seven singing birds on the west facing grassier slope adjacent to Km 44. The eighth bird was a presumed migrant that flew north over the fields at Woyimoke xiang. (480, 1630 & 1830-1870 metres)

6 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. 4 - one apparently territorial bird singing in the forest & three singles flew high to the east as if migrating at the Buerjin river valley & 2 in the Haba river valley. (460 & 520 metres)

3 on the 17/5/2007 - 2 at Baihualing Feng Jing Qu, Habahe & 1 near Guoyingmuchang Reservoir, Hebukasaer. (530 metres)

WATER PIPIT *Anthus spinoletta*

May 2007

(1/20 1 1) (1420 metres)

1 near Kanas Lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1420 metres)

[BROWN ACCENTOR *Prunella fulvescens*

May 2007

(1/20 1 1) (1280 metres)

Gou Jun saw one near Km post 18 in the arid valley besides route 842 between Fuyun & Yeyahu on the 7/5/2006. (1280 metres)]

BLACK-THROATED ACCENTOR *Prunella atrogularis*

May 2007

(1/20 2 2) (1900 metres)

2 singing birds on the east facing slope at Km 44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1900 metres)

CHAFFINCH *Fringilla coelebs*

May 2007

(6/20 40 67) (460-770 & 1320-1500 metres)

A locally fairly common breeding bird in a wide variety of woodland & at a wide range of altitudes in Kekesu, Buerjin & Habahe. Birds were encountered in light, deciduous woodland [wind breaks around Kekesu] & in conifer forest in Buerjin. All records as follows -

2 singing birds in wind breaks near 181 Corps, Kekesu, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (490 metres)

2 were heard near the Kanasi National Park information centre close to Jiadengyu cun, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (1500 metres)

7 singing birds were noted between Jiadengyu & Kanas Lake in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1320-1450 metres)

1 was heard at Km 93 (about six kilometres north of Chonghuer xiang), between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (770 metres)

40 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. 15 in the Buerjin river valley, 20 in the Haba river valley & 5 in Habahe town itself. (460 & 520 metres)

15 near Habahe on the 17 May 2007 – 5 outside the Habahe Luyou Hotel near the town centre & 10 more at Baihualing Feng Jing Qu. (530 metres)

EURASIAN GREENFINCH *Carduelis chloris*

May 2007

(2/20 5 6) (425-600 metres)

Surprisingly few birds were noted.

1 was heard in Shihezi town on the 20/5/2007. (425 metres)

5 on the 21/5/2007 – four in the Tielu Dujiacun, Shihezi & another in the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve, Manasi. (430 & 600 metres)

EURASIAN SISKIN *Carduelis spinus*

May 2007

(5/20 10 25) (610 & 1350-1960 metres)

5 in the Nanshan mountains south of Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1660 & 1860 metres)

10 in Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (1410-1830 metres)

4 in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1350 & 1450 metres)

5 on the east facing slope at Km 44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1890-1960 metres)

1 in the Manasi Valley Nature Reserve, Manasi on the 21/5/2007. (610 metres)

EUROPEAN GOLDFINCH *Carduelis carduelis*

May 2007

(6/20 4 18) (470-790 & 1350-1640 metres)

1 with the flock of Eurasian Linnet near Banfangou in the Nanshan mountains south of Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1640 metres)

3 between Altai & Buerjin on the 13/5/2007 – one at the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai & the other two near the entrance gate to Kanasi National Forest Park, Buerjin. (500 & 1420 metres)

4, two pairs, in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1350 & 1420 metres)

4 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included 2 at Km 93 (about six kilometres north of Chonghuer xiang) & 2 more over the fields at Woyimoke xiang. (480 & 790 metres)

2 in the Buerjin river valley on the 16/5/2007. (470 metres)

4 (two pairs) at Baihualing Feng Jing Qu, Habahe on the 17/5/2007. (530 metres)

COMMON REDPOLL *Carduelis flammea*

May 2007

(1/20 2 2) (1830 metres)

2 in the Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (1830 metres)

TWITE *Carduelis flavirostris*

May 2007

(1/20 15 15) (1270 metres)

15 near Guoyingmuchang Reservoir, Hebukasaer on the 17/5/2007. (1270 metres)

EURASIAN LINNET *Carduelis cannabina*

May 2007

(9/20 25 49) (ca.350-830 & 1230-1760 metres)

25 south of Urumqi on the 4/5/2007 – three in the desert at Km post 10 besides route X023 between Wulabo and the Nanshan mountains & about 20 near Banfangou in the Nanshan mountains south of Urumqi. (1250 & 1640 metres)

3 near Shuiyuandi in the Guerbantongute desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (495 metres)

2 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1330 metres)

2 between Yeyahu & Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1280 metres)

2 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 1 near the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 1 at Beitun Yuchang at the northern end of Ulunguhu.

(475 & 490 metres)

6 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007 – these included 2 at Km 44. (1230, 1310 & 1760 metres)

6 between Buerjin & Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460-520 metres)

1 near Kelamayı on the 19/5/2007. (ca.350 metres)

2 besides the Jiujıawan Reservoir, Urumqi on the 21/5/2007. (830 metres)

MONGOLIAN FINCH *Bucanetes mongolicus*

May 2007

(/20) (metres)

2 near Shuiyuandi in the Guerbantongute desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 5/5/2007. (495 metres)

60 in the Guerbantongute Desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. These included 50 at Km post 428 (41 kms north of Wucıawan cun), 2 in Kamuste, 4 at Lao Kamuste cun & about four others elsewhere on the drive. (890-1100 metres)

2 near Haizıkou, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1225 metres)

MONGOLIAN FINCH *Bucanetes mongolicus* or DESERT FINCH *Rhodospiza obsoleta*

May 2007

[One bird flew over at the 'Desert Warbler site' southwest of Baijiangtan, Kelamayı on the 19/5/2007. (350 metres)]

COMMON ROSEFINCH *Carpodacus erythrinus*

May 2007

(8/20 8 23) (425-530 & 1035-1860 metres)

2 were heard at Wulabo Wetland, Urumqi on the 4/5/2007. (1035 metres)

1 was heard in the Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (1440 metres)

3 in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1420 & 1480 metres)

3 on the east facing slope at Km 44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1800-1860 metres)

8 (four of which flew high & strong to the west as if migrating) in the Buerjin river valley on the 16/5/2007. (460 metres)

1 was heard at Baihualing Feng Jing Qu, Habahe on the 17/5/2007. (530 metres)

1 was heard on the edge of Shihezi town on the 20/5/2007. (425 metres)

4 singing birds in the Tielu Dujiacun, Shihezi on the 21/5/2007. (430 metres)

RED CROSSBILL *Loxia curvirostra*

May 2007

(3/20 8 18) (1420-1920 metres)

6 in the Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (1830 metres)

4, two pairs, in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1420 & 1480 metres)

8 on the east facing slope at Km 44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1770-1920 metres)

EURASIAN BULLFINCH *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*

May 2007

(1/20 1 1) (1900 metres)

1 female on the east facing slope at Km 44 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1900 metres)

PINE BUNTING *Emberiza leucocephala*

May 2007

(2/20 6 10) (1420-1440 metres)

6, with the large flock of Ortolan Buntings, near the Kanasi National Park information centre close to Jiadengyu cun, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (1420 metres)

4 birds (two singles & a pair) in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. (1420 & 1440 metres)

ROCK BUNTING *Emberiza cia*

May 2007

(4/20 3 9) (960-1280 metres)

3 singles between Haizıkou & Keketuohai, Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. (1160 metres)

3 (two singing males & a female) on route from Yeyahu back towards Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1080-1280 metres)

2 on the small pass 12 kms north of Chonghuer xiang (on route S232 between Buerjin & Kanas), Buerjin on the 13/5/2007. (960 metres)

1 was heard about between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (1040 metres)

GREY-NECKED BUNTING *Emberiza buchanani*

May 2007

(3/20 7 9) (470, 490 & 1100 metres)

1 singing male on the rocky hillside at Km post 428 (41 kms north of Wucaiwan cun) in the Guerbantongute Desert/Junggar Basin, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1100 metres)

1 singing male was seen where the rocky ridge comes close to Ulunguhu at Beitun Yuchang, Altai on the 11/5/2007. (490 metres)

7 flew east-north-east up the embankment on the north-western flank of Qingedahu, Changji at 11:40hrs on the 23/5/2007. (470 metres)

ORTOLAN BUNTING *Emberiza hortulana*

May 2007

(6/20 65 122) (475-1950 metres)

19, mostly singing birds, north of Fuyun on the 7/5/2007. Birds were most common (11 birds) around Yeyahu, in a tree-lined avenue north-east of Haizikou (six singing birds) & two were also noted at Keketuohai. (1210-1380 metres)

1 at Yeyahu, Fuyun on the 8/5/2007. (1330 metres)

65 in Jiadengyu Forest Park, Buerjin on the 13/5/2007 – a single singing bird near the summit of the highest road pass shortly after entering the park & a flock of 65 feeding besides the road about one kilometre before the Kanasi National Park information centre close to Jiadengyu cun. (1420-2010 metres)

14 in Kanas National Geological Park, Buerjin on the 14/5/2007. The best areas were immediately around the park entrance & around the buildings close to Kanas Lake. (1340-1450 metres)

17 between Jiadengyu (Kanas) & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (475 [5 birds], 790-810 [3 birds], 1330, 1530, 1590 [2 birds], 1620 [2 birds], 1830, 1910, 1950 metres)

6 between Buerjin, Habahe & Axia cun (Tuluokele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. These included 4 at the grassland 26 kms west of Habahe & 2 more at Buerjin Axia cun & 2 near Axia cun. (460 & 475 metres)

RED-HEADED BUNTING *Emberiza bruniceps*

May 2007

(4/20 2 7) (285-795 metres)

2 singles on the 13/5/2007 – one flew south over the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai & the other was on a roadside wire just inside Buerjin county. (490 & 500 metres)

2 males at Km 93 (about six kilometres north of Chonghuer xiang) between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. (780-795 metres)

1 singing male at Axia cun (Tuluokele cun) 48 kms west of Habahe on the 16/5/2007. (460 metres)

2 separate males on roadside wires in the Qianshang Lao Ba Huang Mozhibei Baohu zhen (Literally 'Qianshang Lao Ba Desert Plant Protection Station') between Tachakou & Wu Wu Xing zhen, Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (285 metres)

REED BUNTING *Emberiza schoeniclus*

May 2007

(7/20 15 33) (280-530 metres)

3 in the '188 Corps marsh' immediately west of Beitun, Altai on the 8/5/2007. (510 metres)

3 at Haishang Mogui Cheng on the eastern side of Ulunguhu, Fuhai on the 10/5/2007. (410 metres)

3 in Altai on the 11/5/2007 – 1 singing bird in the reed bed at the 'Little Gull lake' at Km 31 besides route S319 west of Beitun; 2 in the Kekesu Wetlands. (490 metres)

7 singing birds in the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (500 metres)

15 between Jiadengyu & Buerjin on the 15/5/2007. These included 13 on the marsh between Woyimoke xiang & Yashicheng. (480 metres)

1 on a pool between Habahe & Buerjin on the 17/5/2007. (530 metres)

1 was heard at Aibihu, Kelamayi on the 18/5/2007. (280 metres)

MAMMALS

KIANG

May 2007

(1/20 5 5) (1000-1020 metres)

5 in the Kalamaili Shan NP, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1000-1020 metres)

GOITRED GAZELLE

May 2007

(1/20 6 6) (1000-1020metres)

6 in the Kalamaili Shan NP, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1000-1020 metres)

LONG-TAILED GROUND-SQUIRREL (LONG-TAILED SOUSLIK)

May 2007

(1/20 2 2) (1000-1020 metres)

2 between Kamuste & Lao Kamuste cun in the Kalamaili Shan NP, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1000-1020 metres)

HARE SP. *Lepus sp.*

May 2007

(/20) (metres)

4 in the Kalamaili Shan NP, Fukang on the 6/5/2007. (1000-1020 metres)

1 in the Alahake marsh (northern edge of Kekesu Wetland), Altai on the 13/5/2007. (500 metres)

1 was accidentally flushed near the 'Desert Warbler site' to the southwest of Baijiantan, Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (480 metres)

KANGEROO GERBIL

May 2007

(/20) (metres)

1, either *Euchoreutes naso* or *Allactaga sibirica*, was seen about one hour before sunrise in the desert to the southwest of Baijiantan, Kelamayi on the 19/5/2007. (380 metres)

Co-ordinates of some of the sites visited in 2005 & 2006

Near Urumqi

Shui Shang Le Yuan, Urumqi. 43°45.3'N., 87°36.6'E. (1060 metres)
Wulabo Wetland (Wulabo Shidi). (43°39.6'N., 87°34.9'E.) (1025 metres)
Wulabo Shuiku (Wulabo Reservoir) area. (43°39.4'N., 87°34.9'E.) (1060 metres)
Lun Tai Cheng (currently also known as Wulabo Gu Cheng). Gu Cheng means 'Old City'. 43°38.3'N., 87°35.0'E. (1100 metres)
Shui Mo Gou Gongyuan. 15:00-17:00hrs. 43°49.6'N., 87°39.6'E. (780-865 metres)
Dongbaiyang Gou. 14:50-16:25hrs. (43°26.3'N., 87°15.0'E.) (1740-1840 metres)
Tian Wen Tai. (43°28.5'N., 87°10.6'E.) (2060 metres)
Tielu Dujiacun (literally 'Railway Station Resort') on the edge of Shihezi. (44°18.4'N., 86°01.6'E.) (434 metres).
Eastern end of Qingedahu. (44°05.9'N., 87°33.4'E.) 470 metres
Shui Guan Chu, Qingedahu. (44°08.1'N., 87°33.4'E.) 464 metres
Shang Yuchang (literally 'Upper Fish Ponds', Qingedahu. (44°06.0'N., 87°30.4'E.) 470 metres

Near Kashi (Kashgar)

Qinibagh Hotel, Kashi. (39° 28.5'N., 75° 58.8'E.). 1296 metres.
Da Hu, Yingjiasha county. (38° 53.8'N., 76° 09.7'E.). 1320 metres.
Ciytla Gongshe, Yingjiasha county. (38° 58.4'N., 76° 11.8'E.). 1270 metres. Km Post 2952.
Aral Shuiku, Shule county. (39° 08.4'N., 76° 13.3'E.). 1260 metres.
Km post 49. 10 kms west of Tu Ka Kou An. (39° 44.2'N., 75° 28.8'E.). 2300 metres.
Km post 55.5. Ke Zhou Ping Yuan Ling Chang Kang Xi Wa Er Fen Chang. (39° 43.2'N., 75° 23.5'E.). 2165 metres.
Km post 68.4. Grassland site 5.5 kms east of Wuqia. (39° 42.4'N., 75° 19.2'E.). 2130 metres.
Km post 105 (?) Gorge 8 kms west of Kang Su Zhen. (39° 45.7'N., 74° 58.2'E.). 2450 metres.
Dawakun. 09:30-10:20hrs. (39°03.0'N., 77°29.3'E.). 1170 metres.
Ahonghuku Mu. 10:50-13:30hrs. (39°10.1'N., 77°14.5'E.). 1170 metres.
Bositan Lieke. (39°19.3'N., 75°04.5'E.). 2153 metres.
Km post 1602.5. Area of low scrub on shallow scree slope up to the west of the road. (38°45.8'N., 75°11.5'E.). 2810 metres.
Bulunkou Hu (alternatively Liu Sha He). Km post 1620. (38°43.5'N., 75°00.6'E.). 3280 metres.
Tibetan Sandgrouse site at Km post 1629. (38°40.4'N., 74°58.5'E.). 3383 metres.
Kalakuli Hu. Km post 1655. (38°40.2'N., 74°58.3'E.). 3654 metres.
Fields at southern end of Taheman xiang - at Km post 1735 on NH 314. (37°55.1'N., 75°10.8'E.). 3085 metres.
Tashikurgan. Km post 1754 on NH 314. (37°46.7'N., 75°13.2'E.). 3105 metres.
Fields at southern end of Taheman xiang - at Km post 1735 on NH 314. (37°55.1'N., 75°10.8'E.). 3085 metres.
Kalakuli Hu at Km post 1655. (38°40.2'N., 74°58.3'E.). 3654 metres.
Bulunkou Hu (alternatively Liu Sha He). Km post 1620. (38°43.5'N., 75°00.6'E.). 3280 metres.
Tuokaeyi Reservoir, Atushi county. Km post 1403. (39°46.8'N., 76°20.9'E.). 1235 metres.
Xikerer Reservoir. Km post 1320. (39°48.8'N., 77°17.5'E.). 1430 metres.
Luxiang Hotel, Bachu. (39°47.1'N., 78°32.4'E.). 1122 metres.

Near Aksu

Xiao Hai Zi Reservoir: Bei Ku Qu on the Bei Zha Shui Guan Zhan Causeway. (39°47.5'N., 78°45.5'E.). 1100 metres.
Site 2 - Xiao Hai Zi Reservoir: Nan Ku Qu. (39°46.3'N., 78°58.9'E.). 1100 metres.
'Matan Marsh' - Marsh between Matan chun and Qi Tuan. (40°40.5'N., 80°39.2'E.). 1024 metres.
Duo Lang Reservoir. (40°40.5'N., 80°43.2'E.). 1020 metres.
Shang You Reservoir. (40°40.5'N., 80°43.2'E.). 1015 metres.
Duo Lang Reservoir. (40°40.5'N., 80°43.2'E.). 1020 metres.
Sheng Li Reservoir. (40°29.3'N., 81°05.6'E.). 1000 metres.

Near Korla

Tarim Petroleum Hotel, Korla. (41°45.1'N., 86°09.2'E.). 922 metres.
Puhui Dunes. (41°26.4'N., 85°54.3'E.). 878 metres.
Puhui Huyangling Luyou Dujiacun. ('Puhui Diversifolius Poplar Tourist Resort'). (41°27.5'N., 85°51.4'E.). 880 metres.
Lian Hua Hu, Bosten Hu. (41°48.3'N., 86°21.5'E.). 1036 metres.
Yang Shui Zhan, Bosten Hu. (41°49.3'N., 86°45.1'E.). 1037 metres.
Qia La Reservoir. (41°01.0'N., 86°40.4'E.). 870 metres.

'Half-Way' Village Pool near Da Xi Haizi Reservoir. (40°36.9'N., 87°33.1'E.). 832 metres
Da Shi Haizi Er Hao Ku Chun. (40°35.3'N., 87°33.5'E.). 835 metres.
Da Shi Haizi Yi Hao Ku Chun. (40°37.5'N., 87°25.7'E.). 835 metres.
Xinier Reservoir. (41°35.1'N., 86°14.2'E.). 880 metres.

Korla towards Gong Nai Si

Haermodun Grasslands. (42°17.3'N., 86°08.7'E.). 1100 metres.
Roadside fields near Km post 535 - 1 hour's drive above Baluntai. (42°52.7'N., 86°20.7'E.). 2051 metres.
2344 metres on NH 218 between Baluntai and the summit of the Luotuo Juan Pass. (42°54.8'N., 86°15.2'E.).
Summit of the Luotuo Juan Pass (Camel Cage Pass). (43°03.1'N., 85°58.8'E.). 3320 metres.

Korla to Urumqi

Larger roadside pool on left (west) side of NH 314 at Km post 427 about 2-3 kms north of Si Shi Li Cheng village. (41°55.7'N., 86°25.2'E.). 1029 metres.
Cai Wo Pu Hu. (43°31.8'N., 87°53.4'E.). 1073 metres.

Shihezi & Shawan

Qian Quan Hu, Shawan. (44°23.7'N., 85°53.2'E.) 385 metres.
Mo Gu Hu, Shihezi. (literally 'Mushroom Lake') (44°26.4'N., 85°55.8'E.) 365 metres.
Roadside scrub 3 kms Shawan side of Xigebi Sandui & 5 kms to the Shawan side of Xigebi zhen. Shawan district. (44°05.4'N., 85°32.6'E.) 975 metres.
Field of recently harvested wheat stubble between Xigebi & Menggu Wenchuan, Shawan. (. (43°57.8'N., 85°26.8'E.) 1270 metres.
Shitougou Nature Reserve, Shawan. (43°54.1'N., 85°31.3'E.) 1910-2000 metres.
Tielu Dujiacun (literally 'Railway Station Resort') on the edge of Shihezi. (44°18.4'N., 86°01.6'E.) 434 metres.
BeiHu Reservoir (previously known as Da Quan Gou), Shihezi. (44°24.5'N., 85°59.5'E.) 365 metres.
Mo Gu Hu, Shihezi. (literally 'Mushroom Lake') (44°26.4'N., 85°55.8'E.) 365 metres.
Anjihai Reservoir No 1, Shawan. (44°23.1'N., 85°29.1'E.). 435 metres.
Anjihai Reservoir No 2, Shawan. (44°24.7'N., 85°31.3'E.). 415 metres.
Tielu Dujiacun (literally 'Railway Station Resort') on the edge of Shihezi. (44°18.4'N., 86°01.6'E.) 434 metres.
Liushugou Reservoir, Shawan. (44°24.8'N., 85°48.2'E.). 400 metres
Qian Quan Hu Fenjingqu, Shawan. (44°24.3'N., 85°51.3) 395 metres
Manasi He Gu Xiao Baohuqu (Manasi Valley Nature Reserve), Manasi. (44°11.5'N., 86°07.2) 600 metres
Roadside scrub 3 kms to the Shawan side of Xigebi Sandui & 5 kms to the Shawan side of Xigebi zhen. Shawan district. (44°05.4'N., 85°32.6'E.) 975 metres.
Mo Gu Hu, Shihezi. (literally 'Mushroom Lake') (44°26.4'N., 85°55.8'E.) 365 metres.

Machang Hu zhen, Mi Quan Shi. (44°00.8'N., 87°37.3'E.) 510 metres
Qingedah, Wujiagu, Changji. (44°05.9'N., 87°33.4'E.) 470 metres
Bayi Reservoir, near 102 Corps., Changji. (44°14.4'N., 87°38.9'E.). 445 metres
Bayi Reservoir, Wujiagu. (44°13.2'N., 87°40.0'E.). 445 metres
Binhu Reservoir, Fukang, Changji. (44°11.5'N., 88°00.8'E.). 480 metres
Wucaiwai cun, Fukang. Km 469 on NH G216. (44°46.8'N., 88°51.4'E.). 455 metres
Small Desert Oasis 16kms north of Wucaiwan cun, Fukang in Kalamaili Shan NR. (44°48.8'N., 88°53.8'E.). 455 metres
Second small desert oasis about 20kms north of Wucaiwan cun, Fukang in Kalamaili Shan NR. (44°50.0'N., 88°55.4'E.). 455 metres
Km post 436.5 On NH G216 – 56 kms south of Kamuste, Altai district. (44°58.9'N., 89°07.2'E.). 710 metres
Lao Kamuste cun – 'Old Kamuste', Aertai. (45°23.0'N., 89°30.0'E.). 1064 metres.

Yili

Twin Star (General) Hotel, Yining, Yili. 43°54.9'N., 81°19.4'E. 620 metres.
Hebian Gongyuan ('Yining Riverside Park'), Yining, Yili. (43°53.2'N., 81°17.7'E). 589 metres.
Fang Cou Hu, Yining, Yili. (43°54.9'N., 81°12.4'E). 582 metres.
Wei Hu, Qi Shi San Tuan Si Lian (4th section of 73rd Corps.), Gongliu, Yili. (43°33.8'N., 82°08.4'E). 725 metres.
Yili Riverside scrub near Qi Shi San Tuan (73rd Corps.), Gongliu, Yili. (43°35.6'N., 82°00.6'E). 717 metres.
Hong Qi Reservoir, '64 Corps.', Huocheng, Yili. (43°60.0'N., 80°39.4'E.) 584 metres
Liu Shi San Tuan Er Ku ('63 Corps' Number Two Reservoir), Huocheng, Yili. (43°58.3'N., 80°34.0'E.) 578 metres

Liu Shi San Tuan San Ku ('63 Corps' Number Three Reservoir), Huocheng, Yili. (43°56.4'N., 80°34.5'E.) 567 metres
Yili He Da Qiao – between Liu Shi San Tuan & Chabucha'er, Yili. (43°50.4'N., 80°40.0'E.) 540 metres
San Xiang Xiao Cun Zhuang, Chabucha'er, Yili. (43°51.0'N., 80°44.4'E.) 540 metres
No. 2 Reservoir, '67 Corps.', Chabucha'er, Yili. (43°46.5'N., 80°39.8'E.) 608 metres
Yili He Da Qiao on the southern edge of Yining town & close to Hebian Gongyuan ('Yining Riverside Park' (43°53.2'N.
81°17.7'E). 590 metres.

Bole

Sailimuhu (Sailimu Lake), Bole. (44°29.6'N'. 81°09.8'E). 2073 metres.
Wuyi Reservoir, Bole. (44°52.7'N., 82°02.0'E.) 510 metres

Jinghe

Shelter belt in the 93rd Corps. Desert Nature Reserve, Jinghe. (44°53.1'N'. 82°32.3'E). 255 metres.
Ailikehu Wetland Nature Reserve (Aibi Lake) near Bole Railway Station, Jinghe. (44°52.9'N'. 82°40.3'E). 190 metres.
Shengligongshe Shuguanerdui fishponds besides the Boertala River west of Bole. (44°54.1'N., 81°58.1'E.) 540 metres
Ailikehu Wetland Nature Reserve (Aibi Lake) near Bole Railway Station, Jinghe. (44°52.9'N'. 82°40.3'E). 190 metres.

Wusu

Lingou Reservoir, Wusu. (44°35.0'N'. 84°20.7'E). 350 metres.
Kuitun Reservoir, Wusu. (44°46.7'N'. 84°35.2'E). 290 metres.

Kuitun

Quangou Reservoir, Kuitun. (44°30.0'N., 84°56.2'E.). 375 metres.

Manasi

Jiahezi Reservoir, Manasi (44°25.2'N., 86°08.1'E.). 365 metres.
Dahaizi Reservoir, Manasi. (44°26.0'N., 86°11.4'E.). 390 metres.
Xinhuping Reservoir, Manasi. (44°22.6'N., 86°17.2'E.). 400 metres.

Tibetan Snowcock
Altai Snowcock
Himalayan Snowcock
Chukar
Grey Partridge
Daurian Partridge
Tibetan Partridge
Common Quail
Common Pheasant
Willow Ptarmigan
Rock Ptarmigan
Black Grouse
Western Capercaillie
Hazel Grouse
White-headed Duck
Mute Swan
Whooper Swan
[Bewick's] Tundra Swan
Swan Goose
Bean Goose
Greater White-fronted Goose
Lesser White-fronted Goose
Greylag Goose
Bar-headed Goose
Ruddy Shelduck
Common Shelduck
Gadwall
Eurasian Wigeon
Mallard
Northern Shoveler
Northern Pintail
Garganey
Common Teal
Marbled Teal
Red-crested Pochard
Common Pochard
Ferruginous Pochard
Tufted Duck
Greater Scaup
Long-tailed Duck
White-winged Scoter
Common Goldeneye
Smew
Red-breasted Merganser
Common Merganser
Eurasian Wryneck
Japanese Pygmy Woodpecker
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker
White-backed Woodpecker
Great Spotted Woodpecker
White-winged Woodpecker
Three-toed Woodpecker
Black Woodpecker
Grey-headed Woodpecker
woodpecker sp.
Eurasian Hoopoe
European Roller
Common Kingfisher
European Bee-eater
Common Cuckoo
Oriental Cuckoo
Common Swift
Fork-tailed Swift
Pallid Scops Owl
Eurasian Scops Owl
Eurasian Eagle Owl
Snowy Owl
Ural Owl
Great Grey Owl
Northern Hawk Owl
Eurasian Pygmy Owl
Little Owl
Boreal Owl

Long-eared Owl
Short-eared Owl
Eurasian Nightjar
Egyptian Nightjar
Vaurie's Nightjar
nightjar sp.
Rock Pigeon
Hill Pigeon
Snow Pigeon
Stock Pigeon
Yellow-eyed Pigeon
Common Wood Pigeon
European Turtle Dove
Oriental Turtle Dove
Laughing Dove
Eurasian Collared Dove
Little Bustard
Great Bustard
McQueen's Bustard
Siberian Crane
Demoiselle Crane
Common Crane
Black-necked Crane
European Water Rail
Corn Crake
Little Crake
Baillon's Crake
Spotted Crake
Common Moorhen
Eurasian Coot
Tibetan Sandgrouse
Pallas's Sandgrouse
Black-bellied Sandgrouse
Eurasian Woodcock
Solitary Snipe
Pintail Snipe
Swinhoe's Snipe
Common Snipe
Jack Snipe
Black-tailed Godwit
Bar-tailed Godwit
Whimbrel
Eurasian Curlew
Spotted Redshank
Common Redshank
Marsh Sandpiper
Common Greenshank
Green Sandpiper
Wood Sandpiper
Terek Sandpiper
Common Sandpiper
Ruddy Turnstone
Sanderling
Little Stint
Red-necked Stint
Long-toed Stint
Temminck's Stint
Dunlin
Curlew Sandpiper
Broad-billed Sandpiper
Ruff
Red-necked Phalarope
Grey Phalarope
Indian Thick-knee
Eurasian Oystercatcher
Ibisbill
Black-winged Stilt
Pied Avocet
Pacific Golden Plover
Grey Plover
Common Ringed Plover
Little Ringed Plover
Kentish Plover

Lesser Sand Plover
Greater Sand Plover
Caspian Plover
Eurasian Dotterel
Northern Lapwing
Collared Pratincole
Black-winged Pratincole
Mew Gull
Herring Gull assemblage sp.
Siberian Gull
Yellow-legged Gull
Pallas's Gull
Brown-headed Gull
Black-headed Gull
Relict Gull
Little Gull
Gull-billed Tern
Caspian Tern
Common Tern
'Western' Little Tern
Whiskered Tern
White-winged Black Tern
Black Tern
Osprey
Oriental Honey-buzzard
European Honey-buzzard
Black Kite
Pallas's Fish Eagle
White-tailed Eagle
Lammergeier
Egyptian Vulture
Himalayan Griffon
Eurasian Griffon
Cinereous Vulture
Short-toed Snake Eagle
Eurasian Marsh Harrier
Hen Harrier
Pallid Harrier
Montagu's Harrier
Shikra
Japanese Sparrowhawk
Eurasian Sparrowhawk
Northern Goshawk
accipiter sp.
Common Buzzard
Himalayan Buzzard
Long-legged Buzzard
Upland Buzzard
Rough-legged Buzzard
buzzard sp.
Greater Spotted Eagle
Steppe Eagle
Imperial Eagle
Golden Eagle
Booted Eagle
Lesser Kestrel
Common Kestrel
Red-footed Falcon
Amur Falcon
Merlin
Eurasian Hobby
Saker Falcon
Gyr Falcon
Peregrine Falcon
'Red-capped' Peregrine Falcon
Little Grebe
Red-necked Grebe
Great Crested Grebe
Horned Grebe
Black-necked Grebe
Great Cormorant
Grey Heron
Great Egret

Chinese Pond Heron	Rosy Starling	Eurasian Skylark
Black-crowned Night Heron	Common Starling	Oriental Skylark
Little Bittern	White-cheeked Starling	Horned Lark
Great Bittern	Common Myna	Saxaul Sparrow
Greater Flamingo	[Crested Myna]	House Sparrow
Eurasian Spoonbill	Eurasian Nuthatch	Spanish Sparrow
Great White Pelican	Wallcreeper	Eurasian Tree Sparrow
Dalmatian Pelican	Eurasian Treecreeper	Rock Sparrow
Black Stork	Winter Wren	sparrow sp.
White Stork	White-crowned Penduline Tit	White-winged Snowfinch
Black-throated Loon	Marsh Tit	Tibetan Snowfinch
Red-backed Shrike	Willow (Songar) Tit	White-rumped Snowfinch
Rufous-tailed Shrike	Rufous-naped Tit	Small Snowfinch
Long-tailed Shrike	Coal Tit	Rufous-necked Snowfinch
Lesser Grey Shrike	Great Tit	Plain-backed Snowfinch
Southern Grey Shrike	Turkestan Tit	White Wagtail
Great Grey Shrike	Great Tit or Turkestan Tit	Citrine Wagtail
Eurasian Jay	Azure Tit	Western Yellow Wagtail
Siberian Jay	Long-tailed Tit	Grey Wagtail
Black-billed Magpie	Sand Martin	Richard's Pipit
Mongolian Ground-jay	Pale Martin	Tawny Pipit
Xinjiang Ground-jay	Sand Martin or Pale Martin	Blyth's Pipit
Spotted Nutcracker	Eurasian Crag Martin	Tree Pipit
Red-billed Chough	Barn Swallow	Olive-backed Pipit
Yellow-billed Chough	Red-rumped Swallow	Meadow Pipit
Eurasian Jackdaw	Northern House Martin	Red-throated Pipit
Daurian Jackdaw	Goldcrest	Rosy Pipit
Rook	White-browed Chinese Warbler	Water Pipit
Carrion Crow	Cetti's Bush Warbler	Buff-bellied Pipit
Hooded Crow	Long-billed Bush Warbler	Alpine Accentor
Apparent hybrid Carrion x Hooded Crow	Lanceolated Warbler	Altai Accentor
Large-billed Crow	Grasshopper Warbler	Brown Accentor
Common Raven	Rusty-rumped Warbler	Black-throated Accentor
Eurasian Golden Oriole	Savi's Warbler	Chaffinch
Indian Golden Oriole	Paddyfield Warbler	Brambling
Bohemian Waxwing	Eurasian Reed Warbler	Fire-fronted Serin
White-throated Dipper	Blyth's Reed Warbler	Eurasian Greenfinch
Brown Dipper	Marsh Warbler	Eurasian Siskin
Rufous-tailed Rock Thrush	Great Reed Warbler	Tibetan Siskin
Blue Rock Thrush	Oriental Reed Warbler	European Goldfinch
Blue Whistling Thrush	Thick-billed Warbler	Hoary Redpoll
White's Thrush	Sykes's Warbler	Common Redpoll
Eurasian Blackbird	Booted Warbler	Twite
Tibetan Blackbird	[Eastern Olivaceous Warbler]	Eurasian Linnet
Mistle Thrush	White-browed Tit Warbler	Plain Mountain Finch
Pale Thrush	Siberian Chiffchaff	Brandt's Mountain Finch
Red-throated Thrush	Mountain Chiffchaff	Sillem's Mountain Finch
Black-throated Thrush	Dusky Warbler	Asian Rosy Finch
Rufous-tailed Thrush	Wood Warbler	Crimson-winged Finch
Fieldfare	Tickell's Leaf Warbler	Mongolian Finch
Redwing	Buff-throated Warbler	Desert Finch
Song Thrush	Sulphur-bellied Warbler	Long-tailed Rosefinch
Spotted Flycatcher	Radde's Warbler	Common Rosefinch
Mugimaki Flycatcher	Pallas's Leaf Warbler	Pale Rosefinch
Taiga Flycatcher	Hume's Warbler	Pallas's Rosefinch
Eurasian Robin	Arctic Warbler	Red-mantled Rosefinch
Common Nightingale	Greenish Warbler	Streaked Rosefinch
Siberian Rubythroat	Bearded Parrotbill	Spotted Great Rosefinch
White-tailed Rubythroat	Greater Whitethroat	Red-fronted Rosefinch
Bluethroat	Lesser Whitethroat	Pine Grosbeak
Northern Orange-flanked Bush Robin	Desert Lesser Whitethroat	Red Crossbill
Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin	Margellanic Lesser Whitethroat	Eurasian Bullfinch
Rufous-backed Redstart	Xinjiang Whitethroat	Hawfinch
Blue-capped Redstart	Hume's Whitethroat	White-winged Grosbeak
Black Redstart	Asian Desert Warbler	Yellowhammer
Common Redstart	Barred Warbler	Pine Bunting
White-winged Redstart	Calandra Lark	Yellowhammer or Pine Bunting
Plumbeous Water Redstart	Bimaculated Lark	Rock Bunting
Hodgson's Bushchat	Tibetan Lark	Godlewski's Bunting
Common Stonechat	White-winged Lark	Meadow Bunting
Northern Wheatear	Black Lark	Grey-necked Bunting
Variable Wheatear	Greater Short-toed Lark	Ortolan Bunting
Pied Wheatear	Hume's Short-toed Lark	Little Bunting
Desert Wheatear	Asian Short-toed Lark	Rustic Bunting
Isabelline Wheatear	Crested Lark	Yellow-breasted Bunting

Black-headed Bunting
Red-headed Bunting
Pallas's Bunting

Reed Bunting
Corn Bunting
Lapland Bunting

Snow Bunting

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